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the ^{ANY} GUTH **VOICE**



Davern, Davern, Davern Out, OUT, Out

THOUSANDS PROTEST AGAINST MEANS TEST

Thursday January 23rd saw the biggest student march in Dublin since the early Eighties as over 5,000 angry protesters voiced their anger at the proposed introduction of means testing for ESF grants. The march was preceded a week earlier by similar large marches in Athlone and Cork. Also during the previous week students demonstrated outside Bewleys where Noel Davern, the Minister for Education was launching a programme of computers for schools.

The Dublin march included representatives from national parents associations, Irish National Organisation for the Unemployed, emigrants associations along with students



from virtually every college in Ireland, North and South. It was an extremely noisy affair with whistles, drums, megaphones and just plain old screaming and shouting. Further actions are planned for the coming weeks.

see page 18

The WordShop

This is a new service which was opened in March this year. It offers a typing service which will take care of all your typing needs ie cv's, theses, projects etc at very reasonable prices.

It is run by Marie Donohoe and it is open from 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday. (See map for location)

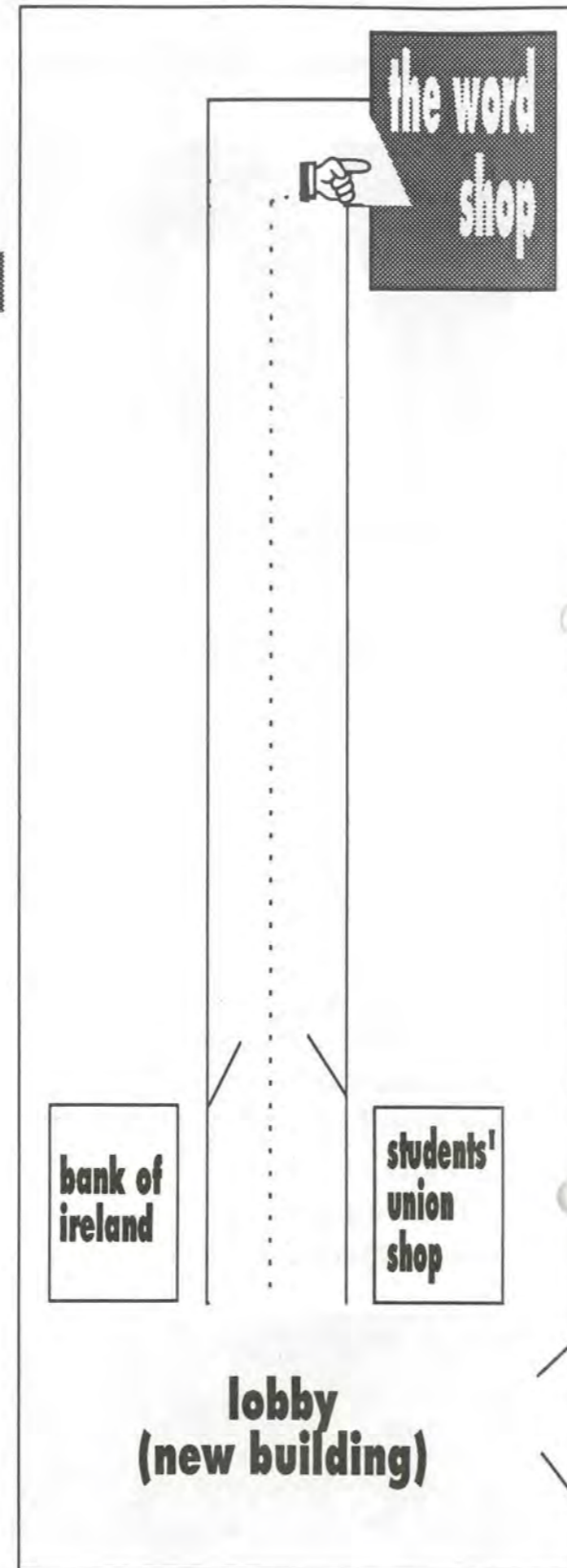
The following are this year's prices.

CV's	£6.00
Typing per page	£1.25
Laser Printing per page	.15
Binding including covers	£1.50
Fax - per page	£1.00
Layout & Design - prices on request	

A New Service

EXAM PAPERS

on sale from 12.00pm to 2.00pm
from: **Dave**



The Wordshop uses the most up-to-date computer hardware and software, including Apple Mac LCs, Pagemaker 4, Word 4 and Superpaint.



Seachtain na Gaeilge - Page 6

Credits

Editor

Damian O'Broin

Contributors

Tom Gibney

Caroline Fitzgerald

Michael Martin

Fiona McSorley

John

An Cumann Gaelach

Darragh O'Toole

Denis Doolin

Brian Keogh

Stanislaus Kennedy

Drama Soc

Paul O'Raw

Naoise

Eoin Brosnan

Layout & Design

Marie Donohoe

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Too many to....

the VOICE

Vol. 1, N^o4, Feb 1992

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The views expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the policies or opinions of Kevin Street Students' Union

UNION NEWS

student defence fund

In 1988 and 1989 student leaders from UCD, Trinity College and USI were taken to court by SPUC for providing women with information on abortion. SPUC were awarded costs, which amounted to £30,000. The Student Defence Fund was set up to help meet these costs. The students involved were acting on a mandate from members of Students' Unions across the country and therefore they now deserve the support of students. DIT, in conjunction with USI Dublin Area, are organising a set of fund raisers for the SDF in March. The provisional dates are March 5th and March 19th in the Olympic Ballroom. The plan is to have top Irish Bands playing followed by a disco until late. More details will be

available soon.

The advent of the second term has seen the appearance of a scurrilous, counter revolutionary bourgeois piece of trash calling itself 'Student Review'. The single-sheeted, so called "information newsletter" glories in being "the first Kevin Street news sheet independent of the Students' Union." In reality

elections

The good news for all those aspiring Students' Union hacks and politicians is that the Students' Union Executive Elections take place on Thursday 26th March. Nomination forms will be available from Thursday 12th March. Candidates require a proposer and a seconder. All full-time, part-time and apprentice students are entitled to stand for office and to vote. The positions (drum-roll) are: President (sabbatical), Deputy President/Welfare Officer (also sabbatical), Education Officer, Women's Rights Officer, Communications Officer, Entertainments Officer, Treasurer and Apprentice Officer.

student review

this is just a concerted attack by the forces of capitalism on the single-minded devotion of students towards the twin goal of student unionism and revolutionary socialism. Furthermore, its middle-class origins are clearly apparent in the pathetic articles on such pseudo-intellectual topics as "Neo Paganism", "Of Life and Death" and "Holistic

student services report

An agreement was finally reached on the distribution of capitation at Student Services Council. The compromise reached is as follows:

Students' Unions	50%
Clubs & Societies	30%
Development Fund	10%
Student Assistance Fund	2 1/2%
Student Services Council	7 1/2%

From next year onwards Student Unions will get a minimum 47 1/2% with part-time capitation increasing from £5 to £8. The development fund will be overseen by DITSU and the VEC. The 7 1/2% Student Services allocation (increasing to 10% next year) will be used to provide medical and accommodation services. Hopefully, now that this is sorted out, we can put all our efforts back into serving students needs.

Medicine". To make things worse, they have lowered themselves to making desperate attacks on upstanding union officials such as Tom Gibney and Bryan Duggan....oops the mask slipped for a second there. I'd actually like to welcome student review to Kevin Street. Everyone in the Students' Union loves it, so if you think you're being dangerous and anti-establishment, Mr Editor, hard luck.

Womens day

(a really interesting article actually)

Wednesday 23rd January saw Kevin Street's first Womens Day. What a resounding success it was? Information was available all day including Abortion Info (gasp) but the quickest leaflet to disappear was the 'Self-breast examination' pamphlet. The male contingent seem quite interested in examining breasts - poor things.

At lunch-time two speakers from the Rape Crisis Centre gave a talk on the centre's activities and also advice and information regarding rape - male and female. They have a 24 hr helpline and are extremely helpful. If you have any questions regarding sexual harassment, child abuse, incest etc call them - 614564 24 hr or 614911.

NO TAMPONS

The real fuss began in the evening 6pm - Wellwoman gave a talk on women and

contraception, women and sexuality. They are very helpful and are well worth a visit if you have any problems with periods, pregnancy, vaginal infections etc. They charge £13 to see the doctor. IFPA charge £8 student rate.

Unfortunately the video 'The History of the Tampon' was not shown when a minor problem of 'where's my fuckin' video arose. The unnamed person never arrived with it - but he's a business lecturer. Not to worry, we then went straight into the wine reception and prepared for 'The Debate'. Tensions mounted as Paul Agnew gave a very convincing speech and why the woman's place isn't in the home' - he said it was on the desk, down an alley - anywhere the man desired. The audience loved it. But unfortunately things then began to go wrong for them. Byron kept losing his place in his speech. When Tom (our pseudo woman) asked where the woman belonged with her chains - Byron shouts out - 'tied to the kitchen sink'. There the debate was won. Silly, silly.....

BRILLIANT

Damian was his usual diplomatic and straightforward self - giving off a well thought out speech of complete rubbish (sorry). (Apology not accepted - Ed). And finally Dennis (President of UCD) went totally off the point and sided with the women's argument.

The women's team debated true

to tradition. They knew the men were no match. Sarcastically and wittily they gave reason after reason for the woman's place being in the home. Cooking, cleaning, passing bowling balls, and sex were all the joys a woman could want and then a husband. Maxine Brady, President of USI was brilliant - a true woman who'd have umpteen babies and layers of stitches for her husband.

It was a great success and Tom, our wonderful DP looked great in a short skirt. All he needs is to shave his legs and he's any mans.

Thanks to all involved, especially Cathy Lawlor. Here's to another one!!!!
- catherine fitzgerald

SEX TALK

This is the Women's Group. Meetings are held every Wednesday - 1.00pm A27. It is not just for women - all are welcome. If you have any topic you'd like discussed or want any info, please come along or contact Catherine in SU.

Wednesday Feb 5th 'The History of the Tampon' Video and Debate 1.00pm - A 27
Wednesday Feb 12 'Understanding each other's Sexuality' - Discussion

If you want further confidential info Tom and Catherine are available to talk.

Abortion Information

If you want advice or information on abortion WIN Women's Information Network will provide everything you need.

Phone there confidentially on:

(01) 6794700 WIN

British Pregnancy Advisory Service (BPAS)
(035) 7091558

níor tháinig Mick Lally

scéal sheachtain na gaeilge

Well, a chairde tá sé thart agus bhí hulaí an dóigh ag gach duine, de réir an "Feedback" a bhfuaramar.

I ndiaidh cúpla seachtain ag cuir rudaí le chéile (i ndiaidh na mílte uair a chloig a chaitheadh in oifig Dhamian) thosaigh an tseachtain le "Bang". (fnarr fnarr!!) Nuair a thosaigh na "Shananigans" ag seint san bhialann dúirt cúpla duine gur shíl siad gur "Moving Hearts" a bhí ann (so I'm told).



Oíche Luan

Guinness saor! Fíon saor"
Budweiser saor! Dár ndóigh
bhí an Fhilíocht thar bharr
freisin, ach go háirithe "Cúl-
Márchíocht" (guess!) le
Gabriel Rosenstock. Rith an
fhilíocht an-spreagúil ó bheola
Michael Davitt, fiú amháin
leis na línte

"If you don't
shut up down
there, I'm going".

Chuidigh Daragh O'Toole
lena chúpla focail
ionspráideach féin.

"Suigh Síos Mar Sin".

Theaspéain foireann na Mic
Léinn go raibh siad in ann an
bhuaigh a fháil ar fhoireann na
foirne sa díospóireacht (níos
furasta ná an foireann in ARTS
WEEK!)

Chríochnaigh an Oíche go hAn
Traidisiúnta; peil meirceánach i
dTeach Mickey Marbh go dtí a
trí.

Níos, Níos déanaí, chuaigh bróg
cailín ar siúil.

Oíche Mháirt

8.30 pm Teach Folamh
9.30 pm Cúigear
10.30pm Its looking good Vern!
11.00 pm "Sign of Relief"
Gheobhaidh Muid Olta Lads!

"Isteach, Amach, Isteach,
Amach. In out, In Out", arsa
Éanna.

"Suas Síos, Suas Síos" arsa
Micheál.

"Bark Bark", arsa Bran.
Agus he Presto bhí Tonnaí
Thoraí againn.

Bhí Gach Duinne ag rince
fiú amháin an Banna-Ceoil agus
bhí Sceitimíní ar Ghearóidín de
bharr. "Rossa! Rossa! Rossa!",
Nudge, Nudge, Wink, Wink, say
no more!!!

Sheinn Kíla don athuair
agus bhí. "Rave" den scoth ann.
D'fhág Doimínic go luath.
D'fhág Maria go luath.
Coincidence????

Shroich gach duine an
baile go luath ar maidin tar éis
cúpla Pionta i dteach tabhairne
gan ainm

Oíche Céadaoin

Cé A Scríobh Peig?

Mar is gnáth thosaigh gach rud
déanach "Irish Perogative". Bhí
go leoir beoir agus freagraí ach

bhuaigh "Challenging Times".
Banna Ceoil "Sancam Soncam"
-Inspiring ("Who's that girl?")
ina dhiaidh bhí "The Acoustic
Jam Band". Seans Preview a
fháil ar Battle of the Bands "Rag
Week".



Oíche Déardaoin

Thosaigh an oíche le Whores,
Drugs, Culchies agus Heuston
Station agus d'éirigh sé níos
fearr. Bhog gach duine go dtí
an Karaoke agus chan caoga
Med Labs agus Dave
agus...? Dave agus...? Dave
agus...? and who's that Dave?

Mar is gnáth tháinig na mílte go
dtí an Oympic Ballroom.
Caithin a Bh'faighimid Ciall?

Two Fat Hairy DJ's 88
Kissing Competitions
Ba Mhaith linn ár mbuíochas a
gabháil leis an ENTS OFFICER
as seo

Buíochas le

- GREG HOLDEN FASHIONS
For Use of Wardrobe Facilities

- XXX West Terenure Road, Le
haghaidh Bia and Leaba

- The Pope, Mother Theresa,
Salman Rhusdi and Cousin
Nigel to mention but a few.

walking zombies

DEIREADH SEACHTAINE GHAOTH DOBHAIR

20 Walking Zombies hit
gaoth dohair. Leanamar le
spírid na seachtaine go baile ár
mbaill thuaidh. Bhí an Bhrú
fuar, an aímsear fuar, ach bhí
go leor deoch againn le muid a
chonáil seasta agus "legless"
(gan cos)!!!

Oíche hAoine, "Cá
ndeachaigh gach duinne!!!!"
Bhuilmuid le muintir DCU i
dteach tabhairne mhíci ach bhí
níos mó Fraincís agus Gaeilge
acu ná Béarla.



Shroich duine an Night Club.
Shroich duine an Bhrú agus
shroich duine na sléibhte ach
bhuaigh muid arís an oíche
sin sa bhrú le AnnMarie agus
Jody a dhúiseach.

An mhaidin dár gcionn,
d'éirigh gach duinne agus
roimh nígh, roimh bhricfeasta,
roimh chac chuamar go dtí an
bheair. Chuaigh gach duine ar
shiúlóid. Sé an trua nach raibh
muid ar fad le chéile. Shroich
gach duine an trá ach bhíomar

trí mhíle óna chéile. Chonacá
gealacha bhreátha agus é fós
geall.

Shochraidh muid dul go
Karaoke oíche Shathairn in
ionad dul go céilí mhuintir
DCU.

D'Fhág Steve luath
D'Fhág Maria luath. 2nd
coincidence

"Gregs boots were made for
Walking". "Hey Big Swinger".
Canta ag cailíní an chumainn.

Chuamar go dtí an disco ina
dhiaidh and took over the
dance floor. Ar an mbealach
abhaile shochraidh Greg
fanacht sa díog faoi dhó.
Iompraíodh Val abhaile toisc i
bheith tuirseach???

Chuamar a chodladh ag a
hocht agus síos ag an mbeair
ag a dó dhéagh. Bus abhaile
ag a trí. Codladh seachtaine ag
teastáil ó gach duine.

bent over backwards

Kevin Street Gay & Lesbian Soc address the issue of legality

Homosexuality is illegal in Ireland under 2 laws, the 1861 Offences Against the Person Act and the 1885 Act. Both Acts refer exclusively to male activity. They are British laws enacted during British Rule in Ireland. They are the same laws as existed in the U.K. prior to Homosexual Law Reform. The 1861 Act was, at the time, seen as reforming legislation, as prior to this the death penalty was the punishment for sodomy. The 1861 Act allows for life imprisonment but requires specific evidence and is difficult to prove. Only really used in cases of rape, child sexual abuse etc. 1885 Act concerns gross indecency. Same law as that which Oscar Wilde was prosecuted under. Allows for maximum of 2 years hard labour. There have been prosecutions under this law concerning males using toilets for homosexual encounters. There is no age definition. Far less prosecutions in Ireland than in England for this type of offence. David Norris, a homosexual activist, recently brought a case before

the European Court of Human Rights claiming that 1861 and 1885 Acts are contrary to the Human Rights Convention. The Court found in favour of Mr Norris and the Irish Government must now review the laws and in some way reform them. The Irish Government's defence centered around the fact that these laws may be still on the

statute books but are not used and do not result in prosecutions. The police, in practice, do not pursue homosexual men for activities in breach of the Acts. There is no mention of lesbianism in Irish law. No prosecutions have, as a result, been enacted. Lesbians do, however, face widespread prejudice in Irish society.

letters to the editor

For the past four years I have been very involved in the AIDS issue in Ireland. I am Chairperson of the Merchants Quay Project, one of the major HIV/AIDS care projects in the country. We employ a director and co-ordinator and have a staff of 18 volunteers. Our centre is open five days a week providing referral, counselling, welfare care friendship and support. In addition we run a respite care centre outside the city for people who need more long-term care. We try to accept people where they are at and as they are. We provide education and training on health care, safer sex and the stark reality that the virus affects all of us. Some of the people who have come to the project over the years have become firm friends. Whenever someone got sick it was a worry and when friends died we all shared the loneliness and sense of loss.

his project receives no statutory funding. It is funded by hard graft and major sponsorship from the Catholic Church. As a member of the Catholic Church I have to say I was surprised to say the least at Byron Williams' comment (*December VOICE*) that "This fact (risk to heterosexuals) cannot be denied by simply sweeping all the facts under the carpet the way the Catholic Church have done." Most of the time the only way to know the facts is to find them out for ourselves. With this in mind I extend to Byron our invitation to visit the Merchants Quay, H.I.V./AIDS Care project, and to see for himself what is really happening.

Michael Martin

If you have any articles, reviews, comments, criticisms or letters, drop them into the Students' Union. We particularly need film/record reviews and photographs.

completely mad

The Music Arts and Drama Festival comes to Dublin

Just brilliant, some clever Dub college went and won the mad, I mean did they ever stop and consider what they've let us in for. This year the D.I.T. plays host to the maniacal anarchy & debauchery festival, henceforth to be known as the "Completely Mad Festiva, '92". Unfortunately this means no weekends away to slur the college's reputation outside the pail but a chance for all 20 VEC institutions to get together for two crammed full days of artistic endeavour plus a little spiritual refreshment thrown in for good measure.

The panic starts Fri. evening 28th February and goes on till the early hours of Sunday morning, with : ".....and the nominations for best Albino Chicken wearing 18 hole cherry docs in a supporting role..." on Sunday morning b4 the rabble disperses to the 5 corners.

The big Mad Kahuna, the Rock/Pop section will take place in Charlie's (caddie's)...with some famous dude or other passing judgement...(this facial-expression 4 a name celeb is 2 B confirmed)

Kevin St. opens its portals to the Thespian Community and will have its Gkeesib Gakk graced by

the Dramadand the Madart.

The Folk/Trad, Jazz/Blues will be housed in appropriately atmospheric locations.

The Mad Bashes will take place on both Fri. and Sat. nights in suitable embibing emporiums.

As time passes the hype will grow to fever pitch and mad boxer-shorts will go on sale in sox-shop outlets universe-wide and 5 dead people will have champagne breakfast in your next door neighbour's back garden.

From the centre of nowhere,

Darach O'Tuathail

quotes

".....myself and Ray broke a bed...."

- Sinead Curran WBD 3, Lit Soc Pres describing the debauchery of the Lit Soc/Drama Soc trip to Galway

"His chair squeaks when you rock on it."

-Joanne O'Flaherty SEE2 and part-time Union hack describing her intimate knowledge of the Bolton St Students' Union Welfare Office.

"the Principal paid tribute to the Students involved in organising the very successful 4th Annual Arts Week. He also sent his congratulations to the students and staff who organised the 5th Annual Christmas Dinner for Old Folks in the area."

-extract from minutes of College Council, 6th January 1992.

"I can't stand people who piss on toilet seats but I can't really complain I do it enough myself."

-Byron Williams WMT3, ex Students' Union President announcing the start of his "Clean Up Kevin Street" campaign.

"Grotesque, Unprecedented, Bizarre and Unbelievable"

- Students' Union President, Damian O'Broin commenting on the prospect of Treasurer, Paddy Madden attending an Executive Committee meeting.

"Groups who deal with rape try to educate women how to defend themselves. We need to teach men not to rape. Go to the source."

- Kurt Cobain, lead singer with Nirvana.

DCU FM: Sunshine on a Rainy Day

The latest sounds in radio circles are coming from Dublin University, and the message is to listen out for 'a new voice in the night' between Monday 3rd and Friday 7th February, as 'DCU FM' takes to the airwaves once again.

This year's transmissions, which will go out between 5:00pm and 11:00pm on a frequency of 103.8FM each evening, are being sponsored by Aer Rianta Dublin, in conjunction with the Aer Rianta Arts festival taking place in Dublin Airport. The programmes scheduled for this year's broadcast will be specifically aimed at young people and students, providing an exciting listening dimension to the festival.

Among the programmes destined to provide a little more than the usual on your radio during the week are a series on 'sense and sensibilities' (discover the meaning of love, sin, life, death and dreams in some of radio's most profound cultural crusades!), a breakfast show with Orla at 5:00 every evening (featuring live interviews, news and current affairs), some live mix-in' with guest DJ's on Monday night and a 'rough-guide' travel programme, based on the experiences (good and bad) of Summer 1991!

DCU FM is the first independent radio station in this country to have been granted a temporary licence under the provision of the 1988 Broadcasting Act. The

initial broadcast took place in February 1989, when the station was known as Radio Rag Week'.

It became 'DCU FM' when it went on the air again during October of the same year, to coincide with the conferral of University status on what was formerly NIHE Dublin.

DCU FM has taken to the airwaves on two other occasions, in February 1990 and March 1991. All output was transmitted throughout the college via a specially installed P.A. system. DCU FM was also broadcast to listeners in the Greater Dublin area between 9am and 6pm on each of these occasions. It was run by students on a voluntary basis, under the technical supervision of Mr Frank Clarke, from the radio studios of the Communications Department in the college.

Many well-known and



interesting personalities have been featured on DCU FM over the course of these four broadcasts. Among these are Dick Spring T.D., Eamonn Dunphy, Shay Healy, Davy Spillane, Gerry Ryan and Pronsias De Rossa T.D.

Programmes transmitted by the station have included a focus on theatre in Dublin, a 'crooners' special, an adaptation of the comic book 'Elektra Assassin', a production of 'Under Milkwood', alternative music shows and a wide variety of Irish language programming. The media coverage of DCU FM has always been positive and receptive to a station that provides comprehensive alternative listening for the people of Dublin.

- dennis doolin

Before you say "But DCU FM was on last week", I'll explain. I promised Denis, their PR man, that I'd cover it in the Voice. But unfortunately, I thought it was happening this week, not last week. Anyway, he gave me a nice photograph. Maybe some bright engineer could set up a Kevin St station next year.....

- Editor

-A Guided Tour of some of the Highlights

3-Legged Fancy Dress Pub Crawl

teams of two: must drink 6 pints and 6 shorts between them in 6 different pubs in Wexford St/ Camden St - £16 per team. Prizes for quickest team and best fancy dress.

Boat Race

teams of eight: 4 men, 4 women. Men drink pints, women drink glasses. Fastest team wins.

Slave Auction

sell yourself as a sex (or other) slave. All money to charity. A perfect day for exhibitionists.

DJ in Junction

a man stands behind two turntables and plays records. The stylus picks up vibrations turning them into electrical signals which are amplified and changed into acoustic vibrations by the speakers. Groovy.

Rag Ball

Sex, Drugs and Rock 'n' Roll.

Entry forms will be available at the following times and dates:

Battle of the Bands
(£2 per person)
Monday 10th Feb
10am onwards
(Students' Union Office)

Boat Race
(£3 per person)
Monday 10th Feb
10am onwards
(Students' Union Office)

Pub Quiz
(£10 per team)
Monday 10th Feb
10am onwards
(Students' Union Offices)

3 Legged Pub Crawl
(£16 per team)
Wednesday 12th Feb
1pm
(Students' Union Office)

Scavenger Hunt
Tues 18th Feb
11am
(Students' Union Office)

Dublin Pub Crawl Challenge
Thursday 20th Feb
2pm
(Students' Union Office)

Pool Competition
Monday 10th Feb
10pm onwards
(Christy)

Table Football Competition
(Christy)

Rag Week 92

Ball Tickets available from Christy from Monday 17th February

NO SLEEP

'TIL FRIDAY

Friday (Valentine's Day) 1.30pmThe Love Bus (to Belfast) £3

Monday feb 17th	Tuesday feb 18th	Wednesday feb 19th	Thursday feb 20th
----------------------------	-----------------------------	-------------------------------	------------------------------

10.30am 3 Legged Fancy
Dress Pub Crawl
£16 per team

1pm Free Lunchtime Gig:
Kick To The Heart
(Gleeson Hall)

6pm **gig in charlies £1**
The Joshua Trio
+ pub quiz
(£10 per team)

11am Scavenger Hunt

1pm **Barry Sinclair**
(Gleeson Hall)

4pm Boat Race
(Wexford Inn)
£24 per team of 8

6pm **Battle of the Bands**
+ Disco £2
(Wexford Inn)

11am Car Treasure Hunt

12pm Stocks

2pm Pool Competition

3pm Slave Auction
(Junction)

6pm DJ in Junction

12pm Dublin Pub Crawl Challenge

1pm The Great Egg Race
(Gleeson Hall)

8 pm Pre-Ball Party (Wexford Inn)

THE GOLDEN HORDE
Winner of Battle
of the Bands

Party Games
£3

11pm Rag Ball
Olympic Ballroom
£3.50

All profits from Rag Week go to **Focus Point** and the **Rape Crisis Centre**

Tickets for **THE GOLDEN HORDE** and the **Rag Ball** are available from Christy

FOCUS POINT

Focus Point began in Dublin in 1985. The agency provides a range of services which all work together to help people out-of-home find, create and maintain a home of their own. Our services range from providing a 24-hour emergency phone-line, a street work service, an advice, information and counselling service, a day activity centre for young people out-of-home, a drop-in low cost coffee shop, a residential and community home-making service, supportive housing for young women to a research unit on issues relating to housing and homelessness in Ireland.

Recently there has been much attention in the media given to the growing numbers of young people and women and children becoming homeless. So really how does Focus Point help? Let me tell you two stories which can explain for themselves:

Tom

Tom left home for the first time at 12 years old. His father was violent, and Tom and his mother had been beaten many times. When he first started staying out, Tom slept in a pram shed, with food supplied by friends. From time to time he went home, but stayed out more and more as he got older.

By the age of 14 Tom was sleeping rough in town most of the time. He had long since stopped going to school, and could not be controlled by his family. Relations with his family were bad, and he felt alienated from ordinary society. He was involved in petty crime - robbery and joyriding - which inevitably led him to the attention of the Gardai and eventually into prison.

At 17 he had been in prison several times, had no home, and no future. When approached by Focus Point Streetworkers, his attitude was distrustful and aggressive, but eventually he agreed to come into the Coffee Shop - mainly for food.

Gradually a degree of trust was built up which enabled him to accept advice and begin using the facilities of the Extension - Focus Point's Centre of Alternatives for young people - playing pool, using weights, taking part in drama and art classes. Involvement in the Centre's decision-making and support on an individual level led gradually to Tom beginning to realise that he could take control of his own life.

After a year of repeatedly breaking away and returning to the Centre, Tom began to separate himself from his disruptive friends and started learning to read and write. He decided to stay in a hostel rather than on the streets, got casual work, and saved enough money for a deposit on a rented flat.

Now, at the age of 20, he has a permanent job and lives in a local authority flat. Tom has a stable long-term relationship with his girlfriend, and is reconciled with his family.

Carol

Carol's first contact with Focus Point was by telephone in the middle of the night. She was suffering at the hands of a violent husband, and needed a safe place for herself and her two daughters, Anne (4) and Margaret (2). The Focus Point Emergency Crisis Service placed Carol and the girls in a hostel immediately.

The following day Carol was seen by a social worker from Focus Point's Crisis Service. What Carol needed was a place of safety, welfare payments, a day nursery for the children, and legal aid. Carol also needed help in registering with the Corporation for a house, as well as structured support and counselling for personal difficulties.

In this transitional stage, Carol was helped by Focus Point through the bureaucratic procedures of transferring from one Community Care area to

another, to give her access to Social Welfare payments. Problems with rent arrears in her former home were ironed out with the Rent Section, and homeless allocation clearance had to be negotiated with the Corporation.

Carol was helped in other ways too. Places in Focus Point Nursery allowed the two girls to be with other children, and gave Carol a break. The Focus Point Coffee Shop provided food at low cost in a friendly atmosphere, with organised social outings to the cinema or bowling, easing the problems of living in a hostel.

Finally, Carol was helped to settle in her new home. Focus Point Home-maker Service gave help in the practicalities of setting up home - scrubbing, hanging curtains, and making the flat comfortable. They also provided invaluable advice on entitlements to household equipment and dealing with the ESB, and introduced Carol to the local services - medical centre, women's groups, special counselling services. This service went on for two months, but can continue for up to six months for those who require it.

The last part of the settlement process ensured that local support groups were on hand to give Carol support when it was needed, whether in practical assistance, social activities, or counselling.

Carol is now settled in her new home with her children and is coping well with her situation.

I hope these stories explain to some extent what Focus Point does for people out-of-home.

On behalf of everyone at Focus Point - particularly our customers - I would like to thank you all for supporting Focus Point during your Rag Week - which I hope you enjoy.

stanislaus kennedy

THE JUNCTION

40 WEXFORD STREET

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

FOOD SERVED DAILY

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF WISH
KEVIN ST STUDENTS ALL THE BEST
DURING RAG WEEK

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shitty trousers and clear heads

the mountaineering club go to Glendalough

- "Let's Go To The Pub"
- "We Need to Get Back into Training"
- "Hmph, OK! Who wants to do a Route"

That was how the evening started on the 8th of January 1992. We came back the previous Friday from a Trip to Glendalough, where I was scared shitless on two separate days.

It all started around the of September. I went to the Clubs & Socs day in the Gleeson Hall and was not really interested in anything there, but then I spotted the Mountaineering Club stand and said to myself "Hmmm! This looks like something with a bit of umph in it" And boy was I right, from then it all started.

In Glendalough the climbs reach a height of about 1000ft above sea level and with the wind blowing hard, as it did, it was 2 days of mental and physical hardship (if not torture) for me.

The group went down to Glendalough on the 31.12.91 and drank ourselves stupid till 4 in the morning with some climbers from UCC. We then walked(?) two miles back to where the tents were and collapsed.

We got up at 11 o'clock and

started breakfast - coffee - as most of us had hangovers. We met the Cork crowd at 12 noon, they also had vicious hangovers, and went to the Crag.

I have often heard it said from the Club Treasurer Pete'Ovens' Owens "One Sure Cure for a Hangover is to go Climbing". It is actually true - when you are dangling by 2 fingers in gale force winds, the one thing you forget about is your hangover and so we all had clear heads by the time we got to the top - Shitty Trousers but Clear Heads.

This was the highest climbing I had ever done, but when you got to the top! The feeling of exhilaration was incredible and the view, as an American once said "As climbers gape at their world so very far underfoot, they understand how men have come to dream of Gardens of Eden and Ages of Gold" and it is true.

After having Biscuits, Ham and Cheese (in that order) we all got down to the base of the crag safely, went to the tents, dumped our gear, had some food and went as soon as possible to the pub. The rest of that evening was, as you can imagine, drink and chat about the day's climbing.

The next day we went climbing

at the same time but this time there was only 5 of us Intrepid Mountaineers (?) (Everybody else had chickened out and gone home). We went up a climb called 'Quartz Gulley. When we got to the top it was brilliant, but the bit inbetween the bottom and the top, well we will just ignore.

We had spent 5 hours on the climb and were all wrecked by the time we got back to the tents. Nobody wants to go to the pub, but we wanted the pub to come to us. We spent about 2 hours debating what to do, so two of the 5 climbers remaining walked to the pub and got some takeaways. We got back at 10 o'clock and stayed in a 4 man tent till 2am and then all departed to respective tents.

We got up at 11 the following morning and got our bus home at 1 o'clock.

That night curled up and warm in bed, I thought "It was an excellent trip"

It is worth noting that although we have great fun climbing, safety is foremost at all times.

brian keogh
WRS/TT 1

diddley-squat

Certain works of journalism and literature, change by their nature and content, the very course of history. Books such as Lady Chatterly's Lover, Ulysses and the Unbearable Lightness of Being. Journalism like Washington Post and Watergate, the reporting of the Vietnam War and the first issue of the Beano.

It now appears that the 'Bumper Christmas Issue' of The Voice has joined this illustrious list.

The amazing consequences of the Christmas Present List have dumbfounded everyone. On arriving back after the Christmas

break, Ed Delaney, the College Accounts Supremo was seen sporting a beautiful new moustache, as correctly predicted by The Voice. But more was to come.

Ann Pouch in the Students' Union got her bigger desk, Marie in the Word Shop will soon have her 'phone. Worse was to come: Tom Gibney's presence in the Junction diminished as he started to go Home for a change.

Rumour actually has it, that one stormy night in January, a tall dark stranger enjoyed a decent pint of Guinness in a well known

pub established in 1879 on Wexford St. We would like anyone who has any independent evidence to come forward immediately.

After 3 issues, The Voice is certainly making its presence known. It has expanded from 12 to 20 pages. The number of contributors has increased dramatically and it has prompted the arrival of "Student Review", the independent news-sheet. The Principal, Frank Brennan has indicated that he likes it. Ed Delaney reads it. The Chaplains write for it and most importantly students actually read it.

THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING

.....an editorial

I was desperately trying to think editorial about when I remembered that there was some fuss happening about ESF grants. The introduction of means testing will not make the grants system fair or more equitable, it will not help people from less well off families and it *will most definitely* affect students presently in college. The important thing now is to ^(kp) up the pressure as the means testing is being discussed in the Dail on 18th and 19th of this month. Every student and every parent should use every means at their disposal to stop the means

test. The following tactics would be very useful:
1. Go and talk to your local Fianna Fail TD's and Councillors
2. Write to the Minister for Education, the Taoiseach, the papers or anybody else you think might be able to help.
3. Put pressure on local groups to support the campaign
4. Join your Union in direct action

If we don't stop the means testing, Kevin St. will be changed for the worst, the present spread of people in the DIT from a wide range of

economic background will disappear and the development of an accessible education system will be put back ten years. Remember, a total family income of £10,787 **before tax** will exclude you from getting a full-grant. Think about it.

STOP THE MEANS TEST

".....We'll fight them

the means-test campaign



We all know of the late New Year's present received from Mr Noel Davern which was to introduce means testing of ESF grants for incoming students next year. This cleverly timed tactic three weeks before the budget seemed to be a feeler, to see if the students would accept this or fight it all the way until we were successful. Well fortunately I can say it was the latter, students came out in numbers all over the country for the three Demonstrations in Cork, Athlone and Dublin. Mr Davern states that it will create more openings in college, make the whole grant system fair across the board and not affect any ESF students receiving the grant at present. Well the good old Minister was

wrong on all 3 accounts. Firstly on the issue of creating more openings in college countrywide.

It is totally wrong and misleading. In fact it will reduce the number of students on Certificate and Diploma courses. The maximum family income which will qualify for a full grant is £10,787. The fact that the average male industrial salary is £13,843 doesn't seem to concern the Government. So by this we can see that most of the average working man's children will be stopped entering college in '92/93.

Mr Davern's second point of it introducing an equal fairer grant system for everyone is

far from the truth. By taking a grant system that was working fairly OK and changing that to a system similar to County Council/HEA grant system which is a joke is by no means making the total grant system across the board fair. The next point stated, that it won't affect ESF students at present is also totally wrong. First of all IMPACT trade union whose staff will be administering the means test are totally against this system and have instructed their workers not to implement it. The reason being that they are understaffed to cope with this extra work load and they



have a poor standard of working conditions. For the Government to go along

on the beaches....."

the means-test campaign



with and accept IMPACT conditions it would cost them between £2m-£3m which is more than they intend saving by the introduction of the means test. As we know the

Government are not prepared to lose money on this and could easily then decide to means test every student. If they do not take this approach ESF grants which are known to be late will be later than ever next year with probably only one grant received before Christmas '92 if you're lucky. The campaign to date is by no means over, as was said already, the excellent number of students who took to the streets in Cork, Athlone and Dublin proved to Davern the support there is against means testing, also proving that we will not stop



fighting until we are successful in this campaign. There will be more national and local stunts/demos happening within the next 3 weeks, so stay in touch with your Union as the campaign progresses.

-tom gibney
Deputy President

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2 Camden Row, Dublin 8

(beside Ryan's Pub)

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room A001

The 90's is set to be a decade of great change. A decade in which we have already seen the granting of independence to the Baltic republics, the breaking down of barriers in Germany and soon the whole of Europe, with the implementation of the Single European Act. On a social level we've generally become more tolerant of other peoples differences and are thus dismantling the barriers of prejudice and discrimination.

Closer to home we can see an increase in the number of members of minority social and cultural groups applying for courses in Irish colleges and availing of the equality in acceptance offered here. Kevin Street, being no exception hosts a student body made up of many different races, colours and religions, not to mention sexes. Amongst this pot-pouri of people, however, the absence of one minority group in particular is apparent, that of the physically handicapped, or more specifically those confined to wheelchairs.

1981 was pronounced "The Year of the Handicapped" in a move to integrate the physically handicapped into society. Public buildings, sometimes inaccessible, installed ramps, lifts, wide doors and toilet facilities. It's now compulsory that such buildings, (including colleges), be accessible by wheelchairs. Yet I find it hard to imagine anyone in a wheelchair gaining easy access to, or indeed freedom of movement within, either building in Kevin Street college.

The annex building **does** provide some facilities for the wheelchair bound, as having been built after 1981 it's obliged to do. I fear, however, these facilities featured in the architects plan without any serious consideration to the physical limitations of those using them.

Take for example access to the library, easy for the able-bodied, impossible for the handicapped. Also, in order to gain access to the upper floors a disabled person would have to be given a

key to the staff/maintenance lift, a lift in which a wheelchair could barely fit, leaving the person travelling in it certainly doing so alone. There are indeed toilet facilities provided on the ground floor but students in wheelchairs wish to attend college for reasons other than those catered for within the confines of room A.001.

Facilities for those in wheelchairs in the old building are virtually non-existent, being most noticeably absent in regard to laboratories and lecture theatres. Access to both buildings would be quite difficult as it may require a colleague to hold open the outer doors, (with their heavy-duty springs), while entry is gained.

All considered, a student confined to a wheelchair would find life at Kevin Street college pretty miserable and a daily struggle. The lack of proper facilities amounts to it being impossible for those in wheelchairs to attend many courses at the college and is thys tantamount to discrimination. In a time when members of other minority groups are achieving high academic standards and bringing prestige to the college it's a pity that because of this discrimination the physically handicapped cannot do the same.

Paul O'Raw
WRTT 1

THE CHAPLAINCY

A cheque for over £700.00 is now on its way to CONCERN for their famine relief programmes. This is the result of your commitment, when you accepted a sponsorship card and did the 24 hour fast before Christmas. Something can always be done if people take action. Please return any outstanding sponsorship money to the CHAPLAINCY before Friday February 7th, thank you.

The folk group have been playing quite a few gigs in the past while, notably, the Christmas Carol Service, Clarkes, and the Ecumenical Service, not to mention the many practice sessions in the run up to these events. So on February 19th the folk group will be off on their annual trip, this will not be so much hard work but should be, a well deserved totally wild release from the ordinary, i.e. very seriously good fun.

Rag Week will be from February 17th to 21st and on one of those days, kids from one of the local schools will be invited to the college for a fun day. This was a great success last year and a real opportunity to share some of our health, strength and resources with deprived kids in the area. Anyone interested in volunteering for this event please contact the CHAPLAINS, Room 249.

This year Ash Wednesday is on the 4th of March, marking the official beginning of the Lenten Season. As with last year there will be two masses on Ash Wednesday, 1.10 and 5.15 and mass each day throughout Lent itself at 1.10 in Lecture Theatre 108. If you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we might celebrate Lent in the college, contact the CHAPLAINS. One event which will be taking place in the heart of Lent will be the retreat. The dates are March 20-

22 and the venue is Tabor House, Milltown. This is going to be a great experience and a real opportunity to take time out for reflection, but take note numbers will have to be limited. The cost of the week-end will be £15 which includes meals and accommodation. Deposits may be left into the CHAPLAINCY, Room 249.

As you can see there is a lot happening at the moment. All the usual goings on at the CHAPLAINCY are still in full swing. It's never too late to get involved.

Some Dates to Remember

Lent
Mass each day - Room 108
Retreat - 20-22 March

Michael Martin
Fiona McSorley

CLARKES

Lounge Bar
11 Wexford Street

Excellent Homemade Food served daily.
Morning Coffee - Lunches - Evening Snacks

poetry

Changing Seasons

by: *Naoise*

Daffodils and daisies
Dance with delight.
The sky is blue,
A bright and bold blue.
One is awakened
By a warm sun,
As the song of a bird
Can be heard,
Like the cry
Of a newborn infant.

Dazzling flowers
Blossom into bloom.
The sun shines
In fullness with radiance.
Bees buzz boldly
From beehive to blossom,
Dusted with pollen.
The lark soars high,
Announcing with song
The joys of life.

The nip in the air
Returns once more
With the deceiving red
Mature October sun.
The grey oak stands,
Wrinkled but solid
As one by one
The leaves begin to fall.
Time to reap the rewards
From the fruits of ones harvest.

Breath is misted
The icy Wind

Callously whips bare legs
Cold flakes of snow
Make skin shiver
And teeth chatter
The frosted road is slippery.
The sharp air bites
And gnaws at bones.
Winter holds no mercy.

'Need to Despise'

by: *Eoin Brosnan WSAD1*

Glacial waters, fiery eyes,
Look at me now, there's no need to despise
Flying thru' water, swimming thru' air,
Look at me now, there's no need to despair.

For there is hope - Yes! There is hope,
'Cause ten makes eight and I'm the Pope.

Fire on the water, Glacier in your eyes,
Look at them now, do they have to die,
Flying through water, swimming through air.
Look at us now, do we really care?

We say we do, oh! we say we do,
But look at me, just look at you.
We lay prostrate at the feet of the poisoned god,
Prostrate at the feet of the red, white and blue
We give all of ourselves that takes from us nothing.
We of plenty but when of loss will we give something?

The more I change the more you stay the same
So tell me friend can you please explain.
How some of us take pleasures again and again,
While others live their lives wallowing in pain?

Much to the disgust of the Lit Soc, we received tons of poetry for this issue of The Voice. As we can't print it all, this is just a selection. This is actually the first issue which I had to leave contributions out of. In future, we'll only print articles if we know who the writer is. If you want to remain anonymous, just indicate that when you're leaving it in and we'll gladly guard your anonymity

-Editor

things that make you go hmmm

This is very strange. I found it when I started looking through the articles which were handed in for the VOICE. I don't know who wrote it or where it came from, but I decided to print it because it's very typical of the high quality of wit available on the back of toilet doors in this college. Speaking of which, I hear a graffiti craze has swept the ladies toilets.....

22 Kenure Park
Rush
Co Dublin

17th January 1991

Hi Janette,

How is it going. Paul is actually doing some study at the moment so I, that is John, will write this letter for him. So what has happened since I saw you last? Well I've had the operation and the new bits and bobs look well. Took a while to get used to but I can look at myself in the mirror now without getting all excited. The gerbil is fine. It's dead but it's still fine. Fluffy the dog says hi! - which is bloody weird for a dog - a talking dog!! should be on That's Life.....Doc..... Next week, I hope to go to Singapore with Niamh, she's really looking forward to it. We hope to go to Casablanca then followed by a dirty weekend in Paris. I'll send you a postcard. I'm actually taking Caroline to Galway in 2 weeks. We've hired out the Penthouse Suite in the Royal Jury Hotel. It's on two floors, jacuzzi and all! Helen is really weird now and says she's not too happy about looking after the kids. She sold one of them to a research laboratory in Denmark. I was a bit pissed off but she got £14.22p so I suppose it was a good deal.

Oh before I forget, don't forget tooh shit....I've forgotten....well I'll probably remember when I seal the envelope. I was going to enclose an elephant with this letter, only I haven't got one at the moment. Maybe next time.

Oh I must tell you about Ger. He's now going out with a 6 foot guy from Brazil. He's all hairy and everything. Ger's taste has totally changed. Una, his last girlfriend was only 5 foot 9 ins. Catherine says hi by the way.

I've started eating goldfish again. I was only off them for 17 days - not very good was it. Still it means the pest problem in relation to goldfishes is diminishing.

I suppose I'd better go now but before I do I'll just say boo,boo!!

Lots of Love
John

PS It goes without saying that

JIMMY'S

First Annual Drama Soc Awards

1. Most Gullible Person: Helen
2. Nicest Male Person: Ger
Nicest Female Person: Caroline
3. Most Embarrassing when Drunk: Mags
Most Embarrassing when Sober: Mags
4. Best Poet in polo neck: Dave
5. Most Sexually Frustrated Male: Steve
Most Sexually Frustrated Female: Mags
6. Most Suitable Couple: Niamh & Daragh F
7. Best Incidental Music: A Nation Once Again
8. Best Photograph from Dave's pix: Jim Morrison doing his Daragh F
9. Cutest Voice: Niamh
10. Worst Make Upiger by Sarah (and Ice Cream Wrapper)
11. Funniest Person: Jennifer
12. Most Perverted Male: Steve
Most Perverted Female: Mags
13. Sexiest Male: Dave
Sexiest Female: Dilys
14. Biggest Poser: Daragh F
15. Best Priest in supporting Role: Ger
16. Best Haircut: Dave
17. Best Beard on Face: D O'Toole
18. Tallest Person in Skirt: Sarah
19. Best Male Nipples: Daragh F/Billy French
20. Blondest Stage Manageress: Dilys
Other Stage Manageress: Caroline
21. Loudest Female Bakers Laugh: Helen
22. Smallest Poet: Zita
23. Most Sarcastic Poet: Jennifer
24. Cutest Bum - Male: Ger
Cutest Bum - Female: Brenda
25. Nicest Smile - Male: Daragh F/Alan
Nicest Smile - Female: Dilys
26. Nicest Accent: Brenda/Ann Howley
27. Nicest Eyes - Male: Ger
28. Best Long Navy Jumper: Dave
29. Biggest Ego - Male: Karl
Biggest Ego - Female: Helen
30. Bob Monkhouse Most unfunniest Person: D.O'T
31. Male your Parents would most like you to bring home: Ger/Billy French
Female your Parents would most like you to bring home: Caroline
32. Most Offending Person: Dave
33. Biggest Bullshitter: Karl/DO'T