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It's a 'bel of a ball



Page 13

Harry is top of the pots



Page 16

Battle of the student nights



Page 14

Bertie backtracks on fees promise

By Darragh Clifford

THE President of the Union of Students in Ireland, Colm Jordan has accused the Government of using stalling tactics" over the on-going debate of third-level fees.

This follows a statement by Taoiseach, Mr Bertie Ahern, prior to the Nice Treaty referendum, that fees would not be re-introduced in the lifetime of the present Government.

A letter was submitted to the Taoiseach's office some two weeks ago by USI asking that the Taoiseach state his intentions. As yet, no reply has been received.

When the *DIT Independent* contacted the Department of Education and Science, spokesman, Brian Masterson insisted that Minister Dempsey was standing firm on the fees issue and that he was fully supported by all

members of the government.

However, he did admit that the matter was still under review.

Colm Jordan stated that "unfortunately, politicians in this country have a tendency to say one thing before polling day and the complete opposite the next.

We have delivered a letter to the Taoiseach requesting that he confirm that this is still the case".

When opposition members in the Dáil quizzed Minister for Education Mr Noel Dempsey on the matter, he insisted that the matter was still under review.

Mr Dempsey said that "considering the time lapse since the introduction of free fees, and the major question mark hanging over the achievement of the stated purpose behind them, it seems entirely appropriate to me that measures should be



The Taoiseach, Mr Bertie Ahern, released a statement prior to the Nice Treaty referendum, that fees would not be re-introduced in the lifetime of the present Government

fundamentally reviewed".

USI is asking the Government to clarify its position on third-level fees, as they are concerned that the Taoiseach made the statement

to boost his public opinion while seeking a yes vote in last month's Nice Referendum.

Further protests are due to take place around the country

in the upcoming weeks. Waterford IT and Tallaght IT will take to the streets on Tuesday November 19th, with Letterkenny IT and DIT continuing the protest on November 26th.

USI has estimated that if college fees were introduced, the cost of an average four-year course could be up to €50,000.

The ongoing protests by students across the country is the single largest student movement the country has ever seen.

But if the threat of fees is to be eradicated, students must continue to march.

Colm Jordan has told the *DIT Independent* that their position on the subject of fees is clear: that all students should be entitled to free education.

Spokesperson on Education for the Labour Party, Ms Jan O'Sullivan has

also stated that education is one of the many services that society must provide as of right and pay through taxes.

The debate on fees has now entered its fifth month since Minister Dempsey announced back in July that the registration fee was to increase by 69%.

When USI initially objected to this, Minister Dempsey wanted to meet the student group in November. USI objected, and a meeting between Dempsey and USI took place on September 4th.

However, in September the Government started floating the idea that full third-level fees would be introduced to those who could afford them.

While the government are adamant that they are standing firm on the fees issue, USI are also intent on stepping up their campaign for the right to a free education.

Massive student support for Chernobyl

By Aisling Casey

THOUSANDS of students turned out in Dublin to take part in the annual 10km sponsored walk in aid of the Chernobyl Children's Project.

The event, which took place on Thursday 14th, received great support from Irish students who braved a 10km trek to the Phoenix Park, in an effort to raise funds for the Chernobyl Children's Project.

Students from over 10 of the capital's colleges joined as one to support the charity event, which has become a key date on the student academic calendar.

10K Walk Co-Ordinator, Chris Newell said, "Irish students have shown a long standing commitment to the aid of the Chernobyl disaster. The success of the walk has led to the saving of the lives of countless children in Belarus, the Ukraine and Western Russia."

The money raised will pay for surgery, education, physiotherapy, decent accommodation in orphanages, medical and mental development for retarded children.

DIT students played a vital role in making the event a success and hope to raise an estimated €100,000 for the charity.

There was great enthusiasm as DIT students left their respective campuses to head to the Phoenix Park. DIT President, Hugh O'Reilly said, "It has been a mammoth effort by all concerned."

However, the 10k is only one of a number of activities DIT students partook in to raise funds.

The annual Halloween Ball raised an estimated €5,000 with students from DIT enjoying a fun filled night at Anabel's nightclub.

Others decided to be more daring participating in sponsored leg waxing and head shaving. Also, students in DIT's northside campuses held a 70's theme night in Shooters on Parnell St to raise money.

Every penny raised will go toward the care of children still suffering from the effects of the world's worst environmental disaster.

It is expected that an estimated €500,000 will be raised for the cause this year.



Students from over 10 of the capital's colleges joined as one to support the 10k Walk

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NEWS

DIT seek successor to throne

By Aisling Casey

AFTER ten years in office, Dr Brendan Goldsmith is set to hang up his boots, as DIT search to find a new president to take on the challenge.

The hunt is now on for a suitable candidate to implement DIT's strategic plan, which covers developments at the Institute over the next decade. As well as a chance to take up a highly prestigious post at the largest third level college on the island, there is also a very lucrative salary of €161,000 for the top job.

Dr Goldsmith became the President of DIT in 1993 to serve a ten-year term.

Although there have been a few hiccups along the way, he has succeeded in achieving the two main objectives which he set when he first took office. Firstly, in achieving a level where DIT can award its own PHDs and secondly in its quest to find a suitable campus to build on DIT's development.

According to college sources, candidates likely to feature are Dr Ellen Hazelkorn, head of the Applied Arts faculty, Mr Paul O'Sullivan, Director of the Faculty of Business and Mr Michael Mulvey, Director of the Faculty of Tourism and Food. However, they may face stiff competition from

applicants abroad.

Following last month's public embarrassment of DIT's financial situation, when students were sent home due to lack of funds, the new president will have a tough job on his/her hands. The aim of the President will be to get DIT back on track to build on its position as a leading technological institute and ultimately as a university.

The President will have a key leadership role in carrying forward initiatives arising from the implementation of DIT's Strategic Plan for the period to 2015. The recent acquisition of the site at

Grangegorman now presents an opportunity for the achievement of DIT's vision for the future.

With over €26 million secured for research and innovation over the coming years, DIT can now focus on developing DIT as an institution which is at the cutting-edge in the application of technology in all of its activities.

With advertisements placed in newspapers worldwide over the last fortnight inviting applications for the post, there is expected to be a high level of interest in the esteemed job.



After ten years in office, Dr Brendan Goldsmith is set to hang up his boots,



The Overall View Hugh O'Reilly

Hello everybody,
We are now into November and I suppose everyone is preparing for Christmas. There's been a lot happening over the last month so I'll just fill you in.
We have managed to get back to some form of reality in Mountjoy Square with the staffing hours increased and students returning to class. May I thank and congratulate the students for their patience and resolve during the whole issue and I am glad to see that the Status Quo has almost returned although it would, perhaps, be prudent not to celebrate just yet... the battle is won but...
Aungier Street is still unfinished. The college is fast running out of money for the Phase 2 project and this means that the whole student area is suffering as a consequence. We have fought long and hard to have the area complete and have received commitments from DIT that this will be the case. We know it is not a perfect situation but we are asking for your patience for a little while more.
The 10K has come and gone and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who took part. It has been a mammoth effort by all concerned and it looks like your contribution to the campaign is considerable so thank you all again.
Finally, this time of year proves to be the time when students, particularly first year students, have serious doubts and problems within their course. Was it the right choice? Am I able for it? Can I afford to be in college? And many, many more questions are asked by students around this time of year. Well if any of you are asking these type's of questions about yourselves and your course then you should talk to someone.
DIT has recently set up a student retention office in Rathmines to deal with these issues. It is headed by Frank Costello and he has asked me to remind you that if any of you are having doubts then please come and talk to him, a chaplain, a counsellor, a friend or the SU and we will do all we can to help you make the right decision about staying on, or dropping out of college. Often a student does not need to drop out of college completely but just needs a change of course so bear that in mind.
Take care and talk soon,
Hugh

Continuity needed in smoking issue

By Darragh Clifford

IT IS common practice in major cities in the United States, but that doesn't mean that it is okay. If you walk through New York's Wall Street district, chances are you will see scores of workers standing around, smoking. Ditto DIT.

At a time when the Government is gearing up to its strongest anti-smoking legislation yet, Dublin Institution of Technology is lacking in a fundamental ruling on smoking.

If you study in Bolton Street, you are unable to smoke within the building, whereas you can in Kevin Street. In Aungier Street, students returned this September to find the smoking section of the canteen gone, with no alternative.

As a result of this, students have taken to congregating



DIT could do with investing in some much needed ashtrays

outside their various buildings in their hundreds. Darren O'Connor, a third year marketing student at Aungier Street, is not happy: "You have to draw the line

somewhere. Smokers must be given their own space where they can smoke. I mean it's crazy. You come back to college and you can smoke nowhere. Just give us a room

where we can smoke, and the non-smokers can choose not to go into it."

Aungier Street students' union president Paul Malone is also unhappy with the situation. "It can be very intimidating for anybody walking through the front doors, having to make their way through dozens of smokers", he stated.

The issue of smoking has been brought up at the last faculty review meeting by Paul Malone and is hoping that by Christmas, DIT will have a definite solution to the problem. But this will be difficult as their seems to be confusion over the present legislation.

Smoking is prohibited in all Government and public buildings, yet rooms must be allocated for people who want to smoke.

These rooms cannot facilitate the preparation of

food, which means all college canteens must be non-smoking. In Aungier Street, the new students' union is due to open in January, with extra pool tables and arcade games promised. According to Paul Malone, smoking will be permitted in this area.

The only problem is that the students union is situated in the basement of the college. A proper ventilation system must be put in place to prevent the union becoming just one cloud of smoke. All this is bad news for smokers at DIT. If the Minister for Health and Children, Mr Micheál Martin gets his way, and there is growing evidence that he will, a severe clampdown on smoking in pubs and restaurants will be enforced. Also, given that the Government is running out of money, expect a price increase for cigarettes in December's budget.

Gay students fear 'coming out'

By Aisling Casey

IN AN effort to stamp out discrimination and intimidation of gay students in Irish colleges, USI has launched a campaign to help students feel at ease with their sexuality.

USI believes that many students in Irish colleges are now afraid to 'come out' because they fear 'discrimination and intimidation'.

The lesbian, gay and bisexual rights campaign is urging students and college staff to promote a 'culture of tolerance' that will eradicate discrimination or harassment that may be leaving gay students

uncomfortable.

According to statistics, one in ten people are gay, lesbian or bisexual and USI's LGB Rights Officer Iain Gill believes that it is very important that people are made aware of the treatment gay people receive.

Gill said, "In reality, college is a place where everyone comes out in one way or another. Students discover, develop and express their individuality and sexuality, this is no different for either heterosexuals or LGB students, however as society presumes everyone is straight, there is an

essential need to promote their presence to Students Union officers and students."

USI receives calls daily from students afraid of 'coming out' because of an air of discrimination, intimidation and abusive bullying which surrounds gay people and college culture.

Brian (19) is a DIT student who is not openly gay outside his close circle of friends.

He is uncomfortable in disclosing his sexuality while at college. "Its great being in college, there are so many people from so many different places which

means I can be in a sense anonymous about my sexuality. Not that it is an issue, the question generally just doesn't arise."

When asked if he would answer truly about his sexuality if a classmate asked him, Brian was unsure.

He said, "I would have to feel comfortable with that person before I would tell them. It's hard to predict what kind of reaction you could get even from people who you think are your friends".

LGB Officer, Iain Gill added, "In your time at college, you will meet people from a whole range



USI's LGB Rights Officer Iain Gill

of backgrounds, with many different viewpoints and life experiences. College should be a place to celebrate that diversity...quite clearly a lot of work still has to be done on a local and national level", Gill added.

NEWS

DIT Independent

The Weakest Link

IN TYPICAL fashion, it looks like the government really believes it has identified the weakest link in its economic crisis. It is none other than the student populace. Although An Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern gave his unwritten word that he would not reintroduce fees in the lifetime of his government prior to the Nice Treaty, it looks like a promise long forgotten.

The question on everyone's minds is, "Where is all the money gone?" Minister for Finance Charlie McCreevy is at this very moment racking his brains trying to work out if he should borrow a few billion to keep the Irish economy afloat. To help his friend out in Finance, Minister Dempsey has decided to hold out his hand and give a little back to McCreevy to the detriment of the Irish students and their families. He has done this by firstly increasing the college registration fee and now he is adamant that the only way forward is to reintroduce college fees.

But does this not mean that thousands of families will be eliminated from higher education? Of course it does. Let's not be naïve here. Any family where both parents are earning the minimum wage would be forced to pay out large sums to educate their children.

But what has happened to the economy that made us the envy of the world? According to documents issued under the Freedom of Information Act to USI, the government used the 250 rise in the registration fee to secure savings to the exchequer.

But there is something else we are indirectly paying for - the Government Savings Scheme or the 'Free Money Scheme' as it is otherwise known. For every 100 you put in, you get 25 interest. Okay, it's too late to go back now and maybe such a sharp downturn in the economy could not have been predicted but we will pay for this mistake.

So, is there a way forward? Well, if the Minister intends on standing firm on his position, then students will stand firm on their right to an education.

Irish soccer in the hands of Keane

One would have thought that Mick McCarthy's departure would have opened up our soccer future once more but no, we are still at a standstill. And who is responsible? Roy Keane, the man who is now holding Irish soccer on a tight leash.

Mick had no other choice but to leave. From the moment he sent Roy Keane back home from Saipan he had hung himself. His refusal to deal with Keane when the European Championship qualifiers began, as well as his insistence on loyalty to poor players, infuriated fans even more. The talk of a media headhunt can be discounted: McCarthy built a good team and had done a good job but he wasn't doing a good job when he was sacked. He knew it, the players knew it, the FAI knew it and the fans certainly knew it.

Roy Keane now has Irish soccer in his hands. Whether he decides to come back or not is his choice but it would be fair to say that he owes a lot to his Irish fans. From the moment he left the team during the World Cup, he was defended by a majority of supporters for his behaviour. And yes, I believe he had every right to have it out with Mick over the conditions in Saipan.

However, he has no right to hold Irish soccer to ransom. Keane is now waiting to see who the next manager will be before he decides whether or not he will return to play for his country. In effect, Keane is choosing the next Ireland manager. He knows he has the upper hand and is taking full advantage of this privilege. What the Irish fans need to know is whether or not their 'hero' will return? Unlike poor old Mick, the fans cannot choose Keane's fate. He will call the shots.


It is the policy of the DIT Independent to correct any inaccuracies as soon as they occur. An corrections or clarifications will be printed in the next edition of the newspaper. It is also the policy of the DIT Independent to offer the right of reply to any person who feels aggrieved by comment or opinion contained within. Please forward any such comments in writing to the Editor. The views expressed do not necessarily reflect the policies of the Students' Union.

The DIT Independent

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Dublin students receive housing knockback

By Colin McGann

STUDENTS looking for accommodation in the Dublin area may once again have to fork out exorbitant sums to secure a place to live. This blow comes following a new housing study conducted by DIT.

The report, produced by the Society of Chartered Surveyors in association with DIT, found there will be a huge shortfall in the supply of new homes for Dublin. The research team from DIT's Faculty of the Built Environment, conducted a 12 month research programme. They concluded that "present housing policies are causing continued constraints on

housing supply, with a negative impact on general affordability."

"The huge shortfall in new house completions is still an issue and this new study is our second 'wake-up call' to government", states SCS president John Daly. "As long as supply production levels remain at 10,000 units per annum, the annual demand in excess of 15,000 new homes will continue to support the existing unaffordable house prices in the Dublin market".

Finding houses in Dublin has become a major problem for students to the extent that some now pay rent from the month of August onwards.

Many students who go abroad for the Summer are left searching for accommodation well into October and November, time that should be spent meeting college deadlines.

Accommodation agencies provide another problem for students. Finding a house through 'The Evening Herald', or other newspapers has become near impossible and when resorting to agencies they are required to pay fees of up to 50 euro each to find a house.

Over the last three years, rent for student accommodation has risen by almost a third. While the quality of student housing

hasn't improved greatly, the price continues to rise. Brian Connellan, a Dublin student from Dundalk, has decided to commute to college daily. "It takes me between an hour and a half and two hours to get to college every morning. It seems crazy but the only house I could find was out in Malahide and it would take me just as long. At least this way I'm not paying 80 euro a week on rent."

For the moment this report throws no light on the issue. Students will have to be content with paying exorbitant rents for sub standard accommodation in order to avail of the privilege of going to college in Dublin.

Minister standing firm on fees



Minister Dempsey speaking with DIT President Dr Brendan Goldsmith

By Darragh Clifford

THE MINISTER for Education, Mr Noel Dempsey is showing no sign of backing down over plans to reintroduce third-level fees for the first time in six years. Speaking during a Dáil sitting last week, he vehemently defended the Government's position on the situation.

A rejuvenated Labour Party, along with Fine Gael, launched a scathing attack on the Minister for Education during the sitting, branding the Government's stance as a "false argument".

Ms Joan Burton, Labour's finance spokesperson and former lecturer with DIT, stated that the proposed mean tests, in her view, were no way to distribute wealth and benefits. Mr Dempsey defended what he called "student support measures".

The Labour spokesperson on education, Ms Jan O'Sullivan, said that access to education, at all levels, was a right in which a good society should provide for its citizens through the tax system.

"There are some services that society must provide as of right and pay for through taxes, and surely, equality of access to education is one of them", she stated.

However, Mr Dempsey stated that "considering the time lapse since the introduction of free fees, and the major

question mark over the achievement of the stated purpose behind them, it seems entirely appropriate to me that measures should be fundamentally reviewed".

Labour retaliated by condemning the "repeated threat" to reintroduce fees and called for the immediate reversal of the 69% registration fee charge.

This latest public statement from the Minister for Education is the strongest indication yet that third-level fees will be returning for those who can afford them.

It seems that the continuing protests by students in DIT and the rest of the country are falling on deaf ears. Dempsey continued in the Dáil last Tuesday night by asking: "can we as a society continue to justify the expenditure of millions of euro from within the finite resources available for student supports in order to meet the costs of free fees for children of those in the highest income brackets when, at the same time, all the evidence tells us that those at the other end of the economic spectrum continue to be excluded from third-level education?"

He continued by saying that the free-scheme has not served its initial purpose as studies have shown that the majority of third-level students hailed from well-off families.

Job hunting made easier with DIT

A new website aimed at facilitating people looking for, and offering jobs has been launched by Dublin Institute of Technology's Careers Service. Known as Choice@dit.ie, the website offers a comprehensive service to students, graduates and employers.

Choice encompasses a number of services to both job seekers and employers including the opportunity for employers to notify final year students and recent graduates of employment opportunities as they arise in their organisation. In excess of 2,000 final year student and graduate CV's can be searched by registered companies.

In addition, employers can provide job vacancy details, a direct link to their website and a facility for job applications to be sent via email, online or by post. Upon entering the site, the visitor is met with three icons: student, graduate and employer. Within the student selection is the opportunity to compile your own CV or search the site for listed jobs.

The listed areas that a student can search for a job are quite comprehensive in the business, science and engineering end of things. However, for students studying applied arts or music subjects, there are no listed areas. Margaret Daly, DIT Employer Liaison Officer said that "this is a radical new approach to the provision of job information and puts the Institute at the leading edge of development in this area. Clients using the website will be taken through a sequential, structured approach and will engage with information that is focused on where they are at their present stage of development".

You can visit the site at www.choiceatdit.ie

CIMA present in DIT

CIMA, the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants, will be presenting to Business/Accountancy students on Wednesday 20th November. CIMA offer a recognised qualification in management accountancy and is the voice of over 74,000 students and 57,000 members worldwide. CIMA's focus on management functions makes them unique, and they are internationally recognised as offering the financial qualification for business. In a recent survey 68% of employers in the UK chose CIMA as their preferred professional qualification and with the average CIMA member earning in excess of €70,000 we at DIT look forward to the attendance of CIMA to our campus on this date. For further details please contact: the CIMA office on 01-6761721 or dublin@cimaglobal.com, or visit their website www.cimaglobal.com



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And we thought Haughey was bad

AS international reputations go, Irish politics has hit an all-time low. Recent tribunals have revealed a system rotten to the very core. Cast your eyes to France where not only do they have the crooks but also there's a nasty dose of militant racism thrown into the mix.

The main Irish crooks are Ray Burke, Liam Lawlor, Charlie Haughey and Michael Lowry. One suspects that list of famous politicians will grow in the coming months.

However, there is some comfort to be taken from the fact that these men were nothing more than cute hours; small-town chancers who got into the politics game to make money. Lawlor, for example, spent his political life as a Dublin-West TD, never once making it to cabinet-level. But the French are always one step ahead of the rest.

Donal Griffin investigates French President Jacques Chirac's shady history

Jacques Chirac has been around for a long time. So long, in fact, that it was he who led negotiations with the protesting students in France in the 1960's.

He became Prime Minister in 1969. It's difficult to tell exactly when the corruption began although his election as mayor of Paris in 1977 is a good place to start.

French mayors actually wield power, unlike their Irish equivalents, and nowhere is there more power than in Paris.

During his lengthy term of office (1977-1995), Chirac was involved in a massive kickback scheme for his RPR party. Public secondary

schools in Paris in the 1980's were badly in need of refurbishment. Chirac, as mayor, was responsible for choosing the best construction company for the job.

The Parisian population was three times that of Ireland in the 1980's so the contracts would have been huge.

In order to find favour with the mayor, it seems all a company had to do was send him a sizeable backhand and the contract was theirs. Chirac was also party to a similar scheme involving the allocation of public housing contracts.

Irish people were disgusted

by the revelations of Charles Haughey's ill-gotten millions. But some comfort can be taken by how paltry this seems in comparison with Chirac.

Haughey received over £13m in gifts but this took place over twenty years. In 1986, Chirac had a meeting with a group of characters looking for a public housing contract.

Five million francs, roughly €600,000, was passed across the table in order to secure the contract. This was not an exceptional payment; it was just common practice with Chirac.

Such amounts of money have to be accounted for so an arrangement emerged between the donating firms and the RPR party. The firms would create fictitious jobs and pretend to hire members of the RPR.

Accounts would then show why there were vast sums of cash flowing towards the party and would cover the posteriors of all involved.

Chirac's other means of disposing of the bribes was to spend it on family holidays, e.g. the £300,000 the Chiracs spent between 1992 and 1995. Which certainly puts Charlie's £16,000 shirt-splurge in the shade.

Like Haughey and Burke, Chirac has endured allegations about his corruption for most of his political life.

He probably thought nothing would come of the allegations until, in 1999, a political scandal rocked France.

Investigators had been sniffing around Chirac and the man who organised the kickback scheme, Jean-Claude Mery, for a couple of years. While under investigation, Chirac had been elected President of France. Mery, dying of cancer, made a taped confession and instructed his solicitor to send it to Le Monde, the largest French daily newspaper, after he died.

Unfortunately for the French prosecutors, who were probably salivating at the thought of finally nailing Chirac, the thorny issue of the French Constitution reared its head. According to



Jacques Chirac - as corrupt as our very own Charlie Haughey

this document, the President cannot be tried while in office other than for high treason. Chirac hid behind the Constitution and the French High Court ruled with him. Fine, said the prosecutors, but when he leaves office, he's toast.

"It's difficult to tell exactly when the corruption began although his election as mayor of Paris in 1977 is a good place to start"

This brings us up to May 2002 when Chirac thought he would chance a second term of office (a cushy way of avoiding a nasty corruption trial).

French voters chose to eliminate the sleaze-free Prime Minister, Lionel Jospin, after the first round of the Presidential Elections. 18% voted in favour of Jean Marie Le Pen, the anti-Semitic, Muslim-baiting leader of le Front National, who has called for all those born outside of France as well as their French-born children to be deported (roughly a quarter of the French population).

Shocked by what they had allowed to happen, French voters rallied around Chirac for the second round and gave him 82% of the vote.

Chirac won't have to face any investigations until 2007, at which stage he will be 74. Five years is a long time in politics and the chances are he will have weathered the storm.

So, when receiving criticism from a mocking foreigner, admit that, yes, our political system is morally bankrupt and, yes, Fianna Fail seem to have a conveyor belt set up to produce scandals.

But then point them towards the French. We didn't elect as our President someone who was actually under investigation at the time. And we didn't elect him a second time when he ran in order to avoid being prosecuted. Nor did we elect him because the only opposition was a racist who recommended deporting a quarter of the population. And we didn't give the racist 18% of our vote either.

Now, that takes some doing.



Charles Haughey, not as bad as Jacques Chirac

Why Q?

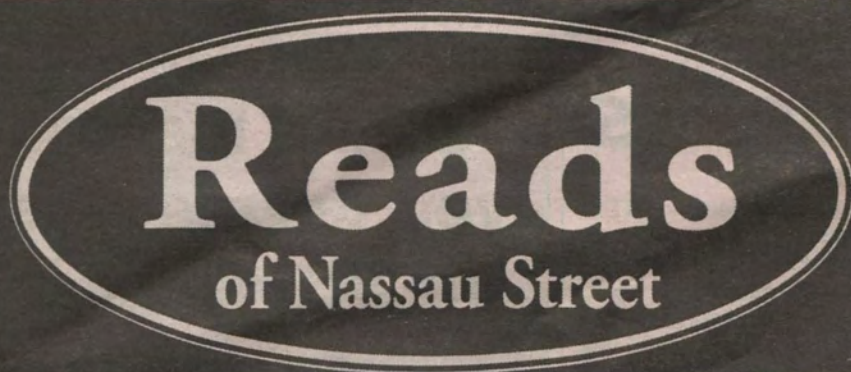
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FEATURES

Gay pride for DIT students

IT IS far from the Stonewall Marches of '69 with its needless physical violence and death that we find ourselves today, however, pockets of internalised homophobia do exist, both in college and in public.

It is a little over 10 days since posters went 'missing' in DIT Kevin St, and only 6 weeks when 3 gay men over a 2-week period were savagely beaten in Dublin's City Centre. This spate of intolerance rears its ugly head every few years. When students come to college irrespect of race, creed, socio-economic background, ability, disability of orientation, they should be able to feel free to express themselves in a manner they feel appropriate. They certainly shouldn't have to suffer any emotional/physical violence or intimidation.

Ireland and its political leaders boast so proudly of our 'equality' for all peoples-where is the equality when people suffer needlessly over the most privately of issues? If this were the case, people wouldn't have to hide their true lives and would not have to lie to parents, family and friends.

It should be made known that 1 in 3 teenage suicides occurs due to homophobia. Sexual orientation should in no way be the prevailing factor in a persons life-it should only be a piece of the puzzle which happily co-habitates with the person. Some feel the need to come out, some don't, and sadly enough in this day and age-some live in fear, and this very real fear revolves around 'gay bashing'.



Through the eyes of a student

Gay students should be able to feel free to express themselves, writes John Dunne



It is a little over 10 days since posters went 'missing' in DIT Kevin St

The DIT LGB society acts as a resource for anyone (irrespect of orientation) who may find him/herself in a situation they should not have to face alone.

The society has gone through various stages of activity-from a quiet, almost subdued society to a vibrant and dynamic society, winning 'most improved society' 2 years ago at the DIT Awards Night. In the past, the LGB has experienced a rocky and unsettling time, with peers and staff in DIT-this could be viewed as discriminatory and offensive, highlighting the need for an LGB campaign to

attack, and break the homophobia barrier that exists in the educational circle of life.

The Union of Students of Ireland launched a LGB campaign 2 weeks ago in an attempt to re-integrate the LGB movement in modern day colleges. It is sickening to hear of Galway's LGB "Pluto" being spat at on clubs'n'socs day. We are very much aware that some people may not accept members but who asked for acceptance? We ask for tolerance, tolerance in an ever-changing world.

On a personal note, when I

first started coming to DIT in September 1998, I was not 'out' but yet I knew I was gay from a very early age. Society stereotypes everyone as being 'straight' but this view has to change, the world is no more black and white but very much a vivid vibrant array of colour. I always remember the anti-gay slogans in the toilets and remember hearing people talking about such matters which made me hide in my box 'til I said enough is enough. Some people don't care what way people are or who u hold hands with, or who you got to bed with, but some narrow minded, ignorant people still perceive glbt issues as disgusting or offensive. What does it matter to you what someone else does in the privacy of their own home? As long as no civil laws are broken-this futile matter should not need such aggression or not meet such hostility.

The ethos behind this society is to break down the stereotypical barriers (and we are all guilty of stereotyping people from time to time. This society is open to anyone who wants to come along, sit, listen and talk to people. We actively welcome anyone, staff or student who wants to ask questions on any issue, to either contact the editor of the paper, or any of the students unions, or the societies organiser Anita Conway who can put you in contact with me, or the council. The USI campaign posters around college ask simple questions, the most effective is "If 1 in 10 are gay, how many gay people do you know, and are they afraid to tell you?"

"Excuse me, could you tell me where the STD Clinic is?"

Visiting a Genital Urinary Medicine clinic is supposed to be a worthwhile experience and a vital move for anyone who has had one or more sexual partners. **Joanne Burke** braves the reality of an STD check-up

MAKING the appointment was the easiest part. A bored receptionist answered the telephone. Yes, it's my first appointment. No, it's not an emergency. Yes, two weeks from Tuesday would be fine.

St James' Hospital in Rialto was the destination. I assumed I was looking for a sign reading GUM (Genital Urinary Medicine) clinic or Infectious Diseases or even STD clinic, so I was slightly unnerved when none of these options were on the large signboard.

I tried the nearby Blood Testing Centre for directions. There, a kindly receptionist told me how to find the clinic, adding that I was the fifth person that morning looking for the STI clinic.

STI? How many names can one clinic have? Ten minutes later, I reached a white building with a large conservatory and a small, discreet sign saying GUM Clinic.

The conservatory seemed to be the waiting room so I took a ticket from the machine on the wall and waited. About ten people were waiting to be called. The queue moved quickly and I was relieved when my number was called - the silence was unsettling.



Condoms are a must when it comes to your protection

Once a receptionist had taken my details and given me an identity number to ensure anonymity, I was told to wait in the corridor around the corner until I was called.

I was somewhat surprised to read a sign on the wall, which read 'A waiting time of at least two hours should be expected'. Once I had rounded the corner, I understood why. At least fifteen people lined the walls of the narrow corridor and a further ten or twelve sat on wooden chairs in a small rectangular waiting area. I settled against the wall for a long wait.

Over the next hour and a half, I covertly scrutinised the wide variety of people waiting to be seen. I don't know what I had been anticipating.

I know anyone can be infected with a sexually transmitted infection but subconsciously I think I was expecting to see dodgy-looking characters.

Despite the receptionist's assurances, any hopes of anonymity were dashed as nurses with clipboards

rushed by calling out various names. Some people seemed to know where they were going; perhaps they were on their second or third visit. Others moved uncertainly, heads bent low.

Eventually, my name was called. I hurried after a young nurse who led me to the Health Advisor's office.

The Health Advisor was a dark-haired woman in her thirties. Despite the fact that she had probably seen more than fifty people already that day, she seemed kind and efficient and really put me at ease.

I told her that I just wanted a check-up, despite having no symptoms. I didn't want to seem like a time waster, so I was relieved when she told me I was doing the right thing and she wished more people did likewise.

I was thankful to be led immediately to another room where a young nurse carried out an examination.

Five minutes later I told to go back out and join the other queue and wait for my blood samples to be taken. Names were not called this time, you just waited your turn until a nurse opened the door and

called "Next".

Two blood samples were taken. The nurse explained that she was testing me for AIDS, Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and Syphilis.

That was it. I was finished. My results would be back in two weeks. I could come back for a further visit and get the results in person or I could ring the Health Advisor.

As I left the building, which was just as packed as when I had first arrived two and a half hours earlier, it finally dawned on me that all of the nervous-looking people waiting were just the same as me and were all doing the right thing.

However, I was glad that there had been nobody there I had recognised and that I would be getting my results over the telephone.

Two weeks later, I got my results and was relieved not to be going back.

Although it was certainly worthwhile and something I would recommend to anyone, attending a GUM clinic still has a stigma attached to it.

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FEATURES

Urban Myths



cocaine was originally in the formulation is hard to determine, but the drink undeniably contained some cocaine in its early days.

When cocaine was an ingredient of Coca-Cola the public debate over cocaine was just beginning.

The negative aspects were just being discussed and, in order to maintain the trade name Coca-Cola, the makers of the drink decided to keep a trace element of cocaine in it. Candler and Robinson, the makers of the drink, were anxious to continue promoting the supposed benefits of the coca leaf, but there was no reason to risk putting more than a tiny bit of coca extract in their syrup. They cut the amount to a mere trace.

How much cocaine was in that "mere trace" is impossible to say, but we do know that by 1902 it was as little as 1/400 of a grain of cocaine per ounce of syrup. Coca-Cola didn't become completely cocaine-free until 1929, but there was scarcely any of the drug left in the drink by then.

So, yes, at one time there was cocaine in Coca-Cola. But consider the following.

Back in 1885 it was quite common to use cocaine in patent medicines (which is what Coca-Cola was originally marketed as) and other medical potions. When it first became general knowledge

that cocaine could be harmful, the backroom chemists that comprised the Coca-Cola company at the time (long before it became the huge company we now know) did everything they could to remove every trace of cocaine from the beverage. What was left behind wasn't enough to give a fly a buzz.

Claim: Charlie Chaplin once lost a Charlie Chaplin look-alike contest.

Status: True.

As "Chaplinitis" swept across American around 1915, Charlie Chaplin look-alike contests became a popular form of entertainment. (Actually, the competitions were really contests to see who could imitate the "tramp" character popularised by Chaplin, as few people would have recognised Chaplin himself without his familiar costume, moustache, and makeup.)

Legend has it that Chaplin himself once entered — and lost — one of these competitions. It is usually said the contest was held in Monte Carlo or Switzerland, and that he came in second or third. (Some versions claim that Chaplin's brother Syd was judged the winner.)

Chaplin did indeed fare poorly in a Chaplin look-alike contest, but the competition took place in a San Francisco theatre. His final standing is not recorded, although it was noted that he "failed even to make the finals."

Chaplin told a reporter at this time that he was "tempted to give lessons in the Chaplin walk, out of pity as well as in the desire to see the thing done correctly."

Claim: Kevin's geeky sidekick in TV's "The Wonder Years" grew up to be evil incarnate, Marilyn Manson.

Status: False.

Rumor has it that before launching into his music and mayhem career, shock rocker Marilyn Manson played Kevin Arnold's sidekick, the geeky-but-lovable Paul Pfeiffer, on the popular TV series The Wonder Years. In fact, it's not even close. Josh Saviano played Kevin's sidekick Paul. It, like most of these Urban Myths, is a re-hashing of an

age-old tale with new, modern characters put in to freshen it up.

Many high profile stars have been alleged to have been adorable child stars only to turn into demonic or depraved adult stars—for example, Billy Corgan, Alice Cooper and even Madonna was supposed to have been on the TV programme Bewitched as a small child Saviano himself finds the rumours interesting and entertaining.

As well he might, since he's had a lot of time on his hands since the end of the Wonder Years series.



Marilyn Manson is not geeky Kevin from 'The Wonder Years'!

Ireland used to be a hive of activity for myths and legends. We had the fairies and the banshees, not to mention the ghosts, ghouls and spectres of our towns and villages. In generations gone people used to gather around fires to frighten the life out of each other.

In modern times, ancient myths and legends have vanished, replaced by new, modern Urban Legends. Instead of fairy forts and the little people, we have tales of axe-wielding lunatics in the backs of cars, rude words hidden in Disney films and Popes selling Zyklon-B to the Nazis.

The DIT Independent will investigate these myths and bring you the true stories, the false myths and the downright ridiculous tales. Enjoy.

Myth: Coca-Cola used to contain cocaine.

Status: True

Coca-Cola was named back in 1885 for its two "medicinal" ingredients: extract of coca leaves and kola nuts. Just how much

By Sean Fay

WORST thing about going back to college in September? It has got to be being asked "so what did you do for the summer?" for the millionth time, especially when you have spent the entire summer season in a poxy Dublin restaurant or call-centre paying off debts incurred during the previous college year.

All this of course is made worse when your classmate Mossey from Tralee, tells you how he spent his summer swimming with dolphins in the Caribbean while being fed grapes by some Brazilian beauty and getting paid for it. The standard reply to Mossey's story is layered with bitter and jealous undertones.

However when these situations occur you just have to think about those less fortunate than yourself. Take comfort in other peoples misery; be glad you don't have one of the Top 5 worst jobs in the world.

Number 5. European Porn Store Clerk.

Ok, so the porn industry in Ireland solely consists of all those magazines just north of FHM and Loaded in Easons and a few dodgy adult shops, which could hardly be classified in the same league as a European Porn Store.

So at least you won't be stuck in Ireland with this job. And, yes, you also get to watch porn all day but slow down and think before you start running off to Amsterdam with your CV.

The Porn Stores of Europe contain "special video booths", what the layman

The top five worst jobs - Graduates, beware!

affectionately calls a "wank tank". As the Porn Store clerk it is your job to clean up any "mess" that may be left behind by your customers. No more information needed, methinks.

Number 4. Track Maintenance.

Every go to the toilet on a train and wonder where your "waste" goes? If you have ever been inter-railing, you don't, as there is no fancy system on European trains to hide the fact that it goes straight on the track. The cleaning up of such material falls

into the remit of a Track Maintenance Worker, who has a pretty bad job as it is. So next time you're on a train and you really have to go, think of these guys and try and hold it in.

Number 3. Working in a pudding Factory.

Most people know that black pudding is made from pig's blood. I find that alone pretty disgusting but I know a lot of people love the stuff, and it is often added to the perennial student favourite: the breakfast roll. What you may not know is that those who work in the pudding factories have to go through the unenviable task of scooping out pigs veins and arteries from a big basin of warm blood before the blood can be turned into the tasty breakfast snack you know and love. I guess it's not all bad because at least the veins and the arteries float to the top so you don't have to go fishing

Number 2. Colonic Therapist.

A bit of an obvious one, this. I doubt very much that many children have said "daddy, daddy when I grow up I want to stick a tube up somebody's rectum and wash away any toxic waste that might be in their colon."

If, however, it has always been your dream to become a colonic therapist, some of the many delights waiting for you to flush out of the colon included: impacted faeces, dead cellular tissue, accumulated mucous, parasites and worms. And if you don't know what half of them are exactly, you're not the only one.

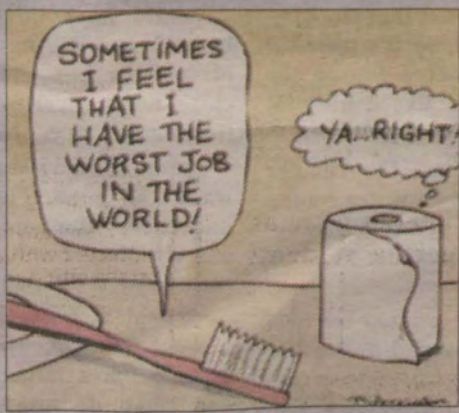
If you want to make it to the big time, the Champions League of colonic therapy, then I recommend you go across the water to the U.K because according to the Association and Register of Colon Hydrotherapists, the U.K is the most constipated country in the world. A useless fact for you all.

Number 1. Artificial Insemination of Animals.

There are many fancy machines in the farming world today, but nothing can hide the fact that "extraction of semen" from males animals that is then later inseminated (fancy word, huh?) into a female has to be done manually. Yes, people, we are talking about jerking off animals, in particular horses and dogs.

So, if this summer you are stuck in a rubbish job with crap money and no prospects, just be grateful that you're not out in some field giving an animal a hand-job. On the other hand, of course, if you're from Cavan you may be inclined to pay for this pleasure. *

* The DIT Independent wishes to acknowledge, that they are well aware that people from Cavan would never pay for the chance to give animals sexual pleasure and that, in fact a person from Cavan would never pay for anything at all.



FEATURES

Garda image in trouble

The Morris tribunal has uncovered some horrifying allegations against the Gardaí, including alleged Garda involvement in the planting of bombs, the reported killing by two Gardaí of cattle dealer Mr Richie Barron, and alleged Garda collusion in a terrorist explosion in Strabane.

The Tribunal has been set up to investigate alleged Garda corruption in Donegal and will, one assumes, uncover more as the projected two years of the tribunal goes on.

It's hard to determine whether the most worrying of the allegations is the murder of cattle-trader

Richie Barron, the collusion in a terrorist explosion in which three people died, or the actual planting of bombs by members of the Gardaí. Or maybe it's the fact that serious allegations like these have been made against the Gardaí before.

In May of this year it was alleged that the Gardaí had been given important information regarding the Omagh bombing.

The North's Police Ombudsman, Nuala O'Loan, told the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Brian Cowen that she received information suggesting Gardaí failed to pass on information that might have helped to apprehend those planning the Omagh bombing.

It is alleged that a number

The reputation of the Garda Síochána has suffered in the last number of years, and is about to suffer more, according to Barry J. Whyte

of days before the bombing an informant told his Dublin-based handler that Republican dissidents, who had asked him to steal a car, told him they no longer needed a vehicle because they had already obtained one.

The Garda Commissioner, Pat Byrne, vehemently denied the claims, saying that they emanated from "mischievous sources." Everyone remembers last year's incidents on Dame Street in which anti-globalisation groups were involved in what amounted to a mini-riot.

Whether the protestors started the riot or not, the Gardaí behaved in an unacceptable manner. Some removed their badges and hats and any forms of identification and waded into protesters, leaving most with headaches the next day, but leaving some with quite serious injuries.

They were criticised heavily by Civil Liberties

groups. Freelance journalists accused them of trying to cover up their actions by confiscating cameras and other equipment that was being used to document the protest.

Then there is the infamous Abbeylara incident, in which members of the Armed Response Unit shot dead Mr.

It's hard to determine whether the most worrying of the allegations is the murder of cattle-trader Richie Barron, the collusion in a terrorist explosion in which three people died, or the actual planting of bombs by members of the Gardaí

John Carthy outside his farm. After a day-long siege at Carthy's farm in Abbeylara, Co. Longford, Carthy came out brandishing a gun and was shot by Gardaí.

After the incident, an inquiry was called to investigate the circumstances surrounding Carthy's death.

The Gardaí were criticised for their actions.



Garda Commissioner Pat Byrne

Many people said that there was no need for John Carthy to have been fatally wounded. It was suggested that Carthy's actions were simply braggadocio and that he had no intention of actually shooting anyone.

While it would be foolish to suggest that the Gardaí should not have acted at all when Mr. Carthy came out, the question remains, was it necessary to shoot him dead?

There were also allegations that they were involved in covering up the Dublin & Monaghan bombings of 1974, which took more lives than the Omagh

bomb. It has been alleged that there were extensive contacts between the Garda Síochána and the RUC and the British Army during which vital security information was traded, sometimes quite cheaply.

It has been alleged in Don Mullan's book "The Dublin And Monaghan Bombings"

by Captain Fred Holroyd, a former British Army Captain, that members of the Garda Síochána would come up for "porno parties" in Army bases in the North.

The British Army would hire a minibus, bring up thirty or so Gardaí in civvies and take them out drinking and then bring them back and show them pornographic films.

This was at a time when pornographic films were banned in Ireland.

In the book Mullan asks Holroyd whether these parties were intelligence-gathering affairs; Holroyd says that it was simply "a smoothing of the waters...if anybody was ever caught over the other side, these guys would be more amenable".

The truth probably falls somewhere in between.

The image of the Gardaí will suffer even more when the Morris Tribunal, which is arguably the most important Tribunal in Ireland since the Lindsey Tribunal into Blood Transfusion Service Board, finally publishes its report.



Independent Thought

By Barry J. Whyte

AFTER seven years, the Mick McCarthy era has come to an end - and a bitter one at that. Two bad defeats to the Swiss and the Russians. The Roy Keane saga and a World Cup that left us feeling hollow. Frankly, the last few months have destroyed Mick McCarthy's image completely.

When he took over the squad in 1996, he inherited an ageing squad and was tasked with the job of readying it for the next major tournament. It was never going to be easy stepping into Jack Charlton's shoes, but Mick McCarthy eventually made the job his own. The squad he has left behind is very much "The team that Mick built".

There is plenty to hate McCarthy for. Sending Roy Keane home. The treatment of Denis Irwin. The arrogance of playing Damien Duff out of position in order to accommodate Kevin Kilbane. The fact that, after seven years, the only tournament that he managed to qualify for was the 2002 World Cup and he made a pig's ear of it.

But there is plenty to remember him fondly for too. He certainly had us playing better football than we did under Charlton, even if the tactics were, in their own way, just as simplistic as route one. And we had plenty of matches under McCarthy that were just as memorable as Ray Houghton's goal against the Brits, or beating the Italians in the Giants Stadium, or the penalty shoot-out in Genoa. We beat the Dutch in Lansdowne and we had Robbie Keane's goal against Germany. Maybe the good moments weren't sufficient to outweigh the many Macdonnias we had, or the playoff after playoff that we lost.

The *Irish Times* of the 6th Of November, the day after he was sacked, ran a picture of McCarthy on the front page. The face is the same, but there is a different look in the eyes. It's not the angry look that we saw in McCarthy's eyes when he gave those press conferences in Saipan. Nor is it the competitive fierceness of the McCarthy that used to stand, notebook stuck down the front of his pants in Lansdowne, shouting at 'Arty and Breeny. Instead there was a lost look in his eyes. It was the look of a man who was, quite frankly, worried. He may not have been sacked, but he didn't jump willingly, the eyes tell us. They are the eyes of a man who is simply not sure if he will ever manage a professional team again.

I, for one, feel sorry for him. When all the triumphalism has died down we should all stop and try and remember the good days he brought us. And when the time comes to re-evaluate Mick McCarthy's legacy, we should try not to judge him too harshly.

Value for money in DIT

By Cian O'Sullivan

WHAT is it that students are looking for from their college canteens? There's a very simple answer: good, cheap food. It's just unfortunate that these two things so rarely go together in Dublin, the most expensive city in Europe. For the next few issues of the DIT Independent I will be visiting and critiquing all of the canteens in the six major DIT faculties, to see if any of them manage to cater properly to their (let's face it) captive audiences.

The challenge is this: how much

food can I get for a fiver? I want to see what the quantity and quality of food will be if I spend less than five euro, and whether or not I can get a drink along with the food as well.

The Aungier St. canteen is the first to be examined. There have been major changes in this part of DIT since last year, including the opening of a huge new block of classrooms and the addition of a deli and Starbucks-style coffee shop, but the main food source is still the canteen in the old section of the building.

The atmosphere is slightly better

than last year, given that smoking has been banned, so it's pleasant enough to eat there, despite the way that it looks like a hospital ward.

A major advantage the Aungier St. canteen has is its water cooler. For the truly penny-pinching, there is free, cold water to go along with any meal you eat.

For my part, I ordered the beef burger with side-salad and chips, for just under 4 euro, and because of the free drink, I was able to beef it up with some salad on the side. Now, that's plenty of food, even without the salad. I

could have bought a coffee instead, and still have had plenty of food in just the burger and chips. So, Aungier St. does well on the quantity side.

Unfortunately, the quality wasn't so good. The chips were underdone, the salad was soggy, and the burger was cold. It filled me up, but it did not settle well.

Ultimately, I was satisfied when I was finished, and if you're looking for a large, cheap meal, you could do much worse than Aungier St.

Still, I'd rather have gone for a Burdocks.

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FEATURES

Is Ariel Sharon's government about to collapse?



Ariel Sharon faces a tough battle in the coming months

The Israeli-Palestinian peace process appears to have come to a halt with Ariel Sharon's government on the verge of collapse. Sharon's survival is likely to be precarious, in the face of continuous pressure from the right to step up military action against the Palestinians, writes **Aisling Casey**

ISRAELI Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has given in to pressure to call an early election in February, eight months ahead of schedule. Although determined to stay in power to the bitter end, Sharon would have most certainly found himself left at the head of a fundamentally insecure coalition whose small Knesset (parliament) majority could easily have been wiped out if Mr Sharon, known as 'The Butcher of Shatilla', fell foul of the radical religious right.

Last weeks crushing of Israel's national unity government gives rise to a new and forceful source of insecurity in a place that certainly can not afford it.

With Sharon's government on the verge of collapse over objection by the Labor Party to proposals in the budget to spend money on Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, political turmoil is certain over the next few months.

With tense leadership battles within the main parties and a looming general

election any progress toward a peaceful resolution is certainly on the back burner.

This political turbulence threatens not only to cause difficulty in moves to deal with the country's worst-ever-economic crisis, but also in world efforts to end the violence allied with the two year Palestinian intifada.

As well as that, political rows may well be played out against the backdrop of a US war with Iraq that could bring even more unrest to Israel.

With early elections now inevitable, the battle is now on to gain popular support for each party.

Following discussions over

the level of government funding for Jewish settlements in the occupied territories, Labor leader Binyamin Ben Eliezer threatened to quit the governing coalition unless the money allocated for the settlers was instead spent on social programmes.

However it seems his intentions may not have been entirely based on the interest of the people but rather a popularity trail.

Critics believe Mr Ben-Eliezer took such a strong stand in an effort to gain popular support ahead of his party's primary elections on 17 November.

However, according to

Sharon's camp the only rivalry comes in the form of Binyamin Netanyahu, whose tactics against the Palestinians would be even more hard-nosed. Recent opinion polls indicate that Sharon and Netanyahu are neck in neck in their quest for power, leaving Sharon hot under the collar.

Early elections are certainly a problem for Sharon. Firstly he has failed to fulfil his election promise to provide security for the Israeli's and secondly he needs more time to fight off stiff competition.

As for any impact on the peace process, there has been little movement for some

time now. When Labor joined the coalition, a number of its members argued that the party would provide a moderating force that could help the political process move forward with the Palestinians.

However the feeling in Israel is that there can be no negotiations unless the Palestinian leadership end attacks by militants.

People often ask why Israel's governments tend to appear fragile. Well there are several reasons but the most important and most historical is the result of the proportional representation system in Israel.

With no party ever winning

a majority in parliament, the system encourages the growth of sectional parties, which are then given a disproportional voice in matters of government.

Now that Labor have exited the government, US efforts to win support for a three-phase peace plan that envisions a provisional Palestinian state by 2003 and full independence by 2005 are severely damaged.

How Ariel Sharon will cope over the next few months to gain popular is unclear, however for the people of Israel and the Palestinians any chance of peace is on the brink of destruction.

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Irish Independent

DAY & NIGHT

FEATURES

It's a 'Bel of a Ball

By Maria O'Connell and Ciara O'Connor

A WEB of festivity was spun over the Burlington last Thursday, as DIT broke the trend by producing an event that was profitable, enjoyable and economical on the pocket. Students oozed from their frugal dwellings and parted with their much beloved grant money, to take part in what is quickly becoming one of the trendiest nights of the year, the

Halloween Ball. While some still regard Halloween as a night for building huge fires and the odd satanic ritual pet slaying, it was clear that the ball was set to be a thriller.

One eager beaver at the top of the queue was Sarah Campbell (or was that Supergirl), studying at Kevin Street. "It said on my ticket doors open at ten, I've been here ages and it's well after ten now. I'm not a happy camper." However, a few vodkas later, Supergirl was in fighting form. Ronan Carr was also keen to provide a few choice words on the queue, "This is a joke. I didn't pay €6 to stand out in the rain. Togas aren't ideal in this weather." According to Paul Malone, Club Anabel cited technical difficulties as the reason for the delay. "DIT executives voiced their displeasure at this to the management of the club", he assured us.

Fears of frizzy hair and the like were forgotten once the doors to Club Anabel opened and the drink began to flow. The Burlington proved to be a popular choice of venue among students. Although 1,000 tickets were issued, they weren't easily obtained, with Students Union shops regularly displaying sold out signs. Many students walked to other colleges in search of them. Some felt that the



Above left: 'Fear and loathing in D4. Above right: 'Hmmm i thought the hell fire club was extinguished?'



night could have been more enjoyable if the club had been less crowded. Rathmines student, Naomi Keenan rated the night "4/10 - it's far too packed. Someone just robbed my hat and I'm not laughing."

A couple of brave Aungier Street men were the first to throw some shapes on the dance floor. Getting their groove on in 70's gear were David Flemming and 'Tempting' Tom Grills. "We're only in but it looks set to be a good night. Everyone seems to have gone to a lot of effort because we can't recognise anyone in their costumes", said Grills. Afro wigs and sunglasses were the order of the day for many of the boys while others opted to go the Lily Savage route in halter necks and mini skirts - pity about the hairy legs boys! Expert in their assets, the Business Studies boys would have given Pamela Anderson a run for her money in the cleavage stakes, with their costumes!

Speaking of Baywatch babes, Mitch Buchannon was prepared for all eventualities

with his beach towel and life jacket. He was very impressed with the set-up in Club Anabel, "I was well up for the DIT ball when I heard it was fancy dress. Fingers crossed a few ladies will need rescuing later on tonight." Here's hoping Mitch!

Stone the flamin' crows! Was that Alf Stewart? Oh no wait, it was the d u b i o u s l y named Steve Irwin visiting from Down Under. Only too happy to sit for a 'yarn' Steve s e e m e d preoccupied by the price of drink. "Tonight was a good buzz inside. I thought the drink was reasonable enough till 12. Before 12 it was easy enough to get drink by 12 everyone wanted to get drink in. After 12 it was a different story." That about sums it up Steve.

DIT students gave a big thumbs up to the drinks promotions in Club Anabel.

At €2 for all pints and long necks before midnight (Bulmers was a convenient exception to this rule) ghosts and ghouls felt they were getting good value for money.

A clearly distraught Pikachu, aka Colin Murphy, studying at Bolton Street, felt that the club was too packed. However, our suspicions led us to believe that both the mixture of alcohol and a missing Pikachu head added to Colin's distress.

Keen to 'help' the incoherent Colin, his 'friends' were only too keen to supply his viewpoint...along with his phone number!

Evidently the days of the black bin liner over the head are over and many 'hard-up' students went to the trouble of renting or even buying a costume for the night. Clare Roche, a Management and

Marketing student at Aungier Street was a prime example of this. Kitted out in her two-piece fuschia ensemble, Princess Jasmine was looking for an Aladdin to complement her outfit, "I know I paid €45 for it but isn't Christmas coming up and sure I might get a wear out of it then." Clare was confident that she wouldn't be leaving Club Anabel without "someone or something" on her arm.

However, homemade outfits proved to be the most imaginative on the night. Neil Buchannon who was obviously the inspiration for much of the painting and pasting would have been a proud man. Those Art Attack episodes weren't a waste of time either because someone was glad he'd held onto those cereal boxes...here was a boy whose creative skills had been working overtime. At first glance, it was hard to tell exactly what he was. Further inspection revealed that Gavin Lynch, Cathal Brughá Street, was in fact...Super Cardboard Man! Well done Gavin, no expense spared

there! Aungier Street President, Paul Malone, said the night was very successful, "I would like to personally thank the students of DIT. They made a massive effort as regards dressing up and that definitely contributed to the success of the night. We are confident of reaching the E100,000 mark for the children of Chernobyl." The Halloween ball raised €4,500, which will be added directly to the proceeds from the 10K walk.

At the end of the night, Club Anabel's harsh lights highlighted several frantic students searching for hats and halos.

Robbed of her wings, 'Fairy' O' Brien from Kevin Street was being coaxed into a taxi, "I flew here and I'll fly home. Has anyone the lend of a broom?"

Perplexed medical students, fresh from their UCD ball at the Burlington looked on as intoxicated DITers toppled into taxis, a sure sign that a good night was had by all.

Fears of frizzy hair and the like were forgotten once the doors to Club Anabel opened and the drink began to flow



Far left: Cold feet on Anabel's! Left: 'Is there a doctor in da house? I need this thing removed

ENTERTAINMENT



Temple goers devoid of Spirit

TEMPLE THEATRE VS SPIRIT

At the front of Dublin's thriving student scene are the Temple Theatre and novel eccentric club Spirit.

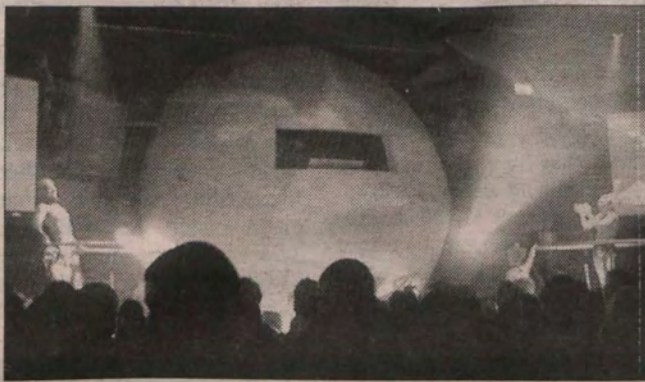
Deirdre Reynolds and Claire McKay visit both and see where best to spend that coveted booze budget

Is it just me, or are student nights supposed to be sloppy beer-fuelled events? The kind where you dance shamelessly to S Club 7 and wake up with an overwhelming after-taste of burger. Not anymore. 'Spirit' on Middle Abbey St, home to The Laughter Lounge, has reinvented yuppie chic with its student night Thursdays. From the white-tuxedoed bouncer to the comparatively steep €10 admission price, it is clear that 'Spirit' attempts to lift itself above the standardized student haven. The venue operates on three floors. The ground floor presents a hyper-trendy bar with lots of seating and a small dance-floor area set up against a wall of flashing blue-lit panels. Unfortunately, the silhouette effect of this paved the way for lots of Bond-girl style movers and shakers on the floor. Combined with the immeasurable style on display, it felt like an audition for 'Popstars' series 89 (or whatever the latest count is), and left this level somewhat intimidating.

In keeping with the 'Stella Artois' mantra of "Reassuringly Expensive", a bottle costs €5.15. However,

there are various student deals from week to week. This week a 'Sex on the Beach' was €2, although it seems to have been prepared in troughs rather than mixers such as the demand for the stuff and was decidedly unfruitful. There was also a shot available for €2. Worryingly, the barman was unsure of how to classify it

concluding it was a type of 'green tequila'. Both this floor and the one above it, boasting a larger dance area and bar, shook with hard dance music. The toilets on each level are clean and colourful. But forget the upper levels, it is the downstairs Mind Room - a non-smoking chill out zone - that elevates 'Spirit' from the



good to the great. Incense burning, chilled dance tracks spinning along with a team of masseuses (€10 for 10 minutes), tarot readers (€20) and body painters. The place is hip without being overly aware of it. Spongy sofas and a suggestive row of beds along one wall complete the relaxing effect. Emma Jenkins, manager of 'Serenity' holistic centre, says that the basement offers a complete alternative to upstairs. And what about the sensual massages on the menu? "There may be beds over there, but nothing dirty goes on here!"

'Spirit' at times seems pretentious, but perhaps that's because, as students, we're not used to the luxury. Save it for a special occasion.

While Spirit is one side of the perversional student Dollar The Temple Theater is the other. I'm sitting in the smallest toilet in the city, holding the door closed with my foot. The "Toilet Technician" (woman who hands out loo roll etc) is spraying some sort of industrial strength air freshener over the door of the toilet. What is she trying to

tell me? The venue is the Temple Theatre, the event is 'Missing in Action' (MIA) and the mood is ugly. This toilet experience is just rubbing salt in my wounds on a night when I've been insulted by bouncers and humiliated in front of hundreds of people - and this was all before midnight!

I arrive at 10.45pm and inevitably the queue is already huge. The bouncers laugh hysterically when I tell them I'm reviewing the club for my college paper and my name is on the list. Now the entire queue is staring as I stamp my feet and proclaim, in true Liz Hurley fashion, that this is unacceptable. For God's sake, don't they know who I am? I'm told that there isn't a list. It transpired later that there was a list, my name was on it and the door-staff are ... need I say anymore!

Then there's the music. Expect to find Nirvana in the middle of a Rn'B set and your favourite rock classics intercepted by S club 7. Hey Mr DJ, look up the meaning of the word "mix" in the dictionary! By around lam the DJ has decided on a theme of harder-edged club music and is sticking to it. This, along with the hip-hop

sounds in the Crypt, was the only saving grace.

MIA is not as generous as some clubs when it comes to drinks promotions. The only promotion was on an alcopop called Cruiser. It turns your mouth blue but at €3.00 it's the best deal you'll get. A pint will set you back €4.50 and a short costs €3.60.

The MIA "gold card" is the only other slice of generosity you'll see. This guarantees free entry for the year. If you insist on frequenting MIA make sure you get one.

I'm giving MIA 1 star. Call me old-fashioned but I like my toilet doors with locks and my loo ladies without deadly toxic weapons. It's sweaty, claustrophobic and as my friend Keith eloquently put it: "It's shite!"

So there you have it, maybe the days of drunken student binges are on the way out. Maybe our standards of living have elevated above being puked on by a crazed Ballinasloe man called Liam who is screaming Women are bitches while trying to inject treble vodkas by the mouthful. If this is true than the message is simple. If you are going to be MIA, do it in Spirit.

Olympia blown sky high by JJ72

By Ciara Cunnane

TONIGHT is the penultimate and most important show in the Irish leg of JJ72's tour. This is the band's home venue so it will always be resonant for them and the many fans that attended tonight.

The signing in HMV earlier today gave JJ72 a chance to meet and greet tonight's audience; perhaps this is why Mark's rapport with the crowd is much more relaxed than usual.

First though, is support from Melaton, which is well received by everyone, much to the band's surprise and delight. The mood is euphoric by the time 'JJ' take to the stage, and the happily chilled ambiance continues throughout the show. The majority of the set list consists of spiritual 'I To Sky' material, and hence the hectic moshing characteristic of previous shows is largely absent. The new songs sound even denser and more

textured than on the record, aided by an added guitarist/keyboardist. 'Serpent Sky' and 'City' see Mark in his element, as he spits out the chorus with a clenched face in time with a snarling guitar. However, these are exceptions as the majority of the set list is quixotic expressions of love.

Among these, classics from the eponymous debut are thrown in to keep us happy. Although, calls for 'Long Way South' are stubbornly ignored!

Highlight of the night is the encore, when a frantic jam culminates in Mark pogoing into centre stage and collapsing to the floor, holding his reverberating guitar aloft while Fergal and Hilary sustain momentum. Even after they leave the stage, the front man lies on his back as the song fades into feedback and the crowd goes crazy applauding. An appropriate finish to an inspiring night.



ENTERTAINMENT



Effervescent sound in still water

Melaton 'Still Water' EP

By Lauren Molloy

Dublin band Melaton have released their second, internet only EP 'Still Water'. The four track EP produced by Grammy award-winning engineer Richard Rainey adds a new dimension to the Melaton repertoire, and truly brings the band into their own.

Described as a tangle of glorious contradictions, Melaton release this EP with all its ethereal complexities, combining the mellow, eerie beauty of 'Burning Bush' and the gorgeous guitar lines of 'Still Water' with a song writing verve that is all their own.

The band revolves around the magnetic forces of lead singer Luke Scott whose haunting impact is uncannily reminiscent to that of Jeff Buckley.

The band is one of Ireland's hottest new prospects, and this internet only EP is released in homage to their fans and is available to download exclusively from the bands website www.melatonmusic.com. The EP is angry as it is elegant, and is a real indication of what Melaton are capable of.

New album deserves a watery Grayve

David Gray - A New Day at Midnight

By Eoin Murphy

I HATE to say it but it seems that if its not broken don't fix it. David Gray has been rehashing the one album for four years and gaining himself demi stardom. Then what does he do but go and record a new album. Was it worth the wait? God no.

From the moment you hear the first track and first single 'Dead on the Water,' you realise that little has changed and that dreary tone that you hoped had been long since banished has returned with a vengeance. Sadly as the album went on, I didn't lose this

feeling. Most of the songs, particularly 'Long Distance Call,' 'Freedom' and 'Kangaroo' could easily have been on 'White Ladder and no amount of head shaking or anglo-saxon warbling can change this.

The only major change that has occurred since 1998's album is that the lyrics have become much darker. ("there's nothing here to hold me now and I've got no more tears to cry...we're running through a world that's lost its meaning"). The death of Gray's father has clearly influenced the mood and Gray himself has said that the album is about loss. So what of David Gray in the whole? Well for a man who is producing his sixth album you would think that he would have grasped



the knack by now, yet sadly trial and error is a method he has not quite grasped. I don't think this album is worth the one cent a minute it costs to download this off the internet.



Pirate station release treasured album

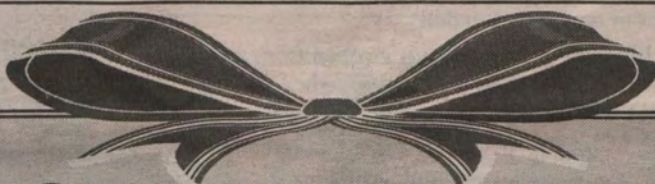
Phantom - Volume 1

By Aoife Dunne

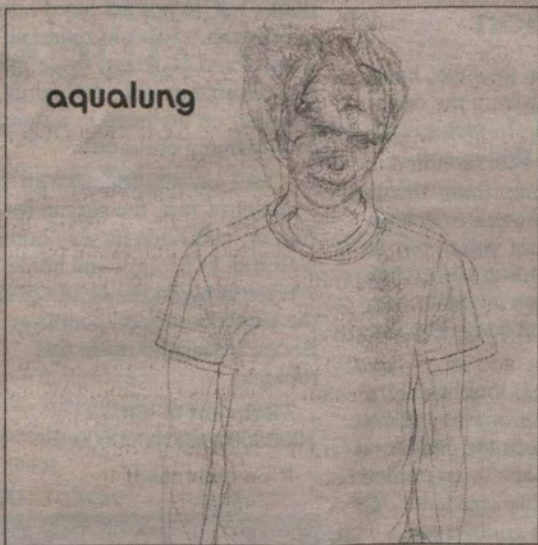
PHANTOM FM pride themselves on "broadcasting rock and indie music to the world from Dublin." They have compiled this album of eighteen highly-requested songs which have defined the station over the years.

Blink 182 start things off with the catchy 'The Rock Show,' which I considered a strange choice as I thought they might be a bit mainstream for Phantom FM. The other artists, such as PJ Harvey, Radiohead and Massive Attack seem like more obvious choices. Our own music scene is well

represented here too, with the likes of Babelfish and The Frames sitting comfortably alongside Jeff Buckley and Fun Lovin' Criminals. If you're a fan of Phantom FM then you won't be disappointed with this album. I don't like all of the songs here (particularly 'To the Bright and Shining Sun' by the Walls which I HATE) but most of 'Volume 1' is well worth listening to. Phantom hope to release one of these albums every year so this is a positive start to what looks like being a good series of CDs. There's nothing new here, but as a collection of songs it'd be a much better choice than 'Ibiza Acid House Beatz 2002' or something along those lines.



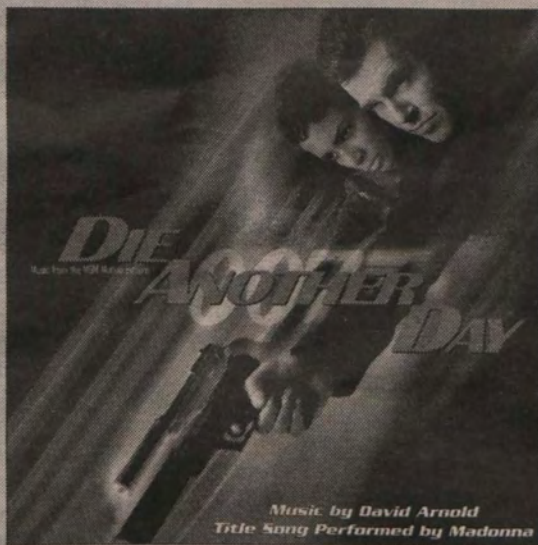
NO MORE SILENT NIGHTS



aqualung

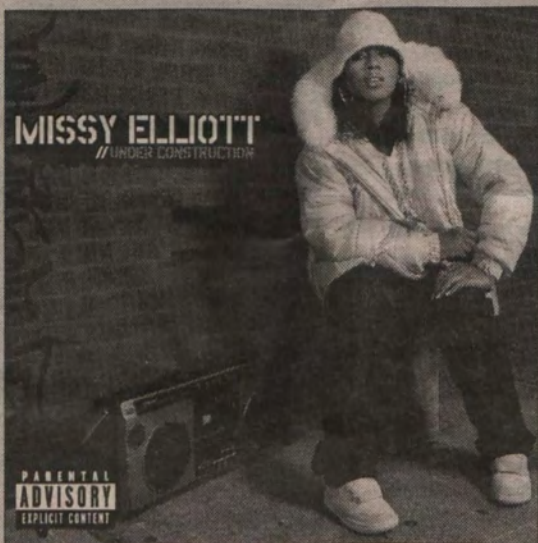
Aqualung

Aqualung featuring the beautiful "I Put A Spell On You" "Think Radiohead before they got difficult, or Coldplay with less complacency" *(The Guardian)* See Aqualung live at the Point on December 6



Die Another Day

OST Enhanced CD featuring Madonna "Die Another Day" and the Paul Oakenfold "James Bond Theme Remix" and loads of extras.



Missy Elliott

Under Construction featuring the brilliant new single "Work It" and tracks with Beyonce Knowles, TLC, Jay-Z and many more



Polyphonic Spree

The Beginning Stages Of featuring "Hanging Around" and "Soldier Girl", "Best described as Mercury Rev turned into a Hare Krishna orchestra playing Paul McCartney...it's irresistibly, overwhelmingly joyous." *(Independent)* "So who are The Polyphonic Spree? Bugged if we know. Bugged if we care. Whatever they are, they're amazing." *(NME)*

Harry is top of the Potts



By Eoin Murphy

PARENTS will be delighted this year with the release of Harry Potter and the Chamber of secrets, now they have the ideal excuse to drop the kids off at the cinema and do some Christmas shopping. The only problem being that they'd be better off going in to see the movie itself.

Is it as good as people expected? Yes and more. Director Chris Columbus has produced a masterful piece of cinema with an extremely varied and talented cast from a timeless storyline to lay rest the curse of the uneventful sequel.

Harry, Ron and Hermione (Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint and Emma Watson) return to Hogwart's school for the magically gifted, as seasoned second years.

No longer are they bottom of the food chain which means that Columbus no longer has to worry about introductions, set-ups and exposition, jumping instead straight into the meat of the story.

As we expect though the main point of the story puts Harry in great danger and despite the best efforts of a friendly House elf called Nobby and the help of his two best friends, Harry ends up facing it alone.

The problem is that someone has opened the chamber of secrets and the evil that dwells within is terrible enough to destroy Hogwarts forever.

Dumbledore (Richard Harris) who remains the heart of the school has been ousted from his headmaster's position due to a lack of confidence by the council (more dirty work afoot there) and it seems that evil will win.

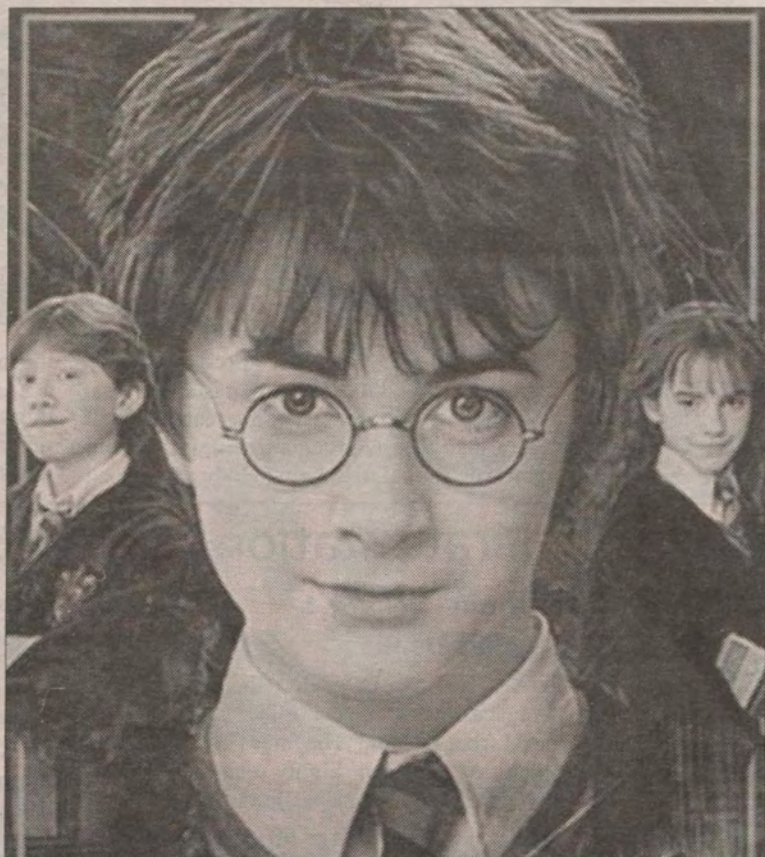
The film itself is laced with clues as to who the real baddie is and to those of you who are fanatics of the book this wont mean much but it is very enjoyable trying to figure out who the offender actually is. It's no usual suspects but there is definitely a high level of suspense, making it as attractive for all ages. In fact some of the scenes are probably that bit too scary for younger children.

It is very difficult to find fault with this film. It retains all the charm of the first film.

The young stars have matured well over the year with a spot of voice breaking here and there.

The quality of Harris, Maggie Smith and Alan Rickman all live up to the high quality expected. Watch out for the introduction of Kenneth Branagh, who comes along as the beloved and highly arrogant Author turned teacher Gilderoy Lockhart.

He is the comic genius of the



Above and right *Harry Potter and the Chamber of secrets*: Director Chris Columbus has produced a masterful piece of cinema with an extremely varied and talented cast from a timeless storyline

film especially for the younger generation and can in a way be compared to a certain author who has a controversial book out now, a diary in fact. The other important thing to watch out for is the Quidditch match. It is so visually stunning that it will make you scream for a broomstick to join in.

How will the success of this feature be gauged?

The chamber of secrets will most likely take in somewhere around \$700-\$800 million at the US box office, not to shabby for 150 days work. While other films, not too far off the horizon, stand to make even more but this is still a great achievement for such a localized story.

Imagine if the stories of Enid Blyton were to be transferred to the big screen, is there any chance that they would do as well?

No, JK Rowling's classic tale of witchcraft and wizardry will live on in the hearts and minds of maybe adults and children alike throughout the festive period.

All that remains to be seen is how much HP merchandise is to be delivered by the man in red to each household.

28 Days

While Harry Potter is one side of the coin with regard to witches and horror, 28 Days Later is a gruesome and yet riveting tale of the Macabre.

Trainspotting director Danny Boyle gives us a grim depiction when a vicious virus, rage, is released on the population of England turning all who are affected into Zombie like creatures that crave violence and blood.

This is an incredibly visual film with breathtaking shots of a deserted London, with Irish star

Cillian Murphy walking around trying to find out why he appears to be the only person left alive in London.

He has awoken from a coma 28 days later from when the virus was unleashed upon England.

In an attempt to remain alive and uninfected he befriends Selena (Naomie Harris), who only stays with him as long as he has some use to her, and a father daughter combination of Frank and Hannah (Brendan Gleeson and Megan Burnes).

Together the three of them decide that the only way to survive is to get out of London and follow a radio transmission offering help in Manchester.

This film is laced with tension and climactic pauses.

Written by beach author Alex Garland this film is also interspersed with clever quips and comic interludes, just to take the audience through the full spectrum of emotions.

Do not write this film off by any means as a film for gorehounds, it is an intelligent thriller more akin to Stephen King's 'The Stand' than your average X-grade twilight zone shocker.

It is the best zombie horror film since Bruce Campbell appeared on our screens in Evil Dead.

A must see.



28 Days: a gruesome, yet riveting tale



Halloween Resurrection

The next film on the other hand couldn't be further from the doors of quality Cinema. In fact it is an embarrassment to Hollywood.

Well the only scary thing about this rehashed halloween franchise is that people expect you to pay to see it. It is a bumbling blair witch rehash that has been clumsily put together in an effort to cash in on a festive market.

The basic story, if you can call it a story, is about a group of students who stay the night in the childhood house of Mike Myres in an on-line version of the reality movie hit. Of course things start going awry when the serial killer makes a return home and starts stabbing away to his hearts content.

We get a brief glimpse of Jamie Lee Curtis at the beginning of the movie as the film makers attempt to explain why Mr. Myres isn't actually dead.

Am I in danger of giving the game away?

No for there is nothing to give away. It is the worst film I have ever had the misfortune to see. It doesn't even fit into the classic teen horror genre.

It is without taste, flare or even tension, an important ingredient for a horror film wouldn't you say?

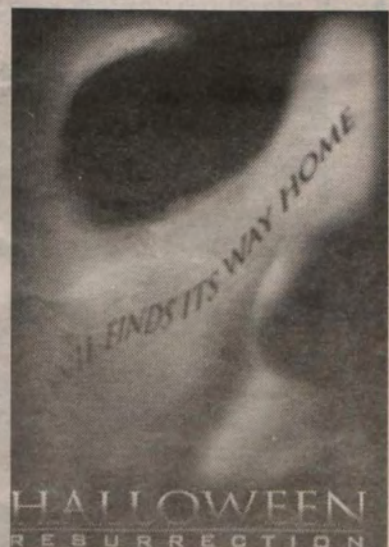
The film is being sold on its semi

stars of Busta Rhymes and Tyra Banks but do not get lured into this movie trap. I would rather sit and watch Pearl Harbour, twice in a row without any alcohol while standing on my head in a room full of screaming children.

Can I say any more? Well yes as a matter of fact, the slogan for the film is "evil finds its way home", well it didn't follow me home but it was certainly in the hearts of the the sometimes good people at Buena Vista who made this rubbish.

Marks out of ten.....-1000000000000000000000000

It's a must miss.



Halloween Resurrection: definitely one to miss

SPORT

Senior Football - Higher Education Gaelic Football League Division 1

Marrinan inspires long awaited win

By Seamas Reilly

DIT 1-13
TRINITY COLLEGE
0-03

On a blustery October day in Ballymun, pride was finally restored to the long suffering DIT senior Gaelic football team with a superb win against Trinity College.

With only two of their regular players from last year's team, and just the bare 15 altogether, DIT dug deep into their reserves of skill, courage and determination to produce a truly memorable upset in this league.

Playing with a diagonal breeze, DIT showed their resolve right from the throw-in, quickly taking control of the game. By half-time their new found impetus showed as they led by 0-6 to 0-3.

In the past such a slender lead at the break would usually be the signal for DIT to slip back into their defensive shell in the hope of hanging on. However this performance was very different.

The proud 15 vigorously pursued the victory they deserved. Hunting in packs of three or four and supporting each other to exhaustion, they ground out point after point, demoralising Trinity who had no answer to DIT's relentless attacks.

A goal from the brilliant John Carlton finally put the game beyond doubt.

The driving force behind the victory was the midfield pairing of fresher Hugh McInerney and captain Liam Mooney who dominated play straight from the throw-in.

Goalkeeper Fergal Smith dealt impeccably with any goal chances and launched every kick-out with precision accuracy around the 70 metre line.

In front of him McMorrough, Halpin and Faughnan and half backs Cunningham, Kelly and Hannifan defended doggedly. Time after time they broke up Trinity raids and set up quality counter attacks which reaped rich rewards.

Up front Carlton, McCormack, Prior, Doyle and O'Hagan worked tirelessly and unselfishly to create and finish chance after chance. Conor Marrinan however was without equal on the day, tormenting the Trinity defence with his incessant runs at goal. Such was his performance that the only way Trinity could stop him was by attempting to take him out of the game, an action for which his marker received a red card before half-time. He was the inspiration as DIT ran out comfortable winners and claimed a historic and morale boosting victory.

DIT Team: Fergal Smith, Fabian McMorrough, Stephen Halpin, Bernard Faughnan, Daniel Cunningham, Brian Kelly, Maurice Hanafin, Liam Mooney, Hugh McInerney, Gabriel Prior, Derek McCormack (0-4), Conor Marrinan (0-2), Gerry Doyle (0-1), Ronan O'Hagan (0-2), John Carlton (1-4)

DIT edge out DCU in tight encounter

DIT 0-16
DCU 1-10

In a dogged, resilient performance DIT followed up their victory over Trinity with a superb win against a star studded DCU side in Longmeadows.

Buoyed on by the previous week's triumph, DIT started well with points from Carlton, Marrinan and a magnificent shot over the bar from Gabriel Prior, deputising comfortably in midfield for the injured Hugh McInerney. Stephen Bray and Derek McCormack slotted frees from every angle and distance to mercilessly punish any DCU indiscretions and leave DIT leading by 0-9 to 0-3 on the half hour.

However, the last minute of the first half proved fortuitous for DCU. They

were awarded a soft free that was slotted over the bar and from the kick-out their corner forward latched onto an early ball which he sent crashing into the net.

Lesser teams would surely have crumbled, as DCU's celebrated team threw everything (including their International Rules goalkeeper) at DIT.

However, DIT battled stubbornly.

In defence, time and again Duffy, McMorrough, Kelly, McGrath, Faughnan, Smyth, and Hanafin came out with balls they had no right to win.

So often in the game DCU were forced to give away possession or overcarry the ball.

Meanwhile snipers Bray, McCormack, Carlton, Doyle, Marrinan and McCaigue were neatly picking off their scores despite playing off minimum possession. Despite intense DCU pressure DIT managed to maintain their composure and discipline.

The players refused to panic and it was testament to their fitness and commitment that there was always a DIT player behind the ball to relieve pressure and set up a counter attack in a last ditch attempt to snatch something from this match, DCU's Dublin and Ireland goalkeeper Stephen Cluxton, came out to midfield only to bite Gabriel Prior!

Cluxton was booked and DIT scored the point to seal a hugely impressive win.

On a memorable day when DIT's teamwork overcame the individual talent of DCU's stars it was Gabriel Prior who was man of the match. The Leitrim man epitomised DIT's determination and spirit on the day.

DIT: Duffy, Prior, McCormack, Bray, Mooney, Kelly, Marrinan, Carlton, Faughnan, McGrath, Hanafin, Smyth, Doyle, McMorrough, McCaigue, Mulhall

DCU give Rock and Reilly disappointing debut

Freshers Football

By Miguel Delaney

DCU 1-17
DIT 1-6

FRESHERS' managers Barney Rock and Paddy Reilly still have a lot of work to do if they are to improve the fortunes of the team as DIT succumbed to a very disappointing defeat to a solid DCU team.

DCU were extremely comfortable winners on the day as they too easily outfought DIT, taking points far too easily. International Rules star Willie Murphy was the inspiration behind the Northsiders' win, at the centre of every move. His creativity, combined with the unerring kicking of Sean Burke ensured DCU were always in a commanding position.

The fact that this was the DIT players' first game was glaringly obvious as they lacked cohesion and organisation, particularly in midfield. However there were promising signs for Rock and Reilly. For short periods of the game DIT managed to put some good moves together and open up the DCU back line, while both Damien Smyth and John Doyle put in solid

performances. The game began ominously for DIT as DCU stormed into a three point lead after only five minutes. DCU looked like they would tear DIT apart as they gave up no space at the back and showed a great deal of imagination up front.

However, having established their lead the Northsiders began to relax too much and allowed DIT to enjoy their best spell of the match.

It was Damien Smyth who first exploited this, breaking through on the left and forcing an excellent save from DCU keeper John Coughlan. DIT finally got their first point when Colm Manley kicked over from the right. Then in the fifteenth minute went into the lead with a brilliantly worked goal.

Manley played a nice interchange of passes with Smyth, before centring the ball to Cathal McCormack who finished skilfully past Coughlan. John Doyle then kicked over to put DIT two points to the good.

However that was to be the last time DIT were so in control of the game as from then on, DCU's class showed through. With Murphy controlling the play, DCU regained the lead



The fact that this was the DIT players' first game was glaringly obvious as they lacked cohesion and organisation

before half time. A flurry of points made it 0-9 to 1-3 at the break, the best of which was a brilliant strike from way out by Brian Sexton. DIT did have a good proportion of the play at this stage but were simply unable to take their chances, while DCU took theirs decisively.

The second half began as the first had ended, with DCU scoring a number of easy points. Despite two DIT points in quick succession, the team never realistically looked like getting back into the game as DCU took score after score, mainly through the precision free kick taking by Sean Burke. By the mid point of the second half DIT were well and truly out of the game, no longer even putting up the fight they had in the first half as DCU were winning every ball in midfield.

The contest was long finished by the time Ronan Carroll rounded off DCU's comfortable

victory with a goal five minutes from time. Alan Barry played a fine ball in from the left and Carroll had an embarrassing amount of time to collect the ball and place it past Savage. Indeed had it not been for a fine save from Savage at the death, the 1-17 1-6 scoreline could have been a lot worse for DIT.

DIT: Eugene Savage, Sean Gilsanan, Daragh O'Halligan, John McNamara, Paul Begley, Cormac Healy, Anthony Deasy, Cathal McCormack, Declan Gavin, Colm Manley, John Doyle, Seamas Wallace, Damien Smyth, Frank Harrington, Sean Flavin

DCU: John Coughlan, Shane Rooney, Liam Boyle, Dermot Mac Ruairi, Aidan Kenny, Michael Power, Shane O'Brien, Ronan Carroll, Willie Murray, Brian Sexton, John Geoghan, Derek Coughlan, Sean Burke, Eamon Holly, Alan Barry

Freshers making progress

DIT 0-18 Athlone IT 0-8

The Freshers started their season in emphatic fashion with a brilliant win against a disappointing Athlone side at VEC Terenure.

DIT were always in control as they cut through Athlone's defence with ease. Kilkenny midfielder Martin Phelan was outstanding in midfield, scoring the most points on the day. There were also fine performances from Dublin centre-back Sean O'Connor and Wexford full back Kieran Parrock.

UCD 1-8 DIT 1-8

DIT followed up their impressive win against Athlone with a creditable draw away to competition favourites UCD in Belfield.

Despite trailing 1-4 to 0-3 at the break DIT showed tremendous resilience in the second half. Playing against the wind they put in an excellent performance and deserved their draw. Martin Phelan and Kieran Parrock were again star performers on the day. However centre-back Ronan Fallon also impressed, as did Dublin's Graham Joyce who scored DIT's goal.

The Freshers team travelled to Galway to face NUIG in a crucial game on November 6, however the result was unknown at the time of going to press.

DUBLIN UNDER 21 CHAMPIONSHIP

DIT 4-11 Crumlin 3-7

DIT are through to the quarter finals of the Dublin Under 21 Championship after a superb win against a fancied Crumlin side in the first round of the competition.

Kilkenny's Paddy Bowden was DIT's inspiration on the day, scoring eight points. DIT however had to contend with fellow student Graham Joyce who was Crumlin's top scorer on the day. Dublin man Joyce scored the equalising goal for DIT Freshers against UCD only a few days beforehand.

DIT will now meet O'Toole's in the quarter finals on November 16. The match was originally scheduled for the end of October but was postponed due to the unplayable weather conditions.

SPORT

Last minute winner ends DIT's frustration

DIT 1 - 0 NCI

By Jason Burke

DIT's seconds left it very late before winning their challenge match against NCI at the Iveagh Grounds. Having missed a host of chances, they finally secured victory through a last minute header from Marks Henning.

Conditions were perfect and both teams slowly settled into a passing game on the excellent surface. The first chance fell to DIT following a mistake in the NCI defense. DIT forward Steven O'Toole intercepted Paul Grant's attempted ball across his own box. He played it to his strike partner Derek Lynch whose low shot was comfortably saved.

DIT began to take a grip on the game and on 25 minutes the NCI keeper had to be sharp to smother at O'Toole's feet. O'Toole then played a one-two with right back Graham Corran, whose deep cross was well cleared. Corran proved to be a good outlet for DIT throughout the game.

DIT should have taken the lead in the final five minutes of the half. O'Toole latched on to a long ball and was denied by the feet of NCI goalkeeper Colm Loughley. A minute later, Loughley was only able to parry a McAleer shot and the resulting cross rebounded to Corran whose shot was well blocked. NCI manager Ger



DIT in action against NCI at the Iveagh grounds

Whitehead could consider his team fortunate to go in level at the break. NCI began the second half well but were reduced to long range efforts which failed to trouble Paul Martin in the DIT goal. DIT then missed three guilt edged chances.

Firstly, Marks Henning was played through on the left flank but dragged his left foot shot wide of the far post. Then O'Toole was sent clear by a header from Henning but his early strike was well saved by the legs of Loughley. O'Toole was again the culprit when he shot

wide in a carbon copy of the earlier Henning chance.

As the game wore on NCI managed to get their wingers into the game. In the 65th minute Neil McConville skipped past two challenges before been taken down on the edge of the box. Paul Fitzgerald cleared the resulting free kick. Fitzgerald, along with Conor McGlynn at the heart of the DIT defense, dominated everything in the air.

DIT seemed the likeliest to break the deadlock and with 15 minutes to go, Corran and Goverin combined well down the right and Goverin sent in a deep cross. O'Toole headed the cross back across goal but agonisingly there was nobody there to meet it.

In a frantic last ten minutes both teams had chances to win the game. NCI nearly bagged the goal they scarcely deserved after good work down the left by Gary Brophy.

His low cross was just inches too far in front of Phillip Riordan who was unable to get enough on it. Two minutes later NCI had

their best chance. Brophy gathered in an excellent through ball by Mick Roche. His pace took him beyond the DIT defense but he shot wide of the far post.

Just as it looked as if DIT would pay for their inability in front of goal Henning popped up at a corner to send a glancing header into the far corner of the net. It was the goal DIT had deserved but the relief was all too clear when it eventually came.

DIT: Paul Martin, Graham Corran, Ciaran Spratt, Conor McGlynn, Paul Fitzgerald, Warren Campion, David O'Connor, Marks Henning, Steven O'Toole, Derek Lynch, Hugh McAleer, John Goverin, Ciaran O'Brien, Darragh Ellison.

NCI: Colm Loughley, Mick McNamara, Paul Grant, Simon Dalton, Gary Brophy, Neil McConville, Phillip Riordan, Conor Berney, Robert Berigan, Mick Roche, Will Murphy, Mark Mac Liam, Nick Taff.

Referee: Ian Bradley



Athletics

Interschool Road Relays on the 16th November in Maynooth, men & women's teams, 5 per team - 1 mile, 2 mile, 3 mile, 2 mile and 1 mile legs.

If you are interested in competing for the Institute, contact Herbie on 087-2245507.

Ladies Rugby

10-a-side rugby league organised for third level college, first round fixtures will commence week ending 8th November.

Any ladies interested in playing rugby this year contact Niamh on 087-2985849 for further details.

Tennis

Coaching lessons every Thursday in Leinster Sports Centre, Rathmines from 5 to

Sports round-up

7pm. Contact Colin on 087-9611521 for further information.

Basketball

Recreational hour for students who don't want to play competitively with the college teams in Larkin College Sports Hall at 5:45pm. Contact Niamh on 087-2985849 for details. Contact Cathy on 087-9865381 for information on the competitive women's basketball teams. Contact Dermot on 087-9017862 for information on the competitive men's basketball teams.

Ladies Soccer

Training sessions every Tuesday and Thursday night 5:30 to 6:30pm, new recruits are

always welcome. Contact Stephen, Manager on 087-7987679 for all arrangements.

Rugby

The squad will this year be competing in the Irish Colleges Rugby Union Division 2 league. Anyone interested in playing rugby for the Institute contact Niamh on 087-2985849 for further details.

Squash

Squash classes every second Thursday in Phoenix Squash Club from 7 to 9pm, contact Plunkett Clarke on 4024509(w) for further details.

Martial Arts

Check sports and recreation

activities timetable for martial arts activities, clubs include; Kempo Karate Shotokan Karate, Wada Ryu, Taekwon-do & Judo.

Volleyball

Training will commence on Monday 4th November in Belvedere Sports Hall from 5 to 7pm. Galway Mixed Blitz 23rd & 24th November - 6 players on a team, 3 men & 3 women.

All levels of playing skills are catered for at the training sessions. Contact Niamh on 087-2985849 for further details.

Waterpolo

Training session every Monday in DIT Kevin Street swimming pool from 7:30 to 9pm. The Irish national waterpolo coach will supervise the training sessions.

Beginners always welcome.

If you are interested in seeing your team and/or club featured in the pages of the *DIT Independent*, or if you have something interesting to share with students about sport in college or in general, please contact Sports Editor, Miguel Delaney at 4023071, or by e-mail at ditsport@hotmail.com. This is your paper and we'd love to hear from you!

DIT Basketball Report

Ladies aiming for title

By Dermot Kavanagh

THE season is now well under way for all of DIT's Basketball teams, and the players are picking up from where they left off last year.

Both the girls' and men's teams began their league campaigns this month and all eyes were on them to see how they started.

The girls played their first game away to St Vincent's in Glasnevin. Coach Karl Finn had every confidence in his team as the match started with a fast pace which suited the younger DIT side. Their nerves did show in the first half, and DIT found themselves trailing by the break.

However, thanks to the fast counter attacks of Lisa Maher and Patrice Howell, DIT started the second half in dynamic fashion and managed to pull themselves back into the game.

The strong defensive work of Niamh Griffin managed to counter Vincent's height advantage, while some excellent boarding by Cathy Molloy meant DIT were simply too strong for Vincent's.

With Alice Heffernan leading the scoring, DIT emerged victorious at the final whistle.

The girls played Killester at home in their next game. DIT went into the second quarter in a commanding position with a four point lead. However disaster struck midway through the second half when DIT's player coach Claire Goss unfortunately suffered an injury.

Thanks to some good coaching calls though she managed to reshuffle DIT's defence and stifle Killester's attack. DIT again proved too strong the opposition and it finished a comfortable 51-36.

With Heffernan and Molloy putting in consistently good performances, combined with strong play off the bench from Sarah Gelleher and Aisling Goss, DIT's girls look like they will be hard to beat again this year. They can rightly see themselves as among the favourites for the title.

The men's team meanwhile are having to adjust to a higher level of opposition having stepped up two divisions this season. Their first game of the season was the difficult task of St Mark's, a team who finished in the top three last season.

However, thanks to the meticulous preparation of Ronan O'Holohan over the previous weeks, the men rose to the challenge.

The game was very physical with rebounding a major factor. John Norris had a good game under the boards as captain Alan Gunning racked up point after point. Putting in a fine overall team performance, DIT ended up with a narrow but deserved 68-64 victory.

It was Danny Bates though who could claim man of the match. His control over the floor was the inspiration behind the victory.

The men's college team are anxious to face their next opponents. They have some tough games against the likes of Tallaght, Maynooth and RCSI in the next month, before they face the big boys of Trinity and DCU after Christmas and show them how to play ball.

As club of the year last year DIT basketball has proven very popular this year, but still welcomes new members down. The club this year has more potential than ever and is becoming very competitive and great to be involved in.

Anyone interested can contact Dermot at 087-9017862.

SPORT

Harrington aiming high

By Darragh Clifford

IT IS A question often asked. Who is Ireland's greatest sports star. The answer changes on a regular basis. Through the years it has been sportsmen like Ronnie Delaney, George Best, Eamon Coughlan, Sean Kelly, Paul McGrath and so on.

But now? People like Aidan O'Brien, Sonia O'Sullivan, DJ Carey and Keith Wood are definite contenders. Over the past year though, it has become clear that Dublin's Padraig Harrington is a step above the rest. And he shows no sign of letting up.

Harrington is currently ranked number six in the world, the highest an Irish golfer has ever been. At time of print, Harrington was gearing up to go head-to-head with South Africa's Retief Goosen for the coveted title of European Tour Order of Merit winner at the Volvo Masters. The last Irish golfer to win the order of merit was Ronan Rafferty back in 1989.

Harrington embodies everything that is good about professional sport. When he failed to sign his card properly at the Benson and Hedges Masters in 1999, he took disqualification with the upmost grace. The fact that he was leading the

tournament by three strokes makes it all the more remarkable.

The 2001 season was the crunch year for Harrington. He had been improving steadily, but lacked that killer punch. Throughout the year, he finished runner-up no less than seven times. He was beginning to be known as the bridesmaid of golf.

All that changed in November of 2001 at the Volvo Masters in Montecastillo, Spain. There, Harrington sunk a 20-foot putt on the 18th green to win Europe's showcase tournament. Suddenly, Harrington was a real force in the world of golf.

At the start of this season, Harrington was ranked 11th in the world. Excellent performances in the US Masters, US Open and the British Open meant that Harrington was climbing the ranks steadily.

Harrington received some unjustified criticism after the British Open, which was won by Ernie Els. Standing on the 18th tee, Harrington was six under, two behind Els, who was playing the 14th. Harrington took a risk and used his driver, but ended up in one of the many bunkers at Muirfield.

He bogeyed the last to drop to five under. If he had stayed at six under, he would have

qualified for the play-off.

Had he blown it? Those who said yes missed the point. Standing on the 18th, Harrington knew he was two behind Els. Nothing less than a birdie would do. He gambled, but lost. For now.

In the history of golf, only three players have been capable of winning everything without actually learning how to lose first. They were Jack Nicklaus, Seve Ballestaros and Tiger Woods.

So many other great golfers, like Arnold Palmer, Tom Watson, Nick Faldo and Greg Norman, learned to lose before they started winning. Harrington now has the game to win a major or two over the next couple of years.

At present, Harrington is going through a purple patch. He played a key role in Europe's victory over the USA in the Ryder Cup. His performance during Sunday's singles match against Mark Calcavecchia was simply superb.

A week later at the Dunhill Links Championship at St Andrew's, Harrington won, defeating Eduardo Romero on the second play-off hole. The manner in which he won was outstanding.

He sunk a 15-foot downhill putt on the 18th green to force a play-off. On the second extra hole he sunk a



Harrington is currently ranked number six in the world, the highest an Irish golfer has ever been

ten-foot putt to win the title and a cheque for €850,000.

Last week at the Italian Open he put three disappointing rounds behind him by carding a final round 63 to close the gap on Order of Merit leader Retief

Goosen to just €23,119.

With a prize fund of over €3 million at stake at the Volvo Masters, a single stroke between the two players could mean all the difference. But win or lose at Valderrama, one thing is

clear. Harrington is the leading sports personality this country has at the moment. Who knows what will happen next year. Tiger Woods presenting Harrington with the winner's Green Jacket at Augusta maybe?

By Ciaran Murray

DESPITE their mixed displays in the Champions League, Liverpool's doggedness and consistency in the Premiership have seen them pull clear at the top. Currently four points ahead of nearest chasers Arsenal, and eight ahead of a struggling United side, Liverpool seem to finally have the wherewithal to mount a serious title challenge.

Houllier has done a remarkable job in rebuilding a struggling side into a formidable and resilient force since taking over as sole manager in December 1999. Lacking the dynamism and creative flair of the two teams directly below them in the table, Liverpool have compensated by building the strongest, most tenacious squad in the league.

Criticisms have been levelled against Liverpool that they are too defence-minded, happy to soak up pressure and use the outlet of

"Boring, boring Liverpool"

Michael Owen's pace to launch counter-attacks. Valid criticisms. Certainly, from the relative clarity of a neutral's perspective, Liverpool are rarely an entertaining side to watch.

Liverpool seem to be getting away with what Arsenal were hated for ten or twelve years ago: being a dull, over-defensive team of battlers with little attacking ambition. And certainly, like that Arsenal side, Liverpool have the strongest defence in the league.

Henchoz is over-rated, and has an alarming tendency to handle the ball in the penalty area, which he generally gets away with. Hyypia, however, is majestic, a real mountain of a player in the centre of defence. In the centre of midfield, the determination of Steven Gerrard and the high work rate of Dietmar Hamann ensure that very little gets through.



Heskey takes another knock

Houllier has developed Liverpool's squad to the extent that it is arguably better equipped to deal with the rigours of playing in the Premiership and the

Champions League than Manchester United. This noted cover is lacking in attack. Despite Houllier's protestations to the contrary, the side struggles badly when

Owen is unavailable. Why Emile Heskey never fails to make it into Liverpool's starting eleven is the greatest sporting mystery of the modern era. Whether as a striker who can't score or make goals, or as a winger who can't cross or dribble, Heskey's continued inclusion in the side defies logic. He's a big, powerful lad, granted, but this is football, not boxing.

The young Czech Milan Baros looks good for the £3.5m the club bought him for.

His strength and speed, added to his killer instinct in front of goal give him an edge lacking in Heskey. Senegalese international El Hadji Diouf is entertaining to watch but rarely effective.

The decision by Liverpool to let go of Jari Litmanen during the summer seemed an odd one. They may yet live to regret it. The one thing

the club lacks badly is a creative attacking player. It has also been argued that there is too big a gap between their midfield and attack. Litmanen was the perfect player to link up the midfield and the front line (much like

Bergkamp does at Arsenal) and his vision and creativity would not go amiss in the current Liverpool side. Whether Liverpool can maintain their challenge over the course of the season depends on whether or not they can keep their key players fit.

They will probably end the season with the best defensive record in the Premiership. At the other end, they will need to keep Owen away from the treatment table.

This could prove difficult should they progress to the knockout stages of the Champions League, with the increasing workload that entails. They are certainly hungry enough to go the distance, however, and that could well prove decisive.

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