



Elizabeth Town – Hit or Snooze? page 17



Interesting things found in the Felix office up of grabs from The Hoff

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pages 14-15
NUDITY WARNING
Pembridge posse naked centrefold



FREE
No 1334
Thursday
10 NOVEMBER 2005
The student newspaper of Imperial College
felixonline.co.uk

felix



This isn't school, Sir Richard!

College announces draconian dress code

Rupert Neate
Editor

Imperial College have announced a strict dress code for its students and staff. Failure to comply could result in students being "removed from the College's premises".

The dress code states that "at all times while on campus staff and students must wear their College identity cards". On top of this employees and students are told to "refrain from wearing clothing that obscures the face such as a full or half veil, hooded tops or scarves worn across the face". The rationale behind this is that it will "maximise our [College's] chances of detecting the presence of anyone who shouldn't be here". According to Imperial, this dress code has been implemented "in light of security concerns raised by the terrorist incidents which occurred over the summer".

The ruling appears to be quite unenforceable as there are numerous entrances to the College, and there is a public right of way straight through the middle of College along Imperial College Road, connecting Queens Gate to Exhibition Road. It is clear that College also have doubts about the enforceability of the ruling. An Imperial spokesperson told *Felix*, "It's not a question of it being enforceable – rather it is a question of College security. We expect all students to take their



What Not To Wear! Imperial's version of Trinny and Susannah won't like you wearing a scarf, hoodie or "offensive clothing" (left). You could be escorted off campus if you don't wear your swipe card around your neck (right). Imperial plc, here we come.

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felix 1,334

Thursday 10.11.05



The return of Blind Date

"Did you fancy her?"

Does the Pope wear a dress? There was potential, and a second date could easily be on the cards if she plays hers right.

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Food Felix goes on tour
Revolting recipes and Toad in the Hole. OK, so the Main Dining Hall isn't that bad. Actually I was pleasantly surprised...

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This Week

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Sudoku No 1,334

Complete the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 square contains the digits 1 to 9. Email your solution to sudoku.felix@imperial.ac.uk by Friday 11 November 4pm. When we will randomly select a winner to receive either a 128MB USB stick or a crate of beer. Last week's winner was Mark Jenkins.

1				5			3	4
		8	2				1	
	5					6		
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3								9
	2		4					
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	7			9	5			
8	9			2				3

Universities in Arms



According to the Campaign Against Arms Trade (CAAT), universities, including Imperial College, are profiting from the misery of war.

Ruby Chu

Recent studies carried out by the Campaign Against Arms Trade (CAAT) have shown that 67 universities and colleges in the UK are holding shares in arms companies, often without knowledge or agreement of those on whose behalf they invest. A deepening relationship between British universities and the military industrial sector in recent years has gone largely unnoticed by students and lecturers. However, some arms companies support universities by providing graduate recruitment, research deals and sponsorship.

Universities holding the high-

est number of shares include top universities like Oxford and Cambridge. CAAT have stated that Imperial College holds shares in six UK based arms companies: BAE Systems, Cobham, GKN, Rolls Royce, Smiths Group and VT Group. However, the exact number of shares could not be ascertained.

Although this cannot be confirmed, CAAT believes that the wealth of many of these universities lies largely in the number of shares they hold in these arms companies. In a CAAT study it also states that "the notorious wealth of several Oxbridge colleges rests upon arms company investments that rival those of entire universities".

CAAT was set up in 1974 by a number of peace organisations with

aims to end government subsidies and support for arms exports, as well as exports to countries involved in an armed conflict or region of tension.

CAAT has launched a University Clean Investment Campaign to target universities supporting the arms trade and to end their support. CAAT state that the trade has a devastating effect worldwide, and as universities are centres of internationalism and play a unique role in public life, they should not be party to it. Students and staff can support this campaign by passing motions in student unions and requesting more information concerning their institution's investments. By doing this, we will truly be able to call ourselves an international institution.

UNITE chaos in Southampton

Michael Olymbios

Hundreds of complaints were filed at the Southampton University accommodation office last week. This follows a series of issues resulting in several students either failing to be allocated the rooms they requested or being entirely forgotten. Behind this chaos is the private accommodation company UNITE, claiming to be "the UK's leading provider of value-for-money high-quality accommodation services for students and key-workers."

UNITE is responsible for privately letting halls of residence to universities in 28 cities around the UK and reported net rental income up 53% at £29.1m. Despite rent at UNITE halls in Southampton being advertised at £69.99 per week, students found themselves facing an £89.99 fee. A computerised application system supposed to simplify the allocation procedure meant several students were left sharing single rooms.

At the UNITE halls of residence in Charlotte Place, students were confronted with of having to pay their entire rent for the first term up-front. This was approximately £1,400, on top of which a substantial deposit was requested. Heavy-handed negotiations from Southampton's Union of Students led to the withdrawal of these excessive financial demands.

This is UNITE's second signifi-

cant blunder in Southampton. In 2003, the company failed to ensure the completion of Orion Point, leaving students staying in hotels. Upon moving into the halls, a host of problems was unveiled: incomplete laundry rooms, leaking showers and residents trapped in lifts with falling debris, to name a few.

This academic year, Imperial College have outsourced accommodation from UNITE. Due to the necessary closure and building works at Southside which commenced in July 2005, a two-year lease of Orient House in Fulham and Piccadilly Court in Islington was taken up.

Despite transport issues, for which Unite can be spared the blame, an array of concerns has been brought to light by occupants. Hugh Stickley Mansfield, a re-app at Orient House, described an appalling lack of laundry facilities, showers that flood the rooms and the presence of rodents. The warden Ioannis Fotinopoulos did not wish to comment when questioned by *Felix* and expressed dismay at the letter submitted to the editor by Mr Stickley Mansfield.

Ironically, in November 2004, UNITE signed a voluntary code of standards with the National Union of Students (NUS). NUS vice-president of welfare said, "NUS hopes that this code of standard will tidy up the way that student accommodation is run and that student complaints of shoddy treatment at the hands of the accommodation managers will be a thing of the past."

Election results still not announced

The results of two of the positions, Union Council and Equal Opportunities Officer, have yet to be announced despite voting having closed more than two weeks ago. Complaints have been made to the Returning Officer, Sameena Misbahuddin (Union President), regarding the conduct of some candidates. These elections saw the largest number of candidates in recent memory.

Felix has learned that the complaints centre around abuse of e-mail lists. It is made clear to all candidates that the abuse of e-mail lists, such as those held by clubs and societies, is against the rules.

The Union has held numerous emergency closed meetings to discuss how to deal with the situation. *Felix* has been specifically prevented from attending any of these meetings, and the participants have been warned not to discuss the matter with *Felix*.

Felix was reassured by Ms Misbahuddin that the matter would be resolved on Tuesday night and a full statement would be provided. However, she now refuses to discuss the matter with *Felix* at all, stating that, "it would be unfair on the individuals to talk about it because no decision has been made".

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What not to wear

continued from page 1

share of responsibility for the safety of the Imperial community – it is for their benefit.”

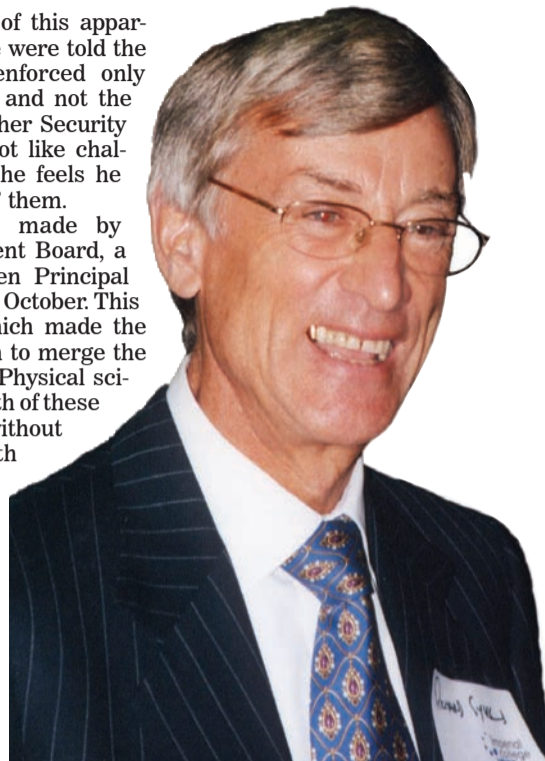
Security Officers are already attempting to enforce the new directive and have been challenging students and staff at various entrances to College armed with neck chains to hand out to offending students. Although most students appear to be ignoring the ruling, Ceri Davies, Head of Security at the South Kensington Campus, told *Felix* he thought that “there was no reason why the ruling would be unenforceable [although he] appreciates we are not a commercial company”. He believes it will take time and “won’t be throwing people off campus in the first few weeks”.

On Tuesday a *Felix* journalist overheard a Security Officer in conversation with a woman, who was asked whether she was a student or member of staff. When she replied that she was neither and was “just going to the shop”, the officer just waved her onto campus. When *Felix*

informed Mr Davies of this apparent security lapse, we were told the ruling was being “enforced only for College buildings and not the whole campus”. Another Security Officer said he did not like challenging students, as he feels he may be “intimidating” them.

The decision was made by Imperial’s Management Board, a select group of eleven Principal College Officers, on 21 October. This is the same body which made the controversial decision to merge the faculties of Life and Physical sciences (*Felix* 1333). Both of these decisions were made without any consultation with the students or the Students Union.

Although the decision was made nearly three weeks ago, most of the students *Felix* talked to were unaware of the new directive. An e-mail notice was sent to all Heads of Department on 2



November, but the information does not seem to have filtered down to students. In some departments the notice was forwarded to all staff and students, but in others it was only pinned up on obscure noticeboards.

When *Felix* asked Imperial when the students would be properly informed, we were told; “College notices are distributed widely, not only to academic departments, but also to the ICU President and Permanent Secretary, and we hope that the Union will work with us to ensure the students are aware of College rules”. However, Sameena Misbahuddin, Union President told *Felix*, “It is up to College to enforce the rules. If there is a health and safety matter, I will inform the students... I certainly won’t be enforcing the hoodies ruling”.

Although, the code is intended for security purposes, it also includes caveats on “offensive dress”. The notice states that “where it is perceived that a particular slogan or symbol is offensive, the wearing of such slogans or symbols may be considered a disciplinary offence and dealt with accordingly”.

This appears to have very little to do with thwarting potential terrorist attacks on campus and seems

to have just been tacked onto the notice. *Felix* reporters could not find any students who recollect seeing anyone walking around College in offensive clothing. College skirted around *Felix*’s question as to why they have included this point when there is not an apparent problem. They did not say whether or not they thought there was an offensive dress problem. Instead a spokesperson said, “Imperial is a cosmopolitan and international community and we have long had protocols against offensive (racist, sexist, homophobic) language. The College Notice is a reminder to staff and students that this exists and also applies to slogans on clothing”.

In contrast to the usual apathy of the Imperial student body many are incensed at what has been described as “an attack on civil liberties”. A first-year physicist told *Felix*, “I thought I had left uniforms behind when I left school. Isn’t university supposed to be the most liberal time of your life? Isn’t an imposed dress code the exact opposite of liberalism?” The banning of hoodies and “offensive clothing” seem to be causing the most annoyance. One student told *Felix*: “This isn’t bloody Bluewater, it’s a university”.

University of Kent takes over at Wye



Genteel Imperial College at Wye, soon to become part of the University of Kent.

Sahota Dawinderpal

The Bearman Committee’s Proposal is being finalised this month, bestowing upon the University of Kent at Canterbury (UKC) the task of piloting the future of Wye campus. Now the question students are asking themselves is no longer what is happening to the campus, but why did Imperial ever delve into the rural Kent countryside?

On the lips of many students is the question: “What exactly have Imperial contributed to enhancing student life in Wye?” Surely the isolation of the campus should have been compensated for somehow. An improved Student Union Building, or the continuation of more than one undergraduate course at the campus, would have been nice.

It is thought that Imperial ought to have adequately implemented management of the changes. These criticisms originate from the College’s lack of action to keep lecturers on or to appear concerned about their futures, even though students still need them after having developed that fundamental student-teacher relationship. Communication to stakeholders over the future of

the campus was also neglected. Ironically, the College places a heavy emphasis on the successful management of such elements in the Applied Business Management course, the single undergraduate degree now running in Wye.

It has been argued that the College didn’t want to make a statement saying ‘something will be happening to your campus, but we don’t know what yet’. However, a press release was published on the Imperial website over the summer holidays, only noticed by a handful of the more media-attentive students.

Imperial College is very punctual in sending invoices for accommodation and tuition fees, and demands punctuality in students’ response. So it seems peculiar that College failed to inform students that their course and department would be closed down over the following year.

Aside from the communication element, students’ perceptions of the proposals are mixed. Some see Imperial as tyrants that UKC will be providing an escape from, whereas others regret having to part from Imperial College, although they concede that it may enhance the wel-

fare of student life in Wye. Students and alumni are hoping that UKC will actually adopt the campus as one of its own, rather than dismiss it as a hindrance and actually place importance on the undergraduate teaching of Business Management.

The agricultural component, the foundation of Wye’s history and tradition, has all but gone. However, in fairness, Wye College had originally adapted from being the horticultural Swanley College, so changing with the times is inherent to the institution. Does this make it all right for Imperial to disrobe Wye of agriculture, or is it entirely different as Wye College was established in an altogether more agreeable and good-natured fashion?

Wye students wonder whether the College took over the campus in an authentic venture for growth and diversification, or whether the takeover was ever taken seriously. Will the College actually sustain an interest once UKC have taken the reigns, or are they just saying that they will? And will they actually communicate the answers to these questions to Wye students properly, or will a few geeks who constantly check the Imperial website tell us over MSN?

Felix wins award

Science *Felix* journalist, Zoë Corbyn, won the runner-up best student feature writer award at this year’s Guardian Student Media Awards. The Awards are the most prestigious student media awards in the country with judges including Channel 4 News presenter Jon Snow and Piers Morgan of *Daily Mirror* fame.

The judges said about Zoë’s work: “Her writing has lovely rhythm and showed an excellent eye for detail. It is also encouraging to see someone with the confidence to pick their own subject.”

I, Science, *Felix*’s new spin-off science magazine, was nominated in the category of Best Student Magazine. Over 400 entries were received in this category, and the winner was Cardiff University’s *Quench*. Cardiff University did tremendously well at the awards, also scooping Newspaper of the Year, and its editor, James Anthony, won the Student Journalist of the Year award.

Zoë paid tribute to last year’s editors of both *Felix* and *I, Science*: “Dave and Darius were really encouraging and supportive with the features I wrote.

I, Science was an ambitious new project and its recognition at the awards shows people really do like reading about science.”

Dave Edwards said: “It’s the first time we’ve had any nominations for the *Guardian* awards in at least 6 years, and possibly the first time ever, so obviously we’re very pleased, especially as *I, Science* is such a new publication. I think this shows just how good Imperial’s student media is – we’ve got no arts students but we still produced one of the five best student magazines in the UK. Zoë did brilliantly to be voted runner-up.”

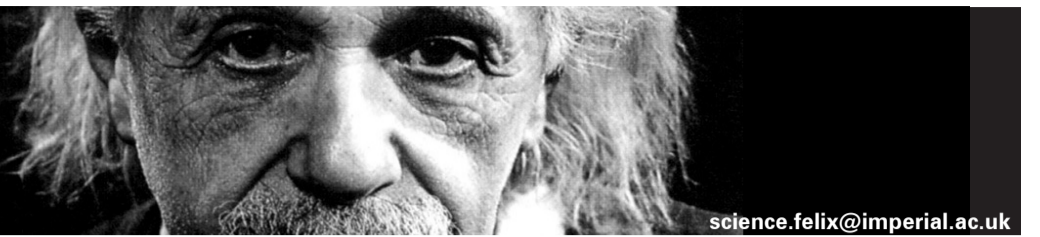
Zoë said: “I loved writing for the student press because you have free reign to write about any subject you want and experiment with your style. There’s heaps of interesting stuff going on around campus. Finding a story that needs to be told is like finding a gold nugget – you just want to polish it up and tell everybody.”

If you want to do as well as Zoë, why not write for *Felix*, e-mail felix@imperial.ac.uk. Zoë graduated from Imperial last year with an MSc in Science Communication.



Left to right: Darius Nikbin (*I, Science* Editor 2004-5), Zoë Corbyn and Dave Edwards (*Felix* Editor 04-05).

science



science.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Ancient enemies stir in battle

Will Gates is dismayed at the continuing advance of a rebranded creationism in America.

Science versus religion, it seems, just got ugly. This age-old squabble has reached the courts in America, where eleven parents have sued the board of the Dover Area School District for introducing Intelligent Design (ID), an alternative to Darwinian evolution, into biology classes. A subsequent eruption of conflict has emerged between those who see ID as the first step on the road to a religiously oriented state and society, and those who see it merely as the antithesis to scientific understanding and knowledge.

The general thrust of ID is that it sees life as being far too complicated to have arisen by chance; instead, it must have been designed by a "higher power". Furthermore, it argues the concept of "irreducible complexity" – remove one of the stages in a metabolic pathway, then it falls apart, so it could not have evolved in a Darwinian sense

of incremental mutation. Even more outrageous arguments (such as why we do not see missing links, say, a bird with a bony tail and teeth in its beak in the world today) appear to undermine Darwinian evolution superficially. These concepts elaborate on one aspect of evolution, such as animals evolving from ancestors, whilst ignoring the associated idea of ancestors becoming extinct due to competitive exclusion.

How can an idea that rivals evolution maintain a viable challenge if it selectively ignores those aspects of its adversary which it finds too awkward to explain away? It appears that ID is mounting a challenge based on half-truths and misconceptions. Its proponents protest it is not about God per se, yet God is merely replaced by an abstract "higher power". This is illustrated further by the fact that ID is a repackaging of "creation science" which was banned by the US Supreme Court in 1987. Why? For amounting to

religious teaching in schools, something which contradicts the First Amendment. Even the central textbook of ID, *Of Pandas and People*, was originally drafted as a creationist textbook.

The ultimate paradox of ID is that it professes to be a scientific theory whilst not being based in any way on observations gathered from research, and has no falsifiable hypotheses. Yet still its supporters wish to replace evolution with it, arguing that evolution itself is based on assumption and has no ground-



The return of the pandas.

ing in fact.

True, evolution remains a theory, but a theory with a huge amount of evidence to support it. For a concept devoid of such extensive evidence and reasoning to prostitute both itself and its "higher power" muse as a viable, nay, a factual alternative, is absurd. A leaked ID document in 1999 described the "Wedge Strategy", which intends to use ID as a rapier, piercing scientific understanding and reasoning at its perceived weakest point – evolution – and slowly prise it apart with further "theories" based rather on religious teachings, to end the discord between the two disciplines. If ID were to replace Darwinism, the charade of redefining science should be dropped; for science itself would have been ousted, not replaced.

What is wrong with co-habitation? The conflict between science and religion has always been one of misunderstanding and mistrust, whereas science does not necessarily have

to be a practice aiming to disprove religion. Then why is this spat persisting? It would be outrageous for science to be strong-headed and

"ID professes to be a scientific theory but is not based on observations and has no falsifiable hypotheses."

dismiss ID as ridiculous. Yet as a scientific alternative to Darwinism it is. Why can ID not be taught in religious classes, evolution in biology classes, and let those in the line of fire – the children themselves – choose between them? Or is that a compromise beyond the grasp of these two gladiators of society? One thing is for certain, though: we live in troubled times.

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SCIENCE

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You are what you eat, but don't believe what you read

Richard Chatwin warns about the dangers of believing the dietary supplements' interpretation of science.

You only need to browse through the daily newspaper to find an article related to health. If you're lucky you might even find a nice glossy supplement completely dedicated to the newest diets, the quickest way to lose that excess fat and the new, updated line-up of good foods, which will guarantee you a 'longer, healthier life'. Then there's the ever-increasing band of nasty foods, which will rot your teeth, give you spots and turn you into a big, blubbery circle of lard. It's all based on scientific research, so it must be true, right?

Not necessarily. A study published earlier this year by the University of Kansas claims that a lot of research done on the effects of weight loss, exercise and a combination of both on general health and fitness of subjects is inaccurate.

According to the study, these papers fail to report all the variables of the subjects involved in the trials. For example, of the reports scrutinized, 92% failed to report the use of further medication by subjects, 86% - their ethnicity and 11% - their age.

Why should we care? The problem is that a lot of the newspaper articles, popular health books and all the common dietary advisory reading

material take their information from these original papers. Journalists and writers 'translate' the findings from jargon-loaded scientific papers to easily accessible informative articles. This is for the benefit of the readers, who don't want to have to sift through the load of statistics normally found in the original papers. They just want to know how that research will affect them, or what the basic steps to obtain the (usually) beneficial results reported from the research are.

"Unfortunately, many of these journalists fail to dissect the papers properly and simply take the results as infallible."

The journalists are therefore acting as a sort of interpreter, explaining to the readers why the research is important to them. Unfortunately, many of these journalists fail to dissect the papers properly, and simply take the results as infallible. They then report these to their readers, who take the information to be beyond doubt. So they go on to fol-

low the advice they have read, ignorant to the possibility that it could be of no benefit to them and could even be detrimental to their health.

Excluded information such as age, further medication or ethnicity may seem superfluous, but with regards

ed otherwise. Either way, it seems age is definitely an important factor. Further medication and ethnicity are also too big variables to be left out of a study result.

This study shows just how important the peer-review system is in

ists and writers.

However, the biggest lesson you could take away from this, regardless of how accurate or reliable this study is, is that, at least when it comes to health and fitness articles, it's probably worth reading around and about the subject at hand, before making those crucial lifestyle changes. It might save you a lot of time and effort, and you might find some useful information or even another, better diet or fitness regime.

But if you've really paid attention whilst reading, you'll probably want to check out the research paper in question here, and then decide whether or not to believe any of this.

Read the original paper at:
<http://www.biomedcentral.com/content/pdf/1471-2288-5-9.pdf>

"Reporting Quality of Randomized Trials in the Diet and Exercise Literature for Weight Loss".

Cheryl A Gibson, Erik P Kirk, James D LeCheminant, Bruce W Bailey Jr, Guoyuan Huang and Joseph E Donnelly
BMC Medical Research Methodology 2005, 5:9 (23 February 2005)



to fitness and health, nothing could be further from the truth. Ask any fitness instructor, and they'll probably tell you that as you age, your metabolism slows and becomes less efficient; in other words, it's harder to lose weight and easier to gain fat. However some studies have report-

science; it gives non-science journalists and writers an easy way to decide if a paper is worth reporting to the general public, which ultimately helps the reader. The system also stops those papers with dubious or obscured results from ever being noticed by searching journal-

Ethical careers in science

As the union careers fair comes round once again, once the novelty of free pens and mugs has worn off, people are reminded that at the end of every degree employment looms. As well as weighing up salaries, holiday time and bonuses, how about taking time to consider the company's impact on society and the environment? People cannot have failed to notice the worldwide shift towards consideration for the environment and people's rights. Some of you might even be wearing your white bands now or have put out their recycling bins this morning. While ethics will play no part in many of the careers Imperial graduates choose, others might want to take the time to consider the wider implications of their employment.

Reversing the interview process - ethical grilling for potential employers

It is a typical job interview: you have spent an hour, apprehensively trembling, subject to intense grilling, and then comes the apparently immensely important end-of-the-interview question: 'Have you got any questions for us?' The normal responses include 'What career development opportunities are there?' or 'Are there opportunities to work abroad?' While these are important questions, they are not the only ones that we could ask. What impact is this company having on society and the environment; what are their policies about reducing their global warming impact? The simple fact is that you

have the responsibility and power to ask questions about the social responsibility of your potential employer.

Dispelling the myth of ethical careers

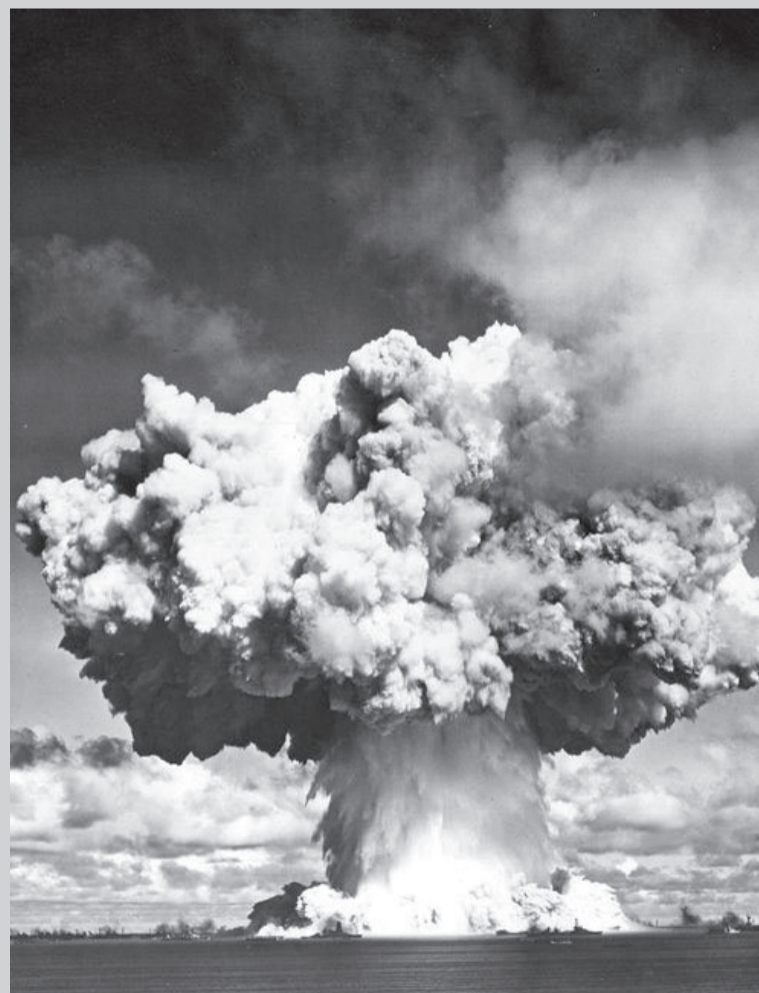
But, I hear you cry, I don't want to be working in a dank, dingy basement, in the middle of nowhere, for very little money and with minimal career advancement options. In fact, there are many opportunities to have a positive impact on peace, social justice and environmental sustainability while enjoying a challenging, influential and financially viable career. Basically, an ethical company places humanitarian and environmental concerns alongside commercial and financial pressures.

There are ethical careers available in both the private and public sectors, in areas such as investment banking and consultancy, as well as in traditional non-profit organisations. You could help governments achieve non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, companies respond to climate change, and charities support and build communities

And that is only naming a few.

Ethical careers - a new trend

The number of companies that consider themselves ethical, while at the same time fitting the criteria for a fulfilling career described above, is growing in Britain. For example, solarcentury advertises its ethical purpose (solar energy) and ethical business manners,



and is also ranked the 25th fastest growing technology company in Britain (www.solarcentury.co.uk). This is all-important at a time when oil prices and concern over global warming has reached an all-time high. WhitbyBird is an engineering consultancy that

has made environmental sustainability a priority (www.whitbybird.com). The trend is also evident in the recent increasing function of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) departments in companies.

Of course, you are not limited to a company that terms itself 'ethi-

cal'; there are many ethical jobs available embedded within larger companies. For example, in the public sector you could contribute to policies determining social responsibilities for companies. In addition, it is in academia where many of the technologies are first developed that aid and support ethical criteria.

So why mention all this now?

It may help to keep ethics in mind at the Union Careers Fair on the 9th and 10th November. Any organisation affects its surroundings, so as a potential employee you may want to consider the nature of that effect and whether you believe that it is justified, and there may as a result be some alternative questions that you may want to ask at the fair.

Plus, if the taster provided in this article has piqued your interest about future career prospects, then you can wait in eager anticipation for the Ethical Careers Exhibition, which is organised by the Pugwash Society and Environmental Society with support from the Careers Advisory service and Volunteer Centre. The fair will provide information about immediate internships and volunteering, as well as graduate jobs, including skills and qualification requirements and constructive ideas for how to meet these.

Letitia Hughes

**Ethical Careers Exhibition:
Wed 1 Feb 2006, Great Hall.**

Website: www.union.ic.ac.uk/ethicalcareersexhibition
E-mail: www.ethicalcareers@imperial.ac.uk

business

business.felix@imperial.ac.uk

M&A fever grips London

Simon Jones
Business Editor

The FTSE 100 index of the UK's 100 largest companies rose 2% last Monday as multiple take-over approaches worth over £24bn sent share prices in the city to their biggest intra-day rise since the dot-com era. Shares in London rose for five straight days last week – taking the index close to its previous highs of three and a half years ago.

The Spanish mobile operator Telefonica led the way with a take-over approach for O2, which values the UK company at £17.7bn. The all-cash bid in the form of loans from Goldman Sachs, Royal Bank of Scotland and Citigroup is nearly twice the £9.4bn that the Dutch mobile group KPN, offered for O2 last year. The bid is a 22% premium over O2's Friday share price and values the company at 20 times its 2006 earnings forecast. Deutsche Telekom was rumoured to make a counter-bid but subsequently denied any intention, announcing plans to cut 32,000 jobs to shore up competitiveness in Germany.

France Telecom's £26.5bn take-over of Orange in 2000 was also financed by debt, and the cost of interest payments was so great that the group was forced to issue more shares shortly after the take-over in order to pay for it. Some analysts are concerned that Telefonica will have too much debt and could find itself in a similar position if the cost of borrowing rises. The near-record loan of £18.5bn reflects the low-cost and availability of loans, which has



Spain's Telefonica launched a £17.7bn bid for O2, as Vodafone expands into India, South Africa and Eastern Europe

fuelled M&A activity and private equity groups, who use debt to buy companies, restructure them and sell them at a profit.

O2, who spun off from parent BT in 2001 has grown quickly and is now estimated to be worth more than BT. O2's 25m customers in the UK, Ireland and Germany will complement Telefonica's 145m, concentrated in Spain and South America, and form Europe's second largest mobile operator after Vodafone. Telefonica estimates potential cost savings of £199m.

After paying off their third-generation (3G) network licences the telecoms industry looks set for further consolidation as companies jockey

Europe's biggest mobile operators (Deutsche Telekom, France

Telecom, Telefonica and Vodafone), each jostling for position in Europe's five largest countries – the UK, France, Germany, Spain and Italy. Europe's fragmented telecoms sector has 21 major players, compared to just five across the US, where the heavily consolidated industry has experienced four big deals in the last two years alone.

Vodafone, the world's largest mobile operator, last week announced plans to spend £1.35bn, increasing its stake in South Africa's Vodacom to 50 per cent and giving it access to customers across sub-equatorial Africa. Vodafone has also recently completed deals in the key growth-markets of India, Romania and the Czech Republic and sold its lagging Swedish business.

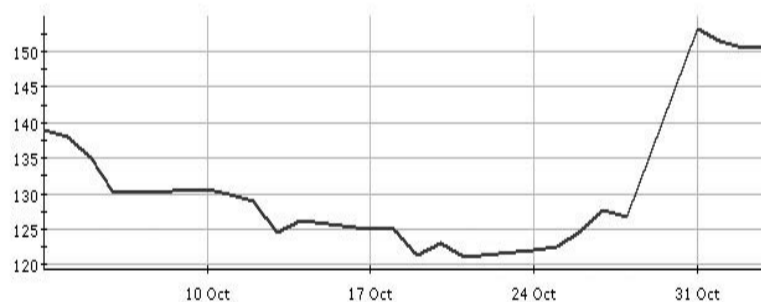
£24bn of take-over activity, unparalleled since dotcom boom

Simon Jones

Overseas companies have launched £67.7bn worth of deals in the UK so far this year – the highest since the dotcom boom. Some of the biggest names include the bank Abbey National and the drinks-manufacturer Allied Domecq.

The latest British companies to be targeted were the telecoms company O2, the shipping company P&O, the glass-manufacturer Pilkington and the construction group Mowlem; with a combined value of £24bn.

P&O's exceptionally wide geographical spread and its recent restructuring drive, have turned the world's fourth largest ports operator into an attractive take-over target. DP World is owned by the Dubai government and is the world's number six ports operator, but it lacks both the world-wide spread and access to emerging markets (such as Thailand, Southern China and India) that P&O enjoys. DP



Pilkington's share price rose 30p to 157p on news of NSG's approach.

World has launched a £3.1bn bid for P&O, in an effort to double its capacity to 42m container units by 2001. Although P&O's freight business returned a £154m profit last year, the smaller ferry business lost £15.4m and would probably be sold if DP World secured the group. Likely counter-bids could come from Hutchinson Group or AP Moller, the world's number one and two port operators respectively and could reach £3.5bn.

Pilkington has received a bid worth £2bn from Japan's Nippon Sheet Glass (NSG), who already own a 20% stake in the group. Many analysts suggest a figure of £2.6bn as a more reasonable bid, in view of the fact that £2bn only values Pilkington at eight times its earnings. Increasing the bid may be out of reach for NSG however, as it would struggle to pay the interest on the amount of debt that would be required for such a manoeuvre.

More deals to follow

The current round of Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) in the city have attracted much attention, not least because they have all been foreign companies targeting UK companies.

This year, Unocal, the US oil and gas producer, was the target of a take-over battle between US Chevron, and the Chinese oil company, CNOOC. Chevron acquired Unocal for less than CNOOC was prepared to bid, as it became apparent that the US senate was not about to let a Chinese state-backed company take over an American company with substantial oil reserves in the US.

The UK is renowned as a very open market, but some politicians have voiced concern about the 'sell-off' of UK companies. There are benefits to foreign take-overs, and some fund managers prefer foreign-run companies to British companies, claiming that they display better corporate governance. The lure of UK companies as potential take-over targets, implies that British companies are more profitable and have higher growth potential than foreign companies.

Investment banks can charge fees of between 0.125% and 0.5% of the value of the deal, and individuals involved in the Telefonica bid are expected to net over \$50m (£28m) in bonuses. Their fees have increased dramatically in recent years, while the cost of the actual debt to fund deals has fallen.

In 2005 the average bidder paid 27 times the value of the companies annual earnings (price to earnings ratio or P/E), which included a 20% premium over the target company's share price. During the last M&A cycle, the figures were higher – an average P/E of 36, including a 25-40% premium on the share price. Senior M&A bankers suggest this implies the current M&A cycle, and prices of companies, has yet to peak, and that M&A activity will continue well into 2006.

Plenty of other companies have been linked in potential take-over activity, including Shell and BG, the gas producer. Rumours of potential bids have been rife in every industry sector, as companies continue to release record third quarter profits and have large cash reserves.

iCU Cinema Future Showings

01/11/05 - 18:00 - 40 Year Old Virgin
01/11/05 - 20:45 - Red Eye
03/11/05 - 18:00 - Red Eye
03/11/05 - 20:10 - 40 Year Old Virgin

15/11/05 - 18:00 - Crash
15/11/05 - 20:30 - The Aristocrats
17/11/05 - 18:00 - The Aristocrats
17/11/05 - 20:15 - Crash

06/12/05 - 18:00 - A History Of Violence
06/12/05 - 20:30 - Four Brothers
08/12/05 - 18:00 - Four Brothers
08/12/05 - 20:15 - A History of Violence

13/12/05 - 18:00 - ALL-NIGHTER

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<http://union.ic.ac.uk/cinema>



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Elizabethtown- Hit or snooze?

Despite vitriolic reviews, *Felix* decides to check it out and here's our review.

Elizabethtown

Director: Cameron Crowe

Starring: Orlando Bloom, Kirsten Dunst and Susan Sarandon.

Length: 124 minutes

Certificate: 12A

Released: 4 November 2005

★★★★☆

He started off as an ethereal prince from the land of the elves, only to be emasculated later in his stint as Paris in Troy. This time around, Orlando Bloom takes the lead in romantic comedy, *Elizabethtown* with the cute and spunky Kirsten Dunst. Will he or won't he re-dignify himself in the hearts of women everywhere? This was what I wanted to find out.

Orlando Bloom plays the workaholic footwear designer, Drew Baylor. Unfortunately for the young and upcoming inventor, he has just lost his company \$972 million and consequently, he lost his job. (Duh!) He's all set to kill himself with a strange stabbing device he created from his stationary bicycle but his suicide attempt is postponed temporarily when he receives the news of his father's death.

As he is the eldest son, he is forced into the responsibility of returning his father's body to Oregon from Kentucky by his mother, Hollie (Susan Sarandon). On his lonely plane ride to Kentucky, he encounters the kooky and neurotic stewardess, Claire Colburn (Kirsten Dunst),

who apparently ignores his lack of interest and leaves him her phone number anyway.

Once in *Elizabethtown*, Kentucky, Drew meets his relatives and is thrown into a journey of getting to know his dad with whom he has become estranged due to his work-obsession. Having a mother and a sister who were both coming to grips with their own loss and a girlfriend who has dumped him for greener pastures, Drew calls Claire and the single phone call soon extends to what-must-have-been an 8-hour conversation.

Will they or won't they? That is the million-dollar question. As expected from Cameron Crowe's film *Jerry Maguire*, this film is another one of those all-men-are-idiots or rather you-never-appreciate-what-you-have stories. However, before we set off condemning the ubiquitous plot, let's focus on what set *Jerry Maguire* apart from the rest of the romantic comedies.

Firstly, it isn't the line "You complete me". (That's a ridiculous line, if you don't mind me saying.) However, it wouldn't be far-fetched to say that both scripts for *Jerry Maguire* and *Elizabethtown* were both simple and tastefully done. It's basically the mood of the movie that strikes you. Just like in *Jerry Maguire*, the atmosphere in *Elizabethtown* is calm, peaceful and slightly melancholic.

Once again, Cameron Crowe displays his unique taste and ability to catch the softest and most beautiful of human emotion on camera. There are numerous scenes in the



Two people who meet- is it a coincidence or is it fate?

film that truly deserves mentioning. One of them includes the flashback scene of Drew as a child, wearing his father's shoes. Another artistic shot was the scene of Drew scattering his father's ashes into the river and by the statue in Oklahoma City.

To be honest, it's difficult to be a sceptic in reviewing this film. It's a beautiful film and it is disarming to see how the strong and silent Drew crumples and collects himself emotionally. It is also particularly touching and perhaps even otherworldly

to witness the instant connection of two people who do not; on the surface have anything in common at all.

A lot of people might watch this film and brush it off as another one of those Hollywood's attempts to charm the pounds off our pockets. However, think about it this way. Forget Orlando Bloom. It's just a story of a man on a journey to overcome his guilt and loss and when it seems as if his life is permanently lost in quicksand, he meets some-

one who pulls him out of it.

Watch *Elizabethtown* because you wouldn't regret it. Take it anyway you please, be it as a first-date film or as a touching-artistic film. It's one of the rare films that entertains and soothes you as well. Personally, I'm a big fan of Orlando Bloom's easy smile and pretty brown eyes, but then again, it's the story behind *Elizabethtown* that takes my breath away. Not him.

Yuen Ai Lee
Film Editor

O' Lord! DVDs giveaway again!

Felix has gone absolutely manic and we have decided to give away....

John Thomson's *Red Hot Poker!* Thanks to Pathé Distribution Ltd, Felix has 3 copies of this DVD-learn-along kit to give away to three of our lucky readers. Who and what is *John Thomson's Red Hot Poker*, you ask? Well, well, well, don't be such a snob, read on and find out!

Have you always wanted to be a poker whiz? Everybody has, so how can you make yourself different from the rest of the wannabes? Listen to John Thomson, and he'll teach you how to be a poker whiz with A-list star style.

John Thomson (*Cold Feet*, *The Fast Show*) shows you all the essential styles, skills and tricks of the game enjoyed by stars including Brad Pitt, Ben Affleck, Matt Damon and Ricky Gervais! *John Thomson's Red Hot Poker* is available to buy and rent as an interactive two disc DVD and video on 14th November 2005 from Pathé Distribution Ltd

(RRP £17.99).

Whether playing at home, with friends or online, the one thing everyone wants to do is to win, and win in style. In his own inimitable style, actor and poker enthusiast John Thomson takes you step-by-step through one of the world's oldest forms of gambling, letting you know when to hold 'em and when to fold 'em!

As the ultimate poker DVD, even seasoned players will learn a thing or two! Disc one includes the following features:

1) Comprehensive 'How To Play Guide', covering all the main versions of the game, but focusing on Texas Hold' Em

2) 'Hints and Tips' on how to play better, including a specific section on reading body language and how to bluff better, how and when to make certain bets, when to fold, and how to calculate your odds of winning!

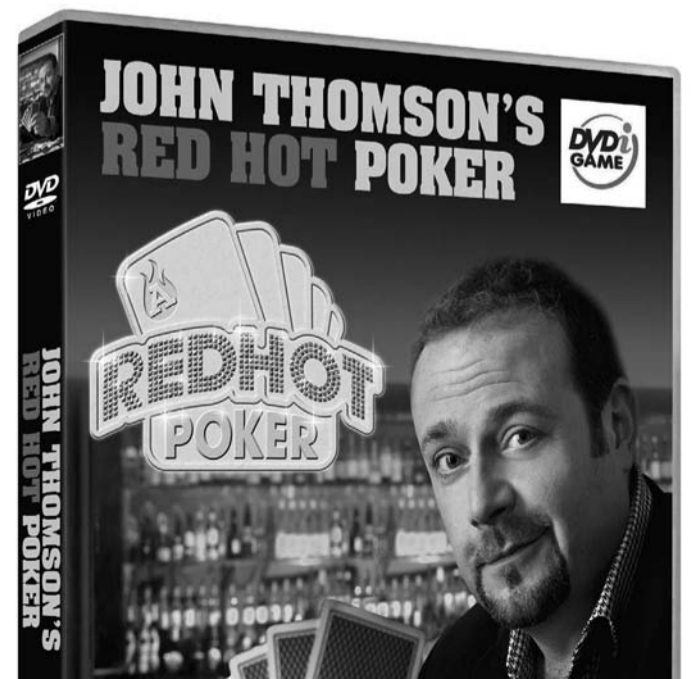
3) 'Interactive Questions' will pop up after each chapter to test the knowledge you have just gained.

4) 'Jargonbuster' - learn the language of poker; what all those words really mean and when to use them!

Disc two includes a fully interactive 'one on one' DVD game, allowing you to play a computerised John at 'Texas Hold Em' using your remote control. The game provides the ideal practice opportunity before heading off to play for real! Buyers of the DVD will also benefit from an online poker chips offer worth up to \$100 if they register with PartyPoker.com

Now, the important question is, how do you get your hands on this DVD?

Tell me, what was the name of the character in *Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Wererabbit* that was voiced by John Thomson? Email me your name, your department and the answer at film.felix@ic.ac.uk and you'll get a free DVD!



FILM

film.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Zorro: Have we had enough?

Have we had enough of him or have we not? Felix has the results.

The Legend Of Zorro

Director: Martin Campbell
Starring: Catherine Zeta Jones, Antonio Banderas and Adrian Alonso.
Length: 129 minutes
Certificate: U
Released: 31 October 2005
★★★★☆

Quite frankly I really liked the previous Zorro film, "The Mask of Zorro". So much so, I found no need for a sequel. After all, he comes a hero, he gets the girl, he gets the horse and Anthony Hopkins dies. Everyone's happy. Unnecessary as "The Legend of Zorro" is, I was happy with the film overall.

The film is set ten years after Alejandro de la Vega (Banderas) first donned the mask of Zorro and won the heart of the beautiful Elena (Zeta-Jones). Now the father, Alejandro finds that leading his double life is far too hazardous and vows to hang up his cloak. Zorro is no more.

However, he has become addicted to the dangers he faced as his alter ego and when California's pending statehood is jeopardised he finds himself taking action, much to the displeasure of his wife. So much so in fact, she files for divorce! Alejandro is now faced with the decision to save his beloved country, or save his marriage.

The plot is strong all the way through and is also pretty easy to follow. Just the thing you need after a hard week of lectures.

Banderas does a good job as the man in black but Catherine Zeta-Jones steals the show as the lovely

Elena since she has so many roles the same film. Not actual different character roles, but she performs as "the loving wife", "worried mother" etc as well as looking good the whole way through and getting to kick the blokes' asses in some fight scenes.

Whilst on the subject of fight scenes, I must say they were a bit sparse for an action film. However the action scenes they did have ticked all the right boxes for me. Just the right length, well choreographed and also displayed some originality, including Zorro riding Tornado along the top of a moving steam train.

Another aspect of the film I enjoyed was the lighter, more comical parts to the film, usually looking at the relationship found between Zorro and his horse. These little jokes made here and there made everything that much more enjoyable as it does with every film.

Despite these positive things, there was one feature of the film that I wasn't too keen on. This was the large focus the film had on Alejandro's son Joaquin. Some scenes see him doing damage to the bad guys with his slingshot, which in my opinion is taking things just a little bit too far. Leaving the grown ups to do the fighting would have made the film a lot better and would honestly have made a lot more sense.

All in all, I enjoyed "The Legend of Zorro" and would recommend it for someone who doesn't want to see a film that makes you think or question what's happening. It's a good film to see with friends plus Catherine Zeta-Jones serves as eye candy for the guys. An unnecessary sequel, but a good sequel none the less.

Stephen P Smith



I'm back, please don't hate me!

First time ever: Free Xbox games!

Yes, I do know *Brothers in Arms: Earned in Blood* is not a film.

This is terribly unconventional and I have to admit it's terribly random as well, but what the heck, Film Felix is having its first Xbox games giveaway!

You want it, you like it? Read on to find out how!

Personally, to my own dismay, I do not own a console of any kind but what I do know, is that an Xbox games giveaway is just too freaking cool.

Now my dear readers, what is *Brothers in Arms: Earned in Blood*? Here's the grimy details...

Building on the success of *Brothers in Arms Road to Hill*, *Brothers in Arms: Earned in Blood* features a new single player narrative, new multiplayer missions, an all-new cooperative style game mode, and new weapons and vehicles.

Key features include:

- Next Chapter of *Brothers in Arms* - The award winning WWII shooter returns with *Brothers in Arms Earned in Blood* and takes the experience that has critics and fans raving to the next level.

- New Single Player Narrative - As Sgt. Joe Hartsock, relive great moments from a new perspective and lead your squad beyond Carentan to liberate all of Normandy.

- New Multiplayer Missions - Taking online tactics to the next level, *Brothers in Arms Earned in Blood*™ offers more unique multiplayer missions and improved online support on PC and consoles! (Including the bundled addition of modification support for the PC!).

- Cooperative Skirmish Mode - *Brothers in Arms Earned in Blood*™ features an all-new Skirmish Mode that allows one or two players to take a tour of duty through a series of authentic and harrowing custom combat missions.

- New Weapons and Vehicles - Arm yourself with new weapons like the M3 grease gun and command new vehicles like the M10 "Wolverine" Tank Destroyer.

- More Challenging and Dynamic Combats - Thanks to the addition of new tactical possibilities and improved AI fight even more fierce German troops in digitally accurate

urban settings for more dynamic combat situations.

Thanks to Ubisoft and Trilogy Communications, Felix has three copies of the game to giveaway! (Yes, can you believe it?) Now, how do you get this game in your hands?

Tell me, Who is the publisher for *Brothers in Arms: Earned in Blood*?

Do you know the answer? If you do, you had better hurry up then, because remember there are only 3 copies to giveaway!

Email me the answer, your name and your department at film.felix@ic.ac.uk and you might be one of the lucky three to win the Xbox game!

Brothers in Arms: Earned in Blood was released as an Xbox game on the 2nd of October and was released in PS2 format from the 2nd to 28th of October. The game is for 16+ players only.

What are you waiting for? Start searching for the answers and email me now!



Wargames. maybe if Bush had one of these, there wouldn't be a war..

politics



A week is a long time in politics...

It seemed like only yesterday that David Blunkett (below) was involved in a sleaze scandal. Oh, hang on, it was yesterday. As Felix was going to press last week, the recently appointed work and pensions secretary resigned for the second time within a year as he faced scrutiny over taking up work with DNA Bioscience without seeking advice from the Independent Advisory Committee on Business Appointments, which breached the ministerial code. He was also criticised for buying shares in this company. On resigning, he admitted he made a mistake and apologised 'for the embarrassment I have caused [Tony Blair]'. He will now return to the backbenches to serve as a local MP.



In a following parliamentary session, Conservative leader Michael Howard used this to launch a scathing attack on Mr. Blair, labelling him as a 'lame duck', and described Mr. Blair as being "In office but not in power"

Things got from bad to worse for Labour when Charles Clarke (below) was forced to make a tactical retreat over his anti-terror laws, as a fear of defeat led him to delay inserting a clause to hold potential terror suspects for 90 days, telling Radio 4's Today programme that 'he wanted to reach a consensus'. A separate vote on whether to include the glorifying of terrorism as a crime in the bill was only passed by one vote, with absent rebel MP's seen as the reason it passed in the first place. A long week for Labour indeed.



Rocking the vote

A brief overview of the political societies active in College

Labour Society



Imperial College Labour Society is the society for students and staff at Imperial College who believe in the Labour values of equality, democracy and social justice. We are an open society aiming to provide a forum to discuss and debate Labour ideas and policy.

This Thursday (10th November) the always entertaining Steve Pound MP will be joining us for a drink in the Union bar at 7pm to chat about what Parliament is really like. Before becoming an MP, Steve has had a varied career including working as a seaman, bus conductor and hospital porter.

As a member of Imperial College Labour Society you can expect an exciting mix of guest speakers, MPs and ministers, giving you a chance to question the Government. We organise lively debates, social events and campaigning. The society has been addressed by Education Minister Stephen Twigg, and former Secretary of State for Health, Frank Dobson MP, joined us for a lively discussion about the NHS. More recently Hilary Benn MP, Secretary of State for International Development, highlighted Labour's achievements in increasing foreign aid spending and cancelling the debt of the world's poorest countries. Former Cabinet Minister Michael Meacher MP spoke passionately about his opposition to the war in Iraq.

Later this term we will be running an event highlighting the huge human rights abuses taking place in Colombia in association with Justice for Colombia. Also invited for this term is Science Minister Lord Sainsbury to talk about the state of British Science.

We are affiliated to Labour Students and the society has good links with London Young Labour, which provides further opportunities for meeting like minded people across London.

Whether you're a Labour Party member or are just interested in politics and want a say, you'll be welcome.

For more information, contact alexander.guite@imperial.ac.uk or visit union.ic.ac.uk/labour.

Alexander Guite

Conservative Society



The IC Conservative Society welcomes members from all quarters. Obviously, we stand in support of the Conservative Party and its policies, but we are open as a forum of debate for conservative ideas. All are welcome, with a low membership fee of £3, or £5 including Conservative Future membership (the youth wing of the national party). We are by far the most active of the main three British political parties at Imperial; ConSoc is a great way to meet fellow-minded students.

Our main meeting is every Tuesday at 12.00 in the Union bar, where we have a fun informal chat. We also have guest speakers and go to local and national party events. For example, we are attending a talk by David Cameron on his vision for the party at Knightsbridge this

"We are the most active of the main parties at Imperial; ConSoc is a great way to meet fellow minded students."

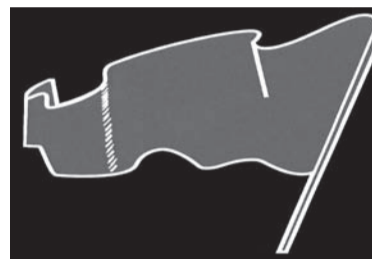
evening; a first-class event that only costs £10 to ConSoc members. Such events generally include a plentiful supply of wine, and we go out to the pub afterwards and shoot the breeze. ConSoc is worth joining for the social events alone! We also take part in election campaigning for the party, for instance in this May's General Election, which is a great way to meet people and directly stand up for Conservative beliefs.

You don't need to be a hack to join ConSoc; our meetings are relaxed and good-humoured. Find your natural political home with us!

See www.icconsoc.co.uk for more information, or email chairman Chris Hampsheir on chris.hampsheir@icconsoc.co.uk

Edmund Hunt

Socialist Workers Student Society



SWSS believes another world is both possible and necessary, a world run by ordinary people in the interests of ordinary people. It is evident that poverty, war and oppression are all symptomatic of the social and economic structures present today and they cannot be resolved without fundamental changes. Further it is only the activity of the people that can transform the world to create a truly socialist society.

Here at Imperial the SWSS group organises many debates, discussions, film showings and cultural events revolving around how the people of the world can unite to move society forward.

However the most important role SWSS plays is in the active ongoing campaigns both on campus and throughout London. SWSS has been central in the fight for student welfare here at Imperial, campaigning over issues such as top-up fees, hall rent increases and student representation. SWSS has led the anti-war movement in college. Side by side with Islamic Soc, Imperial against Imperialism and Amnesty, SWSS has initiated the Free Babar Ahmed Campaign, fighting for the civil liberties of a former student imprisoned without trial. Outside of college members of SWSS have supported various workers and aided the successful Respect election campaign in the east end of London.

There are a number of events and campaigns under way:

International Peace Conference: Called by the Stop the War Coalition.

Saturday 10th December
With delegates from Iraq, USA, and the UK.
stopwar.org.uk

International Day of Climate Protest: London Demo, Saturday December 3rd.
campaigncc.org

Civil Liberties Talk (Supported by Student Respect): The week 7th-14th November.
respectcoalition.org

To Join or for more information please e-mail: swss@imperial.ac.uk

Respect Society



Respect was born out of the anti war movement. The urge to find an alternative to a government that took the country to war even when the majority of the population was against it has provided an MP (George Galloway) and a Councillor (Ollie Rahman).

Respect stands for:

An end to the war and occupation in Iraq.

An end to all privatisation and the bringing back into democratic public ownership of the railways and other public services.

An education system that is not based on the ability to pay, comprehensive and gives an equal chance in life to every child from nursery to university.

The repeal of the Tory anti-union laws.

Opposition to all forms of discrimination based on race, gender, ethnicity, religious beliefs (or lack of them), sexual orientation, disability, national origin or citizenship

An end to the destruction of the environment by states and corporations for whom profit is more important than sustaining the natural world on which all life depends.

Student Respect on campus aims to include a broad range of people from a range of different societies and backgrounds. This will enable Respect as a group to campaign on a number of different issues such as a permanent Friday prayer venue for Muslim students, improving the colleges environmental policy, removing the weapons research that occurs within the college and looking out for the civil liberties of all students of imperial college.

Within a few weeks time student Respect at imperial will be supporting a civil liberties campaign that will incorporate a "Know Your Rights" theme, where students can find out what to do and what their rights are if held under the section 44 anti-terror laws. If anyone is interested in helping to organise or publicise the meeting they are more than welcome and can email Respectatimperial@yahoo.co.uk or visit respectcoalition.org for general information.

Kian Sing Low

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Our Easter Program runs for five days in London and gives first-year students (second-year if you're on a four-year course) the chance to spend a day with each of our five key divisions.

Our Summer Program runs for eight to ten weeks in London. It's your opportunity to get a more in-depth introduction to the company and is ideal for penultimate-year students who want to be sure they're making the right career choice.

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You will receive training to deal with phone & e-mail enquiries, greeting visitors, ad-hoc admin duties, ticket sales and room bookings.

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Nightlife

nightlife.felix@imperial.ac.uk

This is me



Well I think introductions are in order. I am Aaron Mason. I was a lowly nightlife reporter last year and have been promoted to the dizzy heights of editor. When I say promoted I mean bullied. Anyway this week we have a review from yours truly on Smoke at Pacha and one from a lovely blonde lady, on the Icebar.

Midget plea

As this is my first time as editor I want to make a plea to anyone who has any pictures of dwarves, midgets or gnomes. *I want one.* Even though I have been told countless times that gnomes don't exist and they are mythical beings I have a few short words for you, *no no no you are wrong.* So if anyone does have interesting snaps or snippets of info about the above please email them in. I want to start a troupe of little people who can be my personal mascots.

Oooh I forgot we have a new section in nightlife this year from a good friend of mine whos an insider at our delightful union will hopefully be telling all those funny tails that happen at our union when it all gets a bit drunken and teenage fumblely like being behind the bike sheds.

One final thought if anyone would like a cheeky little review for me. Or if they want to write some wasted comments about anything in general like the tramp who you chraitably gave your bear to or the corner shop bman who gives you free bear for a look of your breasts. Drop me a line in a going living stylee.

nightlife.felix@ic.ac.uk

My buxom bar wench!

Drunken Imperialites! Oh, how amusing they are! Those quiet, recuse, geeky shells are broken off and abandoned, unleashing intoxicated, rowdy, horny demonic like beasts, who don't really know when to stop. No they really don't have you ever had to listen to them talk about calculators for three hours. It really is quite a sight when some out-of-

"Snakey thingy with blackcurranty stuff"

place, skinny, spotty thing stumbles up to the bar after one snakebite (half of which is down their generic T-shirt) asking for another "snakey thingy with blackcurranty stuff". I'm being slightly cynical and downright mean, but, seriously, working behind the bar in the union has really opened my eyes to the potential of

our supposedly crap student union.

I mean, I worked on a Friday and the place was as quiet as a petrified mute with no hands, but there were still people puking up on the dance floor and passing out in the union office. Maybe I shouldn't promote this kind of behaviour; then again I'm not the one clearing up the sick (don't tell anyone I'm meant to), but more of this kind of partying attitude is just what we need to spice up our suppose centre of student life.

I know it's out there, lurking inside all of us, geek or not. We just need to delve deep underneath those diligent, commonsensical exteriors and find that inner self screaming to fall over a bollard backwards after consuming half its body weight in vodka oh and vomiting down yourself. Come on - I know you want to...

The Bar Wench

ENTER THE HIGH-FLYING WORLD OF FINANCE!

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Oooh - a bit chilly

Chloe Child gets to drink out of ice

Wednesday 12 October, after having a couple of pre-night out drinks, some friends and I made our way to oxford circus. It was not for the usual cheapskates or candy box night out; we were off to the very cool and extremely chilly ICE BAR on Heddon Street.

We were particularly excited, not just because it was my mates birthday or that we already had had a couple of home made cocktails (always interesting), but because the Ice Bar seemed a brilliant place to go for something different. I did have the slightest reservation considering that I was paying £12 to get into a bar for only 45 minutes.

When paying £12 you always have to ask, "What do you actually get?" Well, you get 45 minutes in a room kept at -5°C, a silver poncho to keep you warm and a free drink, which is drank out of a large ice cube! Luckily everyone looks the same so you don't need to worry how stupid you might look.

The actual bar is pretty small but



ABSOLUTICEBARLONDON : 29-33 HEDDON STREET : LONDON

Look its ice but in the shape of a glass aren't they clever.

there is a giant ice vodka bottle that you can stand in and several ice bricks along the wall engraved with phrases. The drinks are pretty expensive, so make the most of your free one, with vodka being the only

available drink in the bar. The Ice Bar is a fantastic experience and I would recommend anyone to go, just make sure you wear plenty of layers.

Chloe Child

Pacha or Posher?

I decided to try the in house night at Pacha last Friday. have to say this was one of my least successful evenings out.

Having got to Pacha my friend and I noticed something very peculiar. Those of you who have been to Pacha will be familiar with the clientele. They are generally quite attractive and dress up for the occasion. There is no hint of skank anywhere.

"The first thing I noticed was an abundance of sportswear."

This seemed to be a very different night to what I was used to. The first thing I noticed was that there was an abundance of sportswear. I wear sportswear to do sport, not to go to a club. I mean, what is wrong with the kids of today. I was a little taken back by this but I didn't judge too much except when the people in front of me opened their mouths and shouted on front of the entrance "One of you go to the shop! I wana get lashed before I get in there". This is perfectly acceptable if you are a fish wife and it is market day. The next thing which I found



How did pacha go from this to this? But look at those breasts.

almost offensive was the sight of what can only be described as a beast climbing out of a cab. Why do some girls not know the rules? Tits

"a cheap hooker in King's Cross who charges 50p and a bunch of grapes"

and legs and arms are not acceptable exposed all at the same time. I mean, it's not hard to understand - if the above rules are forgotten you end up looking like a cheap hooker in King's Cross who charges 50p and a bunch of grapes for a go. This particular lady had forgotten these rules, but to say someone would pay her for a jump is being generous. She had one of those bizarre figures where she was just a ball of lard with two tree trunks poking out the bot-

tom, with knee high black boots on. This just made her appear as Mrs. potato head. To top it all off a large tattoo was present on an incredibly fleshy arm. Anyway, enough about the clientele. I think you've got the gist. We never made it into the club as they were going to charge us £10 each so we decided that if we were going to pay to go somewhere it would be to a place where the customers don't look like they cant walk and talk at the same time because they're pushing their many prams of kids they had when they were 14 and named Formica or Magenta.

From what I heard the music was very generic funky house, the same stuff you get at any "funky house". My advice to the management would be it is better to have a club that is open less but has a better reputation than a club which is open every week and lets any old tramps in.

Aaron Mason

Pembridge Gardens Hall

Imperial's best hall of
residence!
The neighbours loved it!



Think you're better looking?

Pose here. We would like to feature page 3 every week. All you have to do is email us at felix@imperial.ac.uk. Girls and Boys please. We believe in equal rights.

food & drink

food.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Revolting Recipes and Toad in the Hole

Ok, so the Main Dining Hall isn't that bad. Actually I was pleasantly surprised...

Hannah Theodorou
Food & Drink Editor

Everyone has their own memories of school dinners. Whether you went to a state school where fish fingers and potato smilies were plopped on your plate or Eton where you could expect the various components of a roast dinner complete with mint sauce, it was hard to avoid them. Just thinking about it truly takes you back to the days of lunch queues and being hit with tennis balls whilst panicking about the lunch break disappearing all too quickly.

Personally I gave up on school din-

ners after a term of finding strands of dinner lady hair in my gravy and greenflies in the rare piece of lettuce. I sat down outside on the school benches whatever the weather munching on stuffed pitta bread and carrot sticks. It was a happy existence until I was banned from the benches for exploding a drink carton when it was back to gravy and peas swimming around turkey dinosaurs. It fitted in with all the clichés of school dinners that Jamie Oliver shudders at the thought of. As far as I was concerned, the only good thing about school dinners was the pudding. Preferably chocolate cake with chocolate custard. *Et sans les cheveux.*

Anyway, I'm horribly aware the food column tends to be awash with nostalgia and cakes so I thought I would do something practical for the Imperial student and enlighten all of those who have never visited the Main Dining Hall. It was finally time to venture out of the SAF with its overpriced and mayonnaise-filled sandwiches and trek over to the Sheffield building for what was to be my first hot meal at Imperial. Sad, considering I'm in the 2nd year.

Anyway, I sheepishly approached the counters clutching my tray and was swept up by a throng of starving students. Before I knew what was going on I had to give my order and pointed to the nearest thing, which

happened to be chicken curry and rice. I was subsequently then pushed out the other end. Traumatized I tried to find hot pudding but was pointed in three different directions by staff and eventually had to give up and paid at the till. It was then that I realised you had to get a knife and fork before paying and had a run-in with a semi security guy asking if I had paid.

After re-grouping with friends and sampling their various dishes I was pleasantly surprised at how nice each of the options was. Of particular note was the thai pork strips, chicken and beef curries, fish and chips and the salmon slice. Certainly better than any of the school din-

ners I had previously experienced anyway.

Although stuffed I had to try the crumble and custard which I eventually discovered randomly in the Burger Bar. When I asked the lady behind the bar if I could have custard with my crumble she nodded and walked off so I leaned over, grabbed the ladle and helped myself. It was just like puddings from back at school; soggy with custard, sugary and moreish.

Some students complain food on campus is overpriced and unhealthy but I challenge you to find a balanced meal off campus for near the price that doesn't involve washing up.



Lunch time at spaghetti junction. Courtesy of Stevie.

MAIN DINING HALL:

4/5

£2.56 Main meal with discount

£1.53 BurgerBar with discount

£1.11 Pudding (pictured below)



The Burger bar- serves fish burgers, veggie burgers, meat burgers.....

Toad in the Hole (serves 3)

Toad in the hole is a perfect recipe for cold weather. If you're a fan of steaming yorkshire puddings and sausages this is a match made in heaven. Serve with 2 veg and gravy.

6-8 sausages
1 pint of milk
2 eggs, roughly beaten
salt and pepper
1 cup of flour
drizzle of vegetable oil

1. To make the batter pour the milk into a bowl and season with salt and pepper. Add the eggs and whisk gently.

2. Slowly add the flour, sifting it in if you have a sieve. Add it until the mixture feels less runny which sounds ridiculous but it's the best way to describe it. Making batter is all down to experience- the finished product should be like emulsion paint but it won't be the end of the world if it's not exact.

3. Leave the batter to stand while you place the sausages into an oven tray at least 5cm deep, and drizzle with a small amount of vegetable oil. Cook for 5 minutes.

4. After 5 minutes pull the tray out slightly and pour the batter into the hot tray around the sausages.

Close the oven door and cook for 30 minutes until golden brown.

Bruce Bogtrotter's Cake (from Roald Dahl's Revolting Recipes)

In case it's been a decade since you last read Matilda, Bruce Bogtrotter was the obese glutton who was forced to eat an entire cake in front of the whole school. Why don't you try the Bogtrotter challenge? I could only manage 2 pieces..... Have I mentioned that one serving alone is more than your recommended daily intake of saturated fat?

8 oz chocolate
12 tablespoons butter (200g)
1 cup sugar
1/4 cup plain flour
6 eggs, separated, yolks lightly beaten
for the icing:
200g chocolate
200g double cream

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Line an 8 inch cake pan with wax paper and butter the bottom and sides of the paper.

2. Melt the chocolate in a Pyrex bowl set in a saucepan of simmering water or in a microwave on low heat. Mix in the butter and stir until melted.

3. Transfer to a large bowl and add the sugar, flour, and lightly beaten egg yolks.

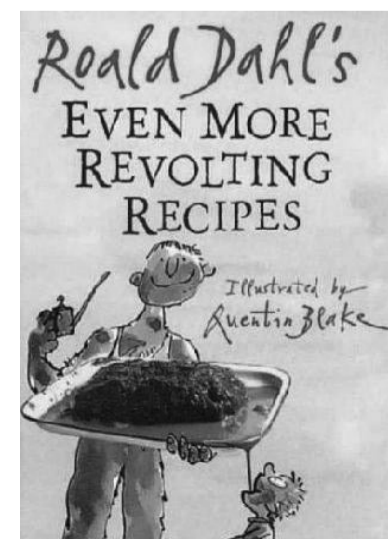
4. Whisk the egg whites until stiff. Gently fold half of the whites into the chocolate mixture, blending thoroughly, then fold in the remaining whites.

5. Pour the batter into the cake pan and bake for about 35 minutes. There will be a thin crust on top of the cake, and if tested with a toothpick the inside will appear undercooked (don't worry, the cake will get firmer as it cools). Remove from the oven, and let cool in the pan on a wire rack.

6. While the cake is cooling, make the icing. Melt the chocolate with the cream in a heavy-bottomed saucepan over lowest heat, stirring occasionally until the chocolate is fully melted and blended with the cream. Remove from heat and let cool slightly.

7. When it's cool enough to handle, remove it from the pan and discard the wax paper. The cake is prone to sinking slightly in the middle, so flip it upside down before icing by placing a plate on top and carefully turning over the cake pan and plate together. Carefully spread the chocolate icing all over the cake.

Find more recipes that feature in Roald Dahl's books like *Pickled Spines of Porcupines* and *Hornets Stewed in Tar*, along with *Strawberry coated Chocolate Fudge* in his revolting recipe books. Email food.felix@imperial.ac.uk with your favourite recipe for the chance to win a copy.



books



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A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

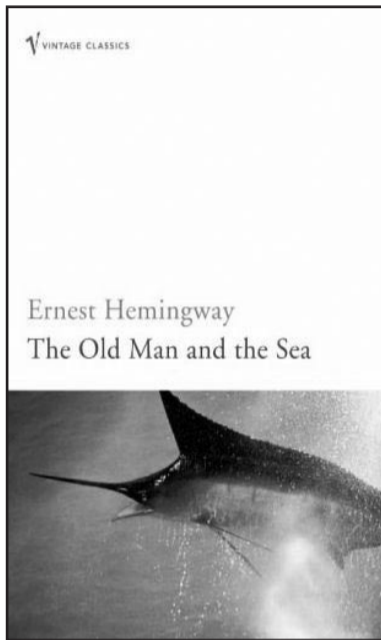
The Old Man & The Sea
by Ernest Hemingway

Retesh Bajaj

My 2 pence: Slow-paced, colourful, descriptive and devoid of any real story. A timeless classic, nonetheless, that is a fascination to behold and a pleasure to read.

When I decided to review a Nobel Prize winning novella by, arguably, one of the greatest writers of 20th century English Literature, I found it a real challenge. There are persons of far greater wisdom and far deeper insight than yours truly that have dedicated entire lifetimes in study and admiration of this novella, if not the author himself. Therefore, my criticising Mr Hemingway's paramount achievement should be taken with as much cynicism as the reader believes I deserve. For, criticise it, I did. When I re-read this novella for reviewing purposes, I emptied my mind of any notions I had earlier as to the genius of Ernest Hemingway and the fact that I had enjoyed this book before.

Firstly, this is indeed a novella – a very thin read that should take about two days to tear through for the average reader. However, a quick read this is not. It is extremely slow to get through and remains so even throughout its 'climax'. Yet, this is not a book to be laboured through, but to be savoured. The author offers the reader gratuitous amounts of gorgeously selected prose and near infinite descriptions – all done in a masterful manner clearly portray-



ing his talents and experience. The written word appears to be carefully selected to avoid losing the reader's interest with an overflow of meaningless imagery; he uses language as paint yet is careful not to dazzle us with colour, as it were. The quality of writing by Mr Hemingway can never be doubted to be among the best in modern English; he has an innate sense of getting the reader to follow him into the depths of his mind and see with his eyes – a quality which many attempt to emulate today, without success.

The story for this novella is pretty much non-existent; there is an encounter with a big fish as the Old Man in question goes fishing one day and this is a description of that event. I certainly don't believe that warrants the word story. The reason

being that a lot of it is given away in the title itself and what actually takes place can be summed up in a paragraph.

However, this is far from an unsatisfying read. What the author has managed to accomplish is to capture a moment from his imagination and display it in its entirety to the world – not unlike a picture or sculpture, which, I believe, was his intention. The title, the reader will notice, could be to a painting. No, not much happens in this book in terms of plot, but that's not the kind of creation the author (or is it artist, now?) wanted. The author simply shows us the status quo – a poor, old man starving with no prospects to survive except for a struggle he probably cannot win; and, in doing so, he generates a deeper level of sympathy than any plot driven narrative could achieve. The reader cannot help but be taken into the hopelessness, perseverance and blind hope that the protagonist embodies; instead of waiting to see what happens to a distant character, the reader, in essence, becomes the old man. This closeness to the character is the driving force behind the storm of emotions produced when this book is read, as it certainly was with this reader.

This creation is nothing like an ordinary piece of literature; it says nothing but shows us more than could ever be said. The story goes nowhere but takes our hearts with it nonetheless. I believe it was Oscar Wilde who said, "The only excuse for making a useless thing is that one admires it intensely. All art is quite useless." This, my fellow readers, is an exquisite read and a work of art if I've ever seen one.

The American Dreamer

Of Mice And Men
by John Steinbeck

Retesh Bajaj

My 2 pence: tragic, humorous and well written; simple in idea and brilliant in execution – the ideal 'light' literature read that can be sped through in no time at all.

Throughout the history of Literature, there has never been a more quintessentially American voice than that of John Steinbeck. His novels, by and large, cover the theme of poverty and the quest for the American Dream – the idea of self-sufficiency, independence and choice. Perhaps understandable as he grew up in and was greatly influenced by the Great Depression, his novels carry a dark undertone of hopelessness and futility – something very obvious in this short novel. His honest style portraying the true brutality of the economic disaster of those decades on the common blue-collar American led him to, deservedly, win enormous literary acclaim – including the Pulitzer Prize, National Book Award and even the coveted Nobel Prize.

This novella, set during the Great Depression in America, centres on the fortunes of two poor farmers on the road in America searching for work; the one large, strong and of little intelligence and the other smart and almost fatherly in taking care of his comrade. They have a dream – to be able to earn enough to buy a piece of land for themselves and work on their own time and terms; grow what they need to survive

and never have the need to work another job again. As with most of Steinbeck's works this tragic book is tinted with wit and casual light heartedness in sharp contrast to the painfully moving climax the author presents to the reader. It is a story about the true meaning of friendship, bitter irony and the failure of hope that so many experienced in Middle America during that period. Steinbeck's characters are vibrant and colourful, if a tad one-dimensional, which is to be expected in a novella as very little time is devoted to character progression. They are who and what they are and that doesn't change throughout. Yet, his characters are delightfully believable, allowing the reader to laugh and commiserate with them, adding to the overall strength of the writing.

The conclusion of this novella does, however, feel a bit rushed, lacking the near perfect tempo of the rest of the narrative – perhaps to add to a sense of urgency and to catch the reader off guard with its message. Unfortunately, the author fails in this aspect, at least with this reader, and the ending seems too abrupt, though still powerful enough to make this more than a satisfying read.

Steinbeck's book is far from perfect, but it brings to heart a type of humanity that is very hard to find in other books – the prospects faced by his protagonists never seem to be impossible or fantastic, but only too real. It isn't a monument to the American spirit nor is it inspirational, but it is what every person out there can relate to. This realism is the reason readers such as I return to this piece of literature every year or so – to remember that sometimes, dreams don't come true.

fashion



fashion.felix@imperial.ac.uk



an eye on fashion

Dolly Delaney
Fashion editor

Sometimes when I look at the medical school, I wonder about what sort of doctors they'll all make. Many of them will of course go private, as all they can think of is their bank balance and how big their house is. Others will go into the NHS and selflessly donate their time to actually helping others for once. But

no matter what sort of loud mouthed, pretentious self righteous do-gooder you are, let's make sure that while on firms or meeting future employers, you always look good. To keep your budget cheap buy a few pairs of smart black and grey trousers (Topshop have a range from £18 with student discount). Make sure that the trousers have a crease down the middle and aren't tight on the thighs and bottom. For those who are short, do not buy bootcut trousers as they make you look like a midget. Instead, buy straight legged trousers and wear shoes with a slight heel to give added height. However, if you're vertically gifted, wear trousers that slightly flair out at the bottom so you avoid looking like you're on stilts. Team these smart trousers with simple figure hugging tops, think v-necks for those

who are less well endowed (and maybe a wonderbra with chicken fillets, let's be honest there's probably going to be a fit older year student!) For those with ample bosoms remember not to wear high necked tops as this makes your torso look rectangular. This Autumn sees the return of the skirt suit - although the model opposite looks great, not all of us are 6ft, so only those with long calves should do this look. To make your outfit completely unique, don't forget to accessorize. There are many shops selling beautiful broaches, earrings and necklaces that can easily turn the most plain black suit, into a chic fashion statement Vogue would be proud of! For men standard attire is of course the suit. But when you have to wear smart clothes for

**Roberto Cavalli:
Autumn/Winter 05-6
He turned down a deal with Posh Spice as she was "too common", but Kate Moss now has the deal!**



more than a month, one suit and a white shirt can get a little boring. My lovely male housemates have informed me that a boy needs to have one classic suit, with a few striking ties and one tailor - made white shirt. However, this may cost in the range of £500, but I'm

assured that this is an investment for life. Alas, for those of you who have spent the student loan and the bank of mum and dad is unavailable - then Next, Topman and M&S do an affordable range of smart trousers, shirts and ties. But don't forget that the charity shops in South Ken are full of business mens designer suits, the only snag is that they might not fit, so start looking now!

Think you're fabulous?

Do you think you're more fashionable than me? Send me a picture and with your name and department. If I agree then you could be in the next issue of Felix!

fashion.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Alon Or-bach

We must not tolerate intolerance!

In last week's *Felix* (No.1333, "ULU in chaos"), we saw coverage of some of the latest homophobic remarks of University of London Union (ULU) Council Chair, Luca Manfredi. On a notice board, he said that should a future son of his introduce him to his boyfriend, he would "take out a big gun and make sure he [would] not dishonour my family".

He was subsequently forced to apologise, but rather than do so with any sign of remorse, he tried to qualify his remarks by saying that "the comments were intended for use against one very restricted group of people". This shows he does not understand that it was his comments that were offensive and unacceptable and not against whom he intended them. As Chair of ULU Council, Luca Manfredi is regarded as a representative of London students. His comments concerning homosexuality give no confidence in his ability to represent all students, especially those that he believes are living in sin.

Even if he had given a full and sincere

apology, which in my opinion he did not, I would not be satisfied with simply letting this go. What Luca posted was not a light jibe – it was a threat of shooting someone because of their sexuality. Nor is this the first time Luca has aired his candid and bigoted views. Just a year ago, he posted similar comments, one of which supported the idea of parents telling their children to commit suicide rather than come out. He said that he would stick to that "until they introduce me to their same-sex friends; at that point I would commit two murders".

The wider problem we face is not just bigots like Luca, but those that seem to think that such bigoted views are acceptable. Just imagine a student representative saying that he'd shoot his son if he converted Islam – or if he came home with a black girlfriend. Homophobia isn't as visible as other hatreds – and we must tackle all forms of bigotry head-on. It matters not whether they affect ten percent of the student population or just one – prejudiced discrimination should not be tolerated.

Our welfare and equal opportunity representatives need to take homophobia and Islamophobia seriously – not just as issues that can be swept under the carpet. It is not good enough to accept as a justification for intolerant comments that they were only intended to 'provoke'. Nor is it adequate to allow a representative like Luca to give a half-hearted apology and think that that should be fine.

Intolerance does not just affect those it is aimed at, but all of us as students who believe in a decent society. Our union should take a more proactive approach in challenging discrimination of all forms. We should celebrate our involvement in *Rise Student Week*, tackling racism and Islamophobia. And I hope that our union will get involved in ULU's London Liberated campaign and Equality Month in February. We cannot allow our representatives to stand by, pleading impartiality. Only by stamping out hate can we live in a community that values people for their worth, and to live free from fear, violence and prejudice.



Joel Holdsworth

On belief and suffering

A response to Anushri Patel's "A good God would not kill people" in *Felix* 1331

In Anushri Patel's recent column, she asked some big questions about God's nature in the light of some of the natural disasters we've seen recently. We want to be thinking people, and the Bible is God's word and has answers to these profound questions.

It's important to keep God's character in mind here. God is Love, and He is Justice. We know what love is, because that's what God is like. Do you see? If God did not love, or was not just or even good, then we wouldn't even have words for these things.

We have this weird concept of what the world *ought* to be like. We feel that natural disasters *ought* not to happen, and that there *ought* not to be any suffering or sadness. In a world without a loving or just God, why shouldn't these things happen? In this world, suffering happens regularly, but everyone, whatever they believe, feels instinctively that the world is not the way it *ought* to be. We feel a crushing sense of injustice and outrage at the suffering we see and experience every day. Even Jesus felt this way.

The big question is: how can anyone deserve to die in a natural disaster like Kashmir or Katrina? In Luke 13:4-5, Jesus talks about a crowd of people crushed by a collapsing building: "those eighteen on whom the tower of Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

You see, we often think sin is like cream cakes: a little bit naughty, but at the same time sort of nice. No big deal. It doesn't hurt anyone. As long as we don't do anything too bad, like kill

someone, then God shouldn't be angry about it – because after all, we're just doing what we feel like.

But that's not what Bible says. Sin is much more serious. The Bible tells us that all sin is rebellion against God. It destroys us and our relationship with him. It is a grave offence before God, because every sin primarily stems from a compromise to do evil on our part. A God who is perfectly upright can never come to terms with evil, never. There can be no compromise, because if there ever is, then he has allowed evil to prevail, and has failed to be ultimately good.

So where do we stand before God, the perfect judge? Ecclesiastes 7:20 says: "There is not a righteous man on earth who does what is right and never sins", and Ezekiel 18:4 says "The soul who sins is the one who will die." It's as simple as that.

What does the face of sin look like – Hitler, Stalin? Yes, but also people like you and me. What hope can there be for us? We are accountable to God. The suffering we see in the world today is simply a curtain raiser for the time when God's justice is finally poured out.

This can be very hard to swallow. We usually simply judge ourselves by our own standards, and when we do that, of course, we come off looking pretty good, but before God and his perfect standard we are guilty. No matter how good or bad any of us think we are, we are all in a desperate state.

This is the good news of the Gospel – that rather than leaving us lost in our sin with no future, God sent his own Son, Jesus Christ, to die in our place. The punishment that I deserve has been

put on him – he is my substitute. "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented him, as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood." (Romans 3:23-25).

Jesus himself says "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die." So, even though we are all sinners who stand utterly guilty, bankrupt, and without hope, God in Jesus Christ has opened the way for the relationship with him to be restored. God's justice and love are finally satisfied. It's a free gift; all we have to do is believe in him. He will do the rest!

Suffering has existed in this world for as long as sin has, but that sin and pain have been fully and finally defeated by Christ Jesus – no wonder he's the most famous man in history! No one else has done what he has, not even close.

Revelation 21, has this prophecy about heaven: "And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them, and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.'"

Every week, the Christian Union runs Impact, an event held in the Union Dining Hall between 12 and 1pm on Tuesdays. It's a chance to investigate the claims of the Bible in a relaxed and friendly environment and to ask any questions you may have. All are welcome, and we'd love to see you there.



Omar Hashmi

When in Paris, do as the French

Vive la resistance! Never has it been known in modern history for a section of a community to rebel so absolutely against the order of the day. Riots all over northern Parisian suburbs, and even last night in central areas, have continued for ten nights straight. Assuredly, more riots are to follow. The spirit of the Resistance seems to have embedded itself in a paradoxically vicious manner with members of France's economically deprived North African community. Such is the effect of the perceived meaningless loss of life, no matter the number. Two or two million, the emotional effect is the same. These actions mark a totally frustrated and deprived set of people. Yes, the violence is their own fault, but the rage of those particular individuals could be seen as intoxicating.

Comparatively, the student reputation of being politically active and making their voices

heard does not even register. If our lives were truly changed for the worse, if first years were made to live on the streets due to Southside's demolition, if tuition fees were so high that only those with actual "inheritances" could go into higher education, we would act decisively. And if necessary, angry or hurt enough, we would all fight (and indeed burn) like those that are doing the same in France, perhaps as we speak. It is a harsh reality to bear, but if we or society take enough from people, the equal and opposite reaction to pain spirals out of control. Don't get me wrong; I'm not "inciting" anyone to anything sinister. But what a spectacle it would be for students to find some real excitement in their lives. Heroes are made only when the circumstances are there for true courage to show. Yet there is no modern war that affects all today, no great cause to rally the masses, no idea to change the governance of life. Each shade of

grey masks the opportunity for glory. Perhaps we should be happy. It means that for the most part our lives are taken care of, and that each day we are assured of a mundane existence. No evil to fight, no cause to be won.

Over the horizon, however, there is much turmoil. Natural disasters and war are commonplace. One could not be blamed for asking "what is wrong with the world?" Its inhabitants and its habitat. There, people are moving. Insurgencies, repression and truly beautiful acts of compassion often draw well-off boredom-heads like ourselves to areas where we can feel some special kind of life. There is no hope for ultimate success, with shockingly little faith in our leaders to govern well, let alone to achieve world peace, its nigh on impossible. But what a life to live! It sure as hell beats the essay I have to write now that's already late and had 20% deducted. Damn the stress.



felix

No 1334
Thursday
10 November 2005
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“
The almost guaranteed failure of the policy to thwart a terrorist attack nullifies the exercise.
”

This isn't school

Although the rationale for introducing the ruling that forces students to display their swipe card at all times is understandable, the almost guaranteed failure of the policy to thwart a potential terrorist attack nullifies the exercise. For the policy to fulfil its objective, Security Officers would need to be stationed at every single entrance to campus, which would drain College's already stretched resources.

If a potential intruder desired access to College he/she would not have to do much homework to discover the public right of way along Imperial College Road, from which any building in College is readily accessible.

It looks likely that the only thing the dress code will achieve is to get students riled. Most freshers arriving at university are elated at being able to throw off the shackles of imposed dress codes and start expressing themselves through the way they dress. It looks like Imperial College does not believe in freedom of expression through dress.

The success or failure of this directive is in the hands of the student body. If the students decide on



mass to flout these new rules, the College will have to back down and have a re-think. There is no way that they can forcibly remove all students from campus.

College need to be shown what the overwhelming student opinion is on this matter, especially with regard to the wearing of hoodies and "offensive dress". Perhaps if

students all started wearing hoodies with swearwords blazoned across the front, they would see what a real offensive dress problem was.

Bring me political revival



Iain Heaton

In reply to Alex Guite's 'Things could be worse than missing Neighbours' (which I don't think is true at all), I have the following to say; firstly I did not actually call the column, 'I should write for the daily mail', that was the Felix's editor idea and in doing so, I feel, he gave the column racist and xenophobic overtones which were not intended. That is only incidental though, there are many more points I would like to clarify for Alex (notice I use your first name, not 'Guite' because I do not like to appear condescending and rude, even though I may be both those things).

I did not 'grudgingly admit' that only a very small amount of crime is committed by asylum seekers, I made it perfectly clear. Also I did not feel I 'loosely swapped'

between the terms 'asylum seekers, immigrants and foreigners', if I did I apologise. I am fully aware of the differences but my point holds true for all, if they are not British citizens, why should the British tax payer pay for them to sit in a prison cell? I also felt I made it very clear that I was fully aware of the consequences for some people if they were deported; I said that if they really were being terrorised in their own country they would be more careful not to break the law because they would have so much to lose.

I am not talking about someone being caught speeding here but things like human trafficking, rape and beating women are fairly major crimes and, to me, they suggest that the people who do them are not very nice and can probably look after themselves in a country that is less friendly and welcoming than Britain. Likewise, if they are a terrorist from a rather extreme country I would not suggest they are sent back to their own country because they might be free to commit more atrocious acts against Britain later on.

He also said that I had a 'loose grip' on the asylum figures in Britain, it is wonderfully true what you can prove with figures, for example I can prove that there are more new asylum seekers applying each year than there are failed asylum seekers being deported (mainly because the Government can't catch them), therefore the number in Britain is increasing and I feel this shouldn't be the case.

And in that final sentence we have the crux of the matter; 'I feel'; it is my opinion. I love Britain but frankly I want to emigrate to Australia because I am so fed up of the political situation in this country. I freely admit what I am and do; I vote conservative because 1) I don't like the amount of tax I have to pay, 2) I hate Tony Blair and 3) I want to go fox hunting again. Alex, in my opinion, is a liberal, world saving do-gooder whereas I think that we, in Britain, have to look after our own interests first and make sure that everything is sorted in our own country before we go to save everyone else.

I don't want to cut all communication to the rest of the world (I'm not a communist, far from it) but I think it's more important to sort out things like the NHS and the failing education system than piss off the entire Middle East. No other country is so obsessed with correcting all the wrongs in the world as us; America only does it because it is to their own advantage. What is perhaps even worse is the fact that we don't actually try to save everyone, at least then we would be consistent. When thousands of people in Zimbabwe were being terrorised by Robert Mugabe, no one lifted a finger to stop it because they were all too scared of being called racist, ex colonials trying to reclaim their lost empire.

I know that to Alex all of this will make me seem stupid, insular and unaware of the political situation in the world - but that is his opinion.



Stormy Woods

Greetings from the salubrious land of Ottershaw, home to St Peter's hospital, replete with the uglier members of the St George's cohort, and not much else! True geeks may recognise the comedy value of the aforementioned depravity; it hosts none other than the award-winning computer games purveyor, Electronic Arts, vast leafy woodland and a motorway to slit your neck on.

The nearest watering hole is over three miles away, in leafy Addlestone along with a Tesco and a series of kebab and chicken shops for entertainment. Thankfully the men at these shops are courteous in their interactions - none of that faux-Bollywood singing malarkey our decidedly raucous friends on North End Road's now-defunct Lillie Pizza and Fried Chicken

have been known to do on occasion! The pointless month in hospital in my second year brought me to their attention - and I had to start using the 190 in order to avoid the refrain of 'hey Indian girl. You got pretty eyes' and similarly pathetic ministrations!

Regretfully, St Peter's is distinctly lacking on the Hospital Watch front. The male nursing students from Surrey Polytechnic are best described as cousins of the repulsive Craig from Malcolm in the Middle and the Simpsons' Comic Book guy, without so much as a sense of humour to make them attractive. St George's men are an improvement, since they've been generous enough to invite us out to a couple of parties, but ten G&T's later the lack of medical knowledge between them meant only one thing: that things in the sack weren't going to be great.

This leaves only one thing - the doctors. Paediatrics is a speciality known to attract the geekier, slightly weedy types. So we've got ten pairs of glasses worn by ten Indian men the size of my left arm and a fundamentalist Christian from China. The consultants fare slightly better, with Thunderbird getting a sizeable edge over Baldy since he doesn't own a disdainful mouth or a Mr Burns' haircut. Since Thunderbird is the only one in shape, with a full head of hair, many a tutorial has been spent listening to his authoritative voice dreaming of what could be in a master-slave situation. I'd quite like to take him to a Chelsea dungeon, though quite what his country mare of a wife would make of that, I don't know - I guess we'll have to make do with the play-piercing opportunities the acupuncture needles in the neonatal unit afford



Letters to the editor

The author of the 'star' letter received each week will win £10
felix@imperial.ac.uk



Star Letter

Extremist at Imperial?

Dear Editor,

I'm writing in response to your editorial about the group 'Hizb ut Tahrir'. The vast majority of IC students, including myself, know little about what this organisation is about and why it warrants a ban, so I think it might help if Felix gave us a bit more information about them. I've spent my evening using Google trying to find out information about Hizb ut Tahrir. As far as I can see, Hizb ut Tahrir is a political party with a revolutionary left-leaning ideology which seeks to achieve its aims via non-violent means. According to GlobalSecurity.org: "[Hizb ut Tahrir] ... remains a radical organization. Hizb ut-Tahrir is not against violence as such. It is just against the use of violence now. But they still think jihad (holy war) is a positive concept. The United States Government is continuing to monitor Hizb ut-Tahrir... the United States has found no clear ties between Hizb ut-Tahrir and terrorist activity. Hizb ut-Tahrir has not been proven to have involvement in or direct links to any recent acts of violence or terrorism. Nor has it been proven to give financial support to other groups engaged in terrorism." Correct me if I'm wrong, but this makes Hizb ut Tahrir no worse than the Communist Party, which isn't facing a ban. The Union should look into this closely, and I think we at IC should come to our own decision rather than following others. So I think we need to look into the reasons why the NUS barred the group, and why the government wants to ban them. And importantly - are they anti-Semitic or not? I haven't been able to find a definitive answer from my evening's web surfing. If we have proof that the group has been peddling racial hatred on campus, then that most certainly calls for a ban. Besides, surely even an extremist would agree that racism is forbidden in Islam - in which case the organisation ought to ban itself! So what I'm saying is; if the Union is to ban any group, it should be done for good reasons and the student body should be informed about those reasons. Otherwise it'll look like the Union is stifling free speech.

Kind Regards,
Mohammed Marikar

Stormy Woods

Dear Rupert,

Thursday means one thing, picking up the latest copy of *Felix*. And like every other Thursday there is the latest drivel from Ash-wannabe

Stormy Woods about her ailing lovelife. If its not construction workers leering at her, its "balding South Africans" trying to pick her up on the 72 bus. The poor girl must have such a hard life, everyone wants a bit of Stormy loving, which makes you wonder, just how attractive the anonymous Miss Woods is. After all, the majority of her week is made up of fending off requests for a "fuck", so are we destined to see Stormy in the latest issue of FHM's high street honeys? Well unfortunately not readers, I have it on good authority that Stormy Woods is a minger! No wonder you can't get a boyfriend love! Perhaps you should grab a balding South African while you can, because let's face it, things are only going to get worse over time!

Name and department supplied

Stormy Woods replies:

Dear bitter and twisted transvestite masturbator, Since you have chosen to hide so cowardly, under the bastion of anonymity, I cannot address you in your own good name. Thank you for your insolent email, my meanness is a subjective matter of personal taste, although I feel you are not at liberty to comment without letting me have a fair crack at you. Give us your name and we'll see what the voice of female opinion at Imperial says about what you've got to offer.

Sporting facilities

Dear Felix,

What do most students want from the union? "Sporting facilities that meet up to the standards of other British Universities", is the most common answer I have heard. Students live a stressful life at Imperial and most people find stress relief in Physical activities. Aikido is a practical accessible to all martial art that teaches self defense and leaves plenty of room for self-improvement.

Situated near Paddington the Sherman lounge is a space used by martial arts that require mats, Aikido being among them. At the beginning of term, the Sherman lounge was closed down so that works could be done to turn it into a proper dojo. Even if the societies lost valuable practice time and some members they were happy to have better facilities. Recently, the matted martial arts have been told that they can not use the Sherman lounge for the last week of November and possibly longer. The reason: another group of people that have no link to martial arts have rented the place. Practice twice a week is very important for matted martial arts especially before a long break. In addition the Aikido society will be particularly badly affected since they have gradings in December.

The president, the secretary and the instructor of the Aikido society have already tried to resolve the issue but they have not even been

listened too. The people that aim to use the Sherman lounge would need to remove the mats, which given the recent transformation is not a 5 minutes job, so the Sherman lounge is probably not the best place for them.

If the competent authorities looked into matters like these rather than ignoring them Imperial would have facilities that could meet up to the standards of other UK Universities even if Imperial College is in central London.

Yours truly,

Johannes Gambari
1st year Physics PhD

Felix

Dear Editor,

Felix as we all know is the newspaper of the students, for the students. We're a good fun loving bunch of people and our tastes differ tremendously. However, I think most of us can agree that we would like something interesting in our paper. Last week I was browsing through and there was a section on Politics and a Business section... this might be interesting for some, but I feel that we are all capable of picking up a (discounted) copy of the Times or Financial Times if we want to know about these issues. These papers are certainly more up to date, and I feel that with these sections in Felix, the paper becomes more boring than it is already. This is not to say we can't have articles about these if they affect the students. I have been reading Felix for several years, and I'm disappointed that it is no longer holding my attention for more than a few minutes. Please make it more interesting!

Simon Pascoe

Rupert Neate replies:

Thanks for your letter. Felix exists not only to entertain, but also to give students the opportunity to have a go at being journalists. What would hold your attention? I think we've got quite a good balance of funny and serious stuff; it's certainly less serious than last year. Also, it does seem to be appealing to the students (we are printing 500 more copies than last year).

Food Felix

Hi Guys,

Your breakfast report mentioned hot baked beans from the JCR. Can you tell me at what time you went? I have used the JCR for breakfast, off and on, for some eighteen months and have never found anything to be hotter than tepid!

Oh and you don't print the prices but say it is "all student friendly". Mmmm maybe the grants for students are bigger than we are

lead to believe...

Regards,
Graham Ford

Hannah Theodorou, Food Editor, replies:

Dear Graham, Thankyou for reading my articles so avidly. Unfortunately I cannot speak for Ping and Paul so the matter of whether or not the beans were served hot is not something I can resolve. As for prices, enclosed is the breakfast bar's most recent price list. The discount for students is considerable and, compared to alternative breakfast joints, the prices are comparatively reasonable. By the way, students no longer receive grants as standard any more - funds are raised through repayable loans. Look out for my review of the main dining hall in the upcoming Felix.

Coffee shops

Dear Editor,

What's with these trendy coffee shops that litter this city we live in? I really don't understand why people need so many places to buy something you can make yourself for practically no cost at all. I went walking through one part of this city the other day, doing a bit of shopping for particular items. Could I find what I was looking for? Could I heck - every other shop was selling "skinny-mocha-chino-frappa-dabbi-do-das....with cream and chocolate sprinkles on top".

Where I come from, there are no coffee shops in the village streets. Go into the nearest town and there's still none - people make their coffee in the morning, using coffee power, milk and boiling water. If they love their coffee enough, they make a lot and put it all in a flask so as to drink it throughout the day. Hey, it beats paying £2+ every time! For the price of your average coffee-bar coffee, you can buy enough ingredients to make many drinks, exactly the way you like them!

I hear the average cost to the vendor to make you a 'coffee' in one of these shops is little over 10p. How much do you pay for them? £2? £3 sometimes?? You can get a decent bite to fill a hole in the day for that price.

It's also apparently 'trendy' to get this drink as a takeaway, so you can return to your place of work/study holding a cup with a logo blazoned across it, telling everyone in the room that you just bought a drink that was vastly overpriced.... and isn't actually coffee! "Oooh look at me and my 'vanilla-decaf-latte-mocha-medium roast....with toffee sprinkles'....aren't I trendy and cool?!"

Last time I drank out of a paper cup, I was probably 8 years old. The dinner ladies didn't want the infants to have proper cups or glasses - we'd end up dropping them. Nowadays people will pay out of their noses for the privilege of having recycled paper (you know

it's got old toilet roll in it!) touch their lips as they taste whatever fancy syrup and sprinkles they have on their drinks.

So the next time you wish to order your "skinny-mocha-chino-frappa-dabbi-do-das...with God knows what on top", sit posing in the window staring at all the folk you think you're above in society, drinking from a paper cup because the staff don't trust you to hold a mug safely...remember that the owners of the shop are laughing their bollocks off at you - you might as well pay to breathe and shit.

Anonymous
PS Tea tastes better

Bar Nights

Dear Editor,

It has come to my attention that *Felix* are having regular bar nights for their staff in the union, where the beer is paid for from *Felix*'s coffers.

I was just wondering a) where the money for this beer is coming from and b) how the editor intends to justify this kind of expense on beer when surely the money could be being used to improve the facilities available to writers, subeditors and future editors in the *Felix* office?

Thanks,

A Concerned Student

All at *Felix* collectively respond:

Felix Bar Nights are essential if we are to produce a good newspaper. The Imperial student body, as we all know, is not a very literate bunch. It is very hard to build up a good team of contributors from a group of people who have a very heavy study schedule and aren't trying to crack into journalism. This isn't Cardiff, Cambridge or York, which have to fend off many great writers as everyone there wants to work for the Guardian.

There has to be some incentive for people to spend hours and hours toiling away creating your newspaper. One of those incentives is the Felix Bar Night. These are held only about three times a term, and we have not yet spent over £200. When you consider that this is only 10% of the income from one full page advert, the cost is negligible.

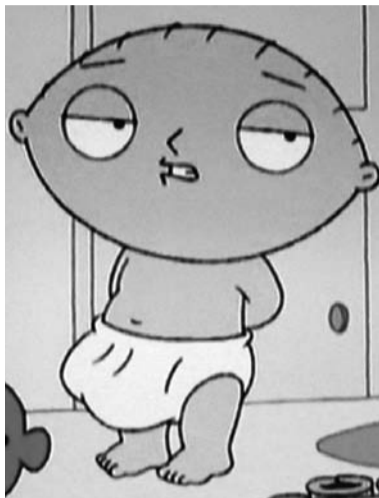
If it were not for the hard work of everyone who contributes to Felix, we would not attract such advertising. So in a sense the Felix contributors are just reaping their reward for making the paper a great read.

We do also spend the money generated through advertising on facilities - we are currently paying off a loan, which paid for our editorial suite and are in the process of investing in new computers and a camera. It is not a question of spending money on bar nights instead of facilities. If you believe there is a facility we are not offering which we could offer, please get in touch.

tv

tv.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Last week's TV



Alrigh there. Welcome to a new section of *Felix!* I will be analysing and dissecting (read: rambling on about) the week's entertainment that has been blasted out of your 'tellybox', as the E4 creators so annoyingly refer to it. If you've got beef with my comments, want to suggest some programs I should tune in to, or want to send me fan mail, you can do so by emailing: tv.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Last Wednesday evening saw the first episode of HBO's sex and sandals, swords and violence, sex and rape and sex epic *Rome*. From the creators of the excellent *Band Of Brothers*, BBC2 were hoping for great things from *Rome*. The program was a massive success attracting 6.6m viewers, unfortunately one of whom was me.

Set during the era of Julius Caesar, it was billed as, "a story of love and betrayal, masters and slaves". However, in reality it felt more like the BBC were whacking out some soft-core porno in a bid to show Channel 5 how it's really done. *Rome* was terrible. Oh, don't get me wrong - swords and sheaths, sex and rape appeal to me as much as the next guy. But trying to follow the story was far too much effort, and

I couldn't care less which grunting Roman got screwed over next. This wasn't helped by the fact that UK viewers get a trimmed down version of the US show. Three US shows are streamlined into two of ours. Unknowingly, the BBC was doing us a favour. A lot of wasted denarii then, but the BBC won't be complaining. I can only hope that you didn't have to suffer the torture of last night's episode before reading this.

Thankfully, I only had a ten minute wait until *Lost*, so I brushed my teeth and jumped in bed. Incidentally, electric toothbrushes are safe - get one. And speaking of which, doesn't it make you wonder how scrubbed up the survivors manage to keep? Especially the blonde girl, you know the one? Oh yes. Ah, Shannon, that's it. Blemish free skin and blinding ivory pegs - I dunno. Ahem, anyway, what an episode! You've probably seen the next episode last night or are even two episodes ahead if you are a naughty E4 viewer. So, I'm writing for the Sunday crew.

It was Mercutio's, sorry Michael's turn to be centre of attention. We found out his girlfriend left him and took his child, but she died when Walt was 9, giving reason to the poor father-son relationship. Walt's admiration of the bald-one continued and led to a tussle between Locke's lap-dog Boone and a protective Michael. Later, Walt wandered off into the forest. In true *Lost* fashion, we were kept on the edge of our seats. Ten minutes to go. Are we going to see the monsters? Hell yes! But, oh..! It's another polar bear? The penultimate scenes were very tense and torn relationships were resolved using the Hollywood struggle-to-success therapy. Were the writers done there though? Hell no! The final scene saw the whiny pregnant one emerge through the dense undergrowth, smeared in blood wearing a smile. But, did she still have a bun in the oven? I didn't notice myself, but chums of mine suggested that was the twist.

Speaking of baking, Thursday was

the night of 24 rip-off *Spooks*, but more importantly Gordon Ramsay's *The F Word*. This week he had a bake-off against him mum. They were cooking apple puddings. She was lovely, but Ramsey is even a cheeky bastard to her. Not that I'd ever give my Petal jip... To be fair though, he was very complimentary to his mum after he had beaten her 2 votes to 1, saying she taught him everything he knows. Aww. Ramsay gets a bad press for swearing superfluously and being too hard on peo-

"The BBC were whacking out some soft-core porno to show Channel 5 how it's really done"

ple who can't cook as well as him. *The F Word* portrays him in a good light and one I think he deserves. He demands perfection, he is honest and yet knows when he has gone too far such as when he apologised to Joan Collins for kicking her out of his restaurant seven years ago. For that, he deserves reward and he is getting it from Channel 4 who are rightfully airing this program. Watch it, but I dare you to cook something from it.

Right, I'd better wrap this up for this week as I'm off to Battersea to see flowers blooming in the night sky. I've been keeping one eye on *X-Factor* and all I can say about tonight is I hope the bloody Conway Sisters get kicked off. The last thing we need is another bloody B*Witched clone clogging up the charts. Westlife are doing a splendid job, thank you. Not that I have anything against the Irish!

Will I be here next week to write this page? Or will I be fermenting in a Guinness barrel? Tune in next week.

Tomo Roberts

DVD Reviews

Family Guy Presents Stewie Griffin - The Untold Story

Certificate: 15

★★★★☆

Pulled from US television schedules not once, but twice, it is perhaps surprising to see a *Family Guy* movie. I use the term "movie" loosely, as this 90 minute feature went straight to DVD and is little more than a buffed up, extended episode. However, this is a fitting reward for fans who resurrected the series buying the DVD in droves. Why it was pulled from television in the first place is a mystery, probably due to most American humour going along the lines of:

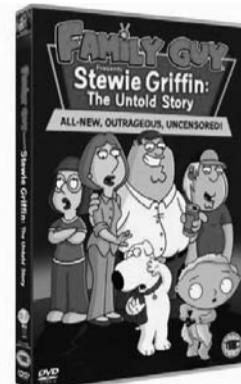
<Joey and Monica are chatting. Enter Ross.>

"Oh man, if Ross finds out I smashed his car up, he's gonna be mad."

"Err... Joey, Look behind you."

<Audience "Ooo"s. Ross frowns whilst retaining his puppy-dog visage>

The Untold Story focuses on the best character in *Family Guy* as it follows the calculating, megalomaniac baby from a near-death experience, to finding his real father and finally a bit of time travel. The journey is merely a changing background for the writers to unleash their insane, twisted and controversial humour upon. The jokes come thick and fast and they push the boundaries of decency even further than the series. Joking about every moral grey area under the sun, or should that be Peter's belly, there is even room to squeeze reference to incest. As always, there are many trademark asides that are irrelevant to the plot. Highlights include



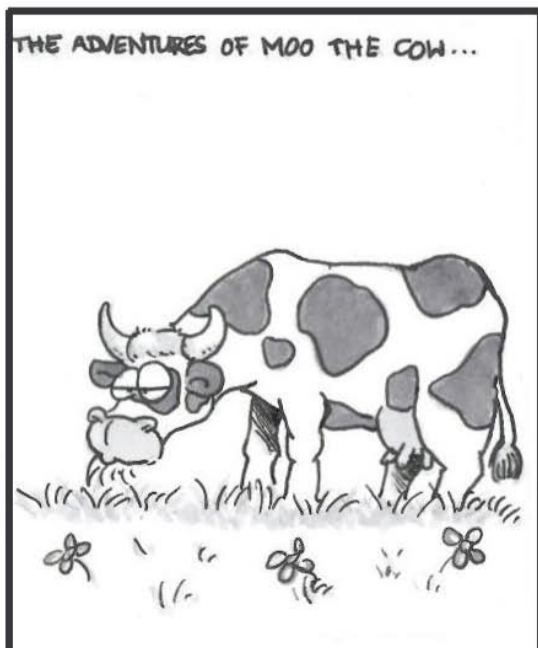
Stewie recalling his failed attempt at world domination, where he is found hiding in a box by US infantry and combed for lice live on TV whilst his statue is pulled down with chains by Iraqis. Another very funny aside parodies Indiana Jones, where Stewie is his Chinese side-kick complete with "Dr Jones" catch phrase.

Almost all of the characters return, even the squeaky-voiced, greased up guy who featured in about two series episodes. This also acts to alienate first time *Family Guy* viewers. There are plenty of in-jokes and the humour may be too overwhelming for 90 minutes. *The Untold Story* begins to lag after about an hour, but it redeems itself for the finale. More screen-time for Captain Syphilis himself, Quagmire, would have been welcome but there is too much of a good thing. I suppose this is *The Untold Story's* main failing. For fans of the series, they will feel right at home, on the sofa in Quahog. But it is essentially a long episode. *Family Guy* is best in short doses and if you don't already own the series DVDs, buy those first.

Tomo Roberts

Watch TV?

If so you have enough qualifications.
tv.felix@imperial.ac.uk



tevong@gmail.com

blind date

felix-blinddate@imperial.ac.uk

Jack and Regina @ New Maharaja

From this week onwards *Felix* will play match-maker and set up two Imperial students in the hope they'll find love, or at least have a laugh.



Jack Cutler, 18
1st year physics
Bournemouth

Describe your ideal partner?

Blonde, very good looking, long legs, not so clever that she makes me look stupid, not too easy but not too hard (to get), dresses well, doesn't wear too much make-up, same age or younger. I'm not that fussy.

What would be your biggest nightmare of a date?

A fat ugly goth munter with a tache and hairy armpits. Wearing an unclean oversized pink lacy thong.

Do you like a roast on Sunday?

I'd prefer one every day, but I'm a religious type of guy.

Are you allergic to nuts?

What sort?

Any sort?

No, bring 'em on

Physics or medicine?

Prefer to bone a medic, and then video call her mother with a clip.



Regina Lee, 19
1st year electrical
engineering
South Korea

Describe your ideal partner?

Green eyes, dark brown hair, artistic, has money. Fit body, no hairy arse.

What would be your biggest nightmare of a date?

Hairy arse. Food in his teeth.

Would you sleep with someone on the 1st date?

Depends on his arse (joking). No I wouldn't.

Are you allergic to nuts?

Not at all

Physics or medicine?

Neither.

Looking for love?
Or just a great dinner?

Email felix-blinddate@imperial.ac.uk with a brief profile or answers to the above intro questions and we'll set you up on a date to remember.

Starsign verdict (Sagittarius + Sagittarius): Both fire signs, however that's where the similarity ends. If these two pair together then there could be a serious power struggle.

The New Maharaja

10 Greyhound Road, Hammer-smith, London W6 8XN
£25, meal for 2

Jack's Verdict

What were your first thoughts when you saw Regina?

A bit short but on her knees- just the right height. I thought she was fit and seemed like a bit of alright. A good laugh and easy to talk to.

Did you fancy her?

Does the Pope wear a dress? There was potential, and a second date could easily be on the cards if she plays hers right.

Did you like the restaurant?

Does Tony Blair bend over for George Bush?

What would you give the date out of 10?

I'd give her one.

Will you be seeing him again?

We haven't made arrangements yet, but hey you never know.

And Finally the question everyone wants ask, did you kiss?

Kiss where? There might have been (wink wink).

Regina's Verdict

Real nice and very good service.

Will you be seeing him again?

Yeah, why not.

What would you give him out of 10?

An 8.

What were your first thoughts when you saw Jack?

Fun and far too entertaining.

Did you fancy him?

I'm not sure

What did you think of the meal?



Dear Miss Confidentiality...

agony.felix@imperial.ac.uk



Hey guys. Keep the questions coming, the star letter winner next week wins two tickets to see a film of their choice! So get thinking I'm here to answer all you can throw at me! Write to me at agony.felix@imperial.ac.uk!

Miss C.



Star Letter

Homeward Bound?

Dear Miss C,
I'm a first year physicist and I'm struggling with university life. I found it hard settling in as the people in my halls do not understand me. I am finding the workload challenging and feel there is no-one to turn to. I'm seriously thinking of leaving Imperial tomorrow, but do you think I should stick it out at least until the end of the term?
Troubled Fresher

Dear Troubled fresher,
I totally sympathise but life isn't all that bad and things could be much much worse. Just take a look at the headlines in the newspapers every morning and you'll start thanking god that you've ended up in university in the first place!! Uni is really different from everything that you've known before, so adjusting is hard. Now I realise that physics isn't easy and that their parties

have been so boring in the past that people have resorted to reading the books in the room, (why you'd put yourself through that torture.....) but there are good mates to be made, you just have to find them. Latching on to a 2nd/3rd year and begging for revision notes has also been known to work in the past. You seem to have just been unlucky in your halls, but if you hold out for just that little bit longer things will get better. Try getting that little bit more involved Spend your nights in the common room, or down the pub with halls people, give them a chance to know you, They'll accept you, unless of course you do choose to start attacking them with a chain saw, that is just never going to be socially acceptable. The great thing about uni is that there is such a big mix of people and everyone is so different, maybe you just haven't found your clique yet? I mean to be honest IC isn't really a normal uni, it's not what you expect, and we are all that little bit different but there is still fun to be had. Hold out for just that little bit longer, and see where life takes you. Remember going home is going backwards and there's so much to look forward to...

How to get a girl in 10 steps...

Dear Miss Confidentiality,
I told my Chinese classmate that I was cooking for her, so I invited her at my place next Saturday. I've already set the menu according to her preferences but the problem is that there is no living room in my flat and we must have dinner in my room. I don't want to intimidate her, but I've fallen for her and I'd like the dinner to be intimate. It's my first "dinner date", so I'm pretty nervous and don't know what to do. Any advice?
Feeling Nervous

Dear Feeling Nervous,
To start with, take a deep breath, IN! Hold, OUT! Feel better? Now I'm not going to give you the step by step guide on how to get a girl into bed, but I will give you some advice. Firstly don't stress too much about the whole having to eat in your room scenario, not everyone has lounges. Now I get that you really like this girl, and want everything to go perfectly, but

take things slowly and stay relaxed, If you over plan she'll think it's contrived and may get the wrong idea, thinking that you're a creep. Now I know you want to show her that you've been looking forward to tonight, and you already have by cooking her something that you'll know she'll like, now chill!! If you push her too fast you'll scare her away, and that the last thing you want to do. Make the evening light hearted. Be charming and funny, and if you can't manage that, then just be the person she agreed to go out on a date with, that who she'll want anyway. Just take it slowly and show her that its' her you care about, not a roll between the sheets, that's your best bet! Good luck and save me some dessert!

What goes around comes around!

Dear Miss C,
I no longer go out of my way to run over little dogs or cats with my bike, I don't fart in crowded lifts before I get out, & have stopped making prank phone calls. So, my question is: how does this whole Karma thing work? I've been really good for a couple of weeks now, and it's been agony! When do we start seeing some payback? Seriously, I'm beginning to have my doubts if it really exists!?
Des Tiny

Dear Des Tiny,
What do you mean you go out of you way to avoid running over little dogs? What kind of a sick freak are you? You're asking when you'll get some payback? Well I think fate's being kind enough! Let me clear this up for you, karma is about things happening when you least expect it! Being nice to some poor innocent animals and not subjecting the rest of the world to your repulsive bodily odours then buying a lottery ticket hoping it'll pay off won't work. You may have a cleaner aura and so girls will no longer see you and run away screaming, but I wouldn't hold my breath. What goes around come around? It seems to me that you have a lot of bad thing to pay off before anything good is going to happen! If you're finding it that much agony though, my advice, dig a big big hole and jump in! Stay there until you see some sense, then you can rejoin humanity!

Mystic stars

Scorpio (Oct 23rd - Nov 21st)



It's time to open up to those around you about how you truly feel. This week may be emotional, but you'll come out on top.

Sagittarius (Nov 22nd - Dec 21st)



worth the hassle!

Patience is key this week as people around you test how far they can push you. My advice, bite your tongue, they're not

Capricorn (Dec 22nd - Jan 19th)



they'll love you even more for it!

Your popularity is reaching new heights, people just can't get enough of you. But don't let it go to your head, stay grounded...

Aquarius (Jan 20th - Feb 18th)



'N' will be good for you.

People feel like you're pushing them out of your life, so make the effort to show them you do care. Somebody with the initial

Pisces (Feb 19th - Mar 20th)



wait, just hang on in there!

You are beginning to develop a stronger sense of self worth, do not accept second best. Good things come to those who

Aries (Mar 21st - Apr 20th)



we'd better leave you guys to it!

I thought bonfire was over? So why am I seeing fireworks between you and a beautiful admirer? Feeling a bit flustered? I'm not surprised! Things are definitely heating up!! The spark is electric...

Taurus (Apr 21st - May 21st)



Technology may get the better of you. The thing to do is go back to basics, just to be on the safe side.

Gemini (May 22nd - Jun 21st)



Uranus occupying your sign this week, means cooperation is much easier to achieve than previously, be glad, it may not last.

Cancer (Jun 22nd - Jul 22nd)



Determination is always good, but don't forget creativity and imagination- these will reward you no less.

Leo (Jul 23rd - Aug 22nd)



The best things come to those who wait. The stars are helping you develop a stronger sense of self worth- don't accept 2nd best.

Virgo (Aug 23rd - Sep 22nd)



so lucky.

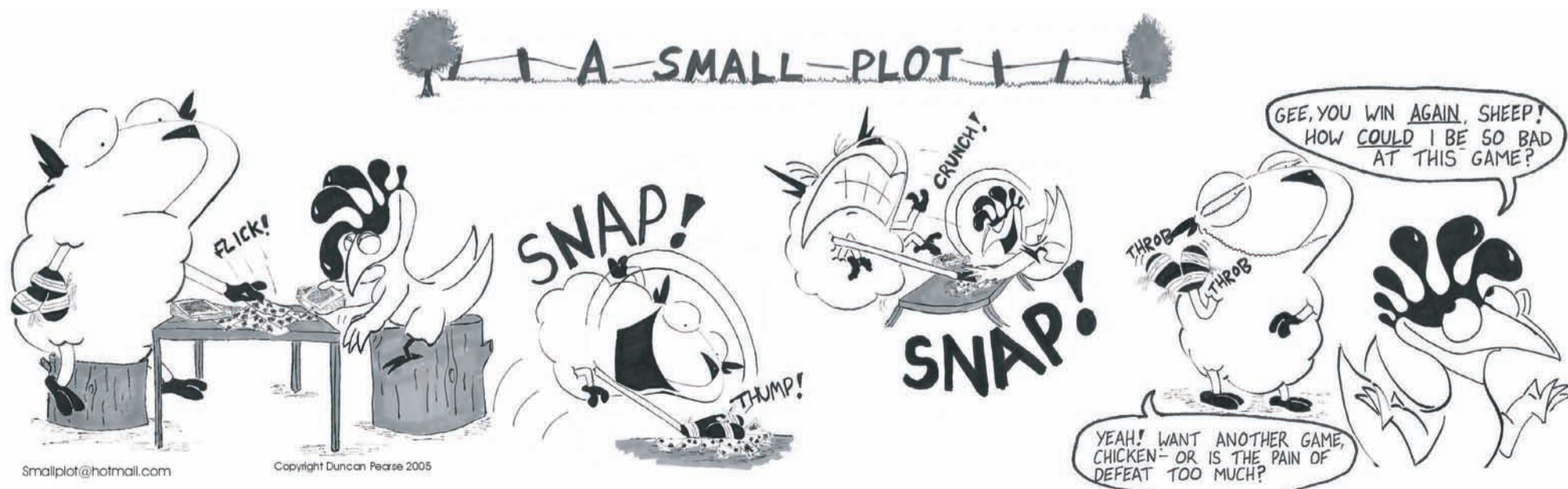
All that glitters can be gold! Fate is smiling at you this week, and you have the pick of anything you want, if only we could all be

Libra (Sept 23rd - Oct 22nd)



be back to normal next week, just hold on!

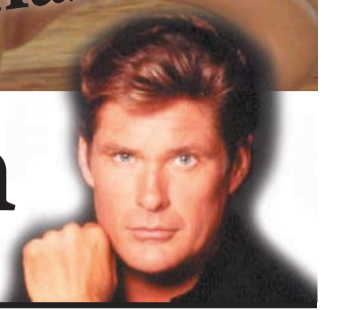
Take 5 steps forward and take 10 steps back seems to be your aim this week, sorry to say things just don't seem to be going your way, don't fret, it'll all



coffee break

coffee.felix@imperial.ac.uk

with David Hasselhoff



I've been looking for freedom

Another week of Coffee Break, but with a special prize to give away...

TV Go Home

This week's big quiz is TV Go Home, which is, unsurprisingly, all about the telly.

As usual, here's some pretty pictures and some questions to answer. There's an incredible **two points** for each one you get right.

Emails to coffee.felix@imperial.ac.uk, as always.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 6 |
| 2 | 7 |
| 3 | 8 |
| 4 | 9 |
| 5 | |



1



2



3

Despite being a bit preachy sometimes, **South Park** is as funny as ever. That's mainly Cartman though. When did the show begin?

The Sopranos is the best show on the telly, full of good stuff like murder and swearing. How many people have died in the show?

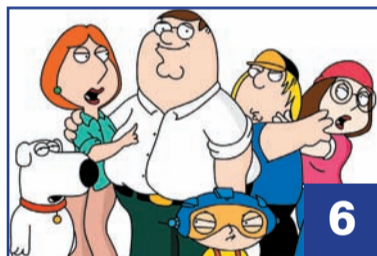
A bunch of gorgeous people (and a fat chap) on a lovely island, and all they do is moan. How many people survived the plane crash in **Lost**?



4



5



6

Coffee Break can never be accused of sexism. **SATC** (Four girls moan about shoes & periods) isn't that bad really. What are the girl's names?

A masterclass in drama, comedy and surrealism (*dream sequences?!), Neighbours* recently celebrated its anniversary - how many years?

Now **The Simpsons** is a bit shit, we have to settle for this show. It's not so bad though, the dog's funny. Where is **Family Guy** set?



7



8



9

My name is Jack Bauer and this is yet another worst day of my life. Who does Jack spend most of his time working for in 24?

The Office is one of the funniest comedies in years, and even though Gervais is smug arsehole, we still love it. Where is it set?

This is **Art Attack!** Socks are monsters, the sea is glitter, and papier-mache is everywhere. What's the name of our chirpy host here?

Stop... Hammertime!

Here at Coffee Break we like to champion the cause of unsung talents.

In the music business several artists stand out above the rest. Dylan, The Beatles, Radiohead, they've all

changed music for the better.

And then we have these losers. Tell us the artist and song we've taken the following lyrics from. There's **two points** for each correct answer.

- 'Dance to this and you're gonna get thinner / Move, slide your rump / Just for a minute / let's all do the bump / bump bump bump'
- 'Leave the house / Leave the car / Leave the bad men where they are / I leave a few shells in my gun / and its got me staring at the sun'
- 'Deadly - when I play a dope melody / Anything less than the best is a felony'
- 'Girl, I know you really love me / You just don't realize / You've never been there before / It's only your first time'

- 'Don't you worry! / Its gonna be alright / 'cause I'm always ready, / I won't let you out of my sight.'
- 'When the rainy days are dying, / Gotta keep on, keep on trying / All the bees and birds are flying / Ah-ahh-ahhhhh'
- 'Just let go of my leg' / She says "you're the perfect lover" / I said "I cant go no futher" / Then I flip back the cover / Oh my God, a rubber...'
- 'Michael, we're not going to fight about this, okay. / Paul, I think I told you, i'm a lover not a fighter / I've heard it all before, Michael / she told me that i'm her forever lover, you know, don't you remember?'

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | 5 |
| 2 | 6 |
| 3 | 7 |
| 4 | 8 |

Answers 1332

Monster Mash

- Ghostface - Scream
- Jason - Friday the 13th
- Pinhead - Hellraiser
- Unicron - Transformers
- Saddam - South Park
- Agent Smith - The Matrix
- White Goodman - Dodgeball
- Mr Hector - Home Alone 2

Remember, you have two weeks after the issue comes out (24th) to get your answers to us. That means there's still time to enter last weeks Hoff-quiz (by the 17th).

There'll be prizes at the end of this (not just Gay Porn), so good luck!

FUCWIT League 2005-2006

Darkshines	93
The Fantastic Four	90
Me, Myself & John Sargent	88
Cupid Stunts	88
Cockroach On Coke	87
Insert Name Here	86
Bernard Scumley Porno Queen	84
Norfolk 'n' Chance	84
Forever Throwing Doubles	81
The Schist Ones	49
Disgruntled Virgin	24
Caledonian Conspiracy	23
Citizen Erased	15
House of Earthly Delights	13

coffee.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Win a bag full of Gay Porn!

This week we've been cleaning out and polishing off the Felix office, and were delighted to find a sack, filled to the rim with spectacularly hardcore gay pornography. Now, as much as we'd like to keep it to ourselves, the office already has our junk crammed into every possible orifice as it is, and so we're going to be giving it away to one of our lucky readers.

To win, just tell us what you'd like to do with it. Best answer wins, and we've got some ideas for you here.

Over 18's only please!



The offending material, a bag full of VHS tapes.



You could always give away the world's worst Christmas present...



And if you're ever feeling lonely, Gay Porn will never leave you...



Or you could just have a wank. The decision - is yours!

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Free entry b4 9pm



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Tetley, Carlsberg & Cider



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Bar Shisha



Entry £1 R.O.A.R
Student ID required

The Union advises you to drink responsibly

school daze

Friday 11th November 20.00-02.00

VODKA & DRAFT MIXER



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if in school uniform



Free entry before 20.00 1/2 price entrance if in school uniform ROAR
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Prince Consort Road, London, SW7 2BB



Sport

sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Joy for ICSM 2nd XI

Jason Adhikaree

Mens Football

ICSM 2nd XI 3
Imperial College 3rd XI 1

IC 3's second meeting with yet another ICSM team this season has predictably ended with another defeat. What the IC players lacked in heart and commitment, they made up for with unsporting behaviour and unnecessary verbal abuse. A special mention must go to the "gentleman" (if I can call him that) in the number 7 shirt on the IC team. The away team opened the scoring with their first attacking move, despite the Medics dominating most of the first half. A corner and the subsequent goalmouth scramble led to IC's only goal. With their confidence unjustly high and their egos boosted, the 3rd XI's fall from grace was far more painful than expected.

The Medics were unable to convert most of their chances into goals and ironically, the equaliser was pretty ugly and not exactly typical of their fluid performance during the game. A timid cross into the box

was fumbled by the goalkeeper who dived to the ground with the grace of a beached whale as the ball slithered under his considerable waistline for Vikas, the Medics sharpshooter to slot home. To put this into perspective, the goalkeeper looked like Rik Waller and played football like Rik Waller. Actually, even Rik Waller would have prevented the equaliser from going in.

The Medics carried on with the same energy and commitment after the break. Big Stan, the Medics centre-back put in a sterling performance to ensure that IC's chances on goal in the second half were few and far between. I think that must be the most polite way to describe the awful second half performance by IC. In the 55th minute, a ball played from the wing culminated with Vikas coolly controlling the ball, turning inside and letting rip with a 20-yard screamer that hit the top corner as the medics took the lead they deserved.

With IC realising that a second defeat to the Medics was imminent, started to improve their game although they were unable to capitalise on their chances. As the match wore on, they were punished for their tactical naivety when the away team started to commit more

men forward. The gaps in the back line were being frequently exposed as every Medic counterattack produced some infuriating near-misses. Kevin, a fresher, managed to score on his debut for ICSM 2nd XI to make the score 3-1 and put IC out of their misery, as he collected the ball on the half way line and ran rings around the IC defence to slot home a third goal for the Medics. He had caused a Mount Everest of problems for the opposition during the game with his strength and speed, despite his relative inexperience of university-level football.

IC were rather wasteful in the last 15 minutes of the game as their commitment to the cause started to seep away, as well as their chances of even scraping through with an unlikely draw. With a second defeat to the Medics (they were beaten 4-1 by the ICSM 1st XI on the first day of the season), the question still stands: Are IC 3rd XI losing the plot?

Disc Doctors lay sound foundations

George Brownbridge

Ultimate Frisbee

Loughborough Beginners is a massive tournament with 32 teams playing on 3 pitches over 2 days. The games were each 18 minutes long. Indoors each team has 5 players on the pitch, one of whom could be experienced. The experienced players couldn't score so the beginners had to work extra hard.

After a mediocre start and a very large curry we headed off to Loughborough's Union in full costume (See Picture). Loughborough union is one of the best in the country, they have a huge light up dance floor which kept us dancing all night. Aki had a go at DJing which went down a storm on the dance floor.

The Party Award (a giant disco ball) went to Brunel who came as Smurfs and danced from start to finish.

We got up at 8:00 and were ready to go but had to wait till 10:40 to play our first game, against Air Wolf. The partying had obviously done us good and netted us our first win of the tournament.

We needed another win to improve our position and to keep playing. We obviously had a good thirst for disc as we went out and played the our best game of the tournament to secure the win.

If the previous game had felt tight, the last game definitely was. Mental Discs tried to equalize in the closing second but Manny laid out and smashed their hopes.

Disc Doctors came 25th out of the 32 teams. With so many games we all came away experienced and none of us can wait to go back next year.

Deviants in wet action

Tim Lui

Mens Hockey

UCL 3rds 4
Imperial College 4ths 1

For the first time in history, the DeIViants faced a UCL team. Unfortunately this also meant we had to endure the baggage that goes with playing UCL. As the story goes, 10 intrepid DeIViants and their not so intrepid captain set off for the short journey to Surbiton in Surrey looking for their first victory of the season. After 2 tubes, 1 mainline train and a bus journey we had beaten the UCL team there (our only victory of the day) but by the time we got there the torrential rain made sure the pitch was in perfect condition... for a mud wrestling match.

Having lost all our 3 previous matches without scoring but improving greatly with each game, the DeIViants were looking forward to a good match with our Drag Queen (Max) in centre midfield acting as our inspiration, defenders Maria (Luke) and Kama Suture (Khilan) holding the back together and our newly acquired forward Almaher the target man.

As we entered the pitch, we released the game wasn't going to be pretty as the pitch was about as clean as the floor of a pub toilet and just as slippery as well. The game started well... for UCL, they obviously eat weatabix over in Gower Street and they dominated the game we conceded short corners. This was our downfall as our defence were rock solid in open play, how-

ever, after facing Drag Flicks from Drag Queen in the warm up, our defenders were a little tentative when running out to defend the corner and conceded, twice. With this in mind, we picked ourselves up and went on a rampage with Post (Ray) and Cotton Eye Joe (Alex) troubling UCL with plenty of runs down the wings. All of this eventually led to us being awarded a Short corner (hurray!) and with the melee that ensued we scored a goal, our first of the season from man of the match Almaher! With the goal the team were obviously lifted and we started to play some good hockey.

After a rather diplomatic half time chat, the DeIViants continued their tradition of playing much better in the second half and this time it was UCL under pressure with us having got used to the pitch, we started to dominate play and our erratic captain (Tim) started to contribute on the pitch. Drag Queen started to live up to his name and started dancing around midfield with the ball setting up numerous attacks. However against play, UCL scored twice, owing to slips from our backline on the increasingly slippery pitch. Again we responded with 4 short corners in a row fired in against UCL, but this time we just couldn't bundle it into the goal.

The game finished 4-1, but scoring our first goal was enough for us, and we left the pitch fairly happily despite being drenched and covered in mud. We were greeted with an excellent tea from UCL which we were grateful for, and for some (Maria and Slow On The Uptake) there were girls to look at afterwards, the rest of us however realised they had the average age of the Tanaka building and steered clear of such jailbait.

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NHS

Bringing leadership to life

Sport

sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Solid victory for 1st XV

Doug Higgins

Mens Rugby

Imperial 1st XV	18
South Bank 1st XV	11



Whether it was Al Pacino's words of encouragement from the film *Any Given Sunday* echoing from the bus radio, or the reading of the 'The Tiger who came to Tea' that was responsible for rallying the troops to perform memorably will never be known. What is certain, however, is that from the moment the whistle went to signify the start of play, Imperial College looked like they would settle for nothing less than a win on a rather inclement October afternoon.

Newcomer Flan(ge) impressed on his debut with a man of the match performance, setting the tone by successfully fielding the kick off and charging into the thick of the single-figure-IQ South Bank forwards. The ball was then excellently cleared by captain of the day Jim Pedder, whose decisions in all areas of the game left little room for improvement, and whose tackling and work at the breakdown was gladiatorial. Soon after the lineout, South Bank were deemed to have illegally used their hands in the ruck, and a penalty was awarded to Imperial just outside the 22. Pedder slots it, 3-0 to

Imperial.

South Bank must have been angered by this great indignity (not surprising considering they had enjoyed a run of 31 straight victories of recent times) and there then followed a period of late tackles on Fly-half Pedder and Full-back Gabs. Imperial were obviously so intimidated by this, shaking in their boots so much that they turned over the South Bank scrum and started their dominance in this area of the game that was to last until the final whistle.

There then followed a sustained period of pressure by Imperial, with solid work by Nathan in midfield, strong defence by Rob Phillipps, and a good rolling drive off a lineout by hixxy, who enjoyed another typically bruising day at the office. With South Bank now rattled, Imperial again exerted pressure on the scrum, and forced a hurried pick up by the South Bank number 8, who fumbled and flung it haphazardly to his wing. Great pressure from Pedder resulted in a loose pass to full-back, who was denied a clearance kick by flan pulling out a superhero style charge down, allowing Pedder to touch the ball down in the goal area.

Soon after the restart, a clearanc kick was made downfield. The full-back took his time to gather the ball, only to look up to see Achi, knife and fork ready, napkin tucked into shirt, bearing down on him and licking his lips with blatant intent of gobbling up the silly little poser for daring to step foot inside Fortress Harlington. They say your life flashes before you before you die. It would not surprise me if the poor soul had his, and the lives of all his relatives and pets, flash before him in the moments before his imminent demise. Making

a choice of life over death however, the full-back escaped by knocking on the ball, leaving only a very visible stain in the seat of his neon-coloured shorts as a reminder of his brush with fate.

About 25 minutes into the first half, after a rather artistic reaction by Nath to at worst a slap, you got the feeling that South Bank were starting to find their feet, and pushed up to the IC line. Jovan, dominant in the set piece, then showed his worth in open play as he made the first of his two try saving tackles to keep the opposition scrum half from touching down.

Unfortunately, scrum half Rob Robinson, whose delivery to the line was excellent in difficult conditions, was a little too eager to win possession back, and was shown the yellow card for collecting the ball from the ruck. Imperial then had a momentary lapse of concentration and allowed South Bank to score cheaply in the corner just before half time.

With the sun now gone, and new boy John Gordon on the pitch, the two teams got set to battle out the second half. After another crunching tackle at the kick off by rhinoman mark wills, who was destructive throughout the afternoon, Imperial soon gave away a pointless penalty, allowing South Bank to level the scores at 8-8 with a good kick from their fly half. After some good work by O'Rourke, the elusive Gabs, and a powerful run by Achi in the midfield, hooker Luke Taylor was forced to leave the field after a knock on the head. Alex Games was then thrown into the deep end with a lineout 8 metres from the South Bank line. He rose to the challenge admirably, and with a perfect throw to John

Gordon, the forwards executed a textbook drive to the line, with hixxy scoring a try to put IC back in the lead. South Bank responded quickly with 3 points to close the score to 13-11.

The heavens then opened and, after a few stolen line outs thanks to the increasingly impressive John Gordon, Jovan surprised everyone with his skills by fielding an up and under, skipping round the opposition full back, and charging infield. With top drawer rugby now being produced by both sides, and good work in the tight by Dangerous Dave and Northern Steve, IC found themselves defending their line.

After a penalty (which would have given South Bank the lead) was reversed for a player stamping on Flannan's delicate bits, play was soon stopped after a big tackle from O'Rourke caused a South Bank player's ankle to fall off.

A long wait for the ambulance then ensued, before the players returned to the field with a new weapon on the wing by name of Obiora Okoye. With the game in the balance, Imperial took a stranglehold on their opposition. Excellent decisions by Robinson to box kick down field, tight play from the forwards, and solid running from the backs resulted in IC lineout on the South Bank 22. After another accurate throw by Alex Games to John Gordon, it was fitting that Captain Jim Pedder should round off a fine performance by finding a gap in the South Bank defence before putting Obi over the line for an excellent try to secure the match. It was an impressive display by a talented squad, who now promise much for the rest of the season.

Interested in squash?

Kadan Jehangir

Squash

If one heads through the mist to the north of the park, following the clip-clop of prostitutes' stilettoes and the slap of pimp-glove, they will eventually reach a small wooden wall. If they venture closer the outline of a door emerges, beyond which lies a shed. This beloved shed, a feat of early 20th Century, Imperial College engineering, was once the college's squash-courts. Sadly today it still is.

Like Imperial College, squash breeds strange characters. Fortunately in recent years there has only been a handful of men moulded in our dank shed (although rumours have circulated concerning a second team).

These "squash players" roam the College unnoticed, quietly plodding about their every day business. The squash elite would not win a popularity contest, or even a drinking competition - indeed they have failed to formulate any testosterone fuelled chants, a standard feature of all other Imperial teams. They do, however, all possess the gift of distinctly longer than average arms.

These five or six players have arrived at the shed from disparate parts of the world: a French engineer with a penchant for gadgets, a Pakistani immigrant and a Brazilian billionaire to name but a few.

It is a little known fact that there exists a number of analysis techniques used in the professional world of squash - the most famous of these being the SS Index (developed at the Gary Tanaka Building). This ratio pits a competitor's style against their success and the shed has produced a wide spread of SS indices in its team.

At one end of the spectrum lies our French international, Monsieur Elliot. His seemingly uncoordinated movements in conjunction with his equally uncoordinated facial hair make for an unparalleled strategy of distraction. While his style rating strays dangerously close to zero his success rate flies high, charged by an obscene will to win.

Mr Kadan (an Indian potato farmer) lies nearer the other end of the SS spectrum. His classically trained style drastically fails to compensate his inability to run. His uncanny tendency to forget he is playing squash while on court has all but eradicated any signs of success.

In the middle lies our Pakistani immigrant Mr Kardar. In him lies maybe the only balanced player of the team. If he can overcome his porcine physique he might be able to curb his propensity to run into walls (momentum = mass*velocity). However he remains the shed's best chance to produce a truly great player?

A thought for the formulating guru's at Tanaka. The well tested theory of the SS Index has no explanation for our Brazilian millionaire, Mr Brantley. He lacks both style and success. Is zero an acceptable measure of his squash ability? Maybe we'll know at the end of the season, after all a team is only as strong as its weakest link.

Steamroller sevenths unstoppable!

Sam Styles

Mens Football

Queen Mary 5th XI	1
Imperial College 7th XI	3

After last week's shock non-thrilling 1-0 victory over Arts, IC 7's took their 100% record to Chislehurst looking to prove to their coach/fan Duncan that they still knew how to play the beautiful game the way it was meant to be played. Beautifully.

Fortunately for the 7's, IC 6's had played against, and beaten, QM's 4th's the week before, and were more than willing to pass on the secret to their success: Queen Mary's just cannot resist being taken from behind. Armed with this top secret information, the 7's set out with the express intention of gifting Queen Mary's an early lead. This proved easier said than done, however, as

A Passion to Perform.

Deutsche Bank



their hilarious "attackers" missed a string of chances, each one easier than the last, before finally taking advantage of a well-staged and thoroughly convincing "defensive error" to roll the ball past a stranded Ian, IC's emergency stand-in goalkeeper (picked for his expertise as a wicketkeeper...well, it kind of makes sense, doesn't it?).

A 1-0 deficit successfully established, IC's Bat-signal was sent up into the south London sky and the 7's sprang into action. Wave after wave of magnificent attacking football crashed against the bows of Queen Mary's pirate ship as their defenders cowered in the face of a terrifying storm of IC pressure. Something had to give. And it did. Debutant Jas was proving a thorn in the side for QM and had already come close on several occasions

before he lashed in a left footed effort from close range to provide the equaliser. More pressure followed as Sam went close with a superb effort from inside the centre-circle, and Sandy almost scored after a great run in from the right of the QM area. He went one better soon after as he swooped on a rebound from Jarlath's shot to give IC the lead.

The half ended with IC looking comfortable and good value for their lead. The two teams could not have deployed more contrasting styles, with IC zipping and pinging the ball about with verve and pizzazz while QM's game plan centred on creating chances from their own goal kicks. Hoof hoof hoof!! Sam's inspirational half-time team-talk was obviously a load of shite, however, as IC somehow found themselves clinging on in

the early stages of the second half.

In another demoralising victory for terrible football, the big-kickers were firmly on top and although Mo and Paul at centre back did a fine job gobbling up the big balls, IC's football became increasingly frantic as QM created a string of half, perhaps even three quarter chances. After 2,368 minutes of the second half had gone by without a goal (I think they were cheating... must be medics) IC swept upfield to put the result beyond doubt as Sam picked out Jarlath on the edge of the box, and Jarlath's trademark finish finally brought the curtains down on the longest game of football that ULU division 4 has ever seen. Four wins from four and IC Seventh's are top of the league. Hooray!!!

Please send your sports reports, reviews and comments to
sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk



sport.felix@imperial.ac.uk

Second best!

Old order usurped on derby-day

Barclays
Capital

Brown on
Sport

Stephen Brown
Sports Editor

Phil Price

Mens Football	
Imperial 1st XI	0
Imperial 2nd XI	1



The Merseyside, the Old Firm, the Milan: three passionately fought local derbies. However, there is one fixture in football that surpasses them all. Imperial firsts against Imperial seconds. With the demise of the medics (Ha-ha!) this fixture now takes precedence in the football calendar. In recent years the rivalry has been well battled out with the firsts usually gaining the upper hand. But with the seconds on a high from their blistering BUSA form coupled with a couple of committed and proud, if not fully successful, performances in ULU, the script was asked if he could please stand up, walk to the window and throw himself out of it. At stake were not only 3 points in ULU but bragging rights for the whole of the season. This one is not for the faint hearted.

The game started brightly with tackles flying in and no-one given any time on the ball. The firsts were looking to get forward early and kill the game quickly. With Irvine making the runs, T was left to link up the defence with attack, but with the imperious moon-faced MacAdie and the shark-like Milad in defence, any balls not hit to perfection were dealt with contempt they deserved. However the ball started to get out to Pavel on the left, and his runs

were starting to cause AK and co. trouble at the back. The first chance then landed to Irvine but his shot was hit over. At this point the silky skills of Parrot started to grab a hold on the game as he started a mazy run through the all 11 of the 1st team which won a corner. Hideki was starting to find space on the left and the midfield pairing of Pricey and Ant were chomping all over Louis and JR. A Louis corner then missed everyone and was curling in till the intervention of AK on the line. JR then fizzed a shot that was turned over by the impressive Mike. The 2nd's started to exert a period of pressure with Greedy working the ball out wide for Hideki and Parrot to work their stuff. Then came the best chance of the game so far as Parrot again beat his man for skill and slipped the ball through for DAL. The trap was beaten, but DAL's shot slid agonisingly wide of the post. Half time came with the

2nd's tails up and the 1st's looking subdued.

The second half started with the 1st team looking to buck their ideas up, but couldn't find the killer bit of inspiration they so craved. The first chance of the half came towards Will from a Hideki corner but the melon-headed one again spurned the chance when his salmon leap at the far post failed. With no-nonsense defending from the seconds, several stops were required to retrieve balls for the play to continue. As the game wore on, the firsts began to push on further looking for that goal and as they did so the spaces started to open up with Parrot starting to cause the Beef problems with his direct running. Mid way through the half the seconds were denied the opener as again. Parrot fed DAL the ball who calmly slotted home, only for a blatant piss-take by the firsts' linesman to give off-side. Again and again the firsts looked for a way through,

but apart from a half chance that fell to Irvine they were getting nothing. Then, with just 10 minutes to go, that script sat up, looked at the window and climbed up to the window sill. Man-of-the-match Parrot and DAL worked the ball across the pitch and after Hideki had a slight altercation with Phil Meyer on the right, he was free to get to the by-line. The window is now open. He drove the cross in low where it was missed by the Beef and DAL slotted into the back of the net, and out of the window! A last minute corner looked to be the firsts' salvation, but keeper Mike claimed it to leave them out of options and out of time. As the full time whistle sounded, some seconds laughed, some cried and some fell flat on their backs having been at Fabric until seven that morning - but they all bragged, and long will they do so.

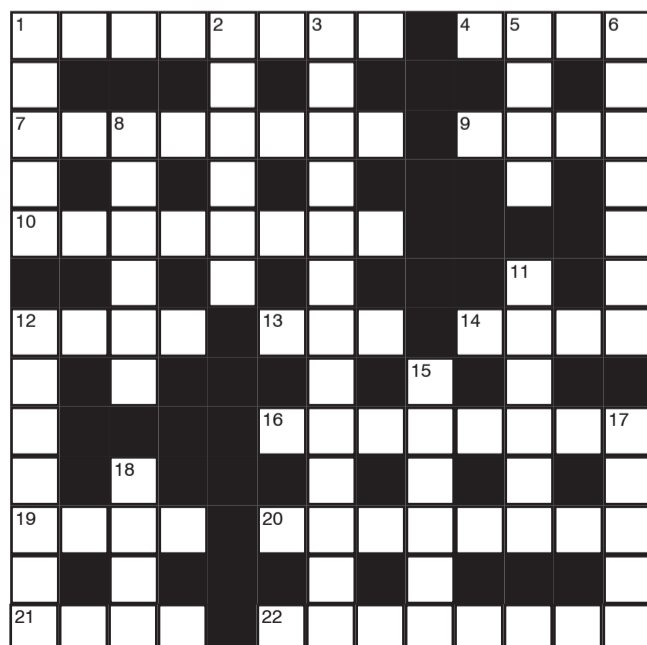
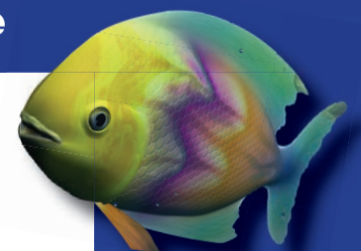
Last Tuesday saw the rather dramatic passing of three times Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, Best Mate. Having a heart attack mid-race is no way for any living creature to shuffle off this mortal coil. However was all the collective national grief expressed through the media really necessary?

Such mawkish sentimentality surely doesn't befit a sport such as horse racing. Apart from an assorted collection of toffs and oil-rich Arabs no-one is really interested in the races themselves. What we really enjoy is the associated vices, namely drinking and gambling. Horse racing is unique in the fact that the profits generated from it enriches a completely different industry. Historically the perceived tawdriness of earning your living as a book-keeper has prevented horse owners from getting a serious slice of the huge profits generated by the gaming industry. Im sure the wise investors in the major bookmakers didn't object to such snobbery. Outlaw betting and the whole show is over.

So yes a great horse passed away. Privately shed a tear if you feel the need, don't encourage those in the media who felt the need to write an obituary for him. National morning is cringe-worthy enough when a major figure in sport, entertainment or politics dies; it's even worse when it is over an animal. Rest in peace boy, don't feel too missed.

Quick Crossword

by Fishface



Across

- 1. Slaughterhouse (8)
- 4. Crustacean (4)
- 7. Group of people gathered together (8)
- 9. New Zealander (*inf*) (4)
- 10. Favouritism given to relatives (8)
- 12. Intelligent but socially inept individual (4)
- 13. Attempt (3)
- 14. Part of leg (4)
- 16. Long narrow flag or banner (8)
- 19. Snakelike fishes (4)
- 20. Establishment selling literary works (8)
- 21. Open mouth wide (4)
- 22. Strong coffee (8)

Down

- 1. Once more (5)
- 2. Red fruit (6)
- 3. Drawings (13)
- 5. Destroy (4)
- 6. Court officer who takes away possessions (7)
- 8. Light evening meal (6)
- 11. Kindness or affection (6)
- 12. Upper section of theatre (7)
- 15. Large cup (6)
- 17. Abbreviation for a copy or duplicate (5)
- 18. At a low speed (4)

