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

DIT: Students Union

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

Recommended Citation

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 3.0 License
DIT independent

Union must remain independent

Fitzpatrick responds to management criticism

Guest speaker Jimmy Magee chats about his long career in sport at the recently held DIT Sports Awards. See more photographs and story in our sports pages.

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 over 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 lends 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 tranpired to be.

But nonetheless, an at-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 relating to 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 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.”

Common ground and a stronger voice for the Union’s long-term management can be found, according to Ms. Fitzpatrick: “Their (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
At last! DIT Grangegorman gets go-ahead

Dermot Keyes welcomes the realisation of DIT Grangegorman but cannot help but wonder could it be just another political masterstroke by Bertie Ahern.

As this newspaper was being finalised before going to press, news broke that agreement has finally been reached by DIT and the Department of the Taoiseach in relation to the future establishment of a north side campus at Grangegorman.

The news was greeted with widespread approval, with DIT President Stephen Boyle telling The DIT Independent: "It's good news. I'm happy to relay the good news from government to outgoing DITSU President Marguerite Fitzpatrick."

Details relating to the commencement of construction work for the new campus and the date upon which the campus will be operational are yet to be officially finalised and presumably a last minute deal will have had its impact on the matter by the time the DIT Independent reaches the many foyer desks of this Institute.

But one is safe in assuming that staff and students alike will agree that the announcement by the Government on April 23 is one that will receive universal approval and cannot be but welcomed.

But (there's always a but) one cannot help but wonder that in this election year have we witnessed the latest act in a long line of such proposals? Is it the most cunning and clever of them all? With the May poll looming, Bertie Ahern has pulled another political masterstroke, given that the new campus will also involve a role for the local community on the campus both in terms of educational link-ups and employment.

So has the Taoiseach delayed the timing of the new campus purely as an election ploy?

Quite possibly, but the most important aspect of this whole development is that DIT now finds itself in a position to move even closer to fulfilling the ambition of the institution in elevating it to University status.

With the Institute awarding its first degrees this year independently of Trinity College, its first major step forward as an independent third level body has already been taken.

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 10 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 new campus and this undoubtedly serve to increase the Institute's ability to challenge its traditional sporting rivals to a vastly improved foundation. On a purely atmospheric standpoint, the view has often been made to this reporter and to other students of DIT on the lack of a "buzz" that being part of a campus generates. A better sense of crisis and excitement in a larger college site can only prove a good point to the Student Union and Clubs and Societies officers of the future in a bid to reverse the apathy which seems to have blighted students of the Institute in recent years.

And to think it could all be going down to be a case borne activity on behalf of our outgoing (and likely to be remaining) Taoiseach. Good old Bertie seems to have struck again.

Hugh O'Reilly was elected President of the DIT Students Union for the next academic year after he stood unopposed for the Union's highest position in the March poll. From a total poll of 818 votes, O'Reilly gained 155 'yes' votes for his candidacy, thereby easily surpassing the quota of 974 votes. Three hundred and eighty eight students voted 'no' for his candidacy.

The following persons were elected across the DIT sites to serve the Union during 2002/2003.

Aungier Street - President; Paul Maloney; Deputy President: Joe Savage; Clubs and Societies: Colin O'Sullivan; P.R.O.: Will Kinsella; Ents: Jenny McGowan.

Kevin Street - President; Cathal Goughgill; Deputy President: Lyndsey Jones; Clubs and Societies: Nicky Cunningham; Participations: Alan Keane; Equality Officer: Grainne Daily; Fess: Peter Bennett; P.R.O.: Amy Cahill;

Irish Language: Roisin Langford.

Cathal Bruga Street - President: Stephen Boyle (unopposed) elected after a re-election was held on April 17. No one stood for the office on the day of the full election.

Mountjoy Square/Rathmines - President: Brian Whitney.

Rathmines - Placement Officer: Allah Morian; Irish Language: Shonagh Ni Raghallaigh; Equality: Caran Bowe.

Bolton Street - President: Darren McArdle; Deputy President: Naomi McNamee; Clubs and Societies: Frances Fox; Equality Officer: Bob Coggins.

The only contentious aspects of the election occurred in the Affinity constituencies where Marc Murphy, who had just to Lyndsey Jones, issued a series of objections to Ms. Jones victory on the grounds of irregularities. He made these claims in a written submission to the Electoral Supervisory Committee

By Aofie Stokes

FENI's general deputy leader Nora O'Callaghan has welcomed the DIT Independent's report that the referendum on a Wednesday was prevented many students from voting in the constituencies where they were registered.

This issue was raised with the Labour Party's Eamonn Gilmore by one student who said that whilst there could be a "no glib answer" to the question of the reason for the apathy nationwide, the reality of holding the vote on a Wednesday would have prevented many students from voting.

The national turn-out was under 43% with the largest numbers turning out to vote in the Dublin Central constituency where 11 of 11 which returned a strong No vote.

Voters in the Taoiseach's constituency of Dublin Central voted against the proposal - a total of 59 per cent of the electorate conspired to reject the amendment.

The constituency of Dublin South East contained the country's highest - with 31,476 (68.23 per cent) Yes.

Just one week before the referendum, a letter was held by the Union of Students of Ireland (USI) released a statement calling for a No vote and raising concerns about: the holding of the vote on a Wednesday. Challenging the Taoiseach to the Attorney General to debate the issue with him, USI's Communications Executive Conor Griffin said, "This referendum results from a national consensus of arro

Bertie Ahern has pulled another political masterstroke during the Easter holidays. In a letter addressed to ESC Chairman Dermot Quinn, obtained by the DIT Independent had obtained, Murphy said he made eight separate complaints to the Chief Constable about what he believed were breaches of ESC regulations. In the letter, Murphy said he believed he had the chance of winning the elections were greatly hampered due to the fact that "effectively she was paid by DIT to run her (election) campaign. I understand that this is a very grey area but I think all candidates should be equally treated and I think the fact that she was paid was beneficial for her to be campaigning in that vicinity because it is her place of work... Ms. Lyndsey Jones in one of eleven Dublin constituencies is vulnerable for the loss of 21,000 because of the Rag Ball. As she was the only ballot paper to be thrown out in elections, this was something I wasn't allowed to remark upon.

Following a meeting of the ESC, "Wednesday vote deterred students" claims Owen

USI's Conor Griffin, who claimed the holding of the abortion referendum resulted from a "lethal concoction of arrogance, ignorance and electioneering from the Government"

This was in stark contrast to the referendum's result in Donegal North-East, which recorded a Yes' vote of over 70% but with a turnout of a third of all eligible voters.

This referendum had proposed to make it illegal for a woman who is suicidal to procure an abortion in Ireland.

It had been legal for a woman who is suicidal to have an abortion since the Supreme Court judgement in the X case in 1999.
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 one another, students and staff. The greater the exposure to different ideas, perspectives and experiences, the richer the learning and educational experience. The more diverse the academic community, the more important and beneficial for all.

Sincerely,

Dr Ellen Hazelkorn
Director, Faculty of Applied Arts
Chairperson, DIT Cultural and Social Committee

The full statement by the DIT Management Team

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

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

As long term employees of DIT 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 DIT to date the ‘Rags Rag Ball’ held in The Point Depot on 14th February 2002. The Management Team of DIT Limited wish to make the following statement.

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. At this point we wish to stress that the Management Team have no input when it comes to overall financial decisions.

Unfortunately DIT could find itself in the same position in the future, if the experience and knowledge of the Management Team is not taken into consideration. We believe that such decisions can expose yourselves and your fellow students to unnecessary high risk.

We urge you as Council to implement any future plans and avoid leaving the DIT Management, where financial decisions are being taken as a preventative measure for future years.

Sincerely,

Gabrielle Dalton, Cathal Brighua Street Union Manager; Ann Pounch, Kevin Street Union Manager; Vivienne Byrne, Mountjoy Square Union Manager; Ellen McGlynn, Aungier Street Union Manager.

Clarification

In a letter sent to the DIT Independent (which was too long for publication), Jarlath Molloy wished to point out that comments attributed to him in our lead story last month were written as an ordinary student of DIT rather than as a representative of DITSU.

He also states that DITSU had adopted a neutral stance as opposed to not having a policy on the abortion referendum. While he wrote that the Editor was incorrect in his stating such a claim, Dermot Keyes stands over his editorial, as he believes that a neutral policy was a key criterion on the Union’s behalf.

The Editor wishes to point out that he was present at the meeting where this motion was debated and was fully aware of the decision taken on the evening in question.

Mr Molloy writes: ‘People have for a long time now been complaining about the content- or lack thereof and the poor quality of the DIT Independent’.

The Editor would like to state that Mr Molloy’s letter was received in relation to an article published in the lead story on the slogan ‘DIT Unions in the DIT Independent’.

Comments from Mr Molloy’s letter were used as our lead story for the purposes of balance and fairness since no one from the DITSU Executive was willing to comment on the repercussions of the RAG Ball.

His comments were used as the Editor believed the lead story required an impartial and objective treatment as it was possible for such a contentious issue as the RAG Ball. Given Mr. Molloy’s association and long-standing work as both a Class Representative and as a member of comment during the past year, his views were taken only comments that the DIT Independent received from a pro-DITSU perspective.

Had these comments not been used, then the report would have been unbalanced and would have left this paper open to the accusation that it is anti-DITSU, which it is not. The DIT Independent regrets any inconvenience caused to Mr. Molloy by the use of these comments.
**DIT graduate elected USI President**

Colm Jordan, the outgoing education officer of the Union of Students of Ireland (USI), who also served as DITSU president of the Aungier Street Branch between 1999/2000 will lead USI as its next President. Jordan received 93 votes for his re-election at USI's annual conference, which was held in Ennis, having exceeded the quota by 33 votes.

By Aoise Stokes

Colm Jordan, the outgoing education officer of the Union of Students of Ireland (USI), who also served as DITSU president of the Aungier Street Branch between 1999/2000 will lead USI as its next President. Jordan received 93 votes for his re-election at USI’s annual conference, which was held in Ennis, having exceeded the quota by 33 votes.

One of the incoming president's first aims in office is to formulate a generic campaign plan for local SU officers around the country.

This pack, which would consist of a flip book, would contain a policy paper, submission document and other templates.

Local SU officers, rather than getting tied up in trying to come up with these items themselves, will be free to purely campaign," he said.

The elimination of the annual college capitation fee will feature highly on his presidential agenda. Jordan’s campaign will focus on the cost that exists despite the abolition of third level fees exists "purely to cover administrative costs".

According to Jordan the fee is "yet another barrier in the quest for equal access to third level education for all."

One of his main arguments for abolishing the fee is the need to sustain a highly skilled workforce to continue Ireland’s economic growth.

It can be argued that Jordan’s election, as president of USI, has the ability to be an active and highly public campaigner since he first began working at the Institute in the past few months.

It was in his second year of studies in USI, that he became local area officer for the college. He now makes USI’s longest serving officer ever when he became local area president on 1st July last.

'Ve have been approached by all the mainstream political parties during his career in student politics,' he said. 'But Jordan does not profess a party preference.

Colm Jordan begins his term as President of USI on 1st July last when the current President of the Union, Rosaleen Horrigan, officially steps down.

**Newly appointed students’ union president Colm Jordan.**

**Lecturers receive academic awards**

Three DIT lecturers have made successful applications to the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS), Government of Ireland Senior Academic awards. The awards, which are the most prestigious academic awards in the country, will be for the next academic year.

Dr. John Gilmartin, School of Art, Design and Performance received 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 process was extremely tough with each application also been reviewed by an academic expert outside the Republic of Ireland who will become acting president on 1st July next when the current President of the Union, Rosaleen Horrigan, officially steps down.

**DIT bullying policy launched**

A NEW policy on preventing and dealing with bullying and harassment in DIT was launched on the March 6 in Mount Street. The policy was introduced after the Institute free of bullying and harassment (including sexual harassment), ensuring all members of DIT staff are treated with dignity. Amongst those in attendance were the Governing Body of DIT, union officials, IREB and students union representatives.

Speaking at the launch, DIT President, Dr. Brendan Goldsmith said the new policy "applies to all staff and students of the Institute, who have a duty and a responsibility to work and study environment free of threat, harassment and intimidation". It replaces DIT’s Policy on Preventing and Dealing with Sexual Harrassment, which was published in October 1995. It has been updated to take account of legislative changes and is now in line with best practice in the area.

The new policy has the full support of the management and the Governing Body of DIT.

Specially trained staff, who will be on hand to help anyone who may be victims of any such behaviour, are available to explain and implement the policies incorporated in the report.

The Institute will also provide ongoing training for staff members through workshops for developing awareness of bullying and harassment and the provision of teams to take part in formal investigations should the need arise.

One of the main arguments for abolishing the fee is the need to sustain a highly skilled workforce to continue Ireland’s economic growth.

But the possibility of engaging in national politics is one of the few ways that he could vent his desire to implement change in society. "I have been approached by all the mainstream political parties during his career in student politics,' he said. 'But Jordan does not profess a party preference.

Colm Jordan begins his term as President of USI on 1st July last when the current President of the Union, Rosaleen Horrigan, officially steps down.

**Lecturers receive academic awards**

Three DIT lecturers have made successful applications to the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS), Government of Ireland Senior Academic awards. The awards, which are the most prestigious academic awards in the country, will be for the next academic year.

Dr. John Gilmartin, School of Art, Design and Performance received 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 process was extremely tough with each application also been reviewed by an academic expert outside the Republic of Ireland who will become acting president on 1st July next when the current President of the Union, Rosaleen Horrigan, officially steps down.

**DIT bullying policy launched**

A NEW policy on preventing and dealing with bullying and harassment in DIT was launched on the March 6 in Mount Street. The policy was introduced after the Institute free of bullying and harassment (including sexual harassment), ensuring all members of DIT staff are treated with dignity. Amongst those in attendance were the Governing Body of DIT, union officials, IREB and students union representatives.

Speaking at the launch, DIT President, Dr. Brendan Goldsmith said the new policy "applies to all staff and students of the Institute, who have a duty and a responsibility to work and study environment free of threat, harassment and intimidation". It replaces DIT’s Policy on Preventing and Dealing with Sexual Harassment, which was published in October 1995. It has been updated to take account of legislative changes and is now in line with best practice in the area.

The new policy has the full support of the management and the Governing Body of DIT.

Specially trained staff, who will be on hand to help anyone who may be victims of any such behaviour, are available to explain and implement the policies incorporated in the report.

The Institute will also provide ongoing training for staff members through workshops for developing awareness of bullying and harassment and the provision of teams to take part in formal investigations should the need arise.

One of the main arguments for abolishing the fee is the need to sustain a highly skilled workforce to continue Ireland’s economic growth.

But the possibility of engaging in national politics is one of the few ways that he could vent his desire to implement change in society. "I have been approached by all the mainstream political parties during his career in student politics,' he said. 'But Jordan does not profess a party preference.

Colm Jordan begins his term as President of USI on 1st July last when the current President of the Union, Rosaleen Horrigan, officially steps down.

**Lecturers receive academic awards**

Three DIT lecturers have made successful applications to the Irish Research Council for the Humanities and Social Sciences (IRCHSS), Government of Ireland Senior Academic awards. The awards, which are the most prestigious academic awards in the country, will be for the next academic year.

Dr. John Gilmartin, School of Art, Design and Performance received 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 process was extremely tough with each application also been reviewed by an academic expert outside the Republic of Ireland who will become acting president on 1st July next when the current President of the Union, Rosaleen Horrigan, officially steps down.

**DIT bullying policy launched**

A NEW policy on preventing and dealing with bullying and harassment in DIT was launched on the March 6 in Mount Street. The policy was introduced after the Institute free of bullying and harassment (including sexual harassment), ensuring all members of DIT staff are treated with dignity. Amongst those in attendance were the Governing Body of DIT, union officials, IREB and students union representatives.

Speaking at the launch, DIT President, Dr. Brendan Goldsmith said the new policy "applies to all staff and students of the Institute, who have a duty and a responsibility to work and study environment free of threat, harassment and intimidation". It replaces DIT’s Policy on Preventing and Dealing with Sexual Harassment, which was published in October 1995. It has been updated to take account of legislative changes and is now in line with best practice in the area.

The new policy has the full support of the management and the Governing Body of DIT.

Specially trained staff, who will be on hand to help anyone who may be victims of any such behaviour, are available to explain and implement the policies incorporated in the report.

The Institute will also provide ongoing training for staff members through workshops for developing awareness of bullying and harassment and the provision of teams to take part in formal investigations should the need arise.
Confusion reigned during contentious campaign

On March 6th the Irish people were voted by a majority of less than one per cent to reject the Government's proposal for the 25th Amendment of the Constitution (Protection of Human Life in Pregnancy Bill), 2001. The latest proposal on abortion had been rejected by a majority of just 10,556 votes.

In a clammy room in the Customs House, journalists and politicians had spent the afternoon speculating on the outcome. Once announced both anti-abortion and pro-choice groups were quick to react with Independent MEP Dana Rosemary Scallon and Labour Party Leader Ruairi Quinn proclaiming victory for the 'pro-life' and Alliance for a No Vote (ANV) pro-choice group respectively.

At the Dublin count centre in the RDS, representatives of the Socialist Party whooped in joy as it became clear that all 11 constituencies in the capital's four counties had voted for the amendment. Members of Youth Defence delivered their own claims of victory to Dublin's media centres. "The unborn child", Gardaí were forced to intervene, as the two groups became emotionally engaged in discussion.

The amendment's wording had left both right-wing anti-abortion groups and liberal pro-choice groups hopeful of the same result.

"Murdering bitch" spat one member of Youth Defence as he passed Ivana Bach, a spokeswoman for the Irish Family Planning Association, and a lecturer in law at Trinity College Dublin. Her Trinity colleague Professor William Binchy, who heads the pro-life campaign's defining moment Trinity College Dublin. Her Times in the last week of the campaign raised questions over the reality of the 7,000 women who travel to Britain each year to have abortions. Aoife Stokes reflects on a controversial campaign

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. 

On March 6th 2002, the Irish electorate was asked to decide whether the Constitution should be amended to allow for legal abortion in the State.

According to these figures 10,556 women have travelled to England for abortions since 1992.

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.

The referendum was a referendum so close to a general election, the theories range from the seriously political to the bizarrely personal.

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 in this country.

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, women in 2000 had a 62% voting against rendering abortion on the grounds of suicide illegal.

The Supreme Court found that abortion in Ireland would 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 Xx case ruling, after the referendum was passed.

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 in this country.

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 in this country.

The referendum was a referendum so close to a general election, the theories range from the seriously political to the bizarrely personal.

According to Irish Independent political correspondent, Keith Kay, it had been Bertie Ahern's mother's 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 Mícheal Ó hEolaigh had been critical of the referendum 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 conservatively abortion provisions even more conservative.

"Pro-choice, 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.
ARE YOU FESTIVAL FIT?

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

DOD
*THE YOUTHS OF THE NATION TOUR*
*Presented by: SMA* 15/03/02
Ambassador Theatre
Saturday 04 May
€22.55

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

RICHIE HAWTIN
(Decks, EFX, 909 and Final Scratch)
SUNDAY 05 MAY
A.M.B.A.S.S.A.D.O.R
Tickets €30.00

Soundtrack of our Lives
FRI 03 MAY • Music Centre • TICKETS €14.50 • DOORS 7.30 PM

Bobby Conn
FRI 03 MAY • Whelans • TICKETS €14.50 • DOORS 8.30 PM

LUKE SLATER
BRYAN G
FRI 03 MAY
Music Centre
Tickets €20.00 Doors 11.30 pm
Sat 04 MAY
Music Centre
Tickets €20.00 Doors 11.30 pm

THE WHITE STRIPES
Plus Guests: The Von Bondies, The Dirtbombs, The Detroit Cobra’s
Tickets €25.00
SATURDAY 04/MAY/02

SOLD OUT!

MUSE
THE HIVES
THE REVVS
SUN 05/MAY/02
DUBLIN CASTLE
Tickets €25.00

Gates 5.30 pm

the frames
damien rice
plus guests: BellX1 • Mundy • Lift to Experience
MONDAY 06/MAY/02
Tickets €25.00

Gates 3.00 pm

HOT PRESS THE STAR

Tickets Purchased for Hives at Ambassador are Valid for Dublin Castle. Hives on Stage 7.00p.m.
Tickets from TicketMaster Outlets Nationwide, +353 01/862 4503 or ON LINE: www.ticketmaster.ie. Telephone & Internet Service Charges Subject To €2.00 Per Ticket €1.00 Up To €2.00 Per Ticket. ID Required Over 18 Years. Under 18 & Adults €5.00. €3.00 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 were held in Vicar Street on April 16. A night of drunken debauchery, enough speech making to even embarrass Hall's Berry's scriptwriter and the usual award of hosts, 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) Trinity News (TCD) and College View (DCU) also nominated. The Observer's Enda Curran took the news reporter award, ahead of (DCU) also Stout' (DCU) nominated.

The Observer's Enda Curran took the news reporter award, ahead of Eoghan Rice of the College 'Flags' (Cork Campus Ulster) and John Kenny for Trinity News (TCD). Other winners and nominees on the night were:

Radio Production
"Get That Monster Off The Stage" (Cork Campus Radio)
Also nominated:
Artbeat (Cork Campus Radio)
The Vibe (Belfield FM)
"Argh. With a Drop Of Stout" (DCU FM)
Comedy Talk Show Montage (DCU FM)
"Flags" (Cork Campus Radio)

Television Production
"Regeneration" (DCU)
Also nominated:
The Jimmy Cake" (Griffith College)
"Beyond Closed Doors" (DCU)
"Philomena's Cosy Night Time Corner" (DCU)

The O2 Award
Icarus (TCD)

Magazine or Society Publication
LHM (UCD)
Also nominated:
Uforia (University of Ulster)

The University Observer (UCD) also claimed the best journalism prize for James McDonald 'The Feds Blocked Some of Their Cash' (The University Observer (UCD)).

The awards were organised by Oxygen.ie.
Beyond Brosnan

Women want him and men want to be him. He possesses more gadgetry than a domino 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. Riff, show a season of his movies virtually every year and attract good viewing figures. The same's Bond, James Bond and the question of who will succeed Pierce Brosnan in the most famous tux in movieland has become the topic of much speculation.

With the twentieth Bond movie, Die Another Day currently in production, EON Productions mogul have already sent their feelers out in the hunt for a successor to Naomi 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 hunts, 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 become 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).

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.

Clive Owen

Clive 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 1990s, 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 obliterate 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.

The name’s Bond, James Bond and the question of who will succeed Pierce Brosnan in the most famous tux in movieland has become the topic of much speculation.

W

Required for the 007 blueprint and may need several more boots of eyebrow 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 Davenport in the hit BBC series Coupling, Davenport has demonstrated his ability to rib-tickle in the comedy CoCoupling. Would certainly carry the role well and since EON like to cut cost corners (one only has to look at Austin Martin seat). Were he to take the role, he would be considerably younger than anyone who has played Bond to date, and one wonders he wishes to 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 inficiencies 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?

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 Joef 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 Duh 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 he wishes 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!

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 tsunami 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.

LA Confidential and Gladiator but he’s just too expensive for Wilson and Broccoli’s purse strings. Would bring a presence to the role not felt since Sean Connery decommissioned his tuxedo.

Were any of the above to get the part, one would be pretty pleased with Brosnan’s successor. But consider Jeremy Northam, Douggray 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
The art of using Dublin's public transport

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

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

You write a proposal. You think it's great. Your tutor takes one look at it and says that, in actual fact, The Postmodern Existentialism 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 all about it, until you realise that the deadline for this thesis is really not that far away. That's when you have the first nagging 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 before you've even started. And you've committed these nonsensical words to paper. Panic levels rise a bit, but remain at the 'Christ, I really need to start now! Do O'Reenmeech Report starts in ten minutes' level.

And to it continues, with panic levels rising. And you find yourself creeping up on the bus, which you have that moment. It creeps up on you - it could happen on the bus, it could happen in the super-market, 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 stupid thesis. It gets to 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...'

Sandwiches become the only thing between you and death. You help Americans find their way to Heffalump because you have a coffee-and-Toblerone 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. The urge to laugh out loud, or as one elder-tell you by looking at it', and so on. Nobody actually told the driver that he was doing it. Nonetheless, a man got off the bus and lifted said bit of bus on board, stashed it in the luggage holder, and off the bus went.

Later that day, the same friend and I caught the last DART into town from a Southside suburb, and we drove demented the whole way by a bunch of approximately ten girls, aged between nine to twelve. They played Dial-A-Ring's top ten lists on their mobiles incessantly, and in between that and swinging around the poles in the car, indulged in some quality name calling, which regrets, it's obvious here. Enough to make you get out and walk, or as one elderly man did, hop out and run after the next one.

A few weeks ago, on a bus to the suburbs, I spent the better part of an hour listening (not by choice) to a conversation between two girls aged about 19, about one's upcoming Jill and one's previous Jill. It's funny, I didn't realise that the words 'like', and 'd'y'know what I mean' could be used so many times in the same sentence. And another day, on a bus at 1 PM (prime party time, because it's when the free bus-pass kicks in) in an elderly woman loudly berated for the poles in the road.

The public transport experience changes depending on time of day. As I've said already, after 10 AM when the OAP's bus pass is valid so from that time until early evening, you can expect to have given up on the idea of ever getting noticed by your appearance. They begin to call in sick to work, and as the deadline approaches, the excesses get worse. When they don't believe that you've got an engagement, they tell you that there's been a death in the family, omitting to mention that it was seven years ago, because damnit, it still hurts.

You start to spend time in the National Library, pointlessly 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 place where their friend belongs to them, and not their travelling neighbours. Wordlessness is the only way 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, and notice that sunlight now burns your almost translucent skin. If you work in college, you find yourself hatching increasingly desperate plans to hide in a filing cabinet so that you can stay in overnight.

You finally get to the stage where you think, grand, I've only got to do a bibliography and put all 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 ruffle-chug the nearest brick wall.

Then you begin the printing. You tell the computer to print four copies, and as you count the middle of the fourth copy, there's a glaring error, and you need to print four more copies. As you rehearse the procedure 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.

And the lie vert

The public transport experience changes depending on time of day

The danger of groups of fear some little kids is gone, and someone too long, which will inevitably result in an outburst of 'Are you looking at me? My girlfriend/boyfriend?' and so on. Also, no matter how drunk you may be, stay alert for the ones that fall asleep on your shoulder. And above all else, STAY AWAKE, because it's no fun getting chucked out of the bus in the back end of nowhere with no clue where you are, or how to get the hell out of there. On the whole, the secret to using public transport in Dublin is to avoid eye contact, and always resist the urge to laugh out loud, because you'll always be sorry. A walkman seems to provide one with a resistant forcefield, so use one at all times. And above all, stay vigilant.
report in the Guardian newspaper of April 28 demanded our final edition of the year included an examination of student alcoholism. This is a topic, which for a nation with some social expertise in this particular area never attracts the same headlines as a Bertie Bowl, the latest Beckham haircut or a Russell Crowe-inspired fracas. Quite why this is the case remains a little odd, but to attempt an explanation is not as difficult.

When heads of state are greeted by their outgoing (and probably soon to return) Taoiseach, a trip to his local pub is 90 per cent of what is in his hand is a banker. A World Cup Finals looms, and the media is inundated with stories sponsored by Guinness whose financial support, which we have long been aided hurling’s profile through the advertising campaign. This is entirely inappropriate in the eyes of several within the GAA (including its President, Dr. Mick Loftus). And third level Ireland’s worries over the drink promotions of every kind from the moment a student walked through the school uniform until the days of becoming a taxpayer loom ever larger. Which brings us back to the recent article in the Guardian.

"Alcohol kills 1,400 American students a year, study says" headed a story written by Matthew Engel. The study to which Engel refers was undertaken in the University of Boston, with its chief researcher instigated by Professor Ralph Hingson, who has conducted several studies in relation to alcohol abuse. Fellow researcher Mark Goldstein used a chilling analogy to assess the state of alcohol abuse in the American collegiate system. "If the World Trade Centre casualties are happening every year in our colleges," he said, "the report estimates that the consequences of alcohol abuse in college was a major factor in 500,000 injuries and up to 70,000 cases of sexual assault or rape in 2001. The report also estimates that 400,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 are unlicensed sex as a result of drinking. A quarter of all students who were admitted to hospital in 2001. The report also estimates that 400,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 are unlicensed sex as a result of drinking. A quarter of all students who were admitted to hospital in 2001.

"A forward thinking Minister, Martin's return to power to return to power would be welcome" was the policy that the Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes.

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.

Words and documents are well and good, but when, or what kind of action can be taken to reduce an issue whose problems do not seem to be taken too seriously, or even provoke that much debate among the student masses? Firstly, in the DIT context, one would do well to follow the example of University College Galway Students Union, who pioneered down part-time jobs while studying, young Irish people are drooping down any of the previous generations of a similar age. Alcohol Project Director, Dr. Rolande Anderson said that Irish "attitudes to alcohol use must change urgently or there will be an epidemic of people seeking help for alcohol abuse in the next 10 to 20 years."

The current Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes nationwide. The ‘Framework for Developing a College Alcohol Policy’ is described by the Department of Health as “a document to assist colleges to develop campus alcohol policies, which promote, sensible drinking among students and limit alcohol-related harm on campus”. DIT is unusual among the major bodies of learning in Ireland as it remains without any premises on any of its sites. But given the proximity of several drinking establishments within the environs of the principal sites, such a facility, though it would be (presumably) welcomed by a majority of students, is not required. However, it would hardly be a great surprise were bars to appear in the proposed on-campus sites.

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.

"A forward thinking Minister, Martin’s return to power would be welcome" was the policy that the Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes.

Michael Martin has made it abundantly clear that he would like to re-assume the Health portfolio, which he would seem a political move by the Fianna Fail leadership as one would imagine that the former potential future leadership challenger happy wouldn’t be too pleased. Should Martin return to Hawkins Street, the momentum generated by the publication of the findings last October, the Union of Students in Ireland (USI) welcomed the proposals outlined in the report. "In recent years we have seen campaigns focused on second year students and young professionals, however we are confident that through our involvement in this process, students will be made aware of the dangers of alcohol abuse," said then USI President Richard Hammond.

Words and documents are well and good, but when, or what kind of action can be taken to reduce an issue whose problems do not seem to be taken too seriously, or even provoke that much debate among the student masses? Firstly, in the DIT context, one would do well to follow the example of University College Galway Students Union, who pioneered the policy that the Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes.

Michael Martin has made it abundantly clear that he would like to re-assume the Health portfolio, which he would seem a political move by the Fianna Fail leadership as one would imagine that the former potential future leadership challenger happy wouldn’t be too pleased. Should Martin return to Hawkins Street, the momentum generated by the publication of the findings last October, the Union of Students in Ireland (USI) welcomed the proposals outlined in the report. "In recent years we have seen campaigns focused on second year students and young professionals, however we are confident that through our involvement in this process, students will be made aware of the dangers of alcohol abuse," said then USI President Richard Hammond.

Words and documents are well and good, but when, or what kind of action can be taken to reduce an issue whose problems do not seem to be taken too seriously, or even provoke that much debate among the student masses? Firstly, in the DIT context, one would do well to follow the example of University College Galway Students Union, who pioneered the policy that the Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes.

"A forward thinking Minister, Martin’s return to power would be welcome" was the policy that the Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes.

Michael Martin has made it abundantly clear that he would like to re-assume the Health portfolio, which he would seem a political move by the Fianna Fail leadership as one would imagine that the former potential future leadership challenger happy wouldn’t be too pleased. Should Martin return to Hawkins Street, the momentum generated by the publication of the findings last October, the Union of Students in Ireland (USI) welcomed the proposals outlined in the report. "In recent years we have seen campaigns focused on second year students and young professionals, however we are confident that through our involvement in this process, students will be made aware of the dangers of alcohol abuse," said then USI President Richard Hammond.

Words and documents are well and good, but when, or what kind of action can be taken to reduce an issue whose problems do not seem to be taken too seriously, or even provoke that much debate among the student masses? Firstly, in the DIT context, one would do well to follow the example of University College Galway Students Union, who pioneered the policy that the Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes.

Michael Martin has made it abundantly clear that he would like to re-assume the Health portfolio, which he would seem a political move by the Fianna Fail leadership as one would imagine that the former potential future leadership challenger happy wouldn’t be too pleased. Should Martin return to Hawkins Street, the momentum generated by the publication of the findings last October, the Union of Students in Ireland (USI) welcomed the proposals outlined in the report. "In recent years we have seen campaigns focused on second year students and young professionals, however we are confident that through our involvement in this process, students will be made aware of the dangers of alcohol abuse," said then USI President Richard Hammond.

Words and documents are well and good, but when, or what kind of action can be taken to reduce an issue whose problems do not seem to be taken too seriously, or even provoke that much debate among the student masses? Firstly, in the DIT context, one would do well to follow the example of University College Galway Students Union, who pioneered the policy that the Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes. The Government has taken steps towards instigating a national alcohol policy within third level institutes.

Michael Martin has made it abundantly clear that he would like to re-assume the Health portfolio, which he would seem a political move by the Fianna Fail leadership as one would imagine that the former potential future leadership challenger happy wouldn’t be too pleased. Should Martin return to Hawkins Street, the momentum generated by the publication of the findings last October, the Union of Students in Ireland (USI) welcomed the proposals outlined in the report. "In recent years we have seen campaigns focused on second year students and young professionals, however we are confident that through our involvement in this process, students will be made aware of the dangers of alcohol abuse," said then USI President Richard Hammond.
'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 altered had I got that county 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 big 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," he said. Ouch!

Upon discovering that one of the finest journalists of his generation committed the following to print, it made me shudder, I have spent half my life trying to get away from journalism, but I am still mired in it, as low and as a habit worse than heroin, a strange seedy world full of misfits and drunkards and failures."

Hunter S. Thompson, a little bit handy with a piece of paper and a typewriter in his day, describing journalism as a habit harder to shake off than chasing the dragon? Crickey, what have I let myself in for?

Mother Teresa, the peaceful and graceful soul that she was, described facing the press as "more difficult than bathing a leper." Mother Teresa said that? By this stage of the e-mail, sitting in a tractor cab from 9 to 5 was slowly starting to sound attractive.

But one quote stood out above all others when reading the e-mail and really made me think just how many low-lifes must have made and continue to make a living in the trade? Writing in the Baltimore Sun, Gregory Kane wrote in 1997: "somewhere along the line, many Americans relegated the media to a notch on the morality scale only slightly above that of child molesters." What happened to make Joe and Josephine Public read jour¬
nalists as depraved and utter scum to provoke such a comment? The trade of abuse does not end here!

"A journalist is a reporter out of a job," wrote Mark Twain. The venerable T.S. Eliot said "some editors are failed writers, but so are most writers." But for bottom of the gutter comment of this article, look no further than a human being so utterly deprived of morals and professional values that he would seem to have made a perfect hack himself. "Journalists are a lower quality of human being, who'd do anything for a story. [...] At press awards they jeer, boo, fight, get pissed, and that's just the cream." The man in question? The simply delightful Max Clifford, who the brilliant Louis Theroux (in his excellent Louis meets. series) recently confirmed all the bad things that one would ever have thought about a snake, albeit a very clever snake like Max Clifford.

Old stories about the way that journalists conducted themselves in the olden days have been told with great reverence by journalists during my college years. Tales of Brendan Behan's penchant for vomiting into the nearest available drawer in the Irish Press after a day and night on the batter made me wonder how papers ever made the stands way back when. The Borstal boy himself may be the extreme example of the drink-sozzled writer, but having heard so many tales which were battled in liquor about so many other reporters of an age long gone, the following quote could not have been more appropriate. In an interview with the San Francisco Examiner in 1996, veteran columnist Jimmy Breslin regretted the passing of a bygone era. "The way I had it it's all gone now," he said. "The bars are gone, the drinkers, gone. They remain the smartest, healthiest newpeople in the history of the business."

The last word deservedly belongs to the editor who was at the centre of the recent Naomi 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.

By the time I had scowled down, clicked out of my e-mail and pondered the incomprehensible, I had changed my mind, had I reached a watershed in my professional life even though I'm not really a professional yet.

No, no, no. The world needs us supposed degenerate poot-oon the shoe types to expose the scams, the shams, the dopes, the grooves, the good, the bad, and the indifferentness 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 www.epnworldreporter.com, a new online magazine written for correspondants and freelance journalists worldwide.

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

By Janice Gaffey

It's that time of year again when exams loom large on the horizon and the thoughts of the average student starts to 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 studies are flowing everywhere, telling yourself you can do to avoid studying your exams.

1. The fridge needs to be cleaned and the cupboards restocked.
2. I need to go to the hairdresser and have it cut to the points.
3. The flowers need to be watered.
4. I need to go to the shops and get my groceries.
5. I need to go to the bank and get my money.
6. I need to go to the library and get some books.
7. I need to go to the gym and get some exercise.
8. I need to go to the cinema and see a movie.
9. I need to go to the concert and see a performance.
10. I need to go to the restaurant and have a meal.

The things we stoop to...

whereas normally you exist on chicken flavoured noo¬wafers.

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.

18. Take a linguaphone course and see if you can learn Japanese in time for the World Cup 2002.

19. Start buying lottery tickets and entering every competition you see in papers and magazines.

20. Make lists of things you can do to avoid studying and check that each one of them is suitably distracting.
By Dermot Keyes

WHEN one's head has been split down the middle by pain at 11 o'clock, the best thing you can normally contribute such a condition to the cursed liquor. But thankfully this reviewer could contribute such gongies to nothing other than cranium cracking laughter when hearing wit­ness to the public premiere of Aprils Match Raw*, which recently ended its short pre-World Cup run at Vicar Street.

The inspired comedic trio of Risteard Cooper, Gary Cooke and Barry Murphy have made us laugh with reckless abandon have been at it again at a venue which suitably caters their act.

The quality that has made Aprils 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 hatred of live link-ups, that go wrong on ‘The Late Word’ and David O’Leary’s exclamation that Jonathan Woodgate was fortunate that his community service was not served in the Asian community (each) were usually laug­hing-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 inter­pretation of Don McClure and George Hook demonstrated the originality and brilliance of a show whose two-hour duration positively danced along.

There were a number of commer­cial breaks engineered while wigs were changed and these worked a treat. Superb piss takes of a well­known vodka commercial starring Ray Wilkins and Mark Lawrence along with an outstanding parody of Michael Ryan (presenter of back­heavy RTE show ‘Nationwide’) made the scene transitions virtually seam­less.

But star billing was reserved for Barry Murphy’s stint as the silver-fol­li ced Gunther, whose labeling the Irish as ‘Piss Focks’ along 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 Montrose.

Aprils Match remains fresh, fabulously funny and a howl of immeasurable proportions. Hopefully it will not be too long before the trio tread the boards again. Japan and Korea cannot come soon enough!

---

Ico

Game Title: Ico
Format: PlayStation 2
Publisher: Sony Computer Entertainment Europe
Rating: 3+

Ico is a brand new puzzle adventure game to come from Sony. It has taken a long time in the making and has had a budget behind it rival to those of many Hollywood movies, but Solid Snake has never been so frog-eyed. A brand new Metal Gear Solid has been unveiled, and while in transport it has been hijacked by strangers. They hold their hands in the air and wave the most powerful mobile weapon on the planet, and you have been drafted in to make sure that it doesn’t happen. So get ready for plenty of sneaking around and covert operations as you try to avoid detection and save the world.

Ico is a game for those of you with plenty of patience. I personally couldn’t get into the game that much, finding many parts frustrating if anything. But it looks beautiful and the atmosphere the last thing built is many of the physical puzzles, and those of you who can sit through the game will find it an enjoyable gaming experience.

---

Metal Gear Solid 2: Sons Of Liberty

Game Title: Metal Gear Solid 2: Sons Of Liberty
Format: PlayStation 2
Publisher: Konami
Rating: 15+

It’s been 3 years in the making and has had a budget behind it rival to those of many Hollywood movies, but Solid Snake has never been so frog-eyed. A brand new Metal Gear Solid has been unveiled, and while in transport it has been hijacked by strangers. They hold their hands in the air and wave the most powerful mobile weapon on the planet, and you have been drafted in to make sure that it doesn’t happen. So get ready for plenty of sneaking around and covert operations as you try to avoid detection and save the world.

Ico is a game for those of you with plenty of patience. I personally couldn’t get into the game that much, finding many parts frustrating if anything. But it looks beautiful and the atmosphere the last thing built is many of the physical puzzles, and those of you who can sit through the game will find it an enjoyable gaming experience.

---

Metal Gear Solid

Game Title: Metal Gear Solid
Format: XBox
Publisher: Microsoft
Rating: 3+

The semi-sequel to the excellent MSR on the Dreamcast has arrived, but do not be fooled: there is no Batman in sight. Instead, there are 25 high perfor­mance cars including the Ferrari F50, Aston Martin Vanquish, Porsche Boxter and the new Mercedes for you to race around in. Four cities have had their city centers accurately recreated for your racing pleasure, being Tokyo, London, New York and San Francisco. The game is differ­ent to your typical racer in that it is not necessarily about how fast you win a race, but more by how you do it. To this effect, the game incorporates style points称谓kudos which will be awarded to you as you pull of tricks. Crash and you lose them. Don’t and you unlock some pretty cool cars. There is plenty of challenge in there for you too, with both normal and independent online chal­lenges, giving you plenty of solo game play. Once you have some tricks up your sleeve you can split the screen and have four of you going against each other.

The graphics are excellent, with great looking cars and photorealistic recreations of the cities. There’s a great top notch with great sound effects and music. The game distance is­turing the Chemical Brothers, Stereo MCS and the Gorillaz. You can even play your own music during the game by copying tracks onto the con­sole. The controls are straightforward to get to grips with, although learning to take corners at the best effect can take a while.

---

The Pavilions Shopping Centre Swords & Tallaght
HMV offers a 10% student discount*
Eoin Murphy previews what awaits cinemagoers during the summer ahead

Spiderman. You can call him "Web head," "Web singer," or good old "Spidey," but that blue and scarlet hero is dangering on to 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 science lab.

If M. Night Shyamalan'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 great. The Green Goblin will be seeking to destroy humanity in this adaptation and is played by the inspired casting of William Dafoe. Among the big appeals of this movie is the use of CGI on Manhattan where the movie was filmed. We shall see the Goblin pumpkin bomb his way around the New York skyline chased by our eponymous hero only thanks to the computer wizardry of CGI. Having seen the trailer online, one can only describe what the artists have done on this movie as absolutely breathtaking. One must admit having reservations about the transfer the magic of Spiderman from comic to cinema real but it looks like it has been mastered. In fact this film should have been released earlier only for the devastating events of September 11th which forced the movie into a re-write as the World Trade Centre played a major role in the conclusion of the flick.

Not being the greatest Star Wars fan in the world this is the film that I will be saving up to go and see five times. These are the two major releases this summer but what else can we expect to see this summer that's movie related? At long last we will get to see the trailer for The Matrix: 'Reload,' which is due for release in late June and promises to be absolutely mind-boggling.

The film that has had more problems than the Manson family has finally finished production and select cuts are being prepared for the cinematic trailer. If you loved the first film then you will be queuing beside me to see the second one so the release of the trailer will be our first glimpse at the magic that awaits us. Speaking of trailers, The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers trailer will definitely 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 box set which will also be released mid June.

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

Still in cinemas:

Blade II is a leave-your-brain-in-the-cinema 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, gory fun all the way and one would never have envisaged Luke Goss finally seeing the question of "When will I be famous?" being answered in this way. Occasional stomaching fun that will have you buying blood for Blade II which already seems inevitable.

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 everybody, 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 laid with the musical strains of 'Smack Down,' McMahon's pseudo-sport cash cow.
By Laurence Mackin

ONCE again the academic year has drawn to a close, and with it the inevitable misgivings 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 wiseful 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 they will look back and think about how much of a good job they did throughout 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 tinged with a shade of rose.

I have been a student in Aungier St. for four years and will go 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 excel­ lently, 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 priorit­ ies in some semblance of order?

For instance, when the Rag Ball lumber​s ominously on the horizon will they again decide to see a loss-making extravaganza, or use the money to, say, organise a creche for DIT students? Could 71,000 Euro cover a creche'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 accountable 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.

By Fia Chiara Rocci Govor

Oh it's that wonderful time of the year! The summer! But this is not without its chal­ lenges and before you can relax and enjoy the balmy summer days sipping spritzers on the balcony you have one tremendous hur­ dle 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 slaved over a hot laptop every month this year trying to educate you ungodly masses into the nitty gritty of the social mainstream of which I am king. So, now what I want to do let you have a go yourselves. I think it is time that you stepped out of 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 mot to the test. I will, however, give you some advice. It's not like I'm some big fandom 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) colours. 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 stateside and see what is heading our way before it hits these shores. Then you can beat everyone else to it and be the first one with the Blahnik Afghan headscarf.

Secondly, if you don't understand or are confused then get some help. Personal shop­ pers are a true godsend and can guide you through 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 you all look around and I think you tried 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.

Best of luck to all students in their forthcoming exams!

SPECIAL STUDENT PRICE

70c

Irish Independent
Ireland's National Quality Daily.
VdeP takes Best Society Award

The DIT Societies Awards, recently held in Chief O'Neill's, Smithfield were widely hailed as a great success. The major winners on the night were:

Best Society
St Vincent de Paul - Anngier Sports

Based on the activities over the year with the Oliver Bond Housework club and fundraising of almost €600. Almost double the figure from last year. Extensive sponsorship was received from companies Sinead Whelan president of the society thanked students Union and students of the year throughout the year. It comes as a great surprise to win but we also feel it is well deserved after all our hard work, it's great to give something back to the community and help provide equal educational opportunities to a local school!

Best New/Improved Society:
DIT Sean Fein

Again based on their activity level and extensive poster and flyer campaigns they have risen to a membership of 100. They have organised speakers such as Gerry Adams, Mitchell Mc Lowthall and David Dave. Many of these meeting had to be held in Trinity College due to the lack of large rooms available in DIT. "We are thrilled to win this award and hope to do better and fulfill our objectives next year," "If students are not willing to join or have allegiance to another party. The Sinn Fein Coman would encourage them to set up a society of their own backing the party in question so as to bring politics to DIT for a whole new level through debate and seminar"

Best Event In DIT:
Drumcondra West

An event unique to DIT in its own right where 5 individual groups came together to perform an acoustics concert at the DIT Professional theatre. There winners of which Kevin Street represented the year, the possibilities are endless and their sponsors for the seeing recognition from DIT for the hard work." I would like to thank all those who helped sup-port and develop societies and their activities during the year. Including the DIT Cultural & Social Committee and the Irish Students Union and our sponsors for the awards night AIB and Heiniken," said Societies Organiser Anita Conway.

"Looking back on the year activity levels were quite high but by no means reaching their full potential. I cannot stress how much society life is an integral part of the third level experience and many of you are simply 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 Anita the DIT Societies Organiser 4507954 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 encouraging the most important CV and having great erac doing it."

Daire O'Brien, who enthralled his audience while hosting the Societies Awards at Chief O'Neill's in Smithfield

Review of the Year

AFTER a five-year absence from competitive action, DIT returned to the Ladies Soccer with a bang. The team has spent the past five years preparing for this year's campaign and are hoping to cement their position as the dominant force in the third level league. The team's first year back ended in disappointment as the side failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the AIB Funding Cup. However, the team has bounced back this year and is now in the mix for the league title with just a few games left to play. The team is currently in third place, just three points behind leaders Maynooth University. The team has already secured back-to-back wins over St. Vincent de Paul and Loughlin, both 4-1 victories, and is now looking to make it three wins in a row against Tallaght University. The team is in confident mood and is hoping to continue their winning streak.

The team's first year back ended in disappointment as the side failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the AIB Funding Cup. However, the team has bounced back this year and is now in the mix for the league title with just a few games left to play. The team is currently in third place, just three points behind leaders Maynooth University. The team has already secured back-to-back wins over St. Vincent de Paul and Loughlin, both 4-1 victories, and is now looking to make it three wins in a row against Tallaght University. The team is in confident mood and is hoping to continue their winning streak.

The team's first year back ended in disappointment as the side failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the AIB Funding Cup. However, the team has bounced back this year and is now in the mix for the league title with just a few games left to play. The team is currently in third place, just three points behind leaders Maynooth University. The team has already secured back-to-back wins over St. Vincent de Paul and Loughlin, both 4-1 victories, and is now looking to make it three wins in a row against Tallaght University. The team is in confident mood and is hoping to continue their winning streak.

The team's first year back ended in disappointment as the side failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the AIB Funding Cup. However, the team has bounced back this year and is now in the mix for the league title with just a few games left to play. The team is currently in third place, just three points behind leaders Maynooth University. The team has already secured back-to-back wins over St. Vincent de Paul and Loughlin, both 4-1 victories, and is now looking to make it three wins in a row against Tallaght University. The team is in confident mood and is hoping to continue their winning streak.

The team's first year back ended in disappointment as the side failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the AIB Funding Cup. However, the team has bounced back this year and is now in the mix for the league title with just a few games left to play. The team is currently in third place, just three points behind leaders Maynooth University. The team has already secured back-to-back wins over St. Vincent de Paul and Loughlin, both 4-1 victories, and is now looking to make it three wins in a row against Tallaght University. The team is in confident mood and is hoping to continue their winning streak.

The team's first year back ended in disappointment as the side failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the AIB Funding Cup. However, the team has bounced back this year and is now in the mix for the league title with just a few games left to play. The team is currently in third place, just three points behind leaders Maynooth University. The team has already secured back-to-back wins over St. Vincent de Paul and Loughlin, both 4-1 victories, and is now looking to make it three wins in a row against Tallaght University. The team is in confident mood and is hoping to continue their winning streak.

The team's first year back ended in disappointment as the side failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the AIB Funding Cup. However, the team has bounced back this year and is now in the mix for the league title with just a few games left to play. The team is currently in third place, just three points behind leaders Maynooth University. The team has already secured back-to-back wins over St. Vincent de Paul and Loughlin, both 4-1 victories, and is now looking to make it three wins in a row against Tallaght University. The team is in confident mood and is hoping to continue their winning streak.

The team's first year back ended in disappointment as the side failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the AIB Funding Cup. However, the team has bounced back this year and is now in the mix for the league title with just a few games left to play. The team is currently in third place, just three points behind leaders Maynooth University. The team has already secured back-to-back wins over St. Vincent de Paul and Loughlin, both 4-1 victories, and is now looking to make it three wins in a row against Tallaght University. The team is in confident mood and is hoping to continue their winning streak.

The team's first year back ended in disappointment as the side failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the AIB Funding Cup. However, the team has bounced back this year and is now in the mix for the league title with just a few games left to play. The team is currently in third place, just three points behind leaders Maynooth University. The team has already secured back-to-back wins over St. Vincent de Paul and Loughlin, both 4-1 victories, and is now looking to make it three wins in a row against Tallaght University. The team is in confident mood and is hoping to continue their winning streak.

The team's first year back ended in disappointment as the side failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the AIB Funding Cup. However, the team has bounced back this year and is now in the mix for the league title with just a few games left to play. The team is currently in third place, just three points behind leaders Maynooth University. The team has already secured back-to-back wins over St. Vincent de Paul and Loughlin, both 4-1 victories, and is now looking to make it three wins in a row against Tallaght University. The team is in confident mood and is hoping to continue their winning streak.

The team's first year back ended in disappointment as the side failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the AIB Funding Cup. However, the team has bounced back this year and is now in the mix for the league title with just a few games left to play. The team is currently in third place, just three points behind leaders Maynooth University. The team has already secured back-to-back wins over St. Vincent de Paul and Loughlin, both 4-1 victories, and is now looking to make it three wins in a row against Tallaght University. The team is in confident mood and is hoping to continue their winning streak.

The team's first year back ended in disappointment as the side failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the AIB Funding Cup. However, the team has bounced back this year and is now in the mix for the league title with just a few games left to play. The team is currently in third place, just three points behind leaders Maynooth University. The team has already secured back-to-back wins over St. Vincent de Paul and Loughlin, both 4-1 victories, and is now looking to make it three wins in a row against Tallaght University. The team is in confident mood and is hoping to continue their winning streak.

The team's first year back ended in disappointment as the side failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the AIB Funding Cup. However, the team has bounced back this year and is now in the mix for the league title with just a few games left to play. The team is currently in third place, just three points behind leaders Maynooth University. The team has already secured back-to-back wins over St. Vincent de Paul and Loughlin, both 4-1 victories, and is now looking to make it three wins in a row against Tallaght University. The team is in confident mood and is hoping to continue their winning streak.

The team's first year back ended in disappointment as the side failed to qualify for the quarter-finals of the AIB Funding Cup. However, the team has bounced back this year and is now in the mix for the league title with just a few games left to play. The team is currently in third place, just three points behind leaders Maynooth University. The team has already secured back-to-back wins over St. Vincent de Paul and Loughlin, both 4-1 victories, and is now looking to make it three wins in a row against Tallaght University. The team is in confident mood and is hoping to continue their winning streak.
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 night was a great win for the Club of the Year and providing a DIT All-Stars in the form of Desie Keegan of the DIT Men's Basketball Club.

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-finals.

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-Stars Winners.

There were also special awards for the DIT Sub-Aqua Club and Bob Coggins of the DIT Football Club. The Sub-Aqua Club was awarded for its impeccable safety record and ability to consistently compete with other clubs in the rest of the country.

The team, one of the first of its kind when established in the 1970s, is active 12 months back with 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 Corinthian spirit of the ceremony, saying, "congrats to the winners but without the competitors there would be no such thing as winners'.

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 Sports 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 DIT team powered through to the final, defeating the Maynooth College team 76-56.

The second major college competition of the year was the All-Ireland Colleges League Final in February. The DIT team defeated the Maynooth College team 84-60.

The final DIT game of the year was the Irish University Basketball Championship in January. The DIT team defeated the University College Dublin team 70-58.

The final DIT game of the year was the Irish University Basketball Championship in January. The DIT team defeated the University College Dublin team 70-58.

The following month the 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 were expected win and reach the final. But things didn't go to plan as Tallaght emerged victorious.

Basketball's triumphant term

By Sarah Graham

After clinching the ICBA Men's All Ireland Colleges League DIT basketball club was a worthy recipient of the DIT Sports 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 DIT team powered through to the final, defeating the Maynooth College team 76-56.

The second major college competition of the year was the All-Ireland Colleges League Final in February. The DIT team defeated the Maynooth College team 84-60.

The final DIT game of the year was the Irish University Basketball Championship in January. The DIT team defeated the University College Dublin team 70-58.

The following month the 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 were 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 conviction. 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 progressed to the DMBB later cup final beating St Declans, Templetoge and Llan 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.
relieve the exam stress

planet murphy & the palace nightclub, camden st.