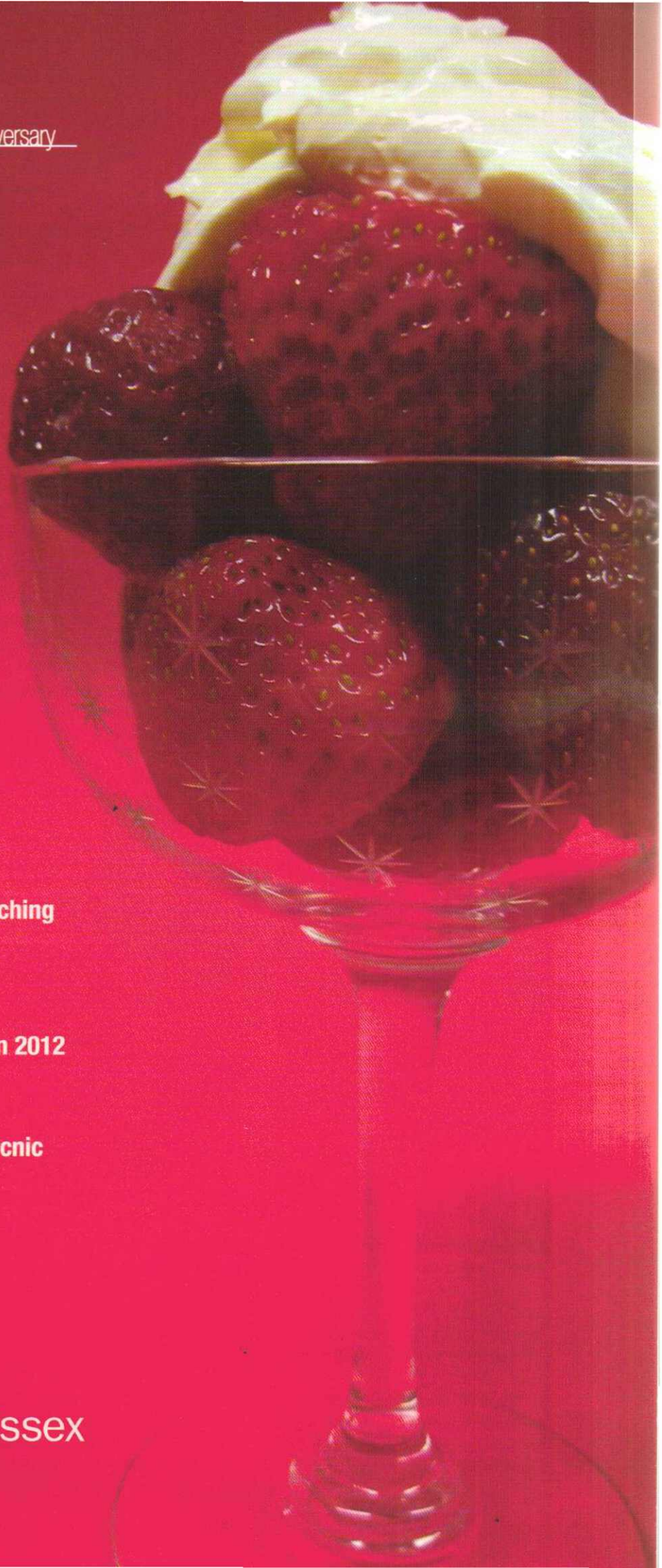
wyvern

40th Anniversary

July 2005



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Lecturer wins national teaching award

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University supports London 2012

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Biggest ever strawberry picnic

University of Essex

iDorm2 to become world-class test bed

The University's new high-tech apartment was officially opened last month during a two-day conference on intelligent environments, which attracted more than 100 delegates from around the globe.

The event marked the University's role at the forefront of research in artificial intelligence for almost its entire 40-year history.

Among the guests attending the official opening was the University's founding Professor of Computer Science Tony Brooker.

Housed in the Networks Centre, the new two-bedroomed apartment - the iDorm2 - was opened by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ivor Crewe.

Professor Crewe said: 'The iDorm2 is designed to act as a world class research facility in the areas of intelligent buildings, pervasive computing and ambient intelligence - environments which learn and adapt to the lives of their occupants.

'The flat will provide a flexible test bed for intelligent environments that will allow researchers from over the world to collaborate.'

The iDorm2 will build on the networked embedded technology developed within its forerunner, the iDorm, which featured on the BBC *Tomorrow's World* programme in 2002. The opening of the iDorm2 attracted significant coverage on local television and radio.

Guests attending the opening saw demonstrations by computer science researchers of how the intelligent technology can learn to switch devices such as lights, music and film players on and off according to the user's wishes.

The official opening was followed by a public lecture by Professor Margarita Gutman, of the University of Buenos Aries and the New School University, New York, who discussed her 2050 project, which is challenging residents of these cities to imagine the urban future.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Ivor Crewe (right) opens the iDorm2 watched by Head of the Department of Computer Science, Professor Martin Henson

Using the internet fridge to operate some of the technology in the iDorm2