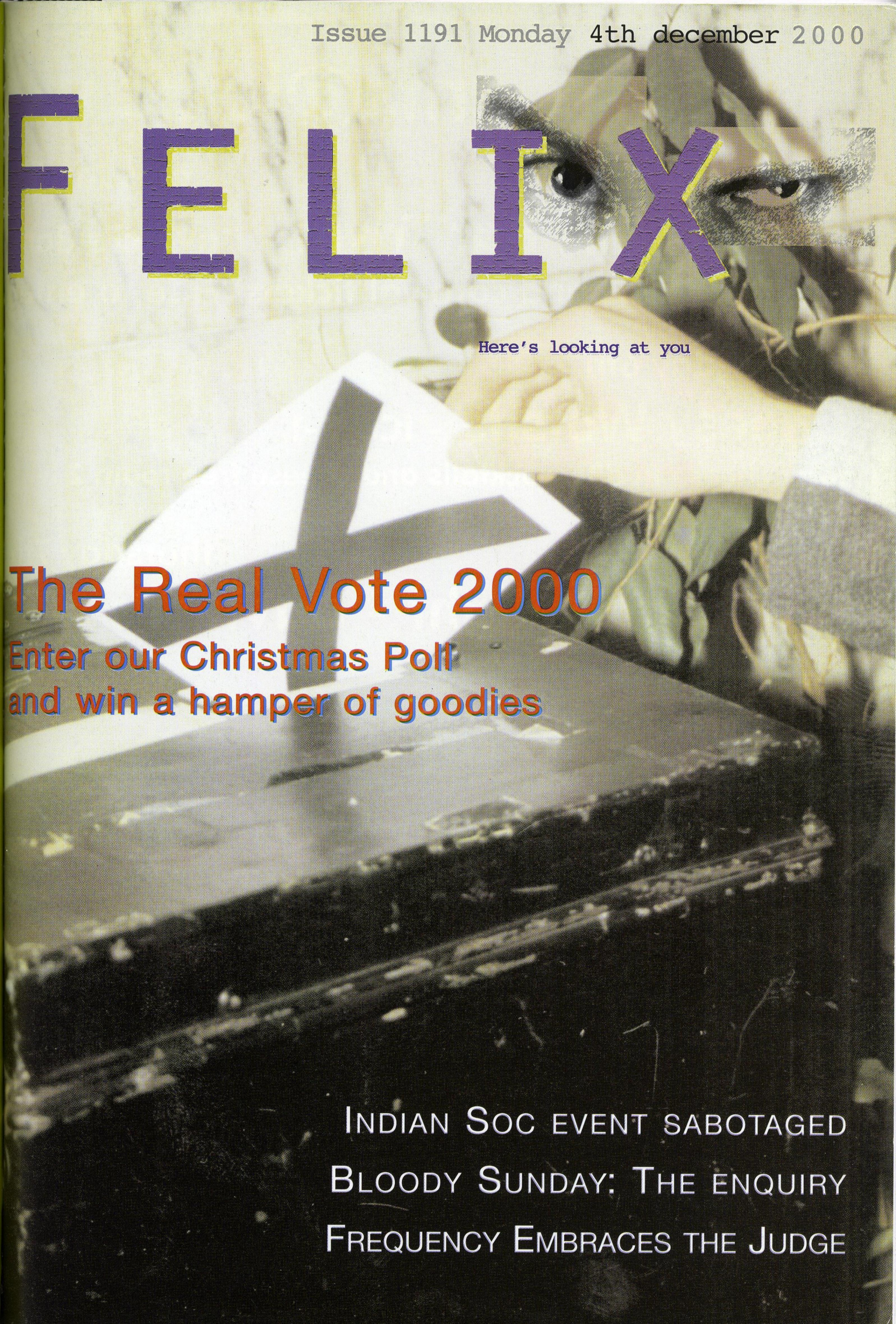


Issue 1191 Monday 4th december 2000

FELIX



Here's looking at you

The Real Vote 2000

Enter our Christmas Poll
and win a hamper of goodies

INDIAN SOC EVENT SABOTAGED
BLOODY SUNDAY: THE ENQUIRY
FREQUENCY EMBRACES THE JUDGE



ents@ic.ac.uk

tuesday 5th

STA Bar Trivia - DaVinci's 8pm.

Win £50 CASH and carnival tickets! Free to enter.

wednesday 6th

Cheesy Wotsits - ICU 8-1

total cheese in dBs, cocktails and cheese free room 2

thursday 7th

Cocktail Night - DaVinci's 5-11

friday 8th



Gordon Southern & Paul Sinha

plus open mic doors 8pm £2.50 / £2

last show of term - don't miss it.

shaft

**disco, 80's pop & 21st century trash & garage
in the UDH cocktail bar**

£1.50 / £2 without icu card / free with entscard



**Time Out available from icu newsagent
plus for only £1 (students only)**

NEWS

East meets protest

Indian society show blighted as anti-Indian Government protests infiltrate show

SEAN MOORE

Last Thursday ICU Indian Society held their annual East Meets West show. In the biggest event in College, the this year's show saw over 800 people, including over 150 participants, take part in the sold-out event. The show included various dances, catwalks, comedy sketches, and live singing from both eastern and western cultures. Some of the most artistically talented students set out to display that Imperial was not just about studying. Including a gracious catwalk and a very lively bollywood dance many present described it as a thoroughly enjoyable night. However, the event was marred by a number of attacks from unknown groups, apparently trying to bring the show into disrepute.

According to organisers, the philosophy of the evening was represented by numerous eastern and western acts, showing, "a harmonious unity of the diverse cultures". However, right from the beginning it became apparent that a minority were

attempting to use the night as an opportunity for racial and religious demonstrations. After they were distributed on seats in the Great Hall, many of the official programmes for the event (some two hundred) had pamphlets inserted in them without the organisers' knowledge. The professionally-printed pamphlets complained of apparent abuse of non-Hindu's in India. Questioning the Indian government's human rights record, the leaflets accused India's "Nazi Government" of "Ethnic cleansing". Jatil Damania, Vice President of the Indian Society condemned the protest as a "cowardly attack", adding that it was "we do not dispute freedom of expression, but it was completely against the ethos of the evening and was inappropriate to the situation."

Even before Thursday night, the society had complained that, as with their last three events, their posters had been interfered with. Organisers had printed 150 colour posters, at a cost of £400,

only to find that within twenty-four hours that the majority had been ripped down and ruined.

The society has suffered from similar vandalism for a number of months, and consequently have found it very hard to publicise events. Though IC security was briefed on the situation, the perpetrators have yet to be found. The cost to the Indian society (one of the largest socs in IC) is estimated to be in excess of a thousand pounds altogether.

What has worried security and the show organisers so deeply is the well organised and mass orchestrated nature of this latest attack. The leaflets were professionally designed and a few hundred sneaked in past Union stewards. Organisers appeared mystified that two hundred leaflets had been inserted in the programs, despite

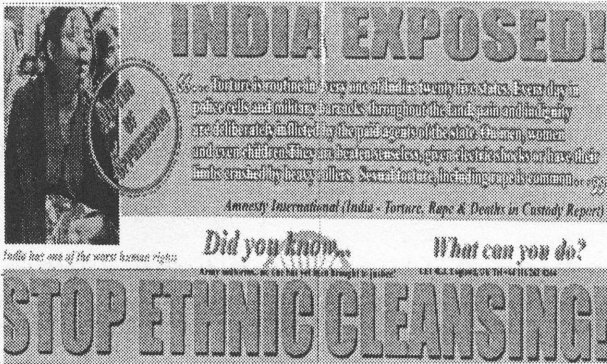
the Great Hall having apparently been left attended for "about five minutes".

The pamphlets referred to two groups called the "National Sikh Youth" and "Khalsa Human Rights". Felix was unable to contact Khalsa on the number provided, but

was able to send a fax through asking about the

organisation's role at Imperial College, although no response had been received as Felix went to press. The leaflet also referred to a report called "India-Torture, Rape & Deaths in Custody" by Amnesty International, which is not available among the many reports on the Indian Government by the human rights watchdog.

Fortunately organisers collected most of the leaflets as soon as they were discovered, and the incident did not substantially overshadow the show, which raised approximately £3000 for charity. The atmosphere at the after show party was described as "electric" and organisers praised the "enormous" response to the show. However, the attempt to jeopardise East Meets West serious questions as to whom or what organisation could be behind the persecution of the society.



The leaflet in question

Contents

News

East meets West hits protest, News in Brief & the entrepreneurs' Challenge

Xmas Poll 2000

Your chance to vote on the year that was- and win a hamper full of goodies

Need to know

Nina and Miriam expose BSE across the EU, and some of the horrors of Bloody Sunday. Makes you proud, doesn't it?

Pulse

Alcohol poisoning and Nightline someone to talk to when everyone else has gone home and you're alone and sad.

Science

Matt reveals his surprising knowledge of mountain medicine, this week hypothermia

Travel

Jon & Liz blink, dazzled by the bright lights of Hong Kong

Union

Hamish meets his elders and betters, and Vicky gives Rag a run-down for the week

Feedback

Secular society make more waves, good things to say about Mr Pollard, and Biochem Soc announce their plans

Diary

Extra large helping this week of Diary, to last you all the way to 1192 without cold turkey

Reviews

All sorts- including a special novelty book review section. No books, you see?

Clubs + Socs

Mountaineering + Phoenix. And I'm really, really sorry Etch- I'll print it next week.

The Christmas Poll 2000

The Poll Well, Christmas is here once more and with it comes your chance to win a huge hamper of goodies from gorgeous food to cinema tickets with the Christmas Poll. Reflect on the good times, the bad times, and that whole host of weird confusion that was the year 2000. What really got you going this year, and what just bored the RCS off you? Fill out our indispensable voting slip, remember your e-mail address and get it to the Felix Office by hand or e-mail before Thursday and the Christmas hamper could be yours! Confused? Short of time? It's OK, you don't have to fill it *all* in.

The Prize The Felix hamper contains, well, all the prizes that we would give away over the holidays. Think how many prizes we give away in an average issue. It includes posters, t-shirts, cinema tickets, vouchers, top cds, lollipops... and all the chocolate and whiskey you need to guarantee a great Christmas, for a while anyway. The winner will be chosen *at random* (ahem) by the editor, who has very low self-esteem at the minute...

Best album.....

Best band.....

Best film.....

Best TV program.....

Worst TV moment.....

Most tacky Channel 5 moment.....

Best news story (in Felix).....

Best moment (in College).....

Worst moment (in College).....

Best sabbatical (eg Tasha Newton).....

Worst sabbatical (eg Tasha Newton).....

Biggest fuckwit in college (eg John Clifford).....

Most sorely missed (eg Dave Hellard).....

Most hated & why (eg John Clifford).....

Most complicated,overdone and underused piece of technology in College (eg C&G Active, Click, IC4life etc etc).....

Most needless and difficult piece of political correctness in London.....

Most failed event (eg any Freshers dinner).....

Most stupid poster on walkway.....

Most obvious obsession with sex.....

Most clueless & inept department.....

Your Name & Department.....

Your e-mail address.....

In brief

BOAT CLUB HIT THE WAVES

Imperial College researchers announced work on Friday 1st which it is hoped may improve the abilities of rowers and reduce the likelihood of them sustaining an injury. Researchers from the Biodynamics group studied elite members of the Boat Club using an MRI scanner at St Mary's, which allows subjects to carry out tasks normally within it. The images allow the strain on the spine to be monitored, and showed that differing stresses were placed on the spine and lower back when rowers were either fatigued or deliberately simulating poor technique. The researchers are hoping to compare how techniques differ across boat clubs, and are studying a new rowing technique.

LIVERPOOL COMMON

Union President Hamish Common was heading on a tour of the north last Thursday. In his capacity as Chair of the Aldwych Group, the student unions of the country's leading universities, Mr Common was due to meet with the Vice-Chancellors of Leeds & Liverpool to discuss student issues at top research universities. He was then due to meet student representatives at Newcastle, who are pushing the issue of top-up fees, and is "hoping for increased dialogue and a journey of less than nine hours."

IN NEED OF COUNCILLING?

Don't forget, tomorrow sees the monthly meet

of ICU Council. Come along to see former President Andy Heeps introduce a paper on "CCUs- value for money", C&GU present an even larger paper going the other way, and an argument about a cat. Papers at Council are named "Paper A" onwards, and President Hamish Common is currently deciding which letter to use after Z...

AND SO THIS IS CHRISTMAS..

With two weeks until the end of term, don't forget that next week's Felix will be the last of the year and will come out on Wednesday. So keep an eye out for the trolley for your bumper Christmas special, featuring exclusive reports from Miss World, the results of this year's poll and all the scandal we can print just before the holidays.

Got a bright idea?

World's biggest Challenge for student Entrepreneurs launches at Imperial College

The Imperial College Entrepreneurship Centre launches its inaugural Entrepreneurs' Challenge on Thursday, 7th December, 2000 in the Mech Eng Foyer. This two part Challenge, the Ideas Challenge and the New Business Challenge, offers total confirmed prize money of £45,000 (further prizes are to be confirmed), including a massive First Prize in New Business Challenge of £25,000.

The Entrepreneurs' Challenge Launch Party on the 7th December, beginning at 6pm in ME220, will give students the opportunity to mingle with a number of employees from London's leading financial institutions and management consultancies (including McKinsey and Barclays Capital) and a number of venture capitalists and entrepreneurs. Those Imperial students with ideas will have the chance to discuss the ins and outs of building a business, or developing their idea, with qualified professionals. For others, it will be an opportunity to meet, in an informal setting, employees of firms in which they may one day wish to work.

A short talk by Professor Sue Birley of The Entrepreneurship Centre, "How to turn an idea into a business idea?" will cover the key elements of what it takes to turn an idea into an entry to the Ideas Challenge, one that could win one of the twenty £1,000 prizes and go on to greater things. Professor Birley, an entrepreneur herself, is a world-renowned Professor of Entrepreneurship, a prolific writer and co-editor of the Financial Times Mastering Enterprise series; she was formerly a Director of Natwest Group and was recently appointed Director of BAe Systems, one of the world's largest aerospace and defence companies.

The Entrepreneurs' Challenge Launch Party is followed by a number of workshops that will give students key insights into how to complete the two-page summary for the Ideas Stage (closing date: 22nd January 2001) of that million pound idea. The workshops will cater to all levels of business knowledge and will be run by qualified professionals (including employees of Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, Credit Suisse and Digital

Networks). On the 30th January 2001, the new Rector of Imperial College, Sir Richard Sykes, former Chairman of GlaxoWellcome, will formerly launch the Imperial College Entrepreneurship Centre, and the twenty prizes of £1,000 for the Ideas with the most potential will be awarded in front of leading figures from business, government, academia and College alumni.

Students interested in the Challenge, the launch event or attending a workshop should register their interest at Challenge@ic.ac.uk, or look at the website, www.ec.ms.ic.ac.uk/challenge for additional information. Places will be strictly limited at both the Launch Party and the workshops, so get in touch early. Good luck with that million pound idea.

[For further information, look at the website: www.ec.ms.ic.ac.uk/challenge

The Entrepreneurs' Challenge is run by Imperial College Entrepreneurship Centre. All ideas and entries will be held in the strictest confidence].

NEED TO KNOW

BSE: Not just a British problem

NINA DE ROY

Fears over mad cow disease have resurfaced in Europe this week, this time with France's cattle coming under the spotlight. Concern about the safety of French beef products has been growing, following a recent surge in the number of BSE infected cattle and CJD related deaths, amongst the human population.

So far, vets have registered 100 cases of BSE in French herds this year, many of which were recorded in the Normandy region, where the French Prime Minister Lionel Jospin was trying to calm public fears. In a statement to the French parliament, he later announced stricter controls for livestock feed and called for a temporary ban on the sale of T-bone steaks. His proposals have since been echoed by senior EU officials who insist that these measures should be introduced, not just to France, but to all of the 15 European Union member states as well. Europe's food safety commissioner: Mr David Byrne told journalists at a Brussels news conference: "there has been concern in my mind as to the controls relating to meat and bone meal (MBM) in animal feed. I have put forward proposals that are essential for the enhancement of consumer confidence." Sales of beef in France, alone have slumped by as much as 50% and some countries such as Italy and Switzerland have gone for an all out ban of certain French meat products, until they have sufficient evidence that they are safe for human consumption.

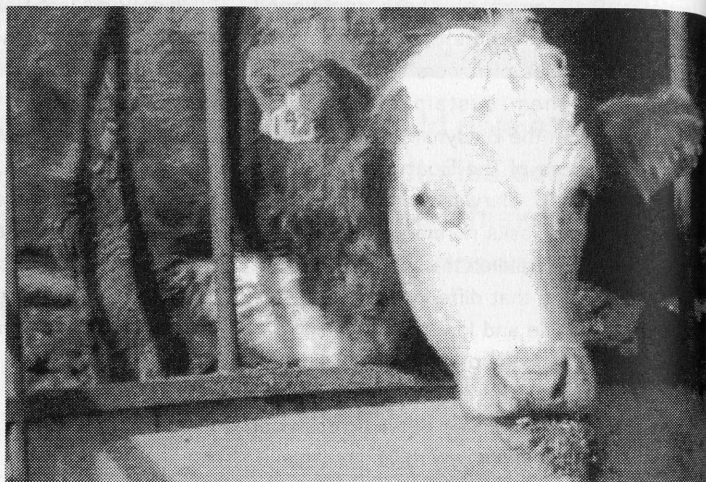
However France is not alone in

facing speculation over the health of

its cattle. Spain has already reported its first two cases of the disease and Germany is described as having been plunged into a state of shock by last week's discovery that BSE has now landed on its shores. Just a week ago the German government was insisting that no BSE actually existed in the country. This statement has since been retracted and now German farmers are helplessly watching their beef market evaporate before

their eyes. Politicians in the country appear to be doing little to appease the quarter of a million Germans that rely upon cattle farming for their livelihood. In a national announcement, German Health Minister Andrea Fischer advised people to stick to organic beef only - thus encouraging them to reject the remaining 95% of the meat reared on German farms. Oman and other Middle Eastern countries were quick to follow suit, they have announced a ban on all beef imports (with the exception of milk) from France,

Ireland, Portugal and Switzerland. Similar precautions are also being considered by other Gulf States and Greece. In a desperate attempt to calm the escalating situation, ministers from the 15 EU nations met for a gruelling 16 hours of talks to discuss growing fears over what the commission called "disturbing" levels of BSE, in France in particular. They have since proposed new tests, designed to target older animals that have not been covered by the existing safety checks. These are expect-



ed to come into force from as early as today and each test is estimated to cost around £20 per cow. This may seem rather expensive; given the large number of cattle that will have to be screened - however the commission insists the price is worth it, in order to give consumers an extra safety guarantee for the beef that they buy. A spokesman for the EU commissioner, David Byrne, said: "He

considers it essential that in the current circumstances we review the implementation of BSE controls".

Analysts say that there is a strong chance both of these proposals will be accepted by the member states, and countries outside the EU, such as Poland, will have to set up their own monitoring bodies if they wish to continue exporting cattle and meat products to Europe.

Here in the UK, the Prime Minister has apparently been warned that Britons could be eating French beef, infected with BSE. In a letter, published in the Times, Tony Blair was told by the Agricultural minister, Nick Brown, that meat from older animals, reared in France, could find

its way onto the UK market. Officials from the UK Food Standards Agency have been sent over there in order to seek assurances from the French government that BSE infected meat, unsuitable for sale on the French market, will not be finding its way onto our shelves. They are said to want proof that contaminated meat is not being allowed to re-enter the food chain. Interestingly however, and contrary to the wishes of many opposition party members, both our government and the FSA have rejected calls for a temporary ban on French beef products, claiming that there is no scientific reason for them to do so. As the FSA chairman himself put it, in a recent interview on BBC Radio 4, "This year in Britain we have over 1,000 cases of BSE as compared to only 100 in France. Their numbers are simply going up and ours are going down, but we still have more. Our position is that the risk from imported meat and meat products should not be greater than the risk from domestic meat and meat products."

FELIX

RECOLLECTIONS



NEED TO KNOW

Bloody Sunday: Day of reckoning

MARIAM GHORBANNEJAD

Today, the inquiry into the deaths of 13 Catholics during a para-troops operation in Londonderry's Bogside District on January 30 1972, will re-open.

The announcement of a fresh tribunal was made by Tony Blair in January 1998. Oral evidence was given at Londonderry's Guildhall in March of this year. Lord Saville of Newdigate is chairing the inquiry, with costs running to £13m so far.

Although the original tribunal of 1972 led by Lord Chief Justice Lord

Widgery found the Army to be innocent of any wrongdoing, the families of the victims disagreed. Their persistent campaigning to get justice for their relatives has caused the prime minister to set up this new public inquiry. It will re-examine the evidence, which could prove that the civilian victims were unarmed at the time of the shootings.

At approximately 2.30pm on Sunday January 30 1972, the march of civilian rights demonstrators left Bishofsfield. It is estimated that the large crowd comprised of between 10,000 and 20,000 people, certainly the biggest gathering ever held in Londonderry. The event was trouble-free until the protestors reached the first army barricade on William Street an hour later, barring their entrance into the Guildhall and Waterloo Place. It was at this point that the rioting started, where it is alleged, that men of the 2nd Battalion were stoned for 10 minutes. CS gas and a water cannon were used to disperse the crowd. Great James Street and Sackville Street, where two other army barricades were erected, also saw mass violence, with soldiers firing rubber bullets as well as releasing huge amounts of gas into the crowd.

Mr Kevin McCorry, the civil rights

organiser, informed the crowd that a meeting was starting at Free Derry Corner, where Miss Devlin, Mr Cooper and Lord Brockway would be giving speeches. This occurred at 4.15pm, ten minutes after a single shot was fired in William Street. Four or five armoured vehicles descended on William Street in an attempt to break up the crowd. Thousands fled as paratroopers emerged from their vehicles. Some tried to make arrests; others ran towards street corners. These 21

“Unleashing a furious barrage of bullets”

opened fire unleashing a furious barrage of bullets onto the streets of Bogside. In Fahan Street, one man was even seen holding up a white handkerchief but this did not deter the soldiers from directing shots at him. Sounds of machine guns, thought to be the work of the IRA, punctuated the continuous hard banging of the self-loading rifle (SLRs), attributed to the British. In five separate locations around Bogside thirty people were killed or injured, predominantly young men but including a woman knocked down by a speeding Army vehicle.

Lawyers for the fourteen victims have accumulated 60,000 pages of evidence to date. Mystery still surrounds the rifles which Lord Saville asked the Ministry of Defence for, back in 1998. He had requested all the SLRs used by the paratrooper so that they could be subject to rigorous forensic examination. This could reveal whether adapted rifles ordered by Major General Robert Ford were used on Bloody Sunday.

Major General Robert Ford was then in charge of the running of the Army in Northern Ireland. Saville has recently declassified a secret memo from Ford to Lieutenant General Harry Tuzo, his Superior in Ulster. He calls the rioters 'Derry

Young Hooligans (DYH)' and continues that traditional crowd control methods such as CS gas and rubber bullets were not proving effective in dealing with them. Stormont and Westminster were keen for the Army to restore peace in the province, particularly in the catholic areas. More relevant to the inquiry is the statement Ford made at the end of the memo, only three weeks prior to the fateful riots of Bloody Sunday. "The minimum force necessary to achieve a restoration of law and order is to shoot selected ring-leaders among the DYH after clear warnings have been given." He proclaimed.

The self-loading rifles in question were the main infantry weapons deployed by the British Army in the 1970s. However they were phased out steadily until they were eventually replaced by the SA80 in 1986. Of the 20 rifles produced in the Widgery inquiry, 14 have been destroyed as well as 10 sold to private companies. Although the inquiry was told the 5 rifles left

“most probably” lying on the ground when shot twice at close range

would be kept securely, a further two were destroyed in January of last year, against an internal Ministry of Defence order. One of the victim's relatives, John Kelly, whose younger brother was killed, was outraged saying; "We believe the destruction of the guns just before Mr Blair's announcement of the new tribunal proves there was a deliberate attempt to pervert the course of justice."

Forensic evidence from the original inquiry concluded that the ammunition the Army claimed to be using on that Sunday matched the post mortems. The entry wounds on twelve of the people shot dead measured between 6-8mm; which would have resulted from the

7.62mm round in the SLRs. Notably though, one of those killed, 17 year old Kevin McElhimey, had an entry wound which measured only 3mm. The pathologists' findings could be at fault or the bullet may have been fired from a different type of rifle altogether, possibly a 0.22 in (which the SA80 fires). Size of the entry wound alone does not give the whole picture as the same bullet can produce various dimensions according to whether it was a ricochet, the type of body tissue infiltrated and the path it follows in the air. It seems with just three rifles to examine, it will be extremely difficult to establish the distance from which the guns were fired. Thus making it hard to confirm whether what witnesses have stated about the paratroopers firing from close range is true or not.

The irony about the whole inquiry is that the truth about the events of Bloody Sunday was known '25 years ago'. The Crown would have had 'no prospect of a successful defence' in four specific cases; it was claimed

by the then Attorney General, Sir Peter Rawlinson. Of these men, Wray, 22, was 'most probably' lying on the ground when he was shot twice at close range. Widgery had exonerated the Army on the soldiers' own version of events along with the forensic evidence given by Dr John Martin. The Doctor's report suggested that the dead were armed with guns or bombs. But he has admitted now those tests for lead particles leading him to this conclusion were inconclusive. The outcome of the tribunal of April 1972 is now seemingly based solely on the soldiers' accounts of events. The British Army fears the exact details of that march coming to light after twenty-eight years of secrecy.

Alcohol Poisoning

STEF EVANS

The season of good cheer is nearly upon us, and thus here are a few words about alcoholic poisoning

A large excessive amount of alcohol drunk at one time can damage the body in numerous ways. One thing to look at is the depression of the brain and another is irritation of the stomach. The irritation of the stomach can lead to vomiting very easily and if the brain activity is being depressed it can result in the possibility of choking, especially if you are unconscious. Also as alcohol can effect many other organs more damage can be caused.

What does alcohol poisoning look like?

- Person collapsed
- Difficult/impossible to rouse
- Skin cool and clammy
- Breathing slow and noisy

- Pupils dilated
- May have vomited
- May have wet themselves

If you see the above

- Call an ambulance
- Make sure their mouth is clear and they can breath
- Keep them warm
- Watch them

Don't leave them alone

To avoid alcohol poisoning

- Do
- Drink moderately and slowly
 - Space your drinks
 - Eat with your drinks
- Don't
- Drink to excess
 - Drink too much of anything you are unfamiliar with

Nightline

Nightline is a confidential listening and information service provided by student volunteers for students from all across London. Nightline as it is now in London can find its roots here at Imperial where it was set up in 1971 following the suicide of a student the previous year. Over time it expanded from just covering Imperial to many parts of London and currently is associated with about 30 different institutions including Imperial.

It is essential for those students in difficulty, with emotional problems or worries to have someone they can talk to. To ensure that someone is always available for students to talk to nightline operates every night during term time from 6pm to 8am. Thus when offices are shutting down and it is the normal time for counsellors and advisors to go home there is some one there for you to talk to. Thus it doesn't act to replace others you can go and talk to such as your friends, Warden,

Personal Tutor, College Counsellors etc, but aims to provide a service when they are unavailable or if you want to talk to someone outside of where you study or live.

Nightline isn't a counselling service. It provides those that ring some one to hear their worries and problems. What they do is listen, and then provide you with any information you may need. They can supply you with information on agencies and organisations, which you can then contact in your own time, or phone lines which can provide advice.

The phone number is 020 7631 0101

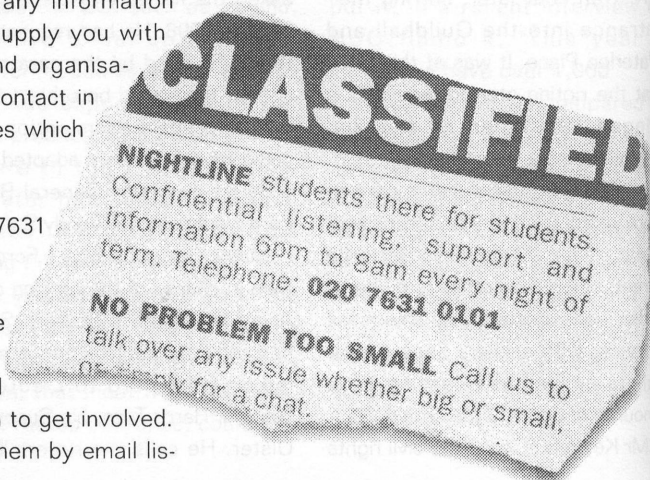
They also have a website from where you can find out more about Nightline and how to volunteer if you wish to get involved. Also if you wish to talk to them by email lis-

Contacts	
Stef Evans, Deputy President (Education and Welfare) Internal extension 58064 dpew@ic.ac.uk	IC Counsellors, David Allman 020 7594 9430 and Sarah Cooke 020 7594 9419 d.allman@ic.ac.uk sarah.cooke@ic.ac.uk
Martin Thomson, Union Advisor 020 7594 8067 m.m.thomson@ic.ac.uk	Loretto O'Callaghan, IC Disabilities Officer 020 7594 8935
Nightline, Confidential listen- ing and information service, 6pm to 8am during term time 020 7631 0101	National AIDS Helpline 0800 567 123
IC Health Centre 020 7584 6301	London Lesbian and Gay Switchboard 020 7837 7324

- Drink drinks you haven't seen mixed (may be stronger than you think, extra alcohol put in)
- Drink for a bet/competition
- Drink in rounds- you may end up drinking far more than you want to

tening you can find out more details on the website. Email listening is a new service offered by Nightline and allows you to email them with your worries or requests for information

The web address is www.nightline.org.uk



A-level playing field

I've made a pact with myself this evening: I'll write something vaguely recognisable as an editorial and then I'll go home quite early by my standards. If you've been reading these things regularly you'll know I do this bit on a Tuesday night round about 11pm, and then Wednesday night I work until about 11 the next morning. However, tonight I'm absolutely shattered and that li'l nervous twitch in my eye is going that bit too fast, so I'll allow myself to go home early (and get a KFC, one of Dave's habits I seem to have picked up) on the condition I do nothing more challenging than read about European history, make cocoa and get in by ten tomorrow.

Call me really sad (I think you do already), but I've really got into European history lately. I dropped History when I was fourteen because I hated the teacher and had an inspiring Geography teacher. It was fairly boring- admittedly it has progressed from learning dates of battles (who ever thought that one up?) but it still mostly involved things I didn't really care about (always the Roman Empire or Archduke Ferdinand) studied in incredibly boring detail with no apparent sense of relevance (the same trouble I'm having with Physics). So I dismissed History as completely irrelevant...

It's only in the last few years that I've realised how little I actually know about

the history of Europe and have realised how bad this actually is. For example: it's pretty hard to make any judgements on the Balkans without tracing it back to Tito at least (I hadn't even realised Yugoslavia was on the other side of the Iron Curtain). The history of the Russian Empire/USSR/Russian Federation is a great one to read up on too, and can explain so much. And there could never really be an EU until European countries got rid of their Empires. All these things I saw on the news as a kid make a lot more sense.

Anyway, frustrated by my ignorance (as you might have guessed) I threw some money at the problem (£25) and bought a book. (Actually, I've been doing this a lot, which is why I'm now eating bread and jam while reading books. I seem to have mislaid my salary). My book, *Europe: A History*, is 1,800 pages and when I get into it I

can kind of drift away, which is starting to explain why I'm a bit tired.

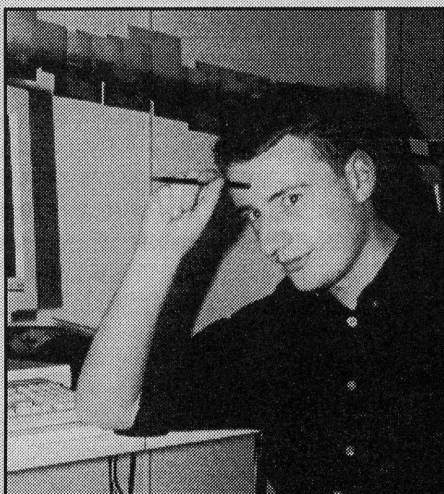
So why am I telling you this? It's not just to explain why I'm tired, hungry and broke. I just think it's symbolic of the fact that there are fundamental flaws in our education system. I was pretty good at school, yet I have huge swathes of ignorance about things I really should know about as a well-educated member of society. Some of my older relatives are still stunned by this ("You don't know that? But you went to University.") It's quite unpleasant really to think that I've been in the education system for about fifteen years now and yet I can't do many of the things you'd expect a well-educated person to be able to do. I can't even quote Shakespeare, despite having done English A-level or add up in my head, despite having spent a long time studying maths (lousy calculators).

I think the worst part of it is the idea that when a kid reaches sixteen, he or she should go from studying nine or ten subjects to three or four. Even then, students tend to do A-levels based around either science and maths or English and art. No attempt at keeping both sides of the brain going- and you wonder why modern intellectualism is split into two irreconcilable halves. Why do we make specialists of people

before they're even old enough to drive? Just to make sure, you then go and do a degree in one subject. And how many Physicists are going to go off and do anything remotely connected with Physics, for example? The only subject to have that guarantee is Medicine. For most people you just need a degree from a University to get a higher paying job.

They seem to have the right idea on the continent. The Baccalaureate, I think it's called, is done 16-18 and includes aspects of language (both foreign and domestic), sciences, maths, history, all sorts. You can take options to bias it one way or the other, but you can't entirely avoid sciences or arts. Seems to make perfect sense to me, and more importantly to a lot of experts. The government are considering changes, but don't hold your breath. Time to consign the A-level to History?

Johnny



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PS- We had enough for two
issues this week- really sorry if we
couldn't fit you in, we'll try next week

The mountain medic: Hypothermia

MATT KAPLAN

Considering the fact that last week's Felix focused on campus medical care I only think it appropriate that we explore the question of wilderness medical care here in the science section. So this is the first of several articles which will consider what to do when the forever valiant Dr. Weinreb and her team of talented physicians are not available to tackle urgent problems that develop when you are far away from medical care facilities.

So you might ask, what the hell does the science editor of Felix know about wilderness medicine? Well for starters let me be very clear that I am NOT a doctor, I am what in America is called an emergency medic (I think you call them paramedics here in Britain). Anyhow, I started my training on ambulance rigs and eventually started work placement in the triage division of the Sacramento California emergency room. I worked with a lot of urban injuries, stabbings, automobile accidents, drug addictions, and quite a lot of gun shot injuries (silly gun legislation in the states). Eventually I got interested in doing back country search and rescue, it seemed a lot more exciting to me, and I upgraded my medical training through several module courses to include wilderness medicine. I have now worked as the medical director of the Royal Gorge Wilderness Medical Lodge in Lake Tahoe, Ca., as the medic for several river rafting expeditions on the American River (I myself am a rafting guide), and as the medic on multiple backpacking treks in U.S. national parks.

But enough about my training, lets get talking about neat stuff like environment induced hypothermia, lightning strikes, drownings, and trauma. The best way to communicate how to deal with such situations is also perhaps the most interesting, and this is through the

telling of a few stories. Names in my stories have been changed for purposes of privacy. With the winter holidays just around the corner it seems appropriate to consider cold illness this week, so lets talk hypothermia.

I was trekking through Yellowstone National

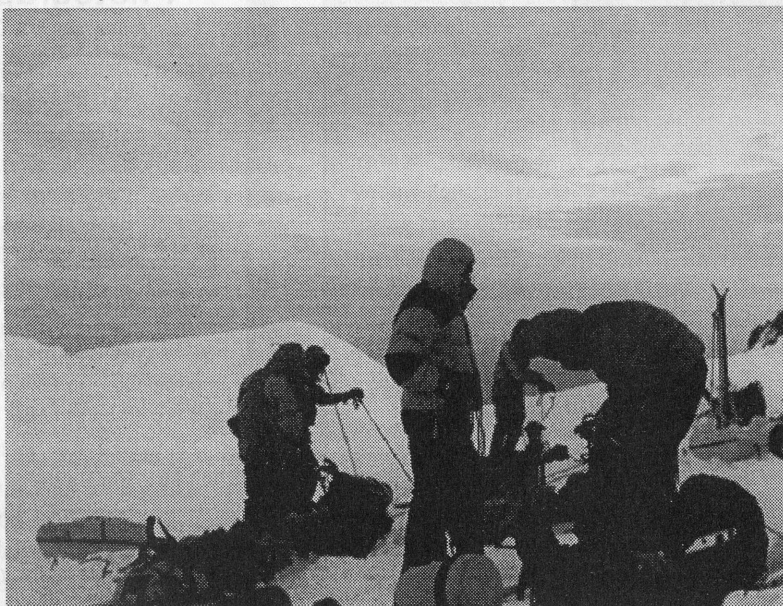
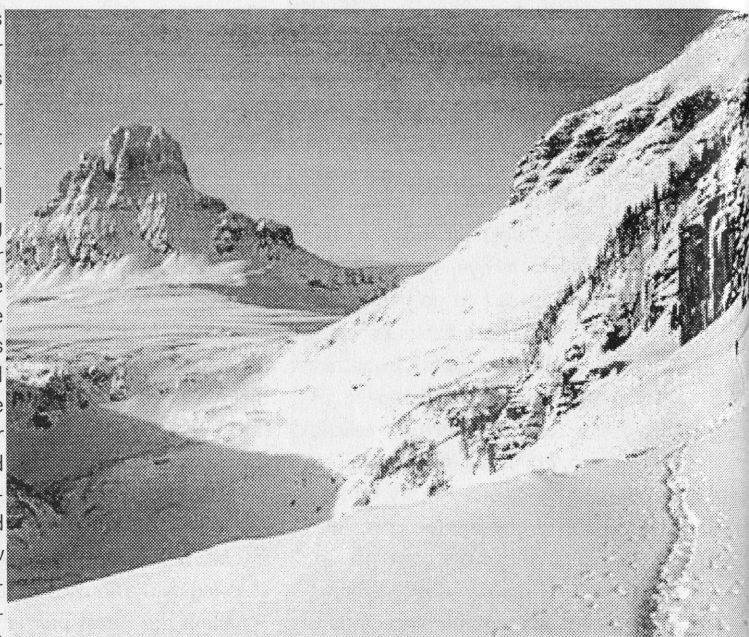
Park with five friends during mid-October nearly two years ago. The weather had been cool, but above freezing during the day time and well below freezing at night. On our fourth night in the back country we unloaded our packs to set up camp and I noticed that one member of our group, Jane, started acting a bit... reclusive. As I watched her behaviour, I grew more and more concerned, she just didn't look right. It's not

that "reclusiveness" on its own is indicative of some sort of medical problem, however the presence of a behavioural change certainly is. I didn't do anything at the time, and in retrospect I should have been more vigilant, because nearly two hours later when I was heating up a kettle of water for some coffee I watched as Jane was helped out of her tent by her boyfriend, Mark. She was quivering uncontrollably, having terrible difficulty manoeuvring, and slurring some of her speech. I had only read about moderate

bit of good, it was then that I stepped in.

Before I go any further I should comment on the different types of hypothermia. There are three major categories; mild, moderate, and severe. Mild hypothermics tend to be a bit disoriented, cool to the touch, uncoordinated, and usually shiver. Moderate hypothermics are very cold to the touch, shiver lots, often noticeably mentally altered, and have terrible trouble moving around. Severe hypothermia is a critical emergency which needs to be dealt with extreme care, I'll explain this in greater detail later. Now there are a lot of different methods of dealing with mild and moderate hypothermia in the wilderness, but there is a central theme: GET THEM WARM! This may sound simple, but when you are out in freezing temperatures with no shelter around this is not always an easy task.

I brought Jane back inside her tent and had Mark put her in a sleeping bag. I collected some water bottles, filled them with the warm water from the kettle which was on the fire, and prepared to make what is so eloquently known as a human burrito. I took a warm water bottle and placed it inside the sleeping bag and wrapped it up against the bottoms of Jane's feet, wrapped another one up in her hand, closed up the bag and stuck a couple of wool hats on her head. I considered sticking her boyfriend in the sleeping bag with her, after all, we humans make marvelous heaters (and he was certainly happy to jump in) but I decided against it. I did this because I was concerned about Jane draining the heat out of Mark and did not want to end up having two hypothermics on my hands. In retrospect I think it would have been fine, but there was no need to risk it since I had warm water



hypothermia in class, but I instantly knew that this was it. Mark placed her by the fire and encouraged her to try to warm up, it didn't work. The ambient temperature was well below freezing and the fire was not large enough to do her a

my disposal. I must stress this point, using other people to warm a patient can be very effective, but you must be careful and use common sense in making this decision. Do not ever put yourself in a position where you end up creating a second patient!

Jane warmed up within less than an hour, slurped up some warm broth, and ended up finishing the trip without a problem. But what if she had been suffering from severe hypothermia? What would she have looked like and how would it have been treated? Well, if severely hypothermic, Jane would never have left her tent, even with Mark's assistance. She would not have been able to speak at all and would not be aware of the environment around her. She would have been as cold as a river rock and definitely boasting an unhealthy skin colour (a lovely bluish/purple). Her heart and breathing rate will have slowed a lot, and if a pulse is taken she may even appear dead.

Scary huh? As I stated earlier, severe hypothermia is a

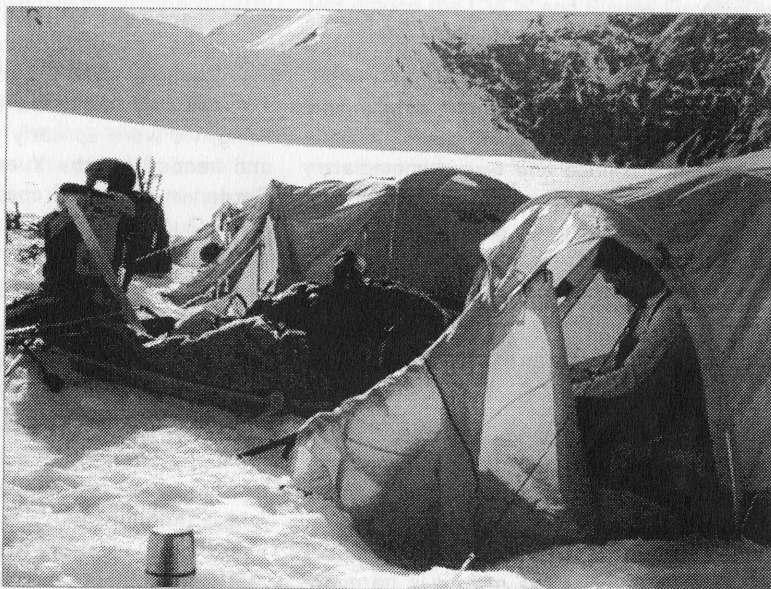
critical medical emergency and it does not get

solved in the back country. You should not move a severe hypothermic nor should you try to rewarm them (constructing a shelter around them is certainly advisable if possible). There are a lot of reasons for this, the most important

of which is that with dropping temperatures the body's systems get a bit fragile and shaking a severe hypothermic around could lead to cardiac arrest (definitely bad).

You solve severe hypothermia by getting help via mobile phone, radio, flares, smoke, or by hiking to the closest medical centre (obviously not a good option if you are several days away

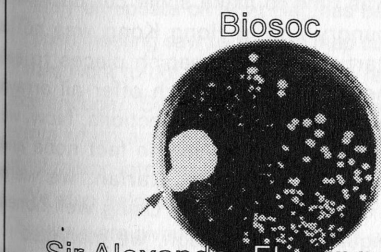
from such a place). In the states, someone with my type of medical certification would usually be the first person you would end up finding, and they would likely contact a helicopter rescue group like Life Flight before travelling out to the severe hypothermic themselves. Speed is not the critical factor in the rescue effort so much as steady and gentle management of the



hypothermic patient. We like to think of severe hypothermics as panes of glass that easily shatter.

So that's hypothermia in a nutshell. If you find this stuff interesting and want to learn more or just have a few questions please feel free to fire questions to Felix. Also remember all those dedicated, patient, and caring folks over in the campus health centre, they are a resource that should not be forgotten. Requests for future wilderness medical articles are welcomed.

Severe hypothermia is a critical medical emergency



Sir Alexander Fleming Lecture

Sir Alexander Fleming Lecture

CELLS AND THE NATURE OF LIFE

Professor Sir Paul Nurse FRS
Director-General, Imperial Cancer Research Fund

6 PM Tuesday 5 December 2000

Sir Alexander Fleming Building
Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine
South Kensington Campus
Free admission Wine reception

*Sponsored by the Department of Biology, Imperial College
Arranged by BioSoc, Imperial College Union
william.burns@ic.ac.uk*

Skyscrapers and palm readers

After having successfully crossed India, Felix travel writers Jon and Liz arrive in Hong Kong to admire the temples, of both the religious and capitalist variety

Arriving straight from India, Hong Kong's staggering technology was all the more shocking. The train that sped us from the airport into the city centre was clean, deadly silent and amazingly quick. Efficiency however comes at a price and it was immediately evident that Hong Kong was going to be a challenging city to see on a budget.

Jet lagged we stumbled out of our hotel room in the early evening onto Nathan road to find the streets still awash with shoppers. People rushed busily along the never-ending expanses of shops with a seemingly insatiable desire to spend. Everywhere we looked neon signs hung off towering buildings while the noise of traffic hammered out a deafening beat to which everyone but ourselves moved in harmony. For a while we walked a little lost within the jungle of skyscrapers so in order to find our bearings we decided to head to Victoria peak where astonishing views across the cities harbour were promised.

We took the funicular railway up the steep sided hill face and like every other visitor to Hong Kong, stood hypnotised at the bewildering night view of the cityscape. Developers have, rather predictably, decided to build a shopping complex at the peak but the view from the rooftop out across the harbour was sensational, we could see for miles.

Every light from the whole city stood before us; it was undoubtedly one of the highlights of our trip so far.

As we only had a few days in Hong Kong, we were up early the next day and headed for the Yuen Po St Bird Garden in search of cheap entertainment. Our guide book informed us that the Chinese have long favoured birds as pets, a fact that was obvious when

we saw the intricately

woven bamboo cages that

filled the countless stalls and shops that cram the markets streets. The birds were hand fed live grasshoppers using, chopsticks and if singing ability is any sign of good health then all the birds were well looked after. The market was busy, mostly with old men looking for a feathered friend to pass the hours with and we spent an interesting morning wandering the narrow lanes.

A short ride away on the impressive M.R.T underground system lay the Wong Tai Sin temple. Wong Tai Sin was a Sheppard who, legend has it, was apprenticed to an immortal and among other things, found a cure for all illness (as you do). Unsurprisingly, Hong Kong's ill flock here in droves to pray for redemption, and as we

entered, the smell was intense, as all around worshipers offered smouldering bundles of incense to the Gods. The colour was almost as vivid as the smell, with bright green and red pillars making this Taoist shrine a haven of colour amid the urban grey.

As we saw the rows of palm readers



Jon Enoch and Liz Wigg

tered around the temple gates, we decided to have our fortunes read. It is staggeringly hard to miss out on something when you know the chances are you'll never be back. You always feel, "if I don't do it now, I'll never get the chance," which happens a lot while travelling (and always seems to cost us money). An elderly lady, using all sorts of confusing charts and books, deciphered the lines on our hands.

She worked out that we were going to be very lucky until we were forty three, that we would be retired by the age of fifty and that looking after our lives would be a wise move. What a bargain for only

fifteen pounds each!

Feeling guilty about our extravagant spending, it was time to make some cut backs but being hungry and in Hong Kong was not a good start. The only cheapish places to eat were the noodle bars, which offer all arrays of weird and wonderful concoctions. Now, we don't now much Cantonese, in fact none and with one of us being vegetarian, we were playing a dangerous game. Using well-honed sign language skills though, we managed to avoid the pig trotter soup but we never did work out whether the cup of brown liquid placed in front of us was for drinking or for cleaning your chopsticks with.

Once again though, it was time to pack those rucksacks and move on and even though the Union Jack was lowered for the final time some three years ago, we had seen a city in which, despite the pessimists, life still goes on. We found the streets still pulsating with energy and the smell of money continuing to float through the thick, humid air. On the surface, Hong Kong looks as Westernised as any other major financial centre but lurking at the foot of the skyscrapers are the temples, noodle bars and statues of the Gods that give Hong Kong its spice, its charm and its undying longevity; but for the sake of our wallets, bring on the third world!



The bright lights, as seen from Victoria Peak

Working with our elders and betters

by Hamish Common
President, Imperial College Union

"Roderick Floud" is not a name many of you will be familiar with. He has managed, in an election more fraught and tightly contested than even your average student union sabbatical election, being elected by 52 to 51 votes to the presidency of the 'Committee of Vice Chancellors and Principals', the lobbying and support organisation for UK universities. The CVCP (sort of the College equivalent to the NUS, except they're affiliated and we're not) is planning to turn itself from a genteel committee, as it was founded at the turn of the century, into a more forceful lobbying organisation.

So how does this affect us? There shouldn't be a great problem for us in higher education institutions improving their lobbying force with government - I have previously commented on the dire lack of government funding and this is something students and university administrations appear to agree on. There are some people who would like co-operation between student, administrative, staff and institutional representative organisations, on matters of common concern to them. This is something I have been advocating to the Aldwych Group (the student unions of the top 19 research institutions that make up the Russell Group), and is an approach we will have taken to our Vice-Chancellor equivalents last week in an Aldwych-Russell meeting.

We hope to set up meetings throughout the year, and to find common ground for joint government lobbying. This isn't as silly or unrealistic

as it may sound - there is a serious possibility of a general election before the end of this academic year, and previous joint stances have had an effect on government policy and party manifestoes.

I don't know what the chances are of this plan working in practice. I have noticed that the attitudes of student leaders and institutional heads vary widely on policy and co-operation, and if student politics is anything to go by, occasions where they agree around a common theme are few and far between. Naturally, we wish to push for commitments not to increase tuition fees and to ensure that the sort of students that attend Imperial are not disadvantaged by the Government's plan to increase student numbers in the way it plans.

The CVCP themselves are producing a report on higher education funding - presently in its provisional stages - which will form the basis of their submission to government, just as all the parties form their manifestoes for the election. We are hoping to influence this in favour of students - the NUS will undoubtedly be pushing an agenda as well: though there is more hope that this year they may care as their President wasn't a Labour appointee and doesn't appear to be seeking a parliamentary seat in the next by-election. The political parties may be more impressed by the varying representative organisations in higher education

pulling together to press student-friendly policy out of government, rather than let them watch a spectacle of infighting that ensures we get pushed to the bottom of the pile.

Much of this depends on the leading characters among the CVCP and Russell Group. The new CVCP President, Roderick Floud in a recent article in the Guardian Education as part of his bid for the presidency, talked of the student body in ten years' time. His comments are mixed blessings for students. He recognises that if we want to expand education, much more money has to be spent on access, but doesn't say where it's coming from. The thing that is particularly annoying about differential fees (increased fees at highly-ranked institutions such as IC) is that it's us that has to pay them in order to fund a completely different set of people to study at university. Professor Floud's other ideas of obsolescent terms and timetables and no-one going to lectures and all learning over the net may be far-fetched, though he is also one of an increasing number of people who advocate students living at home and commuting to university.

The national press are interested in an Aldwych-Russell meeting, so this is a chance to get our views across to wider population. If you have any views or any particular example about where student life may, or ought to be going in the next few years then tell me. There is a better opportunity this year than for a long time, so use it.

Firstly an update on what Rag has been doing since the last column; An open meeting saw us roughly map out Rag week, giving ourselves plenty of hard work to do. Details cannot be revealed here but you will all find out soon enough. Suffice to say that we hope to give you a packed week of events which aim to include as many members of the college as possible, whilst raising lots of money for two very deserving charities.

We also held a gathering to present the cheques from last year's Rag. Cheques were given to representatives of Alone in London and the Dyslexia Institute. The event gave us all an opportunity to reflect on the past year, and look forward to the rest of this year's efforts.

Looking back over all that has been achieved gave us all an idea of the work involved, and the work we still have to do to achieve our target of raising £30,000 for charity this year. So a big well done to Martin, Farhad and all involved last year for a fantastic year.

Friday November 17th saw the annual BBC Children in Need appeal. Whilst this was not something we were involved with, Emma Watson from the Chemistry department coordinated some serious fundraising which should see a cheque for over £1100 being sent to the appeal.

And here are a few words about our other nominated charity, Great Ormond St.

It's Britain's biggest specialist hospital for children and is dedicated to treating and caring for youngsters with the most unusual, complex and rare conditions.

Every year over 100,000 children from across the country, and sometimes

overseas, come here for treatment. Specialist doctors from Great Ormond Street also go to local hospitals where they offer expert advice on a wide range of children's medical problems - from heart disease to asthma. Over 100 different clinics are now run regularly across the country - and the number is growing. Great Ormond Street Hospital is world renowned for its pioneering work. Alongside the hospital's doctors and nurses are over 200 scientists at the Institute of Child Health, the hospital's research partner. They

are investigating the causes of and finding cures for a wide range of children's illnesses. The Hospital's motto is 'The Child First and Always' - and it's designed especially with children in mind. For more info visit

their website at www.gosh.org

For details of forthcoming Rag events, reviews, a new competition and news of our raffle, plus Pete's highly entertaining editorial, visit the Rag website at www.icu-rag.org.uk

Coming up this term, we have carol singing at Euston and Liverpool St Station for Alone in London, our big raffle, a few cloakrooms and more.

With the end of term fast approaching it is time to look back on how far we target. Friends have been made and we have a working committee who I am confident in saying will ensure that we more than meet our target. However, there is still room for new ideas, help and volunteers, so if you are interested in joining us then email us at rag@ic.ac.uk

Finally a big thank you to everyone who has helped us get this far.

Enough of my ramblings, have a good week

Vick

ICU-RAG 2000 / 2001
www.icu-rag.org.uk

Feedback

AN ACRID ATTITUDE...

Dear John,

Two things to sort out.

(1) I am not currently, nor have I ever been, involved in mascotry activities. I am certainly not a "Guilds spokesman". (Not the impression I got, but thanks for clearing it up - Ed) If you would like an official Guilds statement (or simply want a list of all the inaccuracies in your last article) please get in touch with the Vice-President, Sarah Bluhme, who is responsible for all mascotry affairs.

(2) You did not print my letter about our DPF&S. I am assuming that this is because you did not want to print two letters from the same person (what would you do if both myself and the other Mustafa Arif were to write in at the same time?) and not because you only like printing nasty stuff about Etienne. So, to spare you from having to choose between letters, I've tagged it on to the end of this one:

Following a state of letters from various people publicly expressing their grievances with our Deputy President (Finance & Services), I thought I'd write in to say that I think he's doing a sterling job. From my own experiences so far he seems to be competent and conscientious. I have also found him to be courteous at all times (although he is known to have a short temper).

They way I see it. Any DP(F&S) is bound to upset a few people. That is the nature of the job. He can't just let everyone spend whatever they want, or he wouldn't be doing a decent job as a treasurer. Keep up the good work Etienne.

Mustafa Arif

No, I don't mind printing good stuff about Etienne. 2 letters in a week is a little greedy though, so I was going to print it this week, along with all the other letters I didn't have room for last week. Some people have no patience... Can both Mustafas please state their depart-

ments though, otherwise I'm bound to get confused and I don't want that. Secondly, lets not talk about inaccuracies, shall we? Especially not when it comes to docking Editor's salaries -Ed

A QUESTION OF NO FAITH

Dear Editor,

As the acting president of the Secular Society and the author of the the Societies posters I feel moved to reply to Mr Yorke-Smith's letter in your last issue (1190, 27th December). I feel that I can clarify some points of Secular belief to Mr Yorke-Smith, and answer some of his questions, something I could not do for the author of the previous letter (Wes), whose criticism took the form of a rant rather than that of a rational argument.

In his letter Mr Yorke-Smith asks whether I am promoting scientism rather than science. The Secular Society does indeed believe that the Scientific method, that of rational inquiry, is the only philosophically defensible method of finding out facts about the Universe. Now two questions will spring to the mind of the religious reader. The first would probably be: Is this a masked a priori rejection of religion and the idea of a God?

The answer is no, the Secular Society offers no objections a priori against the possibility of a deity. However we maintain that should a deity exist the only way of objectively verifying its existence would be through rational inquiry, be it scientific or philosophical. What we maintain is that there is no rational evidence for a God, and therefore no reason to believe in one. What we categorically are not saying is that science and rationality somehow preclude the possibility of a deity. Therefore we do indeed think clearly about the evidence of a Palestinian teacher 2000 years ago. We analyse all evidence in a rational way and come to conclusions. It is simply a matter of fact that we come to the atheist conclusion, rather than a sci-

entific conspiracy against religious evidences. In conclusion, this 'atheist a priori dismissal' meme finds safety in popularity, rather than in substance.

The second query that might come to mind would be: Does this mean that the only thing that matters is science, and that science can answer everything? Clearly once again the Secular answer is a resounding no. It would be impossible for even a hardened Scientist to derive any defensible moral system by science alone! Of course emotions matter! Where would any of us be without love, guilt, anger, happiness...? Indeed it is obvious to theists and atheists alike that science isn't all that matters. And as a matter of fact there are questions that science (at this moment) cannot answer, the big 'why' questions that Mr Yorke-Smith was alluding to. However this does not mean that there must be something else that can answer them. Nor that these questions even have a satisfactory answer!

The question 'why are we here?' in my opinion is a bit of a null question in the absence of a creator God. If in fact there is no God, then the question has no emotionally satisfying answer. We can scientifically find out about evolution, and the origin of species, and the regress of the universe, but in the absence of forethought there is no real why. We just are, its as simple as that. The fact that this is not as emotionally satisfying an answer as is given in Genesis is by the by. However it does not lead to the conclusion that life or the universe is inherently worthless because it lacks purpose. In fact, the Secular Society values life as much as any other, and wishes only to improve its condition on planet earth.

I would like to thank Mr Yorke-Smith for his letter, since it has allowed me to clarify exactly the position of the

Secular Society on some very important matters that are often misunderstood and misrepresented. I would also like to invite him, along with anyone else who would like to ask us questions, to our first meeting which will be held from 4-6 p.m. in the DBs on Wednesday 6th of December. And finally dear Editor, thankyou very much for your time and column space,

Yours Sincerely,

Nikolai Segura

Dear Felix,

It has come to my attention that certain people at Imperial Collage are slightly lacking in a sense of humour. While I definitely don't want to be drawn into a Science vs. Religion argument (my own life experiences having given me an incredibly polarised view of the whole debate), I do think that there is a bit too much sensitivity regarding Mr Secura's posters.

I personally feel that the secular societies posters are light-hearted. My belief, Wes, is that the "Born OK the first time" was a reference to the Christian philosophy that one has to be "born again" within the faith to be "saved" - a little play on words, that's all.

When any group (i.e. not necessarily religious) protests so loudly about something which is still only someone else's opinion, it tends to give the impression that they are worried that the masses won't choose their own group if this individual says such and such. Which would indicate that they are worried that their own words aren't as persuasive or strong in foundation. Please note I am not saying this is necessarily the case, but that it is the impression that comes across. A bit like when someone says "ooohh, what did you two get up to last night!", and you get really defensive and angry because you know they're right.

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

Maybe Neil Yorke-Smith and Wes do see the irony in taking a stab at Mr. Segura for voicing his opinions on life's questions, but then doing the same thing themselves. So I would like to reiterate that I am not questioning whether an individuals beliefs are correct. Some of my friends, for example, seem to think that Star Trek is brilliant, when it is quite clearly not.

Regards,

Alec Thomas (Physics III)

CYCLE III

Dear Felix,

I read with interest the recent pieces in your magazine covering cycle theft and bike parking.

I just took a quick stroll in order to assess the number of cyclists on the South Ken. campus. I counted around 400 cycles locked outside; the majority of these could be found within 10 or so 'designated locations' spread around the site. These cycle parks were all in heavy use (80% full, say) except for the very large site outside electrical engineering which was about 60% empty. Since this empty cycle park is very close to Dalby Ct. it suggests that a large new bike shed here would not be ideally placed.

Besides, I would think that the total

area taken up by the (very cramped) cycle parks approaches 750 square meters; this would take up a significant chunk of Dalby Ct. Presumably this would make a central cycle storage facility impractical as well as undesirable.

So if anything is done to improve the cycle parking facilities, I would argue that it should be mirrored at a number of locations around the campus. Surely the least we can hope for is some well-spaced Sheffield racks with a CCTV camera trained on them.

What about something better? I suspect that because the existing cycle parking is located in awkward nooks and crannies that it would be difficult to implement lockers or build secure compounds at the existing locations. I would think that if college are serious about improving cycle parking facilities, they might need to allocate some better space to cycle parking. Perhaps college should carry out a proper feasibility study examining the requirements for cycle parking and the options available. This might include a survey of how people get to college. I suspect this would reveal that more people cycle than drive which would help to justify their expenditure and loss of any car parking spaces.

Besides improving parking facilities maybe college could be persuaded to

appoint a cycling officer. This would provide a focus for cyclists and reduce the apathy which Hamish referred to. I would guess that the cycling population of the South Kensington campus will approach 10% in the summer months (if there are 400 cycles parked on campus on a November lunchtime, then including bikes hidden away in peoples offices, cyclists not on campus and the increased use of cycles in summer, this number should rise considerably).

Surely 700 or so cyclists deserve some form of recognition. For example it would be nice for someone to organise discounted bike maintenance schemes or to represent the interests of cyclists to the Royal Parks or to the London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

Finally, I agree with Hamish that there is nothing particularly difficult in achieving improved cycle parking if the political will is there and would urge Hamish to ensure that something does happen.

Yours,

Tim Grainger

THE BIOCHEMISTRY BETWEEN US

Dear all,

I wish to inform the students from all subjects about the exciting Guest

Lectures organised in the coming weeks by the Biochemistry Society. The first lecture takes place on Thursday 7th December and is presented by the world famous scientist Professor Lord Robert Winston. The lecture entitled 'Ethics in Science' asks whether scientists should be held accountable for the science they create. Science is no longer simply about harmless curiosity. As science impacts the whole of society who should decide the moral standpoint in controversial issues such as prenatal genetic screening? This lecture is to be held on Thursday 7th December at 6.30pm in the BMS Lecture Theatre 2. Admission is free with refreshments afterwards. Arrive early to ensure entry. The second high profile lecture lined up this term is presented by Dr Chris Evans, widely regarded as one of the most successful biotechnology entrepreneurs in the UK, his lecture is entitled 'Biotech: the coming revolution'. This lecture is on Tuesday 12th December at 6.30pm and is probably in the Read Lecture Theatre. Admission is free and refreshments will be provided after the lecture. Both lectures have a limited capacity and are likely to be highly popular. Please arrive early to avoid disappointment.

Thank you,

Andrew Parker,

Biochemistry Society President

JUST PLAIN INSANE

MARTIN O'REILLY STEVEN DOUGHTY

DAN CLARKE

Do you remember the Union Curry? For those of you who have only joined us this year, allow me to describe to you this strange beast.

Part rice, part spice and part miscellaneous meat or veg, the Union Curry has been a staple foodstuff for generations of IC students. Nutritious and occasionally delicious, the Union Curry provided the IC student with their daily dosage of carbohydrates, proteins, fat and baby sweetcorn (especially baby sweetcorn).

Every lunch and dinnertime, there was a choice between the visually attractive vegetable curry or the clearly labelled but otherwise unidentifiable meat curry. They were cheap and cheerful and nice in their own special way, and never failed to spark off a conversation speculating on the exact

origin of various components of these culinary masterpieces. There seemed to be no limits to what qualified to become the basis for a Union Curry. Peas, carrots, lamb, mushrooms, potatoes, turkey, baby sweetcorn (and something that we are fairly sure was parsnip (*you're not even close -Ed*)) all made it into the mix.

The Felix Rant

They weren't haute cuisine, but they were ours and we liked them. And union catering has cut us off cold turkey. Citing financial constraints (the Union Curry was a loss making venture apparently, but what could be cheaper to produce than a curry?), they have killed the curry and replaced it with daily specials. I am all for choice, but what about those of us who want to choose curry? More to the point, how's a student supposed to

prepare for a night on the beers with a baguette or a jacket potato?

Well some of us have decided that the time has come to take action. We have launched an online petition at www.icu-curries.com, demanding the return of the Union Curry. Our hope is that with enough signatures, union catering will reverse their decision and bring it back. Why should you sign it? Because you too want to see the return of the glorious Union Curry of course! But we also have an added incentive...

Win beer. There, I said it

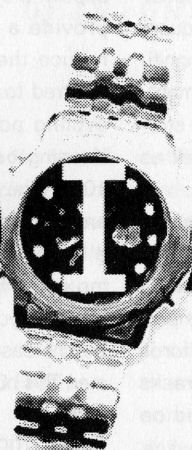
After hearing of our plight, the nice folks at Cobra Beer have offered to supply not a bottle, not a crate, but an entire YEARS SUPPLY of Cobra Beer to the IC student who comes up with the most original and compelling argument to bring back the Union Curry. So don't delay, register your vote today at www.icu-curries.com - and don't forget to tell your friends.

Got something to rant about? Send it to felix@ic.ac.uk.

Rants must be a maximum of 700 words and are printed at the Editor's discretion.

FELIX

DIARY



PUT IT THERE

Monday

4.12.2000

- 4-6pm** IFTAR-free food: brothers in JCR / sisters in Prayer room (every weeknight)
Contact islam@ic.ac.uk
- 6pm** ICU Debating Society's first debate; "This House Believes that Britain is Dead", Chem. Eng., Lecture Theatre
- 5pm** DaVinci's: Alternative Music Society
- 6.30 pm** RAG meeting Southside

Tuesday

5.12.2000

- 12-2pm** Union Gym: Fencing
- 6pm** "CHAOS AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF BUSINESS"
By Dominic Fielden, from Breakthrough Technologies
Pipard Lecture Theatre, Level 5, Sheffield Building
(Environmental Society)
- 6pm** ICU Council - everyone welcome
- 6-8pm** Aiuchi Jiu Jitsu: Wilson House Rec Centre BEGINNERS WELCOME
- 6-8pm** Wine tasting society, Alexander Fleming Building (Cafe),
Everyone welcome
- 8:15-11ish** Community Action Group Soup Run: Weeks Hall Kitchen
No Commitment, just turn up
- 8:30** DaVinci's: Quiz Night: Win £50 Cash
Union: Be afraid. Very.

Wednesday

6.12.2000

- 6-8** Wilson House: Shorinji Kempo
- 8-1** Union: Cheesy Wotsits.

Thursday

7.12.2000

- 1pm** Southside (Upper Lounge) Motorbike Club
- 5:45** Wilson House Rec Centre
Self Defence Class
BEGINNERS WELCOME
- 6:20** Civ Eng: Christian Union
- 5-11pm** Cocktail night - DaVinci's
- 6:45-8:45pm** Wilson House Rec Centre
Aiuchi Jiu Jitsu
BEGINNERS WELCOME
- 8:15-11ish** Community Action Group Soup Run: Weeks Hall Kitchen
No commitment, just turn up
- Gliding Meeting (Beginners Welcome) Room 252
Aeronautics (Roderic Hill Building) - Visit our new web site at <http://su.ic.ac.uk/gliding> for more information.
- The Imperial College Biochemistry Society Presents
Professor Lord Robert Winston on Ethics in Science.
SAF Building Lecture Theatre 2

Friday

8.12.2000

- 1pm** Southside (Upper Lounge) Photosoc
- 1-2pm** Jumma prayers in Southside Gym
- 12-2** Union Gym (3rd floor) Fencing
- 8pm** Great Hall, IC choir presents Gloria-Rutter / Dixit Dominus - Mandel / Messa di Gloria - Puccini
Tickets on door
- 8pm** Southern Comfort band night & Pop Tarts
£1.50 / £2 without ICU card / free with entscard

GET YOUR DIARY ENTRIES IN BY
WEDNESDAY 9PM TO GET YOUR
EVENT PUBLICISED FOR FREE

Saturday

9.12.2000

8-12pm

Whiplash: alt.rock, metal, punk, in dBs

Sunday

10.12.2000

Interhall Football

2-4 UDH:

Shorinji Kempo

Monday

4.12.2000

4-6pm

IFTAR-free food: brothers in JCR / sisters in Prayer room (every weeknight)

Contact islam@ic.ac.uk

5pm

DaVinci's: Alternative Music Society

6.30 pm

RAG meeting Southside

Tuesday

5.12.2000

12-2pm

Union Gym: Fencing

6-8pm

Aiuchi Jiu Jitsu: Wilson House Rec Centre BEGINNERS WELCOME

6-8pm

Wine tasting society, Alexander Fleming Building (Cafe), Everyone welcome

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Community Action Group Soup Run: Weeks Hall Kitchen

No Commitment, just turn up

8:30

DaVinci's: Quiz Night: Win £50 Cash Union: Be afraid. Very.

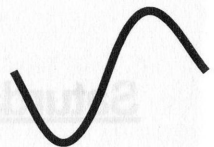
NEXT ISSUE OF FELIX OUT ON WEDNESDAY 13TH DECEMBER. IT'S A BUMPER
CHRISTMAS SPECIAL DESIGNED TO LAST YOU WELL INTO NEXT YEAR

ESQUIRES
COFFEE HOUSES

2 for 1
medium cappuccino

ESQUIRES COFFEE HOUSES OPPOSITE WAITROSE GLOUCESTER ROAD

COFFEE EXPIRES ON 31.12.00



Doves and Turin Brakes

Live @ Empire

Turin Brakes have no delusions of their destiny and fate in the evil world of music, they know that there not the next Travis or Coldplay. You see, they lack attitude, a beautiful front person and most of all they just aren't plain loud enough. What they do have is an abundance of charm, sweet acoustic melodies and the ability to turn hauntingly angst when they please. Take, *Mind over Money* for example, an example of there mini folk Radiohead tendencies. A band to keep an eye on, but probably best listened to on record. Whereas with Doves, their electrifying live show surpasses even the LP, *Lost Souls*, a sure contender for album of the year.

To cap the Doves best year yet, they sell out the Empire two nights running, get the pick of the bands "who are mostly likely" to support them, then turn in a blistering set of blood, sweat and guitar majesty. Songs like *Sea Song* and *Here it Comes*, are given time and space to develop and soar. From Badly Drawn Boy's backing band to a Mercury nomination in under two years, the Doves are here to enjoy themselves. Utilising stunning visuals, ranging from short pretentious films to hypnotic swirls, the band fully entrance the audience for the whole set. The Doves are sure to do well in all the end of year polls, you could do a lot worse than putting their album *Lost Souls* on your Christmas List.



Turin Brakes enjoy a day at Blackpool



Embrace and Morgan

Live @ Brixton Academy

With Morgan, it really is a family affair. Look over there on the drums, that's his little brother, oh and on the left with a tambourine that's Uncle Morgan, and there are his sisters, in the middle, singing and stealing the praise. Which is unfair, as the gangly, unassuming Morgan sits to the side with his box of tricks, guiding his family through his own beats and pop/jazz combinations. The glorious *Miss Parker*, is followed with the summery shimmy of *Sitting in the Sun*, as the party atmospheres continues, onwards, but not before an interval with...

Comic extraordinaire, Jonny Vegas, who is here, to be quite frankly, a bit crap. Only one other thing must be mentioned, fat old men really shouldn't strip in front of 6000 people, no matter what sum of money is involved. Which after that dour interval, on an otherwise night of celebration, brings us to the headliners. Once, a poor man's Oasis, a band that could play the right tunes, but never really hit the target. But this year has been different, the band have matured, grown relaxed and

more confident, songs that use to drag and die out, now lift and drive. Embrace, really are the full package now, a very British rock band. Ignore the fact that any half wit can sing better than Danny, just feel the atmosphere and dig those grooves. They bang out all the hits, we all sing along and it's lovely, no alarms and no surprises. With Embrace, you get exactly what it says on the tin, with no pseudo-art toss guitar wank. For every Tortoise album you own, you need Embrace style sing-a-long indie anthems to balance your life. They play *Save Me*, *Hooligan*, *One Big Family* et al. As Danny Macnamara struts and nods, and grows into a prince among front men, everyone helps the band raise the roof. The lads from Leeds prove that anyone can play guitar, and no matter who you are, if you have the tunes and some soul, it might just be you playing in such venues given a couple of years.

Embrace will be lying low for the next few months, but make sure you check them out next year, they'll surprise you. A quality night of cabaret.

Andy

Ben Okafor

Coffee With Lazarus

(Plankton)

Now, there's a definite conflict of interests in Ben Okafor's music. On the one hand we have some of the smoothest reggae you're likely to hear. It might be a touch overproduced but it's still excellent chill out fodder for when you've been caring it too much. Yet on the other hand we have these absolutely appalling lyrics that seem to have been written the night before old Ben's had to hand them in (come on, you know what I mean) to his record label. It shouldn't matter that he's talking utter crap, after all if the Manic Street Preachers can make a career of it then so can Okafor. Indeed, if it is the Saturday night stoners that he's catering for then he's perfect: you could talk bollocks about these lyrics 'til dawn.

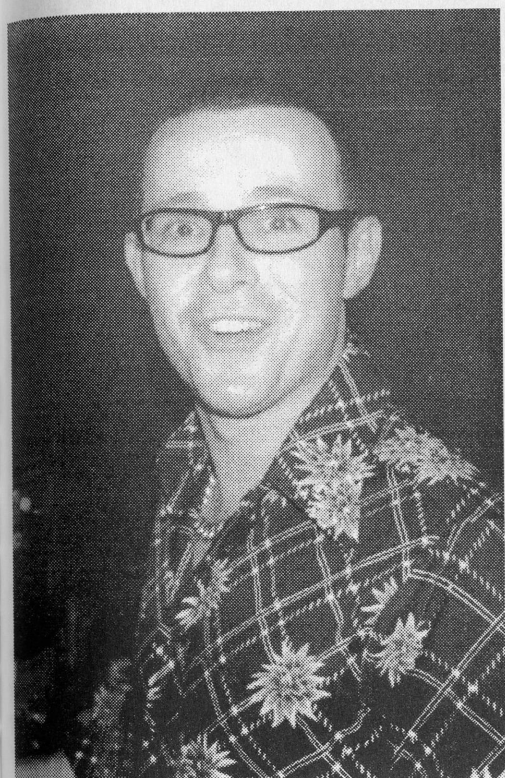
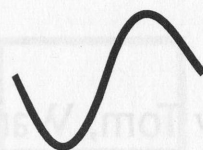
Dope Smugglaz

Dope Radio

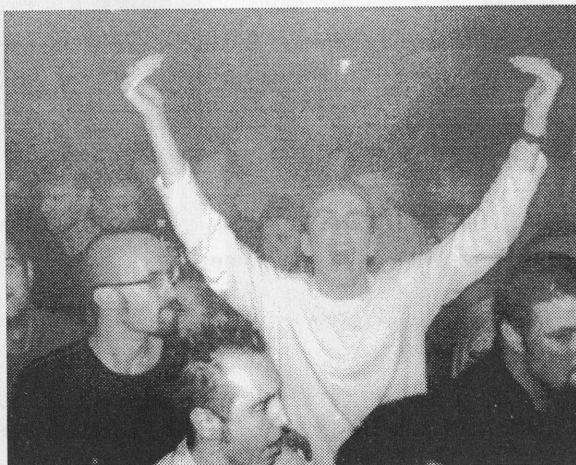
(Perfecto/Mushroom)

Dope Smugglaz first album, riddled with loads of samples from the likes of classical music to Mark Goodier's voice, it makes it a very varied listen. Their idea was to make an album that could be listened to many times, with many layers to each song so every time you experience something different. To me, it hasn't the depth of an album such as Moby Play, but it has the ability to grow on you. With some funky guitar riffs splashed about big beats it has songs that easily entertain, and then it has others that just get annoying.

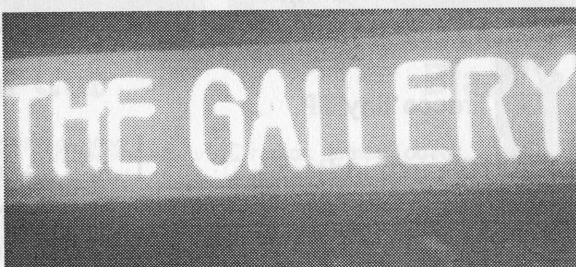
Toby



The man himself - The Judge



Darren having it laaaarge!!



Capital's Clubbing at it's finest

The Gallery, Friday night @ Turnmills

The Gallery - Friday night theme at Turnmills. Famous galleries usually hold several masterpieces. In a clubbing world, The Gallery at Turnmills held three; Judge Jules, Timo Maas and a memorable atmosphere. Described by experienced clubbers as the best night out in London, true fans of hard-house and trance would surely have to agree. Situated in the heart of the Clerkenwell area near Farringdon Tube Station, Turnmills is the home of euphoric music in London.

On arrival at 11:30pm I laughed at the ridiculously immense queues, mainly due to the very fair £10 entry. Avoid disappointment and leave the union bar early. Most importantly, The beefy bouncers have their heads where the sun doesn't shine, so hassling them about the queue is not recommended. The wait is worthwhile,

so be patient. Once inside get your bearings. The main room hosts the big DJs, but a back room playing funky house and a café can help you momentarily chill out.

The night was to be special. Rarely do you see the likes of Timo Maas, followed swiftly on the decks by Judge Jules. Regularly mentioned by the Judge on his radio show, the Gallery offers weekly a list full of DJs who play there because they want to, knowing the crowd will respond to their sets.

As I stood in the middle of the tightly packed floor dazed by the laser lights and surrounded by sweaty, eccentric, screaming trance lovers, I soon realised that the Gallery does hold the key to 'ultimate clubbing'.

With its fluorescent and luminous interior, abstract wall projections and elaborate ceiling decorations,

Turnmills is definitely for those who appreciate quality. Don't expect a floor packed with gorgeous people though. No, there are not too many of us students packing the dance floor. Instead prepare yourself for a mainly male and 20-something crowd, dripping with sweat and rattling with pills.

Drinks are expensive, but don't let dehydration strike. Pace yourself throughout the 10:30pm to 7:30am session, a vodka and red bull will set you back a steep £7.50, while a bottle of Coke is a cool £2.50. Also dress to impress, although the hardcore Judge fans did manage to contradict this house rule, being dressed like airport traffic police.

As an added extra we ended the night by beating the crowds to the DJ booth where we managed to gain access, and meet two nice geezers called Jules and Timo. Not bad for a night out in one of London's finest galleries.

Darren Bailey

Marble Valley

Sunset Sprinkler

(Pork Recordings)

Marble Valley were formed in 1997 by Steve West, the drummer from Pavement, and this, their second album, is a quirky mix of percussion and synthesiser driven tracks that, despite sounding strange at first, grow on you very quickly. Most of the songs are good, some are bad and several are just weird but all of them are unique. If you are looking for a substitute for this year's rather bland offerings, or if you are just a pavement fan you will probably enjoy this original, if slightly strange, offering. *Sunset Sprinkler* is released on 4th December.

The Action Time

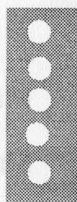
Versus The World

(Southern)

Kenickie are dead, long live The Action Time. One band, 3 girls and 3 boys. One aim, to pervert modern music by steam rolling head first as a punk rock juggernaut. As subtle as a brick, their whirlwind harmonies leave you dazed and confused as they rush through a full album in less than 30 minutes.

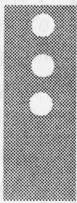
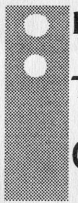
To The Action Time, talking the game and looking right is as much as the sound. Thick eyeliner, immaculately coiffured black hair and Sex Pistol cockiness, it all adds to their swagger. A band aiming high, pushing hard with everything they have. Don't expect them to stick around, but the fast thrills are fun while they last.

by Tom, Warul, Mansoor and Stephen

Saian Supa Crew**Angela****(Wordplay/Source)****Big Sur****EP****(Arista)**

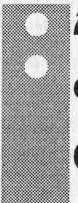
Fantastic single from this French Hip-Hop collective. The soulful lyrics combine superbly with SSC's trademark skillful vocal dexterity. There's even some Latin vibes going on here. *Angela* was in the French Top 5 for four weeks over the Summer, and it's great. Get this now!

This is a bit more like it - one of the hundreds of 'next big things' flying about at the moment, it comes across like Belle and Sebastian, except it's not wank. Wistful guitar pop of the type that Buffalo Tom do so well, with the third track, *Waiting For You* being especially good.

Last Man Standing**Shotgun Mouth****(Stand Alone Recordings)****Barker****Trecco Bay EP****(Clearsound)**

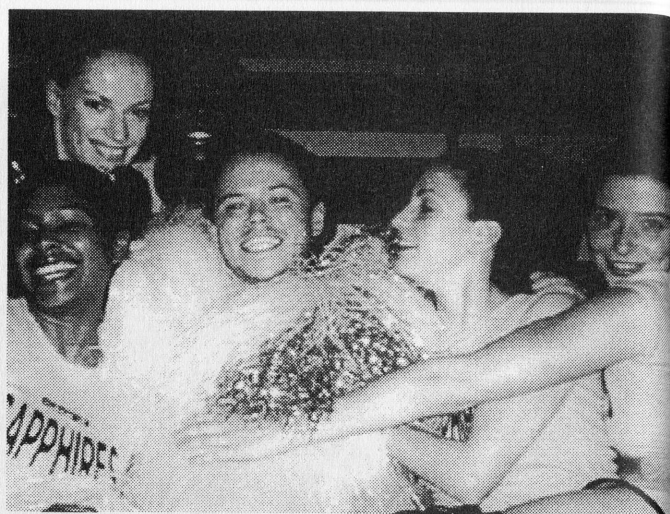
Ahhh, what's that in my ears?!?!? Is it a bee, or a wasp?!?!? No! It's this song! Super-fuzzy bass and distortion, they sound like angry teenagers, and aren't teenagers so adorable when they're angry...This isn't bad, probably worth seeing live. What is a *Shotgun Mouth*?

This lot seem to have missed their time by about 5 years - mid-90's indie pop, in a Northern Uproar/Menswear style. Not anything you haven't heard before, and it all sounds a bit dated now.

Bon Jovi**Thank You For Loving****Me****(Jambco)****Apollo 440****Charlie's Angels****(Sony)**

I had heard that Bon Jovi's latest album *Crush* was a welcome, rousing revisit to their pop-rock roots. However, this single from their album is a barely warmed-over rehash of the track *Always* from the album *Crossroads*. This is a rather simple, sappy ballad. Strictly for fans only.

Typical Apollo 440 fare - the drummer having a fit in the background, a few guitars thrown in for good measure, and completely devoid of any semblance of being good. Not as bad as *Lost In Space*, but then that's not much of an achievement.

**Lo-fidelity Allstars, supported by Space Raiders****@ Heaven**

Having lost two band members, including their vocalist, around the time of their last UK tour two years ago, you might think that the Lo-Fi Allstars have difficulty returning to the stage with the same presence that they used to have. However their explosive performance on the final date of their recent UK tour blew away any doubts you might have had about the band. The raucous, adrenalin-filled set was a statement of intent as the band made clear that they were as loud and as energetic as they have ever been, and that "this is NOT a comeback".

Space Raiders supported, and camped it up in Village People outfits. The two frontmen made an enthusiastic duo, who were perhaps a little too lively for the crowd, but all in all not a bad performance.

Lo-Fi Allstars came on and showcased their "new sound" - which seemed to have elements of Primal Scream, Death In Vegas and Bentley Rhythm Ace - with a good selection of their new tracks such as *The All* and *Voodoo House*. They also played old tracks such as *Battle Flag* and *Disco Machine Gun*. This good mix of old and new meant that the fans were kept happy whilst also being introduced to the new material, all of which was played with the same full-on attitude.

However, I found that the new material lacked some of the dark, psychotic feel that made their last album so damn good. None of them seemed to have a distinctive sound. In a sense it felt as if they had lost some of their identity.

But hey, that was the past, what about now? Now, they have more than enough talent and musical firepower to beat the severest shades of shoeshine out of most of the whiney-arsed bands around at the moment. Their eclectic mix of styles and moods means that their music is always fresh and exciting, and ultimately powerful. I challenge you to go to one of their gigs and not find something that you like.

Remember, Tom is always open to offers. Although a busy man, he always has time for a cup of tea and a chat if you have any problems. He'll mend your fence, do a bit of gardening or generally help you round the house as necessary.

If any people want to join *Frequency* in casting a critical eye over the world of music, please come along to the *Felix* office (in the portacabins behind Physics) on Friday at 1.30pm, asking for Andy or Loony Tom. See Ya!



Urban Legends: Final Cut

Director: John Ottman

Starring: Jennifer Morrison, Matthew Davis and Eva Mendes

The sequel to the year before last's story about a campus-based serial killer is (somewhat unsurprisingly) another story about a campus-based serial killer. This time the campus is Alpine University, the elitist film school. It is the end of term and senior year students are rushing to finish their thesis films before they graduate. Competition for the best film is made even tougher by the prestigious Hitchcock award; a prize which not only gives the recipient a large sum of money, but also the chance to make films in Hollywood. A opportunity that film students would literally kill for. This actually adds quite a nice twist – a sort of 'is it part of the film or part of the film in the film' – which distinguishes it from the first 'Urban Legend'.

In fact the whole story is quite separate from the first. The only character to cross over is Reese (Loretta Devine), the Campus security guard, a little bit tougher but still the same; and the rumour of an Urban Legend killer at 'some university up the coast'. This

rumour inspires our heroine, Amy (Jennifer Morrison), to make her thesis film a psychological thriller about a serial killer who kills his victims in the style of urban legends. Most of the urban legends have quite a long run up to them – you know something is going to happen but you're not quite sure what. This means that half the fun of the film is trying to guess which urban legend is about to happen.

In many ways this film is similar to all others of its genre. The main character is a girl with 'issues' in her past. She works out long before anyone else that everyone is being murdered and that all the murders are related to her. Of course, no one believes her. There is some dubious male interest Trevor (Matthew Davies) that you are not quite sure if she should trust and despite the fact that she knows someone is trying to kill her she runs towards the sound of screaming, on her own, completely unarmed, in the dark. But lets face it, if you like teen thriller slashers then this will be right up your alley (preferably a deserted one with minimal lighting and a masked serial killer hiding in the shadows).

(In cinemas now).

Katherine



Black and White

Director: James Toback

Starring: Brooke Shields, Robert Downey Jr. and Ben Stiller

At first thought, *Black and White* seems like a terrible Idea for a movie. A picture starring, amongst others, Claudia Schiffer, NBA star Allan Houston, selected members of the Wu-Tang clan, and Mike Tyson all in a movie about *Black and White* cultures colliding in modern day New York.

The movie is a mess – there seems to be very little structure to it at all. There is a weak central plot concerning a corrupt cop (Stiller) who bribes a basketball star to throw a game with unexpectedly tragic consequences. There doesn't appear to have been any script for this movie – it bounces from scene to scene without any obvious direction, and most of it is clearly hugely improvised. There is a woman making a documentary (Shields) about white teens hanging out in the ghetto pretending to be "niggaz". Her husband's (Downey Jnr.) homosexuality seems to be obvious to everyone except her. There's a black gang who just seem to spend their entire time shagging up in a penthouse apartment belonging to a

rap group (members of the Wu-Tang clan).

What stops this from being a total disaster is the cast – unusual, certainly, but some fine performances. Ben Stiller and Joe Pantoliano turn in some good work, and Downey Jnr. is very amusing. What is more surprising is that the supporting cast isn't too bad – Schiffer and Houston won't be winning any Oscars, but their presence doesn't kill the movie like other celebrity performances could have done (i.e. Cindy Crawford, Aaliyah etc). And Tyson is just himself. The Idea of anyone asking Tyson for advice on conflict resolution is funny enough, but the scene where Downey Jnr. comes on to him is hilarious.

Black and White is an acquired taste; It's interesting if nothing else. If you can swallow a movie that's less than the sum of it's collective parts you may find it a stimulating hour and forty minutes. If you're looking for some story in there to stimulate the grey matter, you'll be disappointed.

(*Black and White* is in cinemas now).

Tom



The Italian Job

Director: Peter Collinson

Starring: Michael Caine, Noel Coward and Benny Hill.

Hold on, this isn't a new release," I hear you mutter under your breath. And indeed my little observant cherubs you are not mistaken, for *The Italian Job* was actually released in 1969. However, it is the first film in the "After Dark" series appropriately named because they are shown quite late at the BFI IMAX cinema in Waterloo.

You've probably heard enough of my rantings about how impressive the IMAX cinema in Waterloo is. It is encased in an odd cylindrical shaped building, interestingly positioned in the middle of a roundabout, which jumps out at you after you keep following the South Bank signs out of the underground. However, once you've negotiated the subways and hand over your good money, you are submerged in an media experience that only the best cinema in Britain can give you.

Usually such films as *The Italian Job* are not usually shown because they are not IMAX, and hence do not show off the cinema's true

potential. However, due to public demand, such classic films are being shown, a year after the first were tried. Just because of the sheer size of the screen and steep inclination at which you are positioned, watching a film in such an environment is a totally different experience. *The Italian Job* is supremely enjoyable, those little minis scooting all over the giant screen, in what must be one of the films that defined the cool Britannia image of the 1960's.

Also, with the opening of the Wellcome Wing at the Science Museum, IC students can see features previously reviewed in Felix for the measly sum of £5.95 (remember actual entry is free) at the IMAX now residing there. However, the "After Dark" series is only shown at the BFI IMAX, and be warned, it sells out very quickly indeed. The "After Dark" series is shown only on the last weekend of the month. All of the next films are all heartily recommended.

Titanic - 29th, 30th Dec.

LA Confidential - 26th, 27th Jan.

GoodFellas - 23th, 24th Feb.

Pulp Fiction - 30th, 31st March

Drew

ODEON

Kensington

Competitions!

Yes everybody, once again it is competition time and this week our good pals at the Odeon on High Street Kensington have given Screen **two pairs of tickets for Urban Legends: Final Cut**. As usual just answer this easy question in order to merit a free night out at the cinema.

Which actor connects the film *Gladiator* and the TV series "I, Claudius"

Come on then get your answers in for a festive visit to a free film!

The High Street Kensington Odeon is located just on the corner of Earls Court Road and High Street Kensington. Remember,

the special student rates they offer IC people. These apply Monday to Friday and late night Saturday. Producing your IC card will get you in for £4.50.

The answers to last weeks teasers were:

Smashie and Nicey being Harry Enfield's comic creations, Kate Hudson is **Goldie Hawn's** daughter, Lucy Liu plays **Ling Woo** in *Ally McBeal* and finally Blaine Tuttle was played by Joshua Jackson in *Cruel Intentions*.

Usual rules for this competition apply, answers to **film.felix** by noon on Wednesday, winners are drawn from my fat hat.

Meet The Parents

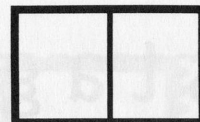
Now here is a competition to get the pulse racing. Screen has ten pairs of tickets to go and see a preview screening of the new Robert De Niro film *Meet The Parents*. This comedy has been a huge success in the States hitting the number one position in the charts and basking in fantastic reviews.

6th December, so quick entries are vital. The deadline will be noon on Tuesday, winners will be promptly emailed. The screening starts at 6.30pm at a West End cinema.

Just answer this dead easy question to try and win:

In which recent movie also starring Robert De Niro was Billy Crystal married to a Friend?

The showing will be on Tuesday



An Englishman in New York Editorial

For those who do read the book reviews you have probably spotted that there aren't any this week. The simple reason for this is that I've decided to take a break from London and come to the relative peace and quiet which is New York City.

Having never been abroad before it was quite an experience on the British Airways flight to JFK, the food was edible and only once or twice did I imagine us plummeting into the Atlantic Ocean. One small point, if you're on an airplane which crashes what use is a little whistle and torch (unless you happen to crash into a disco or club I guess).

After a 7 hour flight, my first moments on American soil

were spent going through customs, waiting half an hour for my luggage (the excuse being that the cargo doors would not open due to the cold weather) and staring at the airport police-officers thinking "this is so like television, they really carry Guns!"

After a quick bus ride (the time by now was approaching midnight) I had my first experience of the NY subway. First point, I was scared, it was late and I was travelling through Brooklyn. Secondly, it makes the London Underground look like Virgin's First class train carriages. The NY subway is disgusting, the stations look like level one of Huxley and the trains (which do run through the night) are very infrequent. The price is fair though, \$1.50 for any journey regardless of where it's to.

After a good-nights sleep in the hostel (saving money to spend on shopping) on top of a bunk bed (that was an experience and a half) it was time to do New York.

First things first, I went to Times Square-Broadway (a sight which during the day is impressive but is spectacular at night) and booked a show (well three to be precise). Forbidden Broadway on Sunday evening, Phantom on Monday and Jekyll and Hyde (starring David Hasselhoff, you know the one out of Bay-watch, the one without the large glands) on Tuesday. Most of Saturday was spent walking (so much more of an eye-opener than taking the subway everywhere) around going "Oh, I recognise that" or looking

at my pop up map (I so love playing the tourist).

Sunday morning I got up early and proceeded downtown to South Ferry. From there I took the free ferry to Staten Island which gives an excellent view of the Statue of Liberty on the outward journey and of the NY skyline on the way back. As it was misty and raining the sight of Lady Liberty was one I'll never forget, no wonder this symbol is such a source of comfort and hope to so many in this country.

That evening Forbidden Broadway was excellent. For those who don't know, FB is a humorous look at the musicals and shows

by parodising the music and stars. The service and food in the theatre (the Ellen Stardust) was superb, my bill only came to just over \$11 but I gave \$15 (I never know what to tip and I'm such a sucker for a dashing and charming waiter).

Before coming to New York, some people told me that the people in shops and restaurants were rude and unfriendly. I have found this to be untrue. What I have witnessed is that if you say "Thank-you" the common response is a smile and "Your welcome". Showing, that if your pleasant to them they are cordial back.

The usual tourist things have followed: The World Trade Center (which holds probably the best Borders there is, oh and two big skyscrapers), Wall Street (no big deal, a rather inferior Bank Of England/Threadneedle St), Rockefeller Center (I have found that I can't skate and my ass will be hurting for weeks), Macys and Bloomingdales (Macys is the largest shop in the world but I thought it looked like a large branch of Debenhams, men will hate it, women (because of the perfume and smelly stuff) will love it).

A bit about books. New York does indeed have a number of very impressive bookshops and smaller specialist ones. Barnes and Nobles is the main chain, a bit like our Waterstones, and like Waterstones can be a

bit hit and miss. Some branches are excellent with a wide range but some (especially the so called "largest book shop on earth" on 5th avenue) could be selling socks for the amount of interest it generates for book fans (Waterstones on Piccadilly, I hope your listening the same goes for you!). Specialists and second-hand places are everywhere but I do want to mention one, "Mysterious Bookshop" on 56th street has everything for the thriller and crime fiction fan (i.e. me), the member of staff was so pleasant I wanted to take her home with me.

New York is very expensive. The shows on Broadway are almost double what you would pay in the West-End, junk food and restaurants are unbelievable priced but electrical goods are very cheap. A word of warning, all prices in New York are without tax (8.5%) so be careful, the price on the label is not the price you'll be paying.

Be careful of the toilets especially the flushes they are very powerful, I only mention this because I lost a very nice silver pen in Borders and before I realised it had fell out of my pocket it was probably being sucked into the Brooklyn river.

In my eyes NY is a great city, but for me London has the edge. London has more history (which is reflected in our buildings and parks) and

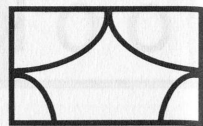
New York tries to compensate with skyscrapers and impressive constructions; for some it works but for me once you've seen 10 skyscrapers you've seen them all (I won't be applying for my green card yet, the chances are I wouldn't get it anyway). New York (especially around the theatre district and up to central park south) is like the area around Tottenham Court Rd and Centre Point, very nice in some areas but it has a slight dirty luck and too much neon lighting can be rather tacky.

I have to get going now. I have a red Yankees baseball hat to find and I have to think up a way of bringing about 40 to 50 books back with me. I will return next week with more book reviews if they let me back in the country.

Jonathan Matthews

“ This is so like television, they carry guns! ”

“ Once you've seen ten skyscrapers you've seen them all ”



Eye Contact

Riverside Studios, Hammersmith



Eye Contact had already attracted a wave of tabloid publicity - here was a chance to catch model, cover girl and (allegedly) near-illiterate Big Breakfast presenter Kelly Brook in a new play dealing with the phenomenon of table dancing clubs. The production is a look into the "sexual dynamics" of this world - and, to its credit, certainly manages to stay a comfortable notch above late-night Channel 5 material.

Kelly Brook plays Anya, a brassy table dancer in "Fantasy International", a London table-dancing club that is struggling to pull in the punters. Meanwhile, Hugo (Keir Charles) is a hedonistic, high-flying City banker who is besotted with Anya, and is besotted to the extent that he repeatedly tries to move their relationship to the world outside the club - Anya however is having none of it and the play is an exploration of the flirtatious interplay between the two - will she concede, or will Hugo have to be satisfied with a dance to end his evening?

Now all of this has great potential to be supremely boring, but the narrative is punctuated with several sub-plots which add to the psychological tension. Subplots include the dealings of the depraved and frustrated club owner, and also Hugo's colleague, the stiff family

man Philip, who also becomes involved with the club.

Contrasting with the three strong main characters (Hugo, Anya and Philip), some of the lesser characters are somewhat wooden and are let down badly by the script which at times throws up cliché after cliché. Kelly Brook shows she can actually act and is the real star of the play, while Keir Charles puts in a good performance, slightly marred by occasional over-acting but still making his character likeable in its pathos. Terence Booth is also fabulous as the conservative and staid City gent.

There is some nudity (all four of the girls have a brief turn at the pole, with Kelly Brook at the climax), but it is brief and certainly not tacky or gratuitous. Then again, this isn't exactly intellectual fodder, remaining a glamour show at heart. So go see. (*But is it art?* Arts Ed).

Sunil

The Knowledge:

Until: 16th December
£10 concessions, £16.50 else
Nearest tube: Hammersmith

Website:

<http://www.riversidestudios.co.uk>

4-Play

ICSM Drama Society



From the mouths of (freshers) come the wisdom of kings.

The format is simple; the new blood to the drama society performs a series of short plays or extracts, staged annually in Gladys.

There is no central theme; the plays are chosen entirely at the discretion of individual directors, making for a suitably diverse evening. The audience sat around candle-lit tables, drinking wine and eating nibbles, and the atmosphere was relaxed and friendly.

The first play, an excerpt from Michael Frayn's *Copenhagen*, explored the wartime relationship of Heisenberg and Bohr, two physicists from opposing sides, discussing the possibilities of an atomic bomb... this complex piece with its mixed messages was strongly acted, and served as a stimulating introduction to the evening.

Crazy For You was not a Gershwin musical, but an excellent concept play, in the form of a series of psychiatrist and patient consultations. The twist here is that the patient comes to realise that she is in a play - under the lights, with people watching, and aware of the true passage of time... Audio representing the doctor's thoughts, and lighting were used to great effect to add to the ingenious work performed here.

Mother Figure by Alan Ayckbourne

was the third play. An unsuspecting couple drop round to visit their new neighbour - but as the couple squabble and bicker like children, the neighbour begins to treat them accordingly. What seems to be another "middle-class living room" play rapidly becomes a strange twilight place of chocolate biccies, Mr Poddles and grown adults sticking their tongues out at each other.

In contrast to the domesticity of *Mother Figure*, April de Angelis' *Positive Hour* followed four women with their own deep-rooted issues, who stumble through life in a messy kinda way. Oh, and who swear a lot as well. The vivacious *Positive Hour* served well to round off the evening's events and the evening ended to rapturous applause.

The grand result was a diverse array of plays from an all-new cast of enthusiastic, able actors. The Freshers' Plays have always represented a good night out, and this year I am pleased to report the cast continued this fine tradition.

Andrew

The Knowledge:

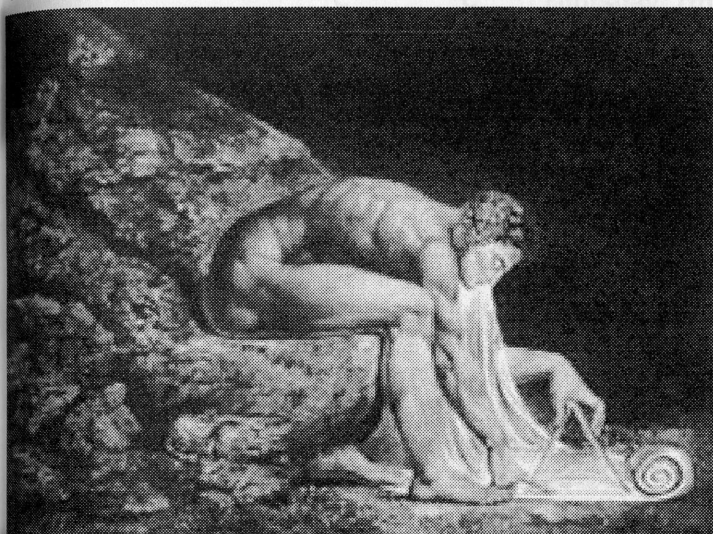
Website:

<http://www.su.ic.ac.uk/ccu/medic>



William Blake

Tate Britain



Described by Alex James of the band Blur as 'the original Soho nutcase,' William Blake, poet, printer and author of that rousing hymn Jerusalem, was born just off Golden Square in the late November of 1757. The American and French Revolutions were to follow, yet all

Mr Blake managed for the next 70 years, until his death in 1827, was to churn out an endless series of insipid pictures from his print shop in Lambeth. Blur and Blake do actually have something in common. They both attempt to recapture the English past; for Blur it is the cheeky-chappy Brit style popu-

larised by The Kinks; for Blake it was a ye olde Canterbury Tales pastiche of the Mediaeval. Mr Blake's bulky printing press, source of all this pseudo-Mediaeval malarkey, sits at the centre of the exhibition like an instrument of torture - and it does a good job inflicting boring Blake upon the Tate punters.

Much of the work is religious, with countless, sometimes interesting, even modern (the series for Dante's Inferno) prints but more often degenerating into rather ridiculous allegory.

The truth is that this exhibition would be better served outside the Tate, in a smaller museum in the provinces (how about the dusty but spectacular Fitzwilliam in Cambridge?). Since much of the fine art in the Tate has been shipped to Tate Modern, Tate Britain is now in transition and sadly bereft of purpose. The exhibition is clearly an attempt to reconfig-

ure the PR image away from modern international art. But the Blake is not good enough to do this, and anyway, it all sits uncomfortably with the Cool Britannia of the Turner Prize (in the adjacent gallery). With the £32 million revamp of Tate Britain continuing apace (due for completion in 2001), we can only hope Sir Nicholas Serota (Director of Tate) wakes up to the disastrous Blake misfire currently splattering over his gallery. Tate Britain could and should do better.

William

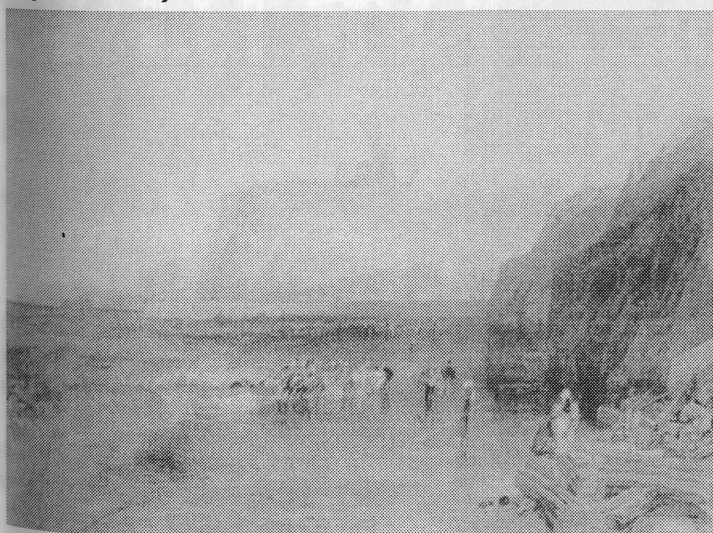
The Knowledge:

Until: 11th February 2001
£5 concession,
Nearest tube: Pimlico

Website:
<http://www.tate.org.uk>

Turner - The Great Watercolours

Royal Academy of Art



To mark the 150th anniversary of the death of Turner, the Royal Academy of Art is holding a commemorative exhibition of his watercolour works. There are over a hundred pieces here from minute sketches to large commissions, chronicling his entire life's work. The RA has put particular

effort into this show, with loans from both UK and US collections, a fitting tribute to one of their most illustrious students.

Initially, the exhibition seems like any other, with the first room being mainly his early sketches. His early work shows a keen architectural awareness, with the

buildings being rendered in minute detail, a marked contrast to the later watercolours and oils. In the second room holds paintings that are definitively Turner. Atmospheric, dramatic scenes with turbulent wild skies are prevalent, impressions hinted at with only the barest detail. Dark hues in some of the more disturbing storm paintings contrast strongly with the calm serenity of the dawn and dusk scenes. All these paintings have an added level of subtlety, with the watercolour washes sometimes betray the care and attention that have been lavished on each piece.

The series entitled Picturesque Views in England and Wales is considered to be some of the finest British landscapes ever made, and some of the larger compositions are very impressive - these contrast with some pieces that wouldn't look out of place on a chocolate box. I'm sure distinguished art critics will be crying out after reading

this, but I don't know much about art, and I know what I like.

There are some striking larger pieces in the third room (is the strongest of the three), accompanied by some verse written by the artist himself. The exhibition in general is a good view of Turner's watercolour work, but I find it difficult to recommend, because of the scandalous five-pound entry fee for students, and because Turner's more familiar work is far better represented for free in the Tate Britain.

Tom

The Knowledge:

Until: 18th February 2001
£5 students, £7 adults
Nearest tube: Green Park or Piccadilly Circus

Website:
<http://www.royalacademy.org.uk>

Phoenix 2001: an arts odyssey...

SCIENCE IS NOT ENOUGH AND *PHOENIX* IS THE SOLUTION. *Phoenix* is the annual arts magazine of Imperial College. It's a collection of original artwork, verse and fiction by students. In short, *Phoenix* offers an outlet for your repressed creative talents! Besides, it provides entertainment and welcome relief from science, technology and medicine.

Phoenix is special because it represents over a century of college tradition. The arts annual is the oldest publication at IC, founded once upon a time by the celebrated alumnus H.G. Wells. So this is your opportunity to be a part that distinguished history.

Over the years, *Phoenix* has been produced in a variety of formats by successive elected editors. The incredible range of styles is a definite bonus - as the saying goes, variety is the spice of life. There is purposefully no specific theme to *Phoenix* 2001, so your piece can be on whatever subject inspires you the most. Just let your imagination run wild.

Submitting entries couldn't be simpler, either via e-mail (for poems and stories) or in person (for drawings and pictures to be scanned). *Phoenix* is based in the Felix office, those unmistakable portacabins behind the liquid nitrogen tank at the back of the Physics department.

The preliminary deadline for submissions is set for the beginning of next term (Wednesday 10th January), so there's still plenty of time to be creative during the holidays. If all goes according to schedule, the *Phoenix* should hopefully be printed around Easter. The magazine will be distributed across campus and available for free.

Phoenix 2001 needs: POETRY, PROSE, DRAWINGS, SHORT STORIES, ARTY PHOTOGRAPHS and of course a FRONT COVER! If you're interested in contributing to the 2001 issue of *Phoenix*, then contact the editor Helena as soon as possible at phoenix@ic.ac.uk

Mountaineering Club - left dangling?

On reflection, it was probably a bit optimistic. A late November weekend in the Peak District (not exactly known for its arid desert climate) after the wettest Autumn in centuries was unlikely to offer much in the way of perfect gritstone conditions. If dry grit is the nicest thing in the world, then wet grit is definitely up for the worst.

Still, that didn't deter us. After a reasonably pleasant minibus journey we arrived in Hathersage Village Hall before midnight, and crashed out in its relative luxury (relative to a tent on a windswept hillside, anyway).

Saturday looked worryingly grey, but since it wasn't actually raining we made it out of bed reasonably early and headed down to Hathersage Bakery, the focal point of any Peaks trip due to its impressive fried breakfast 'monsters'. It was closed. Bugger. This was definitely a bad omen. We were forced to slum it and cook our own breakfast (which, incidentally, was really rather nice).

We drove up to Stannage Edge, and considered the state of the rock. It was certainly damp, and the low cloud suggested that it wasn't going to get any drier, but it was just about climbable. The cold wind failed to deter one of our number from attempting to look like a proper climber by stripping down to shorts and a vest (Fellwanderers brave? Yeah, right) and soloing up a descent route. A couple of people started to lead some easy routes, without a great deal of enthusiasm, but when it started to rain we decided to give up and go back.

Since most of the afternoon was available to us, we went shopping for gear (the aforementioned fashion freak spent £50 on a pair of trousers), debated the possibilities of finding a dry crag (slim) and decided to go to a wall in Sheffield. The Foundry turned out to be a great place, and at £2 to boulder it made the London walls look decidedly pricey. Three hours later, pumped, we retired to our hall for a bite to eat before sampling the wares at the local hostelry. Then came back to the hut and started drinking seriously. Some fool discovered the wide range of costumes stored in the Hall, and our glorious leader was wearing a dress within minutes (once he'd figured out how to get it on). We have photos, Simon: do you want your mum to see them? On the vague idea that it might be nice tomorrow and we would want to get up early and climb, we crashed out at around three.

Sunday seemed even less promising than Saturday had. We drove to the world-renowned Grindleford Cafe (that's pronounced "caff", without the acute accent, which is for poncey southerners) for a big, greasy breakfast. It had just about stopped raining by the time we reached Froggat, our crag of choice for the day. Although the classic slabs looked decidedly wet and unpleasant (which ruled them out, since decent friction is the only thing between you and Sheffield casualty on these routes), there were a couple of dry routes to lead and top-rope. We managed to get a reasonable amount done in the end: couple of nice leads, easy soloing and bouldering, and top roping for our less experienced members. Not an ideal day, but better than sitting in London in the rain.

Want to get involved in the frightening but fun world of extreme rock? Contact simon.coulson@ic.ac.uk



"Ropes? Ropes are for wimps."

Launch Party

Thursday, 7th December 2000

Foyer of The Mechanical Engineering Building and Lecture Theatre 220

"How to turn an idea into a business idea"

A short presentation by Professor Sue Birley, Director of BAe Systems, a former Director of NatWest Group, and a leading authority on 'Entrepreneurship'

6pm Formal Launch

6.30pm Networking, drinks & nibbles


Attendees include:

Employees from Credit Suisse Asset Management, McKinsey, Dresdner Kleinwort Benson and a number of venture capitalists, academics and entrepreneurs. These individuals will be available for networking after the presentation.

Numbers are strictly limited, so register your interest today at: challenge@ic.ac.uk

*[The Entrepreneurs' Challenge is run by the Imperial College Entrepreneurship Centre.
All ideas and entries will be held in the strictest confidence].*

WHAT ROCKS YOUR BOX?



CULT TV

CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL

friday dec 15th 9-2

£7 / £6 with entscard

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Carwash

The best disco & funk club in the world

**big soapy
bouncy washing machine**

also starring
a tribute to

Robbie Williams

and a tribute to

Tom Jones

and introducing

THE WOMBLE

Ensemble

Soundtrack by the fabulous
POP TARTS

Set design

cult tv decor

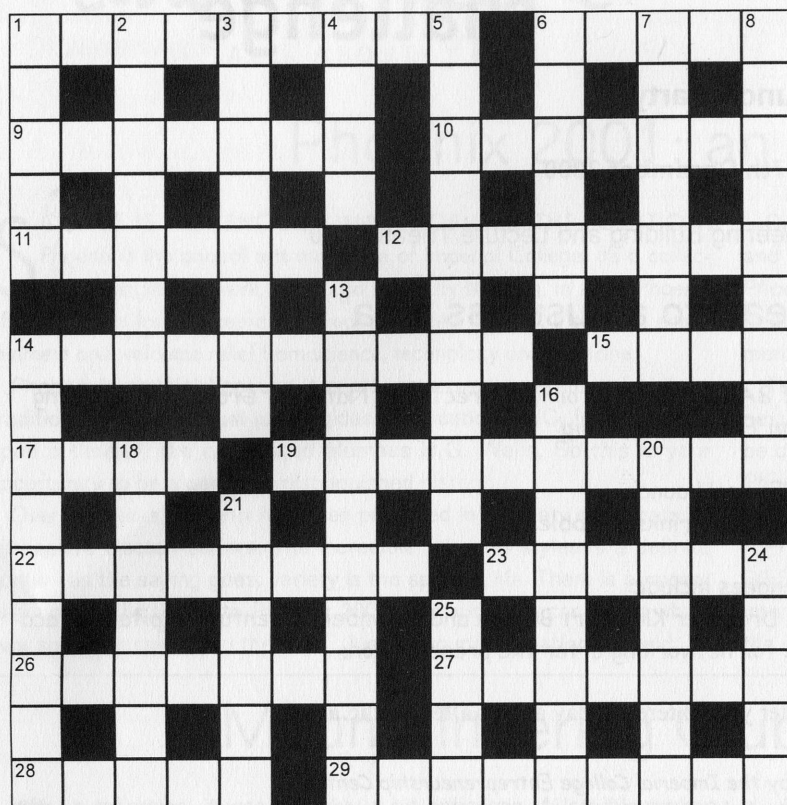
by propart



COME AS YOUR FAVOURITE TV CHARACTER



The Felix Crossword 1191, by Wailer Ned.



Answers to 1190:

Across: Blow By Blow, Helmet, Tobacco, Ruffle, Olive, Tigers, Slalom, Gigolos, Vapors, Molest, Polka, I'm Evil, Allures, Cherry, Strawberry.

Down: Loculi, Wattle, Yobbos, Whores, Streamiest, Fellate, Immoral, Twelve Inch, Grapple, Roger, Lesbo, Splays, Marrow, Lassie, Sucker.

Across:

1. Fruit is unable to see while going out with stranger. (5, 4)
6. A stroke of a brush will produce a plant! (5)
9. Appoint radarman to unwrap prelude. (7)
10. Take off door to make a bit crazy... (7)
11. Sorry? I'm going to let you off! (6)
12. Guess ties badly to friend. (8)
14. Don't know the words to sodomy? Deception! (10)
15. Church of England's transport operator is from Scotland? (4)
17. Seaweed, I hear, has little nourishment. (4)
19. Ultra-grain is pointy when ground up. (10)
22. I'm tired and don't know what to buy! (8)
23. "Zap!" Stand still! (6)
26. Bad rich nob has airways. (7)
27. Indian tribe drinks tea and understands instinctively. (7)
28. King on the straight and narrow. (5)

29. There's no mistake - I've not got as much next to the queen or king. (9)

Down:

1. Big floppy balloon. (5)
2. International and backward swamp will do for the meantime. (7)
3. Conversation sounds like terrible wood. (8)
4. A girl, sadly. (4)
5. I near confusion about search for Princess Anne, perhaps. (10)
6. Imperial crap builds boat. (6)
7. Hurry, Winton, plot! (7)
8. Carniverous guard? (9)
13. "Save Greg" is badly provocative. (10)
14. Fondle pole to steer. (9)
16. Shaker messed goa trait. (8)
18. Brought up crude fragrant liquid. (4, 3)
20. Mesh tall Noël up with tea on the rocks. (7)
21. I'm no hooker... a chopper perhaps? (6)
24. Makes spell to find actors. (5)
25. Sounds like you shed a level. (4)

IC Alumni in the Silicon Valley Driving the Technology Revolution!

The Imperial College Alumni Association of Northern California is a lively group with roots in science and technology: employees from established and new technology companies, world experts in their field and professionals who have succeeded outside the realm of technology. Our chapter

- Maintains an active social agenda
- Organizes interesting presentations from industry leaders
- Promotes fun networking activities and workshops
- Keeps ties with the College and other alumni

If you're planning a trip to the San Francisco Bay Area, please get in touch.

You can get more details from our Web Site:

<http://www.ic-ca.org>

Well, just a little bit from me today, 'cos I seem to have been seriously usurped by Wailer. Anyway, I will tell you that **Chris Toffis** has won this week, and he is the lucky winner of (and this is what comes if you go shopping with the DPE&W) a pair of rubber hand-cuffs, a book by Lily Savage, and a CD of 'It's Raining Men' sung by RuPaul, and one of the original Weather Girls (whose name I forget). So yes, it's your own fault for being so clever, and knowing too much sex-stuff. know your friends will laugh. *Turnip.*

Hello, it's Ned again. I trust you're not too corrupted. If you don't understand why any of last week's answers have sexual connotations, I'd suggest you don't ask: Those who did regretted it.

This week's crossword has no theme, don't be deceived by any of the clues. The prize this week is a surprise - I'm sure it will be a pleasant surprise, but there's so much mystery involved even I don't know what it is. It might be a Womble outfit for the end-of-term Cult TV carnival - read next week to find out! In any case, please do submit your completed grids, as it gives all of us compilers a warm fuzzy feeling to know that somebody does them (apart from the people who yell out the answers in the Maths common-room every Monday...). Despite Turnip's protestations about writing last week's, he enjoys it really, so I'm sure we'll be hearing from him soon. However, a little birdie tells me that we may have the privilege of one of the new compilers to assist us with next week's - the last crossword before Christmas! In the meantime, however, enjoy. *Ned.*



HOROSCOPES by Guru Gingagal

 **Capricorn**
22nd December-20th January


The discovery of your secret inheritance of the tropical island is slightly tarnished this week, when you discover that it is to be co-owned by your nemesis...tarquin....

 **Leo**
22nd July-23rd August

Rumours and intrigue surround you this week, perhaps it is a lesson to be more discrete about the duvet with hairy feet seen escaping from your room....

 **Taurus**
21st April-21st May

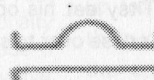
After a miserable time lately comes good fortune this week...so take heart...yours not anyone else's....

 **Scorpio**
24th October-22nd November


Noticing that you appear a little swollen this week, prompts a visit to the doctors, and a good thing too....

 **Aries**
21st March-20th April


It is important to say what is on your mind this week...brain fluid...it'll confuse your enemies...

 **Libra**
24th September-23rd October

Plotting to capture 101 dalmations this week will not bring you the warm feeling of comfort that you expected, it was never going to work...

 **Pisces**
20th February-20th March

A friend will persuade you to carry their dark secret this week, but it will prove to be a too heavy burden for you to carry..stupid big hefty solid metal secret....

 **Virgo**
24th August-23rd September


I know and you know, and we both know it wasn't very nice, it'll be a dissappointed flatmate opening those lil' doors of the advent calender from the 21st to the 15th...

 **Gemini**
22nd May-21st June

This week you fear one of your flatmates is slowly trying to poison you...but it would be a bit insulting to accuse if you were wrong....

 **Sagittarius**
23rd November-21st December

Building your own tomb/rather flashy pyramid maybe is wise...however it is a bit morbid...

 **Cancer**
22nd June-21st July

This is a week for special christmas shopping, special specific shopping for you lil' fiend....

 **Aquarius**
21st January-19th February

This week brings crushing dissappointment when you get the first two lottery numbers, divide all your worldly goods between your friends, and then fail to get anymore....

FELIX SPORTS SECTION

Yachting

Anyone passing Southside in the early mornings of the 25th and 26th of November would have been surprised to find an intrepid bunch of IC yacht club members waiting in the cold. Two day-trips to the Solent - or at least Portsmouth Harbour had been organised. Undeterred by minor factors such as wind and rain, we piled into the minibus that would transport us to our destination - Gosport on Portsmouth harbour. After arriving at 9:00am, there followed a quick meeting aboard one of the two Sigma 33s, called Zennor V and Scorchier, which would be our boats for the duration. The skippers wisely decided, based on the gale warnings on the radio and the deafening whistling of the rigging of the surrounding boats, that we would not venture outside Portsmouth Harbour.

We divided into two groups of six and proceeded to don our waterproofs. Each skipper then explained the safety risks and operation of the bewildering array of ropes and cleats to the uninitiated and we cast off. Saturday's trip had ventured to Port Solent - in the rain, but Sunday saw the appearance of the sun. We used a mixture of sail and motor to reach Fareham and after some anxious moments with high-tension electricity cables, it was lunchtime. We moored and ate on the boats. Gourmet sandwiches (!), accompanied by fine wine (!) were readily consumed. Then, with a slight break in the weather after lunch, we cast off and hoisted the proverbial mainsail. Coasting along at a speed of seven knots, the wind in our faces and the sun at our backs, it was easy to understand why we had all left our cosy beds at 6am that morning! We returned to the marina, moored the boats and, after having to undo it all again to go in search of diesel we cleaned up and returned to the minibus. We returned to London a contented bunch after an exhilarating dose of sea air and sailing, with the novices among us vowing to be back for more.

This is the first time the Yacht Club had experimented with one-day taster sails, which have worked out being a very cheap way of trying the sport; similar days will probably be run next term. If you would like to join the mailing list and be informed of forthcoming trips or have any queries about the Yacht Club email yacht@ic.ac.uk.


Rifle and Pistol

IC 1454 - 1458 Kings

On Wednesday 22nd November, IC Rifle and Pistol Club hosted King's College for a friendly rifle match in the Projectile Hall. Each College fielded a team of 8 shooters, with half of Imperial's team being composed of new shooters competing in their first match. All the new shooters from both teams performed creditably, with IC's Daniel Schneider shooting very well, acheiving 188 (out of 200). Imperial's four experienced shooters all did well, including Ben Chowdhary, Guy Dewhirst and Philip Golds. The overall result was a win to Imperial, the scores being; Imperial : 1464 - King's : 1458. Afterwards much fun was had by all, as everyone went over to Southside Bar for some post-match eating and drinking.

FELIX SPORTS SECTION

Rugby

IC Rugby supported by  **ALTRAN**

IC III 12 - 51 Reading II

It has been said that Rugby is a game of two halves. And so it proved to be. The men in togas started scoring early and IC heads began to drop.

However we fought back, liberally spearheaded by Bob Coultis with some excellent play with the boot (and no, he wasn't kicking). Rick Roberts, playing like a man

possessed, "limited" the half time score to 46 - 0.

Some subtle half time alterations to the line up turned the second half into more of a contest. IC had the lion share of possession and territory through some forward driving from Will Green despite being distracted for most of the game by the oppositions testicles!

The festival rugby continued

and led to Rich Seppings bombing over in the corner to open our account. The togamen rallied resulting with their number nine sneaking over with a little help from the "Windmill" at no.8.

IC were not finished stamped-ing straight back into opposition territory. A quick penalty on the five yard line from Dave "Boyo" White saw Titsy eat his opposite "winger" and cruise over to seal the

second half win to IC.

SPECIAL OFFER FOR THE WEEK ONLY! Email Mohan.Chahal@ic.ac.uk for complimentary pint of your preferred beverage.

Oh... and this the Dunbar Trophy for excellence went to A Dunbar. Finally, our apologies to Sylvia for failure to uphold fine name.

Ladies Football and Netball

IC 1sts 24 - 37 Roehampton

It is a rare occasion that netball girls are not up for it. And it is just as rare for netball girls to lack bounce. But this was one of those times. By bounce, I of course mean energy, oomf, jumping a bit, a bit of air between the ground and her trainers.

Anyway, the first quarter wasn't our best and Roehampton got themselves a good lead. The 2nd quarter our fighting spirit popped over to say hello and they gained only 4 goals. And the 3rd quarter they only got 2. The last quarter the girls got psyched up to fight even more, mental Jess and her grunts returned, Hannah's hangover was wearing off.

The last quarter, we got 3 up on them. It was sweeeeet play. All sounds grand, but we still lost. Our attack was looking gooood. Shirley is having a great season, and Rebecca and her are totally connecting in the circle, in a totally non-sexual way of course, before we over excite the IC men.

Hannah didn't do as much 'shaking of her arse' this week - something about going to Scandies the night before and having one too many diet coke methinks. Hehe, still we've all been there, playing with a hangover... any-

way, moving on swiftly. Our defence has seen happier days. And Roehampton's shooters were simply the best, better than all the rest, better than, no that's as far I know. No one was too keen to break an ankle on the super-slippery court, but heck, what's an ankle for the sake of netball.... Maybe we should learn to wear our hair in high ponytails, have matching stripy socks, shout 'ball' really really loudly (and get blown up for intimidation hehehe) (sounds a rather malicious tactic blowing the opposition up, it actually means blow the whistle for a penalty pass before any confusion arises and the tabloids come a-knocking) and we'd be sorted.

That or a pint of redbull before every game.

Ladies cash in on more Bucks! 13 - 0

(A dedication to Lou Reed)

Just a perfect day,
Win footie match in the park,
Then later, when it got dark,
We went home...

Just a perfect day,
Minibus on the motorway,
Skanky changing rooms - what the hey!

We still won!

Chorus:

Oh, its such a perfect day,
Five goals scored in the first half,
(doo doo doo doo)
Just such a perfect game,
We just kept on scoring more (*2)

Just such a perfect day,
The referee was insane,
But we scored more and used our brains
13 - 0!!!

Chorus:

Oh, its such a perfect day,
Magic muffins were eaten,
(doo doo doo doo)
Just such a perfect game,
Bucks college were so beaten (*2)

(Instrumental)

Thanks to Harp, Mel, Aysha, Sarah,
Loraine, Suze, Anne, Mona, French Maire,
Dutch Kate, Mo, Tine and the person who
made the pizza and chunky chips!
(Righty, we're off to kill ourselves -
Iain & John)



Football - game on

First Busa Point for the Firsts IC 1 - 1 LSE

It was a gigantic day. A day when wars are won and lost, life cannot compare to days like these. Everyone knew what they had to do. IC firsts needed some BUSA points. The team rose to the challenge. When the ref decided that the game was for nonces only, by giving freekicks for thinking of touching your marker, IC battled for the game. The first half was slack, but a couple of extra gears were found in the second half. Psycho got his first goal for 3 years - a penalty very nearly saved by the keeper. JP made a kwality debut, but couldn't stop the penalty that they had. Eniola was superb playing on the right, Ali G got booked as did James. We all then had a few social ales to celebrate the first BUSA point.

Brunel 3 - 1 IC 1

This was a game we expected to lose. Not the first line that you would expect in a match report? No! But after last times' 9 - 0 defeat, we needed to show some strength. We had to prove ourselves to BUSA.

Unfortunately we conceded a goal early on but we showed no signs of weakness. Coming back strong, Eniola, Comfort and Tony were superb and soon after a cross from Alan found George and he scored his first goal for IC. HE WENT MENTAL, that's how much it means. IC were superb for the rest of the half and Alan came close on a free kick.

The second half proved eventful. They scored two goals, somehow, but an ambulance got stuck in the mud and Joule's contact lens got semi-lost. Amidst it all, Olly made a comeback on the right wing and we had about three goalmouth scrambles. Comfort put the ball in the back of the net but it was deemed offside.

Unfortunately, the score remained at 3 - 1 and it was not our day. But bearing in mind that they rely on Vauxhall Conference players to boost their side- we did okay.

Thirds light the blue touch paper

LSE IV 1 - 2 IC III

On a day when most matches were called

off, the thirds braved the elements and the public transport system to reach the blasted wastes of Berrylands and claim the three points we deserved.

More used to the semi-marsh that is Harlington, the bowling green surface that LSE play on came as a bit of a shock, but a shock we used to our advantage. Early doors, we were stroking the ball around the park with panache and fluidity. The LSE defense was overweight and apparently unskilled and so the pace of Phil up front and James down the right wing had them in all sorts of trouble. As an attacking force the economists weren't much to write home about, whatever made it past Paul and sturdy new guy Ian in midfield was not trouble at all for our defense.

They had barely ventured into our half when the first goal came. Iain hit the ball long down the left for Phil to chase. One sprint and a minor scuffle later and Phil was on his own on the edge of the box and he generously decided to square the ball to an unmarked Iain who sidefooted it in for his first goal for IC. It was an open goal but it's a start...

You may have thought that going behind would have kick started our opposition, but no, they were as lethargic as ever. Phil hit the bar as Pesh began to get into the game going down the left and was on hand to finish off a controversial move for our second goal. James unleashed Phil down the left again but this time he was cynically hacked down by the now desperate, wide-boy defense. Incredibly the ref waved play on but this was to advantage as James squared the loose ball which Pesh turned in at full stretch.

With the ref clearly on their side, LSE galvanized their shower of a team and at least we were given some worthy opposition. Before the break there were chances at either end but no more goals.

Henry, "Dad" Evers and Alex came on for Pesh, James and Iain and the sec-

ond half started as the first had. Mike and John, with little defensive duties to do, went on some blinding runs up the wing while Henry showed us some more of his cheeky play. It looked like curtains for LSE but the ref came to their aid. In a rare attack the ball was crossed into our area and the referee blew up for a penalty for no apparent reason. Dhruve had obstructed a player he explained, this was news to Dhurve and anyway, obstruction is usually an indirect free-kick! Their striker, to be fair took it well, but we didn't and the referee's life may have been in danger.

This inspired LSE and they looked dangerous for the first time in the match but our defense did its job well and they were shut out. At the death, "Dad" Evers was put through one-on-one with the keeper and got hacked to the ground from behind for his trouble. No surprises - the ref waved play on but sooner or later he had to blow the final whistle and hand us the victory.



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