DIT Student Union

2002-4

DIT Independent, 1st.-30th. of April, 2002

DIT: Students Union

Follow this and additional works at: https://arrow.tudublin.ie/ditsu

Recommended Citation

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by
the Dublin Institute of Technology at ARROW@TU Dublin.
It has been accepted for inclusion in DIT Student Union
by an authorized administrator of ARROW@TU Dublin.
For more information, please contact
yvonne.desmond@tudublin.ie, arrow.admin@tudublin.ie,
brian.widdis@tudublin.ie.

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 3.0 License
Students unhappy with DITSU - survey

A SURVEY conducted for the DIT Independent has revealed widespread dissatisfaction among DIT students with respect to the activities of their students union in the past academic year.

The survey of 250 students across the Institute's five principal sites makes for uncomfortable reading for all but one of the DITSU site presidents, but there was particular disapproval for the Overall Presidency of Marguerite Fitzpatrick.

When asked whether they were happy with the performance of their president overall the course of 2001/2002, Bolton Street's Neil Cromlen received a 72% approval rating with Kevin Street's Des Alvey faring second best with a 44% rating.

John McKenna of Cathal Brugha Street came next with 32%, Karl Bonnar of Aungier Street was believed to have performed his duties well by only 30% of respondents in Aungier Street, while Mountjoy Square president Joe Murphy fared worst of all with 26% approval.

Ms. Fitzpatrick's highest approval rating across the five sites was 32%, recorded during RAG Week.

But the good news received as we went to press regarding the long overdue green lighting of Grangegorman leads one to suggest that had a similar poll been carried out with this knowledge in mind, the results would not have been as frighteningly poor as they transpired to be.

But nonetheless, an a-glance view at the thoughts of DIT students should keep the incoming executive on their toes a little more come the resumption of activities in September.

By Dermot Keyes

The management of DITSU Ltd. has called on DITSU Council to avail of the experience and knowledge of the Union's long term employees following this year's problematic RAG Week.

But outgoing DITSU President Marguerite Fitzpatrick said that decisions of a financial nature regarding the running of DITSU organised events should exclusively remain the responsibility of students.

In a statement to DITSU Council, the Union board of directors and the DIT Independent, all five Union managers called on Council "to implement structures that will be inclusive of Management, where financial decisions are being taken as a preventative measure for future years".

Gabrielle Dalton (Cathal Brugha Street), Ann Pounch (Kevin Street), Vivienne Byrne (Mountjoy Square), Ellen McGlynn (Aungier Street) and Orla Cassin (Bolton Street) described the decision to host this year's RAG Ball on February 14 as "disastrous".

The statement reads: "As long term employees of DITSU Limited it saddens us that yet again for another year we have almost nothing to give to our chosen charities, which also brings us to the shameful disaster of DITSU to date the 'DITSU Rag Ball' held in The Point Depot,...When the whole idea of an Overall Ball in the Point Depot was suggested, the management team advised against the idea as a similar venture last year failed ... we wish to stress that the management team have years of experience yet they have no input when it comes to overall financial decisions."

Management fears that the financial failures of both the Halloween Ball of last year and this year's RAG Ball, with both events running losses of over 120,000 when combined, could be repeated in the future.

Ms. Fitzpatrick admitted that the financial failure of RAG Week and its repercussions for future such ventures constituted "a difficult area" for both the Union and its long-term management to address.

"I understand that the staff represent the continuity in the company and that they are the long-term employees of the Union, but at the end of the day the Students' Union must cater to the students. They [the management] are not the decision makers."

Ms Fitzpatrick continued: "We are the representatives of DIT students at DITSU Council and we are its decision-makers. That's the way it should be and that's the way it will always be."

The statement from the union managers urged DITSU Council to implement structures which will be inclusive of management, where financial decisions are being taken as a preventative measure for future years."

"There are many options which could be taken on board. Common ground and a stronger voice for the Union's long-term management can be found, according to Ms. Fitzpatrick.

"They (management's) opinions have been taken on board in the past and will continue to be taken on board in the future."

"They could be granted a vote in the board of directors and that is something that we are currently looking into."

But Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that all major policies relating to DITSU should remain the exclusive domain of its Class Representatives, Councillors and Executive members, to implement.
here’s an **easy** decision to make

Graduating from college can mean a lot more decisions to make. Opening an AIB Graduate Package is one of the easy ones. Designed specially for final year students and graduates, the package offers all the advice and benefits you’ll need including a reduced rate overdraft, cheaper car finance and access to your account through the phone or web. There are many more products, services and discounts so log onto www.aib.ie/graduate or call into your branch for full details.

For more information on opening an AIB Graduate Package call 1850 724 724, visit www.aib.ie or drop into any branch.

Be with AIB

---

Personal lending is regulated under the terms of the Consumer Credit Act 1995. Terms and conditions apply. Allied Irish Banks plc is licensed by the Central Bank of Ireland.
Dermot Keyes welcomes the realisation of DIT Grangeegorman but cannot help but wonder could it be just another master-stroke by Bertie Ahern.

The provision of a centralised south side campus in Aungier Street is nearing completion and it is not too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.

A better sense of craic and excitement in a larger college site could not be too prophetic to believe that the Rathmines and Mountjoy Square sites will be vacated within the next five to ten years, therefore further centralising the Institute.

On a practical basis, DIT will finally be in a position to co-ordinate its sporting activities thanks to the sports fields that come with the Grangeegorman campus. It is undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute’s ability to challenge its intake in various sporting disciplines.
Dear Editor,

I refer to your article 'DIT students in political vacuum' in the DIT Independent of February 2002.

We share the author's desire for greater political dialogue, albeit not just in an election year. Indeed, we welcome applications from political societies for activities, which will foster dialogue and debate among all students across DIT.

The DIT Cultural and Social Committee works actively with students, staff and DITSU to support a wide variety of student activities across DIT. We endeavour to ensure that the student experience embraces the full life, including the visual, creative and performing arts, athletics and sport, clubs and societies, community service and the whole range of activities that makes life worth living.

All students are encouraged to form societies and join activities that interest them.

Students interested in forming a society should apply directly to their campus Cultural and Social Council for funding. Only fifteen members are needed to form a society. The overall DIT committee is especially supportive of societies and activities which reach beyond a single campus, and encourage participation and activities from students from across DIT. Information about setting up a society and/or funding an event is available from your Students' Union or contact the DIT Societies Organizer, at tel. 402 7844.

Higher education depends upon learning from a wide variety of sources. Student participation and the DIT students across the country on the repercussions of the RAG Ball.

The DIT Independent regrets any inconvenience caused to Mr. Molloy by the use of these comments.

The full statement by the DIT Management Team

To: All members of DIT Council
From: Ditsu Management Team
Cc: Board of Directors
Cc: D.I.T. Independent

Within the five colleges we have all come to the end of what we sure will prove right across the board to have been a disastrous Rag Week.

As long term employees of Ditsu Limited it saddens us that yet again for another year we have almost nothing to give to our chosen charities which also brings us to the shameful disaster of Ditsu to date the 'Ditsu Rag Ball' held in The Point Depot on 14th February 2002.

The Management Team of Ditsu Limited wishes to make the following statement.

When the whole idea of an overall Ball in The Point Depot was suggested the Management Team advised the idea as a similar venture last year failed. At this point we wish to stress that the Management Team have not received any application to stage an event in The Point Depot.

Unfortunately Ditsu could find itself in the same position in the future, if the experience and knowledge of the Management Team was not taken into consideration.

We believe that such decisions can be exposed yourselves and your fellow students to unnecessary high risk.

We urge you as Council to implement some of your recommendations during the year, in line with the Management, where financial decisions are being taken as a preventative measure for future years.

Sincerely,

Gary Hughes 20, who studied marketing at DIT Mountjoy Square, was sacked from his job working at the deli counter at Dunnes Stores, Portmarnock last summer for taking too many cocktail sausages for his lunch.

Huges usually bought four jumbo sausages for his lunch and had the receipt signed by a manager. On the day he was suspended there were no jumbo sausages for sale, a co-worker said he could take three cocktail sausages per jumbo sausages. Gary took 11 cocktail sausages but when he went to get the receipt signed, he was suspended and sent home by a manager who said he should have only taken eight cocktail sausages.

Three days later he was brought in for a permanent meeting and sacked for taking the three extra cocktail sausages, which were valued at 38 cent.

Gary decided to fight the case and just minutes before taking Dunes to the employment appeals tribunal, Dunes agreed to pay him €634 in compensation.

A reporter for The Irish Times was present when Dunes paid over the compensation and printed details of the story on April 18. In the following days a ccda frenzy followed. "The Sun, The Star, the Herald, and Spin FM all got in touch, I thought all the coverage was funny and mad," said Gary Hughes. He admitted that he was the centre of attention when he arrived in Mountjoy Square the following day. "I have photographs of Gary posing with sausages accompanied with the story in both The Sun and The Star.

"Most of my people in my class thought it was hilarious and gave me a good slanging, and it got worse because after a large Spin FM range and everyone in the class was cheering and screaming at me while I was being interviewed," Gary's case highlights the benefit of the recent link-up established between SIPTU and the USL. As a student union officer he was a member of USI, SIPTU agreed to take up his case and Gary thinks the compensation and the media coverage has helped clear his name in his hometown of Portmarnock.

"Loads of people have been coming up to me and saying how deadly it was to see someone like me get the compensation," he said.

The DIT Awards at National Apprentice Competition

On Friday April 12 the Annual Awards Ceremony for the Department of Education & Science National Apprentice Competitions was held at The Gresham Hotel.

The Graphic Design Final was held at the NCAD over a three-day period last month (March).

DIT students from both the Mountjoy Square and Bolton Street sites took part together with students from CIT and NCAD. Finalists were selected on the basis of their performance in the Preliminary one-day test held earlier in the year at participating colleges.

Cliffon Rooney, a third year VisComm student on the Design Degree course at DIT Mountjoy Square claimed first prize. Another DIT student, Barry Sheehan, on the Graphic Reproduction Diploma course at DIT Bolton Street, took second place.

The award winners also received substantial cash prizes from O'D'Sullivan Graphic Supplies Ltd., sponsors of the annual graphic design event. The National Apprentice Competitions take place on an annual basis from which potential competitors are selected for the International Competitions.

The World Apprentice Competition will be held in St Gallen, Switzerland in June 2002 when selected team members are expected to perform superbly at the 37th World Skills event in Seoul, Korea in 2001, coming home home with a gold and bronze medal as well as ten Diplomas of Excellence.

DIT independent
DIT graduate elected USI President

Colm Jordan assumes the office of President from July 1st

By Aoife Stokes

Colm Jordan, the outgoing education officer of the Union of Students in Ireland (USI), who also served as DITSU's president of the Aungier Street campus from 1997-1999, will lead USI as its next president. Jordan received his BSc in Computing Science at Aungier Street at USI's annual conference, which was held in Ennis, having exceeded the quota by 33 votes.

His fellow nominees for the position, Avril Power and Derek Scanlon, received only one vote each.

Jordan assumes the office of President from July 1st and will take up the reins of the university during a period when it is dogged by criticism from colleges threatening to disaffiliate themselves from USI.

University College Dublin have been the most recent complainers and boycotted the union’s annual conference because northern colleges had been full voting members, even though they do not pay fees to USI.

Speaking to the DIT Independent after the election results, Jordan said there were “mixed messages” from UCDSF and “but if anyone thinks we have no problem with meeting with them to discuss whatever concerns they might have”. Jordan’s election. as president of USI could vent his desire to disaffiliate themselves from USI. The new policy has the full support of the governing body of DIT, union officials, the new president of USI and academic staff.

The options of a job in the bank, or other such careers that would best suit his business qualification awaits his consideration.

The possibility of engaging in national politics is one of the few ways that he could vent his desire to improve the situation at USI.

"I have been approached by all the mainstream political parties during his career in student politics," said Jordan. "But I do not profess a party preference."

Colm Jordan begins his term as USI President from July 1st next when the current president of the Union, Brian Furey, officially steps down.

Lecturers receive academic awards

Three DIT lecturers have made successful applications to the Irish Research Council for the Humanities (IRC), Government of Ireland, Senior Academic Research Schemes for the Arts and Social Sciences (IRCHSS), for the academic year 2001-2002. Dr. John Gilmartin, School of Art, Design and Publishing received a Research Fellowship, while Carmel Gallagher and Maire Mhíchealbháin, School of Social Sciences were awarded Senior Research Scholarships.

Dr. John Gilmartin’s brief as a Research Fellow is to record, research, interpret and try to save Irish convent art and design heritage. This heritage consists of important buildings, paintings, textiles, glass and furniture, which is rapidly disappearing. The research will entail numerous visits to all parts of the country, as well as many long hours trawling through archives and library documents so as to create a valuable record of the patrimony of the cultural artefacts still in existence.

The Senior Academic Research Fellowship will allow Máire Mhíchealbháin to concentrate on producing her doctoral degree entitled: "Narrative as a second language: a sociocultural, historical, and social perspective of older people in their communities, and aims to develop a classification of older people based on this participation.

The study will examine the interdependencies, social networks and social role of older people. It is based in one particular geographical community in Dublin and will use ethnographic and survey methods. The scholarship will enable Carmel to undertake a period of more intensive fieldwork and analysis.

All three received the academic awards based on the judgement of a Board of International Assessors. The judging panel was extremely tough with each application also being reviewed by an academic expert outside the Republic of Ireland who were also present. This year’s assessment panel contained experts from the US, Canada, Ireland, and China.

The International Board of Assessors informed the Council that the overall standard of applications was very high and the consequent competition very keen," said Marc Caball, Director of IRCHSS.
Confusion reigned during contentious campaign

On March 6th the Irish people were once again asked to vote on the grounds to procure an abortion. Bertie Ahern's controversial abortion referendum was defeated by a majority of just under one per cent. What was a divisive campaign from start to finish failed at any stage to seriously address the reality of the 7,000 women who travel to Britain each year to have abortions.

A decade after the controversial X case ruling, after four referenda on the issue the Irish electorate was once again asked to vote on the grounds to procure an abortion.

The X case was taken by the then Attorney General Mr. Harry Whelehan against a 14 year-old girl and her parents. The girl had been diagnosed with a severe foetal abnormality and her parents were advised by a doctor that a legal abortion should be performed. The case was taken by the then Attorney General Mr. Harry Whelehan against a 14 year-old girl and her parents. The girl had been diagnosed with a severe foetal abnormality and her parents were advised by a doctor that a legal abortion should be performed.

The Supreme Court found that abortion in Ireland could be legal where there was a real and substantive risk to the life of the mother including the threat of suicide. This in turn led to the proposed (repeal) amendment to the Irish constitution, with over 62% voting against rendering abortion on the grounds of suicide illegal.

On March 5th 2002 the man found guilty of rape in the X case was sentenced to three and a half years for the kidnap and sexual assault of a 15-year-old girl. He was found guilty on two counts of sexual assault and one count of false imprisonment in the Dublin Circuit Criminal Court. The assault happened in 1999 after the girl hailed a taxi outside Donncamay Ambassador Cinema in the city centre. The sentence came the day before the referendum which if passed would have legalised abortion in Ireland and allowed a woman who is found trying to procure an abortion or trying to induce miscarriage, regardless of her mental status, would be subject to a maximum sentence of 12 years imprisonment.

According to these figures released by the Irish Family Planning Association (along with the British Pregnancy Advisory Service) over 50,000 women have travelled to England for abortions since 1992. These figures are considered to be moderate estimates of the volume of Irish women who chose to travel for abortion. According to the Central Statistics Office, 54,000 babies were born in Ireland in the year 2000, which indicates that approximately 10% of Irish pregnancies are terminated in Britain.

There was a bemused attitude to the move in continental and American media circles, questioning the worth of rendering already conservative abortion provisions even more conservative.

"Pro-life, even in death" proclaimed international online journal Salon chose in their analysis of the referendum. In terms of the Government's motivation for going ahead with such a risky referendum so close to a general election, the theories range from the seriously political to the bizarrely personal. According to Irish Independent political correspondent, Karyl Brophy, it had been Bertie Ahern's mother dying wish that the X case ruling be reverted. The question of the influence exerted by Government supported Independent TD's on the issue was also queried.

Both Harry Blaney and Miled Fox had been seeking this referendum since agreeing to support the Government.

The precedent set by the X case has only been invoked once since that 1992 Supreme Court ruling, again in the case of a teenage rape victim in what became known as the C case. Despite the rejection of the amendment, one statistic has not changed. Nineteen women a day travel to Britain to procure an abortion.
VAN MORRISON
PLUS SUPPORT: BAP KENNEDY
EXTRA DATE ADDED SAT 04 MAY
DOORS 3 PM. SHOW 4 PM
Friday 03/Saturday 04 May
Olympia Theatre
Tickets €38.00/€40.00

DIY INDEPENDENT

RICHIE HAWTIN
( DECKS, EFX, 909 AND FINAL SCRATCH )
SUN 05 MAY
AMBASSADOR
Tickets €30.00

Evan Dando
Midnight at the Olympia
Saturday 04 May
Doors 11.30 pm. €20.50/€22.50

Soundtrack of our Lives
FRI 03 MAY • Music Centre • Tickets €14.50 • Doors 8.30 pm

Bobby Conn
FRI 03 MAY • Whelans • Tickets €18.50 • Doors 8.30 pm

LUKE SLATER
FRI 03 MAY • Music Centre • Tickets €20.00 • Doors 11.30 pm

ARE YOU FESTIVAL FIT?

THE WHITE STRIPES
Plus Guests:
The Von Bondies, The Dirtbombs, The Detroit Cobras
Tickets €25.00
SUNDAY 04/MAY/02

SOLD OUT!

MUSE
THE IVES
SUN 05/MAY/02
Dublin Castle
Tickets €25.00
Gates 5.30 pm

THE REVS
SUN 05/MAY/02
Dublin Castle
Gates 5.30 pm

the frames
Damien Rice
plus guests: Bell X 1 • Mundy • Lift to Experience
Mon 06/MAY/02
Tickets €25.00
Gates 3.00 pm

Tickets Purchased for Hives at Ambassador Are Valid for Dublin Castle - Hives On Stage 7.00pm.
Tickets from Ticketmaster Outlets Nationwide. 14 insect®/Dub (25c), Sold At On Line www.ticketmaster.ie (Telephone & Internet bookings Subject to €2.65 Per Ticket E.U. Up To €5) 25c. €5.00 for £20.00 Awards (€1.50 Per Ticket)
www.mcd.ie for exclusive live entertainment, news and tickets
UCD sweep board at O2 student media awards

UCD was the big winner at this year's Student Media Awards, which was held in Vicar Street on April 16. A night of drunken debauchery, enough speech making to even embarrass Halle Berry's scriptwriter and the usual arid wit of host Brendan O'Connor made it a memorable night for those successful and those who were not. (Shed a quiet tear for DIT! - Ed.) The awards were sponsored by O2, the new name for Digifone.

The University Observer (UCD) claimed the best newspaper prize, with the College Tribune (UCD) also nominated. The Observer's Brendan O'Connor made it a neat evening with the Radio Production "Beyond Closed Doors" (DCU) also nominated. The College "Flags" (Cork Campus Radio) reporter award, ahead of the "The Observer's" "Behind Closed Doors" (DCU) and College View (DCU) also nominated. The Observer's Brendan O'Connor made it a memorable night for those successful and those who were not. (Shed a quiet tear for DIT! - Ed.) The awards were sponsored by O2, the new name for Digifone.

Also nominated: The 02 Award (UCD)
Icarus (TCD)
Magazine or Society Publication
LHM (UCD)
Editors (National Press)
Johnny Ryan - LHM, Cogito (UCD)
Also nominated: Dermot Keyes - DIT Independent (DIT)
Eoghan Rice - College Tribune (UCD)
Sorcha Ni F1ainn - College Tribune (UCD)
Eamonn O'Lionnain - University observer (UCD)
Caitriona Meagher - University observer (UCD)
Drawing (National Press)
James McDonald (DCU)
Also nominated: Paul Keane (DCU)
Eoghan Rice (UCD)
Alan Croghan (Ballyfermot)
Sports Writer
Paul Keane - College View (DCU)
Also nominated: Mick O'Keeffe - College Tribune (UCD)
Most Improved Publication or Production
College Tribune (UCD)

Brendan O'Connor waxes lyrically at the Student Media Awards at Vicar Street (back row centre)

Oxygen.jpg

The awards were organised by Oxygen.ie

STUDENTS SUMMER JOBS SCHEME 2002

THE MINISTER FOR SOCIAL, COMMUNITY AND FAMILY AFFAIRS, MR. DERмот AHERN T.D., invites Sponsors and 3rd level students to apply now to participate in the Scheme, which will operate from 1 June to 30 September.

The purpose of the Scheme is to provide income support for less well-off students who are disqualified from claiming Unemployment Assistance.

Third level and post leaving certificate students [who have not completed a course of study and satisfy a means test] can work for 200 hours over a 6-17 week period and earn up to EUR770. Students from households dependent on a social welfare payment will receive an additional EUR1.30 per hour worked. This additional payment will be paid directly to the Students by the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs.

Students who are in receipt of Disability Allowance or Blind Pension's may be entitled to participate in the Scheme.

Sponsors include:
- Community/Voluntary/Sporting Groups
- Charitable Organisations
- Public Bodies (Special Projects only)

All approved sponsors will be limited to a Maximum of 10 Students.

HOW TO APPLY

Information leaflets and application forms are available from:
- Social Welfare Local Offices
- Student Union Offices in Third Level Colleges or by writing to PO Box 3988, Dublin 1 Phone (01-7043875/6)

Closing Date for Student and Sponsor Applications is 28 June 2002.

Sponsors: Please note that to guarantee inclusion in the list of Sponsors, forms must be returned by 19 April 2002

Students: Are advised to apply by 30 April 2002, to ensure that they have a Job Certificate by 1 June

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL, COMMUNITY & FAMILY AFFAIRS

JOURNAL OF SOCIAL, COMMUNITY & FAMILY AFFAIRS
As work continues on the latest 007 adventure, the hunt for Pierce Brosnan's successor has begun. Dermot Keyes ponders on whom next will brandish the Walther PPK in her Majesty's celluloid Secret Service

Women want him and men want to be him. He possesses more gadgetry than a dominant matrix and never has a hair out of place. He has saved the world more often than Bond and has killed more villains than Joel Schumacher has caped crusaders. ERF show a season of his movies virtually every year and attract good viewing figures. The name's Bond, James Bond and the question of who will succeed Pierce Brosnan in the most famous role in movieland has become the topic of much speculation.

With the twentieth Bond movie, Die Another Day currently in production, EON Productions moguls have already sent their feelers out in the hunt for a successor to Navman Brosnan, who makes his fourth and reportedly final appearance as Bond later this year. Producers Michael Wilson and Barbara Broccoli will be anxious to find a successor to the Irish actor, who has starred in the three most financially successful installments of the longest and most lucrative running movie franchise in history. As with all such hunt, EON's moguls are remaining tight-lipped as to who they have in mind. But, as usual, online speculation is rife as to who will be the sixth James Bond (if one discounts David Niven's role as the old agent in Casino Royale).

Here's a sample of the potential and not-so potential contenders (in no particular order).

Clive Owen

Owen, who recently lined out in Gosford Park and came to prominence in the super slick Croupier, fits the physical attributes of Bond in a way that Brosnan, Timothy Dalton and Roger Moore could not. Tall, dark and sufficiently rugged for the action scenes required for the Bond flicks, Owen has yet to perform any comedic role which is also the likewarm bad guys that have featured in the series since it was resurrected in the mid-90's), he could be in with a shot, albeit a small one. Given that women used to beat him up with alarming regularity in his This Life days, stepping up to elbow the life out of Jaws-like evildoers could make his Bond credentials weaker than some of the other pretenders to Brosnan's Austin Martin seat.

As work continues on the latest 007 adventure, the hunt for Pierce Brosnan's successor has begun. Dermot Keyes ponders on whom next will brandish the Walther PPK in her Majesty's celluloid Secret Service

Required for the 007 blueprint and may need several more boots of eyebrown arching. If he played Bond in the manner that Dalton did so well (dull, hard drinking womaniser as he written by Ian Fleming), it would be hard to find a better Bond than Clive Owen.

Jack Davenport

Best known for his role as the analytically retentive, womanising Myles in the hit BBC series This Life, Davenport has demonstrated his ability to rib-tickle in the comedy Coupling. Would certainly carry the role well and since EON like to cut cost corners (one only has to look at the lukewarm bad guys that have featured in the series since it was resurrected in the mid-90's), he could be in with a shot, albeit a small one. Given that women used to beat him up with alarming regularity in his This Life days, stepping up to elbow the life out of Jaws-like evildoers could make his Bond credentials weaker than some of the other pretenders to Brosnan's Austin Martin seat.

Colin Farrell

Would the producers be brave enough to give the role of the suavest Englishmen alive to an Irishman for the second successive time? His scene stealing performance in the Joel Schumacher directed Tigerland won universal acclaim and heralded Farrell's rapid rise up the Hollywood talent list. His latest movie, co-starring with Bruce Willis in Hart's War, has been labelled the first turkey of his career, but one imagines the young Dib will not be too concerned with such lambasting given the spiraling fee he commands for each movie. Were he to take the role, he would be considerably younger than anyone who has played Bond to date, and one wonders would he wish to be type-casted so early in his career. But he would make a fantastic secret agent, though he'd have to curb the bad language he so loves.

Russell Crowe

There's about as much chance of Russell Crowe being the next James Bond as there is of Michael Owen signing for Manchester United. So web nerds should let go of their dream and see that EON would not fork out the millions that Crowe now commands following his spate of Oscar-listed roles. Crowe would more than cut his mustard as 007, given his infidelities with women, his well-honed tough guy skills in American Psycho). He also possesses the cold hard-nosed características that are key ingredients of the Bond psyche. The thinking man's favourite, but will he want the part?

Christian Bale

The man whose name has been suggested in heated pub discussions involving this reporter, Bale would make a fine Bond and probably commands a fee minus the millions that would scare EON off. Has all the necessary physical attributes for the part, can make his eyebrows dance like a tornado when required and has also done his 'hit with the ladies' bit commendably (even if he did see quite a few of them off in American Psycho). He also possesses the cold hard-nosed characteristics that are key ingredients of the Bond psyche. The thinking man's favourite, but will he want the part?

Another Paddy in Her Majesty's Secret Service?: Colin Farrell may be a mite young as 007!

From loincloth to tux?: Russell Crowe would be a broody Bond, but his $20 million movie fee might be too high for EON's liking.

Colin Farrell

Would the producers be brave enough to give the role of the suavest Englishmen alive to an Irishman for the second successive time? His scene stealing performance in the Joel Schumacher directed Tigerland won universal acclaim and heralded Farrell's rapid rise up the Hollywood talent list. His latest movie, co-starring with Bruce Willis in Hart's War, has been labelled the first turkey of his career, but one imagines the young Dib will not be too concerned with such lambasting given the spiraling fee he commands for each movie. Were he to take the role, he would be considerably younger than anyone who has played Bond to date, and one wonders would he wish to be type-casted so early in his career. But he would make a fantastic secret agent, though he'd have to curb the bad language he so loves.

Russell Crowe

There's about as much chance of Russell Crowe being the next James Bond as there is of Michael Owen signing for Manchester United. So web nerds should let go of their dream and see that EON would not fork out the millions that Crowe now commands following his spate of Oscar-listed roles. Crowe would more than cut his mustard as 007, given his infidelities with women, his well-honed tough guy skills in American Psycho). He also possesses the cold hard-nosed characteristics that are key ingredients of the Bond psyche. The thinking man's favourite, but will he want the part?

Christian Bale

The man whose name has been suggested in heated pub discussions involving this reporter, Bale would make a fine Bond and probably commands a fee minus the millions that would scare EON off. Has all the necessary physical attributes for the part, can make his eyebrows dance like a tornado when required and has also done his 'hit with the ladies' bit commendably (even if he did see quite a few of them off in American Psycho). He also possesses the cold hard-nosed characteristics that are key ingredients of the Bond psyche. The thinking man's favourite, but will he want the part?

Were any of the above to get the part, one would be pretty pleased with Brosnan's successor. But consider Jeremy Northam, Dougray Scott, Ralph Fiennes and some actors known only for their parts in Sunday night period dramas on the Beeb and one learns that such rumour mongering will create tree-loads of copy between now and Bond 21.

But do you know what? After all these years Connery's still the man....
You don’t have to be rich...... to see the world

Any country that gave birth to Homer Simpson, drive-in wedding chapels and UFO paranoia has got to have a lot going for it. Its not a myth, the USA really can be the land of opportunity. But to get there costs money - and thats where Bank of Ireland can help you. We’re offering a six month interest free, J1 visa loan which includes up to €1000 emergency cash*. In addition you can also avail of a student credit card*, an interest-free ESS Tax Rebate Loan* and even get help dealing with the red tape that is the US tax system.

So call in and talk to Susan at Bank of Ireland Camden Street, ph : 4784766, or Bernie at Bank of Ireland 34 College Green, ph : 6793777 and don't dream it - live it.

with our J1 Visa Package

Bank of Ireland
A descent into madness - the trauma of the thesis

There are those among you who have just finished, or almost finished a thesis. And there are those of you who’ve got it all ahead of you. But however bad it gets, remember one thing. It can, and will get worse, reveals Janice Gaffey

Public transport is something which most of us have to deal with on a daily basis, and depending on the day and the route, it can be a source of amusement or murderous rage. By Janice Gaffey

Your brick wall.

Nonetheless, a man got off the bus and among themselves. "I 10il the public transport experience changes depending on time of day. As I’ve said previously, after 10 AM in the OAP's bus pass is valid, and do not do this. Here’s one of the chapters in order in one document.

And that's when the computer starts to mock you. You attempt to copy and paste items, and find that font sizes and italics and the like revert to the direct opposite of how they're supposed to be. You didn't think it possible to feel such epic levels of rage. Somebody asks if you can borrow your stapler, and you shout hysterically, "Take it! Take it all! Go on!" and start to charge the nearest brick wall.

They dream of being a word-nerd or a word-collector, and they can easily turn on you, and these little demons will eat you alive. Of course, the Nitelink is a different animal altogether.

A danger of groups of fear-some little kids is gone, and it’s frequently filthy with passengers. The public transport experience changes depending on time of day.

Y

You write a proposal. You think it’s great. Your boss takes one look at it and says that, in actual fact, The Postmodern Existentiasts of Homer Simpson versus that of Peter Griffin, is not a suitable topic and you’d be better off doing a thesis at all than doing this.

You’re discouraged. But you persevere and come up with something more realistic. Then you put this proposal in a folder and forget about it, until you realise that the deadline for this thesis is really not that far away. That’s when you have the first angling sensation of panic in the back of your head.

So you do the occasional bit of thesis related work. And you do all in your power not to stab the individuals who have done much more work, and insist on telling you about it. Occasionally you submit a few pages. Then you learn that you’ve lost track of the papers you’ve committed these nonsensical words to paper. Panic levels rise a bit, but remain at the ‘Christ, I really need to sort out our Orrinancher Report starts in ten minutes’ level.

And to it continues, with panic levels now at eleven, you have that moment. It creeps up on you – it could happen on the bus, it could happen in the super­market, and if you’re very lucky, it could happen when you’re sitting on the pot, contemplating the universe. It’s what’s known as a Brown Trouser moment, and it’s the point at which your thesis suddenly takes over your life. You have no family, you have no friends, you are obsessed. Completely and utterly consumed by fear, panic, more fear, greater panic.

You start carrying around supermarket bags for life, filled with enormous books, most of which you never read. You start harassing people for interviews for your thesis. You’re at a stage where every conversation you have (not that you have many, because you’ve pissed off everyone you know by talking about nothing else) begins with the words ‘I’m a final year student and my thesis is looking for help from you. Please.’

Sandwiches become the only thing between you and death. You buy help American Airlines by saying that you’re heading to Heffalump because you have a coffee-and-Tobermory break every hour, on the hour. You find yourself eating things that would normally bring you out in a rash, like tomato n’ prawn flavoured crisps, because they were sitting there, calling out to you, begging you to eat them.

Sleep is but a distant memory, along with television, a social life and even looking after your appearance. You begin to call in sick to work, and as the deadline approaches, the excuses get worse. When they don’t believe that you’ve got an flu, you tell them that there’s been a death in the family, omitting to mention that it was seven years ago, because dammit, it still hurts.

You start to spend time in the National Library, painstakingly scan­ning newspapers and books for anything that might be useful. You sit in the microfilm room, beside crazy old people from Sligo who tell you that they’re trying to find a copy of ‘The Fianna Fáil of the 80s’ which belongs to them, and not their thieving neighbours. Wordlessly, you glance at the nearest person, try to trace their ancestry, to load the microfilm onto the viewing machines, barely resisting the urge to pound them for asking stupid questions about why you’re here.

For the final week, you either stay at home to finish it, or spend the week in college, trying to finish it. If you stay at home, you emerge, blinking in an owl-like fashion two days later before the sun had time to shine on your head, and the person behind the counter promptly drops it.

The Gardai are very understand­ing. They realise that you’re under pressure, and you’re unlikely to get a custodial sentence, they say. They advise you to somebody else pick the thesis up. You ask for it at your thesis, on time and complete. Then you remember that you forgot to sign it, so you go back. You sign it. It’s over. It’s finally over.

Sometime later, you accompany your chums to a nearby hostelry for a refreshing beverage. You walk up to the bar. The barman says "What can I get you? You look at him in a vacant fashion and say dumbly, ‘I’m a final year student and for my the­sis I’m looking at...’"
We the Irish tend to have a flippant attitude when it comes to addressing the scourge of alcohol abuse. However, our ‘happy-go-lucky’ outlook on overdrinking and alcoholism in third level Ireland is far from exclusive to our shores. The DIT Independent examines the shocking results of an American report and ponders its significance in an Irish context.

The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The policy that the Department of Health envisages a national adoption of. Jonathan Byrne, the Union’s Entertainment Manager set their policy on alcohol, dictates our behaviour and our attitude towards alcohol... for years a lot of institutions, Student Unions and clubs and societies have had free pints and free kegs as an incentive. We are no longer reliant on that, no matter what sponsorship is involved.

Byrne added, “we don’t give away cheap alcohol and we can’t give away any for free. This policy was decided upon after a study of first years (in UCD) showed that 20 per cent of them had an alcohol problem. It was then decided to restrict the access of cheap and free alcohol to students.” The restriction on alcohol promotions also applies to UCG’s sports teams, who are prohibited from receiving sponsorship from alcohol companies. The policy, the first of its kind instigated by a Students Union anywhere in Ireland has, according to Byrne “had its ups and downs.” He continues, “we have had to step up our quality of entertainment available to students as a result. It’s quality rather than drink that we offer students.”

The foundations for a healthier perspective on student attitudes to alcohol have been laid, thanks to a forward thinking Students Union in UCD and a similarly minded Health Minister. The acknowledgement by USI that a problem bordering on a future epidemic is being enticed by the continual flogging of cheap alcohol at student events anxious to gain what they view as the full college experience.
'Liars, cheats and drunks' - welcome to journalism

By Dermot Keyes

JUST a few short weeks away from becoming an actual, tax-paying journalist after my four-year stint in college at the expense of: parents; credit union loans; taxpayers; a rather disturbing e-mail arrived in my account recently.

Laced with quotes, which drive the trade of a journalist into derision, it made my little mind ponder. Would I have been better off thinning turnips in the farming yards of south Kilkenny all this time I spent sleeping in when I should have been at lectures? Would my life have been life altered had I got that country council office job I applied for when I finished secondary school?

These were just a few of the immediate thoughts that flitted through my mind when I began to read the sort of text that one does not wish to be all that aware of when on the brink of graduating. Could it be that the big bad world be really as bright and bad as the darkest facets of my mind have envisaged it to be? Are journalists the veritable doo-doo of society? Are we really as bad as the soap operas have made us believe? - these clowns who possess utterly no morals whatsoever? Well, according to one Fred Allen, frankly yes! "To a newspaperman, a human being is an item with skin wrapped around it."

Woodward and Bernstein, as captured by Redford and Hoffman in 'All The President's Men' made the kind of history us aspiring hacks can but dream of

'thing's a large one.' Brendan Behan, who developed a penchant for vomitting into the drawers of fellow writers when inebriated in a newsroom

By Janice Gaffey.

It's that time of year again when exams loom large on the horizon and the thoughts of the average student should be turning to study (in other words, attempting to cram a year's worth of work into three weeks).

But we all know that it doesn't work quite like that, and the excuses to avoid the study get worse as the year's worth of work into three weeks.

The DIT lady tutor present the definitive list of reasons to not hit the books.

1. The fridge needs to be cleaned and stick it on the wall

2. Touching by an angel is on the telly. (This works equally well with Cagney and Lacey, Murder, She

3. The flower beds in the park near your house need to be weeded.

4. You suddenly need to see what the carpet in your flat looks like under the six inches of crap that currently resides on it.

5. You need to create an intricate study timetable detailing your movements down to the minute of the next six weeks, have it laminated and stick it on the wall over your bed. Remember, you never use it. It's impossible to study without a jumble of different coloured pens and highlighters.

Likewise, a cardboard accordion file for all the notes you frantically photocopied. Again, none of these things will be used.

6. It's a cruel trick of nature that the sun always shines while you study for your exams.

7. You need to count how many foxclex you have on your right forearm.

8. It's time to make a list of all the things you're going to buy when you start earning money again.

9. It's been sixteen years since your last confession, and you need to make peace with the lord.

10. You need to count how many meals at dinnertime, involving meat and three veg.

'Ves been sixteen years since your last confession, and you need to make peace with the lord.'

The things we stoop to...

Jackson, the rain, the mother of journalism. The last word deservedly belongs to the editor who was at the centre of the recent Kevin Campbell libel case. To Piers Morgan of the Daily Mirror, journalism is "full of lying, cheating, drinkers, cocaine-sniffing unethical people. It's a wonderful profession."

So by the time I had scowled, clicked out of my e-mail and pondered the imponderable, had I changed my mind, had I reached a watershed in my professional life even though I'm not really a professional yet?

No, no. The world needs us supposed degenerate poo-poo the shoe types to expose the shams, the dopers, the grime, the good, the bad, and the indifferences of the world we live in, I'm more than happy to enter their number. Sure if the likes of us weren't around, what would the world have to talk about?

The quotes used above can be located at eprppreporter.com, a new online magazine written for correspondents and freelance journalists worldwide.

'Ves been sixteen years since your last confession, and you need to make peace with the lord.'

The quotes used above can be located at eprppreporter.com, a new online magazine written for correspondents and freelance journalists worldwide.

whereas normally you exist on chicken flavoured noodles and sidedishes.

17. Give the Stairmaster 2000 you bought a year ago another chance. Maybe if you stay on it long enough, it might start to work. Take a language course and see if you can learn Japanese in time for the World Cup.

18. Take a language course and see if you can learn Japanese in time for the World Cup. Alternatively, buy a jumbo book of crossword wordsearch puzzles.

20. Make lists of things you can do to avoid studying and check that each one of them is suitably distracting.
As I say, fantastic!

By Dermot Keyes

WHEN on’s head has been split
down the middle by pain at 11
of clock, the human years of
one normally contributes such a
to the cursed liquor. But thankfully
this reviewer could contribute such
magic to nothing other than cranium
hitting laughter when hearing wit¬
ness to the presence of aombre.

The inspired comedic trio of
Ristead Cooper, Gary Cooke and
Barry Murphy

have made us laugh with reckless
abandon because it is again at a
venue which suitably caters their
talent. The quality that has made
Apres Match so watchable for so long
has been its constant overhauling of
the characters we have come to know
and love. Bill O’Herlihy’s unctuous
of loss on ‘The Premiership’,
Eamon Dunphy’s hurt of live link¬
tups that go wrong on ‘The Late
Word’ and David O’Leary’s exclama¬
tion that Jonathon Woodgate was for¬
tunate that his community service
was not served in the Asian
commu­nity (each) were suitably laugh-
inducing.

The introduction of new characters
such as Cooper’s superb take on Pat
Kenny (complete with over-dialogued
questioning and robotic movement)
along with Cooper and Cooke’s inter¬
pretations of Dan McGurk and George
Hook demonstrated the originality
and brilliance of a show whose two-
hour duration positively danced
along.

There were a number of commer¬
cial breaks engineered while wigs
were changed and these worked a
treat. Superb piss takes of a well-
known vodka commercial starring
Ray Wilkins and Mark Lawrenson
along with an outstanding parody of
Michael Ryan (presenter of kick-
heavy RTE show ‘Nationwide’) made
the scene transitions virtually seam¬
less.

But star billing was reserved for
Barry Murphy’s stint as the silver-fol¬
cilled Gunther, whose labeling the
Ireish as ‘Pixie Focks’ also with his
jibing of the boys in green was pure
class. Undoubtedly the best value for
money that the licence holders of
Ireland have ever received from
Monteux.

Apres Match remains fresh, fabu¬
lessly funny and a howl of immeasur¬
able proportions. Hopefully it will
not be too long before the trio tread
the boards again. Japan and Korea
cannot come soon enough!

---

Dublin stores:
Blanchardstown Centre,
Grafton Street, Henry Street,
The Pavilions Shopping Centre,Swords&Tallaght

HMV offers a 10% student discount*

Top Dog for music,
videos and games

Terms and conditions apply

*
The force is strong with this one

Eoin Murphy previews what awaits cinemagoers during the summer ahead

Spiderman. You can call him "Web head," "Web slinger," or good old "Spidey," but that blue and scarlet hero is dancing on our screens at a cinema near you. As Peter Parker, Toby McGuire plays the alter ego of Spiderman, last seen in the Cider House Rules and the always-stunning Kirsten Dunst will play the love of his life, Mary Jane. In this movie, director Sam Raimi traces the birth of Spiderman and his rise to movie heights when he gets his powers after being bitten by a radioactive spider in a sewer.

If M. Night Shylyman's Unbreakable taught us nothing else, and it didn't, no super hero is complete without a super villain, hence the appearance of a comic strip villain in the Green Goblin. Christensen also appears in the movie. One must admit, however, that the extremely annoying Jar Jar Binks is also planning a return with his unique brand of anti-comedy, so I suppose you try to take him with a pinch of salt. As is customary with a film like this, the World Wide Web is inundated with scavenging information on the stars after sites devoted to the film. To put a search on Star Wars alone will give you more hits than four Swedish blondes called Abba. I have searched but a few out of many and all seem to carry the same feeling, despite all the hype and the pressure piling due to the failure of the last film. Attack of the Clones is getting the must go and see recommendation. After all what is one day in the sun compared to millions of light years away in a galaxy far, far away?

The other movie, which simply must be viewed this summer, is the Hollywood adaptation of Marvel Comics

Still in cinemas:

Blade II is a leave-your-brain-in-the-lobby action movie of the highest quality as Wesley Snipes does battle with vampires and mutated vampires who want to kill all the unmutated vampires and then kill Blade because he's a vampire too! Confused? Don't concern yourself with the plot line - this is fun, fun, gay fun all the way and one would never have envisaged that the world would give me an excuse to stay indoors.

Blade II is a leave-your-brain-in-the-lobby action movie of the highest quality as Wesley Snipes does battle with vampires and mutated vampires who want to kill all the unmutated vampires and then kill Blade because he's a vampire too! Confused? Don't concern yourself with the plot line - this is fun, fun, gay fun all the way and one would never have envisaged that the world would give me an excuse to stay indoors.

It doesn't matter if The Mummy Returns sucked every which way last summer, as the most electrifying man in sports entertainment has saved the franchise thanks to more high quality B-movie fun in The Scorpion King. The Rock stars as the most fearsome warrior to ever traverse the desert as he kills pretty much every body, indulges in a little dialogue ("I've come for the girl and your head.") and opens a big can of whoop-ass as only he can against the forces of evil. This is great, brainless fun and even the most cynical of minds could not but enjoy this film. Note the credit that WWF boss Vince McMahon receives at the end of the movie, which is laced with the musical strains of 'Smack Down,' McMahon's pseudo-sport cash cow.

Be released this summer. I'm not talking of the rather tiny and obscure trailer that is circulating the internet at the moment. I'm talking about the five minute featurette that accompanies the DVD of the best movie that will also be released mid June.

The second installment of what promises to be the greatest movie trilogy of them all is due for release this Christmas. So why pine away in Ireland due to the prospect of another dull and damp season? For one all is looking forward to the traditionally terrible whether as it will give me an excuse to stay indoors.

The second installment of what promises to be the greatest movie trilogy of them all is due for release this Christmas. So why pine away in Ireland due to the prospect of another dull and damp season? For one all is looking forward to the traditionally terrible whether as it will give me an excuse to stay indoors.
By Laurence Mackin

ONCE again the academic year has drawn to a close, and with it the inevitable musings and perennial trials of exams and essays. It is also a time when people will be looking back over what they have achieved over the course of the academic year, and how they made the world a better place.

This being my final year, a wistful and somewhat romanticised image of DIT is starting to emerge in my mind, and I am sure the same is true of our outgoing student body representatives.

Now is the time when you will look back and think about how much of a good job they did through-out the year, and how they helped make DIT a better place for students and staff.

That is the problem with retrospectives.

They tend to be overly romantic and ever so slightly twanged with a shade of rose.

I have being a student in Ainger St. for four years and will go away with a favourable view of the college, like a mischievous little monkey that I used to keep, who was forever making a mess in my flat. But still, I was sad to see him go, when the stupid animal rights activists took him away to be imprisoned in the zoo.

But, despite the teary eyes, I can still critically see the many problems that exist in DIT (and with the mon-key) and the areas in which it lacks, as well as excels, and I am hoping that the incoming and outgoing Student’s Union staff do the same. I wonder just how many will be putting their time spent in the Union on their Curriculum Vitae?

And I also wonder whether their successors learn from their mistakes and perhaps get their priori-ties in some semblance of order?

For instance, when the Rag Ball lampers ominously on the horizon will they again decide to see a loss-making extravaganza, or use the money to, say, organise a concert for DIT students. Could 71,000 Euro cover a concert’s costs for nine months?

Obviously, there are many people within the Union who do very fine work, which goes unnoticed for the most part, in particular the permanent officers and the office managers.

But a litany of events, which were badly organised and made substantial losses, beginning with the Halloween Ball and culmi-nating in the Rag Ball, displayed only a ragged deter-mination not to learn from previous mistakes, and some misplaced belief that it would all come good in the end.

But it did not. It ended badly with that most oft-quoted figure of 71,000 Euro.

But every action has a subsequent and equal reac-tion, and so every mistake must have a result.

So who was held account-able and who suffered as a result of this? Months after the event itself and at the end of an academic and fis-cal year, who is covering the cost for the Rag Week deba-cle and who is being held responsible? Answers on a postcard.

Email: city_sounds@hotmail.com

By Fiachra Rocco Govery

Oh it’s that wonderful time of the year! The summer! But this is not without its challenges and before you can relax and enjoy the balmy summer days sipping spritzers on the balcony you have one tremendous hurdle to overcome. That’s right, sweeties, you have to acquire and entirely new wardrobe. It will be a long and arduous road, but after-wards you will reap the benefits, and have enormous satisfaction in knowing that you look fockin fabulous. But, I’m not going to give you any tips this time around. I have sleved over a hot laptop every month this year trying to educate you ungodly masses into the nicles of the social maestrochrom of which I am king. So, now what I want to do is let you have a go yourselves. I think it is time that you stepped out onto your own two Prada-clad feet and picked your own summer wardrobe. I know it may be a big step for you, and I am sure you have thought about nothing else for the past few months, but now is the time to put what you have learned au mod to the test. I will, however, give you some advice. It’s not like I’m some big fashion leader or anything.

Firstly, do your research and do it well. Read up on all the magazines and find out what is in. There is nothing, and I mean nothing, worse than stepping out for brunch in last season (or, god forbid, last year’s) clothes. I cannot stress this enough. For the few gurus that exist like moi these things come naturally like a sixth sense or good skin, but for all the rest of you it must be learned. Watch what the celebs are wearing and the clever thing is to look at and see what is heading our way before it hits the shores. Then you can beat everyone else to it and be the first one with the Balmain Afghan headscarf.

Secondly, if you don’t understand or are confused then get some help. Personal shoppers are a true godsend and can guide you through all the best collections and pick out what is perfect for you. If you don’t know (and you probably don’t) then leave it in the hands of the experts. I mean, they practically pay for themselves. Otherwise you will end up making a fool of yourself in some gothic nightmare or other which was in, like, last December 14th through 28th.

Thirdly, timing. Timing is quintessential. Don’t wear shades the first time the sun breaks through the clouds. Wear them on the head until a truly sunny day bursts forth and then allow to slip over the eyes. Don’t buy the summer wardrobe in the first week, and then have to go a full month wearing what was in the windows in the first few days of May. Have a good look around, decide what is good from everything (and for fock’s sake try it all on), and pick what best suits you. Again, personal shoppers can solve all these problems in a bat of an eye.

Fourthly, don’t fake what you don’t know or have. Do not rely on tans in a bottle. For god’s sake just go to the Riviera for a week or two, get the real thing, and then sustain on the sun-bed over regular intervals. Don’t worry about the UV rays, your sunglasses will take care of that nicely. Also, if you’ve got to lose than extra weight, and you probably do, then it simply has to go. It’s not that hard, and it’s nothing that a few sessions in a gym with a personal trainer and a nice tofu diet won’t fix. Membership is practically for noth-ing these days and they will even take it out of your account by direct debit. I simply love the convenience of consumption.

I think that is enough for one month. I know it’s that time of the year to try to teach you too much in just one year, but I’m sure you have all enjoyed it. I feel like a Buddhist Master or something. Good luck with your new wardrobes and remem-ber, once you look fantastic you are beyond reproach. So for the last time mes amis, au revoir.

FRG

Best of luck to all students in their forthcoming exams!

SPECIAL STUDENT PRICE

Irish Independent

Ireland’s National Quality Daily
Independent

Aungier of the high stan-

the GPA, secondly we have the recon-
-
College of Surgeons, proved a

against St Pat's College

Dempsey to co-ordinate team

much tougher a game however.

winners completing an auspi-

blew Pat's away leading 4- I by

Cathal Brugha Street porter and

the astro-turf pitch in Belvedere.

After a few (by self-admission)

Alice, they managed to cajole

began training twice a week on

first season back.

emphatic fashion this year by

The team first put studs to

The girls second league

as it would determine the

therefore be the decisive match

would have kept them in it.

picked to have taken

final moments. However with

the box and the referee point-

But instead of collapsing after

half-time DIT came out in cara-

They now find themselves in the

and so are the sponsorship

they would see in the New Year

unbeaten as they won by the sin-

and some fine saves from keep-

Triona Burke, DIT managed
to gain some confidence, and their
midfield began to take control of

After a period of pres-

the first goal finally came
through

Ellis McGrath. However

although they reached back for

in both games and the

ball DIT had two games that

finally did so with a goal from

Grainne Warren. From then

on DIT were pushed into their

own box as Maynooth threw every-

one forward in search of the one

goal they needed. With Clara

Carolan, Rachel Dooley, Alice

Massey and Debbie Burke in

resilient form at the back they

managed to hold out until the

final moments. However with

only minutes remaining Massey

was adjudged to have taken

down a Maynooth striker in the

box and the referee point-

ed to spot. But the Maynooth

striker buckled under the

pressure and cracked the

cross bar. After holding out for

the six minutes of injury time

DIT finally capped a glorious

return to Ladies Football by

being crowned champions.

Vincen de paul won best society

awards night AIB and

Heineken," said Societies

Organiser Anita Conway.

"Looking back on the years

activity levels were quite high

but by no means reaching their

full potential. I cannot stress

how much society life is an inte-

gral part of the third level expe-

rience and many of you are sim-

ilarly missing out ... there is wide

variety of activities available

with support from both financial

and advisory point of view.

Just pop into the Students’

Union or contact Ajita the DIT

Societies Organiser on 4077944

or societies@ditsu.ie. Plans can

start now for the next academic

year, the possibilities are endless

and so are the sponsorship

opportunities, at the same time a

reaffirming the important CV

and having great eric doing it."
McGee's speech proves Sports Awards highlight

By Miguel Delaney

While DIT’s basketball team proved the big winners at this year’s DIT Sports Awards, the most prestigious award went to the DIT All-Star in the shape of Dermot Kavanagh. However, their achievements were overshadowed on the night by a memorable oration by guest speaker, the ‘memory man’ Jimmy McGee.

Although looking physically weak after a recent bout of ill health, McGee did not let that impair an invigorating speech as he got the ceremony rolling with a trip through a career packed with great sporting memories.

Following his introduction by Sports Council Chairperson Declan Glynn, McGee made a reference to his ‘alleged recent death,’ sending the crowd into fits of laughter with a series of anecdotes and jokes from his many years in sports reporting. McGee also paid homage to the many gifted athletes present as well as providing his own beliefs on what exactly makes a top sports star.

The serious business of the evening began with the presentation of the evening’s first awards.

First up were the DIT students who had been granted scholarships the previous year, namely Stephen Gray, Noel Coyle, and Peter Dunne.

Organisers and clubs also received special mentions for the hard work put in and success achieved throughout the year. Those mentioned were Ciaran McKenna for Badminton, Keith McGee for Basketball, Bernie Cummins for Caving, David Flynn and Alice Massey for Ladies’ Soccer.

There were also special awards for the DIT Sub-Aqua Club and Bob Coggins of the DIT Fencing Club.

The Sub-Aqua Club was lauded for its impeccable safety record and ability to consistently compete with other clubs in the rest of the country.

The club, one of the first of its kind when established in the 1970s, is active 12 months of the year and runs one of the best dive clubs in the country as well as achieving success in both hockey and underwater rugby.

Coggins meanwhile was praised for his hard work in getting the fencing club back on its feet after the annual horribilis that 2000/2001 proved to be.

Mr Glynn acknowledged Coggins for his excellent ‘business brain’ as well as his tireless work in campaining for the club and ‘increasing its profile and reputation’.

His organisational skills ensured that the club was able to successfully defend its All-Ireland Championship, an event they have won for four years in a row. In his speech Bob was quick to mention the work of his fellow club members Ken Gallagher and Brian Simott.

The night then got even better for the DIT Ladies’ Soccer team and captain Alice Massey as they won the Most Improved Club Award.

The team was the first such ladies’ soccer team in DIT for five years and on their first season back won the League (see full report).

They remained unbeaten throughout the League campaign, with their only defeat of the year coming in the Cup against eventual winners Inishfree. Mr Glynn commended the club for ‘leading the way for Ladies’ in DIT’.

The most esteemed award went to basketball club named as Club of the Year. During the season the club were crowned both ICBA A men’s Champions and ICBA A Women’s semi-finalists.

The society is one of the biggest in the Institute with 60 participants, two men’s teams and two ladies’.

The final DIT awards of the night were for those students who excelled in their chosen fields—the prestigious All-Star Winners.

These were Fiona McGlen for Badminton, Dermot Kavanagh for Basketball, Dessie Keegan for Handball, Chloe Mulvihill for Judo and Mark Ryan for Golf.

Each of the five were worthy winners and in their young careers have already proved ultra-successful, all representing Ireland and winning numerous accolades at international levels.

The night then finished up with a special last presentation for ‘Ireland’s premier sports commentator’ Jimmy McGee. The Memory Man concluded the night perfectly, encapsulating the Christian spirit of the ceremony, saying ‘congrats to the winners but without the competitors there would be no such thing as winners’.

DIT Basketball celebrate winning the club of the year at this year’s DIT Sports Awards

Basketball’s triumphant term

Review of the year

By Sarah Graham

After clinching the ICBA Men’s All Ireland Colleges League DIT Basketball club was a worthy recipient of the DIT Club of the Year award, in its first year as an all DIT club.

The first major college competition of the year was the ICBA Freshers tournament, held in Maynooth College. The ISSA League ended in 26th and 27th of November and the Women’s tournament held in UL during the following weekend. The Men’s Freshers team reached the Final and on their way beat UCD, DCU, Maynooth College and UL only to meet archrivals Cork IT.

DIT performed admirably with Ian Barrett and Diarmuid Meeney controlling the show in the first quarter, but it was Cork IT that went on to triumph.

Both the mens and womens teams qualifying for the All-Ireland Colleges Finals in February. The women did so with resounding home and away wins over Inishfree (65-24) Unfortunately losses to Cork IT (45-45) and Tralee IT in the ICBA League. A team that ended their campaign in that league.

The Men’s Team began their campaign with wins over Tallaght IT, (72-62), Cork IT and Inishfree (84-12) in the ISSA League. They kicked off their first women’s Semi-final. It turned out to be an exciting affair with both teams evenly matched through out the whole game. Strong performances by Alice Heffernan and Cathy Molloy kept DIT in the game right to the end but St Patrick’s College scraped through to the Final by an eventual winning margin of six points. The Men’s team had slightly better luck in their semi-final vs NUI Galway.

With Danny Bates running the show at point guard and strong play by Dave Harrison and team captain Dermot Kavanagh ensured that DIT progressed to the Final vs UCC with a score line of 70–50. The Final was a tense game. DIT raced to a 10–point lead in the first quarter. Despite the disappointment their second position ensured promotion to Division Three next year. The Men’s team progressed to the DMBB later cup final beating St Declans, Templeogue and Lucan in the semi-final.

The final against Tolka Rovers proved experience can get the better of youth. Tolka Rovers stormed to a 15 point lead at half time and despite a revival in the last quarter DIT were condemned to defeat by a margin of 7 points and had to settle with runner up medals.

However, after a phenomenal victory over Trinity College clinched the League for DIT. A place in the Final Four event at the end of the month is the club’s reward.

The following month the men’s team travelled to Galway to play Tallaght IT in the Semi-final of the ISSA All Ireland League.

After comprehensively beating Tallaght both home and away in the ICBA league earlier in the year hopes were high and they expected win and reach the final. But things didn’t go to plan as Tallaght emerged victorious.

Throughout the year, both Dublin League teams progressed with great success. An end of year loss to Swift pushed the women’s team into second place behind their rivals, having topped the table for the year.

Despite the disappointment, their second position ensured promotion to Division Three next year. The Men’s team

DIT Basketball's triumphant term
relieve the exam stress

planet murphy & the palace nightclub, camden st.