

Bad gin, raw steak, what a Ball

Despite all the bad times at past Uni Balls, BEN FRY wouldn't dream of missing the Commerce Ball, planning to camp out overnight to get tickets.

Sundays I hate, that's why I usually sleep through them (post eight hour nightclub shift), or with a hangover (also usually post work). This Sunday is no different, except I'm awake, courtesy of no work as a result of hightailing it off the front of my bike into a big fat patch of unforgiving asphalt. For those who are interested the left side of my face looks somewhat akin to that chick in *Hostel* with the missing eye. At the moment I'm pretty much scared to leave the house, courtesy of a sobbing eight-year-old at the new *Harry Potter* film last night who mistook me for a zombie. Taking all this into account I am slightly bemused as to why I am even considering camping out for certain hard-to-come-by Commerce Ball tickets, a 24 hour nightmare disguised as that club in *A Night at the Roxbury* where everything inside looks like it's outdoors, freezing, and just plain shit – yet you still have an awesome time. But, tis the season and after having shyly ventured into the world of hedonism and excess that is the Melbourne Commerce Ball last year, a repeat is looking particularly inviting. For the record I don't even go to

Melbourne Uni but as far as uni balls go this one seems to be pretty good.

Of the uni balls that I have been to aside from the Com Ball they have generally shaped up just shy of terrible – not enough funding, not enough booze (by this I mean no spirits) and not enough people. The highlight of the first uni ball that I ever went to wasn't the excessive alcohol and hot girls, it was the sight of this dickhead copping a broken bottle to the neck courtesy of calling some guy's girlfriend fat.

The last uni ball I went to had a total head count of about 12. It wasn't quite that bad but as I was the random guy with the social skills of a fish, and only there as a tag-along boyfriend, I was really hanging out for a drunken crowd to mindlessly blend in to. I spent the majority of the night necking bad gin, eating under-cooked steak with the manners of a cave man, while trying to convince some religious guy who doesn't drink to do shots of gin with me.

So as I contemplate partaking in ritualised camp-out – clearly reserved for over-enthusiastic first years, or at least people who go to that uni – I'm beginning to wonder whether or not it will all be worth it. Hell, why don't I just kick back with some DVDs and a pizza? If by chance you happen to go to said uni ball and weren't one of the suckers that had to camp out, please endeavour to have a good time, you are more than just slightly obliged. Party like an Irishman doggy-paddling round in a vat of Guinness and if you see me be sure to say hello. ☺

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Horoscopes with
Stephanie McCormick

ARIES This week Arians, the person you have been pining for/planning to have their babies/stalking in your lectures finally notices you, and takes out a restraining order.

TAURUS Stubborn Taureans will not accept help with the bills this month, and will hence get food poisoning from the undercooked canned cuisine they are forced to eat.

GEMINI Geminis love things that come in pairs, like twins, and two-for-one drinks. They are also very cheap, so under stingy Saturn will probably not enjoy getting two speeding fines this week.

CANCER Under love planet Venus, Cancers will find love with your borderline-too-old-but-still-distinguished/hot lecturer, but will be sorely disappointed to find it has no effect on your mediocre marks.

LEO Don't be so trusting Leos, especially of exotic European exchange students.

VIRGO Heartbreak is on the cards for you this week, attached Virgos, so take preemptive action and dump your significant other's sorry ass first.

LIBRA Whilst procrastinating to avoid studying, dawdling Libras seek astrological guidance, which is of no help whatsoever.

SCORPIO Hot-blooded Scorpios will get into fights with socialists on the quad. And dodgy drunks at the Uni bar. And with annoyingly studious mature-age students in the lecture theatres.

SAGITTARIUS Smart Sagittarians will sink into a depression once they realise the vast amount of HECS debt they have already. This will be remedied by spending even more money on alcohol.

CAPRICORN Capricorns will go out of their comfort zones this week, and then turn back in a hurry when they see a train inspector coming and don't have the right ticket.

AQUARIUS For a water sign, you Aquarians don't fare too well around large bodies of water, which should be avoided at all costs, especially when intoxicated.

PISCES Under vixenish Venus, Pisceans will flirt with anything with a pulse this week, and maybe a few things without one.

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