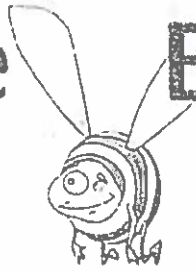


The Buzz



Friday, October 5th, 2012

Pay as you play — ECA Payment explained in full

BBIS students returned from their two month holiday to find they would have to pay for participation in certain sports. Popular sports such as basketball, volleyball and football are to cost €50 merely to train with the team.

BBIS has a strong sports programme, has consecutively retained the title as GISST Champions since 2008, and plan on repeating it for the upcoming sports year.

Students were horrified and upset with the new policy, describing it as

as 'unnecessary.' A member of the BBIS Varsity Football team agreed to speak to the newspaper about to the new policy. "The schools tuition fees are high enough as it is, we shouldn't need to pay extra to play our sports." The student continued, "It is also very annoying for *Continued on Page 2*

BBIS overwhelms BerIS in season opener — After beating neighbouring BerIS with 5-1, the BBIS show Berlin their strength this year!

Despite a tight start to the match against Berlin International School, the BBIS Varsity Boys started off their season with a phenomenal win. With five goals and a clear dominance in the game, our boys set the bar up high on the 15th of September in 2012.

The BBIS fans cheering on the side line on Saturday morning motivated the players to show BerIS where they plan on ending in this year's GISST. Most of the

game was controlled by the BBIS team, which included many new faces and players from grades 9 to 12.

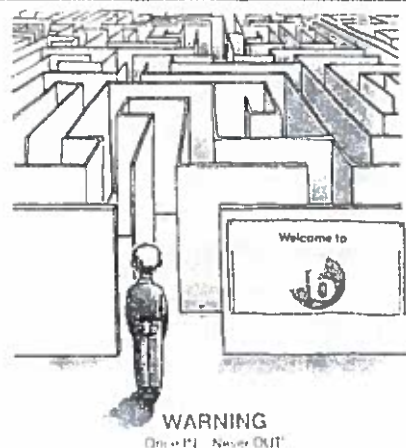
BBIS's new 3-5-2 formation took some time to prove its worth. However, after some minor chances in the beginning minutes, our Varsity Boys made sure that BerIS' defense was challenged. The first real chance occurred quickly when Niklas's header, after an Andrey cross, was placed on target, but lacked the power to trouble the keeper. *Continued on Page 2*

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- ◇ The road to the US Elections
- ◇ Interview with Mr. Kotrc
- ◇ Weekends in Berlin!



Did IB for two years



HEADLINE NEWS

Pay as you play

Continued from page 1

people in the IB years. We are required to participate in sports in order to gain CAS hours, but suddenly we have to pay for them."

It was rumoured that the school was under pressure to cut back on costs, and this was a way of improving the schools finances.

Mr Joost Langendock, head of sports at BBIS, agreed to speak to The Buzz about the much hyped issue. "The general idea is that the school is trying to save cost, and that is the only reason behind it." Langendock dismissed any talk of such funding being used for a new project, confirming that it is simply to help the school financially.

The charging policy is intended to help to cover the costs of running the sports ECAs. It is the students that participate in the sport are the ones that contribute.

Langendock explained the reason behind setting up a separate fee that applies only to those that participate in the sports involved, "If it is included in the school fee, and you're not doing an activity, should you pay for the boys and girls playing football and going on a trip?" It would not make sense for parents to fund and pay for something their child has little or nothing to do with, which explains, and justifies, why the fee was

was not simply included in the tuition fee.

Langendock and his colleagues in the sports department were well aware of the fact that it would not be the most popular of decisions. Many predicted that fewer people would sign up for the sporting ECAs, a consideration which crossed Langendock's mind prior to introducing the policy. "People obviously won't be jumping up and down at the thought of having to pay for something."

However, he said there has been no fall in the numbers of students enrolled in the sports programmes. BBIS will still be able to field a team for every sport, and no sports have suffered to the point of having to disband it. With the new policy, one concern expressed is that students might feel afraid to try out new sports, as they do not want to waste their money.

On a more positive note, in previous years, the school and parents would work on a 50-50 basis to cover the costs of sports trips. With the new policy this has changed to 60-40, with the school paying 60% and the parents paying 40%, which was the school's effort to come to a compromise with the parents.

Dominic Kaye

BBIS Overwhelms Berls in Season Opener

Continued from page 1

Long shots by Mahdad and Matteo continued to show BBIS's attacking danger, testing Berls's goalkeeper. After wasting these chances, BBIS managed to set the tone once the first goal had been scored. It had been made clear who would dominate this game when a great pass from Andrey set Adriano sprinting down the wing, who then made sure the ball got to Niklas for the first goal of the new season.

BBIS was able to keep up this domination, and it did not take long to double the score. This time Andrey scored and was assisted by Niklas, who received the ball from Matteo after Marc's throw-in, in what undoubtedly resulted in the best goal of the day.

Reaching the final minutes of the first half, BBIS was not able to create any more defining chances. However, it was clear that the game wasn't over yet when Mahdad and Jordan wrapped up the first half with some threatening long-distance shots.

Starting off the second half, not much seemed different from the first 45 minutes. Despite Berls' attempts to change the course of the game, it was only a matter of time for the ball to cross the Berls' goal line a

BBIS Overwhelms BerIS in Season Opener

Continued from page 2

third time. The Andrey - Niklas team play once again worked to perfection, when the latter received a perfectly timed ball from the former, to then slide it past the keeper into the long corner.

For Berlin International School there was only a very small chance to still catch up with our Varsity Boys, but in their attempts to do so they opened up their defense, which consequently created even more chances for BBIS. One of these chances resulted in another long, strong shot from Andrey, after a great play involving all the mid-fielders. This shot reached the goalkeeper; however, he failed to keep the ball, after which Niklas could tap the ball in.

At the 4:0 score, BBIS was not finished yet. After a throw-in in their own half, the ball was played by defender Sebastian right in Matteo's path on the left who then curled the ball into the corner for 5:0. After this goal BBIS started experimenting and put new people on the pitch. This is where Berls took their advantage and, even though BBIS was still in control of the game, Berls' number 5 scored a free-kick from 20 meters.

BBIS had played a good game with motivated players and some good stops from goal-keeper Dom. The Varsity Boys showed Berlin that the championship in GISST this year could possibly be theirs!

Claire Veldhuizen

"Inspire a Generation" - A Review of the 2012 London Paralympics

The 2012 London Paralympic Games took place between the 29th of August and the 9th of September. With 164 nations participating, London had approximately 4294 athletes taking part in the Games this year. From the opening ceremony to the closing ceremony, the 2012 Paralympic Games lived it to its motto: Inspire a Generation.

The opening ceremony, inspired by William Shakespeare's "The Tempest" and themed around the notion of "Enlightenment", notably featured British physicist Stephen Hawking and the electronic music group Orbital.

The Olympic Torch was brought in the Olympic Stadium via zip line by Joe Townsend, a Marine who lost both legs after stepping on a landmine in Afghanistan and who plans to compete in the 2016 Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro. Townsend then passed it on to David Clarke, the long-time British Five-a-side football captain who gave it to the lighter of the Olympic Cauldron, Margaret Maughan, the winner of Britain's first gold medal at the first ever Paralympics in Rome.

During the eleven days of action, events in twenty different sports ranging from archery to wheelchair tennis were displayed. Over of 1,000 individuals medals were distributed, 290 Paralympics records were broken

and 207 World Records Broken. Outstanding multiple medallists of the 2012 staging of the Paralympic Games are: the Australian swimmer Jacqueline Freney (8 gold medals), the Brazilian swimmer Daniel Dias (6 gold medals) and the American swimmer Jessica Long (5 gold medals, 2 silver medals and 1 bronze medal).

The closing ceremony held September 9th at the Olympic Stadium of London was described as a "festival of fire". British rock band Coldplay lead the ceremony, joined by Barbadian singer Rihanna and African - American rapper Jay-Z.

About 1,000 performers, acrobats and dancers, both disabled and able-bodied, put on a spectacular show for the millions of viewers throughout the world. Also attending the ceremony were proud British Prime Minister David Cameron and of course, the Royal family.

The passing of the Paralympic flag by the London Mayor, Boris Johnson to the Mayor of Rio De Janeiro Eduardo Paes and a rain of spectacular fireworks concluded what are being described as the "Greatest Olympics and Paralympics in history".

Katherine Couture

Merkel's Magic

In the face of mounting skepticism over the survival of the Euro, Merkel has done it again. Germany's chancellor made a striking comeback in mid-September

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Merkel's Magic

Continued from page 3

by convincing the Federal Constitutional Court to pass her latest initiative aimed at quelling the Eurozone disaster. Her main objective is to fortify the European Stability Mechanism, a bailout fund that was created as an emergency measure in May of 2010. With the court ruling, Germany, as Europe's largest economy and a consistent buoy in maintaining the Euro above water, will be contributing further to the fund.

The payments will be used to purchase government bonds, or loans to the government, from struggling countries such as Italy or Spain. For now, a total of € 190 Billion will be invested into the fund, and any increases will have to be approved by parliament. Several prominent politicians, including Italy's Prime Minister Mario Monti and the German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle, applauded Merkel's actions as "excellent news", a statement that seemed to resonate with the stock market.

However, critics denounced the chancellor's decision as contradictory after she fervently opposed the purchasing of Eurobonds several months ago. The idea of a collective debt burden strikes some as a blow to taxpayers and only a short-term solution to the corrosive flaws that have been permeating Europe ever since the global recession of 2008.

According to the New York Times, Merkel is convinced that Germany holds a "responsibility in Europe as the largest economy",

a statement Jörg Krämer, on the other hand, the Chief Economist at Commerzbank, interprets as a tragic "union of mutualized debt".

The only consensus that can be reached for the time being is that Merkel is sending out a clear message to German citizens and the rest of the world: sometimes, even leading economies have to acknowledge that we're all in this together.

Anna Windemuth

Road to the US Elections: Obama Takes the Lead

With little over a month remaining until November 6th, Election Day in the U.S, Republican nominee Mitt Romney and Democratic nominee, President Barack Obama, are approaching the critical moments in their campaigns. After being nominated during the Republican (August 27th) and Democratic (September 3rd) National Conventions, they are now preparing for three televised debates on October 3rd, 16th, and 22nd. These debates will cover domestic and foreign policy issues, and each nominee will have two minutes to address the question asked, before responding to his opponent.

Presidential debates often have a large effect on the race, as the candidates will begin to show their opinions on topics, as opposed to the party's position. Voters are

peager to see how the candidates respond under pressure, watch for mistakes, and further their understanding of the candidates' personalities.

President Obama has struggled to convince voters that he has upheld his promises from the historic 2008 election. Mitt Romney is criticized for being distant from the public, as he is wealthiest man to run for president.

The race has been extremely close thus far, with poll results on August 24th showing that 49% of those polled supported Barack Obama, and 47% supported Mitt Romney. These numbers had remained fairly stable for months; however, following the Democratic Convention support for Obama has increased. A poll taken on September 24th showed that 53% of likely voters supported Obama, while 46% supported Romney.

According to past voting patterns, and national public opinion polls, it is estimated that Barack Obama will win 332 electoral votes out of the 270 needed. Romney will win 191 votes. Although Romney is predicted to win a larger number of states than Obama, they are states with fewer electoral votes. York (29 electoral votes), which tend to be won by the democratic candidate.

Emma Tasharski

BBIS

Interview with Mr. Kotrc—
The New Kid on the Block



Getting to know the "New Kid on the Block"—An interview with new Director Mr. Peter Kotrc on his goals for this year, personal life, thoughts on the IB program and much more.

In an exclusive interview The Buzz met with the new BBIS Director Mr. Peter Kotrc to discuss his goals for the upcoming school year, views on the IB Curriculum, amongst others.

The Buzz: Tell us a bit about your background. Where are you from? Where have you lived?

Mr. Kotrc: I was born in Vienna, Austria where I worked many years at the International School of Vienna, then moved on to the International School of The Hague in the Netherlands.

The Buzz: Do you have any interesting hobbies? What kind of music do you listen to?

Mr. Kotrc: I cycle to work every morning, (I am a citizen of Kleinmachnow!), I try to participate in at least 2 half Marathons a year, (when I was a bit younger I used to do at least 2 full Marathons a

was a bit younger I used to do at least 2 full Marathons a year but as age progresses...*laughs*) I really enjoy classical music and the theatre, and for both there's lots of opportunities in the Potsdam and Berlin area.

The Buzz: What made you decide to apply for this position at BBIS?

Mr. Kotrc: The reputation of the school as a growing school, a good school, as the only school worldwide offering all 4 IB programs including the IBCC program, and of course the boarding school, so I saw a lot of potential and thought this position could be a great opportunity.

The Buzz: What do you like about BBIS so far?

Mr. Kotrc: I like the welcoming climate that is visible throughout all three groups of the school, the students, parents and teachers.

The Buzz: What are some areas of improvement or changes you would like to focus on in the next few years?

Mr. Kotrc: I think there's some need to improve in the IT area, we definitely also need more class and room space which I am happy that in 2015 we'll be getting, which I think is important for an International School, however I am still in the process of finding out everything about the school.

The Buzz: What do you believe is most important for an International School?

Mr. Kotrc: Respect for the different nationalities and

and open-mindedness. Trying your best to learn from the cultural differences and getting the inter-cultural literacy, that's what's unique and makes up a good international school.

The Buzz: What do you like about the IB Curriculum?

Mr. Kotrc: I think it's good because it not only develops skills and knowledge, but it also looks at everything from a global point of view, and it really looks at the development of the individual personality.

The Buzz: A lot of students have been complaining about this year's ECA fee...any comments on that?

Mr. Kotrc: I think the ECA fees seem to be a good compromise between whether one should pay for the personal sports or activities completely yourself or shall the community pay for it, and I think we have found a compromise by saying that 40 percent of the costs come from the individual student/family and 60 percent are still coming out of everybody's budget. I think that if someone represents BBIS on a sports team then the costs are still subsidised.

The Buzz: What are your thoughts on school spirit?

Mr. Kotrc: School spirit is important and I believe everyone should be proud of their school. I do think it would be great to increase school spirit by focusing on the positives and not on the negatives.

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Interview with Mr. Kotrc— The New Kid on the Block

Continued from page 5

School spirit could be improved by trying to get more people to go to sports events, to come out and support the school, maybe have more meaningful assemblies with more student presentations, and possibly even expand the house system through Grades 9 and 10 as it brings a form of unity and competition.

The Buzz: What are your personal goals for this year?

Mr.Kotrc: First of all, I want to learn everything about the school because I am the new kid on the block, and there's a lot I still need to find out. By the end of this year what I would like to achieve is that all the teachers agree on what learning actually means and is, and that together we'll develop a vision between all the groups in the school.

Cäcilie Steinhorst

Weekends in Berlin

Berlin is a very dynamic city with a lot going on every day; every weekend in Berlin is a new opportunity to discover something new. If you are a fan of Jimi Hendrix, The Beatles, Kurt Cobain, The White Stripes or even Marilyn Manson, there is a free exhibition to check out at the nhow Gallery located at Stralauer Allee from Monday to Saturday from 11:00 in the morning to 16:00. The exhibition entitled "A-wop-bop-a-loo-bop-a-lop-bam-boo" portrays 6 decades of Rock 'n' Roll music through

images, video clips and films. The festival of lights will also be taking place in Berlin on October 10th through October 21st. Make sure you go sightseeing that night with some of your friends, as over 40 landmarks will be projected with lights including the Brandenburg Gate, the television tower and Kurfürstendamm.

SHOPPING IN BERLIN!

Berlin is a great place for shopping. You can find large department stores, small boutiques, second hand stores, designer labels and more. One of the big advantages is that you can find these shops, high end shops and 2nd hand shops, in the same area, all offering a wide range of goods and prices.

The first major shopping area in Berlin is Kurfürstendamm. The famous street is filled with well known stores and restaurants. If you are looking for reasonably priced stylish clothes, I highly recommend spending some time walking from one H&M to another, stopping at 'Urban Outfitters', 'ZARA', 'Mango', 'American Apparel' or the newly opened 'Bershka' and 'Cotton On'- they are all fairly close to one another.

After roaming Kurfürstendamm, you should end your walk at Wittenbergplatz where you will find Berlin's largest department store, KaDeWe. The six-floored store includes a wide range of kitchen utensils, designer labels and a gourmet floor with a large variety of foods. After that, and if you have eaten at

have eaten at the KaDeWe, grab a coffee at 'Einstein Kaffee' which offers offers great coffee and snacks.

Following reunification, the old district of Mitte quickly became the place to be for young and innovative creators, and many new shops and boutiques sprang up in the area between Hackescher Markt and Torstrasse. If you are looking for smaller shops, indie fashion labels or outrageous shoes, walk around the area in the small streets like Ackerstrasse or Schönhauser Strasse that have these kind of boutiques.

'Kaffee Mitte' is a great place for a lunch break. The coffee house includes a variety of sandwiches, salads and drinks. My advice is to spend a lot of time just walking around - you will be surprised at how many cute little stores and restaurants you will find.

Another great department store worth visiting, located in the east side of the city, is the well known 'Galerie LaFayette' on Friedrichstrasse. The store's inventory of clothing, accessories and premium beauty products is impressive.

If you fancy a shopping spree out in the open, there are plenty of great flea-markets to choose from. Most of these flea markets are open on weekends only. For cool clothes and a nice vibe, "Flohmarkt am Mauerpark" is open every Sunday from 8am-6pm. Berlin's best-known and classiest market- "strasse des 17. Juni" which offers furniture, jewelry, posters, clothes and records, is

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Culture

Weekends in Berlin

Continued from Page 6

definitely worth a visit too .

Berlin is an easy place to wander around due to its great transportation available. Don't hesitate to use the s bahn, u bahn or the bus to explore new areas. Enjoy your shopping!

Lara Trinh & Gaia Davidson

InnoTrans 2012

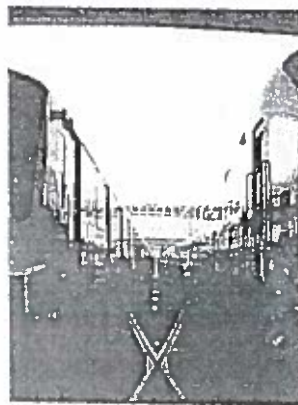
The International Trade Fair for Transport Technology, InnoTrans 2012, was held at the Messe Berlin. From 18th to 21st of September 2012, the vehicle manufacturing companies of the world gathered at the largest congress center in Europe to present and promote their newest models of trains .

I visited the fair on the 23rd, entering from the south entrance where far extending rails were filled with round-cornered rectangle shapes of first cars of the trains. Colourful and diverse in shapes, the cars were from a variety of companies from different countries, each one showing unique characters in design.

There were public transportation trains and freight trains from well-known corporations such as Daimler-Benz, Staedtler, GE (General Electric), and DB (Deutsche Bahn).

Some of them had especially aesthetic designs, their body covered with flower motifs for example, or unique interiors with the seats covered with line drawings of the city in which the car will drive through.

People were allowed to go in some cars to look at every detail on the inside. Children were fascinated by being able to see the cockpit, and soft seats gave the grandparents who needed a rest a



chance to relax.

Some other cars were more interactive. In one case visitors could move the lever at the bottom of a freight train to open and close the joints, or the kids could gather around for a driving simulation of a new model of railroad train.

Further back in the wider open space, the newest types of trains were lined up next to each other as if they were competing with their appearances and abilities. Everyone seemed excited to be the first ones to hop on to the cars which they might see

on the train tracks in the future.

There was also a display of the engine motors used in trains, which the visitors took a good look at to find out its function.

It was a pleasure to see many children coming to see the development of technology and having an interest in this fascination. The numbers of handicapped visitors were also significant for this event. This trade fair has for sure become another step forward for the bright future of our technology.

Youjia Han

Bicycle Thieves— Your bike is never safe

Your bicycle is no longer safe. As thieves get more and more intelligent, and are equipped with more and more resources that aid their deeds, it gets harder and harder for people like us to keep our possessions safe. A scientific method so startlingly simple is aiding the bicycle thieves. And there is little we can do to stop them.

If you have seen an advertisement for a lock, or, in fact, the back of the packaging of a lock when you bought one, you can see that the supplier tries to tell us how tough it is and how reliable it

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Bicycle Thieves— Your bike is never safe

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is and how reliable it would be to keep your bicycle safe. Unfortunately, there is an extent to how *tough*, or durable, the material for the lock is and how *hard* it is. There is an inverse relationship between the two, which is a huge advantage to the thieves as modern technology and resources have not made it much harder to break into a bicycle lock.

Suppose the lock is made of the hardest material on Earth — diamond. This seems a good idea provided the substance is not that expensive. However, it being hard doesn't make it tough. Diamond is brittle, and a few hammers would break the diamond. Replace it with a tough material, like rubber. It would take hours for a potential thief to disintegrate such a lock using a hammer. However, a sharp edged tool such as a chainsaw will do the job. All the **more** easy for the thieves.

Most of the bicycle locks these days are made of tougher material, not harder material. It might be because materials such as rubber are cheaper than materials that make the lock hard, or it might be just a safety measure. (It is far more noticeable if a thief tries to use a chainsaw to break a lock in comparison to using a hammer!)

To make matters worse, a newer, more efficient, and scientific method has been devised to aid the bicycle thieves. A canned air spray cooled to -25 degrees Celsius coupled with a hammer does the work for the thieves. When the cooled air

is sent through the lock, it becomes surprisingly brittle and so it becomes easier to break using a hammer.

The worst part is that lock manufacturers have found nothing to counter such a method, and the consumers suffer the consequences. The only thing we can do to protect our bikes is to take them home.

Aarohan Jain

iPhone 5: Review

The iPhone 5 is the newest device in the iPhone line up. This new iPhone is probably the most different and most changed iPhone since the very first one. The first thing you will notice is that the screen is a lot bigger, it is now a four inch (10.16 cm) screen. For all people who like to watch movies on the iPhone will now have a lot more fun doing this. The new screen is a perfect 16 to 9 (16:9) screen; this means that you will not see black stripes at the top of the video or only a limited section of the movie, as most movies available on iTunes will fit to the screen perfectly.

Something that many people will not like is the new dock connector, it is now a lot smaller and reversible. This means that all the old iPod cables will no longer fit. The new connector called Lightning is a lot smaller, it is only about 0.8 cm wide, has

only 9 pins instead of 30 and can be plugged in both ways. Although the new connector is very cool and only has advantages, it will be a pain to replace all iPhone accessories.

Something that not many people expected is a longer battery life of the iPhone, but now although it has a better CPU (Processor) and a new networking chip, Apple was able to improve the battery life. You are now able to browse the web over wifi for 10 hours and over 3G, Edge or Analog (o) for 8 hours. Because of the new networking chip the iPhone 5 now also supports LTE which is theoretically able to download 100 megabits per second. In Germany sadly it is not supported in many regions, Berlin is covered by the Deutsche Telekom in some areas but very likely other companies like Vodafone and O₂ will follow soon.

Just as with the iPhone 4s, there are three options of storage you can choose from one with 16GB, 32GB and 64GB Flash Storage priced at 679€ for 16GB, 789€ for 32GB and 899€ for 64GB. This should be plenty of storage for the normal user but personally I would prefer a thicker iPhone with more storage and a higher quality screen. Apple still has everyone believe that their screen has the highest resolution that is visible for the human eye; it is true up to a point, but if you hold the device closer

iPhone 5: Review*Continued from Page 8*

closer than 30 cm you will still be able to see the pixels.

The iPhone is another great device by Apple, but there is still room for improvement.

Jan Zimmerman



Interviews with Ms. Schenk and Ms. Gatter— A Little Bit About Two New Teachers

The Buzz meets with two new teachers to find out everything and anything!

Which subjects do you teach?

Ms. Gatter: I teach German at the High school and Middle school.

Ms. Schenk: The subject I teach is Geography.

In which countries have you lived before?

Ms. Gatter: I have lived in Bulgaria, Portugal, France, England, the United States and Germany.

Ms. Schenk: Before I moved to Germany, I lived in the United States.

Why did you decide to come to Berlin?

Ms. Gatter: I wanted to return to Germany and I heard a lot of good things about this school.

Ms. Schenk: I had the wish to live and teach abroad.

What is your first impression of BBIS?

Ms. Gatter: The school community is kind and welcoming. I noticed that the students are very motivated.

Ms. Schenk: This school has a strong and nice community.

How long are you planning to stay in Berlin?

Ms. Gatter: I am not sure how long I will stay in Berlin.

Ms. Schenk: I think I will stay here for quit a while, however I am not certain how long that is going to be.

Have you taught in other International schools before?

Ms. Gatter: No, I have never taught in an international school before.

Ms. Schenk: This is the first international school where I am teaching.

Why have you decided to teach at BBIS?

Ms. Gatter: I decide to teach at BBIS, because I have heard a lot of positive comments about this school.

Ms. Schenk: This school has a good reputation and made a positive impression on me.

What is your impression of Berlin and Germany?

Ms. Gatter: I have lived in Germany before and therefore it was easy for me to readapt.

Ms. Schenk: The city is very international and has great food. There are a lot of interesting events happing in this city.

Nicoline Gebler

The Dark Knight Rises: Review
Director Christopher Nolan does not disappoint as usual;

however, my second run through of the movie (after having seen *Batman Begins*) clarified the story to such a degree that a great number of gaping plot holes became apparent. Although satisfying overall, *Rises* is not the best of the bunch. *The Dark Knight* is undoubtedly the most enjoyable to watch (let's be honest, Heath Ledger was the perfect Joker); but that isn't to say that *Rises* was disappointing, quite the contrary. *Rises* reinforces the fact that each movie stands out and can be viewed as one work rather than parts to a whole. Regardless of the direction that Nolan took, the superhero genre (realism), *Rises* still finds plenty of opportunities to be ridiculous. The stunts and overall co-ordination are great; however, technical proficiency is dwarfed by the superb leading cast.

The true star was Tom Hardy as Bane. Hardy took this character to a level never seen in the history of Batman; Bane is usually depicted as a mindless body-builder who seemed only capable of the word 'SMASH'. Nolan's Bane was written perfectly for the kind of ruthless revolutionary that he was. Bane was a character that carried a vast amount of weight when on camera; he was an unstoppable force which made the victory



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of our caped crusader that much more satisfying. The voice of Bane creates a beautiful contrast with his appearance, which in turn makes the character that much more of an enjoyable super-villain.

Anne Hathaway is another stand out; Selina Kyle (or Catwoman) was played spot on in every aspect. In addition to the wonderful chemistry between Hathaway and Bale, she is as believable as a female anti-super-hero can get. Yet another praise for *Rises* was its soundtrack. Hanz Zimmer never disappoints. Perhaps the greatest thing about the movie is the subtle references that it makes to itself and Batman canon. There is an allusion to a very famous Batman comic where Bane is shown breaking Batman's back on his knee; Nolan recreates this in his film, leaving hardcore fans of the Batman franchise satisfied along with simple movie goers.

Michael Hartinger

UEFA Champions League 2012-2013: The First Briefing

Barcelona were closely challenged against Spartak Moscow as in the final 19 minutes, Lionel Messi scored two goals to earn Barcelona a 3-2 win the UCL's Group G. The third goal was as a result of Cristian Tello's magic in the 14th minute. For Moscow, Dani Alves seemed compassionate enough to offer them an own goal as well a classy

goal from Borges in the second half. Those goals should at least surprise Barca in their competitive UCL group. In the end, Vilanova can surely be proud of Messi for scoring his two goals in the 71st and 80th minute. Elsewhere in group G Celtic and Benfica worked out a strenuous 0-0 draw

In Group E, the young 23 year old Armenian Henrikh Mkhitaryan scored two goals for his club Shakhtar Donetsk to successfully beat FC Nordsjaelland. Other news from Group E, the current European titleholders Chelsea struggled to win their first game against Juventus, despite the fact that the young Brazilian Oscar wowed the international stage with a stunning two goals in under two minutes to put Chelsea upfront. Juventus soon fought back with a goal from Arturo Vidal before and Fabio Quagliarella.

In Group H, Manchester United struggled to win against the Turkish club Galatasary with a score of 1-0 in the Old Trafford stadium. The win was as a result of Michael Carrick's early 7th minute goal. Although Manchester United saw a second goal coming with a penalty that was taken from Nani in the 52nd minute but was courageously saved from Galatasary's keeper Fernando Muslera. Behind United are CFR Cluj. The club did a stunning job at defeating Braga with a 2-0.

In Group F, the German club Bayern Munchen beat the Spanish club Valencia 2-1, courtesy of the goalscoring skills of Toni Kroos as well as Bastian

Schweinsteiger. Valencia pulled a late goal from Nelson Haedo Valdez.

Apart from Manchester United, Bayern Munchen also missed a vital penalty. The one to blame was Mario Mandzukic, although he was able to pull off a second yellow card to Valencia defender Adil Rami and send him off, but as it was in the 94th minute, it couldn't have made a difference. The famed Belarusian champions BATE cruised past the French club Lille with a fantastic first-half performance. Alexander Volodko awed the crowd in the first 6 minutes with an elegant lob over the French goalkeeper, Mickael Landreau. Further goals include those of Edgar Olekhovich and Vitaly Rodionov. Lille, however, could only pull one goal in the 60th minute, thanks to Aurelien Chedjou, but it seemed difficult for Lille to approach BATE's impressive score of 3 goals.

Mohammed Al-Khulafi

Student's View: What do I think of the US Elections?

The hottest news topic of the moment is the upcoming presidential elections in USA. The source of this attention is rather straightforward. Beyond any doubt, US politics are proven to have a crucial effect on economic and financial issues around the world. But what are the true policies of the candidates and what do they propose? What makes Romney a preferable candidate for some people and why?

Student's View: What do I think of the US Elections?

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President **Barack Obama** is best known for his controversial health care reforms.

Obama promised to "revive the economy; provide affordable, accessible health care to all; strengthen [...] public education and social security systems; define a clear path to energy independence and tackle climate change; end the war in Iraq responsibly and finish our mission in Afghanistan; and work with [US] allies to prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weapon." A more radical politician than his opponent Romney,

Obama believes that major change is necessary. "If we think that we can secure our country by just talking tough without acting tough and smart, then we will misunderstand this moment and miss its opportunities. If we think that we can use the same partisan playbook where we just challenge our opponent's patriotism to win an election, then the American people will lose. The times are too serious for this kind of politics."

Obama's victory in 2008 has been the major, and predictable, triumph in his political career. Yet, despite retaining support of large sector of electorate, clearly visible during the campaign, his victory in the current elections is not as certain. The main argument of the opposition is Obama's "inability" to resolve a number

of issues in both internal and foreign politics, starting with the unprecedented economic crisis and ending with the persistent unemployment rate. Obama's major supporters are, however, reluctant to admit this argument, implying that President Bush's administration caused the crisis, and Obama can't deal with it due to Republican opposition in the Congress. Among Obama's most controversial decisions, the most debated is his Health Care policy. All of these factors have certainly reduced the support of the masses. Nevertheless, Obama still remains a strong candidate .

The candidate from the Republican party and former governor of Massachusetts **Mitt Romney** has the image of a cunning and self confident man. His political and personal career can be indubitably described as brilliant. A charismatic leader, he is utterly opposed to any radical change, preferring to think in long time frames. His rating has, however, suffered from accusations and critics, putting to open display his machinations with taxes. AKA "Quarter Billion Man" , Mitt Romney has a considerable capital, but having earned 11.2 million US dollars, he has paid only 1.4m US dollars in taxes. Another loud scandal which might have a dramatic effect on the electorate is the publishing of a private tape on which Mitt Romney refers to

Obama's supporters as victims who live off governmental aid. While this is a harsh statement, one must not forget that among Obama's supporters many are unemployed and depend on government support.

Romney's nomination campaign was very cleverly planned. While making few appearances in public, Romney decided to conserve his main agitation towards the end of the campaign. Having suffered a year of persistent criticism, he has rapidly gained popularity, which enabled him to pass the nomination stage with impressive ease.

According to **Mark McKinnon**, former advisor to President **George W. Bush**, and 2008 Republican nominee **John McCain**, Romney has good chances in the upcoming presidential race: "Romney is playing things very methodically and deliberately. I think he understands the physics of this game very well now and is carefully calibrating his approach to 2012."

I believe that America needs a strong and appropriate president, more so in the light of the current crises, both internal and external. The main question is, whose policies will be

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Students View: What do I think of the US Elections?

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suiting in today's political context. Being a conservative, I feel empathy for Mitt Romney. There are numerous cases in history when major change, even based on good intentions, has led to uncontrollable consequences. Yet change is necessary as the very presence of current problems reveals the imperfections in government. The Republican candidate will need, however, to present himself as a careful reformer, rather than to enforce stability. Insufficient change will only expend time and allow the problems, such as the crisis in the economy crisis, to develop further. And for now we have no other choice but to wait and observe.

Dmitry Kozhevnikov

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Next Meeting: 16th of

October-3409

UNIVERSITY ALERT!

Important dates

October 2012

October 1: University of the Arts London, BBIS, IB Study Room, 11.05-12.00

October 4: SAT registration deadline for November 3 test

October 6: SAT reasoning and subject test at JFK School

October 15: UCAS closing date for applications to Oxford University, University of Cambridge and courses in medicine, dentistry and veterinary science or veterinary medicine.
www.ucas.com

October 17: PSAT administration at BBIS, College Council International College Day 2012

October 18: IE University, BBIS, House 2, 11:00-12:00

October 19: Loyola University Chicago, American University, Hult International Business School, BBIS, House 2, 11.00-12.00

October 19 & 20: Einstieg Abi, Berlin Messe, 09.00-17.00

October 26-28: Expolingua Berlin: International Language and Cultural Fair, Friedrichstraße 176-179, Berlin, 10.00-18.00

October 27: ACT test at JFK School

November 2012

November 1: Early decision for most American universities

November 1: SAT registration deadline for December 1 test

November 2: ACT registration deadline for December 8 test

November 3: SAT reasoning and subject test at JFK School

November 26: University of Waikato New Zealand, BBIS, House 2, 11.05-12.00

November 26: British Council University Fair, ZAV, Berlin, Friedrichstraße 39, 10.00-14.00

Note from the Editor:

Dear Readers,

Mission accomplished, first edition completed, phew! Congratulations and thanks to all who contributed their ideas, their time and their work. It's been a great experience, and we look forward to interesting times ahead.

Let us know your views! It would be great if you would tell us what YOU think, about the first edition, or about the subjects discussed, in our new feature next month: *Letters to the editor*. Another new feature proposed for next month's edition will be *Picture Time!* a photography section, with photos submitted by YOU.

Feel free to send in your photographs to buzzpaper@hotmail.com. A number of photographs will be published, subject to editorial decision, of course.

The next edition is already in planning stages, so get your ideas in quick!

Until the next time,

Dominic Kaye

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