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CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

SESSION 2, 2005 ELECTION OF STUDENT MEMBERS TO FACULTY BOARDS

Nominations are invited for the election of student members to the following Faculty Boards for 2005/2006:

AUSTRALIAN GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT	3 positions available
ENGINEERING	10 positions available
LAW	10 positions available
BOARD OF STUDIES IN TAXATION	2 positions available

Any student enrolled as a candidate for a degree, diploma or certificate in any of the above Faculties or Boards is entitled to stand for election, nominate candidates and vote in an election for membership of that Faculty Board or Board of Studies. A student enrolled as a candidate for a degree, diploma or certificate (or combination), awarded by more than one Faculty (eg. BA LLB, BCom LLB, BE BSc) or Board, is eligible to stand for election, nominate candidates and vote in an election for membership of each such Faculty Board or Board of Studies, provided that the student is currently enrolled in a subject controlled by that Faculty or Board.

Nomination forms which include full electorate details are available from:

- the Elections Office, Room G27, The Chancellery
- Faculty and School Offices
- the elections web site at: www.elections.unsw.edu.au

Nominations must reach the Returning Officer, Room G27, the Chancellery, before **5.00pm** on **THURSDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2005**.

If more nominations are accepted than there are places available, ballots will be conducted closing at 5.00pm on Friday 14 October 2005.

NOMINATIONS OPEN: MONDAY 22 AUGUST 2005

NOMINATIONS CLOSE: 5.00PM THURSDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2005

ENQUIRIES: Elections Office

TELEPHONE: 9385 1546

EMAIL: elections@unsw.edu.au

PROFESSOR ROBERT KING

Returning Officer

Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) & Registrar

August 2005

BLITZ

BLITZ MAGAZINE

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On the box again..

No doubt everyone out there is having fun not playing Grand Theft Auto, which the funbusters pulled from the shelves after the discovery of hidden pornographic content, as if being able to drag someone out of their car and steal it was on the other side of that line of decency (by the way did you notice that in the newest version your character throws in a punch for good measure as he drags them out of the car? That was a conscious decision by the game-designers, and what a nice touch it was too)

Were they right to ban GTA? Do video games cause violence? Well why wouldn't they? They're very violent. They certainly make violent crime-sprees look like a hell of a lot of fun.

And they definitely don't tell you that the violence is wrong – that is assumed knowledge. Like it or not, video games are by their very nature designed to immerse us in an alternative reality and stimulate mostly undesirable emotive responses; then reward that behaviour.

So should they be banned? Well, no – there is significant mitigating factor: the outside world. If we already know violence is wrong, it seems unlikely that a video game is going to convince most people that it is right (but it does make the exceptions even riskier).

When a study tells us that we are at a certain risk of coming to harm from something, such as pornography or drugs, the threat is calculated not just by the direct effects of the drug, but also from the circumstances that most users place themselves in, and this includes the friends they cultivate, the lifestyles they live, or even how it affects their relationships with families and friends.

Gamers are, in general, not violent people. But just as – if not more – significantly, their activity of choice does not place themselves in harm's way. That's why Warcraft-related deaths make the funny pages and drug-related deaths barely make a ripple.

What's the greater risk? Violence? Or is it poor eyes, or malnutrition, or bad backs (just you wait, gamers), or isolation? What do you see more of?

If we are going to worry about possible negative effects of video games, I think violence is the last thing we have to worry about – it is insignificant enough to render the moral crusade by the funbusters unjustified. But of course, nobody is going to ban video games because there is a slight risk of anti-social behaviour or ill-health – what are we, communists?

Ben Smyth

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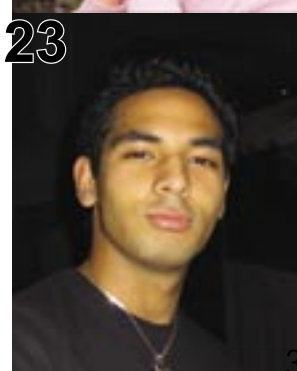
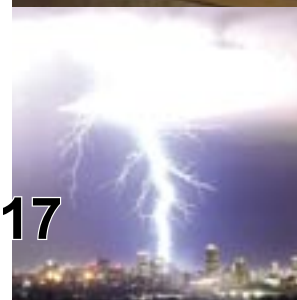
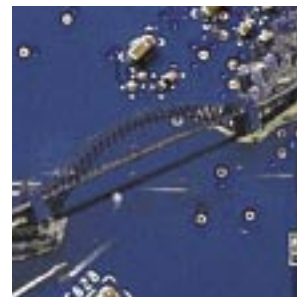
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VOX POPS





President's Report

When I was a first year student at UNSW I didn't know anyone in Sydney. I turned up to O-week feeling confused, lonely and worried about how I was ever going to settle in. Luckily for me, I was spotted by some crazy person in a yellow shirt and dragged off to what was described as "...a world record attempt for the longest ever peanut throw." They introduced me to more equally confused looking first years, and as we watched other students try in vain to beat the record we started chatting.

It seems silly now, but that was the first time I had ever really just gone up to someone I didn't know and started randomly talking to them. Later that day I did the same thing: started chatting to some random chick in the line up for my student card. Turned out that she was going to be in my class, and as time went by she ended up becoming one of my closest friends. All because a Union volunteer in a yellow shirt made me try and throw a peanut.

The Union's Yellow Shirt volunteers have been welcoming new students to UNSW since way

back in 1990. 'Yellow Shirts' was the first comprehensive Orientation Week program of its kind to hit Australian Universities and to this day is proudly described as Australia's best University Orientation Week program. As any 'old shirt' will tell you, O-Week at UNSW is so much better than what is affectionately referred to as 'O-3 days' at USYD or 'O-5 hours' at UTS. So much so in fact, that it is not unheard of for students from other Sydney universities to come to UNSW's O-Week instead of their own to get socially oriented to university life. Seriously!

Applications for volunteers for Orientation Week 2006 open this week. Places in the Yellow Shirt program are limited, but if you're interested in applying or finding out more, head up to the Library Lawn stall at lunch time and chat to some of the squad leaders and organising team members for O-Week 2006. All of them are experienced Yellow Shirts and will be more than happy to answer questions or tell you some of their O-Week stories. You can also reach them at o.week@union.unsw.edu.au.

Enjoy week 5!

Kirstin Hunter
u.president@union.unsw.edu.au

U Space: cultural and leadership programs

Learning the Lingo

After a fantastic and successful Session 1, Learning the Lingo is already in full swing for Session 2. This session we've already had a Welcome Back Party, a Host a Murder Party and heaps of coffee meetings.

The coffee meetings have been fun too. Each week has a different theme, although we often stray off the topic! That doesn't matter though, because the important thing is that we are discovering other cultures and ways of living and thinking, while practicing English or helping others practice English in a casual and fun environment. Of course we can't forget the yummy friends, banana bread and snacks that we nibble on at the meetings. These meetings run at the same times and places every week: Tuesday at Esme's from 3-5pm, Wednesday at Coffee Republic from 3-4pm and Thursday at Coffee Republic from 11am-midday.

This session we have a load of activities planned. In Week 6 we will have a Music, Dance and Food night, which will be a great opportunity to share your culture through music, dance and - you guessed it - food! Later this session we'll also be having a pottery session, a scavenger hunt, a BBQ, an Aussie movie and trivia night and a trip to the beach when it gets warmer!

If you'd like to be involved as a leader (a fluent English speaker) or a member (a not so fluent English speaker), please email lingo@union.unsw.edu.au or fill out the form online at www.union.unsw.edu.au/website/Uspace/volunteerregister.asp.

Bill Crews talks on leadership

The UNSW Union is honoured to have Rev. Bill Crews speak on campus on September 1, 1-2pm. Bill is the Director of the Exodus Foundation, which operates a 'free restaurant' and provides social workers, chaplaincy, counselling, food parcel assistance and appropriate welfare assistance to those in need in Sydney. He was awarded the Humanitarian of the Year Award in 1992, and the Order of Australia (AM) in 1999. He is Patron of Australians For Just Refugee Programs (Inc), Chairman of Fair Go Australia and was Co-Creator of Life Education Centres, and was listed as one of Australia's National Living Treasures in 1998.

The University of New South Wales



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The University of New South Wales



Price comparison took place August 16

Goin' Ape-shit

By April Smallwood

Seeing as this is our technology issue, I've decided to step back into a time in my life when I got out and had no internet to surrender my existence to. Here goes.

I thought the lyrics to Banana's in Pyjama's were "Coz on Tuesdays they will try to catch them on the Wes", as in Wednesday. I must have been picturing some serious ghetto-like Bananas. I figured 'on the wes' was the equivalent of 'on the flipside'. If you're like me then you're probably curious as to the correct lyrics, which are "Coz on Tuesdays they will try to catch them unawares." No shit. We were wrong. Or maybe, I was wrong. I don't mind standing alone on that one.

I thought Miss Piggie was a real try hard. Always up in Kermit's face. I still can't understand why he wasn't more assertive when she continued to boss him around.

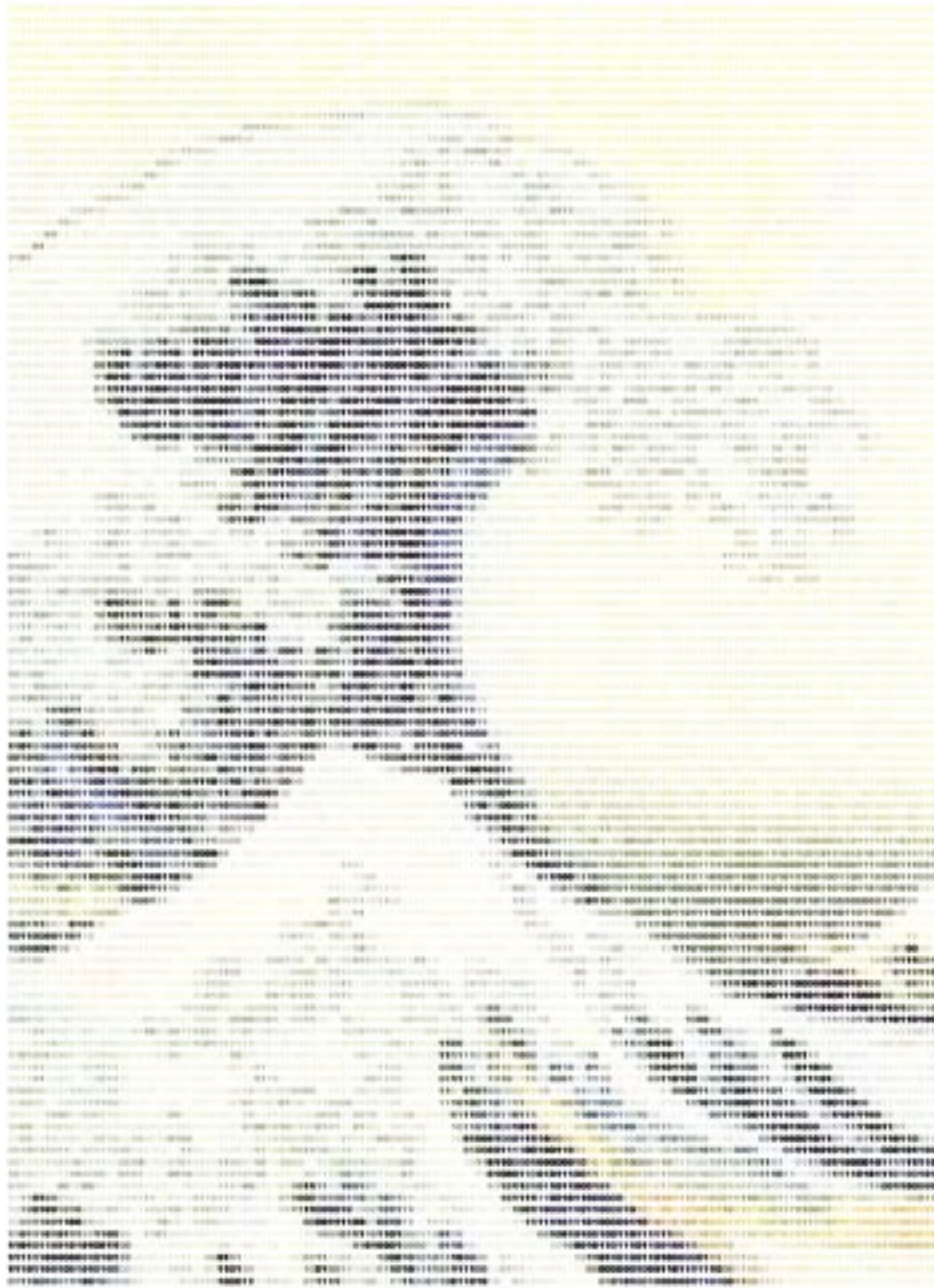
I collected rubbers. Or erasers, if you will. I think it's the prerogative of every kid to have something to collect. Unlike those of you who accumulated now valuable basketball cards and silver spoons, I have a bag of old Macca's toys dating all the way back to 1986. No wealth have they brought me. None of my friends think I'm cool.

I fell in between the springs of my trampoline, oh I don't know, about seven thousand times. Those chunky springs really hurt. It never deterred me from jumping though. Maybe, for the afternoon that I fell, I'd go on trampo strike but more often than not I'd be up again in no time.

I laughed at the girl who peed herself on the first day of kindergarten. Out loud. I don't think children have compassion at that age. Watching the green carpet surrounding her gradually become darker... I remember being scared, but not that scared.

I couldn't understand why adults tired so easily after play. I'd ask my Dad to kick some ball and he'd be puffed in three minutes. If I could change the world or human genetics I'd equalise the energy levels of kids and oldies.

I used to squirt friends of my parents that I didn't like. I'd do it with these rubbery toy balls that if you squeezed under water would fill up, ready to spray. Back then, tying my shoe laces was a triumph. If only life were as uncomplicated as it was at the age of six.



THE GREAT WAVE

We live in an information age. With one click, any person, regardless of age or education, can access a wealth of information from any number of persons and places. But what dangers are we exposing ourselves to? Is there any way of protecting ourselves after we click? Rob Gascoigne investigates.

You have probably heard of Howard Stern, the most widely syndicated and perhaps most controversial radio broadcaster in the USA. Stern has considerable clout as a commentator but it is his frankness about sex and issues of race that make him particularly notable. Stern used this

formula of political incorrectness to fuel his great success through the 1990s.

However, since the rise to power of the conservative Bush government, it has been increasingly difficult for Stern to broadcast these opinions. Standards of broadcasting in the USA have become increasingly strict, with the Federal Communications Commission fining anyone who breaches the applicable standards. Stern continued to maintain his broad coverage in this conservative climate but he openly criticised both the Bush administration and the repressive broadcasting atmosphere until October of last year, when he quit US radio.

What is odd about this situation is that, even though Stern has quit domestic radio, he will continue to broadcast. Stern has signed with a company specializing in satellite radio, a new medium that allows him to be broadcast across all of North America. Stern has made this move because he will no longer be subject to the laws and regulations he found so objectionable; the restrictions on Satellite Radio are not nearly as extensive. It is for this reason that other controversial broadcasters in the US have made the switch.

Stern's crossover raises an interesting question: in an age where technology works so fast, how can information or entertainment ever be regulated? For example, an objectionable broadcaster stymied by restrictive laws can now simply operate through another, largely unregulated medium. How can expression be regulated? Perhaps a more interesting question is whether or not information ever *should* be regulated; is it ever right for a state or some higher authority, to step in and prevent an individual or authority from publicly expressing their own ideas or opinions?

These are important questions about censorship and there are arguments for and against it. Ideas or particular kinds of material can be dangerous or harmful. For example, few in Australia would argue that child pornography ought to be freely accessible. But there are very definite dangers in denying freedom of speech. By constraining the ability of people to express themselves, you risk denying them the capacity to speak out when an alternative voice is needed. In the words of the stand-up comic Lenny Bruce, "To take away the right to say 'fuck' is to take away the right to say 'fuck the government'."

Questions about freedom of expression and technology are particularly interesting if we consider the impact of the internet, an information database of unprecedented vastness. Unlike radio or television, the Internet is not beholden to regulation by any one nation or regulatory body. This means that, where access to the Internet is available, a person can project material across the globe and this material need not be beholden to any prevailing norms of ethics, politics or religion.

Because the regulation of the Internet is done by individual states, questions arise as to how there can be consistent or effective regulation. Different states have different rules about what is acceptable. In the USA, for example, First Amendment rights to freedom of speech prevent the censorship of Internet content. How can a national administration ever control what its citizens look at when they have free access to sites hosted in foreign states? Even one-party states like China are finding this a challenge, as they are forced into a difficult balancing act between harnessing the economic benefits of the internet while controlling its use through their 'Great Firewall of China'.

Be that as it may, Australian laws quite strictly regulate what is domestically accessible online. Since 2000, State and Commonwealth laws require any website operating through an Australian Internet Service Provider that contains 'objectionable material' to be closed down. The penalties for breaching this provision can include incarceration.

'Objectionable material' falls under three categories, each determined by the Commonwealth Office of Film and Literature Classification (OFLC). The first category includes sites that have been refused classification (RC). Like a film or a video game, any website that falls outside the standard categories of classification cannot be hosted. Second, any site that is rated X, that is it contains non-violent sexual material, is not to be hosted - this is a stricter standard than that applied to film. The third category incorporates R rated sites: those websites featuring material the OFLC considers to be suitable only for those aged eighteen or over. R rated sites are legal but access to them must be controlled by age verification systems which bar persons under eighteen from accessing the site.

The OFLC does not trawl through the Internet looking for this material. It is a complaints-based system that operates only when members of the public present a complaint about a particular site to the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) who then forward the complaint to the OFLC for classification. Should the material be objectionable, the service provider may be required to shut the site down.

Such a system has many limitations. First, the system relies totally on internet users who find particular types of material objectionable to either search it out or stumble upon it by chance. The second and perhaps more serious fault in this system is that it does not guarantee that objectionable material in foreign states will not be accessed, even though it is unlikely that these foreign websites are being regulated.

The National Academies Press, a conservative US website, claims that in any given week, about 70 million people worldwide view at least one adult website; at least some of that number reside in Australia. Though present legislation may prevent persons accessing objectionable material

***“To take away
the right to say
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to say ‘fuck the
government’.”***

– Lenny Bruce

produced domestically, the legislation does little to prevent foreign material being accessed.

On this point, Donald Robertson from ACMA is unapologetic. “No, we can’t regulate everything, but what law can?” asks Robertson. “There are laws against murder but that’s never stopped people killing.” Clearly, the level of regulation achieved under the complaints-based system is not exhaustive: Australians still have extensive access to objectionable material.

Despite this, the laws regulating Internet material are actually quite onerous. In many respects, the system of censorship applied to Internet material is much more extensive than that applied to offline content. One person passionately opposed to these laws is Irene Graham, the Executive

Director of Electronic Frontiers Australia (EFA), a group that opposes undue censorship of online material. “The current laws on Internet censorship go way beyond the standards that ought to be accepted in a democracy” says Ms Graham. “There’s no justification for this. There’s no reason why Australian adults shouldn’t be able to view the same material online as they already see at the movies and on videos.”

But is that the case? Is there a greater need for strict regulation of online material? Remember that there are very real restrictions on accessing films. Children, for example, cannot go to a video store to rent adult films – there is somebody monitoring access to the films. Online, there is little in the way of this monitoring unless the website’s host has chosen to restrict access. Ms Graham remains unconvinced. “It’s true that there’s nobody physically there stopping you from accessing the material, but ultimately you cannot access the Internet without a computer. Whether it’s at home or in a library, there’s somebody whose responsibility it is to ensure that children do not access that material.” In other words, Graham believes that what regulation there is ought to come from Internet users or persons responsible for them, rather than the state.

Clearly there are a range of views on the issue of internet censorship, many of them irreconcilable. It will depend on your own sensibilities what conclusion you reach. What is clear is that it is impossible to adequately regulate what is placed on the Internet. The volume of information is simply too large and the points of origin of this material are too many. Even domestically, Australia’s complaint-based system places the onus of regulation on internet users because the state does not have the faculties to monitor all Internet material.

In this age of information we have all manner of material open to us and this tide is unlikely to be stopped. It is a wonderfully empowering situation, giving people the opportunity to share diverse opinions and interests with others, and everyone accessing this awesome database can learn from an all new body of information. But, at the same time, this privilege comes with new responsibilities: each of us must act responsibly and learn to handle information that will challenge, shock or offend. We must learn to read the waves.

CAESARS PALACE

WHAT: The UNSW Touch Club will roll out the red carpet and invite you and your friends to attend a glamorous evening of gaming to fundraise for the UNSW Touch Club

GAMES: Roulette, Black Jack, Texas Hold'em and Money Wheel

WHEN: 6 – 10 PM Saturday 27 August 2005

WHERE: Dave Phillips Clubhouse, Daceyville

DRESS: Cocktail

COST: \$15 or \$20 at the door (includes finger food, gaming money and Palace bus). Tickets are available from Hayden (0416 310 782) or at the Social Competition.

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Sports Association

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How To... Walk like a Brazilian



The Meia Lua de Compasso, a basic Capoeira dance move:

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Capoeira is a Brazilian martial art form that combines elements of dance, gymnastics, music and self defence. It originated from African slaves in their quest for freedom in the 1600s.

"It looks like a dance, can be a fight, but it is always a celebration of freedom and life"

Grupo Capoeira Brasil is one of Brazil's largest and best recognised schools, and holds classes at Bondi Pavilion and the Roundhouse. Professora Meirelou is the head teacher and has been teaching since 1997. Classes are held in the Marsh room at The Roundhouse on Wednesday afternoons. The group runs two sessions from 2-3:30pm and 3:30-5pm. For more information, contact Meirelou on 9387 6992, 0405 129 792, or meirelou@bigpond.com.

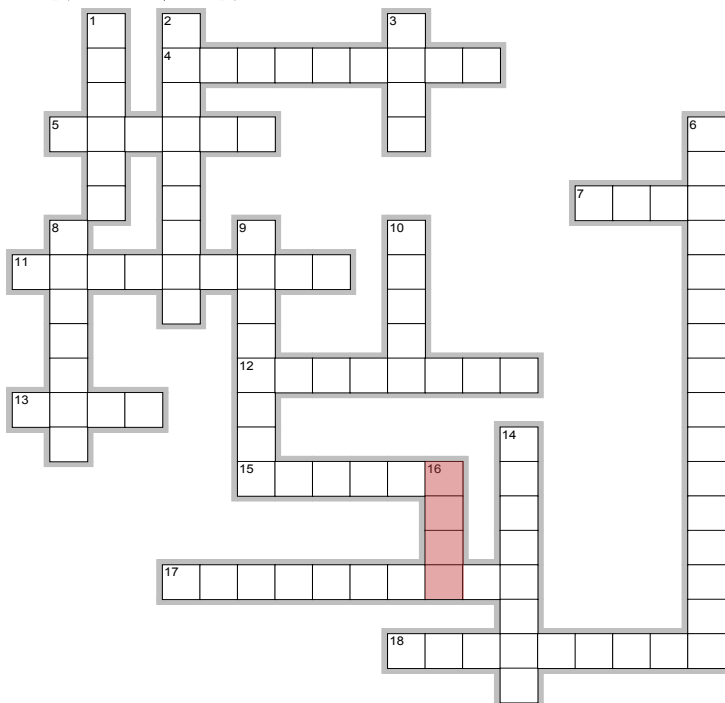
Does your club or society have something interesting to teach the students of UNSW?

Email blitzeditor@union.unsw.edu.au



blitz lecture guide

CROSSWORD



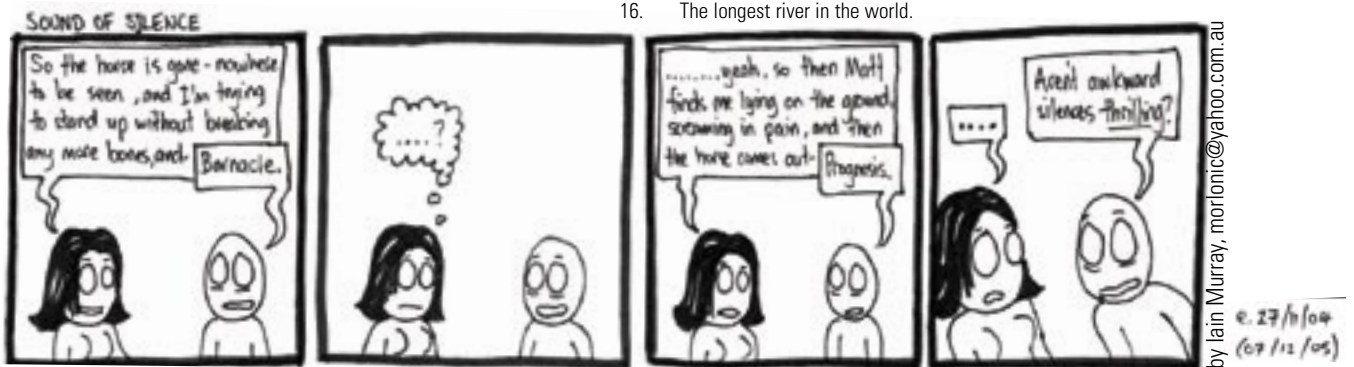
Created with EclipseCrossword 6 www.eclipsecrossword.com

Across

4. To be brontophobic is to have an irrational fear of thunder and what?
5. Nat King Cole jazz classic "_____ like being in love"
7. A computer keyboard harbors more germs than a toilet seat. True or False?
11. Recently retired operatic singer Luciano _____.
12. Which brown-billed Aussie animals have a poison gland in their hind legs?
13. Which planet is home to the largest known volcano in the solar system?
15. The alley where Harry Potter goes for school supplies
17. Sadly, this song became a recent chart hit for the Backstreet Boys.
18. "All women become like their mothers. That is their tragedy. No man does. That's his."
Who wrote this line?

Down

1. Less common name for your big toe
2. Julius Caesar and Mark Antony were both in love with who?
3. Plural of 'mouse'
6. Actor from film 'Lost Boys', now famous for playing enigmatic Jack Bauer on TV series 24.
8. Gwen Stefani's 'Hollaback Girl' lyric 'This shit is _____.'
9. British playwright who uttered the words "War is capitalism with the gloves off"? Tom who.
10. Surname of the Hollywood movie star who became Princess Grace of Monaco.
14. The correct spelling of that which describes anything typical of the Middle Ages. Medieval or Medeival?
16. The longest river in the world.



TARGET

Make as many words as you can out of the nine letters. The centre letter must be used in every word. Use each letter only once. No plurals or proper nouns.

I	A	R
M	F	A
E	N	M

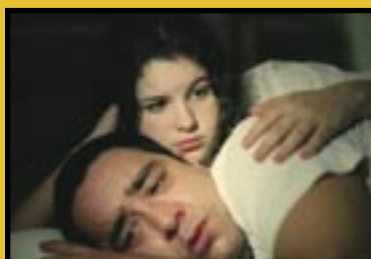
WIN!

Do you know the nine-letter word in the Target puzzle?
SMS the word and your name to:

0407 BLI TZO

(that's 0407 254 890)

The first ten correct entries will receive a double pass to the new Jet Li martial arts movie, *Unleashed*. Mistreated and trained as a killer by an evil crime boss, Jet Li escapes his master and must learn what it is to be human... while kicking butt. *Unleashed* is in cinemas now.



GIVEAWAY

Blitz rewards readers whose vocabularies are... good. Solve the crossword clue above that is highlighted in red and email that word and your name to:

comps@union.unsw.edu.au

The first five correct entries will receive a double pass to *Palindromes*. This new film by Todd Solondz is the story of a 13 year old girl who wants a baby. Played by eight different actors, Aviva's story is captivating and controversial. *Palindromes* is in cinemas now.



*UNSW is a huge place and whether you are new or old you may have to occasionally step out of your comfort zone. Fortunately for you, there's a service available to help you find your way around the University and its bureaucracy. CONTACT is a one-stop shop for anyone feeling a little uncertain. **Rob Gascoigne** went to the Quad Building to talk with **Mel Drinkwater** and **Steven Chan** of Contact because they know everything.*

What is Contact?

Mel: There's really two parts to Contact: there's information and there's referral. If you come in and ask us a question we can give you what information you need. If we don't have the information or you have a problem that needs to be sorted out elsewhere, we can refer you to the relevant person.

Have there been any particularly weird questions?

Mel: Yeah. The banner outside says "We Know Everything," so we occasionally get some really random queries. A little while ago someone came in and asked me if we knew who her mother was. Oh, and a few years ago someone came in and asked us about how they could go and watch whale migrations.

How did you sort that one out?

Mel: Well, we got in touch with the National Parks people and they gave us the details of where they could go and how they could get there. Then we just passed it on to them. There's been a few queries like that. When I first arrived I thought it was a bit of a myth but then someone actually came in asking about whales.

Is it hard for you to try and deal with questions like that?

Mel: Well, there's always a few people in the office so we can put our heads together to come up with a solution. Sometimes at least one of the people in the office will know the answer straight away. But even if we can't figure it out we can generally find a person who can, and there are a lot of pamphlets here with information on pretty much everything. Working here helps your research skills.

Are there many students involved?

Mel: Oh yeah. At the moment there's about seventy volunteers. Each of them comes in and gives about an hour of their time. People enjoy coming in here and I think that actually makes it a pretty friendly place.

What training's involved in becoming a Contact volunteer?

Mel: Every volunteer has to be trained. The good thing about it is that, because Contact is sponsored by the Union, the Guild and the Uni, representatives from each organisation come in to talk with volunteers. It means that everyone who works here has a clearer understanding of how the uni works.

What's the most common query you guys get?

Steven: I think it would probably be "Where's the Commerce faculty?"

Mel: We get a lot of that. This building is a bit of a maze with lots of dead ends. People often get pretty lost. Sometimes you see them come in through the front door. You ask them if they're lost and they say "no". Then you see them wander down to a dead end.

Anything else particularly odd?

Mel: The condoms get a lot of interest. People often come in and take some and that's fine; that's what they're there for. But once there was a guy that came in and tried to take the entire bowl.

Isn't that a little optimistic?

Mel: Yeah. I was standing there thinking "That's fine if you want to take a couple – I mean congratulations – but come back tomorrow. It's physiologically impossible to use them all up in one night."

Steven: I remember just recently another guy came in and tried to take the bowl. When I asked him to leave the bowl he picked up a tampon instead and walked out.

Mel: We try not to take notice of it generally. I mean, it's their business and we want to respect people's privacy, and I'd rather they took some and had safe sex rather than not taking some and having sex without them, but there have to be enough for other people, so we can't let them take the whole lot. It's funny, working here is a mix of ignoring some things, and preserving people's privacy, and paying attention to what people want.

The Contact office is open from 10am to 4pm, Monday to Friday. It is located on the second floor in the East Wing of the Quad Building (next to the Basser steps). Look for the sign. Alternatively, enter the Building from the ground floor, take the lift to Level 2, and turn to your right. If you get lost, give them a call on 9385 5880



WHAT'S ON week 5 August 22-28

MONDAY 22 AUGUST

Table Tennis

Why do they call it both table tennis and ping pong?

11am

Roundhouse

Free

Movie Screening -

The Hitchhikers Guide To the Galaxy

Seconds before the Earth is to be demolished by an alien construction crew, journeyman Arthur Dent is swept off the planet by his friend Ford Prefect, a researcher penning a new edition of The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy.

1pm

Club Bar, Roundhouse

Free

Spocksoc Trivia Night

Come join us for our annual sci-fi trivia night. There will be lots of fabulous prizes and fun for all, as well as a pizza run during the night. Bar will be open all night.

6pm - 10pm

Club Bar, Roundhouse

\$5

The University of New South Wales

Union

yellow spot special

WEEK 5

esme's

BEEF BURGER & CHIPS

and a bottle of Lipton Ice Tea for \$8.00

FOR UNION MEMBERS ONLY

Valid: WEEK 5, AUGUST 22-26, 2005 UNTIL STOCKS LAST

TUESDAY 23 AUGUST

Table Tennis

The sport of kings

11am

Roundhouse.Free

Theatresports

Flex your improvisational muscle.

midday

Unibar, Roundhouse . Free

UNSW Chess Club

Fancy a game of chess? The UNSW Chess Club is a new club that will operate on a fun basis where anyone is welcome. So come learn, improve your chess skills and test your strategy and mental endurance in the art and game of chess.

midday-3pm

Quad1001

Non-members \$2 and Members free

Why are Christians so cranky?

Why are Christians so cranky? How do we know what is true and not true? Join us for our weekly talks. We'll be looking at Galatians 1:1-10.

1pm-2pm

CLB 7 . Free

Trivia

Where is the treasure of the Sierra Madre?

1pm

Unibar, Roundhouse . Free

Pool Comp

Come down to the Unibar for the weekly pool comp and a chance to kick back

5pm

Unibar, Roundhouse

Free

FilmSoc Screening - *American Splendor*

Come and discover your inner geek with our screening of American Splendor, an original mix of fiction and reality illuminates the life of comic book hero everyman Harvey Pekar as he explores everything from music to the decline of American culture to new flavors of jellybeans. Free drinks and finger food and special door prizes given on the night

6:30pm

Club Bar, Roundhouse

Free for Filmsoc Members, \$2 For Non Members

Law Revue 2005 -The Chronicles of Canberra:

The Liar, the Bitch, and the Xenophobe

Whatever you do this week, even if your Grandma's on fire, do not miss this show, it has absolutely everything! From Michael Jackson to VSU, from Canberra to Washington, this year's Law Revue promises to have something for absolutely everyone. This year there is an absolute ironclad guarantee that there will be no unmerited male nudity (any merited nudity is beyond the cast's control). Get down to the Science Theatre for some hardcore singing and comedy.

7:45pm

Science Theatre

\$8 Students, \$12 Non-students

Group Bookings Available

Theatre - *Dogg's Hamlet, Cahoot's Macbeth*

Hamlet in 15 minutes? An illegal performance of Macbeth? A society where acting is banned? These are all elements of the hilarious word-play of Tom Stoppard's two play masterpiece Dogg's Hamlet, Cahoot's Macbeth. Presented in Studio One, the two plays are united by a comma, a reminder that the first is hardly a play at all without the second, which in turn, cannot be performed without the first. Don't miss Stoppard's wit and banter presented by current and ex-UNSW students for one week only.

8pm

Studio One

Adults \$15, Concession \$10

Bookings www.pandorasbox.com.au

WEDNESDAY 24 AUGUST

UNSW Labor Club AGM

Want to run for a position or simply exercise your right to vote? Attend Labor Club's AGM and see what having a voice is all about. New members are welcome. The meeting will be followed by a free BBQ for members from 1pm-2pm outside the Library

11am-midday

Quad 1001

Free

Table Tennis

Little balls. Big fun.

11am

Roundhouse

Free

Library Lawn Band: Borne

Occasionally a band will arrive without the hype, without the pretence and will let their music speak for itself. Melbourne act Borne deliver a heartfelt collection of rock tunes which displays a kind of emotion rarely captured in modern rock.

1pm

Library Lawn

Free

Bar Bingo

Bar Bingo helps your reflexes. It's true!

1pm

Unibar, Roundhouse

Free

The Politics of Faith: negotiating the relationship between religion and politics

Christian Students Uniting is hosting a series of public forums called 'praxis'. The forum for Week 5 will explore the relationship between religion and politics, and will include speakers with varying theological beliefs and political ideologies. Is there a faith-based alternative to the 'religious right' political ideology so influential in the US at the moment? Come along and join in the discussion.

1-2pm

CLB 2

Free

Table Tennis Comp

The sport of kings

4pm

Roundhouse . Free

Trivia and Happy Hour

The ultimate combination: random useless facts and beer.

5pm

Unibar, Roundhouse

Free

Volleyball

Come down and join the UNSW volleyball club for social and competitive games. The UNSW volleyball club welcomes new players, from beginners through to competitive players who wish to join an SVL team. Non-students and exchange students are welcome too. For more details hit the website at www.volleyball.unsw.edu.au.

5-8pm

Unigym main hall

See website for costs

Pub Grub

Yummy in your tummy

5.30pm

Clems, Roundhouse

Rapid Fire Comedy featuring Gary Eck and MC Daniel Moore and Open Mic

Gary Eck has been a professional stand-up comedian and writer for the past nine years, and has made over 60 television appearances, from co-hosting Candid Camera to performing stand-up on Hey Hey and appearing on Good News Week

7pm

Unibar, Roundhouse

Free

Win the Chance to Dance Bollywood-style!



The Merchants Of Bollywood

Be part of the Bollywood dance phenomenon that has taken the UK and now Sydney by storm! For your chance to win one of four double passes to learn how to dance Bollywood-style at Sydney's first Bollywood Dance School, Mango Dance Studio.

Book your tickets for THE MERCHANTS OF BOLLYWOOD at the UNSW Union's new Ticketek agency at Zippys Blockhouse.

Enmore Theatre from Sept 28-Oct 16

Call **YOUNG** 132 849 or (02) 9550 3666 www.ticketek.com Groups (02) 8512 9933

Entries close Friday 9 September, 2005. The draw to take place 10am on Monday 12 September 2005.

Winners will be announced in the Blitz Edition - Week 9.

Authorised under NSW Permit No. TPL 05/04736. For Terms & Conditions see Agency staff.

merchantsofbollywood.com.au

ataallstar artists

THE MAGIC OF BOLLYWOOD ALIVE ON STAGE! TICKETS ON SALE NOW

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No minimum order required,
delivery on campus is FREE!

Beat that!

www.union.unsw.edu.au/studentcatering

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Ultimate Frisbee Eastern Suburbs League

Ever wish there was a sport that involved a Frisbee? Well, come to the Village Green tonight to play a couple of games of Ultimate Frisbee. This exciting new sport is for men and women of all skill levels, combining some of the best aspects of soccer, basketball and gridiron. The UNSW Ultimate Frisbee Club runs a weekly League for players - beginner or advanced. Come along and give it a go!

7-9PM
Village Green
\$30 for the session

Law Revue 2005 -The Chronicles of Canberra: The Liar, the Bitch, and the Xenophobe

7:45pm
Science Theatre
\$8 Students, \$12 Non-students
Group Bookings Available

Burgundian Concert recital: Sing Ye Praises

UNSW's chamber choir presents a program of sacred works, including Copland, Purcell, Tomkins, Mozart and Byrd.

7:30pm-9:30pm
Clancy Auditorium
\$10 adult, \$5 concession

Theatre - Dogg's Hamlet, Cahoot's Macbeth

8pm
Studio One
Adults \$15, Conc \$10
Bookings www.pandorasbox.com.au

THURSDAY 25 AUGUST

International Exchange Expo

Are you Interested in Studying Overseas? UNSW has over 130 Exchange University Partners in 32 countries, across all faculties and types of degrees. If you want to experience a different culture, have your overseas study credited to your UNSW degree, make international connections and have the time of your life then come to the International Exchange Expo to find out more!

11am-4pm
The Scientia Building, Gallery rooms 1 and 2
Free

Table Tennis

Who will be the king and queen of the court?

11am
Roundhouse .
Free

Why are Christians so cranky?

Why are Christians so cranky? How do we know what is true and not true? Join us for our weekly talks. We'll be looking at Galatians 1:1-10.

1-2pm
CLB 7
Free

UNSW Chess Club

Chess is fun! The UNSW Chess Club is open to anyone wanting to learn, develop or test their skills in the strategic game of chess. Beginners are welcomed.

1-4pm
Quad 1001
Non Members \$2, Members
Free

Table Tennis

The third best thing you can do on a table.

1pm
Roundhouse
Free

Advanced Science Students Society - Inaugural AGM

The Advanced Science Students Society will act as representatives and lobbyists for Advanced Science Students, provide a chance for students to meet outside of classes and organise social activities. At the AGM, we will take names and student numbers of foundation members, accept our new constitution and vote for executive positions.

3-5pm
Quad 1001
Free

Beer Garden Band - Band Comp Winners

Come show some love for UNSW Band Competition Winners, struttin' their stuff for you!

4:30pm
Beer Garden, Roundhouse . Free

UNSW Ultimate Frisbee Club Training

The UNSW Ultimate Frisbee Club runs weekly training sessions conducted by accredited coaches. If you want to keep fit and have some fun, then give Ultimate Frisbee a go.

4-5.30pm
Village Green
Free for members

Crab Racing and Happy Hour

Get happy. Get crabs

5pm
Unibar, Roundhouse
Free

The Launch - Annual MSAP fundraiser for Developing World Health.

This is MSAP's (Medical Students' Aid Project) annual fundraising event. MSAP is a student-run charity organization that raises awareness about the state of healthcare in the developing world and donates equipment and supplies to hospitals in developing countries. This year, guest speakers include the CEO of Unicef Australia and a doctor from the Red Cross Tsunami Appeal, who will be speaking about world health issues. Food and drinks provided. All are welcome!

5:30pm to 7:30pm
Edmund Blackett Lecture Theatre, Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick.
\$5

POLiSOC Discussion Forum - Indigenous Rights in the 21st Century

How are indigenous rights pursued in the contemporary era? Who are the key actors? What are the main points of contention? What does the future hold in store? Speakers from the Guild's Indigenous Students' Unit and UNSW's Nura Gili Indigenous Students' Programs will present their perspectives, to be followed by debate and discussion amongst the assembled audience. All are welcome to what will be an interesting and informative evening!

6pm
CLB5
Free

Law Revue 2005 -The Chronicles of Canberra: The Liar, the Bitch, and the Xenophobe

7:45pm
Science Theatre
\$10 Students, \$15 Non-students
Group Bookings Available

Theatre - Dogg's Hamlet, Cahoot's Macbeth

8pm
Studio One
Adults \$15, Conc \$10
Bookings www.pandorasbox.com.au

FRIDAY 26 AUGUST

Table Tennis

If you miss this, you'll have to wait two days before you can play ping pong again.

11am

Roundhouse. Free

Jazz In the Beer Garden

1pm

Beer Garden, Roundhouse . Free

Friday Arvo Sessions with DJ Cadell

Cadell laying down the smoothed out beats, a beer garden, and happy hour...Welcome to the Weekend!!

4:30 pm

Beer Garden, Roundhouse

Free

Spocksoc AGM and Mystery Screening

Come along to our big mystery screening. In addition, we'll be having our Annual General Meeting during the night. There will be a pizza run during the night.

6pm 'til late

Civil Engineering Building G001

Members free, Non-members \$5

Basser College Ball

Ticket includes pre drinks in the Basser Greenroom, with buses departing to Dockside at 6:30, a three course meal, drinks, DJ, Photographer, after-party at the Shelbourne Hotel, breakfast at Basser the next morning and Recovery at the Beach Palace Hotel on Sunday from midday with a bar tab.

Pre-drinks at Basser from 6:30, Ball starts at 7pm

Dockside, Cockle Bay Warf, Darling Harbour

\$85 per person, available from the TKC housing office

Law Revue 2005 -The Chronicles of Canberra:

The Liar, the Bitch, and the Xenophobe

7:45pm

Science Theatre

\$10 Students, \$15 Non-students

Group Bookings Available

Theatre - Dogg's Hamlet, Cahoot's Macbeth

8pm

Studio One

Adults \$15, Conc \$10

Bookings www.pandorasbox.com.au

SATURDAY 27 AUGUST

Cybersoc LAN Party and AGM

For anyone who is interested in becoming a member of Cybersoc or just wants to enjoy a bit of LAN gaming.

Battlefield 2 as well as classics like UT2004 and

Warcraft 3 will be played. Event will be running all day so just pop in and a look.

10am-11pm

ANZAC Huts B9 and B10

\$4 for 12 months membership

NIDA Performance - Bodyline

Two physical theatre pieces devised and directed by

Movement Studies Graduates Samantha Chester and

Lisa French

2pm

NIDA 215 Anzac Parade, Kensington

Adults \$20, Concession \$15

Theatre - Dogg's Hamlet, Cahoot's Macbeth

8pm . Saturday and Sunday

Studio One

Adults \$15, Conc \$10

Bookings www.pandorasbox.com.au

UNSW PunkRockSoc - PunkRockBall

Lik are back at UNSW doing their first all ages show with Roger Explosion! Come along and help support

local punkrock bands. For more info visit www.punkrocksoc.netfirms.com

7-10pm

Club Bar, Roundhouse

UNSW Students free, Others \$5 at the door

NIDA Performance - Bodyline

7pm

NIDA 215 Anzac Parade, Kensington

Adults \$20; Conc \$15

WANT TO LIST YOUR EVENT IN WHAT'S ON?

It's easy. Just send an email to whatsonblitz@union.unsw.edu.au containing the following information about your event:

1. Event name
2. Organiser
3. Location
4. Date
5. Time
6. Cost
7. Description of 50-100 words. *The description is compulsory!*

You can find an electronic template on the Union website,

www.union.unsw.edu.au

The deadline for What's On is twelve days before (always a Wednesday) the magazine is released (always a Monday)



reviews



Cinema – Unleashed

Jet Li exploded onto the Hollywood scene back in 1998 playing a bit-part in *Lethal Weapon 4*. All of a sudden he was in a slew of big budget action films (*Romeo Must Die*, *Kiss of the Dragon*, *The One*) and most of them were pretty average.

Unleashed is Li's second collaboration with Luc Besson, but unfortunately Li's long absence from our screens hasn't resulted in a film that's worth writing home about. What is most disappointing is the fact that Jet Li is a martial arts genius and Luc Besson can be a brilliant director (*The Professional*), yet their collaborations are not the sum of their parts.

There is a semblance of a storyline which tries to connect on the emotional level, but it turns out to be sentimental mush and Li really doesn't have the acting chops (he does, however, pull-off plenty of 'puppy-dog' faces). Danny (Li) is brought up like a dog by his master Bart (Bob Hoskins): trained to kick all sorts of arse when he is 'unleashed'. This all changes when he meets altruistic blind piano player Sam (Morgan Freeman) and his daughter who show him all the goodness of love and family... yawn.

Jet Li fans will no doubt flock to see this film, but it's safe to say none of his Hollywood offerings will ever match his Asian productions –**Matt Lim**



Cinema – Palindromes

When consumer advice states "Abortion and paedophile themes" (added as a result of an OFLC review), audiences are sure to be ready for a difficult film. Controversial director Todd Solondz has been known to confront audiences with the darker side of human behaviour in films such as *Welcome to the Dollhouse and Happiness* and this film is no different. *Palindromes* is a story about a 13 year old girl Aviva, who desperately wants to have a baby. She succeeds in getting pregnant but is forced to get an abortion by her parents. This causes her to run away and experience the real world and all its pitfalls.

The most stunning aspect of the production is the fact that Aviva is played by eight different actresses of varying age, race and size. Surprisingly, seeing Aviva as a skinny white girl in one scene and then as an extremely obese African American woman in the next doesn't seem as distracting as it might sound. Each actress brings the same naivety and innocence to the character.

As the title suggests, the film's message deals with people never changing. It explores this message on many levels, not least of all with its protagonist in all her different forms. *Palindromes* contains confronting and sometimes disturbing material, but if you're up for a challenging film this is worth investigating

–**Matt Lim**

NEW - The \$1 per head sausage sizzle from Student Catering

by Kate Bartlett

Organising a BBQ at UNSW is not often as easy as it looks. There are many logistical difficulties that tend not to arise till the event is occurring and can cause much additional stress.

You have to somehow get the ingredients, which usually involves trekking up to Coles at Randwick or some other local grocery store. This is time consuming and it is often difficult to transport all the food back to campus once you've bought it. Unless someone helping you has a car, it usually involves carting many bags of sausages and onions on the bus or trying to surreptitiously wheel them to Uni in a trolley.

You're also never quite sure how much it will cost you, as supermarket prices change daily. This is all before you've even started cooking the BBQ!

This is why Student Catering is launching a new service to students. They have introduced a new BBQ deal for the low price of one dollar per head. The one dollar per head price includes a sausage, bread roll and onions.

So if you want to put on a BBQ for 100 people it will only cost you \$100, if you want to put on a BBQ for 15 people it will cost you \$15.



If you're putting your BBQ on as a fundraising event for your club or society, all you need to do is sell your sausages for as little as \$1.50 per person and you will make money off the event.

The other great thing about the Student Catering offer is that you don't need to leave campus at all. You just come down to the Roundhouse and pick up your packaged BBQ goods, or have them delivered free of charge (on-campus only).

Student Catering also offers many other products for students such as beverages, salads, condiments, a wide variety of meats and even utensils.

Just visit www.union.unsw.edu.au/studentcatering/ for more information. To call for a quote or book a BBQ pack just call 9385 7714 or email studentcatering@union.unsw.edu.au.

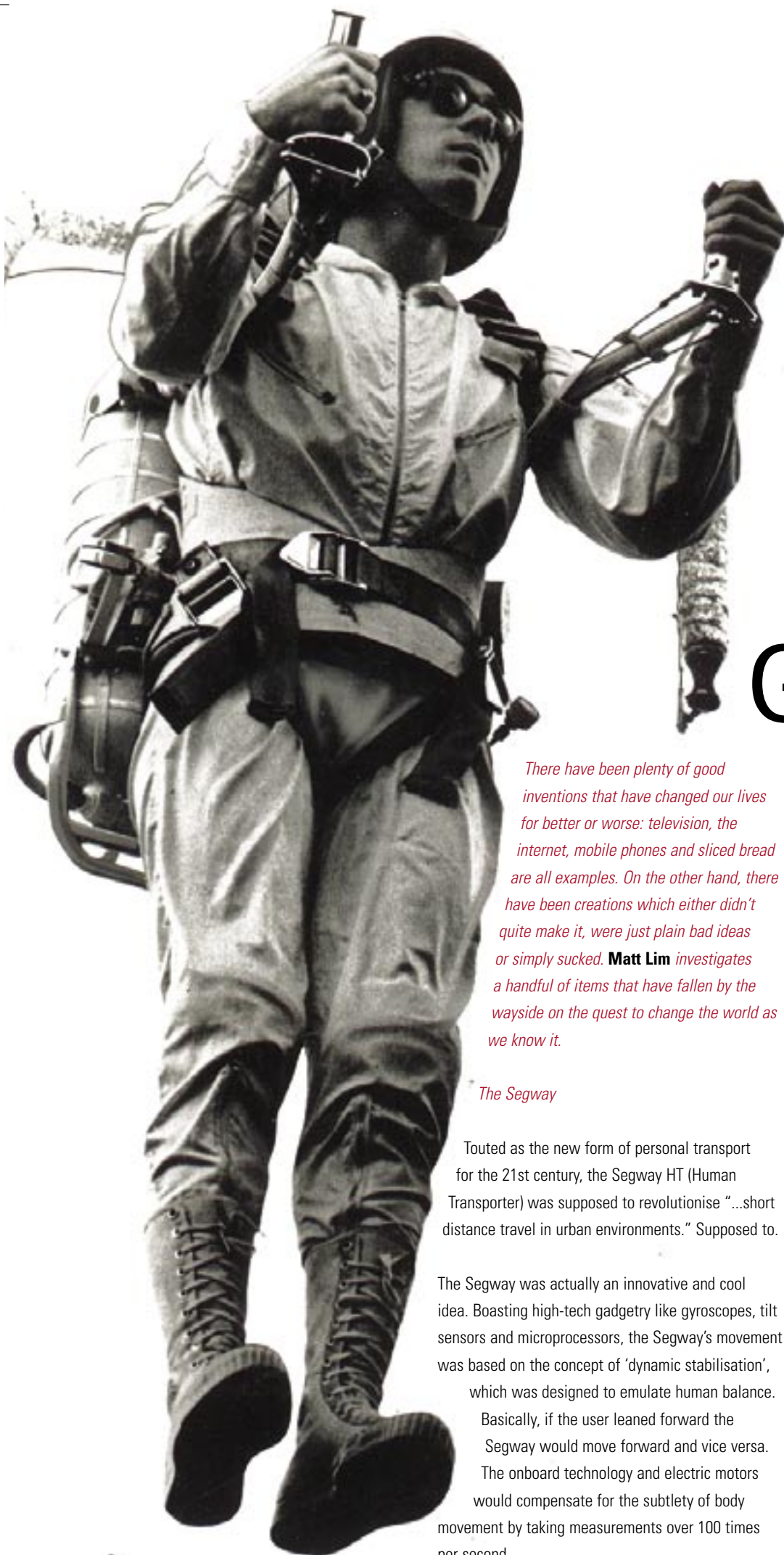


'Zeus's Finger' by Jewan Kim

"Mother nature can sure throw a punch to man-made structure. She even invited hailstorms on the same night. The lightning is as thick as the Optus Tower, North Sydney. So what is mother-nature trying to do? Compete against us? I hope not!"

Every week, students contribute their artwork to Visual Blitz and every year, Visual Blitz culminates in an exhibition of student work with prizes awarded to the winning entries. If you're in the habit of making creative statements then Visual Blitz is your canvas.

Send your contributions for 2005 Visual Blitz to: blitzeditor@union.unsw.edu.au (Please include a 50 word explanation)



Good int

*There have been plenty of good inventions that have changed our lives for better or worse: television, the internet, mobile phones and sliced bread are all examples. On the other hand, there have been creations which either didn't quite make it, were just plain bad ideas or simply sucked. **Matt Lim** investigates a handful of items that have fallen by the wayside on the quest to change the world as we know it.*

The Segway

Touted as the new form of personal transport for the 21st century, the Segway HT (Human Transporter) was supposed to revolutionise "...short distance travel in urban environments." Supposed to.

The Segway was actually an innovative and cool idea. Boasting high-tech gadgetry like gyroscopes, tilt sensors and microprocessors, the Segway's movement was based on the concept of 'dynamic stabilisation', which was designed to emulate human balance.

Basically, if the user leaned forward the Segway would move forward and vice versa. The onboard technology and electric motors would compensate for the subtlety of body movement by taking measurements over 100 times per second.

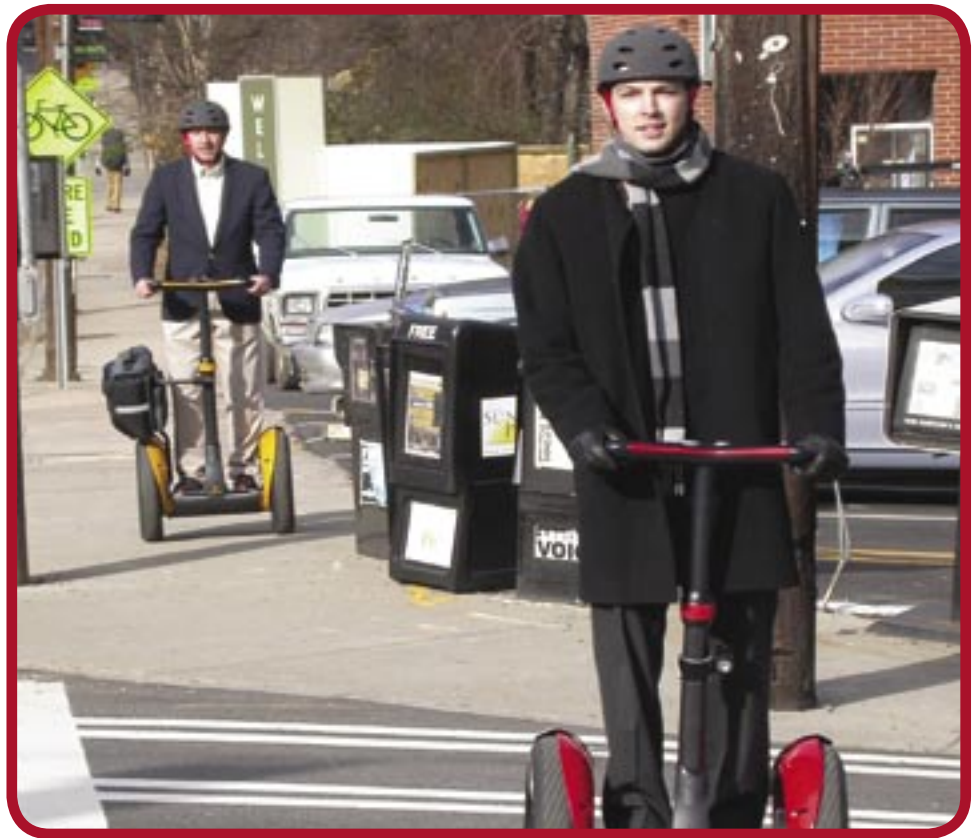
This is all well and good, but the high tech get-up inevitably meant a hefty price tag. When it was first released in the US, Amazon.com was asking for \$US \$4,950. Currently in Australia the Segway retails between \$6,000 for a basic model to \$10,000 for a more 'rugged' model - hardly the right price range for the average user.

Besides the ridiculous price tag, the Segway presents a truckload of other problems. The unit weighs around 35 kilograms, so you can forget about lugging it around anywhere. The battery life is pretty average, lasting approximately 20-30 kilometres on a single charge (better bring that charger just in case).

Contributing most to the Segway's demise, however, is the fact that riding it makes you look like a dick, especially when you have to wear a helmet. The TV show *Arrested Development* has infamously featured one of its characters riding a Segway as a running joke, which unfortunately is what it seems to have become. Despite its odd two-wheeled design, Segway's designers flaunted the claim that it was almost impossible to tumble off due to its superior stabilisation technology... then President Bush fell off one.

Jet pack

Ever since its debut at the 1964 World's Fair in New York, the jet pack promised us a day when we could



ventions, bad inventions

achieve the dream of personal flight. This day has not yet materialised. Unlike the Segway however, the personal jet pack was probably more of a pipe dream than a well-made failure.

The premise of the jet pack is truly frightening. Think about it: would you strap two tanks of combustible gases onto your back? Then of course you have intense flames firing out dangerously close to your posterior while in flight. It hardly seems worth a mere 30 seconds worth of flight before your fuel supply runs out.

Sure we all have fond memories of the Rocket Man at the Royal Easter Show back at Moore Park, but have you ever seen him since? Think about that! Despite all this, I'm sure most of us still eagerly awaited our own jetpack to use sometime in the future, just like the hover skateboard from *Back to the Future 2*, right? In reality, jet packs were never meant to revolutionise portable single-occupancy flight. Government agencies toyed around with the concept but for nothing more than just hopping over short distances, and even then the idea was never developed. Finally, did anyone ever watch that movie the *Rocketeer*? Exactly.

Esperanto

An international second language invented to break down cross-cultural barriers? What a fantastically stupid and flawed idea! Esperanto is the awfully

romantic name given to the language invented by Dr Lazar Zamenhof in the 1880s. The success of the supposed universal tongue can be judged by not only how many people have actually heard of Esperanto (not very many) but also how many people are native speakers (even fewer).

Esperanto never really worked. People all over the world like to consider their language as the most natural and thus more powerful tongue. Why bother learning Indonesian when more people speak English? Or so the mindset goes. There is even evidence of this in Esperanto, which is clearly skewed towards Western European vocabulary and grammar, given the inventor's background. Oh, never mind the one-billion-plus people that speak a Chinese dialect, 'Saluton' is much cooler than 'Ni Hao'.

In an ideal world, people all over the world would learn this auxiliary language and would be able to communicate internationally without ever having to know the other native tongue. Where's the fun in that though? Truth be told, Esperanto doesn't seem like such a bad concept. Hell, I'd go learn it... if I had somebody else to speak to.

Chindogu

Literally translated, chindogu means 'weird tool' (funnily enough 'chin' in Japanese can also be translated as 'penis' – go figure). This term

encompasses all the goodness of bad inventions.

Most people have probably been exposed to chindogu through chain emails or website links showing these wacky Japanese inventions. Your first reaction is most likely, "Is that for real?" The answer to this can be summed up by the ten tenets of chindogu – yes, they do actually exist. Without listing all of them, there are some real gems such as "Chindogu are tools for everyday life," "Humour must not be the sole reason for creating a Chindogu" and "A Chindogu cannot be for real use." Upon first reading these tenets I felt confused about whether I should be laughing or pondering thoughtfully. Herein lies the paradox of chindogu: it takes itself utterly seriously whilst at the same time knowing how to take the mickey. Brilliant!



feeling

By Kristy Parker

If you don't have a story

You don't have to fit it

It begins with no

It begins with now

Writing comes to me freely, except when it has to come. Something inherently from the heart transgresses into something consuming – the pressure, the logic, the desire to not seem irrational, to not reveal flaws, to remain with and of, sweetness and light, rejecting notions of consistent negativity and self-dissatisfaction, unsure of which is the facade and what is actually real...

I have been unsure for some time now as to what is reality and what is purely imagined by my overactive, under-inspired mind. I can openly admit that I don't live with grounding and acute perspective, the objective comprehension that others seem to numbly accept. The first taste of digression, the first realisation of lateral thinking, progressing as others do but on a parallel path comes with effort, trying to think differently, trying to experience a different train of thought. Without my knowing it I crossed over some boundary somewhere and then moved into an area whereby I can barely comprehend my ever existing any other way. It began as Youth, now it's just Life.

When I was young it used to be cool to think alternatively. And I am sure I manifested that need to be somebody belonging in some way, shape or form and I tried to be lateral of mind. Now, I feel that having pushed the mind to analyse, to think so abstractly, I have become accustomed to thinking without regard to what is inherent reality. Sometimes I wish someone could understand how and why I am thinking as I do. Something that used to be unique is now an ever-growing malignancy, having taken roots in my mind and now it doesn't allow me to live out my life with blessed ignorance. And sometimes I want to be ignorant, want to be stupid, as all I get from my intelligence and my philosophies is a sick feeling in my stomach, a headache and a resoundingly constant plethora of questions.

Everyone else sees something so admirable, so strong, so wise and inspiring when they look at me. But I live with myself and at the end of the day, still, I live with myself. I'm the one who is left to look at myself again and again in the mirror and question everyone else's perception of Me. I wish I could believe - believe in entirety, as then I would truly find happiness. What people describe are the qualities of a truly beautiful person. I want to hold onto that. If I could grasp that and honestly believe, I could be limitless in potential, groundless in possibilities and more importantly, happy. And happiness is so close – if that is me, what they see, then it is all here already. I don't want to always be the cat chasing her tail. That would make me so sad, even sadder...


What is the point of being gifted if you don't recognise your gift? If I don't see what I am, the total of who I am, then I may as well just be someone else and donate my admirable qualities to someone

who could truly appreciate and utilise and perceive with clarity. The irony of being so much and seeing so little, just as millions long for immortality who don't know what to do with themselves on a rainy Sunday afternoon. Why is it always bittersweet? My mind: friend or foe, virtue or folly?

Maybe one day I will find someone who makes me think or, more poignantly, stops making me think. That day will no doubt rock my world. The person who leaves me in awe will be my eternal soulmate, written indubitably and with the purest of Kristy intensity. For the moment, I will maintain a distance from it all, a distance from my emotions while also wallowing in them without remorse, without respect for truth, perspective and my own fucking intelligence. For someone so wise I can be as immature as all hell when I succumb to my own self-pity. The woman of a thousand sorrows – some begged, some borrowed, some stolen and some kept safe for tomorrow, as Nick would say.

I love you as I love you all, I love every one of you with intense loyalty and admiration. Each person that I silently name, that silently comes to mind, as you, are the ones who have shaped my future, helped (un)create my story which will never be written, and given me that rescuing breath when I felt there was nothing more than a void, as I sit gasping for some reality outside my own head and heart and mind. Above and beyond the Great, the indescribable It, the All, the Everything, is my appreciation for those whom I love, who are unaware as to their being my Saviours, those who provide the Genesis of my enlightenment and acceptance of All and Myself. Maybe one day I will finally realise it is all in the Now, without Presence nor (of) the Past.

Hayden was so eager to meet the new millennium. But instead he met Eternity. I will always keep that close to my heart.



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WWW.DEFENCEJOBS.GOV.AU

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Tell it like it is

with Joe Kennedy

Forgive me. I have new flatmates and it appears in my interview process I neglected to ask them a relatively critical question: so... you detest Australian Idol, right? As a result, my ridiculous omission recently led me to cruising into my house after a surprisingly OK day to the sounds of cackling at poor performances and heated arguments about deserving finalists. I almost died. And no, that's not just an expression. My entire body went very, very close to exploding in a fit of disgust and bewilderment.

Anyway, during the 39.89 seconds I was subject to viewing the parasite of a program I asked myself: what the fuck is wrong with these people? Not my flatmates, I already knew they were dumb-arse, goat-imitating, irritating poltroons. But rather, these gazillions of teenie-bopper wannabees lining up in every capital city to have their voices judged by a panel of three half-wits with the combined intelligence of Mike Tyson.

What the hell is going on? Somehow I managed to sit-by and allow the first few series to pass me by, but surely by now people have realised the ridiculousness of this entire frigging process. So, a quick note for people in anyway related to or watching this essence of scum:

1. If your voice sounds like shit, it is shit. That doesn't make you a bad person – it just means you are a crappy singer. It is not in any way connected to your sense of self-worth or your identity as a human being.

2. It is NOT entertaining to watch people gauge the worth of their lives on how they perform in a karaoke competition (and consequently if you do come to realise this feel free to laugh at your previous stupidity).

3. Singing is not an art. It merely forms a facet of the marvellous art form that is music. At its best the expression of lyrical genius is capable of making you feel both euphoric and depressed at the same time. As a result, a good singer is not necessarily a good musician and this means that good singers alone will release songs capable of tormenting people's ears and minds simultaneously for extensive periods. Case in point – every single song ever released by a contestant on the karaoke contest in question.

4. Yes I am right. If you do not agree, you are still being indoctrinated by the program and therefore need to bash yourself on the temple with a sledgehammer until you do agree.

5. Dude, you don't have to be famous. Stop wasting your time pursuing some dream of lots of people 'loving' you. It really isn't important.

Instead, maybe we can stop being couch potatoes seemingly devoted to every latest TV fad and do something constructive. Plant a tree. Recycle your Diet Coke with lemon-lime-guji fruit can. Flour-bomb Tony Abbot's car. Hell, I don't care, just do something to use your head instead of drowning it in continuous shit.

To answer any criticisms in advance: yes I am being self-righteous. Duh! I don't care how I look, as long as I get some minute message across to someone, somewhere. So if you do agree with me, then help me in my crusade. If you hear one of your friends talking about Australian Idol, slap them. Hard. If you see your flatmates watching it at home, hurl the television out the window. Just do something – it's the only way the parasite can be exterminated, so future generations will be exempt from this crap. As Ward Churchill said, "I cannot do it. I will not do it, and fuck them if they think they are going to force me to do it". Taken a tad outta context, yes, but you get the point.

Tell it like it is for Blitz Magazine and get paid \$25. Send your 700-800 word rant to blitzeditor@union.unsw.edu.au.

Send your classifieds to blitzeditor@union.unsw.edu.au There is a 60 word limit. UNSW students should include their student

UNIBUDS Bodhi Nite: August 28 at Sir John Clancy Auditorium. 6-7pm - vegetarian dinner, 7-10pm - performance. An annual celebration of UNIBUDS formation. This year's theme is 'Rain falls, Wind blows, Plant Blooms'. Performances include the UNIBUDS choir, an inspiring play, interactive multimedia presentations, and Dhamma talks given by our patrons. Contact Desy on 0421080504 or djuliaty@gmail.com; or Adeline on 0404637818 or begabequ@hotmail.com.

Seeking third-plus generation Australian Born Chinese for PHD research on Chinese Identity. The interview will discuss family migration history, links with place of origin, sense of identity and belonging, social networks and social experiences. The session will be taped and last up to 1.5 hours. Please contact Lucille Ngan, on l.ngan@student.unsw.edu.au or call 0414 533 022 if you are interested.

Laptop Cases. Stretchy wetsuit material with Sony Viao Logo which fits around your laptop like a sock. Protect your laptop from scratches, dust and water. Two sizes: 275x390mm and 220x290mm. \$30 each or

2 for \$55. Call 0404 920 101 or z3060291@student.unsw.edu.au.

Furniture for Sale. Single queen size bed with base and mattress, \$300. Original price \$900, great quality and still in excellent condition. Bedside cabinet \$35 (light brown in colour with two drawers). If interested please contact z3056979@unsw.edu.au. Price is still negotiable after inspection.

For sale. Optima WorkPro computer, 2 years old, great condition, 17" monitor, 2GHz Intel Celeron processor, 256MB RAM, 40GB hard drive, Windows XP, CD burner and software, mouse, keyboard. \$200 ono. Ph 0401 386748 or email z3129489@student.unsw.edu.au.

Lost? Confused? Got questions about uni or life in general? Visit Contact, the University's information and referral service. Staffed are trained to answer questions, from your next class through to whale migration. There are also brochures on University and community services and a supply of free condoms and tampons. Located on the 2nd floor.

East Wing of the Quad Building. Open 10am-4pm weekdays. E-mail contact@unsw.edu.au, call 9385 5880, or visit www.contact.unsw.edu.au.

WANTED: Orientation Week 2006 'Yellow Shirt' Volunteers. Be a part of O-Week by joining the Yellow Shirt team and help new students discover UNSW. Meet a whole lot of great people, make heaps of new friends and get great experience in teamwork, leadership and communication. Pick up an application from Union Reception or U Space at the Blockhouse, CONTACT (East Wing of the Quad) or the O-Week stall on the Library Lawn (Weeks 5 and 6, midday-2pm). You can also download it from www.union.unsw.edu.au. Drop your completed application form into Union Reception (Blockhouse) or the Library Lawn stall. Applications close at the END OF WEEK 7. For more information contact the O-Week office by phoning 9385 7746 or email owweek@union.unsw.edu.au.

Week 4 Crossword Answers: Across: 2. INTERVIEW, 3. VOTE, 5. PLANKTON, 8. ISOSCELES, 10. ARISTOTLE, 11. METRO, 13. HSC, 16. PERCUSSION, 17. COMPOST, 18. KAMIKAZE, 19. FAMILYGUY. **Down:** 1. XENOPHOBIA, 4. KENSINGTON, 5. PRISON, 6. HOWL, 7. NEUTRAL, 9. NIKE, 12. RESUME, 14. CPA, 15. ONCOLOGY.

Target nine-letter word: LIMOUSINE.

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VOX POPS



Giulio

What was your favourite childhood lolly?

Chupa Chups

How has the internet changed your life?

It give me open space and new landscapes



Claire

What was your favourite childhood lolly?

Lollipops that were sherberty on a papery stick

How has the internet changed your life?

I'm not getting out in the sun anymore and I may be developing lupus



Alban

What was your favourite childhood lolly?

[we couldn't understand the accent. He either said liquorice or Wrigley's]

How has the internet changed your life?

It is real practical to watch soccer games, download songs and porn movies



Elai

What was your favourite childhood lolly?

Snakes. Yellow ones

How has the internet changed your life?

I became heaps lazier

Bernise

What was your favourite childhood lolly?

Krispy Kremes. No, Milky bars

How has the internet changed your life?

I've become more social yet at the same time, more anti-social



Tosh

What was your favourite childhood lolly?

Those sherbert rockets with a stick of liquorice inside it

How has the internet changed your life?

It's liberated me. I used to be shy and unable to face society. I'm now a man who can achieve big through the internet



Deirdre

What was your favourite childhood lolly?

Time Out

How has the internet changed your life?

It's annoying now 'cause my wire keeps dropping out



Nina

What was your favourite childhood lolly?

Sticky Chinese ones

How has the internet changed your life?

I don't think it has

**CAN YOU THINK OF A VOX POPS QUESTION?
SMS IT TO 0407 BLI TZO RIGHT NOW!***

artsweek

In week 7, Artsweek 2005 will paint the campus colourful. Here are a selection of free workshops scheduled for the creative and not so creative. Register early to avoid disappointment.

Register online for the following:

- Improvisation Workshop (presented by the NIDA Open Program)
- Pottery Workshop
- Mosaic Tile making
- Life Drawing Workshop
- Literary Workshop
- Jewellery Making Workshop A – Tiger Tail
- Jewellery Making Workshop B – Silver Wire

Life Drawing Workshop

Celebrate the beauty of the human form and learn the techniques of life drawing with tutor David Briggs. David has been teaching drawing for more than ten years and running the life drawing programme for Disney's Sydney studio for five and a half years. Drawings will be made from nude models. Suitable for beginners or intermediate.

Training Room 4, Lvl 1 Blockhouse

Monday 2.30-4.30pm – Max 15 participants

Literary Workshop with Anna Carmody *Memories and Things you Notice*

What is interesting? How can your observations and experiences be developed and turned into a piece of writing? What makes it a short story, a poem or poetic prose? Anna Carmody has written everything from screenplays to short stories and has been teaching creative writing since 1988. She currently works as a freelance editor.

Training Room 4, Lvl 1, Blockhouse

Tuesday 2.30-4.30pm - Max 14 participants

Improvisation and Acting Workshop Presented by NIDA Open Program

Exercise your imagination, wit and ability to interact with others. Develop skills to allow you to think on your feet while performing to an audience. This is your opportunity to get a taste of the quality performing arts training that the NIDA open program offers.

Würth/Drawing Room, Lvl 1, Roundhouse

Wednesday, 2.30-3.30pm – Max 20 participants

Jewellery Making Workshops

Kath Ellis from the Eastern Suburbs Community College will show you how to express yourself through your own custom made jewellery. Kath will run two taster courses using silver wire and beads and tiger tail and beads.

Training Room 4, Lvl 1 Blockhouse, Thursday

10.30am-12.30pm: Silver Wire and Beads

2.30-4.30pm: Tiger Tail and Beads

Max 15 Participants

Pottery Workshop

Potter in Residence Tony Orford takes you through a simple method for making your own pot. This is the perfect way to learn how to use the materials and resources at your disposal at the Union's Pottery Studio. One you pot you can't stop. You'll start to save plenty of \$'s on Mother's Day gifts.

Pottery Studio, Lvl 2 Blockhouse

Friday 2.30-4.30pm, Max 15 participants

Mosaic Squared

Paint a ceramic tile help make a giant tile mosaic artwork celebrating culture and diversity at UNSW. Brought to you by Mosaic Fusion Forums, this mosaic will be presented to the Department of Education later in the year at the Mosaic publication launch. Join us for this unique opportunity to leave your mark!

Tuesday 4:30-6pm

Roundhouse Beer garden

Artsweek Launch BBQ & Celebrity Debate

Kick off the week with a free snag and you may even be lucky enough to have a free portrait sketch of yourself drawn by a professional artist.

Big Brother should be voted off the island is this year's motion for the annual Artsweek 'Celebrity Debate'. See celebrity debaters Adam Spencer and Robbie Buck tackle the UNSW debating team on the topic of reality TV.

Library Lawn

Monday 12-2pm

Look for more Artsweek information in Blitz during weeks 6 and 7 or, for more details on courses, email a.johnston@union.unsw.edu.au

The Artsweek brochure will be available from week 6 at the Union Reception on lower campus in the Blockhouse and other Union outlets.

Register now online
www.union.unsw.edu.au