The DIT Examiner: the Newspaper of the Dublin Institute of Technology Students' Union December, 1995

DIT: Students' Union

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Every motion in last week's referendum in the DIT was passed by an overwhelming majority. All 12 motions were passed by a majority of at least three to one, including the contentious and controversial motion dealing with the abolition of the position of women's rights officer in the students' unions executive. This was the second time that this motion had been before the students of the DIT and the second time it had been passed but last year's referendum was overturned following complaints and because a high court case seemed likely.

Almost 2,400 students voted in the referendum on Monday, traditionally a bad day for elections and referenda. Colman Byrne, President of DIT Students' Union, professed delight at the result, the turnout and the fact that it was all over.

"It took up to much time for what it was worth but it showed the sceptics, inside and out, that this was something the students wanted. Hopefully it will make us a more efficient and better union."

The controversy over the referendum continued until voting day when anonymous posters and pamphlets appeared in at least two DIT sites, Kevin Street and Bolton Street. They variously advised no vote, a don't vote or an informed vote stance and attacked the DITSU executive.

Byrne described the anonymous no campaign as "basically a load of rubbish."

"It's a pity they couldn't come out and say who they were; it was very underhand and sneaky."

Though he believes the no campaign was counter productive, he was annoyed at certain aspects of the Byrning Issues in which comments were made about members of the DITSU Exec.

"I'm used to being slagged but it hurt some officers in the union."

Also on voting day, Fiona McCauley, Women's Rights Officer in USI, was in Kevin Street and Aungier Street campaigning for a No vote. Mr Byrne did not see her but said he could have had her removed from the grounds of DIT Kevin Street.

"She's not a student here and we didn't ask her to come in." He said that Kevin Street would have supported him on this.

"USI officer are working for us, not the other way around. We don't pay them £30,000 a year so they can go bad mouthing an organisation they know nothing about. The results of the referendum show that."

Ms McCauley told the DIT Examiner that she was obliged to come onto campus to campaign against the removal of WRO.

"This is a policy issue in USI. At annual congress motions are debated and either passed or rejected. The WRO in USI is mandated to take part in any campaign to remove the WRO from any executive. I was obliged to come onto campus to campaign."

She said that she believed that students in DITSU and USI had been able to make a more informed vote because they had heard both sides. As for the outcome of the motion on WRO, she said that she was "disappointed but it wasn't unexpected."

Speaking about the overwhelming nature of the referendum's outcome, Byrne said that he was particularly delighted, "especially for the officers."

"They [the students] came out and gave a vote of confidence to the union, they are listening to their officers and not the national officers. We were elected and they backed us up."

Despite the efforts of Ms McCauley on the day, the motion to remove the position of WRO was passed by a significant margin, 72% to 28%, with 1,687 voting for the motion and 659 voting against.

Motion Nine, which proposed the removal of the the position of anti-discrimination officer was passed by 1,762 votes to 627 (74% to 26%) and the new position of Equality Officer will be created as a result of the referendum. The motion to create this position was carried by 1,930 votes to 474 (80% to 20%).

Of the other motions, the most significant was motion four which proposed that DITSU sabbatical officers be permitted to run for a third term of office, provided that the maximum number of years in any one office shall be two and that the three in total be retrospective. This too was carried with ease (1,757 votes to 649). What it should effectively mean is that a person can move from Deputy Site President to Site President and then to Overall President.
Changes Within

Well, the referendum was passed. The safe money was on such an outcome for all 12 motions but the overwhelmingly high Yes must have raised an eyebrow or two. With so many proposed changes before the students of DIT, some were bound to be more contentious than others and naturally there was only one candidate for most contentious of all, that relating to the abolition of the position of Women's Rights Officer.

So the large yes vote for many of the motions was to be expected but the high percentage of students who voted in favour of the removal of that position and the creation in its place of an Equality Officer does seem to be a vindication of the position adopted by the DIT at Congress and repeatedly since. Like it or not, and many understandably do not, the students of the DIT went out last week and voted in not inconsiderable numbers for the removal of WRO. There are slightly more female than male students so it was not simply an atavistic knee jerk male reaction to the issue. There is more to it than that and USI, along with those who supported their brief no campaign on voting day, will have to take that on board and ask themselves why this situation maintains in the DIT. At the same time, DITSU and USI will really have to sit down and talk to each other; they have to work together and the kind of mutual distrust and more that has been in evidence lately will do no-one any good. For those who opposed the changes, it is a significant victory, that cannot be ignored or denied. For those who opposed some of them, it is a fairly bitter pill but that's just the way it is; the figures speak for themselves.

It would be nice to think that the result of the referendum marks the end to this passionate and angry debate but let's not kid ourselves. The very core of the debate is such that neither side is currently prepared to give any ground and that looks like the way it will continue for some time.

Get the Balance Right

Many of you will be studying over the Christmas period. This is the singularly most distasteful aspect of the semesterised system; it may not be the most important but it is a dreadful prospect. Naturally; the work has to be done but do not let it be at the expense of the festive season. Take some time, step back and relax every now and then. For some of you, this will require a serious effort. Make that effort because it will be worth it. However you view it, Christmas is a very special time for most people. Enjoy it. And good luck in the exams.

Changes Without

It has certainly been a busy few months for the DIT. Dr Goldsmith says that the next few months are going to be very hectic indeed, with all manner of developments coming to fruition. Some of these developments will affect you others are more long term and will have little or no effect for most of you, in particular the physical development plan. Negotiations over the site on the northside are ongoing, though the DIT is optimistic, but development would take years and even the guaranteed development in Aungier street will not be completed until, at the earliest, 1999. Most of you will be gone for good. But don't bury your head because these changes will affect your younger brothers and sisters and maybe even your children. The more immediate changes will of course affect you directly so be aware of what is going on. The DIT has learned in the past couple of years that its students have a voice and are prepared to make it heard. Student activism is vibrant at the moment and that is when it can be most effective. Don't ignore what is going on around you; if you don't like it, say something.

The DIT Examiner wishes all its readers a peaceful and happy Christmas and an equally happy new year.

Editor John Carroll
Associate Editor Colman Byrne
Referendum breakdown work Eanna O Bradaigh
Printed by Datascopé, Enniscorthy Co. Wexford

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Working to the Rules

According the UST's recently published report on the living conditions of third level students in Ireland, an alarmingly high number of students seem to have little idea of their rights as part-time workers. Only 15% of respondents are members of a trade union, more than three quarters have no written contract of employment and a little under two thirds did not have the terms and conditions of their employment explained to them by their employers.

In light of this worrying low figure, we present here an overview of the legislative rights and protections afforded to part-time workers.

The Unfair Dismissals Acts (Regular Part-time Employees) Act, 1991 extends the benefits of a range of protective legislation to regular part-time employees. Regular part-time employees are classed as those who are in continuous employment of the employer for not less than 13 weeks, are normally expected to work not less than 8 hours per week and who, but for the above acts, would be excluded from benefits under the legislation which this Act amends.

Since April 1991, the benefits of the Unfair Dismissals Act, 1977, the Minimum Notice and Terms of Employment Acts, 1973 and 1984 and the Worker Participation (State Enterprises) Acts, 1977 and 1988 have been fully extended to such employees.

The Unfair Dismissals Acts 1977 to 1993

These Acts provide protection for employees from being unfairly dismissed from their jobs by laying down criteria by which dismissals are judged to be unfair and by providing an adjudication system for an employee whose dismissal has been found to be unjustified.

The Acts apply to employees who are normally expected to work eight hours or more per week and who (with certain exceptions) have had at least a year's continuous service with the same employer. The Acts do not cover employees on fixed term or fixed purpose contracts who are let go when the contract expires or the purpose ceases, provided the contract, signed by both parties, specifies that Unfair Dismissals Acts do not apply.

The Acts provide that every dismissal of an employee will be presumed to have been unfair unless the employer can show substantial grounds to justify the dismissal. In order to justify a dismissal, an employer must show that it either resulted from one or more of the following causes:

(i) the capability, competence or qualifications of the employee;
(ii) the employee's conduct;
(iii) the redundancy of the employee;
(iv) the fact that continuation of the employment would contravene another statutory requirement;
(v) that there were other substantial grounds for dismissal.

The redress for unfair dismissal is
(i) reinstatement in the old job, or
(ii) re-engagement in the old job or in a suitable alternative job on conditions which the adjudicating bodies consider reasonable, or
(iii) financial compensation within a maximum of two years pay (the precise amount of compensation can depend on such matters as where the responsibility for the dismissal lay, the measures taken to reduce financial loss or the extent to which negotiated dismissal procedures were followed, if these existed).

The Minimum Notice and Terms of Employment Act, 1972, as amended by the Unfair Dismissals (Regular Part-time Employees) Act, 1991 provides that employees in continuous service with the same employer for at least 13 weeks and who are normally expected to work at least eight hours a week are entitled to a minimum period of notice before the employer may dismiss them. This period varies according to the length of service as follows:

Length of Service Minimum Notice
Thirteen weeks to two years-One week
Two years to five years-Two weeks
Five years to 10 years-Four weeks
Ten years to 15 years-Six weeks
More than 15 years-Eight weeks

The Act also provides that employers are entitled to at least one week's notice from employees who have been employed by them for 13 weeks or more.

The Act does not affect the right of the employer or employee to terminate a contract of employment without notice due to the misconduct of the other party.

The Worker Participation (State Enterprises) Acts, 1977 to 1993, provide for employee participation at board and sub-board level in certain state enterprises.

Elections for worker directors, which are by secret ballot, are held every four years. Employees (including regular part-time employees) of at least 18 years of age, who have one year's continuous service with the enterprise, are eligible to vote at worker director elections.

The Terms of Employment (Information) Act requires employers to provide employees with a written statement of certain particulars of the employee's terms of employment. The Act, in general, applies to any person who is working under a contract of employment or apprenticeship. The Act applies to employment through an employment agency.

In the service of the state (including members of the Garda Siochana and the Defence Forces, civil servants and employees of any local authority, health board, harbour authority or vocational educational committee)

Good News for Students!

*Special competition to win £350 worth of USIT Travel Vouchers.

How can I win?

Buy your Bus Éireann ticket from the S.U. Shop on in the College. Keep your used ticket to attach to an entry form (available from your S.U. Shop) and hand back to the seller.

What do I need?

You need a valid ISIC and Travelsave Stamp (available from USIT) to avail of student fares.

Sample Student Return Fares

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Information and tickets available at S.U. Shops in Bolton St., Kevin St., Mountjoy Sq., Aungier St., and Cathal Brugha St.

(01)8366111

BUS ÉIREANN
Interesting Times Ahead For DIT

The next six months are going to be very important for the DIT, but most people don’t know it. So says Dr Brendan Goldsmith, President of the Institute.

There will be signs of significant progress in relation to a number of developments in the DIT but they will be "bubbling under the surface", and in that sense it’ll be a frustrating time because you won’t see much of the outcome of the activity.

Specifically, Dr Goldsmith is referring to the institute’s physical developments plan, the movement to a faculty based structure and thirdly, the vital conferral on the institute of degree awarding powers.

Dr Goldsmith believes these have been now approved and Frank Brennan, currently Director of DIT Kevin Street has been appointed Director of the Faculty of Engineering. There will also be an announcement soon regarding Jim Hickey, formerly director of DIT Aungier Street.

"I deliberately didn’t want them all out at the same time, for various reasons, not the least of which is the pragmatism. We’ll be putting them out in ones and twos and would to have them all on board by the end of March."

Presumably then, there will be concerted work on the move to a faculty-based structure which of course will throw up a whole new set of questions and problems.

"It’s quite clear that we can’t do a faculty structure in the middle of an academic year so really it has to be September, or the next one, but to think of changing to a faculty structure in the middle of an academic year is potentially chaotic. We’re still hoping to be on board by September ’96."

Meanwhile, at the great leap forward for the DIT seems to be finally underway, the day to day hassles continue. In DIT Kevin Street, there has been a hold up on the setting of some semester exams. Dr Goldsmith believes these have been now sorted out. "Let me put it this way, there’s no-one banging on my door saying there’s a major problem. We knew there was a problem but I think it has been solved."

The problems arose because of semesterisation but the move to greater semesterisation will continue in DIT.

"We’re at a stage where people are asking what they have learned from the semesterised process and it’d be interesting to hear what some of the students say, having gone through it for a while, would they be happy to go back to the old system.

Semesterisation is not a panacea to solve all the problems of being student, it certainly has some very positive aspects and some others that are not so good. Perhaps the biggest problems of all is that to do it really properly requires a rearrangement of the full academic year and that’s not possible for us at the moment."

Another of the ongoing problems facing the institution and the effects it’s having on the students was made clear by the students of Chatham Row in November when they held a demonstration outside the institution and the effects it is having. "I think it’s a period when you just have to get your head down and do the work and realise that you are laying a very solid foundation. I suspect that’s the way it’ll be for us."

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I t's the middle of Christmas, the films on TV have turned out to be a grim mixture of everything you saw in the cinema and ancient festive flicks that you first saw aged six (unless they are on at 2.30am on BBC2 in which case they are likely to be true gems). There is no way a visit will be paid to the city centre as the sales have just commenced so the Dublin looks like a fight scene in a Cecil B. De Mille epic. What is left but the video.

And there is plenty around worth renting for 1995 was a pretty good year for video releases. It was of course the year of Tarantino who, for reasons best known to the wise people in various censor's offices, had two films out at almost the same time. His only two films actually, but what films. Reservoir Dogs is a preposterously confident debut, clever, near and fitter lean. If you haven't seen it, do so and if you have, so what? I get the funny feeling that it was the brilliantly sustained tension as much as the violence that disturbed some people.

With Pulp Fiction, Tarantino went one better in the confidence department, taking disparate stories, playing them out individually and then bringing them together with swaggering ease. Where to start with the wonderful, eminently quotable moments in this stunning film? How about the great Christopher Walken's sincerity during the watch story? For all its nasty, amoral characters and casual violence, this is a massively entertaining film.

At the other end of the spectrum was the thoughtful, moving Shawshank Redemption. Tim Robbins is superb as the banker sent to prison for a crime of passion, Morgan Freeman his usual marvellous self as the long timer who can get you things. There are one or two quite harrowing scenes but mostly this is a film of quiet and deep dignity. Top quality, rather old fashioned, adult film making.

There was great dignity on view also in Ed Wood, the loving, beautifully filmed story of Ed Wood, widely acknowledged as the worst director of film. At the beginning of the film, the source of the great aforementioned dignity is that of Martin Landau who plays the ageing, dying Bela Lugosi whom Wood befriended. It is a beautiful performance in Tim Burton's best film to date.

Equally impressive is Paul Newman in a little seen film called Nobody's Fool. He plays Sully, acerbic, weary but ultimately thoroughly decent, the single most important person in his small New Jersey town. It's a small film in which not much happens but with a sparkling script and a clutch of lovely, understated performances, it is one to look out for.

Tarantino wasn't the only film maker with two excellent films out this year. The prolific Ken Loach gave us Raining Stones and Ladybird Ladybird. The first, his warmest and most accessible film to date told the story of a couple trying to raise the money for the daughter's communion dress while the latter, angrier film dealt with the horrific experiences of a mother at the hands of the social services in England. Chissy Rock gives an incredible, passionate performance as the angry, self-destructive woman determined to keep her children. Both Loach's films focused on the luckless and downtrodden in society. The New Zealand film, Once Were Warriors, focused on similar people, living a sometimes brutal life in areas that are to all intents, ghettos. It is an uncompromising film, difficult to watch but undeniably powerful and Rena Owens is terrific as the brutalised mother trying to hold it all together.

In an altogether lighter vein was Woody Allen's stylish, very funny Bullets Over Broadway, which poked fun at playwrighting pretentiousness and the theatre world in general. The acting was spot on, the one liners all present and correct and it looked glorious.

It is a rare time indeed when documentaries are among the best films of the year. Hoop Dreams is such a film, a three hour documentary following the fortunes of two young black kids as they attempt to make a success of themselves in college basketball. There are heroes and villains, highs and lows and a piercing insight into life for these kids and just what they are up against. Very honest and very moving. Hoop Dreams looked at a version of the American dream as it was played out. Robert Redford's Quiz Show took a look at what happened in the 1950s when the dream went sour. This stylish, elegant film told the story of a game show in which certain contestants were given the answers in advance when it suited the advertisers and programmers and the congressional investigation that followed.

Perhaps overshadowing everything was Spielberg's masterly, haunting Schindler's List. This unflinching account of Oskar Schindler and those he helped to save from the holocaust is a monumental achievement which should be seen by everyone. It is an astonishing piece of work.

In the world of the action flick, it was a toss up between the massive excesses of James Cameron's True Lies and the lean, dashtrophobia of Speed. The first had spectacular action sequences, a knowing feel and great comedic performance from Jamie Lee Curtis during the sagging middle bit but the second was so concentrated and so simple that the viewer was enthralled from the opening. What the hell, rent them both and see for yourself. By the way, the star of Speed is not Keann Reeves. It is the bus.
DITSU REFERENDUM, DEC. 1995:
THE BREAKDOWN

**Motion 1**

| Total Poll | 2474 | 100.00% |
| Spoiled Votes | 48 | 1.94% |
| Total Valid Poll | 2426 |  |
| Yes | 2041 | 84.13% |
| No | 385 | 15.87% |

Motion Carried: Yes

**Motion 2**

| Total Poll | 2465 | 100.00% |
| Spoiled Votes | 30 | 1.22% |
| Total Valid Poll | 2435 |  |
| Yes | 2102 | 86.32% |
| No | 333 | 13.68% |

Motion Carried: Yes

**Motion 3**

| Total Poll | 2415 | 100.00% |
| Spoiled Votes | 108 | 4.47% |
| Total Valid Poll | 2307 |  |
| Yes | 1467 | 63.59% |
| No | 840 | 36.41% |

Motion Carried: Yes

**Motion 4**

| Total Poll | 2460 | 100.00% |
| Spoiled Votes | 54 | 2.20% |
| Total Valid Poll | 2406 |  |
| Yes | 1757 | 73.03% |
| No | 649 | 26.97% |

Motion Carried: Yes

**Motion 5**

| Total Poll | 2477 | 100.00% |
| Spoiled Votes | 68 | 2.75% |
| Total Valid Poll | 2409 |  |
| Yes | 1785 | 74.10% |
| No | 624 | 25.90% |

Motion Carried: Yes

**Motion 6**

| Total Poll | 2472 | 100.00% |
| Spoiled Votes | 53 | 2.14% |
| Total Valid Poll | 2419 |  |
| Yes | 1843 | 76.19% |
| No | 576 | 23.81% |

Motion Carried: Yes

**Motion 7**

| Total Poll | 2474 | 100.00% |
| Spoiled Votes | 59 | 2.38% |
| Total Valid Poll | 2415 |  |
| Yes | 2068 | 85.63% |
| No | 347 | 14.37% |

Motion Carried: Yes

**Motion 8**

| Total Poll | 2471 | 100.00% |
| Spoiled Votes | 77 | 3.12% |
| Total Valid Poll | 2394 |  |
| Yes | 1835 | 76.65% |
| No | 559 | 23.35% |

Motion Carried: Yes
DITSU REFERENDUM, DEC. 1995:

THE BREAKDOWN

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Yes: 1762 (73.75%)
No: 627 (26.25%)

Motion Carried Yes

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Yes: 1687 (71.91%)
No: 659 (28.09%)

Motion Carried Yes

Winning Ways

The Association of Physics Technicians was formed in the mid 80s by a group of enthusiastic graduates who had completed the Technician Diploma in Applied Science (Physics Option).

The aim of the APT was mainly social, academic and was designed to promote issues which the members felt were important.

Every year the APT awards a prize to the student who submits the best project in the Science (Physics Option). The prize has helped to promote the course and helped graduates to get that first job.

This year, the APT prize was renamed as the Joe Guy Award in honour of the association's founder member and lecturer in the physics department of DIT Kevin Street for 30 years, Joe Guy.

This year's winner of the award, Kevin Fennell, is now working with ArtT.

Pictured at the recent presentation ceremony in DIT Kevin Street were (l to r): Sandy Campbell, Technician, Dr Matt Hussey, Molly Guy, Kevin Fennell, Dr Brendan Goldsmith and Brendan Holmes, Technician.

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Yes: 1930 (80.28%)
No: 474 (19.72%)

Motion Carried Yes

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Yes: 1930 (80.15%)
No: 478 (19.85%)

Motion Carried Yes

Due to circumstances beyond our control, some of the sponsors for the DIT Rugby Team's recent tour in America were left out of an article on the tour in the last issue of the DIT Examiner. We are more than happy to correct this omission.

DITSU and the DIT Rugby Team would like to thank the following for their sponsorship: Montague's Sandwich Bar, Marlborough St and Middle Abbey Street, Riverside Fitness, The New Powers Hotel and Byrne's Cash and Carry.
Confessions of a Ball Breaker

Although to step from the maestro of Academics one is drawn to the Students' Union like a lager-laden underdog to the bar, it's the deadly lure of the coffee waiting through the air like the famed Bisto gravy or the rattling tail of nicotine slowly slithering through the doors.

Perhaps it's the sound of music and chat pulling at those primal fibres, urging social legacy like an evolutionary legacy or perhaps still, it is the same song of two pieces of twenty releasing 15 balls to this bruising world, calling to the fires, marvelling at the flames licking up his trousers, sir, shag off it smaller children by taking out his teeth and flapping his own beard and makes a somewhat precarious living by taking elaborate wood carvings and whittling them into sticks utterly lost on him, and takes his paring knife to the furniture.

It is no use telling William that he looks like a pimp and doesn't it?

This place is not for the faint-hearted. If you have the evasive qualities of Mohammed Ali and pass unscathed through the projectile breaking of the guy whom I only know as the "guy with the mad locks" (to whom I would like to extend my apologies) and place your twenties on your chosen table then you are almost assured of a wait.

You must use that wait wisely. Prepare for battle, observe the inadequacies and shortcomings of your welding warden for so when the eight ball finally drops you are a lean, mean potting machine. Eight balls between me and Cassar's thumbs up. My opponent breaks - not the projectile variety. First blood to him. One red down. "The guy with the mad locks" breaks on the table beside me. He sinks to reds and an innocent bystander. He only left the lecture to blow his nose. Poor bastard. The shout of "fore!" came too late. Meanwhile back to my plight. Mr. Roman friend is still on the table. I'm presently sustaining detrimental blows. Oasis play my Funeral march... "you gotta roll with it"... Jesus but this looks like an underage All the while getting things like an aboriginal. Still, it could be worse. I could be an astronaut with diarrhoea.

With one final blow of his cue, the black ball drops. Gee thanks. After momentary congrats, I gaze blankly at the plumes of smoke rising from the 300lb graved-rugby buff and wonder if I could have found a charity more worthy of 40p than the shack that just swallowed me and my surfboard front first. I hope I cause a blockade somewhere.

Two hours later I'm hanging over my Pizza Special (go Hawaiian), mumbling expiriences relevant to my conqueror and I'm a good loser. If I am, well, we leave that till another mention, gazing bleary-eyed at the bars on the window wondering if they're laughing at me. I am in bondage.

From the "Therapeutic Ravings of a Post-Therapy Pool Addict", by Marcus Kelly, DIT Bolton Street.
The End of An Era for CBS

Brendan Keyes, Secretary Registrar of DIT Cathal Brugha Street will retire at the beginning of the next term.

On behalf of the students in Cathal Brugha Street, I would like to wish him the best of luck in his retirement.

Brendan has been working in VEC/DIT for 40 years. He has been in Cathal Brugha Street for the last 18 years. During that time he has always had an open door policy and has been accessible to all students who have passed through Cathal Brugha Street. He has given his heart and soul to DIT but in particular he has given 18 years to the students of DIT Cathal Brugha Street.

So for this place, his retirement marks the end of an era. We hope that Brendan and his family enjoy his retirement. I am confident that the great family atmosphere he has created will live on.

I wish to thank him personally for all he has done to help the Students' Union and on behalf of the students I would like to pay tribute to one of the greatest people in the history of Cathal Brugha Street.

Colin Joyce, Site President, DIT Cathal Brugha Street Students' Union.

Sports Results in Cathal Brugha Street

Men's Soccer Div 1
21/11/95
CBS v ABC Walkover for CBS
6-12-95
Dundalk RTC 1 CBS 2

Mens Soccer Div 2
14-11-95
DIT Bolton St 3 CBS 0

Mixed Hockey
23-11-95
Waterford RTC 5 CBS 0

5-12-95
Aungier St v CBS Walkover for CBS

Basketball HESF
Women's
16-11-95
Letterkenny RTC v CBS Walkover for CBS

Men's
16-11-95
Letterkenny RTC 30 CBS 35

The Yoga Club is up and running in the old DIT building in Rathmines in the drama room on Thursday evenings between 6-7.30pm

"Book News is Good News"

Especially for all students and lecturers.
We have now opened our new college bookshop in 3 Kevin St.

Please Please let us know the titles you require or may be recommending and we will have them on our shelves posthaste / forthwith / immediately or even sooner!

For all text book requirements, look no further or farther than "Alan Hanna's"

New College Bookshop
3 Kevin Street Lower
Phone: 4751828
Open 'Til 7pm Mon - Fri
Mixed Fortunes for DIT Sport

Women's GAA

The DIT women's team took on Colaiste Íde of Finglas last week in a very entertaining match on a cold and windy afternoon. DIT proved the stronger and a disappointed Ide team left the VEC grounds in Terenure under a bit of a cloud. The final score was DIT 4-03 Colaiste Íde 3-01

Hurling
University College Dublin 3-6 DIT 2-6

The early dominance of DIT was negated by UCD in this Higher Education Hurling League Intermediate game played in Belfield. A goal in the final minute of the first half saw UCD draw level at 2-2 to DIT's 1-5. In the second half, the home team scored two points before the DIT responded with a point. UCD then put over another point which was answered by a goal for DIT. It was looking good but this was to be the last score for the visitors. UCD hammered home another goal and point to emerge victorious in this hard fought match.

UCD 5-9 DIT 2-5

Both teams in this Higher Education Hurling League Senior clash at Belfield had two points going into the match. The visitors had defeated Queens while the hosts had comprehensively beaten University of Ulster, Jordanstown and then suffered a goal defeat at the hands of UCG. UCD put two points on the board before DIT opened their account with a well taken point. This was followed by a second point for the visitors but after that DIT were out of contention as two UCD goals and a point were answered in first half by a single DIT point.

In the second half, UCD stuck in three more goals before DIT could respond with a couple of their own but UCD finished off the game with a brace of points giving them a comprehensive victory.

Senior Football
Tuesday, 5th December

DIT (1-11) v DCU (0-7)

DIT now go on to play Trinity and Dundalk, having won all their games to date. DIT had comprehensively beaten University of Ulster, Jordanstown and then suffered a goal defeat at the hands of UCG. UCD put two points on the board before DIT opened their account with a well taken point. This was followed by a second point for the visitors but after that DIT were out of contention as two UCD goals and a point were answered in first half by a single DIT point.

In the second half, UCD stuck in three more goals before DIT could respond with a couple of their own but UCD finished off the game with a brace of points giving them a comprehensive victory.

THE IRISH TIMES
DITSU Simplex

CROSSWORD Competition

PRIZE: First 3 correct entries drawn will each receive a £20 gift voucher for DITSU Students Union Shop.

RULES: Only open to members of the DIT colleges. Employees of DITSU and THE IRISH TIMES are not eligible to enter. No Photocopies - Entries close: Wednesday, 10th Jan

SEND TO: THE IRISH TIMES / DITSU, Crossword Competition, The DIT Examiner. (to be dropped into local Union office)

NAME ____________________________
COLLEGE ____________________________
YEAR ____________________________
COURSE ____________________________
STUDENT NO. ____________________________

THE IRISH TIMES
FOR THE TIMES WE LIVE IN

Student Price 55p

Last issue's winners were: Edel Noonan (DIT Kevin St), Conleth Ryan (DIT Bolton St), J. Condron (DIT Bolton St)

THE IRISH TIMES
FOR THE TIMES WE LIVE IN

ACROSS
8. Part added to the end of a book (8)
9. Died down, grew less (6)
11. I'd bear it, the invective barrage (8)
12. Part of the eye which receives the image (6)
13. Sam tries to get the sweets (8)
15. You, of old (4)
17. Medieval nobleman of Castille (7)
19. Comments, observations (7)
22. At what time (8)
24. Curved or hooked, like an eagle's nose (8)
27. Water in the form of mist (6)
29. Cautious, tactful, circumspect (8)
30. Said to the beautiful man (6)
31. Cerebral (6)
32. Set free, let go (8)

DOWN
1. Do this to the mainbrace and serve the drinks (6)
2. Use of soothing drugs to calm a patient (6)
3. One who pleads for another. (8)
4. Make or become rusty. (7)
5. Type of hat, casual and country. (6)
6. Bird that imitates human speech. (6)
7. Take one at about 11 am perhaps. (8)
14. Food or lake. (4)
16. Cut down, felled (4)
18. Queries R on what he needs. (8)
20. Is he alive among jealousy. (8)
21. Approbation. (8)
23. 30,000 square metres. (7)
25. Reside to action, urge on (6)
26. Standards of perfection to be aimed at. (6)

THE TIMES WE LIVE IN

Saiselian youth enterprises is an alternative educational programme for young teenagers who are marginalised by the educational system.

It runs a number of programmes including drama, pottery, enterprise, employability skills, literacy, computers, personal and social development. The project engages with 10 young people and aims to bridge the gap between employment and unemployment. The core principles of its methodology include participative centres learning, development of self esteem, learning to stand on your own two feet, finding the creative spark within. The programmes are certified by the National Council for Vocational Awards.

The project is promoted by the Salesians who provide the basic resources but the EU and the state are being targeted for funding, to no avail so far.

Therefore we are extremely grateful to the Students' Union of DIT Cathal Brugha Street for their generous fund raising efforts. The money will be used to develop a business plan and feasibility study which should help to secure more ongoing funding.
A!fter the high profile protests of 1994, few would have been at all surprised if the first term of the new academic year was a quiet little affair, a time to settle down, take stock of what had been achieved and get on with the business of graduating. Alas, for the DIT, this was not to be; within weeks of the beginning of term students from DIT Cathal Brugha Street based in Rathmines were threatening strike action unless something, anything, was done about the truly appalling conditions in their common room (the term is used loosely and with tongue in cheek).

A quick look at the room was enough to understand their grievances - one small room, with half a dozen small tables, two video machines, a soft drinks machine and a coffee machine, it was sufficient for about 15 people, and not the 300 who attend Rathmines. The room was smoky, uncomfortable and clearly inadequate. The situation was made worse by the fact that DIT President, Dr Brendan Goldsmith was seemingly unaware of the problem. It is true that such situations should have been tackled at a local level but this one had not been.

Following representations from the Students' Union in Cathal Brugha Street, promises of some improvements were made, though to look at the common room today, not a great deal seems to have been done. There are still far too many people packed in the room and it seems likely that we have not heard the last of this one.

In November, the usually unobtrusive and long suffering students in DIT Chatham Row finally decided that enough was enough. Utterly fed up with the completely inadequate facilities in Chatham Row, as grim looking a building as you are likely to see in the city, they took their talent and their instruments onto the streets and protested in the noisiest, most entertaining way possible. Not even the rain dampened their spirits: when the equipment had to be taken inside, they remained outside, singing beneath the protection of umbrellas. It was a memorable day, not least for the fact that students and student union representatives from other DIT sites came along to support the demonstration, hopefully dispelling the notion that the students of Chatham Row are out of sight and out of mind. Again, some improvements have been promised but what DIT's musical wing needs is a purpose built facility and we are a few years away from that yet.

On November 15th, the students of the DIT joined with students from other third level institutes throughout the city - Trinity College a notable exception - for a march through Dublin to highlight student hardship, the continuing failure of the Government to tackle the problem of access to third level education and to demand an increase in student representation. The sceptics were well and truly silenced as thousands of extremely well behaved students made their noisy way to Molesworth Street where speeches were made and music was played. The march, and their were others in Belfast, Cork and Galway, was the high point of a week of action which included soup kitchens across the DIT and the occupation by members of the DITSU executive of Democratic Left's headquarters in Abbey Street. This was undertaken to highlight students' dissatisfaction with the party's performance in relation to education issues, about which it was so vociferous while in opposition. It resulted in a meeting with the Minister for Social Welfare and Democratic Left leader, Fionnuala de Rossa.

This month, there was a referendum to change sections of DITSU's constitution. It was the source of great interest in colleges throughout the country and raised hackles in some areas. All motions were passed by a large majority.

A strike, a demonstration, an occupation and a referendum and it's only December. There are six months left in the academic year. Judging from what's happened so far, anything could happen...
What with the season that's in it, and bearing in mind the fact that DITSU's exec firmly believes in Santy, we decided to ask the individual members what exactly it was they most wanted for Christmas. The only stipulation given was that they had to keep financial practicalities and the law in mind when making their choices.

Colin Joyce, Site President in DIT Cathal Brugha Street's SU expressed salivating desire for a blow-up Niamh Bhreathnach (or was it a salivating desire to blow up Niamh Bhreathnach?). He also wants an office at the top of the new extension to Cathal Brugha Street so that he can pick her off with the aid of high-powered rifle because "she has spoiled Christmas for everyone". Finally, he wants a big green field for DIT.

Santy replies: You are a sick puppy, Colin, and an uncharitable one at that. And as for your request for a big green field, I can only think that it has something to do with the fact that you are of the land.

Colin's deputy site president, Patricia Moran would like to be a princess, to have a trip round the world in a hot air balloon with a stop off in Lapland to see Santa.

Santy replies: Hello. Earth calling Patricia. I'll be working when you make your little trip to Lapland. You know, Santy! Christmas Presents?

Over in Aungier Street, Sinéad Pidgeon wants free line dancing lessons for all first years and to wake up on Christmas morning with Steve Gately wrapped around her.

Santy replies: On count one: No. Under no circumstances whatsoever and on count two, this would require the acquiescence of Mr Gately, a member of the well-known singing combo, Boyzone, I am told. I have spoken to Steve and I'm afraid the news is not good. Would Steve Davis do?

Dan Wade, President in Aungier Street's SU definitely does not want Boyzone and he wants Santa to come along and take away Sinéad and her line dancing.

Santy replies: No fear.

Helen Ryan, Site President in DIT Kevin Street's SU wants a car, a mobile phone, a trip to America and a job for next year.

Santy replies: I'm not sure what you're getting at Helen but that is a bit of a tall order. Can you drive?

Dermot Blake, Deputy Site President in Kevin Street would like nothing more than the restoration of his sanity which he claims he lost on the first day of working with the students' union, way back on November 15th.

Santy replies: Do I look like a shaggin' miracle worker? Eh? Eh?

Colin Costello, Deputy Site President in Bolton Street wants to be Taisiech, to be stranded on a desert island with Claudia Schiffer and two blow-up Nimah Bhreathnachs. Oh, and a surprise. And not to have to organise matches on rainy afternoons so that students don't have to live in poverty.

Santy replies: Colin, bit confused here. Do you want to be stranded on the island with Ms Schiffer while being Taoiseach? I think you might have a tough time justifying your absence from the Dail. As for the blow-up dolls, I am passing on to Colin Joyce the number of a really good therapist. Why don't you give him a call and you can go together? Just a suggestion.

Overall DITSU President Colman Byrne has one wish for Christmas and that is simply to be President of USI.

Santy replies: Colman, I think someone already has that job but you can always have a go at getting it yourself in March.

Mark Lee and Padraig Staunton from Mountjoy Square and Alison Phegan from Bolton Street have sent no letters to the great bearded present giver and have not phoned him either and will therefore be getting bugger all this Christmas.