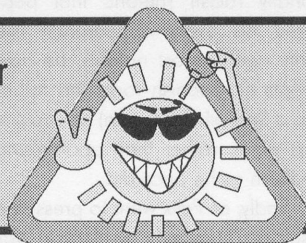


FELIX

Prepare for the new stellar
apocalypse in *Science*
page 7



Prepare yourself for an intense
emotional ride with Anna Weiss
page 24



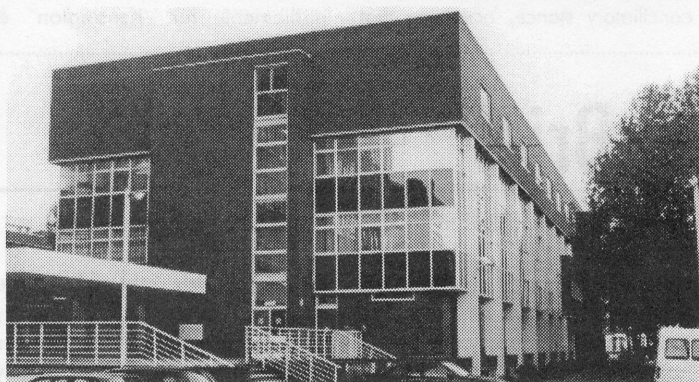
No consultation on Charing Cross loss

MANSOOR CHOUDHURY

The library in the Reynolds Building at Charing Cross is to be moved to make way for the Centre for Drug and Health Behaviour, which faces eviction when its current lease expires.

The library, which currently occupies the top two floors of the building, is to be moved down a level and refurbished. The third floor will house the Centre for Drug and Health Behaviour, as well as two General Care departments, which are moving from St Mary's and Westminster hospitals.

The major bone of contention with the move is that although discussions started in May, the Charing Cross Library Users Committee allegedly only learned about it in



The library building

Photo: David Roberts

October. The President of ICU, Tasha Newton, said she was in "complete despair" over the situation as there had been no consultation between those in charge of the project and the students based at Charing Cross who actually use the

library. Concerns were raised over loss of resources, the student common room, gym and games room would be affected. Ms Newton said that she understood that the library would get the refurbishment it needed, but felt that the lack of

consultation was shocking. To this end, a petition has been organised to make the Imperial College Steering Committee aware of this unhappiness with the current plans.

According to Peter Griffiths the Deputy Secretary of ICSM, there will be an open meeting at 5pm on the 30th of November in the Drewe Lecture Theatre, at Charing Cross. All students are invited to discuss the project.

Mr Griffiths pointed out that Hammersmith, the local NHS Trust, was very pleased with the move which would place a number of departments into a good, central location. The 141 study places already present would be safeguarded. It is very unlikely that any work will be done on the library until after the finals in June.

Guilds pull in the freshers and pile on the profits

SUNIL RAO

Atlantis, the City and Guilds Freshers' Dinner, took place on Friday, 19 November, and was pronounced a success by nearly all that attended.

This success should help to negate much of the bad press which surrounded Guilds less successful events earlier this term (see Felix 1157), and will ease the adverse pressure which has been mounting on C&G's President, Dinesh Ganesarajah.

Over two hundred and ten

people bought tickets for the event, which included blackjack tables, a disco and a mini-cinema screening "The Matrix". All of this took place within the confines of the Senior Common Room (SCR) in the Sheffield Building.

The evening kicked off with grace from Prof Brian Briscoe, the Dean of City and Guilds College. The three-course meal was punctuated by a vociferous rendition of the Guilds song, the Boomalaka, led by the Guilds President, and the attention of all who were gathered was soon raised to the

CGCU mascots, Spanner and Bolt, not to mention the 1902 antique car, Boanerges, which had been enterprisingly driven on to the Queens' Lawn. The alcohol flowed freely all evening, with over three-quarters of a bottle of wine per student - a small number of inebriated freshers had to be carried out, as is usual with events of this kind.

The event was both socially and financially a success, with Mr Ganesarajah confirming that a healthy profit had been made, certainly more than sufficient to

wipe out the well-publicised losses the Union had suffered earlier this term. Notable failures of the "Star Warz Disco" and the "Raiders were the Lost Bus" events, which did not lose a lot of cash but did lose credibility for Dinesh Ganesarajah.

While Atlantis did not officially sell out, the turnout was greater than has been seen in the past few years, and was certainly greater than had been expected, with over a quarter of the freshers from the Engineering departments attending.

4 The Big Issue

Wye College - the who, what, how and why of Imperial's newest campus, buried in deepest Kent.

6 Science

Two pages featuring bleached clothing, the World Trade Organisation and the end of the world.

8 Union

Featuring a special Welfare Update this week, focusing on World Aids Day.

10 Columns

BreakPoint and MishMash dwell on the usual mix of cock-ups, controversy and chaos.

12 Feedback

A suspiciously light mail bag this week leaves more space for random proposals and rants.

15 Reviews

Metallica, Bryan Adams and Karl Brown headline Music this week - who said our tastes weren't broad enough?

28 Diary

You know the drill - Time Out condensed into two pages. Perfect.

30 Crossword

This week sponsored by the letters U, P and G, and the number 12.

31 Clubs & Societies

Bunac, Canoeing and Amnesty offer a sample of their work.

34 Sport

Another week, another blistering win for IC Rugby. Brilliant.

Portillo promises sovereignty forever

DAVID ROBERTS

Michael Portillo, former Defence Secretary and, in all probability Westminster's newest MP, came to College on Friday 19 November to give a talk to ICU's Conservative Society.

He spoke to a reasonable crowd gathered in the Union Concert Hall (who had all been subjected to a security check before being allowed to take their seats) on the subject of European integration and monetary union, in a fashion that suggested that he may have moderated since his most outspoken days in the Cabinet. Although he still lectures vociferously against any further integration or union, he now adopts a more conciliatory stance, accepting that

strong business links with the Continent are vital to the survival of British companies. Indeed, his entire speech was argued from an economic and monetarist point of view, ignoring the vehement (and occasionally racist) rhetoric that peppered his every appearance five years ago - most notably, he now adopts his Spanish roots (his father was a Spanish fisherman) as a major plus point, rather than apologising for them as he once did.

Sadly, as Felix went to press, the result of Thursday's by-election was still unknown. However, with the seat already one of the safest Tory constituencies in the country, it is almost certain that Mr Portillo will have been elected as the new member of parliament for Kensington &

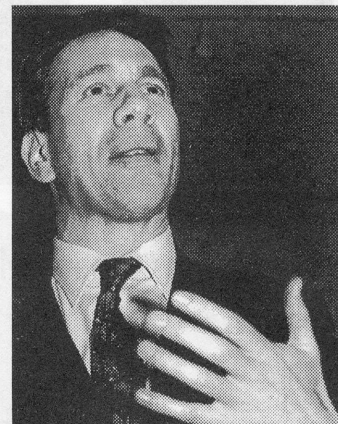


Photo: Archive

Chelsea (an area which includes NHLI, Charing Cross and Evelyn Gardens, but not the main campus) by the time you read this. Full results will appear next week.

In Brief

WYE MERGER

Imperial is to merge with Wye College in early August next year. The project has had direct contribution from Imperial's Rector, and will join two leading centres of excellence.

President Natasha Newton met with Wye College Union to discuss the merger from a student perspective. It emerged that the major effects will be felt at Wye. The College will have a larger percentage of girls and a significant number of Wye's students will take their courses at South Kensington.

Ms. Newton is presently gearing up to revise the Union constitution to allow for the new College to have a seat on Council. The plan is to introduce them as a Club and Society Committee in an arrangement similar to that of Silwood Park.

Wye is a renowned agricultural college. In 1900 it became part of the University of London, although located in the Kent countryside, some 60 miles away. The College's surroundings are very different to that of the centrally located Imperial, and therefore should bring a wider range of scope to the type of study that Imperial can currently offer.

SOCIAL SELECTION

Figures recently released by the Higher Education Statistics Agency have revealed that a graduates' chances of employment are largely affected by their A Levels, age, gender, social class, backgrounds and subjects studied. On average 4.4% of graduates from UK universities were unemployed.

With Oxford and Oxford Brookes registering graduate unemployment rates below 2%, the city of Oxford came top in the employment stakes for graduate employment. The significance of the University sector was surprisingly low - for instance four former polytechnics scored lower unemployment figures than Cambridge.

The subject studied at University was highlighted as a determining factor by the study; those taking technical and science subjects were identified as being particularly attractive in the job market.

MEEK MALAYS STUDENT

The recent exploits of Malaysia's prime minister Dr Mahathir Mohamad have certainly not endeared him to his electorate. Many were appalled by his jailing of

Anwar Ibrahim.

With today's general election seeing him trying to cling onto power, the students have been conspicuous in their absence. In contrast to their Indonesian counterparts, who formed themselves into a youth organisation that became a figurehead for change, the Malaysian students have recognised the threat posed by Dr Mahatir who has slowly moulded a policed state out of the democracy that was formed on its independence from Britain.

The student's fear stems from the Universities and Colleges Act, which bans the country's 130,000 students from becoming involved in politics. Those who breach the Act face expulsion, a criminal record and probably a life of unemployment. The consequences clearly work - only 20 students have been expelled from University in the past five years.

LT CARDS

Distributing London Transport cards through the Union has proved to be a great success. They have sold 4019, representing one of the largest percentage-wise take-up rates in London.

Anxious asbestos alarm Ethnic elite disappoint

SUNIL RAO

A large section of the student populace will have noticed last week's restricted level of service from the Main Dining Hall (MDH) on the ground floor of Sherfield.

This was due to the detection of a small quantity of asbestos in the lagging for two or three pipes in the back of the Sherfield Building, found during the preparatory work being carried out for the Senior Common Room (SCR) redevelopment on the floor above. This in turn has caused the sealing-off and closure of part of the College kitchens while the asbestos is removed.

Due to the health risks associated with asbestos, all the necessary precautions have been taken to ensure there is no contamination of food whatsoever. The affected contaminated areas have been professionally sealed off,

with constant monitoring of air quality in place to guard against there being any kind of leakage while the asbestos is being removed. The work was not expected to be on a large scale at all. In fact, the original estimate for the completion of the necessary removal work was just one week. The majority of the time was expected to be taken up by the actual setting up and taking down of the required safety-related structures and equipment, which ensure that none of the dangerous fibres escape detection.

Felix were unable to contact Edward Lilley, the Catering Manager, before going to press. However, we have been reliably informed that the problem is well under control, and the Main Dining Hall should be back up and running at its full levels of service very shortly, quite possibly by the time this issue is published.

SUNIL RAO

Research being carried out at Goldsmith's College suggests that the racial or ethnic origin of a student at Cambridge often has an effect on the class of degree that student finally ends up with.

A study that has examined degree results for the years of 1997 and 1998 has revealed what many have long suspected - there is a statistically significant relationship between the ethnic background of a student and the class of degree the student finally ends up with.

The picture isn't all negative - the study shows that while only 27% of Indians who apply to Cambridge actually get in, 24% of those that do walk away with a first, as opposed to the 21% of white undergraduates that do. However, only one black student out of the 32 surveyed gained a

first at Cambridge, and with just six blacks getting a 2:1 or better (as opposed to 80% of all white students), the figures illustrate quite clearly how ethnicity is associated with academic inequality at Cambridge. Moreover, almost a sixth of all black students there get a third, whereas just one Chinese student surveyed (out of 56) obtained a third in the past two years. The survey clearly has weaknesses in the numbers surveyed, but the results are still significant. The research is still ongoing and is part of an effort to ensure equality at the university. Encouragingly, 1999 shows a doubling in the number of black applicants accepted at the university.

Government policy dictates that all British universities must take immediate steps to combat institutional racism wherever it is identified.

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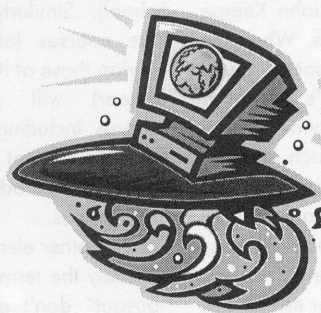
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Wye College

DAVID ROBERTS

Imperial College's seemingly endless quest for expansion will take another major step forward next summer, when a massive new campus is added to the College. Wye College will add several new disciplines, almost 1000 students, and several hundred acres of farmland to the College, along with the title of "third oldest educational institution in the UK" (the foundations of Wye were laid in the mid-fifteenth century).

So, what's going on? Where, what and who is Wye College, and why on Earth is this seemingly obscure outpost of the University of London about to be added to the IC Empire?

Where?

Wye College is to be found deep in the heart of rural Kent, not far from Ashford and a long way off the beaten track, having been founded in 1447 by Cardinal John Kemp as a college for priests. When the merger was first announced, much was made of Ashford's role as a major spur in the Channel Tunnel project - when the much vaunted rail-link finally comes on-line, land values around Ashford are likely to rocket, as freight and haulage centres become two-a-penny. The College's ultimate plans for its copious grounds has still to be determined.

However, Wye's academic importance should not be underestimated. Although largely unheard of amongst the general populace (a problem all IC students know well), Wye is in fact one of the foremost centres for agricultural teaching and research in the UK (the new agricultural courses will be added to the Royal School of Mines, and may eventually become a part of the Huxley School) - indeed the reaction of the first Wye students I spoke to was that they feared that the quality and worth of their degrees would diminish as a result of the merger.

Wye also has some decent research and teaching groups in plant and animal biology, countryside management and the (now obligatory) study of management.

Above all, however, it's Wye's reputation for crop and GM research that has most attracted the hand of Imperial, and drawn the long-lost College back into the limelight.

How?

As of August 1st next year, Wye will become a part of Imperial College (and it's students will become members of Imperial College Union) - so what differences will we notice? Well, to begin with, probably none. Wye students will remain in Kent and Imperial students will remain in South Ken - there certainly don't seem to be any plans to move bits of College down there in the foreseeable future. However, over the next couple of years we can expect to see a slight realignment of certain departments, as they merge with their Wye counterparts, leading to the formation of several "with a year in Wye" courses (most probably in certain Biological disciplines and perhaps elements of the Huxley School). Similarly, the remaining Wye courses (all courses which overlap those at IC seem set to disappear) will probably move towards including spells in South Ken. And the net result? In all likelihood, more students on the South Ken campus...

The other element of the merger (sadly the terms "takeover" and "buyout" don't exist in academic terms) is an organisational one. As the medical mergers brought the rank of "principal" to IC, the Wye merger will introduce the concept of "provosts", with the senior academic at Imperial to be deemed the Provost of Imperial at Wye (note that this will be a separate role to that of a head of department or dean of a constituent college, as Wye will be neither). Beyond this, the exact organisational make-up is still unclear, and will depend on the exact format of the course structure that is eventually agreed. In Union terms, however, a semi-autonomous Wye Union (run as a sub-section of ICU) seems the most likely outcome, with the question of a sabbatical Wye President still to be debated (note that Wye don't have a sabbatical at present, but the need for regular contact with



the South Ken campus may make one essential).

Where next?

So, considering that over the course of three years the College will have grown to the tune of a couple of thousand students and four main campuses (note that this list doesn't include St Mary's, who have been part of IC since 1987), where are we heading? Having gained medicine and agriculture as extra strings to our bow, what notable absences remain (bearing in mind that the College charter is strict on the fact that Imperial must remain scientific/technological in outlook)?

Well, if campus gossip is to be believed, veterinary science is the next major target, with the Royal Veterinary College a suggested goal. However, with the problems surrounding medical mergers across London and the controversy accompanying UCL's continuing attempts to take over every other college in the University of London (SOAS and SESS are presently at the top of their hit list), the driving forces behind the merger processes

seem to have died down, at least for the moment.

Nonetheless, it's almost one-hundred percent certain that mergers will continue to be a top priority for the heads of all of the University of London's major Colleges (IC, UCL, QMW, Kings, LSE and Royal Holloway), because only through continued expansion can these colleges generate the impetus and the financing necessary to develop and regenerate their campuses and facilities - and no where is this more important than at Imperial. The medical merger gave us a nice shiny new building (soon to be joined by a second when the MDRB becomes a reality) and the Wye merger will undoubtedly help to finance the RSM redevelopment (as well as giving us an incredibly impressive fifteenth century Cambridge-style quad in Kent). As is often pointed out, unlike Oxbridge (or many other universities) the College has very little spare cash to finance new initiatives, and consequently it's only through mergers that Norman Foster's vision of Campus Renaissance can become a reality...

Bacterial Terrorists

Clonies that fight 60% of the world's food supply

what's IC4?

IC4talk

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4 all this and more - from january 2000

Imperial College
OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND MEDICINE

ERICSSON 

Bacterial Terrorists

Clothes that fight BO? Su-Yen Thornhill gets smelly

The nineties have seen an increase in bacterial warfare, not between countries but in the home - most household cleaning products advertise some sort of antimicrobial function, but good old-fashioned bleach is still the best thing to disinfect surfaces. Scientists are now going back to basics and are finding innovative ways of utilising chlorine - even to combat body odour. But don't worry, a range of bleach bubble-bath products is not about to hit the market yet; rather scientists are developing antimicrobial clothing that attacks bacteria while you wear it.

Horses sweat, men perspire, and women glow. That may be a genteel way of expressing a slightly unpalatable fact, but, physiologically, anybody who gets hot or carries out exercise will sweat whether they are male, female or, indeed, a horse. This natural phenomenon is vital to maintaining a constant body temperature, but to be seen to sweat in public is perhaps to commit one of the greatest social faux pas in our culture. Sweat patches are considered hideous and most people frantically try to avoid sweating by dousing themselves in a range of antiperspirants.

There are two types of sweat: ordinary salty water, which is secreted from the eccrine glands all over the body, and erogenous sweat secreted from the apocrine glands that kicked into action

at the time of puberty. This secondary sweat is a waxy oily solution produced mostly in the armpits and genital areas and its composition is unique to each person. Bacteria break down sweat for food, producing noxious compounds that give rise to the characteristic sour whiff of BO. For some people no amount of deodorants can combat this smell, and in fact the combination of putrid sweat and deodorant is often more revolting than the sweat on its own.

Bacteria thrive on body surfaces and they also transfer onto clothing. For hygienic reasons I would hope that most of you wash your socks and underwear daily but perhaps it is not feasible to clean your wardrobe every time you wear it or have a bath each time you break out in a sweat. Clothing that disinfects the wearer would therefore seem to be the ideal solution.

The idea to make bactericidal clothing was first developed by scientists in California who managed to make chlorine molecules adhere to cotton fibres. The movement of the wearer then enables the chlorine attached to the clothing to collide with the bacteria and subsequently kill them. And once the chlorine runs out the antimicrobial function can be regenerated by simply washing the treated fabric with a dilute chlorine bleach. Unlike antibiotics, which attack specific targets, chlorine hits a wide range of bacterial



Most people frantically try to avoid sweating

surface markers making it difficult for the bacteria to become resistant to it.

This all sounds very neat but the question remains - would one always smell of bleach, which in itself is a somewhat unattractive prospect and does that mean we will enter a world where the only colour available to us is white? Whether constant exposure of the skin to a chlorine compound will prove harmful is another question, which no doubt will be answered in the fullness of time.

Fair Trade?

Today the World Trade Organisation Summit opens in Seattle to violent protests and bitter infighting

As you read this, delegates from the 135 member states of the World Trade Organisation will be meeting in Seattle to discuss forthcoming agreements on the opening up of the world market. This all sounds reasonable, except that what is really going to happen is this: each country is going to bring along a whopping list of wishes and requests, and try to get as many of them granted as possible.

If this reminds you of those similar lists that you posted to Father Christmas as a child, then welcome to the 'grown-up' world of international negotiations. And whilst the political bickering, pushing, shoving and stamping of feet is taking place, a rally of protesters will be parading outside with banners saying "No to globalisation" - and trouble is expected.

Two of the main issues that the protesters accuse the WTO of are promoting the deterioration of the environment, enhancing global poverty and enhancing the power of giant industrialised states and multinational corporations. These issues are interlinked.

What the WTO is about is free trade - the world as a huge shopping mall where anyone can sell their products. Now if these products are produced in a way that destroys the environment, you can't do a thing about it. This isn't because

the WTO ignores the environment completely, because it doesn't. It just makes sure that the articles relating to the protection of the environment are written by linguists. Result: an exception to WTO free-trade rules that sounds as if it's pro-environment, but actually isn't. Hence the USA some years back tried to ban Mexican tuna imports because this tuna was hugely dolphin-unfriendly because the nets tended to trap dolphins and drown them.

The WTO article that so neatly points out that anti-environmental products can be banned from entering your market also implies somewhere in the dark recesses of the wording that this exception doesn't include products that are anti-environmental in the way they are produced. This is daft: most of the world's environmental problems result from the actual production processes. So, unless the tins of tuna actually emitted some kind of radioactive material or caused the surrounding vegetation to wither or warmed up the climate, they were passed.

This case brings up two issues that the protesters are screaming about: environmental deterioration and the increasing power of industrialised giants, such as the US.

On the one hand, the WTO has overruled an environmental approach (and dolphins lost out)

but this was to the advantage of the less powerful, less industrialised nation of Mexico, a fact that the more radical outspoken protesters tend to ignore.

They also accuse the WTO of creating a global poverty situation by destroying self-sufficiency. Again this is a debatable issue, as the Government of India (GOI) is now very well aware of. It was this very aim, that of self-sufficiency, that was the main cause of deforestation and environmental degradation in India.

A series of five-year environmental action plans were carried out from the 1950s, all of them focussing essentially on self-sufficiency. Nonetheless, the rate of deforestation was increasing. It was only when the GOI got to the 7th environmental action plan that they realised that economic growth could not go hand in hand with self-sufficiency.

And this is essentially what it all boils down to: economic growth. This is what the WTO is about. This is what all the developing countries want. It seems that trade can open this venue, but the protesters have a point to make. Things are getting too 'big'. Scale is the issue. The global risks are increasing in scale, and where the benefits are huge, so are the pitfalls.

TANYA ONGARRA

The End is Nigh

Never mind the Millennium Bug, the best is yet to come. Ian gets apocalyptic.

Your PC passed 9/9/99 without self-destructing. (Were you even aware that day last September was meant to be a crunch point in its short life?)

Come next year, the millennium bug will have turned out to be just a minor blip. Maybe a plane did drop out the sky, but who's to say it wouldn't have crashed anyway? However, the latest urban myth doing the rounds indicates that what you've really got to worry about is the Y5G bug. This "myth" is based on better science than your average legend. Here's the facts...

The sun, our nearest main sequence star, is a great big H-bomb. This bomb continuously releases copious amounts of energy when hydrogen nuclei are smashed together so violently that they fuse to form heavier isotopes of hydrogen and then helium. So, should our sun, like a bomb, be blowing itself to bits? No. The sun keeps strong reins on its fuel. The immense mass of the sun means it has similarly immense gravity. The explosive force trying to spread the sun widely out into the solar system is balanced by its gravity, keeping it squished up in one place. This balance has held sway for all the time life on earth has known the sun and a long time before.

Here's the (giga)bug. When our solar system was created, the machine was given only a finite amount of fuel. The sun is using over 3 million tonnes of its mass per second, converting it to energy, including the heat and light we enjoy (from a safe distance) here on Earth. The point is, there's a limit to the sun's fuel supplies. Thanks to this lack of forward planning (with no re-fuelling

operation contemplated) after 5 billion years (Y5G) the sun will have to fuse helium into heavier elements. The gravitational reins will become weaker. The sun will swell in size, cutting down on the 150 million-km separation of sun and earth. It will engulf Mercury. Earth will get hot. The relative cool of the Martian climate will become an attractive prospect for your holidays.

Government officials have identified several areas of concern in the run up to Y5G, and propose to set up a task force (comprising un-elected freeloaders on generous expense accounts, and people with no scientific background or understanding whatsoever) to endlessly debate issues such as:

- Should Jan 1st 5 000 000 000 or Jan 1st 5 000 000 001 be the start of the new billionnium?
- The billionnium gnome construction project, a massive waste of public and private money.
- The race to develop factor 36 000 sunscreen.
- Why windows 4 999 999 999™ keeps crashing for no reason.
- Imperial College building projects still not complete.

Of course, eventually the sun will cool and contract, and what's left on Earth will freeze solid, including our atmosphere. But we won't be around to worry about that, because we're all going to die. It's been nice knowing you.

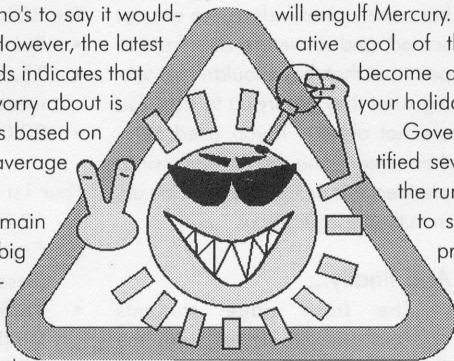


Illustration: Luke Larrea

This isn't on the course but.... No.1: Maxwell's Demon



Maxwell's Demon was a sweet little creature who sorted out hot particles from cold ones. James Clerk Maxwell was not too pleased by his devilish creation because he practiced the mysterious art of "Thermodynamics" - watching gas in a box. From a layperson's perspective, there can't be an awful lot that is mysterious about gas in a box, one would expect it to just sit there. Nevertheless, a lot of physically important discoveries were made in the last century by gas-in-a-box watchers. One such revelation was the principle of entropy: the 'messiness' of the universe is always increasing. This principle, more commonly known under the exuberant title of "The 2nd Law of Thermodynamics", has quite profound implications on the life and death of the universe. Closer to home, a good demonstration of this law can be achieved by observing your own bedroom (it works for me).

Returning to our demonic friend, if (s)he's busy sorting out particles then the world won't be so messy, violating the entropy principle. Maxwell's Demon could play little tricks on people, sorting out the fast particles from the slower ones, meaning that all the gas in a room could suddenly gather up in one corner... Scientists don't enjoy having their principles liberalised, so a solution to Maxwell's Demon became the goal of many gas-in-a-box watchers. Unable to prove demons don't exist, the problem was finally resolved by considering what happens to the poor little devil when (s)he's sorting particles. You see, although the particles will become less messy once they've been sorted, the demon becomes messier - in fact, more messy than the original particles. Thus, the total messiness of the universe has increased and gas-in-a-box watchers can rejoice in the validity of the 2nd Law. The same applies to bedrooms by the way, which explains the state of mine...

MARTYN WHITWELL

IN THE NEWS

Japanese geologists are attempting to extract methane from under the ocean floor. According to Professor Richard Selley, RSM, the attempt is "horribly dangerous" but the reserves are sufficiently large that they could provide "an end to the energy crisis as we know it."

A new study (which includes neurologists from ICSM) shows that brain cell grafts in Parkinson's disease patients are still functioning ten years on. The dopamine cells substantially reduce the debilitating symptoms of Parkinson's.

The Leonid meteor shower was witnessed right on schedule in most countries, except the UK, where clouds spoil the show. Astronomers in the US believe that a meteor was seen striking the moon.

Following last week's first direct observation of a planet outside our solar system, astronomers from St Andrew's claim to have observed light from another extrasolar planet. The researchers looked at the spectrum of the star in order to observe tiny amounts of reflected light from the planet, believed to have four times the mass of Jupiter.

China launched its new experimental spacecraft on Saturday. The unmanned Shenzhou, meaning "Divine Ship", is similar to a large Apollo capsule, and is capable of carrying a crew of three into space. The Chinese government views a manned space program as a highly prestigious project.

Researchers at Leeds University have developed a technique for obtaining useful gases and plastics from scrap tyres. Previous attempts at recycling have not been commercially viable, but the new technique provides an economical alternative to landfilling or burning.

Microsoft are facing a flurry of lawsuits which could cost them billions of dollars following the ruling that the software giant abused its position to drive its rivals, including Netscape, out of business. Meanwhile, chairman Bill Gates has donated \$26m to combat tetanus in the third world.

Bell Labs have produced a new transistor which is only 50nm in size. The "vertical" transistor can allow chips to become even smaller and run at double the speed. At the current rate of progress, existing transistors are expected to reach their limit in ten years time.

One of the most difficult mathematical problems, the Shimura-Taniyama-Weil (STW) conjecture, has been solved by an international team. The problem, of which Fermat's Last Theorem is just a small part, states that "there exists a modular form of weight two and level N which is an Eigenform under the Hecke series" and is available on Mathematical Physics Problem Sheet 3.

JC

The State of the Union

Oh God, only a month to Christmas, and I have thousands of cards to send.

Warner Brothers

The discount is now sorted - the full details will appear next week, but lets just say the NUS is going to be really mad!

Wye?

August next year will begin a new era in IC history as we merge with one of the oldest colleges in the country, Wye. I met with two of their exec this week and although disappointed that they did not have comedy 'somerzet' accents, we had a very productive time. What difference will the merger make? To us, more girls on campus, to them, the world as they know it will be ripped open, their

By Natasha Newton, Imperial College Union President

paperwork will go on a hundred miles away, their courses will change and they'll become lost in the IC ether.

Why so cynical? Perhaps I just get the feeling, having met them, that they were doing just fine until a new big brother came along. Don't get me wrong - the Rector is very keen to make this go smoothly and ICU is pulling out all the stops, I just wonder why it's all necessary.

In trouble with College?

Thus far this term I have had some juicy casework....sorry all confidential. Still I think it is important to remind everyone that if you land yourself in the pooh with College, be that to do with your course

or hall or whatever, then you can choose someone from the Union to come along to represent you. The value of having us along is that we have seen cases before, we are not scared, and so we are not afraid to point out that they shouldn't be asking what they are trying to ask. You are not alone - if you need help, then email one of the following: president@ic.ac.uk, dpew@ic.ac.uk, m.m.thomson@ic.ac.uk

And finally...

The front page students received two envelopes from the Council this weekend. Number 1: an abject apology and confirmation that there would be no bailiffs. Number 2: a bill for their Council Tax!

- This Week's Union Meetings -

Mon 29th November

- 15.30 Trading committee (Clubs Committee Room)

Tue 30th November

- Risk assessment deadline
- 13.00 A&E Board Treasurers meeting (Resource Centre)
- 20.00 CAG soup run

Thur 1st December

- 12.30 Recreational Clubs Committee Treasurers meeting (Resource Centre)
- 18.30 ICU Executive Committee (Resource Centre)
- 20.00 CAG soup run

Fri 2nd December

- 13.00 Social Clubs Treasurers meeting (Resource Centre)

Welfare Update

By Kevin Butcher, Deputy President (Education & Welfare)

With World AIDS Day happening this Wednesday, I felt the need to write about sexual health in general as part of the ICU Sexual Health Week.

HIV / AIDS

World AIDS Day is a way of creating and nurturing awareness and fundraising for research, trying to improve palliative treatments and perhaps find a cure / effective vaccine. To add to this, those with a global consciousness will note that 28 million of the World total 33.5 million cases of HIV infection are found within the Developing World. Research funding is needed to ensure such medicines are simple, cheap and readily available.

As an aside, I would recommend regular tests, whether you consider yourself high risk or not. These are usually free from most Genito-Urinary Medicine (GUM) Clinics. Loads of information is available on the web, including lists of clinics on www.aidsmap.com - a site co-produced by the National AIDS Manual and the British HIV Association. Others to look out for are the Terence Higgins Trust (www.tht.org.uk), CrusaID (www.crusiad.org.uk), National AIDS Trust (www.nat.org.uk) and the various HEA sites (covered in www.heo.org.uk).

As part of this week's ICU Sexual Health Awareness Week, the Union and Imperial Queers (our Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Society) will be running a stall in the Union Lobby with information, leaflets and condoms. We will be "selling" red ribbons all week for a donation. This week will be run in co-ordination with the other campuses. ICSM SU has arranged for Dr James Deutsch (from CrusaID) to come and speak on living with HIV on Tuesday lunchtime (venue to be announced). IQ is also running a safer sex workshop in the Union on Tuesday night.

Sexually Transmitted Infections

The practice of safe sex is a good thing to encourage because it helps in preventing the transmission of other STIs. The likes of syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia and thrush are still "popular" and do the rounds every year. Of course, for heterosexuals the biggest worry of unsafe sex should surely be pregnancy. Ah, but I hear you cry that the girl should be protecting herself, chances are they are on the Pill. Assumptions are bad things to make and usually blind acceptance of them results in future problems. Follow the motto "Be Pre-

pared" and all should be well.

Preparation and care will not stop everything (pubic lice or genital warts for example) and everyone should remember that the Union provides, free, unbiased, friendly advice. If you think you have contracted an STI and are unsure where to go from there, pop in to see either Martin Thomson or myself. We have lists of the local GUM Clinics who offer treatment, advice and sometimes counselling, often anonymously. The Student Handbook also has addresses and telephone numbers, or look in the phone book under "clinics". If you are particularly worried, regular checks are available, including a full screen. This can be provided in parallel with an HIV test. Again check out the yellow pages or the listings on www.aidsmap.com. To aid awareness, this week's Bar Trivia in da Vinci's will be a STI / HIV quiz. Usual prizes (courtesy of STA Travel) and a particularly interesting picture round!

Please attend - it is free and should be a fun and exciting evening. Winners should be proud that they are aware and fully loaded with all the knowledge to stay safe and healthy and not be taken as any indication of their past!

Cancer

Ooh, the dreaded C word. With IC being predominately male and around the 18-25 year old section, we have a prime pool of men and a prime target group for testicular cancer. Maybe it's a taboo area or perhaps it's just ignorance, but this is still a significant killer of men. It is a relatively simple procedure to "be aware of yourselves". For example, after a warm bath, just roll each testicle between your thumb and forefinger. Feel all the way around for any unusual lumps or any tender area. If you become worried, see your GP. Fairly easy to treat, or if things have progressed then prosthetic testes are available and you can operate quite normally on just the one. Much better than not doing anything which could risk your life. Similarly, for women, being aware of your breasts is a fairly simple procedure and should be done fairly regularly. Again, if you feel any unusual lumps or tenderness you should approach your doctor. The other significant cancer for women to be aware of is cervical cancer. Doctors recommend regular smear tests from the age of twenty.

Cancer should be treated as something that can potentially hit everybody rather than the older generation. Please be aware.

East meets West '99

Thursday, 2nd December

7:30 pm

@

Great Hall, Sherfield Building,

Imperial College

TICKET HOTLINES :

QMW	Geeta	07931 781 288
UCL	Vinay	07932 031 192
W'minster	Ajit	07957 160 585
Charing X	Reatha	0171 385 9197
Imperial	Darshan	0956 460 253
	Arks	0171 381 8562
	Rahul	07887 687 401
	Vish	07957 455 981
	Mitul	07957 112 158
	Emma	07931 381 383
	Natasha	0956 223 473

In Support of :

Variety Club of Great Britain

&

*Care and Relief for the Young
(CRY)*

Ticket Prices: £15

Break Point

Ever been to Malet Street? There's not much there except for the Virgin Megastore and a drab old pub called the "Duck and Dive". It has recently had a makeover, but like most recent makeovers in London it has been a conquest of style over substance.

The Duck and Dive is in an unfortunate position. Over the years, it has had many managers (on average one per year), who have struggled to maintain the clientele. While the locals seem quite happy to go there occasionally, it seems that everybody else can't be bothered to spend half an hour and two pints-worth of cash getting there.

Luckily, this pub has some very understanding shareholders, who

seem quite willing to throw stupendous amounts of coloured notes through the door in order to repair some quite nasty holes in the paperwork. Sadly, the holes never go away.

So why should you care? After all, you lot never go there (and I can't say I blame you), so it makes no difference, right? Wrong. One of the "shareholders" mentioned above is you, in a roundabout way. ULU is funded by the colleges of the University of London, through money given to them by the Higher Education Funding Council, ring-fenced for "student services". This means that if they didn't spend it on ULU, they would have to spend it on you.

And how much is involved? The

fairly major sum of £90,000 each and every year - more than enough to save a library or two.

This isn't heresy, if you stop and think about it. How many of us actually go and use the facilities that we pay for so handsomely? The numbers are pretty small. Some people go there for the clubs and societies, but the number of clubs that ULU provides that ICU doesn't can be counted on the fingers of one hand. I'm sure some people will write in saying that they go for the social life and that they love it, but I'd bet that the majority of you would much rather see an extra £90,000 each year pumped into improving our own facilities.

One argument that has been

used in the past is that ULU sporting clubs provide a standard of competition that our own clubs can't match. I have no issue with this - it's completely true. However, better funding, better organisation, and better facilities for our own sporting clubs will soon render this distinction invisible. Roll on the advent of the IC Athletics Union, and soon we'll have no reason to be in ULU at all.

If the student body agree to that, the Rector can finally engage the final phase of his master plan, and the College can secede from the University altogether. None of us will ever again have to bear the shame of having the same degree certificate as lesser beings from UCL and QMW...

FANTASTIC

Kensington and Chelsea have a new member of Parliament, elected at last Thursday's by-election. Many people have used the media attention generated by an election to their advantage; at the last general election a local businessman, "Mr Mongolian Barbecue", stood for "The Mongolian Barbecue, A Great Place To" party. A couple of weeks ago an IC student was considering standing for the parliamentary seat. The student was in negotiations with an internet company who had offered to pay him to change his name to Mr www.funmail.co.uk, and to stand against Mr Portillo. With the large student population in the constituency, there would have been an excellent chance of the candidate not losing his deposit, had the company not pulled out at the last minute. The student, who else but everybody's favourite president, Dave Hellard?

SINGING FROM THE STAIRS

Have you ever wondered why the staircase in the foyer of the BMS building is so big, and in such an obstructive position? Although this question is yet to be answered, a use has been found for the impressive structure. A choir, "Canto Villanella", made up of both medics and scientists from IC, are going to be singing from the stairs at 13.00 this Tuesday lunchtime. They will be enhancing the building's environment, serenading people eating at the BMS cafe. The content of the gig has been described to Kevin as: "Going from serious to silly".

IN SEARCH OF THE LIGHT

Ghosts, UFOs, and the paranormal. There is no forum for discussion of such matters within Imperial College. Kevin would like to know why. Kevin

knows he wasn't the only person who was comprehensively spooked by the fake documentary: "GhostWatch" presented by Mike Smith and Sarah Green, when it was shown on TV about eight years ago. Kevin believes that people who have experienced the paranormal are privileged to have done so, and ought to share their experience with others. Kevin urges anyone interested to contact him on kevin@ic.ac.uk.

Mish Mash

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

CULTURE CLASH

Medical students living in halls such as Wilson House have "voiced some disquiet about being mixed with other students." The reason given was that they felt that their course: "was one that required great demands from them and this could be made easier if they were together." Kevin is amazed at the implied insinuation that non-medical students are a rowdy bunch whose presence is not conducive to work. Thankfully, it was final year students who had made these comments. Although a quick comparison between Prince Albert and Guildsheet will confirm that there is still a world of difference between the medic and non-medic cul-

tures, the new medics certainly see themselves as IC students, and do not hold the anti-IC prejudices of the older students. Kevin is confident that IC will become "one big happy family", even if it does take some time.

MICROSOFT MAYHEM

Please would someone from the CCS take a few seconds to configure the Outlook web access device correctly. The problem lies with the 'Sent Mail Folder', which has been bizarrely set up so that it does not tell the user who the recipient of the messages was. Instead it displays the name of the person who sent the messages. While this may be useful to entities like Kevin, who possess a plethora of identities, it is just an annoyance to the majority of users. Kevin would not be at all surprised if the fault he has spotted is in fact a feature of the Microsoft system, which will not be fixed until the next extortionately expensive upgrade.

SHAKEN NOT STIRRED

Recently in one of IC's high tech lecture theatres, the lecturer attempted to adjust the lights. After spending a few seconds pressing buttons on the TV style remote control, it appeared that the lights were not going to respond. The lecturer decided to continue. Shortly after restarting the lights dimmed, the front of the room was strongly illuminated, and the electronically operated curtains started to close. The lecturer was stunned, remarking "When that sort of thing happens I always expect a disembodied voice to boom out: 'Good evening Mr Bond.'"

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



icu
17 12 99

Soundtrack by THE 007 BAND
Additional Musical Score: CHANNEL ONE SOUNDSYSTEM
and THE POP TARTS, plus MINI DJS.
Martinis: PUSSY GALORE'S COCKTAIL BAR.
Special Effects: LASERQUEST
& win a mountain bike at CASINO ROYALE.
Costumes: BOND OR BOND GIRL.
Sets: PROPART. Running Time: 9-2.
Finance: £007/£6 with entscard.
Ticket Availability: FROM MON 29th NOV.

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

FELIX

ISSUE 1159

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Feedback

COME BACK DOCUCENTRE, ALL IS FORGIVEN

Dear Felix,

An essential student service has disappeared from the South Kensington campus. The Xerox DocU-center, which had previously provided a range of reprographic services for a reasonable charge has disappeared. In its place there are now a couple of card operated black and white copiers, a facility which is already provided at many locations throughout college.

The DocUcenter died suddenly; just before students returned after the summer break. The day before the closure staff were happily accepting assignments, promising that they would be ready for collection later in the week. Customers returned to find signs on the doors saying the DocUcenter had been closed. The service had vanished without informing or consulting its users. In previous years changes to the copyshop have been accompanied by front page news coverage in Felix. A week or so after the start of term, the DocU-center reopened in its present incarnation.

Today's situation has been described as an inconvenience for clubs, and a big problem for students. There is no longer anywhere on the South Kensington campus where it is possible to request that a particular chapter of a book, or a file of notes are copied, and return to collect them later.

The recent history of copyshops on the IC walkway is not particularly bright. The reason given for the demise of the DocUcenter was that it was not making any money. However in the past it has been proved that it is possible to run a viable copying business on the walkway. Callprint, who ran the business until May 1997 before losing the contract to Xerox, were about to embark on an expansion of their services. It was envisaged that eventually students would be able to transmit a file from any computer then collect the finished

product at the shop.

The return of a copyshop providing services such as: T-shirt printing; poster creation; laminating and binding would be of enormous use to both clubs and individuals. Copyshops are able to survive on high streets, so why not on the IC walkway?

The Senior Common Room redevelopment will provide a retail unit which would be an excellent location for a profitable copyshop. I would suggest that there is no one better placed to run the service, than iCU. I would love to see the iCU logo plastered all over the SCR's new curvy glass walls. The business would be run altruistically, and profits used to benefit students. As it would be providing a service for students, it should not matter if it were not a big money spinning venture. Although unlikely, in an ideal world college would look favourably on an iCU run venture, which would provide a useful service to the college community.

What iCU attempt to do, depends on what students want. If iCU does not run the copyshop it should be pushing for college to re-examine the options open to it: perhaps the copyshop contract should be put out to tender again. This would give the large high street reprographics companies an opportunity to trade in a fantastic location, and at the same time provide a good deal for IC students.

The service that was provided by the DocUcenter and its predecessors was one that made a considerable difference to those students who used it, and will be missed.

Richard Taylor
Biochemistry II

FAIR PAY FOR ALL

Dear Felix,

I note that our equal opportunities officer has persuaded ICU to support the NUS march for student rights at ULU this week. The

posters all state that the aims are 'No to fees & student hardship' and 'yes' to decent pay. I presume the decent pay bit is supposed to mean pay for all those students who have to work part time to support their studies. If this is the case, and he is serious in his aims, he need look no further than IC & iCU themselves who both employ IC students on rates of pay barely above the very low minimum set by the Government. iCU currently pay most of their staff a paltry £3.70 per hour while dear old ULU can only scrape together a barely more respectable £3.88. Is it any wonder that many departments in the Union are short of staff this year when their pay and conditions have slipped so far behind other employers (even McD for goodness sake!) in the area. ICU should not be so hypocritical to criticise others for something it does itself.

Adrian Spankie
Biology III
ICU & ULU employee

ENGINEERS ARE BEST.....?

Dear Felix,

I write in response to the letter from Matt Cockayne (RSMU President) published in Felix 1158, 22 November. In particular, I take particular pride and pleasure in answering the "big question" he invites Guilds students to ask myself and the other elected members of the CGCU Executive Committee.

Social and recreational skills can only be strengthened by an event as successful as Atlantis, our Freshers' Dinner. By all accounts, this event - attended by well in excess of two hundred people, mostly freshers - was a success and a great time was had by all who bothered to turn up. CGCU has actually managed to, additionally, make a healthy profit on the dinner; as I understand it, this

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

has hardly ever been the case in the past. We have all but written off the (actually very small) losses we made on our previous failures. I think it has been pretty convincingly demonstrated that, despite our ambitiousness, we can organise, publicise and pull off successful events on a decent scale. We are painfully aware of our previous failures, but we have moved on, and harping critics would do well to do the same.

Anyway, yes, as I've stated in my news article, we did attract over a quarter of all Guilds freshers – certainly something more difficult than attracting half the freshers of a much, much smaller and more cohesive union full of people with wonderfully brilliant

"social and interpersonal skills".
Happy, Matt?

Yours sincerely,
Sunil Rao
ISE II
Guildsheet Editor

AND FINALLY...

Dear Sir,

It has come to my attention that this year marks the fiftieth anniversary of your esteemed publication. Will you be doing anything to mark this auspicious occasion, which falls on December 9th?

Clive Brewer

All complaints should be addressed to the Editor. If no satisfactory reply is received, contact ICU Exec via the Union President

Can all recipients of Imperial College Union Colours for 1998-99 please collect their certificates and awards as soon as possible from Pat Baker in the Union Office

Editorial

It's Thursday morning, and I've just come back from the book-sale in the library. OK, so it's hardly Waterstones Picadilly Circus, but the principle's a damn fine one nonetheless. For once, we find our College perusing a genuinely student friendly policy – after all, they're hardly making any money out of selling books at 20p a throw, and where else could you pick up a couple of moderately useful computing texts for under a pound? However, this should only be the beginning of a much bigger and (potentially) incredibly useful scheme.

What I'm thinking of is a decent second hand book sale or shop, where we can off-load our useless old books (and thereby recoup some of their extortionate cost) and pick up some decent new texts for next year. There are two ways in which this could be accomplished. Firstly, Waterstones long ago expressed an interest in setting up a second hand book service through their shop in the library. This was originally blocked due to wranglings over the second-hand bookstore in the Physics Department, but as this has now closed there should not be a problem. However, assuming that Waterstones are unwilling / too incompetent to run such a service, the second option would be for the Union to organise bookfairs as an incredibly valuable service for its members.

At other universities I've visited, bookfairs are (sad as it may sound) an integral part of Freshers Week, where second and third years go to pass on their texts (complete, naturally, with helpful notes) to the newcomers and simultaneously earn some beer money. It would be a very easy event for the Union to organise, requiring practically no funding and a minimum of administrative hassle (there wouldn't be any profits, so tax and VAT wouldn't be an issue). Books pass down the chain; cash passes up it. Simple. So,

come on Tasha, Kev et al, why not give it a whirl?

A MAYOR FOR LONDON

If you were Oliver Stone, Fox Mulder or Mohammed Al Fayed, I think you'd be forgiven for thinking that there was a mass conspiracy and cover-up attached to the election for London's first Mayor. Although the revelations surrounding Jeffery Archer might not come as a surprise to anyone aware of the author-come-politician's history, it is yet another set-back for the credibility of the contest. We now won't know until January (at the earliest) who the contenders for the two main parties will be, whilst the Lib Dem candidate is so low profile that no one outside her own family actually knows who she is. Meanwhile, the debate surrounding the Labour nomination will continue to rumble, before finally selecting Frank Dobson some time early in the new year (democracy schmocracy, there really is no way that Blair will let someone left wing stand for a post that's this high profile). Hell, it's a surefire sign that this election process isn't going particularly well when polls start suggesting that John Major is now one of the frontrunners (yes, that's the same John Major who led his party to one of the worst defeats in history, and was consistently rated as the least popular political leader since the Emperor Caligula). I guess we'll just see what happens come next May...

AND ANOTHER THING...

Considering we're only a month from the new millennia, I've suddenly realised how anticlimactic it's going to be – I've no idea what I (or any of my friends) will be doing, nothing's going to work properly (because everyone's going to shut everything down "just in case") and as for the Dome, Bridge, Wheel etc....

Dave



SPORT IN NOVEMBER/DECEMBER



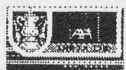
28th November: Chelsea v Bradford City 4pm
4th December: Leicester v Arsenal 11.30am
5th Tottenham v West Ham United 4pm
6th Liverpool v Sheffield Wednesday 8pm
19th Chelsea v Leeds United 4pm

24-11-99 Chelsea v Feyenoord 7.45pm
8-12-99: Man. Utd. v Valencia 7.45pm



25-11-99: Spartak Moscow v Leeds 5pm,
Arsenal v Nantes 8pm,
Roma v Newcastle 8.15pm
9-12-99: 3rd round, 2nd leg

12-12-99 THIRD ROUND



30-11-99 Leicester v Leeds 7.45pm
1-12-99 Fulham v Tottenham 7.45pm
14/15-12-99 5th round

Rugby Union:

27-11-99 & 11-12-99 2.30 pm Pool matches



7-12-99 kick-off 2.05pm
Oxford v Cambridge



BIG SCREENS

Tues 30th

WE'LL TAKE A VOWEL PLEASE

Da Vinci's
Café-bar

QU!Z NIGHT

EVERY TUESDAY 8PM

WIN £50 CASH (COURTESY OF STA TRAVEL)
OR A CRATE OF LAGER. FREE TO ENTER

THE ORIGINAL AND BEST

iCU YOUR UNION - RUNNING THE SERVICES THAT YOU WANT.

Weds 1st

icu ents presents

excess

the ultimate midweek party

every wednesday @ icu 9-1. free b4 11.
two rooms of tunes & cocktail bar

iCU it's your union - be part of it

Thurs 2nd

A NIGHT FOR SWINGERS

Da Vinci's
Café-bar

COCKTAIL NIGHT

EVERY THURSDAY

iCU ANOTHER GROOVY SERVICE FROM

ICU ENTS PRESENTS

LIVE JAZZ

WITH THE IC JAZZ BIG BAND

WITH COCKTAIL BAR
THURSDAY DEC 2ND
FROM 8PM IN DBS

iCU SURPLUSES ARE RE-INVESTED IN YOU



The Doc & Nip

Thurs 2nd

Fri 3rd

icu ents presents
for all the superstars and stars

SWAMP

70's disco, 80's pop, 90's trash
plus cocktail bar

Friday 3rd Dec 9-2

FREE entry with punk threads
£1 (icu card) £1.50 (others) (enters) (enters)

iCU Another groovy Union service for you

Sat 4th

Whiplash

SATURDAY 4th DEC DBS 8-12 FREE

Alternative Rock & Metal
Metallica, Wildhearts, Marilyn Manson, Faith No More, Incubus
Offspring, Nirvana, Monster Magnet, Pantera, Korn, Snot
System of a down, AC/DC, Nine Inch Nails, Therapy? Etc

iCU Your Union - Run for you

iCU
IMPERIAL COLLEGE UNION

Your Union - Run for You

Welcome to the reviews



This week in.....

frequency 


Bryan Adams
Metallica
Renaissance

screen 


Ali G
Astronauts Wife
Taxi

method 

Anna Weiss
Balm
Fringe

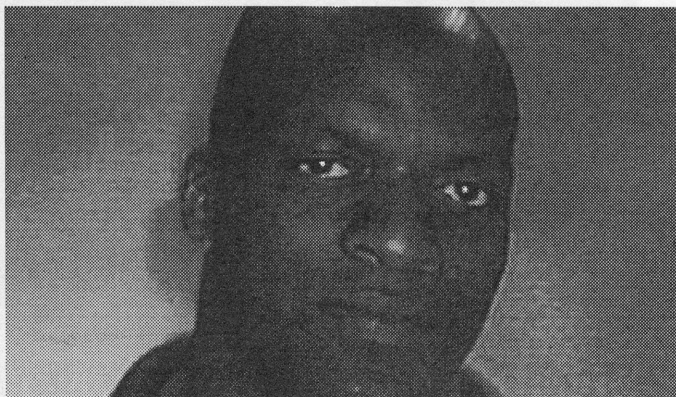
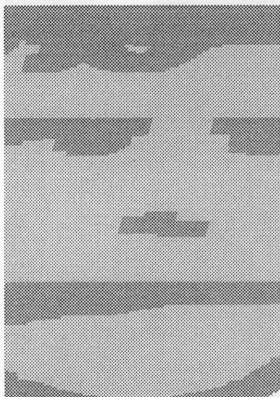
books 

Buddha
Events
Upcoming

react 

Coming Soon
Jet Force Gemini
Soccer 2000

frequency



Only a few weeks to go until the end of the year and once again the thought of end of year polls rears its ugly head. Here in frequency I can assure you that we'll be doing the same. Probably a best dance album, best indie album, best overall album, etc etc. Yes, it may be unoriginal, but we all love these lists, so next week I'll be giving you details of how you can have your say. Early suggestions for best overall album include Travis, Basement Jaxx and Groove Armada, but who am I to influence your choices?

... frequency ... we review music

As for competitions, well we're packed full of them at the moment. This week we've got Metallica, Counting Crows and Bryan Adams CDs up for grabs. Then, in the next two weeks, you should look out for some Beastie Boys prizes and a massive Loud Records give away. There's also no shortage of well known reviews for the coming weeks, and if everything goes to plan then our Christmas bumper issue should be a beauty. Finally, for anyone still looking for clubbing ideas and doesn't need a weekend off then Alex's Cross recommendation should not be overlooked. Saturday's will never be the same again!

Mixed by Karl 'Tuff Enuff' Brown Pure Silk (Pure Silk)

After running things in London and ramming the P'zazz club in Aiya Napa, Pure Silk unleash their latest attack on dance music. In pursuit of music for the millennium they have selected only the finest in UK house and garage featuring a number of unreleased tracks. Produced to appeal to the wider audience, the mixing of styles will blow away all-comers. Kicking off with Pure Silk's personal intro it establishes an irresistible flow, just make sure you have a couple hours free before you start listening.

Currently topping the dance charts, the compilation is packed with floor-filling tunes. The mix of anthems, new releases and exclusives means the usual quota of suspect dubs and dry vocal mixes is kept to a minimum. All tastes are catered for: the bass heads will be rocking to the phat b-lines of *It's the Way* and *Itza Trumpet Thing*, anthem lovers won't get enough of *Straight from the Heart* and those up for the new releases will be wearing out the Artful Dodger's *Rewind*, which is poised to blow-up in the charts.

Karl 'Tuff Enuff' Brown is at the decks on this one and lives up to his hefty reputation. One of the biggest names in garage, the master mixer adds his inimitable style to the album, keeping it smooth for the lighter tracks and letting the cuts and tougher mixes loose on the harder tunes. The production is tight, making use of fresher versions of popular releases. The double CD collection is linked by Karl Brown's intros and sign offs, and there are also regular reminders of whose album it is with periodic Pure Silk cut-ins. The clubs are far more suited to these effects than the compilations are.

According to the exclusive tracks the future of UK garage lies in a collaboration between vocalists and the effects desk. These pre-release tunes, including a Tuff Jam-Todd Edwards partnership, will keep the garage fans jumping right through the millennium.

This is undoubtedly essential listening, a cut above the deluge of millennium compilations flooding the stores. It is not often you can pick up a collection of the old alongside the new, and with Mr Tuff Enuff on form this is the definitive house and garage assortment. The word is the album has done so well that Karl Brown has been called back to the studio to record another hour of pure mixing. This will be released as a limited edition CD along with the standard compilation on 27 December. Get the album, stick it in your system, lie back and let euphoria ensue.



Gatecrasher Mix Disco-Tech (INCredible)

Since the emergence of the superclubs there has been no shortage of endorsed mixes on the music market. It seems as if a week never goes by without a Ministry, Cream or Gatecrasher release. These mixes also always appear to follow quite a similar line; they never seem to take the risks required to lift the mix above the many other mix CDs out there.

The endorsement on this release comes from Gatecrasher. For the uninitiated, Gatecrasher is without doubt the superclub of the northeast. Located in Sheffield and winner of Muzik's prestigious Best Club award for the last two years) Gatecrasher is only one step down from the household name that the Ministry has become. However, the question here is not whether Gatecrasher is a good club. It is whether this mix is worth parting with fifteen pounds for. Well, I'm sad to say this, but probably not.

One problem with these mixes is that there are far too many of them and therefore it is only the very excellent ones that stand out. Another problem is that although many of them are good mixes, many of them do sound very similar. So, with *Disco-Tech* the package is to be as expected - good tunes, good mixing, but sadly not much to make it stand out. We get one of the lighter mixes of the Bedrock classic *Heaven Scent*, Paul van Dyk's storming new *Avenue* track and a beautiful beginning to the second CD before the mix beaks out with the new Skip Raiders tune *Another Day*. However, these high points are not enough to lift this good mix to a truly excellent level. My advice for anyone interested is still to spend the fifteen quid, but to spend it on Sasha's *Global Underground Ibiza mix* or John Digweed's *Bedrock mix*, and leave this to those impressed by the badge.



AWOL

J Patch

frequency



Bryan Adams The Best of Me (Mercury)

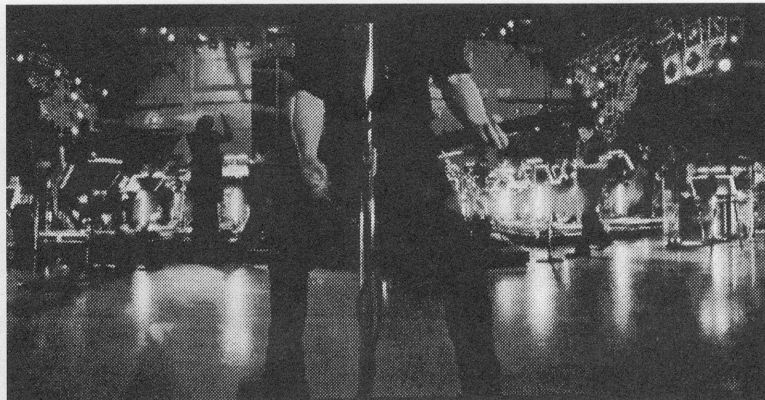
Well, he's been around for a while now, but when the voice of the relatively senior soft rocker Bryan Adams rings out, fanatics will scream maniacally, whilst the rest wonder why it's such a big deal. It's true - to some he's a legend, but his world-wide acclaim doesn't reach everyone, and delving into the contents of some of his past albums it's not difficult to see why. However, credit to Adams and his production team for this, his eleventh album, a dual systematic promoting the release of his forthcoming single, title track *The Best Of Me*, yet also functioning as a *Greatest Hits* album.

One wonders whether he's running out of new material - media hype suggests the end of a glorified and successful musical career is nigh, but then maybe a *Best Of...* album is Adams' best way of linking recent successes such as *Cloud Number Nine* and the duet with Mel C *When You're Gone* with legendary hits *Everything I Do (I Do It For You)*, *Summer of '69*, and *Run To You*. Also included is the theme song to the 1996 film *Don Juan de Marco*, *Have You Ever Really Loved A Woman?* and the 1993 joint effort *All For Love*, performed with Sting and Rod Stewart, alongside a medley of highlights from past albums. The only new tune on the album is *The Best Of Me*, which despite being pretty good, falls just short of the expected mark - however it's likely to do well and fly high in the charts as a result of the massive fanbase Adams' has built up over the years (*Summer Of '69* was a 1984 classic).

The album really is a collection of Bryan Adams through the years and you've more than likely heard it all before, but here it's quite conveniently all in one place for you, and if you just want to skim the surface of Adams' music and take out all the best bits, then this album's definitely for you. Of course, it's all a matter of taste and Adams is liable to become a victim of the fashion to loathe the extreme popularity of successful music, but give it a chance and it's not a bad album. There's no denying he's done some good stuff in the past and this is a more than adequate presentation of it. Has definite Christmas present potential.

■■■■□

Pete



Metallica S & M (Universal)

I really, really wanted to slag this one off. I mean, really, this isn't on. If the world's biggest rock band playing live with a hundred and odd piece orchestra isn't a blatant gimmick to encourage fans to buy two CD's worth of old material, I don't know what is. This is Metallica, too, who hardly need the money, and have worked their way up from nothing without massive hype and exposure. I wasn't intending to give this an easy ride. But...

The problem is that this is really rather good. The concept works, to a point. A classical orchestra makes a remarkably good accompaniment to Metallica's songs. The set leans heavily in favour of material from their last two albums and their more relaxed, organic sound is easily complemented by the orchestra. The effect varies from fairly straightforward backing noise on *Bleeding Me* to more complex and interesting counter-melodies on *The Outlaw Torn*. There are a couple of new songs, which are pleasant enough, but don't really leap out and grab you. More interesting, though, are older, thrashier songs like *Master of Puppets* or *Battery*. These are metal classics, and some people would regard this treatment as sacrilege. It sounds a bit strange, at first, but the different elements merge surprisingly well, particularly when there's more than just the original tune going on.

The overall sound, surprisingly, isn't quite up to Metallica's usual high standards. Frankly, the drums are too loud. Sorry Lars, but there you go. The guitars occasionally seem muted, too. It's worth it all just to hear James Hetfield singing the old songs, though - his voice has come on in leaps and bounds since the days of debut album *Kill 'Em All*, and he manages to wring even more emotion out of *Nothing Else Matters* than he did nearly ten years ago.

So, on reflection, have they pulled it off? Not quite. This is a good album, which stands on its own merits as being well worth a closer look. As far as I'm aware there's nothing else like it available. It's not the Metallica we grew up with, and there will undoubtedly be a lot of fans who'll loathe this, but then the band have grown up too. They've always done what they liked, and not done badly out of it, and I'm sure that this'll be no exception. The overall vibe is very different from their studio output, but there's still the power and emotion that you'd hope for. Not perfect, a bit too long, and in places a bit pointless, but interesting - and better value than most live albums.

■■■■□

Gareth

Competition - Bryan Adams, Counting Crows & Metallica Giveaway

This week we've got all kinds of goodies to give away. To start with, we've got single copies of both the Bryan Adams and Metallica albums (both reviewed above). Then we've also got a copy of the new Counting Crows album, and five copies of their new single. Wow. If you want to win any of these goodies, simply e-mail music.felix@ic.ac.uk saying which CD you want, along with the answer to this simple question:

Why have the Felix offices still not got a network connection?

frequency



Blackalicious NIA (Mo Wax)

It's not every day that a new music release seems to jump out of my speakers and bite my ear off with such cheeky brilliance. Then again, it's not every day that DJ Shadow puts his backing to a new hip-hop crew.

For the uninitiated, DJ Shadow is one of the most understated of the true influences of music today. His debut *Entroducing* album has had an effect on the music of the late nineties that is perhaps unparalleled. Indeed, it could be said that the music at the cutting edge of end of millennium hip-hop would not have existed without this mighty man. Mos Def, Company Flow and Jurassic Five have a lot to thank DJ Shadow for, first with his lessons in tune construction and sampling, and now with the emergence of Blackalicious we see another super act appear from the Shadow school of beats.

Like Jurassic Five's eponymous *Jurassic Five*, NIA is another album that will soon take its place among the classic albums of hip-hop. It positions itself so well with beats, sound and lyrics that it is not surprising that the mighty Shadow has had his paws on the production dials. The first single from the album, *Deception*, is a tune from the gods, and a number of the other tracks stand head and shoulders above any tune that any other hip-hop crew has had to offer for quite a while.

Blackalicious? Absolutely delicious more like. Ignore this at your peril.



James



Korn Issues (Epic)

What is it with even-numbered albums? I mean, as a rule the even-numbered ones are the shit ones. Yeah, you get exceptions to the rule like *Nevermind* and *Led Zeppelin II* but the second album is rarely as good as the debut. Korn follow this rule to a tee. Their first album was a cracker with all the metal press touting them as the future. Then came *Life Is Peachy* and it all went pear-shaped with too much dirty sex and a dire cover of the War classic *Lowrider*. *Follow The Leader* came next and we saw a return to form, if somewhat samey and with an annoying first twelve tracks of bugger-all before any music came on. And now we've been given issues.

Someone really needs to tell the boys in Korn the meaning of the words "progression" and "innovation". All we have here is a rehash of the same formula that's been so dominant on all three of their previous albums. Except it's not as good the fourth time around. Jonathan Davis' vocals are still harsh and pained on the choruses and miserable on the verses, only he seems to have got as bored with the whole thing as I have. He's not giving his all to any of the tracks, even when you want to hear him coughing up a lung in those scary angry bits. Munky and Head still give it total distortion in all the right places with seven string guitars, and David and Fieldy make up the colossal rhythm section on pounding skins and funky bass respectively. So yes, all the elements of the sound are there, yet there's no life or feeling and it's gone stale.

Korn have fallen into such a big rut that the whole thing merges into a big mess of noise. It's quite an impressive wall of sound and the slapped bass/funky drumming combo still has the power to disturb, but there is nothing new. Okay, I liked the flange guitar on *Somebody Someone* and the bagpipes on *Dead*, but apart from that nothing stood out. That's not to say this won't appeal to anyone - there are still going to be kids wanting to rebel and people who think the band are cool - but it's simply too much like anything they've previously released. I'll wait until their fifth album before I say they're has-beens.



Christian



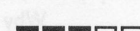
Nuophonic Artists 02 - Label Compilation (Nuophonic)

This compilation of tunes from the Nuophonic stable is, as you'd probably expect, a bit of a mixed bag. Most of it is in the same funky up, jazzy, chilled out vibe - but varying in quality. With so many different artists on this album, you have to respect Nuophonic for managing to maintain a feel - I can't help feeling that while ensuring the groove continues, the quality takes a bump occasionally.

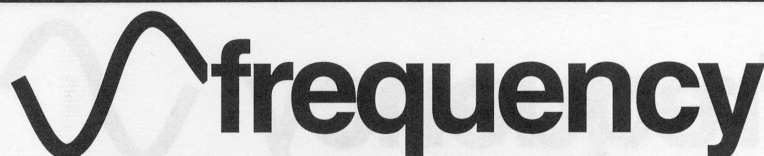
While *Moving Cities* by Faze Action starts off the proceedings nicely, with an acoustic mix of Hammond and violins lifting you up, *Michael* by Roy Davis Jr felt like I was being brought back to earth with a bump. While the quality of his bongo player is not in question, the throaty vocals just didn't do it for me. Just to confirm the trend, *The String Thing* by Soul Ascendants is a superb track - blending Latin rhythms, wah-wahed guitars and some deliciously dark violins.

This theme continues for the rest of the album - with standout tracks like the fantastically cheeky *My Beat* by Blaze followed by the slightly lame *The Sky is Not Crying* by Tiny Trendies. The real downer is that *Born Under Punches* by Fuzz Against Junk is actually quite a good, if slightly 80-ish track - but taken after the Tiny Trendies, even Paperback Writer wouldn't have a chance to rock out. There are a couple of stinkers in there - but I can see at least *My Beat* becoming a bit of an underground club tune - with those fronting lyrics, you can't help but smile.

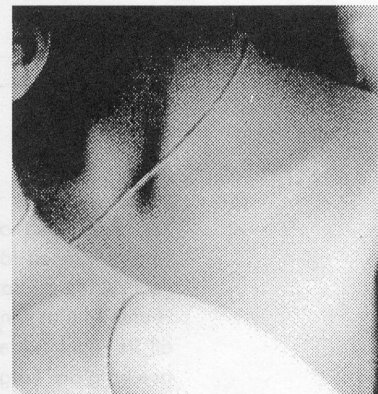
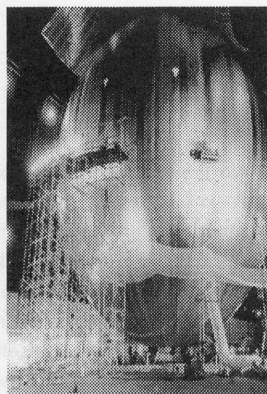
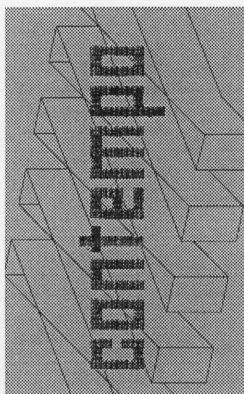
The compilation is a journey - if you are prepared to take a little bit of rough with plenty of smooth, smooth grooves, you will be richly rewarded.



Joel



frequency



Contempo @ ICU

Maybe it was the right night to break up with my girlfriend. This was the soul music of new starts, sweeping away old lives that don't work. A bursting disco force of rage against boredom and frustration.

The singer Richard Archer was striking poses like a sideburned MC Hammer, his brother Steve was a bass Samurai, steeled for action. The horn section gave things an extra buzz. The crowd behind me seemed entirely formed of the band's best mates, who yelled "You beauty!" in guitarist Steve Friend's direction, obviously stunned at the most basic chords.

All the Imperial College students stood around the edges and didn't want to be seen shaking their stuff to such up-front, working class, pop. Which was a pity, as I was grasped by the urge to lose it and pogo foolishly more than once. As frontman Rich laments on *Big Time Promotion Man*, "maybe the kids don't know music."

Kier

Orange Can @ The Spot

Covent Garden at night is full of lost souls wandering down random alleyways, squinting at street signs and searching for that elusive venue. For the sake of all things holy, take an A-Z when you go! Lamenting aside, I was in for a treat. The bohemian cooler-than-thou crowd present seemed unfazed by the high ticket price, poor ale quality and laughable light show. Orange Can are a musician's band through and through.

For it is the music that dominates here - to look at them, the band seem ready for their milk and cookies and the lead singer seems indifferent to the crowd. Nonetheless, the concentration and effort are evident. The ultra-chilled tunes are clear and varied while sonic dominance is shared between keyboard and guitar.

Sure, you could dismiss Orange Can as a poor man's Beta Band, but that would be pretty shallow even by present day standards. They're unlikely to be The Next Big Thing and neither will they slip into obscurity. One for the fans, perhaps.

Hardy

Soulwax @ The Borderline

Sometimes bands surprise me. They burst out on stage and blow you away with a vigour that you never expected them capable of when you saw their skinny faces in NME. Some bands, however, come across with little more than a whimper. They cruise onto the stage, play their songs and leave without more than just a slight shuffle of the feet. Somehow, between these extremes, lies the performance of Soulwax who played the Borderline the other night. Luckily, however, the performance was one that improved as the night went on.

Following on from the eminently forgettable opening band Turn (or Turd as one of the bar staff referred to them), the two Soulwax front men appeared on the stage dressed in snappy suits with swaggers that are usually reserved for the cooler members of society. Sadly though, this entrance was spoiled by their two opening tunes which, in this situation can be perfectly described as Turd-like. Fortunately, from there things picked up quite nicely.

Suddenly, energy oozed from the pores of Soulwax. The guitars and drums were better defined, the vocals more raw and the Borderline rocked. Not bad for a bunch of Belgians I thought, and as this was their first appearance in the country, you should expect much of these guys in time to come.

Tom

Want to work in the music industry?

As well as the forever open offer of writing for this prestigious publication, this week Felix brings you the unparalleled opportunity to make your own way in the music and entertainment industry. If you have ever fancied those 'Access All Areas' passes or wild, drug-fuelled celebrity parties, then we have just the thing for you.

Schmooze over to the University of London Union on the 2nd December and you may find the answers to your prayers. Prepare to 'escape to your future with Sony' (you also have the chance to escape with a Sony walkman at the end of the day). Held in bars and common rooms dotted around the Union will be a conference for students interested in the media or music industries. It promises to be a truly funky occasion: 'relaxed and informal' I am told. And with speakers talking about every possible aspect of the industry you will come away clued up and ready to cut your first deal.

Get yourself down to:
Palms Bar, 4th Floor, ULU, Malet St.
on 2nd December by 11am.

Thomas

Request for Feedback / Reviewers

The Felix Music Team meets on Tuesdays at 12:30pm in our luxury offices situated in the Portacabins next to Physics. We welcome all musical tastes and all levels of journalistic ability. So long as you are prepared to write us a review we can supply you with CDs, get you tickets for top live acts and even get you on the guest-list at some of the nation's best clubs. Likewise if you have any suggestions/rants concerning these pages then come along and see us, or drop an e-mail to music.felix@ic.ac.uk. Thanks a lot, and we'll see you soon.

frequency

Cuban Boys
C. vs. I.
(EMI)

Yes! For those of you who've listened to John Peel during the last two years, it's that song - in all its rabid, wide-eyed psycho glory. Forget the mystery and hype, if it's really produced by Noel it's the best thing he's ever done. The most stupid, addictive, camp dance track of this Peelenium!

★★★★★



Coal Chamber feat. Ozzy Osbourne
Shock The Monkey
(Roadrunner)

Now I don't know my metal, but I know what's average, and it's this. On the plus side, I'm reliably told they're all tiny and cute - and yes, I am a sucker for songs where they sing "monkey!" But when that's all a song has, you know it's time to go back to bed and get on with dodging work.

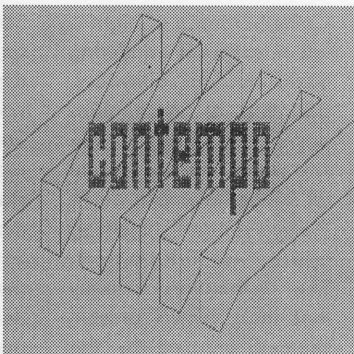
★★★★□



Contempo
My One Way Out
(London)

This 'nu-Northern Soul' band from Staines take a fair bit of getting into, but hey, they're worth a try. The words are very headstrong (like Jarvis' "big plans" lyrical phase, but maybe more grown up!) and the soul element is all there - falsetto backing, Space Harrier synthesiser and all. The singer's furry like Gaz Coombs and croons like Damon. Now you know.

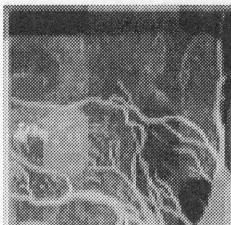
★★★★□



Le Tigre
Hot Topic
(Wiiija)

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

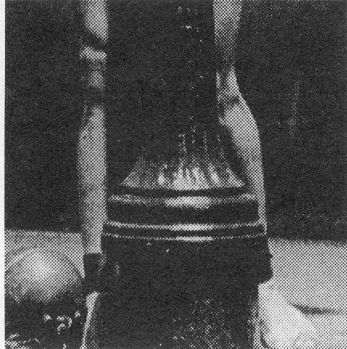
★★★★□



Apollo Four Forty
Heart Go Boom
(Epic)

A three-minute burst through funkville with the odd bit of reggae stylee bowel-shuddering bass thrown in. No Status Quo this time around, and I guarantee the line 'diddy bop, diddy bop, diddy bop boing' will be on everybody's lips before long.

★★★★□



Queen Adreena
X-ing Off The Days
(Warner)

Lots of passionate breathy vocals over tribal drums and snarly guitar - imagine Shakespeare's Sister and PJ Harvey getting together and agreeing to do something really weird. A *Heavenly Surrender* is so close to the latter, in fact, that she could probably claim royalties.

★★★★□



Garbage
The World Is Not Enough
(MCA)

Over the years, the genre of the Bond film theme has become somewhat formulaic - lots of dark dramatic strings, a few brass fanfares, that sort of thing - and you'd be forgiven for thinking that maybe the songs would be sounding a little tired by now. However, *Goldeneye* and *Tomorrow Never Dies* have shown that this is not the case, and here Garbage continue this trend with a quality tune.

★★★★□



Beastie Boys
Alive
(Capitol)

This is released along with the current anthology *The Sounds of Science*, and to be honest, basically displays all the musical characteristics which made the Beastie Boys big enough to be able to release such an album without looking stupidly optimistic. No surprises then, but a thoroughly kicking experience nevertheless.

★★★★□

...Singles reviews by
Matt & Kier...

frequency



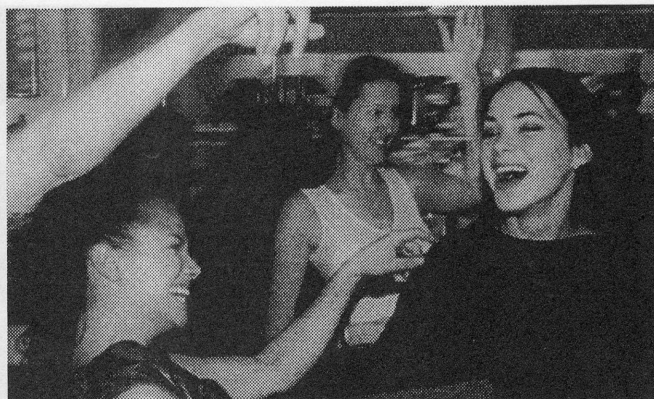
Night-In @ Home

No, this is not about that Leicester Square superclub, it is about something much more important. Yes, like all good clubbers, even Boycey needs some time off and it is with this review that I urge all of you to take some time off every now and then to go home and see your parents.

I think it was due to that awful Monday feeling that prompted me to 'just say no' and take a train out to the Home Counties. Somehow, I even managed to keep this feeling with me all the way through the week to enable me to take that train. Anyway, as I expected the weekend at home was boring, dull and uninteresting. However, there is one thing I like about home - it reminds me of how good we all have it here in London. It is also at home where I find my inspiration.

Among the inbreds and old people that flourish so prevalently in the area is the source of why I came to London and why I came to find my life the way I live it now. I suppose that some people may disagree with the way I do things, but if I don't care, why should they? And a wise man once said to his parents - if you don't ask me no questions, I won't tell you no lies.

Boycey



Renaissance @ The Cross ... one of the best nights around ...

The first thing that strikes you about the Cross is its tiny size; it has a quoted capacity of 350. Set in four disused railway tunnels it has a low brick-lined ceiling which gives it a dark underground feel.

All four of the tunnels play the same music with the DJ booth located on the darkened main dance floor in the principle cavern. The others serve as: a chill out area with seating/bar; a second quieter and brighter dance floor/bar; and a second chill out/VIP tunnel. Also available is a chill-out garden.

Anthony Pappa started the proceedings with a well constructed set which slowly built up both tempo, tension and volume as the club filled, by 1am the club was packed and it was time for Danny Howells to take the stage. The first hour of his set consisted of good though not necessarily awe-inspiring music, then around two he began to really assert himself on the dance floor; perfectly judged and mixed tune followed perfectly judged and mixed tune. The clearly "ecstatic" crowd loved it and responded appropriately to the music that was as good as deep house gets. Danny Howells was in control and in command.

Ian Ossia followed at 4am and clearly did not suffer from 2nd DJ syndrome his "trancey", less beat orientated and more emotional style worked well and the atmosphere in the club was maintained at its peak. Indeed the emotion got too much for one group of clubbers who fell into a group hug, then with tears running from their eyes, raised their arms into the air as one while the breakdown built, then erupted back into motion when the beat came back in. This is not the sort of euphoria a soul-less superclub like The Ministry or home inspires.

Indeed, it is the little things that make this club stand out from the pack: like the way the dance floor is full, but not so crowded you can't move, or the way they provide cool drinking water and not some unwanted pound coin demanding attendant in the toilet. I could go on for a number of paragraphs about how the little things make *Renaissance @ The Cross* better than other places, but in the end it's the atmosphere that makes the club and it has the best atmosphere of any London night I've been to.

Renaissance is every Saturday at The Cross from 10pm till 6am. It may cost £15, but this still represents great value

Alex



Recommended Clubbing

Everybody needs a bosom for a pillow, everybody needs a bosom! Big beats, and fun, fun, fun are to be had all over the place at London's clubs.

Monday 29th November; £8

Kickin' Latino @ The Fridge Bar; FREE!

A new night at my favourite Saturday morning hang out. Apparently this night will be a hot blooded one full of all things hot and sexy! Whether it will match the uniqueness of the Saturday morning crowd is something to be questioned though.

Tuesday 30th November

Feet First @ Camden Palace; £5

Jonathan and Eko rock this funky joint as the place fills with well over a thousand student types. Beer is two quid a pint, and selected bottles just a pound. It maybe more expensive than La Scandale, but you can't go there every week. Can you?

Thursday 2nd December

Highrise @ Home; £5

Felix is visiting this prestigious venue this week for the *Highrise* night, so next week we'll be able to tell you what it's all about in full.

Friday 3rd December

The Gallery @ Turnmills; £8

How the guys at The Gallery manage to keep up the standard week after week we'll never know. However, when the night's this good, how could we ever complain.

Saturday 4th December

Renaissance @ The Cross; £15

If you've read this week's reviews you'll know that *Renaissance* at The Cross is a Saturday night rarely bettered in the capital. If you've not been then maybe it's time you got down. It's not as if you need the sleep...

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

e-mail: felix@ic.ac.uk

phone: 020 7594 8072 ask for James

screen report



Farscape TV Series

Whilst many of TV's most famous Sci-Fi series may have emanated in the sixties and seventies, the nineties has undoubtedly seen the genre's heyday. A succession of high-budget, high-concept, productions have generated massive profits for their producers, and have opened up science fiction to a much wider audience. Surely the prospect of mainstream TV's latest offering, the Jim Henson Workshop produced *Farscape*, is consequently one to relish? Sadly, the answer is a definitive "no". *Farscape* embodies much of what is bad about science fiction (especially on TV) - it's characters are more like caricatures, it's plot is generic and obvious, and the entire affair is far more concerned with appearances than content.

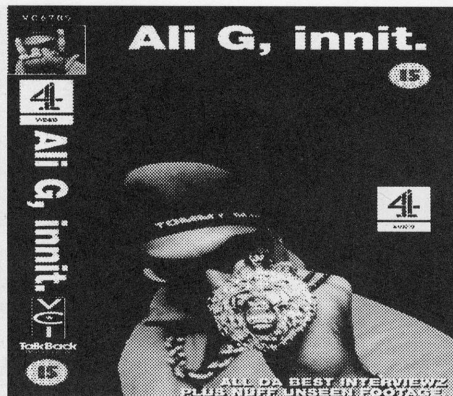
Firstly, to the concept. With a backstory that blatantly apes the seminal *Buck Rogers*, Commander John Crichton (Ben Browder), whilst out on a routine test flight, is suddenly sucked into a wormhole and thrown across the galaxy to a new space and time. His out-of-control shuttle accidentally destroys an alien "peacekeeper" ship, and he is immediately thrown aboard a strange craft, full of escaping prisoners. On board he joins the prisoners in their flight from the evil Peacekeepers (ie Galactic Empire / Dominion), and slowly he wins their respect and friendship. (Yawn).

Basically, *Farscape* consists of excerpts of every other Sci-Fi series you've ever seen, patched together and thrown into one ungodly whole, replete with comedic fish-like aliens, furry Yoda-esque figures and the obligatory love interest (who goes by the inspired name of Officer Aeryn Sun). Crichton's quest to earn the aliens confidence naturally results in his humanity and conscience wearing off on all those around him (surprise), whilst the constant threat of attack leaves the door open for a stream of bad CGI effects.

It's only with programmes of this calibre that you realise quite how good *The Next Generation* was..



Dave



Ali G, innit On Video

Ali G, (real name, Sacha Baron-Cohen), the interviewer of the famous *The 11 O'clock Show*, has recently found cult status in student circles. How do I know this? Simple, you hear people using his catchphrases. Often I find myself listening to people ordering ponani, not panini, from the BMS café. Often I find myself asking myself what flavour ponani I want to mangle on that dinner time. Tuna panini would definitely raise a snigger.

The humour derives from the ridiculousness of the whole persona. He is kitted out in expensive sportswear with the big medallion using words like 'bitches' to describe his girlfriends and using 'me' instead of 'I'. Ali G tries to act and talk like he is someone from one of the darkest ghettos in Philadelphia, but his hometown is the suburban town of Staines in Berkshire. He talks of gang warfare between the Berkshire West-side massive and the East-side massive - it's just plain stupid but still hilarious.

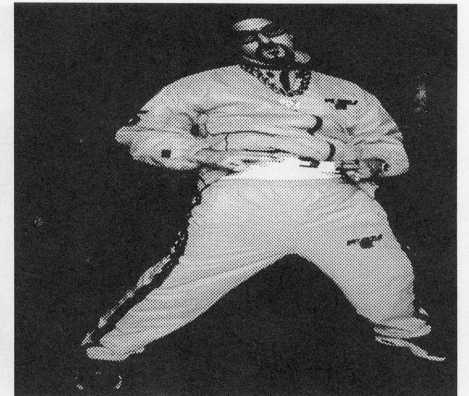
This video has all the best bits of his interviews from the first series of *The 11 O'clock Show*. These are hit and miss, the funniest being interviews with the chief of the British Board of Film Classification and the ex-education minister Sir Rhodes Boyson ("Why don't they teach proper maths in school, why teach in kilos and grams when you should deal in ounces, quarters and eighths?").

The best bits in this video are where he goes out and about. His excursions to Wales and Northern Ireland are superb, while his trip to see the tree protesters is a gem. The music during the cut scenes is absolutely brilliant. Not only does this video poke fun at the entire gangsta culture, but it prods its music as well.

To buy this video, you need to be a big fan. He is an acquired taste, but exposure to his brand of humour (if you are not easily offended) could turn you into an Ali G convert. Nuff said. Innit.



Captain Nemo



Ali G Competition

This week Channel 4 have kindly donated an *Ali G, innit* video for one lucky reader. So, how much do you know about the comedian who plays Ali G? Well, you'll need to do some research and find out about the man himself to answer this week's competition question.

Where did Sacha Baron-Cohen (Ali G) go to university and what did he study?

E-mail film.felix@ic.ac.uk before 12pm on Wednesday 1 December with the correct answer and maybe you could be the proud owner of an *Ali G, innit* video.

Winners of last week's competition have all been notified by e-mail so go and see if you're a winner. Go on, do it now! Details of how to collect your prize will be contained in the e-mail.

Odeon Kensington Offers

For those of you who don't know, *Felix* has booklets that entitle you to see a free film, once you go to see three others at the *Odeon Kensington*. The booklets include vouchers that will get you a large popcorn and drink for the price of a small one and money off *Heat* or *Empire* magazine. If you want a booklet just call into the *Felix* office and ask for an *Odeon* booklet. There's plenty for everyone.

If you already have one and want another one just come to the *Felix* office and pick one up and make sure to tell all your friends about the booklets too. Watch this space for further offers from *Odeon*!

Helen

screen



Taxi

Moving from his usual role of director, Luc Besson writes and produces his latest film, *Taxi*. Set in Marseille, speed-freak taxi driver Daniel (Samy Naceri) is caught racing through town by newly promoted Police Officer Emilien (Frederic Diefenthal). Under the threat of losing his licence, Daniel is coerced into helping catch a gang of German serial bank robbers. It quickly becomes clear, after Emilien's bungling antics, that he is fighting for his job but more importantly, at least to him, the heart of his stunning blonde superior. The resulting action is everything you expect from a Besson production - fast paced, stylish, original and funny.

The direction by Gerard Pires is excellent; particularly the car sequences which are arguably better than those seen in last summer's *Ronin*. At times you even feel sick as the cars race through the narrow streets. This realism was achieved by Pires' insistence on filming in real time instead of shooting in slow motion and speeding the footage up. A number of top rally drivers using 110 cars travelling at speeds of up to 120mph meant areas of the city being blocked off for days at a time. Despite this, the film was shot in only 27 days.

However, *Taxi* is not another Hollywood clone. The music is all written and performed by IAM, a French rap group with origins in Marseille. The characters are old favourites, which lends a certain innocence to the film. Emilien is naïve and inept. Daniel on the other hand is street-wise, fast-talking and betrays a cool that even James Bond would be jealous of. Supporting characters are almost cartoonish in their stereotyping. Don't get me wrong, this film is not cheesy. It just shows a fraction of Daniel and Emilien's lives without the need for character analysis. Another great point is the obliviousness to modern feminism and the Franco-German relationship, with a level of political incorrectness that Hollywood could only dream of.

Originally filmed in French, it is available in the UK in two formats - subtitled and dubbed. Generally foreign language films are better subtitled but £100k has been spent on the dubbed version employing the London accents of Danny Dyer (*Human Traffic*) and Jason Fleming (*Lock, Stock...*) to replace the Marseille French. The only disappointing thing is the film's length - a mere 85 minutes. But, had it been longer the sheer momentum - one of the film's greatest assets - would have been lost. Overall this is superb entertainment and great fun. Don't let the subtitles put you off, it's a must see.



The Astronaut's Wife

The Astronaut's Wife belongs in that category of movies which don't know whether they are a science fiction movie or a straight out and out thriller. Unfortunately, the movie tries to combine elements from both genre and so falls into the gap occupied by movies such as *Species* or *Event Horizon*. Admittedly, I found *Event Horizon* slightly better than this, but I thought *Species* was absolute and utter garbage.

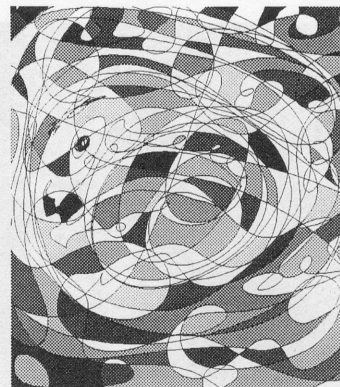
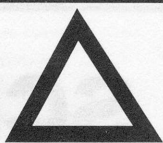
The movie stars Johnny Depp as Spencer Armacost, an astronaut who, whilst on a routine Shuttle mission, mysteriously loses contact for two minutes. He returns to earth alive and is subsequently decorated as a hero. Charlize Theron plays Jillian Armacost, Spencer's loving wife who realises that something is amiss with him after his arrival from space. Spencer quits the space program and proceeds to a new job in New York, a city that he previously hated.

In the meantime, Jillian discovers that she is pregnant with twins, news that thrills Spencer. But as time moves on, Jillian proceeds to experience haunting nightmares and strange sounds that seem to coincide with reality. Her increasing sense of paranoia is fuelled by the ramblings of an ex-NASA employee, who tracks her down to tell her that all is not well with Spencer. As Spencer's actions become increasingly deranged, Jillian realises that she is in a race against time to find the truth and to stop its consequences.

The premise and basic set-up of the movie is intriguing enough (if not original) and the movie starts off well. The director Ravich, who directed *Candyman*, paces the first hour well and halfway through the movie we get the sense that this could actually turn out to be a good movie. But just as it starts getting interesting, the movie loses its way and the final outcome just doesn't ring true and seems like it's been tacked on. This can't be helped by some lacklustre acting by Theron, whilst Johnny Depp, in the supposedly pivotal title role, is stuck with a thankless character with very little to do, thus leaving his acting talents to go to waste.

The movie is billed as a psychological thriller but it never seems to achieve the thrills that it's striving for, instead settling for a slight sense of unease. Like many recent Hollywood flicks, the main downfall of the movie is the end, which seems like far too simple a resolution and makes the film-watcher seem cheated. Staying for half the movie is advised, but maybe you'd like to walk out before the final reel.

method



Anna Weiss

Whitehall Theatre - £10 standby - Charring Cross Tube

This is not an easy play to watch. It is one and a half hours, non-stop, of confrontation and tantrum. The three characters - a condescending and manipulative hypnotherapist who has 'recovered' a daughter's memories of sexual abuse at the hands of her father - have a hard time of it on stage, but they manage to make the tears and fits seem convincing. The daughter (Shirley Henderson) in particular was very good, and her jittery unease and instability were unforced.

You only see a snippet of the story- it's been over a year since the allegations were first made and the play takes place on a single day. The situation comes to a head when the daughter confronts her father about what he has done. Accusations fly between all three of them and nothing gets resolved, which leaves a sense that little has actually happened.

At times it is gut-wrenchingly moving, but once the wailing really gets under way there are more moments of cringing than anything else and you leave with no real lasting feelings for any of the characters. Quite an achievement considering the seriousness of the topic - but the cause of this is that no one was sure of what actually happened. Everyone's memories were unreliable and each had a completely conflicting story. You end up siding mainly with the father because it's hard to believe that this little man in a suit could have done the things he is being accused of, and the therapist is so screwed up herself you can imagine her planting false memories.

I feel it was a bit insensitive. To put so much emphasis on the actual abuse when it was really talking about the unreliability of memory almost undermines the suffering of real victims. Although it does highlight the problem of false memory and the damage it can cause to people, the play could have done this equally effectively with a little more subtlety.

Too graphic, too bewildering and, surprisingly, too empty.



Judith Adams

Balm In Gilead

Courtyard Theatre - £6, Sun. pay what you can- Kings Cross

The Courtyard Theatre have put on a play about "the riff-raff, the bums, the petty thieves, the scum, the lost, the desperate, the dispossessed and the cool"; they've set it in Kings Cross.

I went expecting to meet the usual suspects: junkies, prostitutes, pimps, and alcoholics determined to make a life from their unfortunate situation; perhaps a worthy version of "Rent", but without the songs. *Balm in Gilead* was written in New York thirty years ago, and the action has been transferred to a Kings Cross all-night café. The customers are mainly working girls - the economic engines of this tiny world. Pimps and dealers, living off the earnings of the girls, are also represented in the large cast

There is no common narrative, the stories of different people unfold in close proximity across the café and yet have little impact on one another. The dialogue switches back and forth between the different plot threads with an energy that contrasts with the gloomy situation, the central thread following a half-hearted dealer and the American he meets by chance over coffee. The American could easily have been irritating as hell but Jennifer Merna plays her with a refreshing lightness and grace, creating intimacy amid crowded action. The piece is peppered with monologues, the best of which provide real insight, although a few didn't hit the mark. Particularly affecting was the speech by a young junky, which ended the first half.

In the end, the play had no resolution. A drug dealer died but the stories had all begun again and the play ended much as it had begun. Everyone was trapped in the circle, which they had entered through choice but could not escape. This production very effectively demonstrated what it had set out to prove, but the message is perhaps less fresh than it was thirty years ago. It is not that the situation is less tragic, but perhaps, thanks to TV, it is more familiar.

The atmospheric theatre (with its sufficiently decayed set) was largely empty - which is a shame as this is a play well worth seeing.



Tom

Fringe Debate

Gielgud Theatre - 24th Nov.

It happened in the Gielgud theatre and hardly any body went which, I suppose, is the whole problem.

On the panel was Ben Brown (a "promising young playwright"), Nica Burns (representing the production and management side), Ian Brown (a director), and Timberlake Wertenbaker (a more established writer).

The debate - or general good natured agreement, as it turned out to be - focused on the problem for new writers of bridging the gap between fringe and big time success.

It was agreed that it is much harder nowadays to make such a break. Many reasons for this were cited, but none were really followed through.

New playwrights are often tempted to give the audience something "familiar or unchallenging" just to make it popular, to make it sell - this has to be damaging in the long run in the search for original new theatre.

I think that the biggest problem is the hit and miss attitude of the fringe. What you see may be fab, but could just be shite. General members of the public are not prepared to take that risk for the price of an average ticket.



Ben

books



Cool Classics and Books You Should Have Read

The Buddha of Suburbia, Hanif Kureishi

Let me introduce you to Karim Amir, an Englishman. He is, however, in his own words 'a funny kind of Englishman, a new breed... having emerged from two old histories' - those two histories being English and Indian.

We first meet Karim at the end of his education, when he is tired of school, tired of the suburbs and tired of all the images imposed on him by other people. He is sure that as soon as he leaves school, grows up and finds a vocation things will be okay. But as Karim finally realises, adults are only people too.

This is a wonderfully written book - satirical and anarchic but still genuine. Karim's bemusement at the antics of those around him are well conveyed by use of the first person. The book is more than just a social comment. We can all empathise with Karim as he crosses the rocky boundary between child and adult and comes to terms with what he discovers on the other side. Karim is also a good candidate to tell us about the lives of those around him because Karim is a drifter - with no real purpose in his own life he avidly follows the lives of others, gets swept up in them and then dropped again. As the world around him changes from the slow, hippy seventies to the fast-paced, materialistic eighties Karim centres on his own family and friends and the ways in which they overcome obstacles to fulfil their dreams, and in some cases find love.

Kureishi has written many books, plays and films centring on life in suburbia and race relations in England. His first, *My Beautiful Laundrette*, received an Oscar nomination in 1984 for best screenplay. *The Buddha of Suburbia* has been translated into 20 languages and won the Whitbread prize for best novel. It was also made into a four-part drama series by the BBC in 1993.

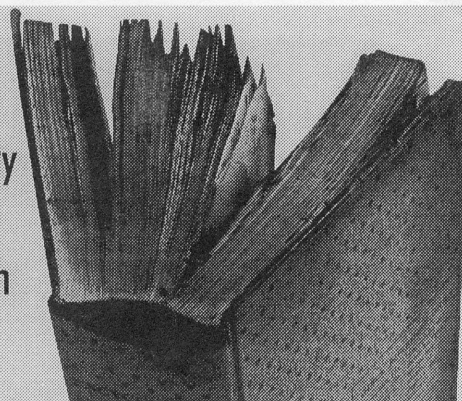


Katherine

Join a first rate section, for a first rate future.

A fast paced environment where you can have the opportunity to determine your own future. A place where highly motivated individuals get ahead. A group oriented team effort to tell the world about books. The Books section at Felix, where all of your reading dreams come true, and you get free books. To join this world beating team, email rc97@ic.ac.uk or stop by the Felix office at 12:00pm on Thursdays.

Helen's Literary Events in and around London



TUESDAY 30TH

- Waterstone's, 12 Wimbledon Bridge, Wimbledon 9:00 - 17:00
20% off all Christmas price promotion catalogue titles.
Free, 0181 543 9899, Tube: Wimbledon
- DAVID HARE Waterstone's, 68 - 69 Hampstead High St, NW3 19:00
An evening with one of the greatest playwrights of our time, reading from 'Acting up' - his diary of the production of 'Via Dolorosa'
£3, 0171 794 1098, Tube: Hampstead
- 'WAR!' Voice Box, Royal Festival Hall, South Bank 19:30
Authors Giles Foden and Thomas Pakenham discuss their respective approaches to writing about the Boer War
£5, students £3, 0171 960 4242, Tube: Waterloo
- VOICES FROM GREECE Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank 19:45
An evening of contemporary Greek poetry and music with author Louis de Bernieres and friends.
£10 or £8, students £2 off, 0171 960 4242, Tube: Waterloo

THURSDAY 2ND

- RICHARD COCKERILL Waterstone's, 1 Whittington Ave, 12:30 - 13:30
The World Cup rugby player will be signing copies of his new book
Free, 0171 220 7882, Tube: Bank or Monument
- ANDY COLE Waterstone's 19 - 23 Oxford Street 17:30 - 18:30
Join the rap star, cultural icon and England footballer, who will be signing his new autobiography
Free, 0171 851 2400, Tube: Tottenham Ct Rd or Oxford Circus

EVENT OF THE WEEK

- Waterstone's 203 - 206 Piccadilly 17:00 - Close
An evening of drinks, music and affordable prices with 15% off the original price of every book in store. Not to be missed.
Free, 0171 851 2400, Tube: Piccadilly Circus

SATURDAY 4TH

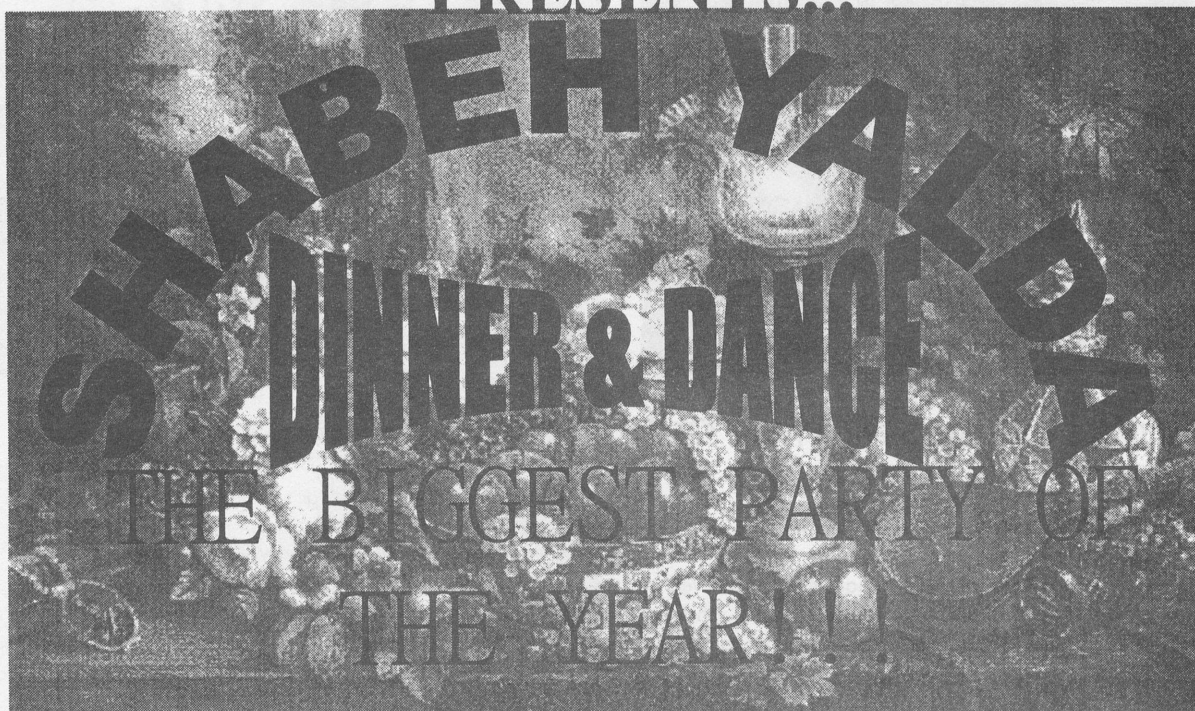
- MICHAEL PALIN Waterstone's, 193 High St Ken 12:30 - 13:30
The globetrotter will be signing copies of his Hemmingway Adventure.
Free, 0171 937 8432, Tube: High St Kensington

LIVE MUSIC

**IMPERIAL COLLEGE
IRANIAN SOC**

DISCO

PRESENTS...



•**DATE :** *Sunday, 5th December 99*

•**PLACE:** *SCR, IMPERIAL COLLEGE,
SOUTH KENSINGTON*

•**TIME:** *5:00 PM to 11:30 PM*

•**TICKETS:** *£5 MEMBERS, £6 STUDENTS,
£8 OTHERS*

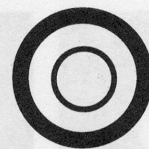
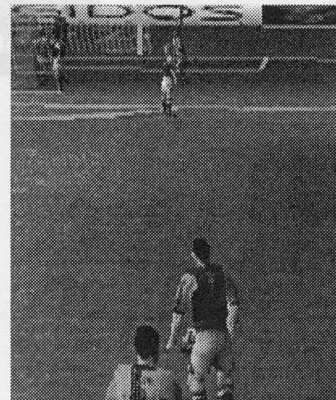
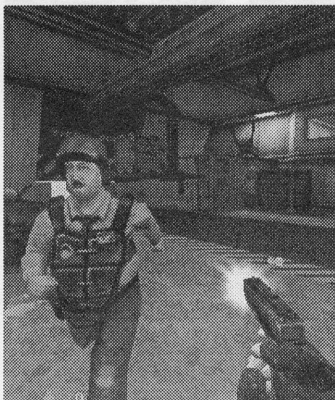
PERSIAN CUISINE

**EVERYBODY
WELCOME!!!**

NIBBLES & NUTS

Info; m.shaeri@ic.ac.uk, m.r.chapman@ic.ac.uk

In association with

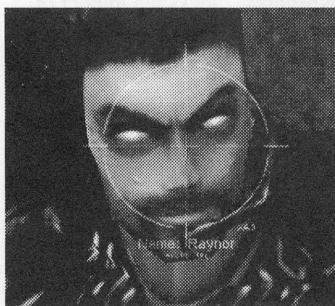
gameswire.com
A WHOLE NEW WORLD**react**

Games News: Long Awaited Releases

Only a small games section this week, but as the pre-Christmas games rush heats up the next few weeks will see loads of eagerly awaited titles finally hitting the shelves. My favourite has to be *Half Life: Opposing Force*. An official add on pack for my (and pretty much every one else's) favourite PC game, *Half Life*. Never before has an expansion pack for a game been the subject of so much expectation. From the previews it looks amazing and I can't wait to get my hands on it.

Also out this week is *Unreal Tournament*. With loads of hectic multiplayer combat options and excellent Bots to fight if no humans will play with you, this looks like being a strong competitor with *Quake 3* for the First Person Shooter crown.

And finally, can I just say that after playing *Rogue Spear* multiplayer pretty much continuously since our review of it was published, its official Felix rating has gone up to a phenomenal five out of five - any serious PC gamer must buy *Rogue Spear* now!



Jet Force Gemini (N64)

If you've got a little too much time on your hands this game will more than adequately fill this passage and then some. A beautiful smooth creation, *Jet Force Gemini* introduces you to a futuristic fantasy world where *Starship Troopers* meet *Star Wars* with a hint of cult.

You control two skiing clothed characters (and a dog) around more levels than I'd care to imagine, trying to blow apart giant pistol packing ants whilst rescuing Tribals (furry little Ewok type creatures).

Jumping, bobbing, shooting stuff down and generally kicking ass to moody little backbeats, this game takes a while to master but once done the controls are like second nature. The firing is auto-aiming if pointing in the direction of villainous scum, and you can pick off annoying snipers with a targeting facility.

With a range of multi-talented teammates to find and use it is possible to tag-team it through the different levels using each character's special ability. The wide range of exotic weaponry, cheats, new levels and hidden stuff (apart from the absolutely massive worlds - only rivalled by *Zelda* for sheer size) ensures that there is enough to keep even the console hardened nutcase happy.

A nice feature is the added intelligence of the nasty bad boys who can be seen hiding behind cover before shooting your ass. It makes their final disintegration into fly covered body parts all the more fun.

So, aside from the gusset wetting graphics, atmospheric music and crotch hardening size, how does it compare to the master (*Goldeneye*)? Favourably in my opinion. Once the controls are mastered this stands as a ripping little gem.

The multiplayer option is a little weak, and has a last minute rush-job feeling about it. The control system makes it hard to handle the character when up close and personal. More interesting than multiplayer is the 'cooperative' mode. During the one player game, you can put together a robot named Floyd. When Floyd is complete, a second player can control Floyd and help out in the main game. Very cool. To complete the game, however, all the Tribals must be located which can become a little tiresome.

These problems will stop *JFG* progressing to cult status, however nobody would feel hard done by if they spent their hard-earned cash on this little beauty. In fact (after *Goldeneye* and *Zelda*) this should be a must for any self-respecting N64 owner.



World League Soccer 2000 (N64)

It was only a matter of time before the wunderkind Michael Owen released a football game. Wee Mike is fronting *World League Soccer 2000* on the N64. The game has a full selection of international and club players from the world's premier squads. It also has a variety of games from exhibition matches to league and cup games. I'm not really into football games, but what made this one stand out was its high quality of gameplay and the ease of control. The thing that stopped me playing football games was that the gameplay was frustrating and you couldn't pass the ball where you intended. *WLS 2000* changes all that. The game is very fluid and easy to get into. You don't have to fiddle about with any complicated controls; pulling off a bicycle kick couldn't be easier.

In addition to the slick gameplay, *WLS 2000* contains some brilliant footballing venues with sumptuous stadiums complete with cheering crowd, billboards and big screen TVs. The graphics are top-notch, which just adds to the game's playability. The players are solid and chunky, but have surprisingly fluid and realistic movements. The sound is quite good too but the commentators get a bit annoying (too realistic).

To sum up, *WLS 2000* is a highly playable and enjoyable football game. Well done fellas!



Chris

Mark

FELIX

S

Monday

E

Tuesday

V

Wednesday

E

Thursday

N

Friday

EVENTS

STA Quiz Night

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

Excess

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

Cocktail Night

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

Live Jazz

The College's very own big band gear up to entertain. 8pm, dB's

Shaft

'70's disco, 80's pop, 90's trash.' Cheese-tastic

Tha' Bomb

IC's most in demand DJ manages to squeeze ICU into his schedule. 10pm, UDH

CLUBS

Archery

6-10pm, Projectile Hall (Sports Centre)

Canoe Club

Practice session, 7pm

IQ

Safer Sex meeting, 7.30pm, Brown Committee Room (Union building)

CAG

Soup run, 8.15pm

Shooting

1-10pm, Projectile Hall (Sports Centre)

CAG

Soup run, 8.15pm Week's Basement

ICU Choir

Rehearsal, 6.15pm Room 342, Mech Eng.

RAG Meeting

1.00pm

Astrosoc

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

Music

THIS! @ Bar Rhumba; £4

Ben Wilcox, Giles Peterson and Alex play a diverse set for a diverse crowd.

Plexiq @ Camden Palace; £5

German electronic rock act play Feet First, an established indie night.

Basement Jaxx @ Forum; £12.50

The dance duo put on a superb live show with a party atmosphere.

David Bowie @ Astoria; £20

You'd have thought that he was getting a bit old to be doing things like this...

Film

The World is Not Enough

What do you mean you've never heard of James Bond? Virgin Fulham Rd. 3.40, 6.30, 9.20

Ratcatcher

Hailed as the best British film of 1999. Worth a look.

Virgin Fulham Rd. 1.30, 4.00, 7.00

The Astromaut's Wife

A horror-turned-thriller with Johnny Depp and Charlize Theron. Plaza 4.00, 6.30, 9.00

Following

This thought provoking, low budget debut has attracted much acclaim. ABC Swiss Centre 6.45

East is East

Another British film! This time it's a popular seventies set family comedy. Odeon Kensington 4.10, 6.30, 8.50

TV

Farscape

BBC2, 6.20pm New sci-fi series from the Jim Henson stable. See review on page 22.

Due South

BBC2, 6.25pm It's an eternal shame that this brilliant series never took off...

Royal Opera House Opening

BBC2, 8.00pm Your money paid for the damn thing - so take an interest.

ER

Sky One, 10.00pm It's Christmas, so expect a few miracles mixed into the usual mayhem.

Friends

C4, 9.00pm The series final is a double episode that lacks the impact of previous years.

Arts

Ken Adams

The guy who developed many of the James Bond sets (and Chitty Chitty Bang Bang) Serpentine Gallery

Nirvana

A photographic retrospective of Nirvana - It's Lush go see it. Now Open.

Proud Galleries

Mnemonic

Devised and performed by the fantastic Theatre de complice.

Riverside studios

Comic Potential

A depressing prediction for the future by Ayckbourn.

Lyric Shaftesbury

Amazons of the Avant-Garde

There original and ahead of their time. Amazing.

Royal Academy

D

Saturday

A

Sunday

Y

Next Week

Southside pub quiz

The quiz for regulars and newcomers alike continues today. 7pm Southside bar

Christmas Carnival

Three floors of Bond themed entertainment heading your way on the 17th December - tickets on sale soon.

Kung Fu Club

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

Kung Fu Club

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

Jamiroquai @ Shepherd Bush Empire; £25/£20

Tickets are still available but make sure you book soon.

Ian Brown @ Brixton Academy; £13.50; 7th Dec

Our reviewer liked his album - will his live set shape up?

Taxi

Written and produced by Luc Besson this should be more impressive. Odeon Kensington 4.20, 6.40, 9.00

Dreaming of Josph Lees

Good performances aside this melodrama looks pretty boring. Odeon Swiss Cottage 4.15, 6.30, 8.50

Brokedown Palace

Claire Danes and Kate Beckensdale team up in a harrowing tale of the Thai drugs trade and judicial system.

Blind Date

ITV, 7.10pm Appallingly bad, yet once you've been sucked in you can't escape. Must see TV.

Football

Sky Sports 1, 3.00pm After weeks of non-event matches, Sky hit back with some crucial ties.

Jane Eyre


Shared Experience present this adaption of the Classic.

New Ambassador.

Turner Prize

Dirty beds, photographic washing machines, films of empty buildings

Tate



Friday 3rd December Imperial College. South Kensington.

Fancy Dress (optional) prize for best dressed.

RnB, Swing, Hip-hop, House, Garage

From 8pm. till late

£4 (£3 with this ad.)

Phone: 07977 851 480
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Applications are invited for the position of

Subwarden

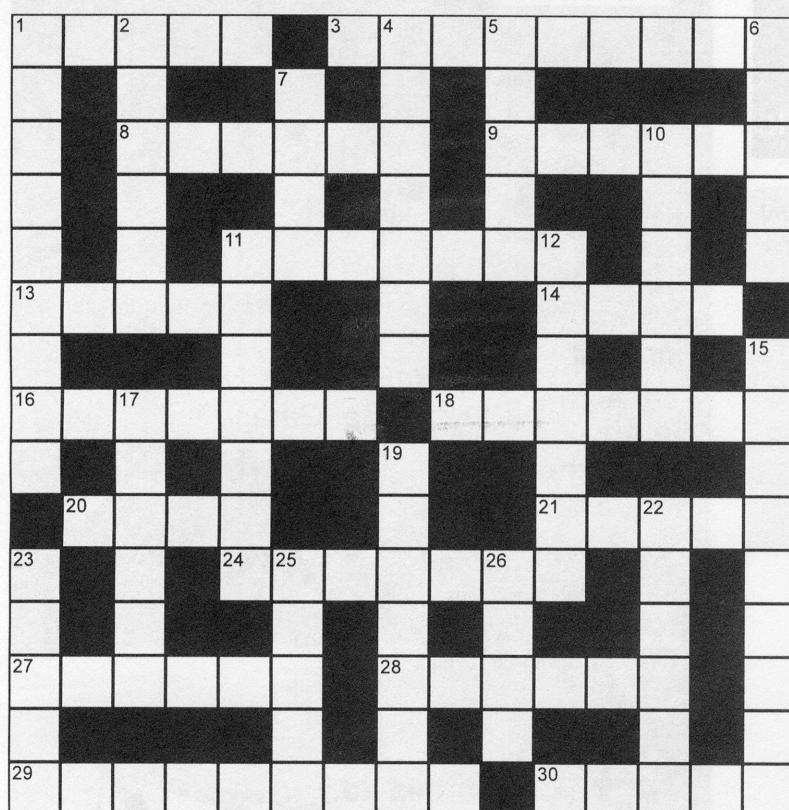
in

Fisher Hall

We are looking for a friendly, resourceful and responsible individual to assist the Warden in the day to day running of the Hall, in return for rent-free accommodation suitable for a single person.

Application forms are available from the Student Accommodation Office, 15 Prince's Gardens and should be returned to Dr R J Murphy, Dept of Biology, by 5pm on Friday 3 December

The Felix Crossword, by Turnip Henry



Across

1. Excavate computer with finger. (5)
3. Get new name from dumpy ones. (9)
8. Unable to rearrange stars. (6)
9. Imperial salad. (6)
11. Speak rhythmically, at dock, of an understanding. (7)
13. Aunt or son has body. (5)
14. Get excited about dance. (4)
16. Dupe Birmingham arena before tea, to join. (7)
18. The opposite in stanza. (7)
20. Flightless fruit. (4)
21. Alistair, in the way that an alter-ego is. (5)
24. Important to dig up oval pit. (7)
27. Spoilt ruined gun. (6)
28. Possibly evil vodka. (6)
29. Gasp! Oh, silent acting for silly play. (9)
30. In my eyes, a class member. (5)

Down

1. Percussive picnic essential. (9)
2. Spirit short German drinks with root vegetable. (6)
4. Person who gets about hitting people. (7)
5. Cruel, disfigured, open sore. (5)
6. Stopwatch is broken: Well done. (5)
7. Fish pitcha'. (4)
10. Second rate metal. (6)
11. Grows from broken shoe in rip. (7)
12. Unimportant pursuit. (7)
15. Saint of sport, Alfred, has blokes on top at that time of the month. (9)
17. Sounds I get in sensory organ. (6)
19. To grow the Nazi secret police, infiltrate flower. (7)
22. Part of the foot that walks together. (6)
23. Spinner is out of bed for more drink. (3-2)
25. Religion relocates Liam around the South. (5)
26. Corrosive drug. (4)

WIN THEATRE TICKETS

Return your completed copy of this crossword to the Felix Office before the end of the week to be in with a chance of winning a pair of tickets to DramSoc's groundbreaking production of *Dirk*, based on *Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency* by Douglas Adams. The spectacular performance will be the world's first independent showing of this technically demanding play, so pencil the 8-11 December into your diary now (tickets will be available from the Union Office very, very soon). The closing date for entries to the competition is noon on Friday, so don't hang around.

Answers to 1158:

Across: Cast, Psalm, Itself, Cupid, Rupee, Amanda, Needle, Nurse, Ranting, Chair, Tasteless, Godfather, Regal, Embrace, Anger, Sundae, Orchid, Orbit, Image, Nylons, Perch, Tyke.

Down: Apple, Tidal, Terminate, Sprang, Leper, Scant, Fungi, Fete, Dwarfs, Erratum, Sensor, Nettles, Chopin, Flagon, Armadillo, Erotic, Bacon, Sewer, Atom, Gable, U.M.I.S.T., Drank.

Funmail says have a beer on us.co.uk!

Funmail, the free web based email service offering a selection of over 8000 domain names (the bit after the @) to use as an email address, challenges you to dream up weird and wacky alcohol inspired domain names and get plastered as your reward for doing so!

The best domain will be added to the existing Funmail service - check it out at www.funmail.co.uk - so that everyone can benefit from your creativity, and the winning creator will receive a crate of beer with our e-thanks.

Funmail already offers you great addresses for when you're drunk from you@mashed.co.uk, you@pisshead.co.uk to

you@out-of-it.co.uk, but want some more because, for some strange reason, university students seem to be quite taken by them!

Send as many ideas for 'drunken' domain names as you want to felix@ic.ac.uk, or drop your suggestions into the Felix Office (in the portacabins by the back of Physics, hidden behind the liquid nitrogen tank).

The winner will be the person who comes up with the most inventive domain name, as chosen from the entries received by our Funmail panel. The prize is a crate of beer and the honour of having your domain name added to Funmail's list.

And while you're about it, go to www.funmail.co.uk and sign up now. Funmail offers domain names to use as email addresses covering every mood, event and occasion. Email just got more fun.

The Rules:

- 1.) The judge's decision is final
- 2.) The prize cannot be substituted
- 3.) Multiple entries are perfectly acceptable
- 4.) Only registered students and staff of Imperial College may enter the contest
- 5.) Felix staff cannot win. (No, really)
- 6.) No cheating (please)



funmail



BUNAC

MATT BAILEY

Fancy going abroad with little more than £400 in your pocket? Sounds too good to be true?

Well that's exactly what I did this summer. I went to the US of A; my flights and my first nights accommodation in New York were paid for, and I had the summer of my life. I achieved this feat by booking myself on a BUNAC summer camp programme. BUNAC, in case you've never heard of them, arrange working holidays for students and young people to places like America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and a selection of developing countries. You can either choose to find a job in one of these places, or work on one of the summer camps in America - BUNAC simply provide the opportunity for you to go, by organising your working visa as well as helping you to get out there. I thought a summer spent in a foreign country acting in a counsellor role with kids would be a good idea, so I decided to become a special needs counsellor on a summer camp in New York.

After an informal interview I had to wait for what seem like ages to find out if I had got a place at camp. Eventually I found out that I was successful and where I would be going. The feeling of elation that I experienced was soon followed by trepidation, as I realised exactly what I had signed myself up for - ie up to three and a half months in a foreign country with people I had never met. Once I had got to the airport, however, and met other people going to camp, those feelings quickly subsided. On the plane everyone was chatting, asking people where they were going and what they were doing, and imbibing large quantities of free alcohol. After staggering through passport control, piling onto the 'BUNAC bus' to the free accommodation they had provided in New York, we all spent a night exploring one of the most

vibrant cities in the world.

After a good day in New York it was off to camp with one of the counsellors to be working on the camp with me. I arrived to find that I was to spend my time looking after the teenage boys. At the beginning of camp I took the kids around to all of the activities. The funniest thing I remember saying, to my teenage boys, was "right guys, its time for sewing". The work was really challenging, as I had to make sure all the kids were receiving enough attention, all the time, but it was also very rewarding especially when the kids would thank you or say "Matt I'm so happy". Of course, there were rare times when you wished the kids weren't there, but these rare moments were outweighed by the good times. The American kids didn't turn out to be as bratty as the ones portrayed in American sitcoms and I managed to establish a really good relationship with all of them.

After two months at camp, I couldn't wait to go travelling. A friend and I decided to go around the East Coast by train. In two weeks of travel we managed to enjoy the delights of New York, visit Bill Clinton's house in Washington DC, visit New Orleans, say hello to Elvis in Memphis and then go whitewater rafting in Pittsburgh, before returning just slightly tired to New York.

All in all, I have never had such a good summer and met so many different and interesting people. If you want to do the same it is incredibly easy to do, so don't wait! Contact Katie Smith or me for more info; if you want to go you won't regret your decision. So many people nearly go, but never motivate themselves enough to get there.

What are you waiting for? Sign up now for the summer of your life!

Contact Katherine or Mark
katherine.smith@ic.ac.uk
matthew.j.bailey@ic.ac.uk



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Outdoor Club

NIGEL THACKER

Two weeks ago, Imperial College Canoe Club went off to North Wales in search of some rivers and a bit of fun. Here's what we found....

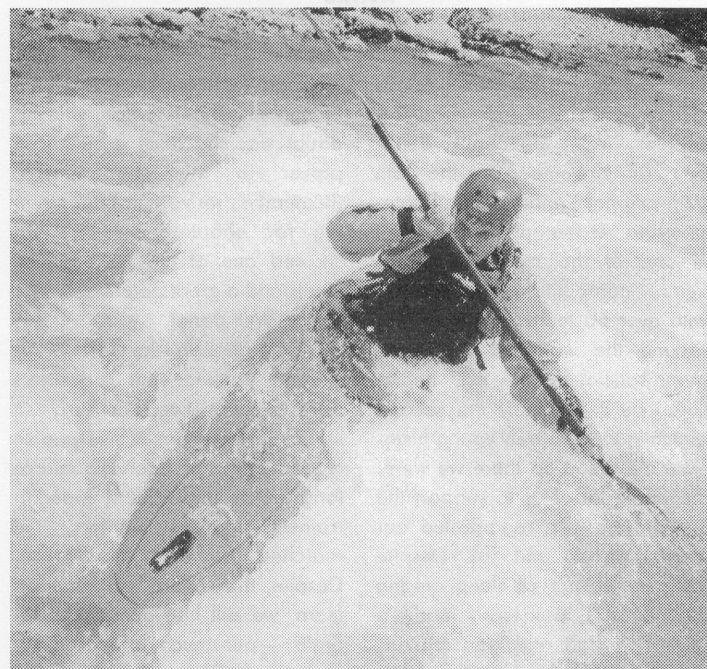
Following a tour round most of West London looking for the White-water Canoe Centre, where Garth, Hicksy, and I hoped to buy our new kit we rocked up as they were shutting. Still, with £1550 in hand they decided to stay open for a while, and soon after we were walking out with some spanky new kit for Louise to trash. The drive back was made more enjoyable as "Window-Garth", whilst sitting in a traffic jam, went to throw his head out the window to check for stray pedestrians, without remembering to check if the window was open first!

Back at the stores, things had been efficiently sorted, and with the addition of our two new boats we were off. Arriving in the hut, the group became more lively with everyone having a laugh, not least when it emerged that Klaus and Simon had forgotten their sleeping bags! Introductions to the large Irish contingent drafted in by Carl, a few beers and an Irish song or two later, we were off to bed.

Off to the Aber Glaswyn river, due largely to few other options (although a clear club favourite for trips anyway). Group confidence was

bolstered somewhat by the slow scrapy upper section leading to a kamikaze run on the Gorge by almost everyone present. To no one's surprise carnage followed, and viewing the whole affair from the Breaker (at the bottom) I could normally glance up to see three or four boats pinned at various points. Oh, and a nutter (Ross) leaping from rock to rock fending off flailing kayaks and collecting various kit. Louise was doing well until she went for the old Hicksy excuse as she tried to break (fairly successfully) her paddle. The new curvature must have confused the poor girl, who soon swam. Other spectacular pins were by Klaus actually on the breaker, and Paula in a pretty vertical position a little further up. A good fun way to finish the day's paddling.

Chile in the hut (best yet?) then off up to the pub for some drinks. A perhaps-too-late attempt to get some en-masse drinking games going failed abysmally, due either to my slurred organisation powers at the time, or the apparent ineptitude amongst us (I suspect a bit of both). A sober rehearsal of some basic games before the next trip should perhaps replace a future pool session... Still, drinking continued well into the night, even without the impetus of drinking games. A sober driver to take us back proved novel (we normally walk, not drink and drive). One more thing remained before we could go to bed



- the initiation ladder back in the hut, with valiant efforts by almost everyone, despite Garth showing his age (and hideous gut) as he struggled for some time. I think a few girls even made it up.

A late awakening on Sunday and we were off to paddle the Flygwy. Probably the most excitement for the group was the sight of Hicksy scraping and bouncing down the Miners Falls, taking drops in various positions of forwards, backwards, upright, and not-upright. Then a good scrape down the remainder of it for us, tak-

ing the odd opportunity for a swim to relieve the adrenaline.

By five o'clock we had all eaten lots, had a good weekend's paddling and were in the bus heading back. A fantastic first trip, so thanks to everyone who came.

To join the Canoe Club email us (see below) or join us at the Big Blue Shack on the walkway at 7pm on Tuesdays for Canoe Polo.

Contact Nigel
slappers@ic.ac.uk

Amnesty International

PATRICK BRANNAC

Richard Reoch, a long time Amnesty International member and human rights activist, recently visited Imperial College to give a lecture entitled 'Human Rights: is the world getting better or worse?' In attempting to answer this question he pointed to the thousands of years of recorded history where heads of state traditionally enjoyed absolute power with accountability to no one. This has conventionally led to brutal human rights violations such as torture. He questioned the common held stereotype of torture as something that happened only in the dark and dis-

tant past, such as that depicted in museums such as Madam Tussaud's. He referred to a recent event of torture where a man was detained and tortured by the Turkish authorities using electrodes attached to his genitals and toes. Torture, he said, has not stopped with 'civilisation'; today's technology can be perverted to exact a level of physical pain surpassing all previous efforts.

Despite such a pessimistic background, he showed a picture that he says could epitomise a new way of government. The slide was of a massacre in Khana, Lebanon, where the slain refugees were covered in blankets whilst unarmed soldiers wearing

the internationally recognisable blue of the UN stood over them. That international teams of soldiers are now called in to investigate these kinds of incidents is, he said, a bold new step out of the age where absolute power could not be held accountable for its actions. The trial of General Pinochet has shown that further steps away from this age (covering most of recorded history) are being made. He concluded that the UN, Amnesty International and other organisations, can together allow for an optimistic future where the world really is getting better. Whether this recent emphasis on human rights becomes just a histori-

cal blip in an otherwise bleak timeline, or the foundations upon which this better world will be based relies on the actions and involvement of individuals who are prepared to work for the latter.

If you would like to join Amnesty International at Imperial College, or would just like more information, contact Alan (see below), or come along to our next meeting, this Monday (5th Dec.) at 1pm in the Brown Committee Room (top floor of the Union). It's time to get off the fence.

Contact Alan
alan.cheng@ic.ac.uk

Biannual report time

Kendo

It's been six months since we reported to you on our glorious victory at the University Championships. Well, we're back. Saturday 20th November saw the 26th International Kendo Clubs Championship. As the name suggests, it is one of the most prestigious kendo competitions in Europe, with over 60 teams entering from around the world. It was even more special for the ICU Kendo Club, as it was only the second match in the relatively young history of the team. So there we were, the whole lot of us to support the two players who represented our team: Koichiro and Tak. Despite the general lack of sleep among all members, our team made a promising start and won the first two matches, but eventually we lost to the championship winners (final score 2-3). Our guys put up a real fight, for which they were credited with comments that their match

was just as, in not more, entertaining than the final! A special round of applause goes to Tak, who no doubt was the least experienced player in the championship (Remember, we've only been training for about 5 months) but showed one of the best fighting spirits and a great potential for the future. Well done!

Even though the rest of us weren't fighting, the organisers were sure to keep us busy. In kendo, a minimum of five people is required to run each two minute long match, and without Imperial-trained rigorous workers, the matches couldn't have run. Despite the defeat of our own team, we still had things to celebrate – our much loved teacher and coach, Emiko, won the ladies individual event. Last but definitely not least, a very special thanks to Mr Mabuchi for representing us as part of the Imperial squad.

Women finish top

Volleyball

It is now official! Imperial College Volleyball Club has the best Women's team in London! Our superb players beat UCL 3-1 last week and thereby clinched top place in the BUSA London competition.

And what a superb match it was! After loosing the first set, due to a succession of unforced errors which saw the opposition build-up a lead of 15 points, IC came back and clinched 3 sets in a row to win the match. But there was tension all the way through – it wasn't easy, believe me! The 2nd and 4th sets were incredibly close, since in both of them the teams were levelled at 23-23, two points before the end!

So, nail-biting stuff as usual, but Imperial's women showed

their characteristic grit and winning spirit that enabled them to finish on top. Everybody played well, but special mention has to be given to Janice, since it was her attacking serve in the first set that provided the clue to what the tactics in the following sets should be (nice lesson to the coach...) Cheers too to the brave captain, Sandrine, who cleverly asked for a substitution near the closure of the match so that she could rest for a couple of minutes, and then came back onto the field to win the match with a serious of deciding blocks and a fantastic last serve. And what about the attacking and digging skills showed by Courtney, Lucia and Raphaëlle! Wow! That's all I have to say!

Think your team rocks?
Then tell us about it!

IC boys aren't easy

Ultimate Frisbee

The weekend of the 20th and 21st November saw the Student Indoor Ultimate Qualifiers for the South-east region held at Sussex University. The majority of the Imperial crew descended to Brighton at some ungodly hour on Saturday morning, to be there for the 9.30 start. The first three matches would be from within a pool of four teams, and the top two in each pool going then went into the quarter final playoffs (with the winners of the playoffs guaranteed a place in the national student indoor finals).

Our first match was against Kings (aka NoneOfTheAbove), from which much groaning was received, considering the rivalry between the two London teams. After yelling our newly adopted motto "There's no I in TEAM!" we went onto the pitch to kick some royal butt. The first three points went Kings way. However, the DiscDoctors kept their heads high and proceeded to get several

points on the trot, and Fukwit calmed down after his first drop to prove that he was a damn fine injury substitute. Towards the end, Kings snatched one last point, but we finally won 6-4. After our "warm up game" we then had to face Sub Patriots 3 (aka Portsmouth or PDQ). The drubbing of Portsmouth involved lots of experimental set plays, so the match was a little scrappy, but nice cuts and passes from Big Gay and Jesus helped us finish 11-3. The final lambs sent to the slaughter within our pool were Mohawks 2 (aka Brighton). The game was very experimental once again, but with Diva running round like a rabbit on fire and Spirit exhibiting his very solid play, we managed to wallop them 10-3. Time for the Quarterfinals.

We were now against Skunks 2 (Southampton) and word of mouth was flying round that "Imperial were crap" and "Skunks 2 should easily win". Fatal last

words, I'm afraid. IC stopped experimenting and played in our normal crushing manner. The well oiled combination of Worship Me and Waterboy flattened Skunks 2 faster than "Mind that bus", "What bus?", "Splat!". We qualified for the finals after dicking on Skunks 2 13-3.

That was the end of the first days indoor play, and the charity match followed outdoors – in the rain where it was cold and wet, with Jesus, Diva and Worship Me playing from Imperial's DiscDoctors.

Sunday – Semi finals and onwards day. As we were in the top 4, we didn't have to start until the afternoon, so we all got a lay in (lovely). We faced Strange Blue (aka Cambridge) in the semi-finals, and yet again, the opposition thought that they had the easy tie of the round. Whoops. It was a tight fought game, which had "Blue" fighting for their life to stay in the lead for all of the match. In

the last three minutes of the game, IC scored two points to level the scores and force sudden death extra-time. Unfortunately "Blue" got the last point to finish 7-6 up, but we proved that its hard to beat IC.

Our final match was against Mohawks 1, who also had a tight semi-final game. Yet again we had a hard fought match, but Astrofuk proved that he was more than a pretty face with a defence that was not only tighter than a ducks butt, but also distracted the opposition quite admirably. Yet again, we hit sudden death (this time they managed to get the draw), which we won to finish 9-8 up and in third place (thus matching our original seeding).

Special commendations need to go to Diva for his impersonations of a Nutcracker ballerina and a monkey for some of the after match calls, and also to the oral skills of Mrs Worship Me (well, he looked happy).

Fifths in 12 goal thriller

Football

IC V 6
Goldsmiths IV 6

After last weeks outstanding performance against the medics to take us joint top in the division, IC V's were in confident mood, intent on keeping the run of wins going to move clear of the pack.

But Goldies had different ideas, and they brought a team of mouthy big ba****s, who spent the whole game shouting abuse at us and the ref. They could play a bit too, unfortunately, and after a first half in which we had our butts kicked, we were 4-0 down at the break, with our defence and midfield having no answer to the Goldies power.

But the IC V's never say die, and we got stuck in straight away in the second half, the game suddenly looking more even. Then, on about 55 mins, a free kick was awarded about 30 yards out. On advice from the captain, JP stepped up and had a crack, which sailed unstopably into the net, off the underside of the cross-bar (practically taking their keeper with it). 4-1. The muted celebrations showed we were still well adrift in the game, but we suddenly

kicked into gear, our attacking play stemming from MOM performances from Tom W and JP in midfield, with Rich and Tiger putting in tireless work out wide, and the front two of Tom L and Vinc showing they had the beating of Goldies back line. A second goal arrived from the boot of Tom W, a great shot from the edge of the area. We sensed there was a way back, and scored a third from Spaceman, before JP decided that one 30 yard screamer was not enough for the day, and thumped in another fantastic goal for 4-4. A cool finish from Spaceman when one on one with the keeper after a great through ball from Tom put us into the lead, and when Vinc placed a brilliant far post header back across the goal and in, it was 6-4, and we had come from the dead with six unanswered goals.

Sadly, the effort we had put in began to tell, and with 10 minutes still to go a hopeful Goldies shot flew into the top corner to make the last moments of the game all too close. With only seconds to go, a cross from the left came over, eluding our defence, and the header looped in to make it 6-6. Shit.

Sevenths victorious again

Football

IC VII more
RVC less

After last weeks thrashing of the Pharmacists, we arrived at this match looking for another team to destroy. We arrived slightly late thanks to some inept coach driving, but we still got there.

Despite the gloomy conditions, spirits were high. Unfortunately, we were playing into the wind in the first half and RVC made full use of this, putting pressure on our defence right from the start. Eventually the break that RVC had deserved came from a corner when they exploited our lack of height to get a head towards goal, beating the otherwise superb keeper all ends up - fortunately man-of-the-match Andy Smith was there to head it away. Unfortunately it dropped straight to one their players who calmly put it in the back of the net. After a while we picked ourselves up, and with the weather brightening we pressed forward, with Marcus finally putting the ball in the net, after Mark squared him right on the stroke of half time. The debate still rages over whether it

was intentional or Mark missed yet another blatant opportunity.

Lifted by the goal and an inspirational team talk by the guv'nor, IC pressed forward in the second half, finally getting into the lead when a corner from Leacho managed to work its way to Matt, who placed it clinically into the back of the net (well that's how he tells it anyway). Pressing forward as we were, we soon discovered the match wasn't over as RVC broke several times, at one point aided by Barney (the team alcoholic) who aimed to clear the ball but managed to make contact with nothing but air, letting their striker clean through on goal. Fortunately, Caprano was on hand to make a match winning challenge. The only other point worth mentioning was when Andy Smith, obviously bored with playing defence, tried to score from about thirty yards out. Longley collected the ball on the left touch-line - nice try Andy but better stick to defence. A pretty good performance by the team as a whole and another win to chalk up. We're starting our run - watch out Gold's, here we come.

Ladies edged out by UCL

Ladies Basketball

UCL 46
IC 44

The game started well, since UCL did not use the full court press right away (as we had feared before the game), and we managed to stick to their score and occasionally even move ahead by a few points.

At the end of the first half, UCL was ahead by 4 points. But tiredness in the middle of the second half made us make some mistakes, while our opponents were still sharp and stole a couple of balls, putting us down by as much as 12 points. After a time-out to re-adjust our positions, we did a few nice actions that brought us back to within just two points with 15 seconds

remaining on the clock. Unfortunately, we did not manage that last basket...

But cheer up everyone! This results shows again the high potential of this year's team. Indeed, King's College, the only team who beat us before this game, lost by more than 10 points against UCL, scoring only 25. (We will see how much we improved, since we should play them next week).

Moreover, we really deserved the victory and we will have it next time we meet UCL (maybe some improvement on free-throws will help?).

Hopefully, the second game of this week against RUMS (new-comers to the league) should be easier...

Netball slay St. George's

Netball

IC I 40
St George's II 26

Our first league match of the season started with a convincing win and a fantastic match. Having drawn 17-17 with St. George's first team a few weeks ago in the BUSA league, we were determined to put in a good effort - and we did not disappoint.

Jess played an absolute blinder, taking on nearly every St. George's player and intercepting passes that went anywhere near her. The St. George's players got annoyed. We loved it!

Shirley (the legend that is) also had a storming game, zipping around the circle and shooting some serious hoops. A medal goes to Sarah, our other shooter, for her

patience and restraint in not decking the St. George's keeper at numerous points during the match when the marking got particularly "tight". The physical tension in the circle became apparent in the third quarter when the bolt fixing the net and ring to the netball post became dislodged and the hoop slipped a good foot down the pole. No matter, Shirley still scored. As ever, Paula whipped the passes into the circle, and later Jane, Kirstie, Ruth and of course the ever present Jess fed the ball up from the defensive end. Partnering Rachel in the IC goal third was Kathryn, who put in a great performance in her debut for the firsts as keeper. So, a good start to the league - let's see if we can keep it going! Next week ICSM.

SPORT

Medics, defeated by Bart's, defeat IC

ICSM Hockey

ICSM I 1
IC I 0
(Man of the Match: Sanjay)

A frenetic local derby ended in a well earned victory for the Medics at Pad Rec. The game was played at a consistently high pace, and with no lack of skill. The Medics midfield did a thorough job of nullifying IC's creativity, with Fishpool and Boyce in particularly miserly form. At the back, the return of Sanjay brought a solidity missing from the previous week's display. In the first half IC started slowly, but showed their potential, especially down their left flank, and this earned them a number of short-corners. These were kept out by the Medics through a mixture of good skill and good fortune, with Peter particularly resilient in goal. It was a short corner at the other end though that brought the decisive goal. A mazy dribble by Keysell drew a foul from the IC defence, and Fishpool planted the penalty corner in-off the right hand post.

The second half saw the game spread as fatigue set in. IC won many more short corners, but the luck was just not with them, and countless strikes flew just wide of either post, much to the relief of the Medics. But with Meyer and Boyle holding the ball well up front, pressure was eased on the Medics rear-guard. The final 20 minutes saw desperate attacking from IC, which lacked width - thus playing into the capable central defensive partnership of Pappin and Sanjay.

This result sees both teams progress into the BUSA Cup as the top two teams in London. Watch this space for more national glory....?

Saturday 20th November

Bart's 1
ICSM I 0

The first poor performance of the season by ICSM saw them beaten by a weak Bart's side.

Despite a host of injuries, there was simply no adequate excuse for

such a lacklustre display from the hitherto league leaders. For the first 15 minutes of the game all seemed to be well, with ICSM creating chances and earning a penalty flick. However, when Keysell's flick was saved, the vigour drained from the Imperial Medics game. From then on all shape was lost, the passing went to pieces, and few more chances were created.

The Bart's goal just before half time was reflective of the malaise that had affected ICSM.

The opposition right wing picked up the ball deep in his own half, cut inside, and dribbled a good 50 yards unopposed, before finishing sweetly. A nightmare. The second half was even more dire, and it was only the poor quality of the SBLH attacking that saved ICSM more blushes. So the unbeaten record of ICSM came to an end in the most tepid manner. But with the return from injury of Boyce and Sanjay, the team will not only regain two class performers but also that all important shape.

St. Georges sent packing by seconds

Rugby - Sponsored by  ALTRAN

IC II 97
St Georges 5

After last weeks disappointing (but winning) performance, normal service was resumed. We apologise for any inconvenience caused. Another day, another bunch of medics for the IC meat grinder.

After 30 seconds of sustained pressure from the first whistle, IC 2nds scored the first of many tries. This was to set the tone for the rest of the match, with tries flowing

freely. It's getting a bit boring writing about tries, but needless to say the score at halftime was 37 - 0.

Then in the second half, IC awoke like a sleeping giant to club the opposition past the point of no return. With tries too numerous to count (the referee needed help in keeping score), IC streaked towards a century - if only we had a kicker who could kick. After blinding ourselves with our own brilliance, we lost sight of the opposition and allowed them to score

against the run of play, leaving the score at 85-5 with 2 minutes remaining. IC spirits were not dashed and the seconds dug deep to score two tries in as many minutes, leaving the final score at 97 - 5. There were hat tricks from Flo, Hut and Tim Collins, but GI Tim was notable for his absence from the score sheet and also deserves a mention for match report avoidance.

Dammit, I'm sick of beating medics the whole time!

SCOREBOARD

BADMINTON (Womens)
IC I 5 - 4 QMW

BASKETBALL (Mens)
IC I 56 - 70 UCL

BASKETBALL (Womens)
IC I 44 - 46 UCL

DARTS (Mixed)
IC 8 - 7 Holland Club
High score: 140 (Chris & Tim)
Check out: 91 (Cedric)

FOOTBALL (Mens)

- BUSA
IC I 2 - 4 LSE I
IC IV 0 - 2 QMW
- ULU & FRIENDLIES
IC I 1 - 3 Holloway I
IC II 6 - 4 Goldsmiths II
IC III 3 - 3 Kings IV
IC IV 3 - 7 QMW III
IC V 6 - 6 Goldsmiths IV
IC VI w/o RAM
IC VII more - less RVC

FOOTBALL (Womens)
IC I w/o

HOCKEY (Mens)
IC I 0 - 1 ICSM I
ICSM I 0 - 1 Bart's I

NETBALL (Womens)
IC I 40 - 26 George's

RUGBY (Mens)
IC I 90 - 0 George's I
IC II 97 - 5 George's II

RUGBY (Womens)
IC I 0 - 35 RVC

VOLLEYBALL (Womens)
IC I 3 - 1 UCL I