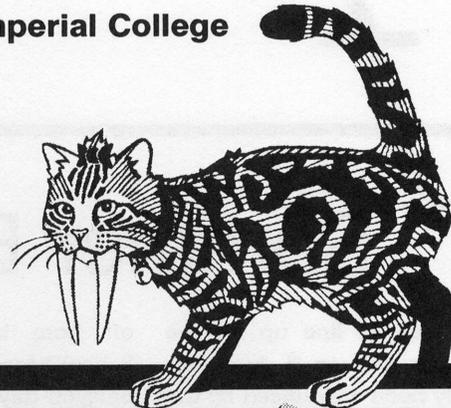


felix



<http://www.union.ic.ac.uk/felix/>

GFQQ is over! And we have a winner! (Page 12)



More bizarre rantings from the editor. (Page 8)



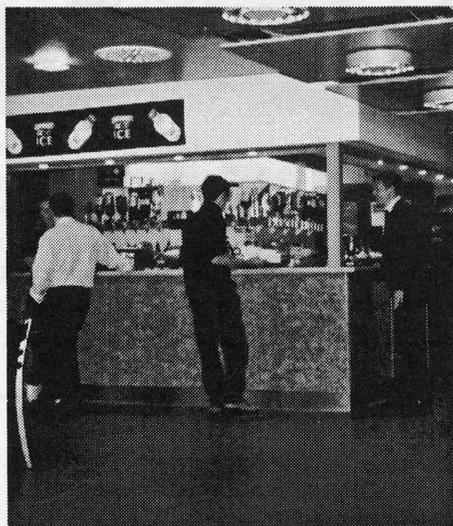
'Airport Lounge' Takes Off

The new bar on the Charing Cross Hospital campus was officially opened last Tuesday, a week after it had come into active operation.

Situated in the Reynolds Building on St. Dunstons Street, this new bar is the result of the refurbishment of what was (somewhat) affectionately known to older students as the 'Airport Lounge'. The total cost of the project was around 1.5 million pounds, and on entering the bar it is easy to see where this money has gone.

In addition to the fully licensed bar, there is a 'snack' shop with fixed seating area, and a dance area which contains sofas and chairs by day, which are cleared away to form a dance floor by night. Needless to say there is a huge sound system and a video projection screen to accommodate the entertainment of a standard night out.

The project was initially started by Lorne McEwan, President of the Medics' Student Union last year, his original intention being to refurbish St. Mary's



The New Bar at Charing Cross

Bar in Paddington. However, when it became clear that this was not going to be possible for space reasons, he turned his attention to other campi, with this final result.

Despite original problems getting funding from the Union, Mr. McEwan eventu-

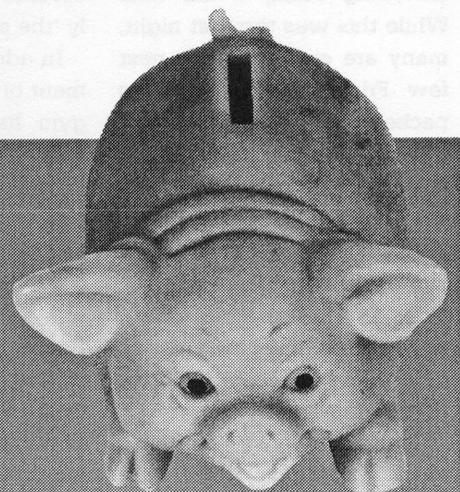
ally managed to find independent funding from three sources: the Faculty of Medicine itself, Hammersmith Special Trustees, and College itself. He also has the fortune to be one of the few students who has ever seen a project completed during their time here, with the total undertaking completed in less than two years.

Another unusual aspect of the bar is the license, the hours of which have been extended by special permission after a deal was struck with the West London Magistrates Court. Having heard that medic students work very antisocial hours, the magistrates agreed that the Students' Union would not have to apply for late licenses on Wednesday and Friday nights, but that they should be granted to the Charing Cross Bar as a matter of course.

continued on page 2

"Felix can announce that Imperial students have, over one year, raised over one hundred thousand pounds for various good causes!"

That'll need a big piggy bank...



Summer Ball Line Up

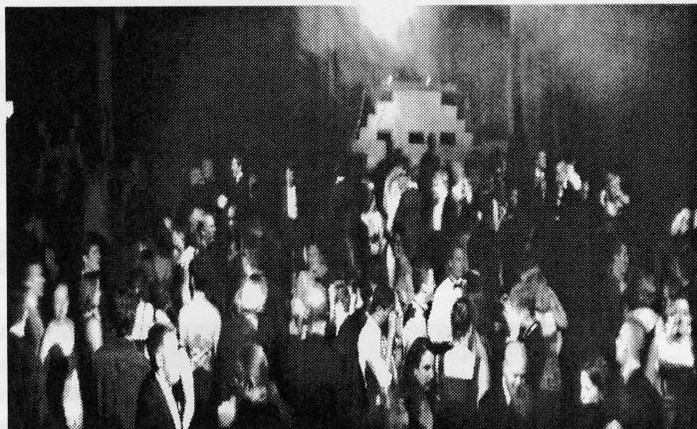
The musical line up for the Summer Ball on 8 June has finally been announced by the Summer Ball Committee.

On the main stage will be old favourites The James Taylor Quartet, who appeared at last year's ball, and they will be ably supported by upcoming Swedish band, Mos Eisley, who are named after a town in Star Wars. However, headlining on the main stage will be Cornershop, a band whose album "confirms them as the most vital inventive force at work in British pop music today" (Daily Telegraph).

There will also be several DJs dotted around the venue, playing different styles of music in various rooms. Union Ents Alumnus (and minor College Celebrity) Mark Horne, who is taking a night

off from his residency at SchoolDisco.com to relive his halcyon days, will be playing cheesy pop in the JCR.

For the more serious clubber, the dance room will be



host to the Scratch Perverts (who won the DMC Team World Championships 1999), and the Artful Dodger, who needs no introduction, author of the club classic *Rewind*.

In addition to the music, the fun-fair will return with a vengeance, and the evening will finish with fireworks over College. The Committee have also managed to secure cheap

hire of Dinner Jackets from Moss Bros and Pegaso, and to guarantee a ticket, you will soon be able to buy them from Waterstones, the Union reception, and JCR at lunchtimes.

f

Issue 1235

10 May 2002

Editor: will Dugdale
Deputy Editor: Ali Wren

News: *Vacant*

Chief Reporter: John Stratford

Music: Dave Edwards

Books: Jon Matthews

Film: Darius Nikbin

Sports: *Vacant*

Crossword: Dr. Hot Fudge

With Thanks To:
Everyone & Rachel

Felix, Beit Quad, Prince
Consort Road, London,
SW7 2BB

Tel: 020 7594 8072

Email: felix@ic.ac.uk

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from page 1

Better than the hype, however, is the reaction that the bar has already received in the first few days of being opened. Last Friday saw the first bop, and there are many reports of students arriving at 9:30 in the evening to be turned away due to overcrowding being a fire risk. While this was the first night, many are expecting the next few Fridays to be just as packed, as more students turn up to see whether the new bar is as good as they have been told. There have even been fears that this may lead to less money being taken in the older South Kensington Bars, as students from that campus investigate the new facilities that are now available.

Of the students who attended last week, an overwhelming majority were very positive about the bar, with most

citing the large amount of space and central bar as their reasons. Only a few have been negative, the most common concern being the proximity of a hospital to a bunch of loud and drunk students. Despite this, those who attended claimed that it was generally quiet as students left the establishment, and apparently 'the sound doesn't travel'.

In addition to the refurbishment of the bar, the basement gym has also been re-done and is now a fully functional cardio-vascular gym with all the standard equipment. It was opened by former zoology student Simon Dennis, who was a gold medallist in the British Men's Rowing Eight, during the 2000 Sydney Olympics. Due to a lack of any ribbon to cut, however, he pronounced the gym open by opening the door.

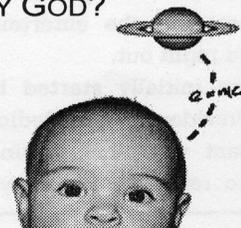
will

The Chaplaincy to Imperial College & the Royal College of Art presents

The Riding Lights Roughshod Theatre Company
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COULD YOU PLAY GOD?



Provocative
Dynamic
Breath-taking
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In a world where scientists are often accused of 'playing God', how can we combine the volatile elements of scientific discovery, faith and moral responsibility?

Friday 17 May, 7.30pm
Holy Trinity Church,
Prince Consort Rd

Tickets at £5/£3 available from the Chaplaincy Centre, East Basement, Beit Quad, 020 7594 9600, chaplaincy@ic.ac.uk.

More information at www.chaplaincy.ic.ac.uk & www.ridinglights.org.



£100k Charity Total

It's been a while since the last RAG Ramble, but things in the world of Raising and Giving money for charity haven't stopped. With the help of a few short emails and an extremely large calculator, Felix can announce that Imperial students have, over one year, raised over one hundred thousand pounds for various good causes!

So many groups and individuals have committed their time and effort to helping good causes, from organising entire charity weeks to sponsored runs, pub crawls, abseils, Great Hall shows, the London Marathon and dressing up as Pudsey. Some events have raised more than others, but every single penny raised means extra cash for charities that desperately need it. Below, in order of magnitude but without numbers (this charity thing isn't an ego trip, right?) the people who have contributed to that incredible charity total are:

- The ICSMSU RAG Week team chaired by medic Hayley Kirsop raised phenomenal amounts for CLIC, the 3H Fund and Parkside Hospital Radio.
- Islamic Society's charity appeal supported Islamic Relief's work in Afghanistan.
- ICU Rag Week, organised by the ICU RAG committee, raised funds to build the first Shooting Star Children's Hospice in West London.
- Daniel James & Joanna Wisser ran the London Marathon for Scope.
- Orchestra members collected for Help the Aged at a Royal Albert Hall concert.
- LINKS Society's Jenni Wood organised sponsored abseiling for St John Ambulance.
- Chemistry postgrad Emma Watson was silent for seven days to help BBC Children in Need.
- Stupid games on the Queen's Lawn at Sports Day raised cash for homeless-

ness charity Shelter, thanks to Ruth Roberts and crew.

• Wye RAG Week, organised by Thomas Bradshaw for Kent Air Ambulance was a big success.

• Li Bin and Singapore Society's charity jogathon and flag day help mentally disabled children in Singapore through the charity MINDS.



- Tom Scorer is still raising cash for Whizz Kids, check out the sports pages to find out more.
- India Soc's incredible "East Meets West" helped the international humanitarian medical charity Medicins Sans Frontieres.
- Union welfare officers collected cash for UK AIDS victims in the Imperial AIDS Awareness week.
- John-Joe Reilly and the Falmouth Keogh Hall committee stunned Southside with a show for Rotherham Hospice.
- Hindu Society's charity week events supported charity Sewa International.
- Silwood Park's various fundraising shenanigans donated to Prostate Cancer Research and Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Inspired yet?

There's still a chance for individuals out there to raise that total even more - ICU RAG are organising parachute jumps to raise cash for any charity you want to support. So if you're feeling dangerous email rag@ic.ac.uk for more details.

Also if you're feeling dangerous, the post of ICU RAG chair is open to anyone at the

Union AGM on Thursday 16th March, at 1pm. Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to support, encourage and generally let everyone at Imperial know about any charity events at Imperial. You'll also head up the team that organises the annual ICU RAG Week. It's more hard work than you've ever imagined, but it's more fun than you could possibly ask for too. I promise! Nomination papers are up on the first floor of the Union building.

The ICU RAG chair and RAG committee exist to help your club, society or hall of residence do something for charity next year. And if you want to run the marathon, bungee from a bridge, trek through the

Himalayas or ride from Lands End to John O'Groats on a unicycle, you know where to come to make your insane ambitions reality!

Rag Mag

Better late than never, the ICU RAG Mag will be out and about in the Union soon. That's if the sabbaticals don't decide it's too offensive... Useful as both a revision aid and spare toilet paper, it costs a quid and proceeds go to the Shooting Star Trust, building a home for terminally ill children in Kensington, Chelsea and all of West London.

Going for the burn...

And don't forget to check out Page 16 for more on how you can help make more money for charity by getting drunk!

IC Radio

Objectivity

We at *Felix* thought it might be refreshing to have some IC Radio banter (it's the official term, you know) from someone without a membership. I appreciate that the kind of self-praise or wilful unconventionality, either way designed to make you think the authors are Cool, that you see here each week is not always easy to believe.

So here we are; an objective opinion from a non-member of IC Radio. If anything, I'm slightly biased against them, as I must share a basement with them. If the stench of rotting Chinese takeaway in the *Felix* office doesn't get me, Photo-soc haven't kidnapped me for a modelling shoot (guffaw) or a dalek escaped from the Sci-Fi library fails to "exterminate" me, then the quake-inducing reverberations from the IC Radio studio may occasionally begin to grate.

Deprecation

What can a bunch of students do, anyway? A surprising amount actually, like spot that it's bad literary style to ask rhetorical questions in newspaper articles. They can also make good radio. Those with a technical disposition are in their element producing

shows, installing and fixing equipment, and playing with panels whose sole purpose is to blink periodically whilst yelling "phase lock that transducer into the primary reticulation port" and "she canna take much more o' this captain" - or was that IC Sci-Fi Society?

Meanwhile, the arty types - you know, they wear patchwork trousers and sun-hats - are charismatic, musical or just "zany" over the air-waves. If you're not averse to an eyeful, then try the webcam too.

Top ten achievements of IC Radio

Ten: Letting me write this article. Nine: Their award-winning website and webcasts. Eight: Their celebrity jingle line-up. Seven: Adopting "fisting" as a punishment. Six: Allowing Will and I to present a truly daft hour-long show when we're tired and panicking. Five: Actually archiving that show! Four: Renaming 'George' to 'Jerry' so that their show could infringe ice cream manufacturers' trademarks. Three: Giving me a colour logo to print in black-and-white every week. Two: Thinking that having a show presented by two naked men would improve *listening* figures. One: Naming

their waste paper bin "Lucy," inspiredly after the name embossed on its lid.

What I was meant to say

When Steve, the current IC Radio Station Manager - amusingly abbreviated SM, yes it is funny, it *is* - breathlessly asked me to write the IC Radio column before he tore head-long into a pile of books like a panic-stricken and highly literate squirrel, he asked me to write something that would encourage people to listen to IC Radio and say how great they were.

Well, maybe I haven't been entirely honest so far - they are a pretty good bunch. I even went to their AGM with the express intention of skewing the election counts by raising my unwashed non-member hand occasionally whilst drinking beer, but even that didn't make them hurt me.

So, to sum up IC Radio, if you can't join 'em, listen to 'em - 999AM or at the address hinted at below.

AW

icradio
www.icradio.com



Chaplaincy: Stress is...

Stress is the 'wear and tear' our bodies experience as we adjust to our continually changing environment; it has physical and emotional effects on us and can create positive or negative feelings. As a positive influence, stress can help compel us to action; it can result in a new awareness and an exciting new perspective. As a negative influence, it can result in feelings of distrust, rejection, anger, and depression, which in turn can lead to health problems such as headaches, upset stomach, rashes, insomnia, ulcers, high blood pressure, heart disease, and stroke. Stress will help or hinder us depending on how we react to it.

75% of the general population experiences at least 'some stress' every two weeks (National Health Interview Survey).

Positive stress adds anticipation and excitement to life, and we all thrive under a certain amount of stress. Deadlines, competitions, confrontations, and even our frustra-

tions and sorrows add depth and enrichment to our lives. We need to learn how to manage stress rather than eliminate it. Insufficient stress acts as a depressant and may leave us feeling bored or dejected; on the other hand, excessive stress may leave us feeling tied up in knots. Identifying unrelieved stress and being aware of its effect on our lives is not sufficient for reducing its harmful effects. Just as there are many sources of stress, there are many possibilities for its management.

Become aware of stress and emotional and physical reactions. Don't ignore it or gloss over your problems.

Recognise what you can change. Can you change your stressors, if they're not exams, by avoiding or eliminating them? Can you shorten your exposure to stress?

Reduce the intensity of your emotional reactions to stress. Are you viewing your stressors in exaggerated terms and/or tak-

ing a difficult situation and making it a disaster? Are you expecting to please everyone? Are you overreacting? Put the situation in perspective. Do not labour on the negative aspects and the 'what if's.

Learn to moderate your physical reactions to stress. Slow, deep breathing and relaxation can help in reducing stress, as can taking exercise and a healthy diet.

Maintain your emotional reserves. Develop some mutually supportive friendships. Pursue realistic goals, which are meaningful to you, rather than goals others have for you that you do not share.

Expect some frustrations, failures, and sorrows. Always be kind and gentle with yourself.

If you are experiencing stress you are not alone. There are people at Imperial who can help. The Health Centre (49375/6), Student Counsellors (49430), The Chaplaincy (49600) or your Tutor.

State Of The Union

Annual General Meeting

The Union annual general meeting will take place on Thursday 16th May. It is a chance for everyone to find out about the various Union activities this year. It will also be a chance to ask the officers of the Union about their work this year. The main feature will be the elections for Union officers for next year. The nomination papers are on the President's board (level one of the Union Building). You can email me for more information.

Degree Awarding Powers

As some of you are aware the College has applied for reserve degree awarding powers. Currently the College awards University of London degrees but the College would like to award its own degrees under the Imperial College name. This will also allow greater control over our degree programmes and be an important part in the strategy towards increasing the global brand of Imperial College. It is fully expected that we will be awarded these powers later this year.

Summer Ball

Many of you would have seen the bright pink posters for the Summer Ball. The event will be taking place on Saturday 8th June. Currently the acts include CornerShop, James Taylor Quartet, Scratch Perverts and Artful Dodger. Added to that the event will feature fair-ground rides, games stalls, cocktail bars and more. It promises to be bigger and better than ever before. Tickets can be obtained from the Union Reception.

Charing Cross

This week also saw the official opening of the new student facility at Charing Cross. This project is the biggest since the development of the Beit Basements and is located in the Reynolds building. This new facility features a brand new bar, cafeteria, BOP area complete with DJ booth, stage and lighting. The new facility also features a brand new gym in the basements. The project greatly improves student facilities on the Charing Cross Campus and is open to all students. Keep

an eye out for publicity on the events taking place there this term.

Beit Quad

The Beit Quad will undergo a facelift over the coming weeks. The project will see new lawns and paths laid with improved facilities in the quad. There will also be new bike racks for students to use. The Union will be open for business as usual.

Lost the Union?

Apologies to all those who have been confused by the location of the Union reception and the Student Activities Centre. This has in part been due to the necessary heating works in the building. Just to clarify the new permanent home of the Students Activities Centre (formally known as the Resource Centre) is in the East Wing of the Beit Basements. The Union reception will be located on the first floor (access via the East staircase) and will move back to its normal position next week.

Sen Ganesh, President

Charing Cross Bar

Now open five days a week
m-f 5-11

Watch out for Special Late Night Openings

Hammersmith & or
Barons Court &
The Reynolds Building
Charing Cross Campus
St. Dunstan's Road W6

imperial college
union
CHARING CROSS BAR

Dolly Mixtures

A hot mix of favourites & dance 2

Every Friday

dBs Bar opens at 8
Barbeque from 10

A different **ALCOPOP Special**
Every Friday 8-10
While stocks last

Friday Night Out
Supported by
TimeOut

imperial college
union

Free B4 9/£1.50/£2 guests after

Union Annual General Meeting

1pm, Union Dining Hall Thursday 16th May

Elections for:
Council Chair
RAG Chair
Community Action Group Chair
Equal Opportunities Officer
Welfare Campaigns Officer
Web Editor

Nominations papers on the President's Notice Board (Level 1 Union building).
Papers down 12 noon, 16th May 2002.

Please contact Sen Ganesh (president@ic.ac.uk) for more details.

NUS already (again!)

Dear Sir,

I've seen many student politicians come and go at Imperial, and heard most of them come up with some excuse or other as to why their year was not the unmitigated success they promised at hustings. The Chairman of the "Yes to NUS" campaign, however, takes the biscuit. You don't have to be in the NUS to find out about student discounts. You don't have to be in the NUS to lobby government. You don't have to be in the NUS to provide officer training. But if you elect sabbatical officers who prefer to sit around moaning about their job, take weeks off at a time to run unwanted referendum campaigns, watch lecturer evaluation systems to reach Enron-style levels of mismanagement and allow working relationships with other union officers to reach meltdown, then yes, I agree that you need all the help you can get, from anybody, including the National Union. Maybe instead of running the 'No' campaign, I should have headed up a 'Resign' campaign instead?

Hugs'n'cuddles,

Andy Heeps

Chairman, ICU "No2NUS" Campaign

(We won, by the way. 72% of the highest turnout ever seen at Imperial. Did I mention that we won?)

Dear Felix,

Like the majority of students here (at least those who voted), I was relieved to see that IC would not join the NUS, for reasons that have been discussed at length around here. The voice of IC seems to be "We can represent ourselves very well, and prefer to do so!"

However, I hope that this will now effectively be done, and that the students of IC will make their voice heard! Of course, on student issues such as grants, but also on vital subjects such as the current war on "Terrorism", the environment, and corporate responsibility (that is, assuming not everyone here dreams of becoming one of the "Fat Cats", a very depressing thought.) The NUS (I'm quite sure) was represented at the May Day (peaceful) protest.

I must say that the huge amount of empty managerial buzzwords that composed the Union president's statement of intent in last week's Felix did not reassure me very much in that matter! But being new here, I am probably mistaken.

Matthew Cand

A Cross Country

Re: your personal plea (*Felix 1233*), I find it a disgrace that you have the audacity to print an article on mud wrestling, and plea for more sports articles to be sent in, when you are sent perfectly good articles from sports clubs which you decline to print. On February 20th, you were sent an article by David Mulvee, a member of the Cross-Country club and Hyde Park Relays committee. It was a review of the largest student relay race in Britain, which is organised by ICU Cross-Country club. It was the 54th running of this annual event that brought over 700 hundred students to the college on February 16th, over 280 of which came from France, The Netherlands, Poland, Italy and Germany. They were all accommodated on site and the event went very smoothly. The after-race party included a late license, BBQ, and one of the biggest nights the Union has had on a Saturday. The Union, College Security, and the Conference and Catering Dept. were all very helpful in the organisation of one of the largest events put on by an ICU Club or Society. And that is not even going into the race itself! It seems that every year you complain about the lack of articles sent in, yet all I seem to hear around college from other clubs is disappointment that their articles are not published. Maybe you should allocate page space a bit more conservatively rather than give half a side to mud-bathing and countless pages allocated to reviews that everyone reads in other magazines. After all, it is a student newspaper, not Empire. Or the NME. Or Time Out. Or Hot Tickets...

Yours sincerely,

Demetrius Noufriou, Chair of ICUXC Hyde Park Relays 2002 Committee

I explained this last week in the sports section., and don't have space here to do so again., but I am sorry. Ed

Have A Column

Dear Felix,

Spring is here. The old lunacy of winter has faded to be replaced by fresh idiocy. Having returned to this dank pit of suffering, misery and science fiction from a relatively Star Trek-free frolic in the South East to enjoy the futility of attempting those psychoses-given-form known as examinations, I feel it is probably my duty to write and complain about something. Sadly however, I find myself in rather good spirits and while I would love to regale you with hilarious stories of struggles between men and poultry, warm ale and American tourists, I won't because I'm feeling sadistic and don't think you deserve any happiness.

Ever.

Once more London has me beset with an extraordinary malevolence towards all things human, I am constantly strangled by the urge to throw biscuits at children, kick dogs and laugh loudly at lost tourists.

While my overbearing cloud of pure malice is still in its infantile stages I feel that something must be done to arrest its growth before severe damage is done. Not to me of course - I'm in little danger of harming myself, it's just when people turn up with flaming torches and stakes it's often difficult to reason with them. Basically, what I'm after is focus to my aggression and ill will. You may be surprised to know that this is in fact leading somewhere, just bear with me.

Now you see, I am told, though not by impartial sources, that there are some pretty smart people here, people who could be profitably employed in a youthful, educated and vibrant criminal empire. ICrime or OCsoc, perhaps would be a good starting point, does the Union have a policy on such things? Of course, we'd be self-funding after a while and the underground intimidation of staff and pupils would be a formative experience for those still naïve in the fields of bribery and racketeering ("Dean Corleone ain't happy..."). In fact I can't see one fault in the whole nefarious scheme. There you go ICU, do something right for once, make a little money, this idea's free.

Merry Christmas,
Pete

Editorial

I'm afraid I'm feeling a lot better this week. How dull is that? I'm unlikely to rant about anything to speak of, and what makes it worse is that I now have this entire column to fill, and frankly I don't really feel up to it. I may actually have to write a proper editorial, and discuss sensibly and with forethought some item of news that fills one of the earlier pages. I don't know why this is. Apparently it's a tradition, or an old charter, or something. But anyway, my opinion is obviously more important than anyone else's, so I get a whole page to express my unsubstantiated and ill-thought out opinions.

I woke up in a strange place yesterday, and was wandering back in the direction of College when I received a phone call reminding me of the opening of the Charing Cross Bar. This may not actually mean much to many of you, since I have been made aware of the fact that most non-medics are under the impression that all the medics are in the BMS. This isn't true. There are many other campuses dotted round London (none of them actually named after the part of London they're in, but hey, then people might actually be able to find them. I actually went to Charing Cross, once. How stupid did I feel?)

Anyhow, there's a big hospital in Hammersmith called Charing Cross (CX), and it has a lot of students in it, and they used to have this bar, affectionately referred to as the 'airport lounge', and it really wasn't very nice. Certainly people retained some sort of misguided affection for the place, but there we are.

Then came a man called

Lorne (who shall forever be spoken of in hushed tones, but I met him once, oh yes I did), and he managed to secure 1.5 million pounds to redo the place (cutting quite a long story short). 1.5 million! And this guy's only a student. I think that deserves a round of applause, because with this cash they have refurbished the bar in CX, and I have to say it was really quite pretty.

But, boys and girls, this is where it breaks down. I've given up drinking. Can you imagine? I have given up for a week, starting from yesterday! A bar opening, and my first day of not drinking! I was not impressed. And to make it worse, the girls behind the bar were (for the most part) friendly, but of this lack of drinking they were frankly disparaging (which is a good word). How am I meant to flirt if I'm not drinking beer, eh? Tell me that. It is the source of my power. Without it I am nothing. Less than nothing. I need alcohol!

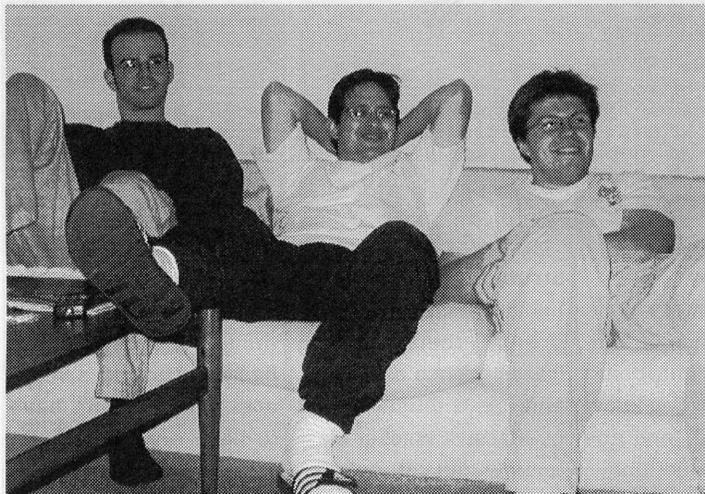
And this is only day two, of seven. Erk.

So, two points. One, go to CX bar, because it rocks, and the bar staff are nice (hi, ladiieees). Two, I'm not drinking, so for this week you can rest safe in the knowledge that I'm not there. And you don't have to be a medic! So if you live in Hammersmith, Fulham, etc, go there instead of the expensive pub down the road. Because it's full of students, cheaper beer, and it makes more money for the Union as opposed to Wetherspoons.

CX Bar is on St. Dunstan's Road, Hammersmith. Head for the hospital, then follow the drunk student noises.

This Week	Friday	Weekend
Union Events	Dolly Mixtures Named after the infamous philosopher of the same moniker, the special theme this evening will be epistemology. Nah, only joking. Drink! <i>Union, Eventide</i>	Humph I don't ever know what to put in this space. It's the weekend, and there are rarely any official events to talk about, and I'm getting bored of just talking complete tosh.
Student Activities	Introduction This week I'm not in a particularly bad mood, so the diary is going to have to make do without snide comments that only a few people understand. Instead:	Sex My favourite student activity (you can see where this is going). I'm wasting space here, because the bottom panel is dedicated to the subject. Hehehe.
At The Movies	Star Wars Is it yet? I don't know. I just like the feeling that you all might read this trying to see if it's all it's hyped up to be, and then be really cross when I succeed in not talking...	Star Wars ...about it in any useful fashion at all. For all you know, I may have gone and seen a special newspaper preview at the Warner Bros Cinema in Leicester Square...
Television & Radio	Halls There's a new soap starting this week (in selected places...) which revolves around the life of some students in halls. You can bet that it will be gritty.	Halls Viktor moves in to find that his room mate, Johann smokes, even though he asked for a none-smoker! Claudia gets confused by the swipe card access!
Gigs & Concerts	Barry Manilow Surely, you must be saying, this is a joke. But no, friends, it is not. He's back, and he's bad, and probably bald. Go with your mum. No really. <i>Wembley Arena</i>	Alien Ant Farm I only know these guys for their rendition of Smooth Criminal, but it had that breakdancing kid in the video, which always made me laugh. <i>Astoria, Saturday</i>
Positions Of Love	Introduction Having been single for a while now, I'm beginning to get horny. As such, here are some positions for you to try, if you've got the time, partner, or inclination.	Missionary The good sir mounts his dear lady wife, in such a fashion as they face one another, the lady upon her back, and the gentleman staring lovingly into her eyes.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>Monday But I don't know what to do about this. I suppose it's 'cos it's Monday, so there are no events due to the assumption that you're all hung over after the weekend. I am.</p>	<p>Trivia You can always rely on trivia. Tests all through your life, and now here you are being tested in your spare time! Why? Money, of course. <i>da Vinci's, evening</i></p>	<p>Wotsits Of Joy Yummy, and cheesy, and only 80% chance of finding a piece of cardboard in your mouth. You know the drill. I'd imagine you'll drink something. <i>Union, Before B-Byes</i></p>	<p>Strumpet Flinging Local prostitutes will present themselves in classic wench costumes, and be thrown around by massive knicker-elastic powered catapults. <i>Hyde Park, 6am</i></p>	<p>Dolly Mixtures These aren't, I don't think, the ones with Mr. Bassett, the big sweetie man, so you don't have to have nightmares just yet. But one day... <i>Be There, Or Be...</i></p>
<p>Drinking While I feel we may have already covered this activity several times in the diary section, I just can't resist mentioning it, because I've given it up!</p>	<p>Watching Simpsons You're not a proper student unless you know who shot Mr. Burns, what the Shelbyville kids stole, and what afflicts the saxophonist, Murphy.</p>	<p>Other Drugs Sorry everyone, but people do bad things. It's silly, I know, but there we are. At least try and stick to non-addictive things, because you don't have the money.</p>	<p>Sleep Lazy sods, you could be out drinking or having sex, and what do you do? You sleep. I am not impressed, really, I'm not. Call yourself a student? You're a sloth.</p>	<p>Work Because all students work very hard like good boys and girls. No, really. Hahahaha. Oh, I crack myself up, sometimes, I really do. Work, indeed. Hahaha.</p>
<p>Star Wars ...last night, and actually already know <i>exactly</i> how good (or bad) it might be. Should you be excited? What are they cloning anyway? Does cute little Ani turn bad...</p>	<p>Star Wars ...in this one, or is it all just a load of hype surrounding a fair budget of special effects? Well I could tell you, but where would the fun in that be? After all, I know...</p>	<p>Star Wars ...you'll go and see it anyway, because you can't resist the sweet allure of Ben Obi-Wan 'McGregor' Kenobe, and you want to be the first kid on your block...</p>	<p>Star Wars ...to own all the action figures, but I've already got the very rare Darth Maul, so nah nah nah nah nah! I'm better than you are, and your dad works for my dad...</p>	<p>Star Wars Yes he does! Does too! Does too! Well you smell, and I don't want to be your friend anyway. Oh go and see it. See if I care anyway. <i>Everywhere, May 16th</i></p>
<p>Halls The first meal in the dining room ends in chaos as Blooger trips over a chair drenching Chaz with soup, who threatens him with a knife to the throat.</p>	<p>Halls Two students are found dealing heroin in the first week to the other inmates, in return for pornography and cigarettes. Something fishy is afoot...</p>	<p>Halls Warden Nick 'Psycho' Winshkithiski witnesses a roll of toilet paper being thrown from a window, and punishes the guilty student with a term of solitary.</p>	<p>Halls Rebelling against the unfair treatment, the students go on a hunger strike, and decide to watch <i>The Simpsons</i> for 24 hours, before rioting on the roof.</p>	<p>Halls The army is bought in to kill them all, but the nuke under Boyd's bed makes sure that the last laugh, while undeniably very short, nonetheless belongs to the students.</p>
<p>Annihilator Methinks these guys take themselves a little too seriously. Perhaps they will bite the heads off chickens while screaming satanic rites? <i>Underworld</i></p>	<p>Latch Possibly, judging by the name, a little Indie. One word, one syllable, no references to armageddon. They're probably death metal, now. <i>Monarch</i></p>	<p>Enrique Iglesias You can't go, because it's all sold out, but it's happening very near here, so I just thought I'd warn you. You may even hear it in your room. <i>Royal Albert Hall</i></p>	<p>Electric Soft Parade In a similar 'name dictates style' vein as earlier, I predict synth music that should have been left in the eighties. But it wasn't, so go along. <i>Astoria</i></p>	<p>Del Amitri Yippee doo! Well, they're a bit old, but what can I say. This is my g-g-g-g-generation, baby, but not that band, obviously. I can wish. <i>Shepherd's Bush Empire</i></p>
<p>Girls On Top! This risqué manoeuvre puts the lady in control (they'll be given a vote, next!), and she sits astride her good man, while staring lovingly into his eyes.</p>	<p>Against A Wall My my, what will they think of next? Similar to the missionary, except upright, using a wall for support so that the gentleman can stare lovingly into her eyes.</p>	<p>Cat In A Barrel Crouching like a spider, the lady rotates slowly around her centre of gravity, as the man performs a backflip, enabling him to stare lovingly into her eyes.</p>	<p>Legs On Shoulders For the more limber of you (perhaps a dancer?). The lady bends her legs up, and rests them on her lover's shoulders as he moves, and stares lovingly into her eyes.</p>	<p>Style Du Chien Well, really! Like in National Geographic. Any man trying this is clearly a pervert, and will also probably require a mirror to stare lovingly into her eyes.</p>



SLACKERS

you won't find any here, ahem

Slackers is yet another addition to the already swollen ranks of the teen comedy genre. Despite my initial reservations about the film, I was cheered by the presence of Jason Schwartzman in the cast list. His performance as Max Fischer in the indie hit *Rushmore* (1998) was fantastic, so I was eager to see what he had followed it up with. As it turns out, I would have been better off watching *Rushmore* again.

Slackers finds Schwartzman playing "Cool" Ethan, the socially inept nerd who is in the process of stalking the angelic Angela (James King). His creepy task is eased upon discovering the cheating antics of our three eponymous slackers. He proceeds to blackmail Dave (Devon Sawa) and his stooges, demanding to be fixed up with Angela, or else he will have them expelled. But as is always the way in these things, the charming Dave himself ends up the object of Angela's affections. And so it goes on.

The opening scene of the film, where we are inducted into scamming world of the boys, is a well-handled juggling act, but after that it falters. There are straight-to-camera monologues, bizarre dream sequences and all manner of visual tricks, but none of these distract from the essentially lazy, teen-comedy-by-numbers on show here.

As for gross-out, *American Pie* had its warm apple pie scene, *Road Trip* its Jack Sprat sex scene, so *Slackers* has to have its hook too. We are actually treated to two, first a karaoke penis sock-puppet scene, and then an old woman hooker sponge-bath scene. But two sick wrongs don't make a funny right. That is not to say I didn't laugh at all. I did. But the good gags are hidden away amongst a lengthy array of tiresome fart, dick and jerk-off jokes. Even *Road Trip* seems reserved compared to most of this.

Schwartzman's efforts are hardly subtle, and despite having been given the majority of the funny material, he never makes Ethan into anything more than a 2-d caricature. It would have been nice to see the makers have the courage to produce something slightly blacker and more original about the obsessive stalking thread involving Ethan, but they ultimately shy away into more familiar teen rom-com territory.



Adam Joyce

Jason Schwartzman interview with a Slacker

How was the experience of shaving a large A in your chest hair?

It was fine! A couple of times the razor got snagged and was like ouch! It was just an idea I had. I was thinking to myself one night, okay at this point in the movie you know I'm crazy, because I think the way the character evolves in the first half you aren't sure.

How do you view *Slackers*?

I think it's a good funny college movie that's a little dirty and will get reactions out of people. It'll make you laugh. I think a lot of the humour is a little dark, but I try not to put too much thought into it. I just think you should just go and enjoy it and have a good time. It is pretty nuts. I mean, if you're going to see this movie then you probably like beer so just have a good time.

How did you get the role for *Slackers*?

I had met the director, Dewey, and I remember him talking about his making a movie. I met with him for about an hour and then I asked him 'should I come back and audition?' and he said 'you just did.' And I got the part. But the reason I ultimately did the movie was I thought here's an opportunity to flex a different muscle and do for once in my life a big slapstick type of comedy. I thought the character was a good environment to experiment with being physical for me and playing dark.

So you didn't do it for the money?

Do you want to plug your CD for a few minutes?

My band is Phantom Planet, we have an EP, the album is already out. It's called *The Guest*.

If you had to choose between being a musician or an actor which would you become?

I would become a painter.

What does your father do?

My dad actually passed away. I was thirteen.

I'm sorry.

Felix On Film *Slackers* Competition

Are you a *Slacker*? More likely you're an uber-geek. In any case, this is your chance to WIN!!! official *Slackers* merchandise. On offer, three goody bags containing *Slackers* T-shirt, sponge, and soap. In the correct order: Which one of these would you expect Retardcop, Sgt. John Bunnell, to say?

- "Clearly excessive police force used here"
- "Another case of police brutality and negligence"
- "He's bought himself a one-way ticket... straight to JAIL"

email your answers to film.felix@ic.ac.uk

The winner of last term's *Mothman Prophecies* competition was Ee Wong, who gave the correct answer to the question.

INTERVIEW with Rod Jones from Idlewild

Idlewild's new single *You Held The World In Your Arms* is out now, and the album *The Remote Part* is due for release in July. Felix spoke to guitarist Rod Jones over the telephone.

FELIX: XFM's DJ Natasha was so enamoured with your last single *Roseability* that she started to compare all other songs to it and give them a "Roseability rating". Had you heard about this, and how would you rate your new single?

ROD: No, I hadn't heard about that. It would be difficult to try and rate *You Held The World In Your Arms* along those lines, as it's quite a different song. We felt at the time of its release that *Roseability* was one of the best things we'd written, but we feel that what we're writing now is better.

As you mentioned, *You Held The World In Your Arms* is quite different to your previous songs - is this an indication of what the new album will be like?

Yes, it is. With previous albums, we felt that most of the tracks were more or less just noisy pop songs. So we decided to experiment a bit, and that helped us learn what we were capable of.

You toured America to promote *100 Broken Windows*. Did you enjoy your time out there, and what was the response like from the American audiences?

It was great fun and very exciting, but quite weird because the album was released about a year later than it was here. So we didn't know what to expect, and when we went out there and did the small club tour we found that we had a small loyal following who had got hold of the album on import. It was a very refreshing experience. We plan to release the new album at the same time in America, because we want to continue improving as a band and to have staggered releases means that you're always going back to things you were doing a year earlier, and that can slow your progress.

When you first started to break through into the British market, you gained a reputation for being very good live. What did you feel were the reasons for that?

We gained a reputation for gigging quite a lot, and I suppose all the practice we got helped to make each show better than the last. Also, we felt that the songs on the record weren't as strong as they were live because they were basically noisy rock. With the new album, the reverse is true, in that the songs have a lot of subtlety to them which is difficult to recreate live. So we have had to really reinvent ourselves as a live act.

What is your take on the charts at the moment, and how do you think your new single will do?

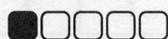
We don't really pay much attention to the charts at the moment, even though maybe we should. But we know there's a lot around that isn't great. I do feel that people get a bit nostalgic about the charts in previous eras, but I'm sure that there was just as much crap around in 1979 or whenever as there is now. We just want to play the music and try and let that do the talking. We are hoping that the strength of the new songs will get people to listen.



Singles Roundup

HUNDRED REASONS (pic above) - Silver

Yeah, baby, the *Rock Sound*-appointed saviours of British rock are back. Sounding like a horrible mix of Blink 182 and Incubus gone wrong, this single disappoints severely after the excellent *If I Could*, with its formulaic lyrics and sea shanty rhythm. Awful.



Sajini

THE ELECTRIC SOFT PARADE - Empty At The End / This Given Line

The Electric Soft Parade are a bit like Travis, but a lot happier. They use similar subjects for their songs, but tend to be more upbeat. They are fairly formulaic, whilst somehow managing to avoid sounding repetitive. This is the second single from their critically acclaimed debut album *Holes In The Wall*, and it shows a lot of promise.



Tank

SERAFIN - Serafin EP 1

Bog standard emo, this one. It sometimes sounds a little grungy, like Stone Temple Pilots. Other times, a little Hundred Reasons. Serafin are probably going to be pretty big, but had they been around two years ago, they wouldn't even have got a record deal. So it goes.



Ben

MULESKINNER JONES - Terrible Stories

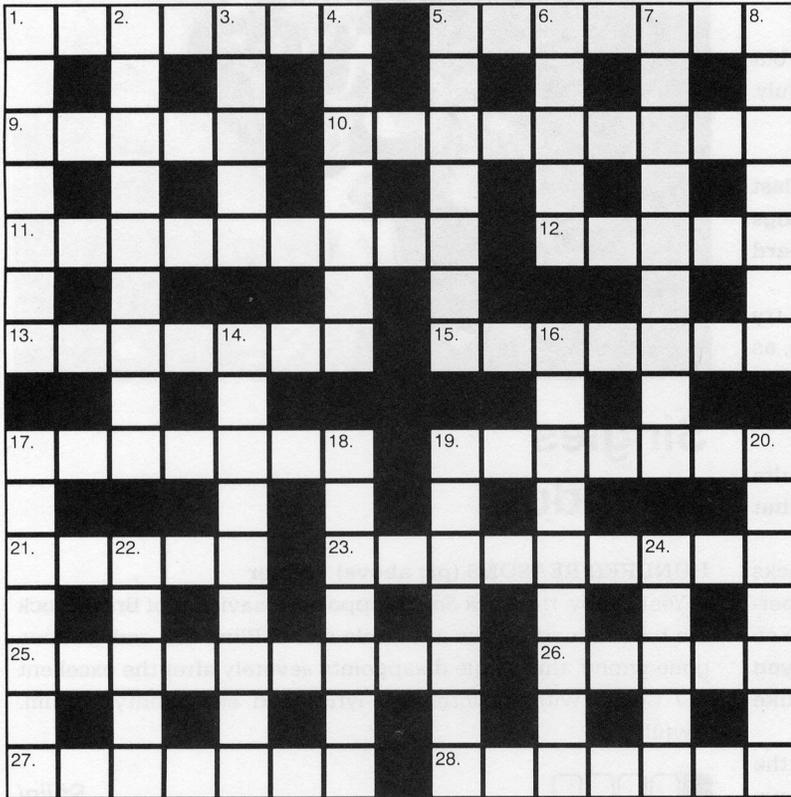
Muleskinner Jones is a cult internet eccentric, apparently, and I've no idea WHAT is going on here! Over duelling banjos, an argument as to the origin of a bloodstain is played out by the parents from *Little House On The Prairie* in really off-key voices. Is this what unemployable actors get up to when they're not on shift in Starbucks?



Ben

Tank

Crossword by Dr. Hot Fudge



Across

- 1. I touch politician at his home of the king. (7)
- 5. Satellite for rent around the sun? (7)
- 9. Dashed to church from the farm. (5)
- 10. Pros sit at odd barbecue. (4-5)
- 11. Away from blokes, the tea is flat. (9)
- 12. Ring a man who's wooden. (5)
- 13. Candy made from split gamble, we hear. (7)
- 15. To slag-off and swear in conversation. (7)
- 17. Rhode Island downhill competitor is more dangerous. (7)
- 19. Close for tea in the French spacecraft. (7)
- 21. Helped assistant for five hundred. (5)
- 23. A trio and a couple were all they could take? (3-5)
- 25. Grim oaths were taken from graph. (9)
- 26. Occurs regularly in loft entrance. (5)
- 27. Northeasterner has dire ego! (7)
- 28. Not sharpened, not flattened, just relaxed. (7)

Down

- 1. Ray dims out tens of thousands. (7)
- 2. Cannibals that are sexually promiscuous? (3-6)
- 3. Cymbal greets headgear. (2-3)
- 4. Accused member of religious group swallows us softly. (7)
- 5. Corrupted reserves in Edward. (7)
- 6. Slow key? (5)
- 7. Follow case in athletic gear. (9)
- 8. Bad satire includes no eyeballs. (7)
- 14. Screen with crease blocks vision. (9)
- 16. Seaside town can be seen from two directions. (9)
- 17. A reckless driver travelled on a pig, we hear. (4, 3)
- 18. Invigilator can make reference to two extras. (7)
- 19. King goes alone at the start of the week. (7)
- 20. Eastern lantern loses bottom and goes off forever. (7)
- 22. Dance at lady's company. (5)
- 24. Speak of topless drain. (5)

Well fudge-packers, it's the moment you've all been waiting for...

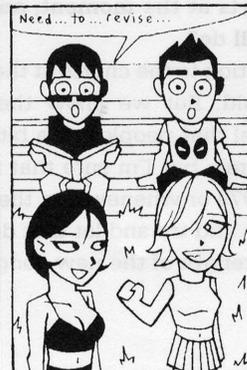
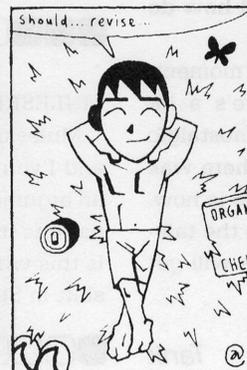
The winner of the PlayStation 2 is... **Chris Tickner**.

Congratulations good buddy, yours was the first correct grid to be drawn out of the tombola - in case you're wondering the sheet was from issue 1214, the very first issue to feature GFQQ!. That, however, is besides the point. What really matters is that you can come and collect the prize next Tuesday in the Felix office as part of an exquisite prize giving ceremony featuring myself and the good trouser snake (B.C.). I'll hopefully be giving away a similar prize next year, but I might change the rules a little - a final play-off featuring nude peanut-butter wrestling springs directly to mind. It's been a long year folks, and although it sometimes get lonely back at the old ranch, with just an open spit-roast to keep me warm, your crossword entries have always kept my spirits up, if not my pecker. Cyclops and I are going to spend the summer in an open-top cadillac on a pilgrimage from the Fudge Ranch to Gracelands, scouring the Bible Belt for young, silky-skinned recruits. So until next time friends, I shall make like a hyphen... and dash.

Dr. Hot Fudge.

Answers to the last one I wrote? - too long ago, can't be buggered.

freakfighter!



focus...





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Hyde Park Relays

This was originally sent many moons ago, and I'm sorry that it is only going in now. I know that it's not really better late than never at this stage, but here it is anyway... -Ed

Europe's largest student relay races are the Hyde Park Relays, which are organised by Imperial's cross country club. Every year sees new friends coming to take part for the first time, as well as the return of the regulars. The 54th Relays took place on Saturday 16th February. Due to the renowned quality of the race, the first guests arrived on Wednesday, and like last year these were the Polish teams.

Again we challenged them to a game of darts but unfortunately due to the comprehensive manner of our defeat last year, they merely laughed at our challenge. The Polish found themselves in our most luxurious accommodation, (also known as Southside), which they thoroughly enjoyed as it is now part of their pre-race ritual. There were signs that they were starting to take the race seriously as well as not only were they seen training just after their arrival, but they had also brought over a runner in last years World Athletics Championships (he ran 400m in 45.6).

On Thursday it was time for the arrival of the Dutch and Italian teams. We had been warned in advance that the Dutch would be bringing a large team, but were delighted when we discovered that this number was 170. The Dutch also brought over their game of hopsy-flopsy, but after the activities of last year it had to be banned due its dangerous content. Arriving at midnight they were raring to go and many of them decided that London's night life should be

sampled immediately. South Kensington isn't unfortunately quite the 24hr place that some had hoped for, but they found Trafalgar Square and enjoyed themselves.

Friday started with the almighty baggage storage event (rumours suggest that Roly and Mike are being head-hunted by BA), as all of the bags had to be moved into storage for the day. This could have been a major problem but it all went fine and so we could relax. Friday night was Valentine's night at the union, and the place was packed. Current IC students tended to find that, 'I don't recognise anyone here', as lot of our guests decided to join the party, however this meant that there were females in the union. Also on Friday we saw the arrival of the German and Spanish teams, but to our huge disappointment the girls from Stirling didn't make it. We also saw that the Irish didn't make the trip across, though this could be due to their sexual exploits being broken up last year.

On the day of the race, our guests found themselves being woken up at 7am again (unfair advantage?!), as our Leader (aka Demetrious) decided that things still needed to be done before the race could begin. After breakfast (who had some?) we split up and started to organise things. The course needed to be set-up and this saw the return of Westminster's captain Mike Boucher. A slight problem arose as it was discovered that the map showing the course was inaccurate, but former London marathon winner Hugh Jones appeared and being our saviour, managed to re-measure the course before it was too late, enabling accu-

rate results.

Whilst some members were busy with this, others were registering the teams, distributing numbers and selling t-shirts. Soon the first aiders began to arrive, with the marshal's and timekeepers appearing at the bandstand, so we knew the race would soon begin. The official starter of the race was the legendary coach Frank Horwill. After he was found (drinking in the union) we moved him over to the start and the race began. The men were running six legs of 5150m, whilst the women were doing 3 legs of 3350m. A good field had entered both races with the notable exception of Loughborough. However after challenging us to a drinking race at BUSA, 2 weeks earlier, we didn't think that they would show their faces.

To ensure that the leaders of the races didn't get lost on the glorious day we employed the use of two cyclists Roly, and Geordie Boy who cycled in front of the front runners so that they knew where they were going. IC got off to a fantastic start with Francois running what ultimately proved to be the sixth fastest time of the day. After this we found that in the men's teams there was a split between those racing and those who wanted to enjoy the experience for as long as possible. Imperial's A team in the men's race finished 5th from the student teams out of over 70 finishers. What made the day even better was the fact that our A,B and C teams finished 1st, 2nd and 3rd out of every student team from the University of London that entered. Our women keen to take some glory for themselves, and also performed with distinction being the first

college from the University of London to finish.

Following the run was the tea and presentation ceremony. Dan once again excelled himself and along with help from other members of the club managed to give away (eat?) all of the food and drink. The winners of the prizes included the Outdoor Activities club, who defended their title of best internal team convincingly and also the teams from Bativieren who collected 2 wooden spoons.

The after race party was held in the union again this year, but with the presence of a barbecue outside from 10. The DJ this year was our very own Mike Wilcox (can take bookings for weddings, barmitzvahs, wakes...) who excelled everyone's expectations by actually playing good music in Db's (a first?). Unfortunately though, the drinking games didn't go entirely to plan, as the organisation fell apart (rigging the draw to face the eventual winners in the first round) and so we were unable to defend our title, though a special thanks needs to go out to John who saved the day by joining the team at the last minute (where was Grant?). The night ended with Daisy Boy taking a special interest in a Polish girl ("I've given my sleeping bag away, what can I do now?").

Sunday began with dreary heads rising as our guests began to leave, and we could contemplate returning to our beds. We would like to thank everyone for all their help in the event, and hope that next years' event can rise to the tough challenge of being as good as this one.

PS If anyone has any good ideas of what to do with 200 t-shirts please get in touch!

U.S. Cycle Challenge

This summer I, Tom Scorer, am cycling across America from Seattle to Boston, travelling through sixteen states and two countries. The journey will take me over the Rockies, the planes of Central America, Pennsylvania and New Hampshire. I will encounter many types of terrain and conditions, from the peaks in the Rockies to the planes and heat of South Dakota. I will also be raising money for Whizz Kidz

During the challenge I will be entirely self-reliant and will carry all I need to live for that time, except for food and water! I will be taking all camping equipment, clothing, tools etc with me and pulling it behind me in a specially designed trailer.

It has been a life long ambition to do this trip. I have been

training hard for the last 2 years to build up the core fitness I will need to complete the distance of 4,500 miles in less than 70 days, an average of 70+ miles per day.

My primary aim is to complete the cycling challenge but I felt that it was also a great opportunity to raise awareness, and money for Whizz Kidz.

Whizz Kidz is a national children's charity with a very simple goal - to give disabled children independent mobility. By providing specialised mobility equipment, Whizz Kidz improves the quality of life of disabled children across the UK and literally lets children be children.

The route has been planned for 64 riding days (at a 70 miles/day average) which gives me 6 full rest days dur-

ing the 70 day period. The days have been planned taking into account both the terrain and conditions I am likely to experience so are likely to change! I aim to leave in early July and return in the early part of September.

I am going to be having a number of fundraising events for Whizz Kidz in the next few weeks the 1st being this Wednesday 15th May, There will be a Bermuda Triangle Pub Crawl starting from the New Charing Cross Bar starting from 11am. (Nearest tube Hammersmith)

Those that want to come and help raise money and have an awesome time can pick up collecting tins, pub crawl guide and collecting licences from the bar and go and have fun!

We have organised some really good deals at some of the pubs along on both Drink (both Soft and NOT) and Food.

The Route in Brief:

The Pub crawl is going to be going from Hammersmith to South Kensington on the tube, then onto Paddington where we have loads of deals with different bars in the area. Next from Edgware Road to Embankment then back to Charing cross where there is a cocktail theme night waiting...

Anybody is welcome to come and help raise money: you don't have to drink; we will need sober minds.

Anybody that has any questions should contact Tom on 07790037627 or thomas.scorer@ic.ac.uk

Tom Scorer



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Sunday 19 May 02



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Ed Millar-Craig - edward.millar-craig@ic.ac.uk

or Nick Gazard - nicholas.gazard@ic.ac.uk

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v

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Thursday 16th May

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Friday 17th May

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England v Switzerland