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Dublin Institute of Technology

1999-11

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DIT:Students Union

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INSIDE

**MTV AWARDS
COME TO
DUBLIN**



TRAINSPOTTING

One student describes three weeks inter-railing across Europe
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Students pack streets for march

By Thomas Felle and Margaret Donnelly

STUDENTS from across the country formed under one banner on October 27 to march on the Dail.

DIT students were also out in force, with some estimates putting the DIT attendance at about 3,500. Students from the five campuses and a number of the annexes across the Institute downed tools at lunch time on the day and made their way to DIT Mountjoy Square where the march got underway shortly after 2pm.

According to Garda sources, an earlier march to the northside site by students from Kevin Street and Aungier Street had caused traffic panic as gardai were forced to police the marching students. "We were not informed that students would be actually marching from the southside colleges just to join the march," admitted one garda.

More than 1,700 students from the two southside colleges joined on Aungier Street and brought lunch time traffic to a standstill as they paraded to join the rest of the marchers.

DITSU President Sarah McGovern said she was delighted to see so many of the students who earlier gave the mandate to the students, union to strike had come out in support of their own issues.

"USI's demands are very realistic. Students have been living in poverty for too long and the time has come for the Government to listen to us. Student accommodation and student grants are hugely important issues," she continued.

The students, union president also commented that DITSU were constantly lobbying both DIT management and public representatives to invest in student accommodation. "We have to start buying, leasing

or at least looking at the situation. Grangegorman is coming online, but it is going to be a couple of years before anything is built on that site. We have to start doing something now," she added.

In his address, USI President Philip Madden said that students have the same basic rights as every other Irish citizen. "They have the right to a roof over their head, adequate financial support and access to education which is not limited by their ability to pay.

"Our educated work force is the direct cause of the Celtic tiger phenomenon, and yet some people cannot afford to go to college and many others drop out because they can't survive on the disgracefully low grants," he added.

Cathal Brugha student Paul Devoy was at the march. He was marching because he says he can hardly afford to go to college. "Marches like this are something every student should get involved in. We can't expect to be taken seriously if we aren't prepared to do whatever it takes to get what we deserve," he added.



Students from DIT turn out in force for the march to the Dail and right: one student is very unhappy with student accommodation and grants

Other speakers at the event included a number of representatives from member colleges throughout the country, including Northern Irish colleges.

Continued on page 8



Graduation ball



Cian McLaughlin and Jeneviev Fay attending the Kevin Street Graduation ball.

DIT director resigns

ONE OF DIT's most respected directors is to resign. The *DIT Independent* has learned that Dr David Gillingham, the Director of Academic Affairs, is to take up a new position as the Pro-Vice Chancellor in the University of Coventry.

DIT President Dr Brendan Goldsmith said he had learned with disappointment of the decision. "David was a close colleague and a wonderful ally. He brought a wealth of knowledge to DIT and was broad ranging in his academic experience.

"He had an in-depth knowledge of the international dimensions of the Institute and had a broad understanding of what higher education was about for DIT. He will be greatly missed."

It is expected the Director will leave the Institute early in the new year to take up his position.

DITSU President Sarah McGovern said she was saddened by the news.

"I have had a wonderful relationship with the director in my time as a sabbatical officer. He was hugely in

favour of getting class reps involved in quality assurance of courses and he will be greatly missed," she added.

In his time at DIT, Dr Gillingham sat on a number of European Universities' boards, including the Kolding Business School in Denmark and the Regents Business School in London. He was also a member of the Open University's validation board.

A spokesperson for Coventry University said they were delighted that Dr Gillingham was joining their

academic directorate and were looking forward to working with him.

Earlier last month, a group of DIT Kevin Street lecturers voted a motion of no confidence in the DIT Directorate including Dr Gillingham.

However Dr Goldsmith dismissed the motion.

"He was uniformly regarded as being one of the most helpful people in DIT, and this in no way tarnished his reputation," added the DIT President.

AIB on Campus

For all your financial needs, please contact your local student officers.

Julie Martin - DIT Kevin Street and Aungier Street

**Ciara Toomey - DIT Mountjoy Square, Cathal Brugha Street
and Bolton Street**

Opening Hours

DIT Kevin Street: 10am - 12.30am daily

DIT Aungier Street: 1.30pm - 3.30pm daily

DIT Mountjoy Square: 3.00pm - 4.00pm (Monday)

10.30am - 11.30 am (Tuesday)

DIT Cathal Brugha Street: 2.15pm - 3.30pm (Thursday)

DIT Bolton Street: 9.30am - 11.45am and 1-2pm

(Monday, Wednesday and Friday)

10.30am - 11.30am and 1-1.30 (Tuesday)

9.30am - 12.45pm (Tuesday)



AIB

Bank

What's the point?

Defending your life as a student



Opinion by Elaine Larkin

Sometimes admitting to being a student can be a bit embarrassing. You know the scenario. You're in a bar and that friend of a friend, working in that large multi-national financial institution, somewhere on Baggot Street, roars across the crowd at you and asks "what do you do?"

"I'm doing ... course in DIT," you answer. The pub is a bit noisy, the person doesn't hear you. "You what?" they roar back, pointing at their ears. You realise they can't hear you. "I'm a student" you shout. Suddenly there is a lull in conversation, all goes quiet. The suits turn around and look you up and down, their mean little eyes calculating how much tax they've paid, and how much of it has gone on your education, and grants. All fifty-six people sitting in the immediate vicinity think that they have paid for the vodka and Red Bull you are gulping down.

A few dirty looks are thrown your way. "Student" you can hear the mutter, but it's the way they pronounce it (STEW-DENT with a tight throat and narrowed eyes) that is nearly more degrading than what happens next. The total stranger sitting right beside you strikes up a conversation, "Yeah I'm paying for your education, DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH TAX I PAY," then a shake of the head and another dirty look, mutter mutter, "STEW-DENTS".

End of conversation. With everybody. For the rest of the night. To the people in the suits who already have their BSCs or whatever, you are the scum of the earth. You see they had to pay their own way through college, "no free education in my day luv". They have a million and one ways to describe students, with such endearing terms as "ungrateful whingers," "spongers," "wasters," "no-hopers," "lazy good-for nothings," and "tight-fisted" ranking as the most popular.

Don't bother trying to explain that no you don't get the grant and that your parents pay tax too, and that you have to pay £278 just to register. You don't really know what it is or where it goes, but it's called a capitation fee. People living in the real world just don't understand you may have had to pay that £278 out of your own pocket. £278 that used to be a meagre £150 in 1996, when fees were done away with. They don't care that that £150 jumped to £250 in 1997, to £260 in 1998, and now is nearly double what it was three years ago. Won't be too long now till it jumps up into the triple-nought bracket.

And if you do get the grant, people in the real world think worse of you. All they see is how much you get, not how little. They begrudge students for that £47 and a few pence per week that wouldn't even get you a manky little bedsit in Rathmines. The fact of the matter is, students are under-paid. £47 goes nowhere. So instead of studying, students end up working alongside people in the real world, either at the same desk, serving them a g&t or sushi in the newest fancy eaterie or wherever. It's a downward spiral. The less money the Government coughs up, the less respect people may have for their college career.

Many students end up whiling away their college years in a part-time job and missing lectures for a myriad of reasons. It's a Catch-22 situation of sorts. We won't be given respect till we deserve it and we can't gain respect unless we're given a reason to. And that's why students should march for their rights. Become an ungrateful whinger - and you just might get more respect for it.

So if you ever get hassle in a pub about being a scrounging student wasting tax-payers money on vodka and Red Bull, just smile sweetly and say yes you do get money from the Government, and you're actually looking for more, way more. Admit you're actually having a quiet drink after work, but you feel a tad guilty having missed college, just so you could pay the rent, and have a roof over your head, cos you know, things are bad for students. We can't afford accommodation, bus fares are going up, and local chip shops are forever increasing their prices.

Remind them that your most of your £47 grant goes to the local shop, belonging to some multi-national company, so the tax they've paid has already left the country. You see you're living so far away from Crazy Prices now that you can't shop there anymore and have to pay exorbitant amounts in the local 24 hour Spar. Then there's the alternative - you could always agree that yes you are spending the tax they've paid. Buy a drink, for them, then throw it over them. Prove you're a real student, and not afraid to stand up for your rights and who you are. Then guzzle back a few more drinks and leave it till you're nursing your hangover to worry about where the next meal is coming from.

Ahern launches MA course

By Rachel Healy

A PIONEERING masters degree in environmental health risk management was launched by Taoiseach Bertie Ahern on October 11.

The course, based in Cathal Brugha Street, is the first of its kind in Ireland and according to organisers will "reflect a growing emphasis on environmental health issues".

In his speech, the Taoiseach said such a course was vital for both the health and safety and the tourism industry.

"Unplanned incidents which affect the health and well being of the population and the environment deservedly make international headlines. Courses like this one will give graduates the skills they need to combat such incidents and minimise risks of major disasters."

He added incidents such as the Paddington rail crash and the BSE crisis had "shaken public confidence in profound ways about the quality of our safety and environmental controls."

According to Michael Mulvey, Director of the Faculty of Tourism and Food, the course represents an increasing emphasis on environmental health issues.

He acknowledged DIT's role in addressing the issue and added "DIT is



Taoiseach Bertie Ahern at the launch of the MA in Environmental Health Risk Management

continuously mindful of the society which it serves and of the dynamic relationship which must exist between industry and academia.

"Industry and Government increasingly recognise the need to develop appropriate strategies to control significant risks to consumers, employers, products and the environment".

He also added graduates will be trained to identify,

access and develop appropriate strategies to control significant risks to employees, consumers and the environment.

Michael Griffin, chairperson of the course committee at Cathal Brugha Street said there was an increasing demand for such a course. "We did a survey of industry and market demand and having done that we invited industry in for a day to discuss our proposal.

"There is so much legislation on food safety, building, environmental and health safety, a course like this would give graduates a better understanding of the intricacies of this complex area."

The masters programme includes study in risk assessment, risk management, occupational safety and health, food safety and hygiene, environmental and environmental health.

Playstation competition to 'sort the men from the boys'

By Independent Reporter

DO YOU fancy your chances of representing your college in the mother of all video games competitions?

A novel idea by Kevin Street Clubs and Societies officer Mark Smyth may lead to just that. He is planning to hold a playstation competition that promises to sort the men from the boys. Smyth said that although plans were still ongoing, much of the organisation had already been done.

"It's something I have been wanting to do for a while. Everybody loves Playstation, so something like this gives DIT students a chance to compete at 'another level'," he added. The computer and video games societies in Kevin Street and Cathal Brugha Street are planning to hold inter site playstation competitions with the 'Tekon' programme during November to try and develop site teams and individual site champions.

Sites would play against each other on a league basis to become overall DIT champions in a grand final before Christmas. Interested students would be able to register by coming to play on the days advertised in local campuses.



Manager of Gamesworld Michael Neary, with organiser Mark Smyth, Kevin St Clubs and Societies officer and John Simons, Bank of Ireland

Smyth is also planning to organise an intervarsities competition with other Dublin colleges.

He added that although plans for this are in the early stages, there was great interest from other colleges' societies. The events are being sponsored by Bank of Ireland, Sony Ireland, Planet Murphy and Gamesworld, the Liffey Street based computer games store. So according to the Kevin Street officer, the

only question that remains is are you good enough?

"Do you have what it takes to rise above the crowd and show everyone what you're really made of? "At least now you'll have a valid excuse for not joining your other half in bed after a night out on the beer. You can now insist on having to brush up on your moves so you can show the world how good you really are," he added.

The Overall View



Sarah McGovern

NOVEMBER is upon us and with it is the second edition of the new DIT Independent. We hope you like the new look of the paper and we welcome any comments you may have.

In the aftermath of Freshers Week all I can say is I'm sure you had a good time. If however, you didn't please let your local union officers know and make some suggestions.

I am very happy to welcome all the new part-time officers who were elected in October to the students' union executive. A special welcome goes to the new welfare officer/ deputy president in Aungier street, Alan Coleman. These part-time officers work closely with the full-time sabbaticals on issues which affect you.

The USI march went well and we were glad to see that over half of the total number of students were from the DIT.

To those who marched thank you very much, to those of you who didn't we will be expecting your support later in the year for campaigns of our own.

This week saw our first meeting of DITSU council which is the supreme policy making body of the union. All the councillors are either elected from within the local class reps or are officers of the union. If you would like to get involved and get a closer look at the politics of the union contact your local S.U. office. DITSU council is a vital part of the union and if you come along to a meeting you will see what kind of work the sabbatical officers do. You might even be surprised.

Bye for now - Sarah

CAN 99 film festival revived

By Natasha Reid

A SHOWCASE of short films produced by film students in DIT were aired to a capacity crowd in DIT Aungier Street on Wednesday, October 13, which included dignitaries from the film and broadcasting industry as well as current and former DIT students.

The film festival was relaunched in 1998 after a lapse of several years.

It was organised by Grainne O'Rourke, manager of the Media Production Unit in DIT to establish links with industry, arts organisations and film institutes.

"Putting their work on the wide screen helps enable students to find future employment and to encourage co-productions with industry," said the unit manager.

Speaking at the event, Dr Ellen Hazelkorn, Director of the Faculty of Applied Arts said the event was an attempt to get the students interacting with the media industry. "CAN99 is a confidence builder for graduates. It's important to accredit their hard work and dedication," she added.

According to Hazelkorn, the idea for a film festival started in the early 80s, during the formative years of the then communications diploma.

"It was the start of the development of DIT to university level, bringing a range of courses together in one school. The festival creates publicity, promotes good feeling and a knowledge



A scene from the short film *First Communion* shown at the film festival

about what is going on. The students are meeting people with whom they might be working in the future," she added.

Sheila Pratschke, Director of the Film Institute of Ireland officially opened CAN99.

In her speech, she said she envied the current film graduates because they were producers at the beginning of their careers. "It's a good time to be launching a career in film in Ireland with more opportunities than ever before. Some of the films being shown have already been screened on our own '1st Cut' series at the IFC."

Seamus Dooley, Irish Organiser with the National Union of Journalists was one of the first graduates of the film course in the early 80s

and was also at the festival launch.

"Personally, I see myself as a survivor of the course. I cringe when I compare the productions I attempted with tonight's. In the early 80s, we didn't have the resources.

"We started in Room 10 of the old town hall in Rathmines and moved to Largo House, which is now a doctor's surgery. Getting money for a double adapter was a huge achievement!"

So, what about the films? A mix of drama, comedy and documentary, they catered for all tastes. Themes like fate and mortality were dealt with in the MA production, 'Coffee Spoons', written and directed by Eoin O'Connor.

Lisa Power displayed her talent in her film, 'Bitter

Sweet', part of the highly acclaimed Journeyman Scheme. Martina Niland and Maeve Coleman produced Nodlag Houlihan's comedy 'First Communion'.

The theatre filled with laughter again during her three-minute animated comedy, 'Vampire on Ice'.

Already screened on RTE, 'One in Four: Adult Literacy', is an intriguing documentary, directed by Muireann de Barra and produced by Ciara Hendly.

The black comedy, 'Hostile Takeover' was produced by Iseult O'Siochain and directed by Martin de Barra.

A selection of work from Media Production students was also screened.

Unions to cause headaches for DIT

By Thomas Felle

AS THE latest rounds of talks between the social partners begin, a DIT union official has warned staff in the Institute would be looking for substantial improvements in pay and conditions.

The union official told the DIT Independent that up until now affiliate unions in the Institute have been tied under the Partnership for Competitiveness and Work Agreement (PCW).

"Up until now relations have been strained at the best of times between management and unions in the college, however things are going to get worse before

Teachers may mount challenge for further pay increments

they get better," added the union official.

"There is a wide distrust among all members of staff and there are serious issues of staffing that the Institute have ignored.

"These are areas we will want addressed in the coming year," added the representative.

Earlier this year porters and general maintenance staff threatened strike action over pay and condi-

tions, and last month a strike was narrowly averted when the Labour Relations Commission intervened in a lecturers' dispute.

There has also been some suspicion recently that following the nurses' strike, teaching unions may mount a challenge to the Government for further pay increments outside the PCW.

At a meeting of TUI members in DIT Kevin

Street last month, lecturers voted a motion of no confidence in the DIT directorate.

Currently, the Irish Congress of Trade Unions is deciding whether or not to enter a new round of partnership agreements post the current PCW.

The two main unions representing staff in the college are the Teachers Union of Ireland (TUI) and SIPTU, both of which are affiliated to the ICTU.

It is widely expected, however, that there will be another social partnership agreement.

Night at the Arts

APPLIED Arts students from across DIT were treated to an evening of cultured entertainment in Rathmines on October 20.

The event was organised by the faculty as an orientation evening for first year students, according to lecturer Pdraig O'Cuinneagain.

"It was an attempt to introduce the students to a variety of cultural themes and ideas from right across the whole spectrum of what DIT has to offer," he continued.

The evening included performances from music students in Chatham Row who gave a short recital and acting students who performed a scene from a play.

The event was organised as a social as well as an orientation evening, according to faculty sources, and was a tremendous success.

This was the first year the evening took place and the organisers say they plan to continue running it in the future.

Classical music festival

By Rachel Devlin

A MAJOR celebration of classical music is to take place in DIT

The Fredrick Fennel Band Festival will be held at Gleeson Hall in DIT Kevin Street on November 5, 6 and 7 and is the first event of its kind in Ireland.

Chatnam Row lecturer William Halpin is the main organiser of the event. According to Halpin, the cream of American conductors are to lecture, coach and conduct during the Festival "giving an insight into the little explored musical world of the Wind Band.

"Frederick Fennel, founder of the Eastman Wind Ensemble and conductor laureate of the Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra, Jeffrey Renshaw, conductor of the University of Connecticut Wind Ensemble, and Thomas Duffy, composer and conductor of the Yale University Concert Band, promise to reveal everything there is to know about this musical genre," he added.

This will be the first time the world renowned octogenarian, Frederick Fennel will play and lecture in Ireland. According to Halpin, the chance to experience him perform and lecture is an opportunity not to be missed. "At his ripe old age Dublin may not be given a second chance."

The weekend's intensive timetable, filled with concerts, workshops and lectures, also feature some of DIT's most talented student musicians.

The DIT Wind Ensemble will perform at the Gala Concert opening on Friday night and this will be conducted by William Halpin, their resident conductor, as well as the Fennel, Renshaw and Duffy trio.

On Saturday, ears will be treated to the musical delights of the DIT Wind Symphonia. Other bands performing during the festival include the Balloncollig Concert Band, Artane Boys Band, Dublin Concert Band and the Rathfarnham Concert Band.

For the budding conductors there is a master class on Sunday with advice and tuition of Doctors Fennel and Renshaw. "This is a unique opportunity for young and aspiring conductors and people who have an interest in music," added Halpin.

Ticket prices for the event range from a weekend ticket at £30, to a day ticket (includes the night concert) at £15, and individual concert admissions at £6.

All tickets are available from the Conservatory of Music and Drama on Adelaide road, and the organisers are encouraging students to go along and join in one of the many unique workshops, visit the exhibits or simply enjoy the music.

DIT Independent

Students across the country in a bind of solidarity told the Government what they thought of fees by the back door, incredible standards of student accommodation and inadequate maintenance grants on October 27. And rightly so. Indeed, the protest march allowed students vent their anger and frustration at an education system which appears to pay little heed to their feelings. A single representative of the main opposition, and similar representation from the fringe parties was hardly cross party support for what is essentially a fundamental right. That is why a march such as this one combined with a massive media campaign will definitely ruffle feathers in Government buildings. One student vote can often turn into three when it is the mother and father who help support that student. Thanks to an election system that ensures parish pump politics will outlive us all, TDs don't want another bad egg in the basket when knocking on the doors asking for votes. So a march that got the support it deserved from students within this Institute is to be commended.

DIT students joined in this protest against a society that is growing more and more capitalist by the day. A strong show of support in favour of increasing maintenance grants to make them in line with dole payments is not a ridiculous suggestion. In essence, what the Government are saying is that it is perfectly OK to draw the dole and live off the State, and get housing assistance and a number of other handouts, but if you decide to make something of your life and work three nights a week to put yourself through an increasingly expensive so-called free education system, you are to be condemned and are to receive little more than pocket money, which goes absolutely nowhere to meeting soaring costs of accommodation in Dublin.

Indeed asking the Government to invest in student housing is not something to be mocked either. It is unreasonable to expect a students unions to fork out millions to try and house the multitudes of students sleeping on friend's couches. It is something that is being considered, but with limited resources that are already required to finance much needed welfare assistance within the colleges, this would put undue strain on budgets.

But most importantly of all, the abolition of fees for third level students was a landmark decision by the then Education Minister, former Labour Deputy Niamh Breathnach. However, the bliss was to be short lived. Capitation fees were introduced with all the, cute "hoorism" of the civil service and what was £150 has now almost doubled and will no doubt become fees through the back door, in due course.

It was a day for DIT to be proud of, as the students of the Institute made up at least 50 per cent of the total student attendance of the crowd. Conservative estimates put the attendance at about 6,000, which may not seem much when one looks at the overall membership of the USI.

However, it is indeed a grand figure considering the amount of students who travelled from even the smallest of colleges to attend the rally. DIT students in particular have something very special to be proud of. They led the general band of students and their voice was as one as the familiar chant of the initial cluster echoed around their true campus: The streets of Dublin. Camaraderie in the face of capitalism was the order of the day all round.

That same pride in the faces of DITSU sabbatical officers says it all. This was their day too. They were served with the task of convincing students to take a stand on an issue and they did. After all, every student deserves at least one good march in their college career.

Students were right to down tools, on Wednesday. There was some concern and even dispute amongst some of the lecturing staff as to the nature of the dispute. Memories of a TUI dispute were short lived when it came to support for other unions, it seems. And a union is exactly what DIT students are member of. On October 27, they marched under the banner of USI, an even larger union. The nurses had their day, the gardai another, so students were absolutely right to march in support of their rights. It is fair to say that young DIT graduates have contributed enormously to the Celtic Tiger economy. Unrivalled training in both the professional and vocational sectors have meant a qualification from the Institute is a passport to a job in many areas. It is not unreasonable, then, that students have asked for a little back.

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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Students win Euro PR award

By Tom Tuite

A TEAM of five public relations students from DIT Aungier Street has won a top European public relations award.

The award, the CERP Communications Challenge, which is run by the European Public Relations Federation, aims to create a cross cultural campaign for the EU to demonstrate the advantages of the Information Society. The prize for the winners was EUR10,000 (£7,785).

The five students, Karen Cunningham, Sandra Hogan, Maurice Kelly, Sinéad Ní Mhaille and Kathy Tynan all come from the MA class in public relations. The course tutor is Francis Xavier Carty.

In taking part in the awards, the students made a live presentation to colleagues and PR experts in Brussels at the start of October.

Their entry to the CERP Challenge dealt with the benefits that the information age has for the agricultural community. The PR students were motivated by their



feeling that the agricultural community throughout the EU is missing out on the benefits of the information age. "As much of Europe embraces new technologies the farming community is lagging behind. There is a genuine risk of a two-tier society developing within the EU that would further entrench economic and social differences that goes against the very essence of the EU", said student Karen Cunningham. Each team had to prepare and submit a 25-

page proposal document with illustrations and a 20-minute presentation on videotape or CD.

In their proposal, the DIT team proposed many strategies whereby farmers could be made aware of what modern information technology could do for them. They also examined how this can be accomplished. They recommended that an extensive PR campaign should be undertaken to show

farmers the benefits of modern information technology. "This could be done through a comprehensive media campaign to bring the issue to the farming community's attention.

"Political and economic lobbying be conducted at all levels and a quality branding scheme be awarded to farmers who use the information society to increase efficiency on their farms," their proposal said.

"This," the proposal continued, "would provide an incentive to farmers who are not aware of the advantages of information technology. This would also offer a reward to those who already avail of these facilities".

According to the preliminary jury in Brussels, they were impressed by the content and presentation of the proposal. CERP, founded in 1959, is a confederation of European national public relations associations.

The Public Relations Institute of Ireland joined CERP in 1968.

Information Act to cover DIT

IN THE latest edition of the Director's Newsletter, DIT management says that during the coming year, the Freedom of Information Act will be extended to cover the Institute.

"This will have enormous consequences for the accessibility of all kinds of records at levels within the Institute," the newsletter continues, "we will need help and guidance on how to proceed. Training programmes will be organised and it will be urgent that there be wide participation in them."

In the past there has been huge controversy between educational establishments and the media on Freedom of Information Act requests. It is as yet unclear what information will become available once the Act is extended.

Work on extension

CONSTRUCTION of the multi million pound phase two extension to the Aungier Street site is expected to begin shortly after Christmas. Originally, work was due to commence during the summer but this did not happen.

Plans for the proposed extension have been posted on the walls of the foyer in the site for some time. It is expected the Faculty of Business will be concentrated here once the construction has been completed.

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focus on . . . elections

AUNGIER STREET -

SABATICAL ELECTION,
DEPUTY PRESIDENT

Total Poll 605
Spoils 91
TVP 514
Quota 258
Alan Coleman 333
Niamh Pakenham 76
RON 5

Alan Coleman deemed elected, having reached the quota

ENTERTAINMENTS

Deirdre Stapleton

Total poll: 614
Spoils 100
T.V.P 514
Yes 409
No 45
RON 60

Candidate deemed elected.

BOLTON STREET

ENTERTAINMENT

Candidates: Stephen O'Byrne, Emma Byrne

Total Poll 232
Spoils 11
TVP 221
Quota 112
Stephen O'Connor 121
Emma Byrne 82
R.O.N 18

Stephen O,Connor elected on the first count

APPRENTICE OFFICER - Kate Mealeady, Colm Sharkey

Total Poll 240
Spoils 11
TVP 229
Quota 115+1

Kate Mealeady 142
Colm Sharkey 72

Kate Mealeady Deemed elected on the first count having reached the quota

CLUBS AND SOCS -

Padraig Gaffney

Total Poll 233
Spoils 7
T.V.P 226
Yes 184
No 31

Deemed elected

PRO - Niall Coomen

Total Poll 230
Spoiled 8
T.V.P 222
Yes 165
No 42
R.O.N 15

Deemed elected

EQUALITY OFFICER

Michael Abrahamson

Total Poll 229
Spoils 6
TVP 223
Yes 153
No 55
R.O.N 15

Deemed elected

MOUNTJOY SQUARE

ARTS AND DESIGN OFFICER

Total Poll 391
Spoil 14
TVP 377
Quota 189
Fergus Cannon 220
David Martin Davis 123
RON 34

Fergus Cannon Elected

EQUALITY OFFICER

Total Poll 400
Spoils 9
T.V.P 391
Quota 195 +1= 196
Guillianra Passi 67
Doyle Kavanagh 150
Caroline Walsh 155
R.O.N 22

2rd Count

Elimination of Passi

Non-transferable 30
Doyle + 20170
Walshe +17 172

Caroline Walshe elected, not having reached the quota

PRO - Barry Keegan

Total Poll 397
Spoils 12
T.V.P 385
Quota 193
Keegan 190
O'Reilly 172
RON 29

Redistribution of RON

Barry Keegan elected

ENTERTAINMENT

Total Poll 389
Spoils 8
T.V.P 381
Quota 191
Hugh Quigley 26
Mark Greene 142
Ann O'Sullivan 192
R.O.N 21

Ann Sullivan elected, having reached the quota

PART-TIME STUDENTS, OFFICER

Total 391
Spoils 8

TVP 383
Quota 192
Annette Leary 190+3
Ruth Harvell 162+4
RON 31

Elimination of RON - Non Transferable 24

Annette Leary elected on second count

IRISH LANGUAGE OFFICER

Total Poll 387
Spoils 8
TVP 379
Quota 191
Colin Brosnan 93
Sinead Waters 163
Michael O'Loughlin 95
R.O.N 28

2nd Count

Elimination of RON

Distribution of RON 28
Non transferable 20
O'Lochlainn +6 101
Waters +2 165
Brosnan +0 93

3rd Count

Eliminate Brosnan

Non transferable 37
Waters +30 195
O'Lochlainn+26 127

Waters elected having reached the quota

CLUBS AND SOCS

Darragh Buckley

Total Poll 390
Spoils 10
TVP 380
Yes 310
No 43
RON 27

Buckley

CATHAL BRUGHA STREET

CLUBS AND SOCS,
JP McKenna

Yes 88
No 4
Spoils 3
RON 0
TVP 92
Total Poll 95

ENTS

Michael Whelan

Total Poll 93
Yes: 83
No: 7
RON: 3

IRISH LANGUAGE OFFICER

Searan NI Shiurtain

Yes 83
No 5
RON 2
Spoils 3
TVP 90

Total Poll 93

Max Haefere

Total Poll: 93
Spoils: 1
TVP: 92
yes: 85
No: 3

KEVIN STREET

PRO - Caitriona De Chaumont

Total Poll 190
Spoils 13
TVP 177
Yes 117
No 44
RON 16

ILO - Con O'Ceadaigh

Total Poll 188
Spoils 8

TVP 180
Yes 140
No 35
RON 5

ENTERTAINMENTS - Alan Woulfe

Total Poll 187
Spoils 5
TVP 182
Yes 157
No 18
RON 7

CLUBS AND Soc's

Mark Smyth

Total Poll 188
Spoils 6
TVP 182
Yes 147
No 23
RON 12

EQUALITY OFFICER Orla Bourke

Total Poll 187
Spoils 7
TVP 180
Yes 155
No 19
RON 6

USI Total

A.St. B.StM.Sq .
Yes 376 161 301
No 105 55 74

K.St C.B S
Yes t161 80
No 22 11

Total Poll 1494

Spoils 148
T.V.P 1346
Yes 1079
No 267

Motion passed by 75.25%

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... elections

New procedures to ensure greater security

By Thomas Felle

THIS year for the first time in DITSU elections, a completely independent body of students was gathered to run the counts.

Chief Returning Officer, former DITSU President Colin Joyce said this move was made to take away any doubt that there may be any interference in elections.

"It is a move forward for DITSU and removes any doubt that elections are not completely impartial," he said.

There is no suggestion that in the past there were any irregularities in the election supervision process.

Currently, a group of students are elected each year to a high level election supervisory committee, made up of the chairpersons of the site class representative bodies, the overall DITSU President and other elected members.

No student who is running for election may sit on the committee.

The main change this year however is that an independent Chief Returning Officer



has been appointed.

In the past this position had been filled by the General Secretary of the organisation.

In his official statement, the Chief Returning Officer said he was very satisfied with the election process.

"We have a new counting staff this year and I would like to be able to use the same staff again in the future.

"It will mean they will be more proficient and will be able to get through the job more quickly," he added.

Counting in the sabbatical by-election and the part-time officer election began shortly after 9am on October 21, in the count centre in Gleeson Hall, and much of the counting had been completed before lunchtime.

DITSU President Sarah McGovern, commenting on the low turnout in the elections in some sites, said she was disappointed more people did not use their democratic right.



Above left: counting at last month's elections. Above: Colin Joyce, Chief Returning Officer

Felle on Form

Elections show apathy among student population



Opinion by Thomas Felle

RECENT results from part time officer elections point to huge apathy amongst the student population. The election results speak for themselves. A situation where in one campus 16 people ran for six positions is to be commended. An vibrant interest in student welfare, campaigns, politics and all the other things that go with being a part time officer has enthralled Comadians and the elected officials are to be congratulated for having gone through an arduous selection process. However, not all campuses have such dedicated students.

Aungier Street held a sabbatical by-election to fill the position of deputy president/welfare officer at the site. At elections held in March of last year, no one ran for this position. Similar problems with convincing all but one student to run for part time office can only mean one thing: Students are becoming more and more self centred and the idea of giving time freely to serve is a redundant throughout the old Jacob's factory site.

This is not a problem that rests solely within Aungier Street's jurisdiction however. All but the Comadians had relatively little interest in running for office. Kevin Street managed to fill each position unopposed, while Bolton Street and Cathal Brugha Street failed to do even that. So why are students becoming more and more self interested?

The reasons are varied. Third level education has lost its radicalism in DIT. Gone are the days of left wing conveners with ideas of all encompassing socialism, in are the days of agreement and consensus. Gone are the days when student council meetings had to be postponed for fear of riot, in are the days of long drawn out talking shops where no policy is ever debated and contentious issues are avoided like the plague.

The decision by the DITSU executive to move part time officer elections to November was never going to bring down an executive. A few discerning voices amongst officers at the time were hushed in favour of a 'one voice' approach to convincing students to accept the new constitution. Indeed there are many reasons why it was a good idea for the students' union executive to propose to change the constitution to allow part time officer elections to be moved from their traditional spot with the sabbatical elections, to a spot of their own in the first term of the college year.

It gives the assurance to the sabbatical officers that they will indeed have an officer board to work for he year.

In the past it is true to say that in many cases officers who were elected did not take up places in local executives. People failed exams, people took time off college to travel, work to do other things. Others simply realised they didn't have the time to put in to a part time position once they had returned to the next year of their course. It also, and perhaps more importantly, gives the opportunity to almost a quarter of the student population to vote for officers who in essence will be working for them as well as giving first year students the chance to run for positions themselves.

However, there are also many reasons why perhaps the students' union needs to look again at the timing of elections. As a former part time officer, I have fond memories of Freshers' Week in DIT. One of the most important team building exercises for part time officers in that very week and the organisation of the events contained therein. Such organisation requires almost full time dedication for the week, which adds greatly to the social interaction of the officer, as well as giving the officer the chance to get to know a lot of the incoming first years. It is also great training for the officers in question, who will be expected to 'muck in' at almost every event throughout the year. But perhaps most importantly of all, it gives part time officers the credence they deserve.

Student voices are changing, whether it is for the good or the bad. Students are no longer interested in hustings twice a year. Students no longer read notice boards to see who is running. Very often the catchy poster or quite frankly the good-looking candidate will get elected.

Student union officials need to look again at this move. It has not solved the problem of losing officers over the summer recess. It has not heightened interest amongst the general populous about elections and union activity. It has not improved the calibre of candidate. What it has done is made it a lot harder for sabbatical officers to run a students' union come the first days of term. It has meant organising Freshers' Week activities has become much more difficult, as the sheer volume of planning that goes into a Freshers' Ball becomes all too much for even the most capable of site Presidents. Worst of all, it has denied part time officers the chance to do what they do best: Providing a helping hand.

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New Deputy President

ALAN Coleman is the new deputy president/welfare officer for DIT Aungier Street. 20-year-old Alan lives in Dun Laoghaire and up until now was repeating his second year of a degree in Business studies in the college. Alan has always been involved with student activities in the college, although he says it was at a bottom up level. "I was the class rep in first year and I was involved in running the indoor football club, one of the biggest clubs in the College, last year," he says.

Alan says he ran because he felt that although the current students' union is doing a good job, there were lots of ways in which they could do more. "That is what I want to do: do more," he adds.

One of Alan's biggest campaigns is to move the now traditional Wednesday night out to a different location. "Planet Murphy is great for a night out, but in reality it is too big for Aungier Street. In Soroahans, Aungier Street, people were able to mix together as a college, that's something that just doesn't happen in Planet Murphy."

The sabbatical officer also added that students were in favour of such a move. "From talking to students on the ground, there is definitely a feeling that a move would be in our best interests," he concluded. Alan takes over the position which was left vacant up until now as no one ran for the position in the March elections.

Colourful expression

Students pack the streets

... from page 1

Des Geraghty, vice-president of SIPTU also addressed the crowd and said he was delighted students had decided to take a stand.

"Investment in education is vital if this country is to continue to grow at its current rate and we are delighted to lend out support to it," he added.

Earlier in the afternoon, there was a stand-off between members of the socialist workers, group and stewards policing the event. According to USI, the rally was organised to be strictly non political.

"There was a feeling they were trying to ambush the event," the spokesperson added. The march started from Mountjoy Square on time and continued down O'Connell Street, around Trinity College and arrived at Molesworth Street shortly before 3pm.

Afterwards, the masses were entertained by the band Junkster who waived their fee for the event.

Elaine Larkin marched alongside DIT students

Well as they say it's not over till the (fat) lady sings, and so ended the USI demo last week, with thousands of students dripping from Molesworth Street before Irish band Junkster had even finished their first song.

Tiananmen Square 1989, and Paris 1968 it certainly was not. But those representing DIT at the student march showed their true colours as student activists, and gave every ounce of energy they could muster to the cause.

With a two-mile trek ahead of them across the city centre to the official starting point of the march at Mountjoy Square, it was up to the south-side DIT campuses of Kevin Street and Aungier Street to set the scene for the day.

The marchers wreaked havoc and traffic was brought to a standstill as the first representatives took to the streets sporting white, red and green USI T-shirts, holding luminous placards in the air. By-standers cheered, cars honked in support and little old ladies covered their ears in an attempt to drown out the clamour of cheering

which resounded through the streets. And that was before the real march had even begun.

DIT Mountjoy Square became the centre of the universe for student demonstrators.

As bus loads of students from colleges around the city and country congregated, the momentum reached dizzying heights with everyone dying to get down to the Dáil and show the country that Irish students have needs too.

The march was dazzling, from the reflection of the multi-coloured luminous placards, the glare off the Garda's yellow jackets, the brightly coloured whistles and USI T-shirts.

Camera flashes added to the colourful parade as workers, tourists and shoppers alike stood in amazement on O'Connell Street and the end of Grafton Street at the sight before them. Deafening whistles only added to the roars, chants and songs resounding from the bouncing throng. Renditions of the Fields of Athenry, combined with What do we want, to give on-



Cathy Power and Michelle McCauley, Cathal Brugha Street sabbatical officers make themselves heard. Right: students fill the streets of Dublin

lookers on the main thoroughfares more than enough to look at for the afternoon.

Some 200 DCU students turned up in period Scottish highland warrior dress, and were even armed with picks and axes, albe they plastic. The very original "you may take our free fees, but you'll never take our freedom" rang out in familiar voice from many a student during the procession.

Students had become free citizens of Dublin. Forget QBC's, students were awarded a Quality Student Corridor for the day, from Mountjoy Square to Molesworth Street, a direct line to the Dáil.

Memorable moments were of course the 13-second sit-downs on Mountjoy Square, O'Connell Street, outside Trinity and again on Nassau Street.

Greeting the snake of students outside the Dáil at the end of Molesworth Street was a big truck, with loads of



photographers and speakers. And as they all said their bit, they were followed by an astounding roar of applause from the amassed crowd. And then before anyone knew it, it was over.

Junkster came on stage and everyone headed their own ways, tired feet, empty stomachs, sore throats and the onset of 'flu. Everyone turned away confident of one thing, however: We had done our job, even if we were tired.



Students screened for TB as 'precaution'

By Aedin Donnelly

MORE THAN 150 business studies students and staff in Aungier Street underwent "routine testing" for TB last month, following a discovery during the summer that a business student had the disease.

Altogether 130 final-year DBS students and 20 staff were identified as having had close contact of ten hours or more with the student over a six-month period. Due to the

sheer volume of people involved, the Eastern Health Board did the tests over a two-day period on the Aungier Street site.

According to a DIT spokesperson "there is no cause for alarm. The tests were routine and were being carried out as a precautionary measure".

DIT were just "covering themselves," added the spokesperson. They do not expect anything to come of the results.

At the end of August it came to the Eastern Health Board's attention that a business studies student attending DIT Aungier Street had contracted tuberculosis. As the EHB are under statutory obligation to carry out routine testing for anybody who has come in close contact with the diseased, they met with representatives from DIT management in September to discuss the situation.

Testing was arranged for

those in danger of contracting the disease for Tuesday, and Thursday, October 12 and 14. The screening process carried out in the college involved a chest x-ray, a skin test, and a sputum (phlegm) test.

The infected student did not contract the disease within DIT, but from an external source. The screening was carried out as a precautionary measure since TB is not classed as a highly contagious disease.

Mary O'Neill looks at the root causes of the disease

TB is usually an infection of the chest (or lungs) but can sometimes affect other parts of the body. It is caused by an invisible germ known as the Tubercle Bacillus. About 600 people get TB in Ireland each year.

Three different strains of TB exist, only one of which is infectious once it has become airborne. Because it develops slowly, can take weeks or even months to display itself through symptoms, and can often reappear even after the sufferer has been cured.

TB is spread through the air from someone with the infectious type of TB. It can also be caused by drinking unpasteurised milk from cows with TB. It is not a particularly infectious disease, the chance of developing it are only about one in 10.

The most common symptom of TB is a cough which lasts for a few weeks, which can be accompanied with phlegm stained with blood. Other symptoms are breathlessness, loss of weight, loss of appetite, night sweats or general tiredness.

TB can be treated by antibiotics and only requires admission to hospital in serious cases.

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Trainspotting



Etain McGuckian tells how she survived three weeks inter-railing across Eastern Europe, experiencing the horrors of a German concentration camp and the beauty of fairy-tale cities like Prague along the way

It all started when we wandered out of the coffee shop. Myself, D, Jean and Karen were lost in Amsterdam.

The first night of our travels and we couldn't find our way out of the red light district. Scary. The place was full of families out window shopping at two in the morning. That sounds a bit funnier than it actually was at the time.

So I pretended to know where we were going, just to keep things together. I knew the youth hostel was southwest, but I found it hard convincing the rest when places became unrecognisable, so Jean offered to take control. From then on that was it, Jean was tour guide,

I was the language interpreter, D understood the rail timetable and Karen did all the worrying. We thought we were ready to travel across Europe.

We were heading east. Denmark seemed too North at the time so we decided to visit the Germans. We landed in Hanover for about five minutes and got as far as the tourist office, when the lady there convinced us that Hamburg was much better. So we hopped on a train and spent two hours investigating the possibilities of Hamburg with our outdated guidebook called 'Katie'.

Hamburg was a beautiful city, with many impressive Germanic buildings that we viewed, mainly from the outside due to our skin-tight budget. At about six o'clock that day we were jacked, but the chances of finding a bed at that time are about nil to none.

That was ok, the camping

platz was only another hour away on the bus and it started to piss rain.

This place was in the middle of nowhere beside a dual carriageway and behind a furniture warehouse. Karen was getting worried, but we kept her mind off it and set her the task of putting up the tents.

We had purchased a tent in Holland for what we thought was a bargain, until we opened it up to find it was a beach shelter. Karen was really worried at this stage. We had one two-man tent plus four rucksacks plus us, a freak camping site behind us and news that there was a



Hamburg by night

robber on the loose and it was raining. It just didn't seem like what 'Katie' had described, the stupid bitch!

So we wasted time in the activity room, drank some Liebfraumilch until we were kicked out and had to face the two-man tent.

We tied the rucksacks onto my wrist, covered them with the beach shelter and crowded into our tiny marquee, and slept like logs.

The sun shone the following morning and we knew we were over the worst.

We landed in Warsaw the next day after sleeping on a night train to Poland, which was jammers, and made the loo a little bit more hassle than it was worth.

When we arrived we didn't know what to expect. Misconceptions of a war-torn communist country plagued our minds, but having not washed for days we could think of only one thing - Shhhhhooooooooowwwweerr.

Our journey from the station to our youth hostel was debatable. The city looked shabby compared to Hamburg, but it was so sunny and warm that day it looked 'a nice kind of shabby'.

Our youth hostel was a kid's orphanage during the school term, and the little old lady that answered the door was like an angel sent from heaven. She showed us to this really nice room decorated in kids drawings and McDonalds happy meal houses. Paradise.

The old town of Warsaw was just full of character and characters. It was a Saturday when we arrived, which set brides and grooms loose all over the city.

Couples would just line up outside the Roman Catholic churches waiting to be wed; it was such a merry little place. Everybody was out celebrating.

Kids watched street plays while grown-ups rooted through the market stalls, all set on a backdrop of beautiful nineteenth century buildings untouched by the war. The fact that everything was so

cheap was an added bonus so it was time to loosen the budget.

Our first meal in days was a refreshing change from sandwiches and the beer went down very well.

The most amazing street performance took place outside our youth hostel that night. Fireworks and bright lights were used to capture the audience's hearts and minds in an illustration of good and evil, with powerful modern dancers acerbating to the sounds of classical music. You will encounter nothing like it in your life.

Krakow was two hours away on the train in the south of Poland, another amazing city that had a younger spirit than Warsaw, but older in architecture.

We braved Auschwitz that was another two hours away, and took a train that reflected the type you'd see in WW1 documentaries.

It was so hot that day that the doors of the rusty train were left open. Auschwitz was a ghost town with two shops and a pub.

We walked up to the concentration camp feeling nauseous from the horror of what we were about to see.

The feeling of torture and bitterness almost screamed when you entered. It was just horrific, especially the furnaces.

It was definitely a shocking experience that doesn't really hit you at the time, but later becomes more of a reality.

Running out of money fast we had to decide our route for the next week.

Prague was a definite maybe, and filled all our expectations. Cheap beer, good nightlife and so



Top: a train passes through Hamburg; above and right: scenes from Amsterdam; below: the city of Prague



picturesque. We were in our element for the next couple of days.

We visited all the usuals, Charles's Bridge, Prague Castle, The Powder Tower, St. George's Basilica, churches, pubs, clubs, and more pubs. It was a dream and just what you need to work up an appetite for Berlin's Love Parade.

Another completely outrageous event that lifts your spirits and pulls your energy into a humongous

crowd, dancing free to the sound of a love bug, buzzing through the streets of Berlin. Madness!

Prague had to be revisited again, then onto Slovakia then Austria.

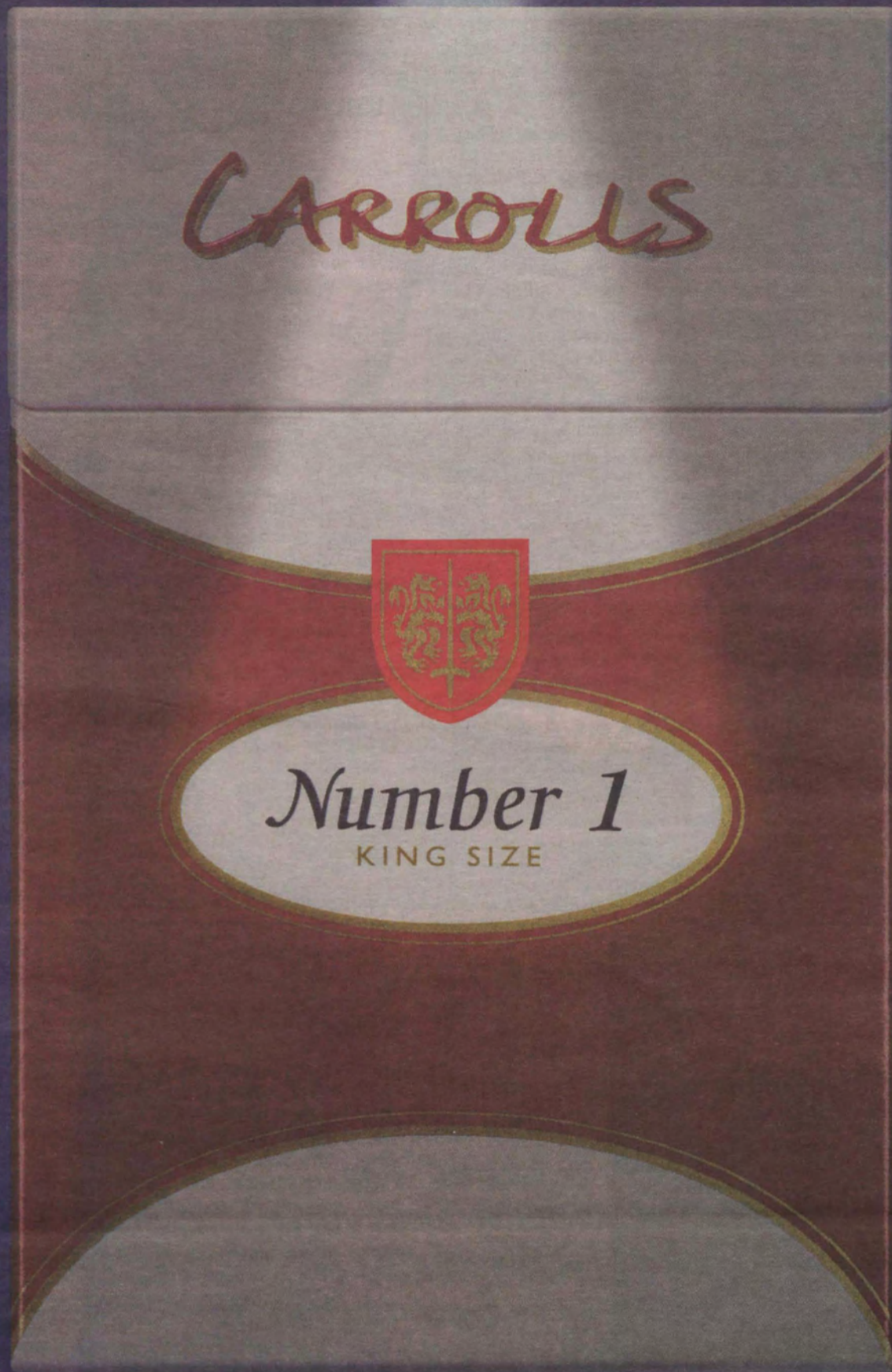
We were all freedom fighters until our money had run out, but our quest for survival on £300 took us further than we ever imagined.

Inter-railing is living. But you have to live it yourself to get the true taste of it.



"She showed us to this really nice room decorated in kids drawings and McDonalds happy meal houses - Paradise"





P.J. Carrol

SMOKERS DIE YOUNGER
Irish Government Warning



By Elaine Larkin

Not since the Tall Ships docked at Sir John Rogerson's Quay in August 1998 has Dublin been so excited about one single event. Not even the 1996 Eurovision caused such widespread euphoria extending across our capital city and throughout the nation, down every boroen around the country.

If Ireland is the Celtic Tiger, the MTV Europe Music Awards have to be its biggest killing so far.

Thursday 11th November will be a busy day, with hairdressers and taxis booked up for the all important 8pm date at the Point Theatre - and that's just for all those who don't have tickets and will be hanging around hoping to scrounge a ticket for the exclusive event.

Thousands of fans from across Europe are bound to descend on Dublin, thronging the general area of the Point Theatre in the hope of bumping into their favourite stars from sound and screen.



Tickets for the awards of course are gold dust, except for those who have entered all the competitions for free tickets about 40 million times, and the likes of me, a member of the press.

There have been many rumours of late about tickets, and needless to say as happened with the Robbie gig at Slane, no last minute tickets are going to be released.

Many a Dublin club may have found their dance floors full over the last few weeks, with the news that talent scouts would be prowling the dark corners at the edge of the dance.

The connection to the MTV awards? The prize for being plucked from the realms of obscurity, would of course be, as the story goes, a ticket to fame, a ticket to the MTV Europe Music Awards. To find the truth in this, of course, you'll have to track

down someone who claims to have been bestowed with this honour.

Golden boy of the Irish boyband revolution, Ronan Keating, will take centre stage at the Point, introducing guest presenters such as Pierce Brosnan and Denise Richards, Carmen Electra, Christina Aguilera, Desree, Eternal, 5ive, Fun Loving Criminals, Gary Barlow, Jay-Z, Jovanotti, LL Cool J, Armand van Helden and Mary J Blige, Geri Halliwell, Iggy Pop, and Damon Albarn.

Performers on the night include: Britney Spears, The Cardigans, Mariah Carey, the Corrs, Jamiroquai, Marilyn Manson, The Offspring, Sean Puffy Coombs, Whitney, Houston and Underworld.

If you don't have cable, or don't want to sit in for the night there is plenty of other MTV-related events in venues all over the city.

The Charlatans, Westlife, Pete Tong and Carl Cox are



Whitney Houston will also be performing on November 11th



Golden boy of the Irish boyband revolution, Ronan Keating, will take centre stage at the Point, introducing guests such as Britney Spears



among the stars at Dublin-wide events to mark the end of what is the biggest music awards show in Europe.

To mark the occasion MTV in the UK & Ireland resident in Dublin 11.11.99 parties themed around four phenomenally successful MTV shows will kick off after the awards at 10pm.

The Lick Party, with Trevor Nelson, will be held in the Temple Theatre; the POD & the Redbox hosts the Dancefloor Chart Party with Djs Pete Tong and Carl Cox; Donna Air and Richard Blackwood will be at the Mean Fiddler for the Select MTV Party; and Vicar Street

will be the venue for Brand: New Night which will feature the Charlatans.

And then it's all over until Ireland get through to the World Cup in soccer or host the Eurovision again, or whatever tickles the public's fancy.

Remember 1979? 20 years on, considering MTV and God mean the same thing to many people: the arrival of the MTV Europe Music Awards to Irish shores this month can only be compared to the 1979 arrival of Pope John Paul II - something the youth of the country believed in.

And if you don't believe MTV is God, think about it, it is handier than mass, you can just go downstairs to the sitting room on a Sunday morning, still wrapped in a duvet and tune in to the one true faith of the '90's generation, music television. And you can always tape the awards and watch them over and over again.

Tune in to MTV between 8 and 10 pm on Thursday November 11th. Or borrow that video from your friend who stayed in, wrapped up in a duvet that night, while you stood freezing your butt off, hoping to catch Robbie or Andrea or whoever.

ON AIR ON AIR

Dance nation

Last month it was announced that youth audiences across Dublin will now have another radio station to tune into from the beginning of next year. On October 11th, the Independent Radio and Television Commission (IRTC) awarded Spin FM a license to broadcast to the youth of the city from the year 2000 on.

The consortium behind Spin FM is headed by Radio 2000, the company responsible for 98FM. It will, it is planned, play the top 40 hits, dance music and pop songs, and fill the gap in the youth market which has up to now been filled by pirates like Pulse FM, Freedom FM, Essential Galaxy FM, and Phantom. FM104 and 98FM, it appears, were unable to provide for this market between them.

At the moment, there are over thirty radio stations, both legal and illegal, broadcasting to Dublin city. Many of these are pirate broadcasters, run by volunteers and popular mainly due to the lack of interruption of the music by too many advertisements or news, weather and sport broadcasts.

This summer, a number of the larger pirates closed down, as was required of them if they wished to be in the running for the youth



license. The most prominent of these were Pulse FM, the firm dance favourite, and Phantom FM, the alternative music station.

However, since neither were awarded the license, it is expected that they and a number of others who went off the air in the run-up to the awarding will soon be back as pirate stations, but as yet, there has been no sign of a re-launch on the part of Pulse FM nor Phantom.

Spin will begin broadcasting the first of February 2000, and will be targeted at the 15-25 age group market for the first youth licensed station in the country.

They plan on having a zoo format breakfast show, the regular daytime

As another local radio license is granted, Ray Foley looks at what's on offer for those students who like to listen while they work

music shows, though aimed at young people, and in the evening, they plan on having a youth-orientated talk show. Is there a Chris Barry jnr on the way? Apparently not, but the show will deal with issues relating to young people.

Spin FM will now pose a threat to the larger stations like FM104 and 98FM, and the direction they will take in their programming output will be interesting to see over the next few months, before the new station comes on air.

Will FM104 go 'oldies' to try and claim the over 35-year-old audience? Will 98FM go young and take Spin FM head on? The theories are plentiful in radio circles.

Since Radio 2000 are behind both Spin FM and 98FM, they may try to seize the youth market with Spin FM, and then adapt the 98FM programming output to cater for the older over-35's audience.

This will leave FM104, the station with the largest market share in the capital, to compete with two stations on each end of the market.



Will 98FM go young and take Spin FM head on?

Whatever happens, it is more than likely that we, the listeners will finally be satisfied by the quality of radio programming in the city, since the new competition will force the broadcasters to seriously consider what the audience really wants to hear.

The stations broadcasting in Dublin are:

ABC FM on 87.6FM, with a varied musical output; RTE Radio 1 on 88.5FM with Marian and Pat in the morning; Jazz FM on 89.8FM, playing Jazz and hip-hop; Heartbeat FM on 90.4FM, with your favourite love songs; 2FM on 90.7FM; Larry Gogan's stomping ground; Freedom FM on 92.0FM with pop and dance hits; WLR FM on 92.4FM with country and Irish music; Premiere FM on 92.6FM playing the oldies (24 hour Larry!);

92.9FM carries Radio na Gaeltachta; The automated Jam FM on 93.8FM and 99.4FM with top 40 music; Flash FM on 94.1FM with more oldies; ABC Dublin is on 94.3FM with a varied playlist; Nova Dance on 94.7FM with club and dance; Kicks FM on 96.5FM playing pop and dance music; RTE's Lyric FM on 96.7FM with the classical; Power FM on 97.2FM with underground music; 98FM on 98.1FM: "The Sound Of The City"; Essential Galaxy on 99.1FM and 102.9FM, playing dance; Radio Dublin on 100.00FM with country music; 100-102 Today FM on 100.2FM with Dempsey & Dunphy.

C101.3 Automatic, on 101.3FM, with rock and pop music; Anna Livia FM on 103.2FM, the talk-driven community service; FM104 on 104.4FM playing "Dublin's Most Music"; Kiss FM on 105.8FM, with club dance music; Hits 106, on 106.1FM with a pop and dance format; At 6pm, XFM begins on 107.9FM with Indie and Alternative music.

Jobstown

Grant run out? Always strapped for cash? Have an alcohol dependency problem that you really need to fund? Looking for a job? Rachel Collins takes a look at what jobs are out there

THE time has finally arrived. All the money you've been saving over the summer has disappeared in a flash of smoke. In order to further your career as a student you need money, and fast. The solution? GET A JOB!

O.K. so maybe it sounds easier than it actually is to find employment (the type that pays top dollar, yet doesn't interfere with social life)

But fear not, the DIT Independent has done all the hard work for you in finding a number of jobs to suit all student types.

Right, so you've settled on the idea of life in the workforce. Now it's time to look at what jobs you're suited to.

Inevitably you'll find yourself eyeing up all the old faithfuls - McDonalds, Dunnes Stores, the local pub

and restaurant. Not a route to go down if you have visions of part-time work grandeur, but accessible, flexible jobs nonetheless.

Many of Ireland's finest graduates would have been cast by the 'social life wayside' had it not been for the odd Friday night dishing out Big Mac's to the hordes on Grafton Street.

While working in some ultra-hip nightclub or pub in the city centre sounds like a job to die for, you have to remember a few things.

These places are great to go to on a Friday night, the service is great, the atmosphere is electric, the punters in great form. But put yourself on the other side of the bar before you race in for an application form.

The pay is usually pretty good - anywhere from £4 to £8 per hour (depending on your position) But you generally have to work a minimum of 20 hours a week

in pubs and clubs.

This usually manages to wipe out your Friday and Saturday night, along with at least one week night (remember, college waits for no man, so will you be able to make it in the next morning?)

Also, this great service you receive as a customer is usually down to extremely hardworking staff - don't be misled into thinking you can stop for the odd pint with your friends!

And finally, just remember the times you've laughed at people lurching around the club, ending up in a corner depositing their dinner (carrots and all) in a neat little pile.

Well, from now on, you'll be the one cleaning it up - not so glamorous after all, is it?!

Shop work is another, more sociable type of part-time work. The hours are generally shorter and earlier closing times mean you'll be out of there in time for last orders (unless you opt for a 24 hour operation).

The pay depends greatly on the type of shop, the shifts you work and the area the shop is located in. But be warned, due to early closing, earlier starts are necessary, so shop work is not really suitable if your lectures finish late in the afternoon/evening.

Clothes shops fall into the same deceptive category as pubs and clubs. Yes, the clothes may be fabulous, but when you're folding them for

the umpteenth time in an hour, they lose much of their appeal.

Many clothes stores require their staff to wear the store's clothes to work - sounds nice, but you usually have to buy them yourself, which will eat away at your earnings in no time. (Although staff discounts generally help to cover some of the cost).

The Spar and Centra brigade have been taking over every street corner in Dublin over the last few years. They are very receptive to student applications and offer flexible working hours, with pay falling into the £3.50 - £5 category.

Uniforms are provided in most outlets (always a bonus!) and the work itself is pretty easy. Dunnes Stores, with oodles of outlets all over the city is a great way to make extra money for students.

Think of the thousands of shelves that need packing every day!

Again, the work is basic and you'll be trained into whatever position you



Waiting tables has long been the friend of the penniless student

are given. The pay is pretty good (£3.50 an hour and upwards) and as an added bonus for students from the country, Dunnes are always willing to let you transfer to a different branch over the holidays and vice versa.

Uniforms and subsidised canteens tend to give students that extra push for application forms.

Finally waiting/waitressing have long been the friend of the penniless student.

With hundreds of restaurants, cafes and pubs serving food in every area of the city, you'd be hard pushed not to find a suitable employer.

The work can be physically

strenuous (especially after a taxing day dozing in lecture theatres!) and the pay is not always top notch (some of Temple Bar's more popular haunts are paying staff a mere £3 an hour) but tips can bump up your wages considerably (Tip: Kafe Moka is great for big tips)

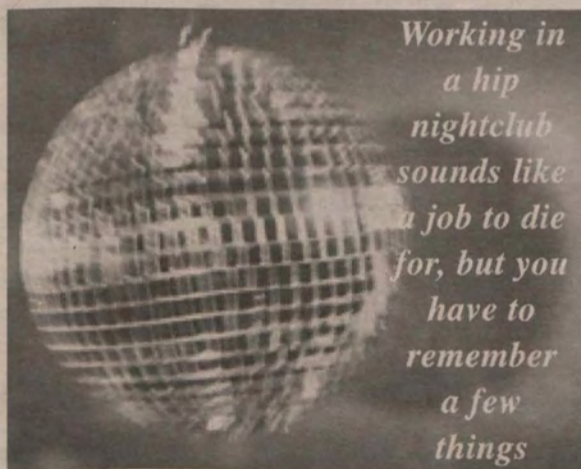
Most restaurants will be tucked up in bed by 12am, so are quite suitable for all those 9am lectures!

So, if you've been lamenting the death of your healthy bank balance, there's no excuse for you not doing anything.

Why not follow your mother's timeless advice and "get off your lazy arse and go and get a job"!



Put yourself on the other side of the bar before you race in for an application form for a nightclub or bar



Working in a hip nightclub sounds like a job to die for, but you have to remember a few things

The job from hell

I went for an interview that ended up lasting over 40 minutes. It was really in depth and over the top - he was asking me what books I read and whether I would be interested in the hotel industry if interior design didn't work out. I mean, I was only going for a waitressing job!

I was told that I'd be trained into a few different departments, the bar, housekeeping, and waitressing so I could fill in for other people if they called in sick.

This was fine with me, 'cos the variety would stop it getting really boring. But I was given a waitressing uniform and told that that was where I'd be based.

The pay wasn't great. I was

Louise, a first-year Interior Design student got a job as a waitress in a city centre hotel

earning £3.70 per hour, with an extra £2.50 per shift if I turned up. They wanted me to work a minimum of 25 hours a week, which was a bit much, especially with college, but I needed the money

On my first night I went in and was met by someone from the restaurant. They led me into the restaurant and right out again, into the wash-up

area. I was told that everyone was too busy to train me, so I'd have to stay there for a while. I thought a while meant half an hour.

I spent the entire shift washing dishes (5 hours) and only got a 10 minute break during the night

Another girl working with me told me that the only way to get out of working there was to do a really bad job, so they couldn't leave you there.

After getting a job as a waitress I was expected to wash dishes for 25 hours a week.

I went into town the next day and got a job in a newsagents' earning more than £1 extra per hour. That was the last they saw of me!

The job from heaven

Ronan, a third-year Engineering student has been working for 'Thrifty' car rental in Dublin Airport since August

Initially earning a salary of £200 per week, for full time work, including a free car for his trouble, Ronan now works part-time in order to "fit in his studies".

Three shifts a week see him coming out with over half his full time pay and

(here's the sickening bit!) he still has his free car!

"It's a great job really. Especially now that it's part-time. I earn £120 per week and still have my car.

The work is easy - I just drop cars off, pick them up and show people to their rented cars.

Obviously, a driver's license is essential, but other than that, you only have to be polite and willing to drive all over Dublin!"

And if you think that you need to pull hundreds of strings to land a job like this - think again.

Ronan found his job by "just walking in and asking them if they needed anyone."

Pretty nice, huh? Not that I'm jealous....

Remember

A great way to find jobs near to your college is on the jobs notice board in your Students' Union, or alternatively, DIT have a great website called Jobscene which is changed weekly and keeps you up to date on job offers for students and graduates alike.

Find it on www.dit.ie/admin/careers/jobscene.html

High Society

Mary O'Neill samples some of the more interesting clubs and societies that DIT students can join

With the huge amount of clubs and societies available free of charge in DIT, and the diversity of themes, laziness is the only excuse for not signing up for at least one. If you're not the sporting type, and don't have any great love for the Irish language, don't despair.

The range of clubs available is not that finite. You are still bound to find something that suits you, however alternative your interests may be.

THE BLUE POLES

Bolton Street students have a vast range of original and wacky clubs available to them, from auctioneering to beer appreciation (something to which we can all relate). 20-year-old Architecture student Peter Gowran is in the process of setting up "The Blue Poles" society. Every bit as interesting as its title suggests, Peter's idea is to encourage people to express their ideas with regards to architecture and art. The society's medium will be a pamphlet, to which students can regularly contribute.

The name of the society was inspired by the artist Jackson Pollock. "We were all sitting in the pub one evening looking at this Pollock painting called 'The Blue Poles', explained Peter, "when we decided that it would be an appealing name for a club. People want to know more when they hear the title."

The activities proposed for the "Blue Poles" are fairly

open-ended. Peter hopes that the pamphlet will be distributed around shops in Dublin, and that students will be uninhibited in expressing their ideas. "I'd like the first pamphlet to carry the theme of Dublin city, architecturally and socially. I will edit the pamphlet along with a few others, but I am more interested in what other people have to say. I would like maybe to have some guest speakers in as well."

According to Peter, one of the problems with establishing a club like this is money, or rather the lack of it. Because there are no membership fees, the production and circulation of the pamphlet will be entirely dependent on funds. "There will be a lot of costs involved", Peter conceded. "We will need access to a computer, scanner, paper and chemicals, and that's before we send the publication to print. We will also need to work in co-operation with the photographic society".

Peter is anxious to recruit as many members as possible to his club, and welcomes any new ideas. He can be contacted at (01) 454 6756.

FORMULA ONE

In Cathal Brugha Street, Cathy Power and John McConville are busy setting up a Formula One Society, which has already attracted much interest. "It's still in initial stages at the moment", explained SU Deputy President Cathy Power, "but we hope to organise trips to Mondello and to get in contact with the Williams and

Jordan teams. It's hard to predict at this stage what kind of angle we will take, but it looks as though it will be very much a talk shop where in people can gather to discuss team news, up and coming grand prix's etc".

The organisers are hoping to operate in conjunction with the Playstation society, headed by Ron Cummins.

STAR GAZERS

For star-gazers, Jarlath Molloy, a science student in Kevin Street, has established a Physics and Astronomy Society. Already the club has seventy recruits, and Jarlath hopes to fight against the common curse of falling numbers by organising trips and talks on a regular basis throughout the year.

Jarlath has had an interest in astronomy from a very young age and is already a member of Astronomy Ireland. "Astronomy Ireland want me to be their regional co-ordinator, but the society in Kevin Street will still be run independently", he explained.

Some ideas he has for the society include telescope nights, and visits to the planetarium. He hopes to invite guest speakers from the planetarium to give talks on astrophysics. All this of course could be expensive, as he explains.

"We're looking for funding for new telescopes. I have a telescope myself for the general use of the society, but we need more. Bus trips will also be costly, and we'll probably have to pay guest speakers."



The Beer Appreciation Society

Although the idea of physics and astronomy may seem daunting to the lay person, Jarlath is adamant that a prior knowledge of physics is unnecessary.

"Anyone can join up - not just science students. It's an unusual society and I'd like it to grow".

HONDY

Another unusual society to emerge from Kevin Street is the "Hondy" Society, established by Dave Hession.

Vincent Dooley, Kevin Street S.U. President explained the story behind the name. "There's this really old CD in the jukebox in the snackery, with a song on it called 'Hondy'".

One of the students discovered it and it was literally played all day every day after that. So Dave and a few others set up the 'Hondy' Society with a view to seeking alternative forms of entertainment".

FINDING THE CASH

All these forms of entertainment, alternative or otherwise have one common and vital requirement: cash.

So where does it come from and how is it allocated?

Robert Burns, Head of the School of Management, is responsible for the allocation of funds to clubs and societies in Aungier Street. He explained that the more active a club is, the more money it gets.

Burns is given between £12 and £13 thousand annually to be divided amongst all the societies in Aungier Street.

"Students come to me and request money for various activities, so if a society is not active, it won't receive funding. The most active club last year was the Film Society, and so they were given the most money", he said.

Burns also explained that there is a problem annually with decreasing membership as the year progresses, but that the stronger societies lasted through until the end.

"The ones that fall apart are the ones that never really got off the ground in the first place," he said.

The strength of any society depends on the strength of membership, so whatever your interests, from The Simpsons Society to bible reading, you are sure to find someone who shares your enthusiasm in the realm of DIT.

Each and every week, every DIT site throws a party for its students to let their hair down and go a little bit mad. As everyone knows, DIT really do know how to throw a party, and so, this reporter had the once in a lifetime opportunity to experience the wonder that is the weekly night out. What could he do, but perform his duty and go?

Aungier St & Kevin St:

The destination is Planet Murphy every Wednesday night for the Students of DIT in the south inner-city.

The queues outside any nightclub in the city for student nights are torture, and here they are no different. But not for those of you lucky enough to be with Kevin St or Aungier St student cards.

You students have your very own VIP passes in your wallets, giving you immediate access to the music, drinks promotions and members of the opposite sex waiting inside.

With live DJ's downstairs,

Let me entertain you

Ray Foley gives a blow by blow account of college nights out



DIT really does know how to throw a party

Cathal Brugha St:

The gang from Cathal Brugha St are famous for their wild nights in the Back Gate. It is a tell-tale sign that those guys are among the laziest in

the DIT, since all they have to do is stumble a few yards to the venue.

With loads of drinks promotions, and fun and games, and music and dancing into the early hours of morning,

Cathal Brugha St have claimed The Back Gate as their own, and Wednesday and Thursdays are the party nights from 8.30pm on.

Bolton St & Mountjoy Sq:

It is rumoured there have been a number of reports to the gardai in the past few weeks with regards to Bolton St students disappearing on Wednesday nights. These people are usually last seen on Temple St, in the vicinity of the Temple Theatre.

They are, it is claimed, attracted to the music and cheap drink, not to mention the potential love prospects at 'Missing In Action', the inter-college student night out. T

he two DIT sites will be there, as well as students from St Pat's in Drumcondra. With three levels of music: pumping house music on one, commercial dance in the main auditorium, and the best in Irish DJ's in the Crypt the Temple Theatre is now one of Dublin's best dance venues, up there with the Kitchen and the Pod.

It is advised that you get there early, or pay a fiver on the door after 10.30pm.

It is expected that MIA will attract even more poor souls in the coming weeks.

CARROLLS COMEDY CLUB

Des Bishop (MC)

A native New Yorker exiled to Ireland in the latter years of his adolescence, Des's attitude towards his adopted country has been described as "aggressively observational". Having performed in the BBC New Comedy Awards at Dublin's Gaiety Theatre in 1997 and Channel 4's 'So You Think You're Funny?' competition at the 1998 Edinburgh festival, Des recently travelled home to perform at New York's premier Comedy Club 'Carolines'.

Bob Reilly

At just 23 years of age Bob Reilly has already amassed an impressive collection of comedy silverware. Voted best newcomer at the Dublin Comedy Awards in 1996, he was also a winner in the Tetley's Tea Comedy Competition in 1997, and appeared in the finals of the 'So You Think You're Funny?' Competition at the 1996 Edinburgh Festival. In 1998 Bob starred as one-third of the highly-acclaimed, best-of-Irish smash 'Young Gifted and Green'.

Paddy C. Courtney

Described by The Scotsman as "looking suspiciously like Gary Oldman after a few months spent on a crash diet of burgers and chips", Paddy has brought his endearing mix of charm and sarcasm to three Edinburgh Fringes, the Kilkenny Cat Laughs Festival, various Murphy's Ungagged spots, and the Dublin Fringe Festival. He has also just taken over the job of resident MC at the Comedy Cellar in Dublin.

Mark Doherty - Headline

The man whom the Sunday Times has hailed as Irish comedy's "brightest spark" has certainly been busy since he first came to prominence by winning the Dublin Comedy Cellar's Best Newcomer Award some years back. In the past 12 months he's brought his "deliciously off-kilter and surreal approach" to stand-up venues all over Ireland and the UK, pausing only to write and perform in the second series of the RTE sitcom "Couched" with Barry Murphy.

Planet Murphys

ADMISSION: FREE

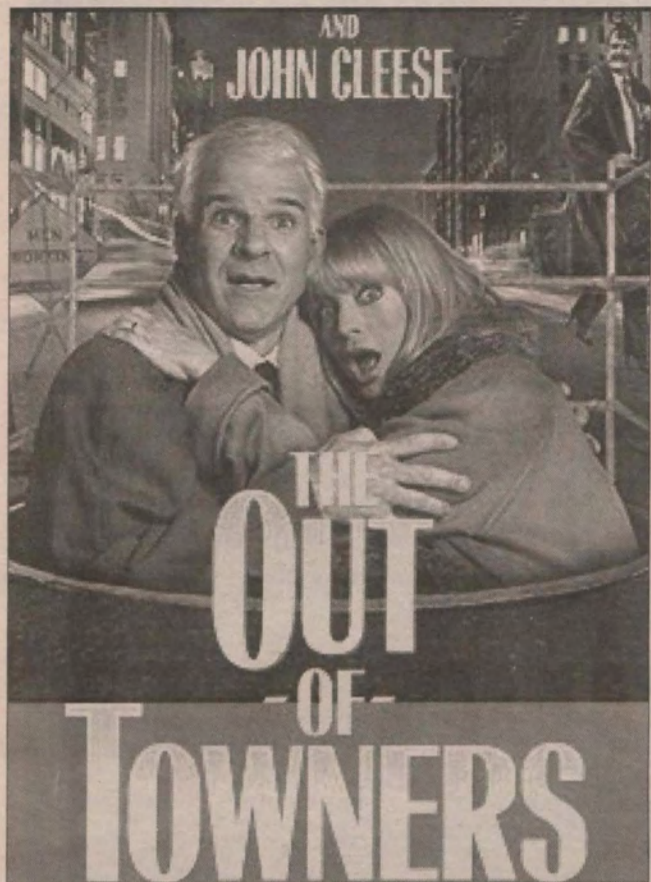
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"Out of Town" in town



Film Critic Deborah Condon takes a look at the upcoming releases on the big screen this month

The Out-of-Towners

Steve Martin and Goldie Hawn team up again in this remake of a Neil Simon play.

They play a couple who take a trip to New York in an effort to put some spark back into their 24-year-old marriage. However the trip is jinxed with bad luck and misfortune.

Also starring John Cleese. Released November 12th.

Fight Club

This controversial violent drama stars Edward Norton as Jack, an unhappy insomniac, who spends his nights at various 12 Step meetings, even though there is nothing wrong with him.

He meets Tyler Durden (Brad Pitt) who introduces him to the world of Fight Club, where average men gather and fight. The film is directed by David Fincher (Seven), and also stars Helena Bonham Carter.

Released November 12th.

Office Space

During a therapy session an office worker is reborn and decides that he wants to fulfill his dream of having absolutely nothing to do.

As a result he loses all sense of responsibility. This office comedy stars Ron Livingston, Gary Cole and Jennifer Aniston.

Released November 12th.



Jenna Elfman and Mathew McConaughey in EdTV

EdTV

Matthew McConaughey plays Ed, an ordinary man whose life is put on television 24 hours a day.

Things get complicated when he finds himself becoming attracted to his brother's girlfriend. Also starring Woody Harrelson, Jenna Elfman, Martin Landau and Elizabeth Hurley.

Released November 19th.

Brokedown Palace

This drama sees two American teenagers, played

by Claire Dames and Kate Beckinsale, end up in a Thai prison on a drugs charge. Bill Pullman is the American lawyer trying to secure their release.

Released November 19th.

Random Hearts

Harrison Ford plays a police sergeant who ends up having an affair with a Republican congresswoman (Kristin Scott Thomas), after their respective spouses, who had been having a secret affair, die in a plane crash.

Released November 19th.

The World is not enough

This movie needs little introduction.

Pierce Brosnan returns as James Bond in the 19th film about the super spy.

Robert Carlyle plays the villain Renard.

Denise Richards plays Bond girl Christmas Jones.

Also starring Sophie Marceau and John Cleese, the film is directed by Michael Apted (Gorillas in the Mist).

Released November 26th.

Experience in the Third Dimension @ IMAX

THE IMAX large screen theatre on Parnell St must be a complex alternate dimension: everyone knows where it is, but no one has ever been there to know exactly what it is. Well, it's a cinema with a really big screen, and a really big speaker system.

Up until recently, the IMAX has been screening movies in 2D, like 'Everest' and 'Back to the Cretaceous', which are simply 50-minute films on a big screen. You can go to the cinema for twice that time for the same price, and you won't have to crane your neck to see the entire image.

Recently however, the IMAX has released two movies in 3D format, allowing the images to leave the screen, and come toward the audience. 'Experience in the Third Dimension' is their second 3D movie after 'Into the Deep', a 3D documentary about sea life.

The trailer for that one is quite impressive, with a shark swimming out of the screen right up to your nose. 'Experience in the third dimension' is the history of 3D film making, and the science of its roots throughout this century presented in a fun way.

It's another documentary about a subject very few of us actually care to learn about. MAX the robot and the Professor take you on a 3D journey of the history of this art of filmmaking.

They give you the daft glasses to wear, and the movie is in 3D for the full 50 minutes, which is really impressive. However, who really cares about the history of 3D movies?

Give us a horror! Going to the IMAX will set you back and that's before you ever pay for the popcorn.



Woody Harrelson, Mathew McConaughey and director Ron Howard of EdTV

Theatre/The Abbey

Dolly West's Kitchen, an original play from Frank McGuinness, is set during the second World War in the small town of Bunclrana in Co Donegal.

The action takes place in the kitchen of a small house where two American G.I.s, a British army captain, and the West family all share meals and battle it out over the war, the social structures of the day, and the

place of the woman in the home.

They fall in and out with one another and in and out of love, kiss and make up with one-another until they are finally reconciled.

The most notable of the performers are Pauline Flanagan as Rima, Donna Dents as Dolly, and Lucianne McEvoy as the maid, Anna.

Video Review/The Faculty

The Faculty is yet another movie in a long line of 90's horror flicks where we have the pleasure of seeing gorgeous girls and well-built guys being "gutted like fish" for our entertainment.

Starring Shawn Hatosy, Laura Harris, Josh Hartnett, Jordana Brewster, Clea Duvall, Elijah Wood and Salma Hayek, it boasts lots of lovely girls and guys and plenty of screams and gore.

The odd idea of an alien taking

over the bodies of the teachers in a small-town high school is explained away by Wood, as he tells his co-star "They'll strike where we least expect it. Then they'll take over the world."

There's not much to it, but the frights are very effective, the 'who is the alien leader?' theme is quite cool as we all try to work it out, and we get to see Salma Hayek as a school nurse.

What more do you need? 7/10

A Few Good Men?



Sharon Commins dishes the dirt on what DIT students think of doing the dirt

!! All guys are pigs. The end." were the words of wisdom from a DIT male transport management student, when I queried about male affairs of the heart.

Stunned at the sheer conviction of his statement, my head swirling, my hopes shattered.

Hold the wedding dress alterations - dowry negotiations temporarily suspended.

An Aungier Street inquisition was in order. Off with the moustache, mammoth look being so passé, and in with the Revlon Stayon All Day make-up.

To the canteen with me, to find out were all men really pigs.

My first encounter was with a hair deficient Colm Brophy; yes he's a dedicated follower of fashion, oh yes he is.

When I queried his faithfulness to partners, he retorted

"Well that's a very broad question - I mean does she make the bed, serve breakfast on her body? You gotta be more specific burd."

Gulp, gulp, lip quiver. I scanned the crowd of chewing vultures des-

perately seeking a "non-male pig" when an angelic looking, pale male shone from the left corner.

Gingerly, I approached, in hope that he could restore my faith in mankind.

"No I'd never, ever, ever do the dirt", but before my sigh of relief was complete, he continued, "if she was standing here beside me". His lunch buddy added

"Tis an utter disgrace" pause, forkful of luminous yellow rice, "unless she's an absolute stunner.

Sure variety the spice of life".

On one occasion a Mr. Greg Davey vehemently stated, "My advice to you - never let a woman read you poetry!" Cheers for the advice, did I mention I'm straight?

Several Beverly Hill Brandon wannabes commented

"A blonde voluptuous chick like? Who wouldn't like man like", or adjectives to that effect, and "yeah baby if I think they're shagadelic".

All hope was lost, noose tightening by the second, when suddenly a

voice soared from the crowd,

"When you don't run away the next morning, is when you know you've met the right person. There'll be no need to do the boldy then."

Enter Cyndi Lauper's True Colours, and a warm fuzzy feeling in my tummy.

The ladies' faithfulness to partners by contrast was astounding.

Whether their blood chemical level differs from that of their male classmates is debatable, or perhaps they are just more secretive about such liaisons.

However, in general they were much more reluctant to converse with me on the matter with comments like

"Well I wouldn't be going out with a guy in the first place if I

intended doing the dirt" and "I'd break up before I'd resort to that sort of thing".

One Emma Dunne explained to me how in three years she had never been unfaithful, despite the fact that she knew her boyfriend continually was.

When I challenged the sincerity of her boyfriend's affection for her she ignored me completely. Further coaxing, bullying and eye-gouging proved futile.

The aspiration : to restore faith in men. The outcome: all men are pigs. The end.



"When you don't run away the next morning, is when you know you've met the right person"



Irish Independent

Crossword Challenge

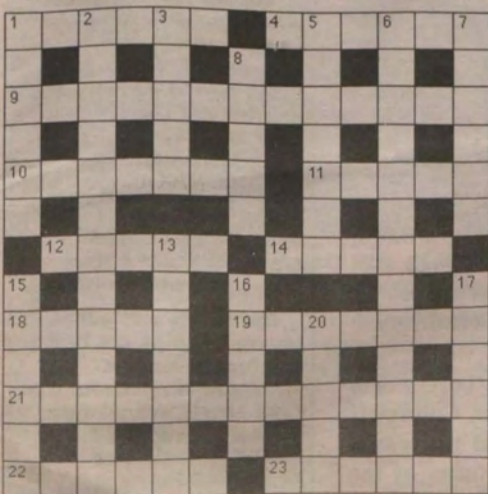
Fancy yourself as a wizz on the crossword?

Well pit your brains against this Irish Independent crossword, and you can win tickets to HQ at The Hot Press Hall of Fame, Dublin's newest venue.

Two-speed Crossword

You can choose to do either quick or cryptic clues, the answers are the same.

No. 10,104



ACROSS

1. The kind of clubs that go with a swing (6)
4. Variety of plates provided for this sort of diet (6)
9. He's likely to put his members into all sorts of awkward positions (13)
10. There's some delay; get mail sorted out (4-3)
11. It includes the backward writer, lacking skill (5)
12. Peruvians Cain's upset (5)
14. On the move, creating a commotion (5)
18. To connect the tow-rope produces a temporary difficulty (5)
19. Hide the real confusion (7)
21. Does he stand out as a cinema employee? (13)
22. Inclined to be shown in the catalogue (6)
23. He asks for what he gets (6)

DOWN

1. Provoke perceptive under -standing, we hear (6)
2. Sects needing new order - I don't mean Sion (13)
3. Bikini, maybe, showing what is levied (5)
5. Solar turning-points are the hottest regions (7)
6. Coming to blows over a purse (5-8)
7. Eastern country disposed of in a will (6)
8. Occupied by people in an acting capacity (5)
13. A piece from Bach I eventually manage successfully (7)
15. It's specially built for the services (6)
16. Be quiet about many people showing laziness (5)
17. Loudspeaker? (6)
20. A flower didn't stay in bed (5)

QUICK CLUES

ACROSS

1. Asian (6)
4. Metal fastener (6)
9. Loose-limbed entertainer (13)
10. Interval (4-3)
11. Incompetent (5)
12. Ancient Peruvians (5)
14. In motion (5)
18. Minor problem (5)
19. Hide (7)
21. Cinema worker (13)
22. Leant (6)
23. Mendicant (6)

DOWN

1. Provoke (6)
2. Religious groups (13)
3. Circular reef (5)
5. Hot areas (7)
6. Boxing (5-8)
7. Piece of landed property (6)
8. Dramatic platform (5)
13. Attain (7)
15. Small church (6)
16. Idleness (5)
17. Public speaker (6)
20. Cropped up (5)

Simply attach this completed crossword to an Irish Independent masthead, and return it with your name, address & phone number to: Linda Beatty, Irish Independent, 90 Middle Abbey St, Dublin 1.

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Address:

Telephone:

Soccer stars strut their stuff

By Sean Fay

DIT Aungier Street may have struck the first blow of the soccer season, when triumphing at the Annual Sports Day, but the serious business of the Irish Technical College's Football Association (ITCFA) groups has yet to begin.

DIT have been recently holding trials in a bid to discover new talent.

Overall DIT manager Mickey Whelan (Bolton Street) will be watching freshers closely this season in the hope that he can improve on the squad that performed so credibly in the Institute's first attempt at The Collingwood Cup.

The Cup is the most prestigious competition in Irish Third-Level soccer and was in the past restricted to Universities. However DIT were granted a place in last year's competition and held face.

After finishing second in their group the Institute went on to compete for the Collingwood Plate but were narrowly beaten (0-1) by Trinity College in the final.

Stars triumph at annual sports day

However victories over DCU and 1998 winners, St. Mary's of Belfast, emphasis the progress that DIT soccer has made on the field in recent years.

Unfortunately for DIT soccer, as with so many of the Institute's sports clubs, they have failed to see their on-field progress mirrored off the field. Players admit their facilities remain sub-standard in comparison to those of the universities they are competing against.

According to the teams, individual institutes are forced to rent out pitches and buses just to be able to compete in competition's which dries up funds that should be spent on equipment.

Recently DIT players found themselves in the embarrassing situation of being the only college competing in the Collingwood Cup without a team tracksuit.

Trevor Tilley, a striker with DIT Aungier Street admitted "although better facilities

would not necessarily attract more people to DIT it would encourage more students to take part in DIT Sport".

He added that potential players used the constant trekking around the city for matches and training as an excuse for their "laziness".

Many footballers of exceptional abilities would often have chosen to study courses at UCD, with the college playing in the National League, but it has been proven in recent years that players need not abandon their ambitions of playing at a higher level when choosing a course at DIT.

DIT students John Martin (UCD), Damian Deasy (Bohemians), and Brian Ricard (St Francis) are all attached to National League Clubs while Colm Kelly of Aungier Street has recently returned from a trial at English Premiership Club Coventry City.

This year the ultimate ambition for all DIT players must be to be picked for the ITCFA's international side



Players admit their facilities remain sub-standard

which is made up of the best players from the countries IT's.

However such thoughts will have to be put to the back of players minds for now, as they concentrate on competing for their various campuses, before the institutes join together for the united team early next year.



Rugby to take greater focus



DIT's rugby stars taking part in the annual sports day



By Margaret Donnelly

THE DIT Sports Officer responsible for rugby has promised a shake up of the inter DIT colleges championship this year.

After last years disastrous turn out from colleges, Niamh O'Callaghan, Sports and Recreations Officer based in Dit Mountjoy

Square, has said she plans to run the competition off in four weeks, beginning early November.

"The problem with the Gleeson Cup is that some of the colleges are now semester and some are not.

Last year we had matches scheduled for December and January, when students were doing exams, which meant that matches had to be

postponed.

The whole thing dragged on too long and in the end it was a disaster.

This year we aim to do thing differently.

All the league matches will be played off in November, when it doesn't clash with exams or DIT games.

A final would then be played in February."

The Sports Officer also confirmed she plans to hold a seven-a-side tournament in March to keep interest among the colleges going.

This years fixtures for the DIT rugby teams kicked off with the DIT sports day on October 6.

The first week of November sees the Gleeson Cup start up again and continue until the second last

week of November.

The Ascent Cup's third, fourth, and fifth rounds take place on December 1, February 2, and February 9 respectively.

February is a busy month with the Gleeson Cup finals taking place and the season ends with the finals of the Ascent Cup, but no dates have been set for either match yet.

Sporting calendar

DIT has already started planning its sporting year and to date there are 13 events planned.

This year sees a wide variety of Inter College events scheduled for the next two months. The basketball, volleyball, and badminton cups are now underway with the first of the league games as is the Gleeson Rugby Cup. The calendar for the rest of the year sees women's five-a-side kick off in November.

The swimming galas for freshers, Kevin St and DIT will also be held in November and sports will be suspended for the Christmas month.

The sports new year will begin with the martial arts open competition due to take place during January and February in the Sportslink Sports Centre.

The mixed indoor hockey cup, men's seven-a-side rugby cup and women's seven-a-side rugby cup will all take place in March.

The tennis and golf championships are being left for the summer sunshine of April and the final sports event of the year will be the DIT Sports Awards also scheduled for April.

Watch individual sports notice boards for venues and any changes.

Sports day far from impressive

Sports Editor Margaret Donnelly on a lack lustre performance from the DIT sports and Recreation staff

THIS YEAR'S sports day was blessed with good weather and student enthusiasm but not much else.

More than 2,000 students arrived by the bus load to the ALSAA sports centre in Santry to be greeted by the lack of organisation that seems to hover around DIT sports events.

For students arriving on the first buses, which were running almost an hour late, the complete lack of organisation became apparent. Students were hanging around for another hour before anything was even ready to begin. Finally, audible voices on the PA system tell where and when each event was to be held.

When the games finally kicked off the crowds swelled towards the soccer pitches to the extent that most were unable to even get a game. To be fair, such participation in the game was unprecedented and organisers on the day could do little but power ahead as best they could.

People were encouraged to partake in other events, and rightly so. There were enough events laid on by DIT to satisfy even the least interested sports enthusiast.

However the problem here lay with the layout of the day's events.

If the events of were spread out better, students would have had a much better chance to show their interests in other sports.

But as it was, it would not have been possible to get involved in more than one event with for example soccer, GAA, and rugby all taking place at the same time.

However, there are valid arguments against this hypothesis.

In reality it is the minority that will have an avid interest in more than one sport and it is even a smaller minority that will actively pursue a number of sports at club level.

The sports day is not designed to cater for such enthusiasts.

These people are going to play sports whether or not there is a sports day. Sports day does however serve the

purpose of introducing such talented individuals to the relevant sports officers involved with the particular disciplines.

But what about the rest of us? DIT sports day is after all a day of sport and recreation. It is designed to encourage people to get involved in sport, any sport, and to have fun.

Without doubt the fun events were a big hit with the non sporting enthusiasts as sumo wrestling, velcro wall climbing, and gladiator-type games drew a constant stream of students who were out to enjoy themselves.

No doubt sports day was a huge success if crowds count but next year organisers should plan the day a bit more carefully bearing in mind that one game of seven-a-side soccer does not keep the average sports fan happy.

Students take part in some of the sport's day events



Sports star of the month



This month's Heineken Sports Star of the Month is U-21 hurling captain, Mark Murphy. Mark wins the award for his outstanding display against Erin's Isle in this year's U-21 semi-final, where he scored 2-4. 21-year old Mark is from Wexford and plays club hurling there. He has been studying engineering in Kevin Street for the last three years. He has played underage hurling for his native county, Wexford, and this year is hopeful of making a breakthrough into senior hurling for his county.

DIT into final by a whisker

By Tony Kinsella

DIT 3 - 11
ERIN'S ISLE 4 - 7

DIT reached the final of the Dublin U21 hurling championship by the closest of margins when they beat Erin's Isle at O'Toole Park. Victory over Erin's Isle in the semi-final secured a place in the final, which takes place on November 6.

DIT were by no means handed their place in the final on a plate and came up against a very strong and determined side when they met with Erin's Isle.

The opening 10 minutes was a nightmare for DIT and it was not until Aidan Hanrahan opened the scoring for the college side with a clever point that DIT made their first dent on Erin's Isle lead of two goals and a point.

Colm Buggy then continued the DIT comeback with a point from play, Hanrahan added a second point to his personal tally, and captain Mark Murphy added another to drag DIT



Manager Damian McDonald gives the under-21 players some advice before the match

back into contention.

Joe Cullen, who lorded over midfield, put over the fourth DIT point on twenty minutes but Erin's Isle still held the lead.

The interplay between Buggy and Murphy saw Murphy raise the white flag while Buggy, with a magnificent side line cut

from 50 metres, did likewise.

Cleary then collected and delivered a Buggy pass to put DIT ahead by a point.

Hanrahan can justifiably complain about the referee's decision that he had over carried when he had the goal at his mercy.

Erin's Isle, who had failed to score for twenty minutes,

equalised on the half time whistle.

In the first minute of the second half, Murphy called and Paul Finnerty delivered a great ball which ended up in the net. An Erin's Isle point was answered with another goal by the in form Hanrahan.

Two points by the Finglas team brought them to within a goal of DIT.

Buggy then showed his opponents how to score a long range point from play. Hanrahan's delivery to Murphy resulted in a scrambled goal which provided the cushion for DIT that was badly needed in the final quarter of the game.

Murphy added a final DIT point with 12 minutes remaining during which every Erin's Isle attack foundered on the rock solid DIT defence.

While a dubious penalty led to an Erin's Isle goal which was followed by a second from play DIT hung on to reach the final.

All right, go if you must, but don't come back here pissed.



PLANET MURPHY

The one with the atmosphere

