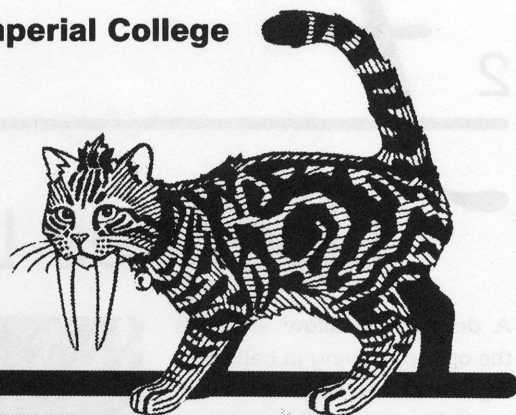
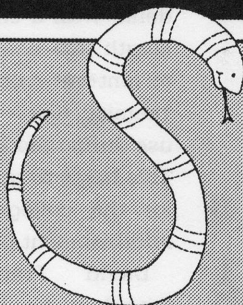


felix



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

Snakes and Ladders Diary.
Should keep you amused for
a while. (Page 8)



Star Wars. Episode II.
Want it you know you
do... (Page 11)



Student Housing In Jeopardy

College authorities have approved plans to sell Clayponds hall of residence in the summer of 2003 for an estimated £8m. Clayponds is situated in Ealing and houses 332 students, mostly first year overseas postgraduates.

The College currently plans to refurbish Southside and Bernard Sunley halls in the Autumn of 2003. If these refurbishments and the Clayponds sale both go ahead as planned then the College will have to find a least 300 extra bed-spaces just to keep its guarantee of accommodation for all first year undergraduates. There will be no space for overseas post-graduates, who are currently recognised as "priority cases" for a place in halls once all first year undergraduates have been housed.

Although the Rector's Committee on Student Residences met last week, the plans were not made public until a meeting of the College Council last Friday. An angry meeting of the Union's Executive Committee on Monday established that College officials had failed to consult student before approving the plan.



Photo: Rupert Horrox

Clayponds: Going, going... gone in 2003

Professor Rees Rawlings, the Pro Rector (Educational Quality), told Felix that "the students should have been informed... it should not have gone to College Council as such a surprise."

Senior College officials attempted to portray the decision as "cock-up, not con-

spiracy" and assured *Felix* that the guarantee of accommodation for all first-year undergraduates would somehow be met.

In the long term this may involve the construction of a new hall of residence near to the South Kensington campus. In the short term, it raises the possibility that the sale of Clayponds may be delayed until October 2004 or even 2005.

Mark Tyler, the Warden of Clayponds, told Felix that "I'm disappointed with the short-term view taken by the College." He also questioned the College's commitment towards overseas postgraduates.

Clayponds was bought for £12.5m in the early 1990's and valued in 1996 at £11.8m. An informed source, citing the recent surge in London's residential property market, estimated that Clayponds might actually be worth £15m, which would leave the College with an unplanned cash surplus of £7m. *Etienne*

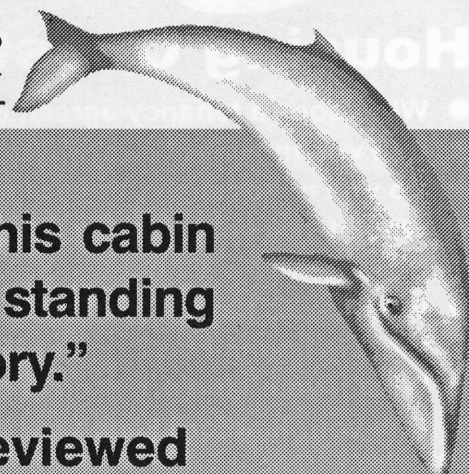
"Captain Ahab finally emerges from his cabin
a fearsome man standing
on the deck, armed from whale ivory."

**REFERENCE
COLLECTION**

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of an Era in Letters: 6 • The Editor Muses on Silly Season: 8 • Sport: 15

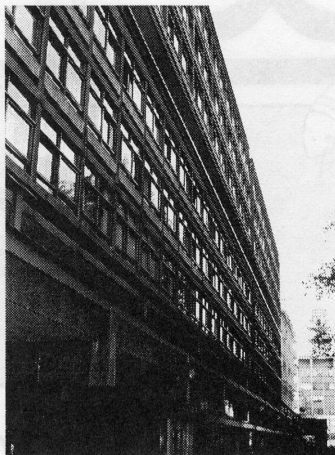


Licences Lengthened

A decision to allow students the option of living in halls during the Easter vacation is currently being considered.

The changes have been proposed in response to complaints from students and parents inconvenienced by having to pack up and move out of rooms in hall at the end of the spring term. A number of students also expressed a wish at the start of the current term to move back in to prepare for forthcoming exams. Southside, Weeks, Linstead and Beit halls currently only offer accommodation licences lasting 34 weeks.

Extension of the licences of residents living in Linstead, Southside and Weeks halls have recently been agreed, which will enable students to stay in hall for the full 39 weeks of the academic year from this



Southside: Easter home?

October. Southside halls are due to close next summer for refurbishment and a decision will be taken then as to whether Southside will be able to offer students the option of staying in hall over Easter when it reopens in 2005.

Beit is the one hall that will

retain its current 34-week status, in order to provide students with a choice of licence length and enable the college to rent out rooms - in this, its 'premier' hall - for conference use during the Easter vacation. This helps to generate funding for the college's residences refurbishment programme.

David Francis, Deputy President for Education and Welfare, has expressed concern that the changes to the length of Linstead Hall licences will be unlikely to make much difference to those students from poorer backgrounds, but said that the Union is committed to ensuring students are provided with both adequate care and "cheap, quality accommodation," for as long as they require at university.

John S

f

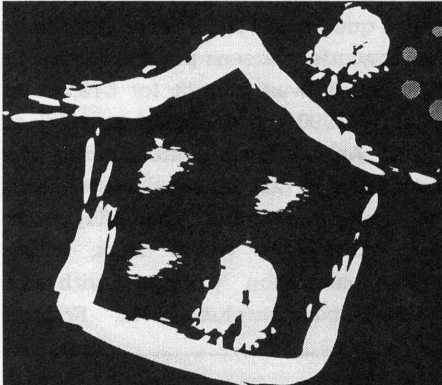
Issue 1237

24 May 2002

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Reporter: Etienne Pollard
Music: Dave Edwards
Books: Jon Matthews
Arts: Jon Brenner
Film: Darius Nikbin
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**imperial
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ADVICE**

Housing Questions?

- What does a tenancy agreement mean?
- Can you move out early?
- Do you need repairs to your flat?
- What if you fall out with your housemates?
- Do you need a TV licence?
- Who has to pay for gas and electricity?
- What is council tax?
- What if your landlord keep bothering you?
- Can your landlord keep your deposit when you leave?

No Problem too Big or too Small!

Big Al Fayed

Four intrepid publicity-seekers have spent the past week in the window of Harrods in front of thousands of onlookers in an event promoting a new range of hi-tech internet-linked household appliances.

The LG Internet Family have lived in the windows of the exclusive Knightsbridge department store between 10am and 7pm every day this week in a custom-built futuristic 'house', and will continue to do so until tomorrow evening. In the style of *Big Brother*, the family - which comprises parents Carl Newman, a sales consultant from Leicestershire, and Sarah Wooster, a counsellor from South London, with children Steve Wilson and Charlie Parker, students from Milton Keynes and Leicester respec-

tively - have been set tasks to do by members of the public, which have been presented to them throughout the week by a selection of celebrity visitors. After the store has closed, the four have been able to relax and unwind each evening in the plush Mandarin Oriental Hotel, which - like the Harrods store - is owned by Mohammed Al Fayed.

A media scrum met their first appearance in the windows of the store on Monday morning, as the event was given blanket coverage by local, national and international media. Viewers can track the family's every move through four webcams set up within the Harrods house at www.lginternetfamily.co.uk.

John S

Clubs & Societies: Training

This term the Union will be embarking upon a series of training sessions for newly elected club and society officers. By now, most clubs will have elected their committees for next year and it is important that the new incumbents receive appropriate instruction in certain key areas before beginning their duties in October.

In taking on the mantle as a Club President, (sometimes called Chair or Captain) you are responsible to the Chair of your governing committee, and eventually the Union President, for all aspects of your club or society (for example, the Rugby Club Captain is responsible to the Athletics Clubs Committee Chairman). These aspects range from the health and safety of your members to the financial administration of your club.

Other members of your committee are responsible for certain elements of the running of your club. For example, the Treasurer will clearly deal with the day-to-day financial workings while the Secretary will ensure that the club records are kept in good order and the proceedings of meetings are correctly recorded. These officers are all responsible to the Club President for

their particular fields of operation.

The Union has certain duties towards clubs and societies that it must endeavour to fulfil; these include providing certain facilities and resources. Likewise, your club or society has duties to the Union, such as complying with current policy and rules, and conducting its operations democratically. We want you to have a basic knowledge of all these things before you embark upon your term of office. This is to protect yourselves, your members and the Union. It will also make your lives and ours much easier come the start-of-term rush.

You should have been notified of your designated session by the outgoing committee of your club or by the Chair of your governing committee. The new President, Treasurer and Secretary (or equivalent) of your club are expected to attend. However, we understand that with exam season upon us your availability will be limited. This is why we are offering a number of sessions, should you be unavailable for your designated session. If you wish to transfer to a different session, please inform the Student Activities Coordinator, Nick Gore (n.gore@ic.ac.uk), of the session

you would like to attend. Due to numbers, please only do this where necessary. It will benefit you to attend the designated session with other clubs of your type.

The format of the sessions is as follows: an initial introductory session (40-45 mins) covering general aspects of running a club will be followed by free refreshments. The final two hours will be divided into four short sessions covering finance, health & safety, running events and sponsorship/marketing. You will be divided into four groups for this, moving around different rooms so that you attend each session. Although your initial reaction might be that not all the sessions will be appropriate to you, I'm confident that you'll find something for everyone contained therein and hopefully it will give you the confidence to try something new as part of your club's activities.

Finally, a reminder that the training is compulsory, for the reasons outlined above.

However, it's not supposed to be a chore, and I hope and expect that you will find it useful and that it will give you the confidence to lead your club effectively next term. *Rob*

PoetrySoc: Readings

When you hear someone talk about poetry, what goes through your mind? Usually people imagine the school days when teachers would thrust upon them some complicated lengthy pieces that are just too tedious. But really poetry is not like that, it should be appreciated for its beauty, its musical and rhythmical quality and its unique way of portraying things in another dimension.

This is what the Poetry Society is about. There is no need for intimidation, everyone is welcome whether they fancy themselves as the next Poet Laureate or it's the first time they've written something. Just come and read, and share it with everyone. There is no

obligation to read, people can come and support, and just enjoy the relaxed chilled atmosphere and absorb the literary inspiration that will be floating around!

There is scope for literature as well, in the name of prose. Music will also be an important feature with there being a background tempo for the readers.

So what are you waiting for? Come to the next meeting of the Poetry Society. You'll see poetry in a different way, in other words... you'll be enlightened!

Or, in other words:

"Ever pondered the meaning of life wondering why you're here on this earth?

Looking for answers to the questions you have and putting a value on your worth?

Don't worry for you're not alone,

Many others share your philosophical zone!

Does the sound of rhyming words or prose,

Bring a tingling sensation to your toes?

Or the art of making a verbal recipe make sense,

Make your muscles go oh so less tense,

Because you feel so relaxed and at ease,

As for the door to your answers you've found the keys.

Then my friends the Poetry Society's for you,

With literature, philosophy and

music too.

Don't worry, you don't have to be like the Bard,

Or even have to try very hard.

Speak your mind, a few words of what you think,

Or delegate a speaker in case you go pink!

Come and listen and get a hold of the vibe,

And become a member of this versification tribe.

Attend with an open mind in this ambience of chill,

And be inspired I'm truly sure you will!

So whether your love is like a 'red red rose,' or you're a fan of the Jaberwocky,

Just come and be a part of this auspicious Poetry Soccy!"

Shabnam Parkar

Fairtrade Week

So, that Fairtrade Week went OK then? No, it was brilliant! Students and free, high quality chocolate, of course it went well!

Point taken. Last week you were banging on about banana growers. Got any bendy yellow things left? Condom week has been and gone.

No, I meant the bananas!

All gone - chocolate, tea bags, coffee, fruit juice, cereal bars, brazil nut cookies, geo bars and divine bars.

And the bananas?

OK, so we didn't get any free samples of bananas from the suppliers. Buy your own.

Now you have raised my awareness I know that buying Fairtrade goods will solve global poverty.

Get real.

But I thought you said...

Yes, yes, keep buying the Fairtrade stuff and kick up a fuss if your supermarket doesn't stock any.

So what's the problem?

Fairtrade makes a real difference to the producers, their children and their communities.

Yes, I'm with you...

But the rules of international trade are stacked in favour of rich, developed nations.

Like what?

Some markets in developed countries are protected from competition from producers in developing countries. The World Trade Organisation is still dominated by the richer nations. The US is willing to ban the import of steel from the EU and UK, what chance have developing nations?

So if we change the trade rules then millions of the world's poorest people will benefit?

You've got it!

But who makes the rules?

Basically it's the leaders of the developed nations at the G8 summits and bodies like the World Trade Organisation.

So, don't say: "I couldn't give a monkey's."

Do say: "Tell me more about the Trade Justice Movement Lobby of MPs on June 19th!"

Thank You

Thanks to all who took part in the Fairtrade events last week. Especially to those who stopped to talk about the ideas behind Fairtrade. It is great to know that so many people are already taking action.

Special thanks to all those who helped with the stalls and to the groups and societies who lent support. Big thanks to the Union and Union Catering for stocking Fairtrade coffee all week.

Fairtrade/Trade Justice...

What's the difference?

Fairtrade products are now just one part of a wider campaign. Last November leading charities, aid agencies and environmental campaigners came together to form the Trade Justice Movement. These include Oxfam, Christian Aid, Cafod, Friends of the Earth, World Development Movement and People and Planet. Not to forget the Banana Link!

What does the Movement want?

The Trade Justice Movement is calling for a new approach to food and farming to protect the livelihoods of poor farmers and the environment.

It is also arguing against new WTO plans for utilities in poor nations to be bought by private companies in the developed world and run to make profits.

The Movement also wants new global laws to regulate the activities of international corporations.

Why now?

June 2002 is a pivotal moment for the world's poor. Trade rules will be high on the agenda of three international summits:

- EU Heads of State Summit: 21-22 June, Spain.
- G8 Leaders Summit: 26-27 June, Canada
- UN World Summit on Sustainable Development: 26 August - 4 September, South Africa

These will be the first gatherings of world leaders since September 11. Now is the time to make the call for a fairer, safer world.

What's happening?

All the member groups are supporting a mass lobby of members of Parliament at 3.30pm on the afternoon of Wednesday 19 June, with two ways to take part.

The easy option: come along and be part of a huge Mexican Wave of Noise that is going to roll around the Palace of Westminster. Bring anything that will make a loud noise. Just the ideal post exam activity or revision anti-stress technique.

The detailed option: come along, do the wave, and then lobby your local MP about Trade Justice issues.

To join in the Lobby contact Andrew or Susie at:

chaplaincy@ic.ac.uk

For more information visit tradejusticemovement.org.uk

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YOUR CARES AWAY EVERY WEDNESDAY
LATE NIGHT BBQ IN THE QUAD DANCE 'TIL MIDNIGHT BARS CLOSE AT 12

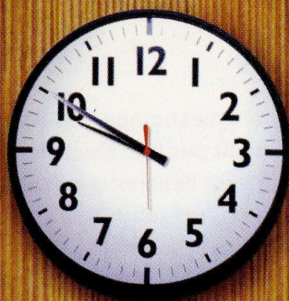
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 from 5pm-8pm
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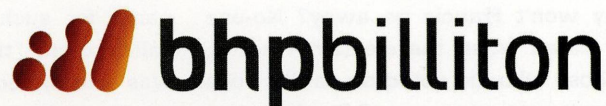
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Balance Of Power

Dear Felix,

Having read last week's "Israeli response", I regret not having written to praise the courage of people like Dr Sahibzada, acting like human shields. I don't want to do a reply to their letters (although to lament that "taxpayers' money" goes to finance the "UN emergency refugee agency", when \$3 billion a year goes to Israel, with wagonloads of US/UK weapons, is particularly heartless). Of course I'm no anti-semitic, actually I think the Israel state is a great achievement! But I've (slowly) realised how unbalanced the middle-eastern conflict was. Perhaps we should look at UN Security Council resolution (you know, that international body...), that, in October 2000 was "call[ing] on Israel, the occupying power, to abide scrupulously by its legal obligations." Similar international decisions, calling for respect of peace treaties and respect of the Geneva conventions (duh?) are regularly vetoed by the US (since 1976), eliminating them from mainstream debate. Israel (the "peaceful" state that pulled out of Egypt and Lebanon only 20 years ago) has the benefit of affording PR and lobbying, and it shows. The death count goes on (similarly un-balanced), and "an eye for an eye makes the whole world blind..."

Well, that almost made me forget about the US DoD/ "a private company" developing potential biological weapons (botulism) inside IC!

Matthew C

Francis Go Home

Dear Felix,

Why won't Francis go away? No-one really cared when the election was on, and those who did voted no. Is this such a difficult concept to grasp? Surely he has better things to do than continue a crusade that was essentially flawed from the start. And surely *Felix* isn't your personal forum for continually trying to make your point. I'll go now before I start swearing, and will has to censor me.

Iain Angus

In Search Of Moderation

I've been following the highly emotive debate that's been occurring in the pages of this august organ re: the Israel-Palestine conflict for some time now, and have noticed that most of the correspondents so far have had pretty extreme views on one side or the other. No doubt they themselves don't think so and needless to say, I think that my own views are peculiarly moderate, too. You may disagree.

I have problems with arguments that demonise the Palestinians universally as terrorists. I also have problems with much of the criticism of Israel we hear in our media; Britain has a long, disgraceful history of anti-Semitism and I fear that much of the anti-Israeli sentiment expressed under a pro-Palestinian, social justice flag is in fact motivated by this ugly tendency. I personally feel that much of the Israeli military and political manoeuvring recently has been despicable, but then so have the horrific tactics of the Palestinian freedom-fighters, rallying to the call of the Intefada.

The striking thing about listening to people from both sides is their willingness to talk about atrocities perpetrated against them in the past, in stark contrast to their unwillingness to consider what may happen in the future; Israeli incursions are not plausible attempts to prevent future suicide bombings - they are quite transparent attempts to punish the Palestinian population for giving succour to Israel's enemies. Members of Hamas and the Al-Aqsa Brigades do not believe that blowing themselves up in crowded Israeli streets will bring about destruction of the whole Israeli state; they too are merely exacting an ill-targeted revenge for past wrongs. In Ireland we had a name for such depressing spirals; we called them "tit-for-tat violence" and it was widely recognised that while such mindless thuggery persisted, chances for peaceful co-existence of the two populations were remote.

However, supporters of Israel will tell you that the Middle East isn't like Northern Ireland - the Unionist communities and Mainland Britain never had to deal with suicide bombings and mass murder on the scale perpetrated by the

radical Palestinians. Pro-Arab people, too, will point out that the British government never sent helicopter gunships to Bogside or the Garvachy Road in reprisal for Republican bombings. Both sides, again, are right; the Middle East is in a much more dire situation than we ever experienced in Ireland; much worse in terms of casualty numbers, much worse in terms of the brutality involved, much worse in terms of the involvement by other regional powers, backing both sides with money, arms and political brinkmanship. Of course, this only means that the solution has to be more drastic and will require even greater leaps of faith by one side or the other than was the case in Ireland. Unfortunately, though where the Middle East excels is in the entrenchment of both sides; their steadfast refusal to move.

At which point, predictably, an Israeli will point out that Netanyahu offered Arafat 97% of the occupied territories back in 1997 and an Arab will tell you that Arafat delivered however many months of Palestinian peace in 2000 but the Israelis did not give an inch. Both will insist that these were selfless moves, designed to get away from the conflict. Both sides will be lying. Israel's offers of land have always carried conditions, have never provided a solution to the "problem" (ie. Illegal Israeli occupation of) East Jerusalem and most importantly have never had the backing of the Israeli people.

Temporary ceasefires on the Arab side have always left the threat of a renewal of violence hanging over the Israeli population and have probably been used by Hamas, etc. to re-arm and scout out possible targets in Israel.

In short, the situation can never be hopeless but while supporters of each side remain blind to the needs, vulnerabilities and aspirations of the other side, it's pretty damned close.

Idris Harding

Yaffle

Dear Felix

Being a regular reader of *Felix*, I have noticed the two subjects which have appeared recently in the letters column.

As I have an opinion on both, I will mention both.

Firstly, I think that most people are sick of the NUS debate, and wish it would go away. It appears that Mrs Heeps and Francis will not let it go, and are determined to keep the debate going as long as possible in the pages of Felix. I have two solutions: Either they make their correspondence private (ie send it to each other without first going via Felix), or, after the last council of the year, they have a properly organised debate where they can air their views at each other and if people want to listen to them then they can. I suspect that the prospect of such an event will draw even fewer people to council than when council debated the constitution last term. At least people will be there who want to hear the arguments, instead of having them thrust upon them in Felix.

Secondly: about the Middle East. The letters which have appeared in recent issues have both been correct, but they have only given their half of the story. Yes, there are Arab terrorists, but the Israeli army is really no better. When I was in the region last summer, I saw a refugee camp just outside Jerusalem, and how the Jewish settlement was encroaching on the camp. That very day some of the homes had been bulldozed, for which the owners have to pay the Israeli government "for its services", so to speak. On a side trip to Ram 'Allah, I was lucky to get out again before the checkpoint was closed. I also saw the scene of the suicide bombing in Tel Aviv last June.

Basically the point I want to raise is this: Both sides have done things that they should not. I don't condone suicide bombing or any form of terrorism at all. Equally, the treatment of the Palestinian people by the Israeli army is nothing short of oppression. To give people an indication of what it is like, imagine British Army tanks rolling into residential districts of towns in Ireland. The very fact that I, a foreigner, was able to go there and leave three weeks later virtually hassle free is something which is denied to most Palestinians - they are not allowed passports in the same way virtually everybody else is in the world.

Maybe I have a wrong understanding of the situation, but it seems to me that this is the position: The Palestinians want a

separate state, and are quite happy that Israel should exist as well. The Israelis want to have a Jewish state which includes all of the current West Bank and Gaza, and will stop at nothing to achieve this. In that climate there will never be peace.

I am aware that I may make a lot of enemies with this, but I think that the points need to be made.

Richard Thursby
Maths 2

Committee dell'arte

Dear Felix

At present I am the Arts Festival Committee for next year. Yes, that is right, the whole committee!

Pros: Quick decision making, getting to write cheques to myself. Cons: The festival will not happen!

So, I need PASSIONATE people (no, not that kind of passionate, Will!). If you want to organise four weeks of Film, Theatre, Music, Dance, Art, Workshops and much more in the funkiest, biggest artsfest the world has ever seen, I need you.

I don't care whether you are Beethoven or if you believe that IC Arts are more ridiculous than white rap granpa Tim Westwood crossed with a chipmunk. Your time and effort will make the festival happen.

Interested? For more information email me at andrew.caisley@ic.ac.uk.
cheers, Andy

Wye Charity Donations

Last week Wye College students presented just over four thousand pounds to three different charities. The money was raised during Charity Week over the past two years. Many different events were organised ranging from tug-of-war over the river and a tractor pull to the traditional Champagne Breakfast and the Charity Week Ball. This year all of the events were very well supported, especially the Charity Week Ball which was attended by several people from the Royal School of Mines and from Imperial College. It was good to see you all there

and you are warmly welcomed to come and join in the events of Cricket Week (14-21 June) which ends with the Commemoration Ball.

The charities that we supported were Cancer Research, who received £1046 and The Hospice on the Hill who also received £1046. The Hospice on the Hill is an old peoples' home that have recently built new premises. They have to raise over eighty per cent of the money that is required to look after the people in their home as they can only receive 17% government funding. The other charity that we supported was Kent Air Ambulance, as they recently air lifted one of our students, and they received £2000.

Thank you to everyone that helped make Charity Week successful.

Tom Bradshaw

Charity Week organiser 2001

Letter From The Editor

Hello. I've been accused of letting people rant on these pages, and I have to admit I do. But I have now declared editorially that I am bored of both of the subjects that have been taking up these pages for the last few months. While I do respect the right for people to express their views, I feel this should be moderated, and the letters page should certainly not be turned into a forum for ongoing debate. That is not what it is for.

As one of this week's writers has said, if people wish to continue debating these subjects, then they are very welcome to do so privately, or, even better, at an open meeting.

I feel that the past few letters pages have adequately covered both sides of both stories: we have had two pro-Israel letters, two pro-Palestine letters, and two letters that caution moderation is the key. This would seem, therefore, that this is a good juncture to call an end to that particular debate.

I will still certainly consider publishing letters on the subject, but only if they seem to be saying something new.

On the subject of the NUS, I have to say I think everyone is getting very bored of it, including me. As such, there will be no more until the issue is raised again on a College level.

love will

Editorial

I have just spent what seems like a year doing all that snakes and ladders business on the next page, and to be honest, I really don't have the time. This is because I'm off to Holland on a good old jolly with a bunch of sporty types. Now I won't claim that I don't want to go, because obviously everyone loves to go off on one and get paid for it, but to be honest, I might be happier if the option had never arisen. Living in ignorance kind of thing, you see. I'm going tomorrow morning, and not coming back until Friday night, so that's an entire week of Felixing that I'm going to miss, which all has to be done today. And I won't be able to deliver it. Hopefully that's all going to happen anyway, and a big thanks in advance to John Stratford.

So where's the gossip, I hear you ask. Well there isn't any. I haven't had long enough since my last editorial to really build up steam and get myself into yet another precarious (and sometimes woman related) position.

My only mild foray into the world of heartbreak was going to see my ex-girlfriend in Birmingham. It has been stated that I was mad for going, but I think that's more relating to the Birmingham aspect than anything to do with my ex-girlfriend.

It was very strange, because she's a lovely person, and as such has not torn up all the photos of us together, and instead has them (amongst many other photos) blutacked up around her room.

Thus, when I turn up to meet all her new friends for the first time, since they've been in her room, they all

recognised me. This was very disconcerting. Oh, they would say, you're Will, aren't you, and then proceed to regail me with a particular anecdote involving a tape recorder that I shall never be allowed to forget. Not, of course, that I want to.

Also, upon introduction to anyone who didn't already recognise my beautiful features, it was always 'my ex-boyfriend, Will', which I find always sticks you with a bit of a stigma. Why, people ask themselves, did they split up? Why are they still friends? Am I allowed to try and pull him or her in front of the other. You know the kind of thing. Anyway, my point is that one day I aim to be introduced to people as 'my friend, Will', or even, more simply, 'Will', but I suspect that if that ever happened, I would get upset and assume that the girl in question was trying to hide the fact that we used to be with each other.

I think the main problem is that I'm feeling a bit sensitive still, so perhaps I should just go on holiday; but then regular readers of my column know all about the trouble I get into when I go away, so maybe I'll just stick around for a bit.

Oops, I'm going to Holland, aren't I? It's only four days, but I strongly suspect I'll come back to find my parents remarried, and my sister engaged to my step father.

I'm a big believer in silly season, and I am absolutely convinced that it's upon us again. However, on the plus side, there are beautiful sunrises to watch with friends old and new, so perhaps I won't complain too much.

This Week	Friday	Weekend
Union Events	42 - Winner! Dolly Mixtures You know the drill. Drink, dance, fall over. <i>Union, late</i>	41 So near and yet so far. You fail all your exams, and have to go back to the beginning of the year. Go back to square 1, while we all point and laugh at you. Haha.
Student Activities	29 Symphony Orchestra Prokofiev, Ravel, Mozart and Shostakovich. Tickets £3 on the door. <i>Great Hall, 7:30pm</i>	30
At The Movies	28 Dog Soldiers I think this may have werewolves in it, and I bet one of them is female, leading to a bitch gag. Any money. 50 - 1.	27
Television & Radio	15 Bagpuss Yaffle, frankly. And I'll tell you what: he's slightly baggy at the seams, but Emily loved him. <i>Channel 4, 5:50am</i>	16
Gigs & Concerts	14 Powderfinger They might rock, with a name like that, but to be honest, they could be too coked to do anything except giggle. <i>Shepherds Bush Emp</i>	13
Snakes & Ladders	1 Welcome to Felix Snakes And Ladders. Representing the trials and tribulations of life, you roll the dice to move, and follow instructions. Easy, eh?	2

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
40	39 Trivia Who knows when the Battle Of Hastings was? Me me me me me me. Apparently Mimi does. Hahaha. <i>Da Vinci's</i>	38 Wotsits Cheesy, cheerful, and downright chewy. <i>Union, evening</i>	37 If you've fallen in love this year, you've just been dumped. Spend a week in bed wallowing in your own misery. Miss a go for every time you've been dumped.	36 Dolly Mixtures presents TEXT FLIRT. 'Get into a textual relationship here!' Ooh ooh err. Silly, yet fun. I'd give it a go... <i>Union, all night</i>
31 Alternative Music New releases played for your aural pleasure. From glitchcore to riot grrrl! I have no idea what that means... <i>dBs, 5pm</i>	32 Start revising for exams, and as such you try to stop drinking. Wake up in a ditch, and miss a go.	33 Poetry Readings Express yourself, or listen to others at the Poetry Soc meeting. Chilled and informal. <i>Union Dining Hall, 7pm</i>	34 Alternative Music Just a standard meeting, this time. I suppose you could discuss glitchcore. <i>Da Vinci's, 5pm</i>	35
26 Star Wars Episode II, attack of the fish. I haven't seen it yet, but apparently Yoda takes a hit of speed in it, and bounces around a lot. Sounds cool to me.	25	24 Showtime Spoof about two very different cops teaming up in a reality based TV show, with Eddie Murphy and Robert De Niro	23 Your project goes utterly tits up, and frankly you should jsut give up now. But you won't, because you're strong. Instead, go get drunk = hang-over = miss a go.	22
17	18 You discover you don't like your course, and who can blame you, frankly. Go see your head tutor, who tells you you're clever. Move on 4.	19 The Simpsons Well what more can you ask for of a Wednesday evening. You gotta love 'em. <i>Sky One, 7pm</i>	20	21 First World Cup Game France vs. Senegal, 12:30pm. This is the first match of the world cup, and they're all going to be in the morning. <i>On in union bars</i>
12 Jewel Her songs are a bit folky-wolky, if you ask me, but she's mighty purdy, so you could just go along to perv. <i>Albert Hall</i>	11 Westlife Please, God, no. I used to live near here, and I now feel as if someone is walking on my grave. Brrrr... <i>Earl's Court</i>	10	9	8 Lectures start. How boring. You 'accidentally' forget about an entire lecture course, and as such get more time for fun. Roll again.
3	4 Get unnecessarily drunk at Freshers Week, and get very hungover indeed. You will need to miss at least one go, and possibly two. Depends how you're feeling.	5	6 You've pulled. I know it's a miracle, but they were even more drunk than you were. Skip ahead 5 squares knowing that you're better looking than your mates.	7



LIVE: The White Stripes + The Dirtbombs @ Shepherds Bush

Forget what you think you know about The White Stripes, (pic above) The Strokes et al. If these bands are the saviours of rock, sent to earth to defend us from the onslaught of shite pop music, then **The Dirtbombs** have come to save them from the inevitable slide into mediocrity.

Tonight, the five-piece from Detroit (including two drummers) play a 45-minute set which is a re-education in rock 'n' roll and the best show this correspondent has ever seen. The drum kit falls off the platform, and they play on. The drum kit falls apart, and they play on.

Within the first five (fantastic) songs, the lead guitarist throws every rock star pose imaginable and comes over to join the crowd. The band quite blatantly enjoy themselves, and this feeling passes to the audience. They play amazing rock, roll, funk and blues. They love it, and so does the crowd. They also have the cutest tambourine player since, well, a long time ago.

If you see one band in the next year, make it this one. If you buy one album in the next year, make it theirs. You owe it to yourself and to the world to make this band HUGE. Open your mind. Be educated.



Having said that, **The White Stripes** were amazing. Jack White has more stage presence than it should be legally possible to possess, and he is the only man in the world who can sing like David Beckham on helium and still be totally cool.

Tonight, they play louder and harder than ever. Kicking off with *Dead Leaves* and *The Dirty Ground*, Jack immediately has the crowd right where he wants them. *Fell in Love With a Girl* and *Hotel Yorba* produce scenes of mass chorus yelling and pogoing. Meg looks on in a daze as Jack loses it to the music, completely engrossed in his own little rock world. They play everything the crowd could want, plus some new stuff which sounds very promising indeed. Right now, they are one of the best acts in the world. Catch them if you can.



Dominic

OUT THIS WEEK

The following are due out on Monday 27 May:

ALBUMS

CKY - Volume 1

TETRA SPLENDOR - Splendid Animation

SINGLES

AMERICAN HEAD CHARGE - Just So You Know

GARLIC - Not Over Yet

GERLING - Dust Me Selecta

MISS BLACK AMERICA - Talk Hard

SAHARA HOTNIGHTS - With Or Without Control

SIX BY SEVEN - All My New Best Friends

VINETTE - Lost In Berlin

Singles Roundup

VINETTE - *Lost In Berlin*

Spanish guitars and slinky beats draw you into the world of Vinette. When *Lost In Berlin*, she brings gospel, swing, soul and R&B to the feet of the listener, with her rich and alluring vocals. However, the lyrics let the show down, together with the predictable tempo changes and overall impression of a Eurovision entry from one of those mid-table nations.



Sajini

GEMMA HAYES - *Hanging Around*

The single itself sounds a lot like PJ Harvey, with the same flowing vocals and rhythms. It's reasonable, but clearly not what Gemma Hayes does best - the B-sides are where the real quality lies, with pretty, sleepy tunes. The guitars lull, the voice haunts, and altogether it's all really rather nice.



Jamie

DJ SHADOW - *You Can't Go Home Again*

The A-side of this will probably surprise and confuse you, but when you get used to the weird eighties bass, guitar and synth and give it a chance, this proves to be an excellent return to the studio. After a long Roysopp-esque beginning, it builds to a superb breakbeat climax, but then you'd expect nothing less.



Nick

DJ SHADOW COMPETITION!

We've got FIVE exclusive DJ Shadow mix CDs to give away. Each contains five selections from his forthcoming album *The Private Press*.

QUESTION: What is the name of DJ Shadow's ground-breaking debut album?

(a) *Endtroducing* (b) *Leftism* (c) *Fat Of The Land*

Please email your answer, along with your name, year and department, to music.felix@ic.ac.uk by Thursday 30 May.



Pollock portrait of a drunk

Starring Ed Harris, directed by Ed Harris, a movie about one of the twentieth century's most influential artists.

Abstract expressionist painter Jackson Pollock was in the fifties the most famous artist in the world. His paint by dripping technique had rocked the art establishment and today his work is worth millions. His unhappy personal life, alcoholism, and premature death in a car crash also contributed to his legendary status.

Pollock paints a brutal and depressing picture of a flawed genius who sought recognition and at the same time stayed true to his art. Jackson Pollock is the archetypal artist. Unhappy, temperamental, arrogant, and at the same time a perfectionist, a devotee to his work. However, the inner conflict which is the source of artistic inspiration lead in Pollock's case to an eventual and somewhat inevitable self-destruction.

The opening scenes of this biopic have Pollock, wasted, climbing up the stairs loudly shouting, "fuck Picasso, fuck Picasso!" This sets the trend for the rest of the movie. It alternates between periods where Pollock is out of control, drunk, and abusing his wife, Lee Krasner (oscar nominated Marcia Gay Harden), and moments where he is in his element, frenetically painting in an almost trance-like mania.

This movie is not about Pollock the artist. It is about Pollock the man. Who was an artist. So strictly speaking it was about Pollock the artist. But the two are inseparable and it is on that point of fact that this movie slips up. The script touches upon many themes in the artist's life but fails to give us any real insight into what was going on inside Pollock's mind. The conflicts are self-evident but it is hard to relate to them and by the end of the film Pollock remains a distant individual.

Ed Harris' oscar nominated performance is a brilliant example of method acting. Previously to this, I had recently seen *Glengarry Glen Ross* (1992), where Harris managed to shine in one of the the greatest acting ensembles ever lined-up. But Harris' performance in *Pollock* easily the highlight of his career. So if you are sick of science here is a chance to see for yourself what it is like to be a troubled artist.



Darius



Star Wars: Episode II - Attack of the Clones

First of all, I would just like to say, and I don't know if you agree with me, that *Star Wars: Episode I - The Phantom Menace* was an absolute disgrace.

It was pitiful. Too much politics and tax-dodging and not enough wars in the stars. So before watching *Star Wars: Episode II - Attack Of The Clones*, I was still tut-tutting about how bad Episode I was, and quite frankly I was anticipating more of the same.

Another factor that put *Attack Of The Clones* at a preconceived disadvantage was a movie by the name of *LotR: The Fellowship Of The Ring*. Peter Jackson's epic was so good that Episode II had its work cut out already in making an impression on me. Subconsciously, my judgement of the new *Star Wars* movie would be the outcome of a direct comparison with the excellent *Lord Of The Rings* movie.

Episode II is set ten years after *The Phantom Menace* attack on the planet Naboo. After an attempt on Senator Padme Amidala's (Natalie Portman) life, Jedi Obi-Wan Kenobi (Ewan McGregor) and his pupil Anakin Skywalker (Hayden Christensen) are sent to find the assassin. They discover that all is not what it seems, and soon, an inter-galactic political conspiracy involving an army of clones, a bounty hunter called Jango Fett, and a Sith Lord begins to unravel itself.

The story line, despite looking good on paper, is very predictable and, despite one twist, sticks to classic Hollywood formula. What I found more interesting were the characters and the in-jokes, especially, when Obi-Wan Kenobi, almost sarcastically says to Jar-Jar Binks, "it's great to see you back." Fortunately, Jar-Jar does not feature heavily, but we have much more of Yoda, who actually flexes his light-sabre muscles in a memorable fight.

Episode II is better than Episode I. But not, in my mind, in the same league as the original trilogy. The visuals are generally astounding, (although CG is overused) the acting is good, and the plot at least held my attention. But the highlight was the John Williams soundtrack which really took me back to the good old days.



Alfonso Parelli

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Moby Dick

Herbert Melville

Few would argue that Herbert Melville's *Moby Dick* is a classic piece of American literature, yet even fewer would disagree that the novel's opening line, "Call me Ishmael," evokes all the gravity of the tragedy to follow.

Moby Dick is set at the height of the American whaling industry, fuelled by the demand for the oil obtained from whale blubber. Ishmael, our narrator, enlists on the infamous whaler from Nantucket, The Pequod, for its three-year voyage hunting the vast Sperm Whale. He and his companion, Queequeg, board the ship without ever meeting its captain, signed instead by the ship's owners. It is only when the ship is well under weigh for its tropical hunting ground that Captain Ahab finally emerges from his cabin to meet the crew, a fearsome man standing with one leg fashioned from whale ivory. Ahab unequivocally declares his wish for revenge against the whale that robbed him of a leg - a white whale known as Moby Dick - known throughout the fishery for his expertise at evading capture, feared for his speed and ferocity, and recognised by his distinctive white skin.

The remainder of the novel takes the broad form of a classic tragedy. Increasing unease about Ahab's vendetta and a range of mysterious characters encountered throughout the story function admirably as harbingers of doom. Surrounding this conflict and the hunt itself is a vast array of subplots and diversions. Melville, himself a whaler for a time, often lapses in to potentially unappealing, detailed descriptions of whaling practice. Ishmael is often prone to long discourses on a variety of other topics as well, often with only a tenuous link to the story. This perhaps highlights Melville's frustration regarding success of his previous work, which had certainly failed to earn him much renown in literary circles.

This book may have its difficulties for the modern reader. The 19th Century American-English is certainly a curiosity to those used to classic English novels. Added to this is a heavy dose of sea-faring language, though much of the important terminology is explained and it certainly helps establish the atmosphere.

Whatever you think of the book's entertainment value, it's undoubtedly worth a read, both as classic literature, and as yet another study of humanity's endless flaws.



Brideshead Revisited

Evelyn Waugh

Brideshead Revisited was written by diarist Evelyn Waugh during the Second World War. It was Waugh's first popular novel, as he noted once saying that it lost him much of his colleagues' respect. Despite this, *Brideshead* is well known for its exquisite language and composition, as well as for its romantic portrayal of England's past.

The narrator, Charles Ryder, first meets Lord Sebastian Flyte at Oxford University and describes the growth of their friendship and his eventual meeting with Sebastian's family. The Flytes live in the archetypal world of early twentieth century aristocracy, evidenced on first sight by their family home - the mansion house of a town called Brideshead.

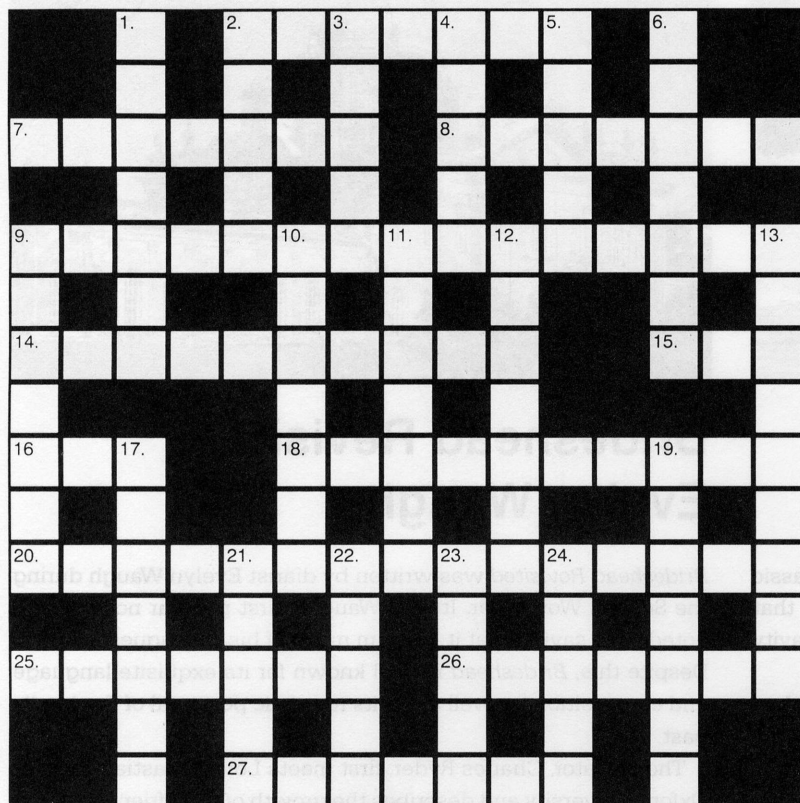
Charles' relationship with the Flytes persists through his University life, early career and beyond marriage. While his relationship with Sebastian becomes more sporadic throughout the book, his sister Julia and mother both have strong influences during his life. Many years after the events surrounding the family, Charles returns to the house during wartime, where he relates in some of the finest language the events of those years.

Brideshead Revisited was televised quite some time ago by the BBC, maintaining much of Charles' soliloquy, which has thus become so famous among the generation preceding ours. That dramatisation fails, of course, to match the book's calibre, as many of the underlying themes are lost in an attempt to represent the epic plot to a television audience.

Evelyn Waugh described his work as a study of a connected group of characters and has succeeded in style. Its paragraphs, perhaps overly flowery for some, meander through the narrator's life from late teens to forties, over seas and between complicated relationships, decisions and consequences. Religion, war, politics, sexuality, class and love all have a role to play in the narrative.

Some readers may find the style intolerably extravagant - even Waugh edited some of the more indulgent passages when preparing later editions. Also, dramatic action may be found lacking, the work instead taking a more salubrious approach through Charles' experiences. Despite this, I would recommend this novel to any reader wishing to witness English wielded by one of the finest craftsmen of his art.

Crossword by Mummy Huffwell



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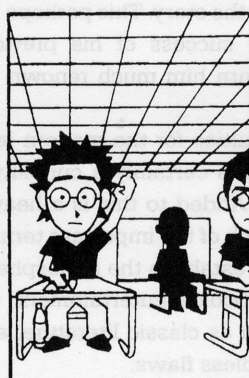
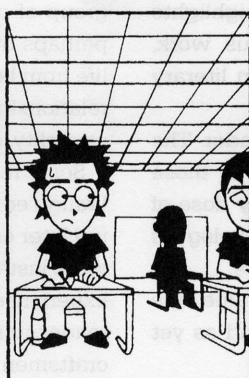
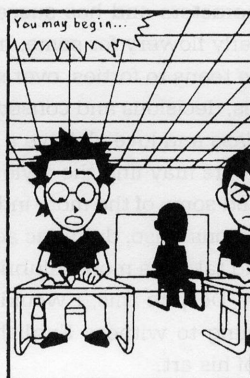
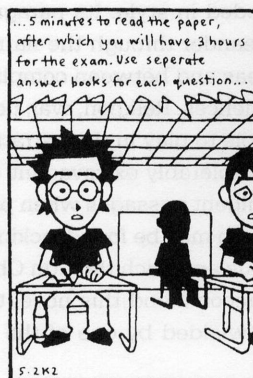
Across

2. Small lap for each tart. (7)
7. Love affair follows gas creating a noisy disturbance. (7)
8. Clouds are a funny blue in North American East. (7)
9. Sexually perverted Sam is chaotic sod. (15)
14. Reserves left some queens out synthetic rubbers. (10)
15. Pair bend in party. (3)
16. Sprite, an honourable fellow. (3)
17. I rush about after a friend without skill. (10)
20. Toy with less quiet career in London. (9,6)
25. Small cartridge gives you an idea? (7)
26. Strong atmosphere, that is to say, sulphur, makes magical little people. (7)
27. Serious organ breeding place. (7)

Down

1. Girl worries one cad, you, Al. (7)
2. Surge around bad weather. (5)
3. Area of land sounds like a painful group. (5)
4. Sherpa Nicholas is full of sudden fear. (5)
5. Animal endlessly preaches Judaism. (5)
6. Dead in bed, overdue greetings. (7)
8. One-off odds even back College man. (7)
10. They're far too knowledgeable about coats. (7)
11. Short ten follows musical story to work. (7)
12. Deputy Fuhrer surrounds East German woman on plane. (7)
13. Clots hire sellers of attire. (9)
17. Spiky cock, heartless lay. (7)
19. One degree, drink, drug, picture it. (7)
21. Sent to an island? They used to be one, we hear. (5)
22. Concerning git over striped beast. (5)
23. Rummage for a gun. (5)
24. Duvet, beginner inside, give up. (5)

freakfighter!



fail...



IC Boat Club

The 23rd of March saw excellent results at the Head of the River for the Imperial College boat club: the first eight finished 3rd, the seconds 9th, the thirds 24th, the fourths 73rd and the novices 96th overall. In comparison, Brookes finished 2nd, 12th, 37th, 118th and 231st, and UL finished 18th and 31st with their only two crews. As you can see from these results we were comfortably the best university overall, and were also the second best club in the country, behind Leander.

The next event was supposed to be BUSA, but unfortunately racing on the second day where our top crews were entered was cancelled due to high winds. On the first day our women's squad were in action, but a combination of a crab and lack of time between races unfortunately resulted in no medals. However over the last two weekends we were able to race, starting at Wallingford regatta. Here our elite eights came second and third, just losing to a stacked Molesey crew with numerous international oarsmen, and the girls came second in both senior 2 and senior 3 coxed fours

to Kingston, who are fast becoming our archrivals.

This last weekend saw IC divide and conquer, with some going to Bedford regatta, some to Bourne at Chiswick Bridge regatta and one eight venturing across the channel to race in Valenciennes, a new venture for the club.

At Bedford there was an all IC final in the Senior 1 coxed fours, while the winners of that race were denied a win in the elite coxed fours as a result of a clash with their opposition who refused to re-row after our complaints. Bourne at Chiswick Bridge resulted in an excellent win in the Womens' Novice double sculls. Meanwhile in France, on arrival in Valenciennes we went for a short practice paddle before going to the hotel that our hosts had kindly paid for. In the evening there was a reception at the town hall with the Mayor, which unfortunately was largely incomprehensible due to our poor French. This did however give us a chance to meet the Manchester University crew for the first time, who had challenged us for our long-held top spot in the University

Rowing League (www.rowleague.com).

The next day saw the actual racing with a 3500m time trial to decide who would go through into the 1000m multi-lane final. The time trial went well with our crew holding their form well and rating 37 for the entire course. Our timing of the race gave us 10 minutes and 20 seconds, but the officials gave us a time of 13 minutes and 40 seconds, putting us behind the home team! However we didn't complain too strongly as we were still in the final along with Valenciennes, Dresden, Delft, Westminster School, Skoll and Manchester.

After a long afternoon of relaxing we boated for the final (which was the last race of the day) in confident mood.

A slightly shaky start meant that we didn't lead from the first stroke, but by 250m it was clear that it was only between us and Dresden for the gold, with both crews level. However by 500m we were a quarter of a length up on Dresden and this was where we really settled into our rhythm at 39 strokes per minute. At this point the rest of the field went backwards as we accelerated into the final stages and we won by an extremely comfortable 7 seconds by the finish, recording 2 minutes and 48 seconds for the 1000m course.

The boat club is still extremely active, despite exams, and is really looking forward to racing at Womens' Henley and Henley Royal Regatta.

Test Match Result

The first test between England and Sri Lanka ended in a draw at Lords on Monday.

In recording their highest score in sixty years of 529/5 dec, England managed to save a match in which they had earlier followed on. After scoring only 275 in response to Sri Lanka's impressive 555/8 dec. in the first innings, the chances of an England collapse and an innings defeat were high. These fears were

unfounded after a second innings opening partnership of 168 by Marcus Trescothick and Michael Vaughan. This was followed by solid batting performances by Mark Butcher, Nasser Hussain and Graham Thorpe, which made the result of a draw on the final day the most likely outcome.

The second test (of three) starts on the 30th May at Edgbaston.

Student Activities Assistant

Imperial College Union has a vacancy for a part-time Assistant (36 weeks term-time only, 10:30am-6:30pm M-F) to provide support to the Student Activities Coordinator in the organisation of student development and training, clubs and societies support, maintaining administrative information, audio visual and office equipment upkeep and liaison with sports staff, departments and facilities.

The successful applicant must have some work experience dealing with customers or clients, good communication skills, IT technical experience, good organisational skills and be an outgoing self-starter who enjoys working in a lively, student centred environment. Literacy and numeracy essential. Knowledge of BUSA would be advantageous.

For a job description and standard application form please phone 0207 594 8060 or write to:

Michelle Lewthwaite; Office Manager
Imperial College Union, Beit Quadrangle
Prince Consort Road, London, SW7 2BB

Email: union@ic.ac.uk

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ACC Annual Dinner

The Athletic Clubs Committee moved the venue of its annual dinner this year from the familiar and riotous Union Dining Hall to the more plush and more sedate restaurant of Jury's Hotel in Kensington. Reasons for this may have included classier surroundings, the promise of better food and, most importantly, a bar which remains open a full hour after the Union's.

Jury's is a fine example of a posh London hotel, all set out to impress American tourists with its stunning interior and yet was within the budget of the average union committee. Ticket prices were further reduced by generous sponsorship from Shell who should be applauded for this and everything else that they do. The hotel also offered us entertainments to go with the dinner but the request for clowns and juggling dwarves was vetoed at the last minute.

Attendance was unfortunately thinned by humanities

exams the next day, a remarkably bad coincidence which was the fault of someone who himself had one of these exams. Despite this, everything else seemed to run with swan-like smoothness which belied the frantic chaos which went on behind the scenes.

On the night itself, sixty or so people from a variety of sports clubs turned up in a dazzling display of snazzy dressing which was only surpassed by a Shell representative's full Highland attire which had to be seen to be believed. A seating plan that left nobody adrift from their mates had been devised and the large Jury's tables had the added benefit of letting the players of different sports interact in a non-shouting manner.

Food and wine were expertly distributed by the hotel staff, a pleasing series of fish, lamb and lemon meringue pie. According to those who could make the comparison, the

food was even better than the ULU Purples Ball but at about half the price and with a far more flexible dress code. A token enforcement of the Queen's Rules lasted until the people from Shell discreetly communicated their increasing discomfort with the whole situation.

Those dedicated sportsmen and women who had made it past the rigorous selection procedure were presented with their half and full colours by Tom Pere, head of Shell recruitment. Two special awards were given at the end: sports personality of the year Gavin Daisley - who was awarded a bottle of malt whisky to assist with the improvement of his legendary personality and international diplomacy skills - and sports-

man of the year Tim Harbour who was awarded a gleaming, shiny new cup.

Inevitably the evening descended, downstairs, to the notorious Kavanagh's Irish Bar for some hardcore alcohol tolerance testing and subtle praising of dress choices.

Cheers to everyone who helped with the evening, Shell for making it financially viable, Sen for his show of support and smooth talking the guys from Shell, Penny in the union for doing the tickets, Gary Robinson for not attending, Jury's hotel for providing us with seamless service and a delicious meal, but most thanks go to Tim for doing a lot of the donkey work and for giving me a much needed sense of urgency. Next year should be even better...

Chelsea Cup Win

Imperial College A team retained the Chelsea Cup on Monday 6 May for the third year in a row.

The Chelsea Cup is the bridge competition between students and ex-students of colleges and universities in London and is held at Young Chelsea bridge club in Earls Court. The team this year consisted of Ryan Stephenson, Charles Leong, Ian Coombs and Harriet Dingler. The event's strong field contained eleven teams many of whom were experienced ex-students, but a good performance by IC A that meant they finished sec-

ond overall, and first of the current student teams. IC B team, which consisted mainly of players who only started playing this academic year, managed to come eighth overall, a good performance given their lack of experience in competitions. All participants in the competition would like to thank Young Chelsea bridge club for hosting the event and John Probst for directing the competition. ICU Bridge Club meets every Tuesday in Seminar Room 3 on the third floor of the Union building, from 6pm. E-mail bridge@ic.ac.uk for details.

Ryan Stephenson

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BIG SCREENS

**International Rugby Union
Heineken cup final
Saturday 25th
Leicester v Munster 3pm**

**Sunday 26th
England v Barbarians 3pm**

**Friday 31st May,
11am World cup opening ceremony
12.30pm France v Senegal**

**Saturday 1st June
12.30pm Germany v Saudi Arabia**

**Sunday 2nd June
10.30am England v Sweden
12.30pm Spain v Slovenia
Bar open 10am, no alcohol before 12pm**