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Chatham Row

Strikes the

Right Notes

The third level students in DIT Chatham Row, College of Music, last week finally threw down the gauntlet. In the fashion that has become all to familiar to DIT authorities, the students took to the streets in protest at the lack of decent facilities in their college.

These being students of music, the day-long strike had a festive feel to it and performance was the order of the day. The students entertained themselves, the representatives from other DIT students' unions and the many curious passers by with virtually non-stop music, including a medley of rock classics, lively classical pieces and even that infectious piece from the Guinness ad. There was even dancing in the Streets.

But this was far from a frivolous day out; the point of the strike was very serious indeed.

"Basically, we decided to do it because we're trying for ages to get the college authorities to do something about the lack of facilities in the college," said Ms Sinead Collins, DITSU convenor. "We felt that we'd been banging our heads off walls for so long and we realised that if we were producing the goods with these sort of facilities they would allow us to continue doing so and so we decided to get out there and do something."

She pointed out that music education is different than other types of third level education.

"Our requirements aren't necessarily more, just different, we do require more space or different types of space. By this Ms Collins means that big lecture halls are not needed, but more small rooms are, for practice and one to one teaching, which is an integral part of the work in the college of music. In terms of specific problems facing the music students, there are only five practice rooms for 120 students, the performance hall is not even big enough for the performers, far less the performers and an audience. More general student grievances include a tiny common room, the absence of a smoking area and the lack of an office, or even a phone for the DITSU convenor, Ms Collins and she said that "DIT Kevin Street will now have the joy of a choir every Tuesday evening in the Gleseson Hall."

"No-one thought they'd come down here with a prefabricated college and say 'here's your solution'. Our solution is ultimately a whole new building which is built specifically for music education and not another building which they half pretend to be a music building - Rathmines for example."

Ms Collins said that students are slightly worried about accepting temporary solutions "because Adelaide Road was a temporary solution and Chatham Row was originally a temporary solution."

What is going to happen in the long term is impossible to guess. The President of DIT, Dr Brendan Goldsmith, informed The DIT Examiner that until the students made specific representations to him in light of the demonstration, he was not in a position to make a comment.

more pics on back page
Will the DIT Take Note?

It is impossible to escape the irony: just as the DIT is gearing up to host the second phase of the high profile Music Education National Debate, with esteemed specialists arriving from all over the world to debate pressing issues relating to Music Education in Ireland, the students of the DIT Chatham Row, the College of Music, are out on the streets of Dublin, protesting about the utter lack of facilities available to them. Even more ironic is the fact that the College of Music’s concert band and choral society will be providing the entertainment in a musical showcase highlighting the debate which will take place on November 11th, at the end of the first day of the Convention. Were it not such a serious matter, it would be hysterical.

The facilities in DIT Chatham Row are woefully inadequate. It is that simple and has been for a very long time. There are five practice rooms for 120 students, the performance room isn’t even big enough for the band, never mind an audience and the drama students have been shunted up to the former College of Commerce building in Rathmines which seems to be rapidly going to seed. Specific facilities for music education aside, the students have no canteen, a common room that is little more than a bad joke, no smoking area and the convenor of the fledgling students’ union does not even have a phone to carry out business or a room in which to meet people. Letters have been written by the students to the DIT—but for some reason no response has been forthcoming to any of them. Why not?

Even had no letters been sent, and no representations been made, it is impossible not to be aware of the state of DIT Chatham Row and know that something should have been done a long time ago. The staff in that site and in Adelaide Road, and indeed in Rathmines, were surely aware that all was far from rosy, and that music students have specific needs, yet once again it was left to the students themselves to make the decisive move and once again those in one DIT site were supported by students and students’ union representatives from across the DIT. Now it seems that some improvements may be made, but why now? Is there a complete lack of communication within the DIT, and why was it only after direct action from unhappy and angry students that some conciliatory moves were made?

If the DIT has to be embarrassed into taking some action every time its students have a serious complaint then there is something seriously wrong with student-staff relations. Surely they know by now that DITSU is more than willing to take to the streets and make its point in the clearest manner possible.

The DIT is rightly proud of the achievements and talents of its students and happily puts up its chest like a well pleased parent when they do succeed, but if it is prepared to shabbily treat those same students or ignore their reasonable demands for improvement, then it is guilty of a nasty hypocrisy.

If you can’t stand the heat, you’re normal

You breathe comes in short, useless gasps as you make your way along, the nausea coming in intermittent waves. Your vision blurs as the sweat rolls into your eyes, stinging horribly. You feel slowly, bumping into others equally afflicted. There isn’t enough air and what there is hot, fetid and has already been through too many lungs. Your hands are slick with sweat, your clothes wet through, clinging to your pallid skin. Around you, others slip to the floor, overcome by the stale, sickening atmosphere. Half mad with fever, they crawl away towards the sanctuary of the nearest station. There is nothing for it but to get out of Kevin Street’s ‘new building’.

Anyone who spends longer than 10 minutes in the building will surely vouch that the above is not that much of an exaggeration. People are suffering in the heat, people are sweating in the middle of October, the air is hot and unhealthy and despite a number of representations to the authorities in DIT Kevin Street, nothing has been done about the disgraceful situation. There have been some mutterings about thermostats and timers and things but if this cannot be remedied in college of TECHNOLOGY, then there is something seriously wrong. Everywhere you go in the building, you will hear, from those who have the energy, complaints about the unbearable wall of dead and hot air that greets those who venture into its corridors and rooms. The contention that the situation cannot be remedied is unacceptable; it’s not as if the authorities do not know what’s been going on because it has been like this for years and simply appears to be getting worse. People cannot function properly in this stifling atmosphere and should not have to function in it at all. The invisible people who can fix things in this building should wake up and do something. There is no excuse for this.
Carnation Week 

Volunteers Urgently Needed 

To Help Us

During Our Carnation Week

Monday 13th to Sunday 19th November, 1995

To Sell Carnations to Help Multiple Sclerosis Sufferers and their Carers

The Multiple Sclerosis National Centre is a nurse run centre available to people with multiple sclerosis and other neurological disabilities. It is a respite care facility and provides short term care in situations of crisis. It gives new hope, support and a challenging concept. The whole centre has been designed to encourage people with disabilities to live as independently as possible.

Useful Information

- Monday 13th to Sunday 19th November, 1995
- To Sell Carnations
- Help Multiple Sclerosis Sufferers and Carers

Good News for Students!

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

How can I win?

Buy your USIT Travel ticket from the S.U. Shop or in the College. Keep your used ticket to attach to an entry form (available from the 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Return Fare</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ballina</td>
<td>£10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belfast</td>
<td>£10.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carlow</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clonmel</td>
<td>£6.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cork</td>
<td>£12.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Information and tickets available at S.U. Shops in Bolton St., Kevin St., Mountjoy Sq., Aungier St., and Cathal Brugha St.
A Sport For All
The Young Blades

Fencing- the word conjures up images of swashbuckling pirates slashing at each other with big sharp swords. But the reality is quite different. Fencing, the art of attack and defence with a sword, combines elements of brute strength, finesse, delicacy and using your brain. It also has similarities to the martial arts in that there are several regular attacks and defences which can be used. So where did Fencing come from?

Well, it developed from the Middle Ages when large swords were used to crack your enemy’s armour and eventually his skull. As the centuries and man’s military knowledge moved on, this mode of battle became obsolete and the art of fencing was born.

In the 16th-18th centuries duelling became a popular method of settling disputes and several fencing schools were set up to cater for the demand. After duelling was abolished fencing became a sport with regularised rules and in 1896 it took its place as one of the Olympic sports.

Today the modern sport of fencing uses three weapons- the foil, epee and sabre. Points or touches are scored by hitting your opponent’s body. A bout is over when one fencer reaches fifteen points. It is played on a piste, which is 2 m wide and 12m long. If you step out of this you are penalised. To guard against injury fencers wear a protective jacket and helmet.

Today fencing is played in several clubs in Ireland including several colleges. DIT Kevin Street’s fencing club was established five years ago and despite being mere babies in the world of fencing came second in last year’s inter varsities, losing out by only one point. This year we are hoping to send a cross-DIT team to the inter varsities so we need as many fencers as possible.

So if you’re looking for something different to try, a sport that will tax your brain as well as your body, give fencing a go. We train every Tuesday and Thursday from 6.30pm-8.00pm in Kevin Street’s gym and all are welcome. Full training and equipment will be provided. Give it a go - I guarantee you’ll enjoy it!!

Ciarán Crosbie

3, South Anne St, Dublin 2.
Ph: 6774339

DIT STUDENT SPECIALS

6" Ham & Cheese + Regular Beverage
6" Tuna + Regular Beverage
6" Subway Club + Regular Beverage
6" Irish Sausage + Regular Beverage

£2.20

Offer only applies on production of DIT Student card
REEL Life

The Sublime, the Stupid and Stallone

Species is about as dumb as a film can get without the reel actually stopping half way through wondering what to do next. It hasn’t got an original thought or idea in its wind tunnel of a head and often makes the cardinal sin in a horror/thriller of causing the audience to howl with laughter. BUT, if you can pass these and other numerous faults, and accept it for what it is, a 50’s type sci-fi B-movie with 90s effects - then it is at least passable entertainment.

Newcomer Natasha Henstridge, a former model who is required here to be no more than very pretty and vacant, plays a creature created from the DNA of an alien and a human, who escapes from the military lab where she has been kept since embryo. As human, she is a model looking citizen, if innocent in the ways of the world in LA, largely another world anyway. But as she determinedly hunts for a mate (and I do not mean someone to go shopping with), she tends to turn into a HR Giger designed creature and kill whatever is bothering her. Her scientist creator (Ben Kingsley) gets together a team of experts to track down and kill Sil, as she is known, before the world turns into the set of Aliens. This team includes a couple of scientists (Alfred Molina, Marg Helgenberger) a tough guy (Michael Madsen) and a guy with ESP, Forest Whitaker, whose pronouncements generate most of the laughs.

There’s a lot of semi serious meddling with science babble spouted, a good deal of messy violence and director Roger Donaldson’s heart really doesn’t seem to be in it, but it’s not the worst example of preposterous Hollywood rubbish to hit the screens. It would have to be an awful lot worse to warrant that title. If only its tongue had been a little more obviously in its cheek, instead of shooting out the back of one unfortunate character’s head, it would have been a lot more fun.

Land and Freedom

Ken Loach’s latest and biggest film, is also probably his most accessible to date, removed, though not too far, from the uncomfortable in your face depictions of modern working class Britain such as Ladybird Ladybird and Raining Stones.

Land and Freedom, a story from the Spanish Revolution, stars Ian Hart as David, an idealistic, impressionistic young Liverpudlian who leaves England to fight Fascism in Spain in the Autumn of 1936. He meets up with a truly motley crew of men and women in the militia, all determined to defeat Franco’s forces, all utterly convinced of the justness of their cause. Friendships are forged and love in a found with Blanca (Rosana Pastor) but his political naivete is shattered by events that occur around him and the cause of the revolution is tainted by encroaching Stalinism, with one sort of repression being exchanged for another. The black and white of political and youthful idealism gradually turns to the impenetrable grey fog of the real world.

Land and Freedom is a moving, and memorable film, with a script from Jim Allen that rarely strays into polemicism, and, once again in a Loach film a clutch of fine, very believable and natural performances from a mostly unknown cast. Large action scenes are new to Loach but he does a good job, the understatement of the action and the general absence of lingering bloody shots not detracting from their effectiveness. Battle here is not glorified. The film also succeeds in rooting itself in the 90s as the story unfolds through a series of letters read by David’s granddaughter following his death. The location may have changed, and the themes may be larger, but the film is still peopled with the kind of characters Loach is most interested in, the disaffected but proud who fight the greatest odds. It is a fine achievement.

Assassins

Ken Loach and fellow freedom fighters in Land and Freedom

Ian Hart and fellow freedom fighters in Land and Freedom

Assassins thinks it is a character study and tries hard with moody lighting and supposedly thoughtful conversations about regret and loneliness from Sylvester Stallone and Julianne Moore, respectively, the ageing hit man and electronics genius who team up as wannabe top killer Antonio Banderas stalks them with a silenced gun and an impenetrable accent. What it actually is is an OK thriller with Lethal Weapons director Richard Donner trying hard but not really coming up with anything particularly interesting. The use of silenced weapons during the action scenes is a neat innovation, which shows that the sound and fury of gun shots and explosions are not always necessary generating excitement and tension in a film such as this. The problem with the film, aside from its pretensions and half hearted noshin feel, is the central character. Stallone has become too much of a cartoon character to convince as someone who is either unsure of himself or ever really in danger. His character should be small and neat and deadly. Instead he is big and bulging.

"I swear, I think the vest looks nice you."

5
Delivering More Shocks to the System

On November 17 last year, International Students’ Day, 10,000 students (or 15,000, depending on who you believe) took to the streets of Dublin in a demonstration of anger and solidarity that exceeded all expectations. It should have received massive publicity in the papers the following day but since the Government was busy imploding, the event, given its size, received scant mention. Coincidence?

This year, since November 17th falls on a Friday and that in all likelihood this would be bad news for any proposed student event, the march will take place on November 15th, the previous Wednesday. The same day as Ireland take on Portugal in the most important match since the last one. Presuming that we make it through, take a guess as to what the national media will deem as the sexier topic. Two coincidences? Conspiracy? Bloody unfortunate!

Colm Keaveney, President of USI, is not perturbed by the fact that the dates seem to be conspiring again to deny the students of Ireland the front page of the papers the following day. The logic is understandable: if students and their local unions do not have to spend money on a Friday and that in all likelihood this would be bad news for any proposed student event, the march will take place on November 15th, the previous Wednesday. The same day as Ireland take on Portugal in the most important match since the last one. Presuming that we make it through, take a guess as to what the national media will deem as the sexier topic. Two coincidences? Conspiracy? Bloody unfortunate!

Colm Keaveney believes that students at a local level who participated at a national level last year are impregnated with the idea that direct action must happen. I am confident that the most efficient way to send a clear message to the decision making agencies is to “rock the regional centres.”

“Tie that it will have a far bigger impact to have demos in four different places. I believe that it will show that USI is trying to accommodate participation.”

If the marches do not attract 40,000 people, this will not be the end of the world, he says.

“We will still be sending a clear message to the decision making agencies that there are a lot of people out there who are not happy with the system. It’s not a lot of students in relation to the number so attending third level education. I am optimistic because a precedent has been set. The students want this.”

With the abolition of fees for undergraduates, the single biggest, or at least the most obvious, source of anger for third level students, has been removed. This year the campaign is concentrated upon three issues: the ending of student hardship (through the improvement of maintenance grants and the restoration of social welfare rights for students), improving access to third level education and improving student representation.

Bob Jordan, Deputy President of USI, accepts that the issues, by virtue of numbers if nothing else, may seem “cosmetic”, less simple to grasp than a simple call for an end to fees, but he says that by concentrating on the emotive issue of student hardship, the rest will simply follow.

He reeks off a list of facts that, taken together, add up to a fairly damning indictment of government (British and Irish) policy in relation to third level education. In the Republic, the maintenance grant has actually decreased in real terms by 20% in the last ten years; in Northern Ireland, it was actually cut by 8% and there are proposed further cuts. In relation to access to third level education, the figures are equally unflattering to the government: this year, 62,500 students applied for places under the CAO/CAS system. Initially, there were only 29,000 places available, and few more thousand were made available later. The arithmetic is not difficult.

The figures speak for themselves, but they do lack the immediacy of something as emotive as college fees and the issue of student representation on college governing bodies, though vitally important, is more than likely even more nebulous to many students. Bob Jordan does not believe that this will pose a problem in terms of generating a momentum for the campaign.

“I think that what’s going to happen is that the focus is going to be on the maintenance issue, but they are all interlinked. Hardship and access are interlinked. If students had better representation, they’d have better funding. They are all linked to the hardship issue, that’s the only way we can present a serious problem.”

“At the end of the day, by turning out onto the streets there’s going to be more money in their pockets.”
Making a Fresh Start in the DIT

Freshers weeks were held across the DIT recently. They were an opportunity for the students' unions to make an early good impression on the new students, to show what they can do in the area of entertainment, and for the students themselves to have a mostly pointless introduction to college life. According to some students, it was impossible to get any event in every college site but perhaps the following offers a flavour of some of the things that went on over the course of a couple of very frantic weeks.

Hypnotist Edward White looked slightly out of place but he certainly came up with the goods in a polished show that included one poor guy leaping up and shouting "I'm the tooth fairy" whenever he heard a particular sound; he had another convinced that the building was in imminent danger of collapse and therefore endeavoured to warn us all while holding up a perfectly sound wall. As a group, the eight or so victims believed they had changed sex, that they were obscenely drunk, could play piano and were finally sent away believing that they were missing the favourite part of their respective bodies. Take a guess as to where the male students looked.

Almost too convincing, isn't he?

Open-necked shirt, grey slacks, black blazer and open-necked shirt, he really didn't look like student entertainment material, but that didn't seem to phase the audience in DIT Bolton Street on the first day of Freshers' Week. The place was stuffed with hundreds of students eager to see their peers make abject fools of themselves. And let's be honest here, the willing participants did look silly, occasionally very very silly indeed. Edward White may have looked slightly out of place but he certainly came up with the goods in a polished show that included one poor guy leaping up and shouting "I'm the tooth fairy" whenever he heard a particular sound; he had another convinced that the building was in imminent danger of collapse and therefore endeavoured to warn us all while holding up a perfectly sound wall. As a group, the eight or so victims believed they had changed sex, that they were obscenely drunk, could play piano and were finally sent away believing that they were missing the favourite part of their respective bodies. Take a guess as to where the male students looked.

Over in DIT Kevin Street, the Gleeson Hall was the location for equally bizarre behaviour as Zak Powers did his mesmerising stuff to a fine collection of men and women in an imaginative show that made clever use of lights and sound effects. A roving spotlight was used to particularly amusing effect to pick out one guy who had been led to believe he was Garth Brooks and had just won an Oscar for best music in a film. Kissing the people closest to him, he waved and made his way to the stage, pausing for a photo before thanking his "Mom" and launching into 'Friends in Low Places'. Later on, two characters went on a rampage through the audience believing themselves to be a couple of dangerous robbers. Their haul from the raid included some paper, some more paper and some bits of paper. It all made for good, reasonably clean fun, though one female students may want to consider why she found the chap next to her so damned attractive. Sure, there was hypnotic suggestion involved, but there appeared to be a little too much gusto.

DIT Aungier Street opened its Freshers' Week in debaucherous fashion with the much loved, usually body-strewn three-legged pub crawl. The route would have put the fear of God into Hannibal and his elephants, ranging from Aungier Street's common room to Club USI, four hundred miles away over rough terrain - vomit, bodies, bodies in vomit. Even at the earliest stage there were strong signs that faders were a foregone conclusion. It was not the most impressive sight that has ever been beheld by a former student of what used to be the College of Commerce, Rathmines. Nevertheless, on they went, as did the week, in similar drink sodden.

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Toasted Sandwiches a Speciality
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Hangovers Supplied and Serviced

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fashion.

What seems to be learned during the concentrated high living that is Freshers' Week is that hangovers are awful yokes altogether, that college life can be as it has been portrayed in any number of mindless films and that it is very possible to get wildly drunk one night and then go out and do it all over again the next. And the next. Oh, and friends, you should have made some friends during the week.

A Personal View from Mountjoy Square by Mark Lee

After a long day's screaming about the forthcoming frivolities of Freshers' week, the sabbatical entourage then marched on to the Big Tree on Dorset Street for what proved to be the biggest and undoubtedly the most popular opening night of any Freshers' week, ever, in the world! (this article was written in a completely impartial fashion by the Convenor of DIT Mountjoy Square's Students' Union - Ed)

The mandatory colossal amount of free beer was distributed amongst the excited and thirsty crowd. The promotion was due to start at 8pm and by 8.40pm there were 600 bodies socialising with intent. At 9.30pm, the Blooz Brothers hit the stage and began to test the foundations of the Big Tree for all they were worth. One and all did rock until the mai pulled the plug but even then Break for the Border beckoned to all students souls present. So there it was, the start of Freshers' Week, finishing in Border country where the multitudes sat and sipped beer.

However, the night belonged to Woody, who by this stage is now a household name within the college circle.

Wed night - Freshers Ball - Do you remember and who was the lady on Conor O'Toole's knee?

Thursday saw more promotions and those who could still stand converged upon McGrath's for sumo wrestling and she/he who dared, sang.

Overall, everyone who joined in had a great week and I'd like to say it was a memorable one, for those who can remember anything at all.

Patricia Moran

Wednesday

Garret Woods played solo in the canteen and brought the house down. But that was the highlight of the day as the entire student body unconsciously decided that this was the day off.

Thursday

A first in Mountjoy Square, we had a DJ in the canteen that went down surprisingly well, given all students the opportunity to "request" dirt that had been raked up over the three previous nights.

One then to the Shakespeare for 7pm and the last of the Guinness promotions, and also the pick up point for our buses to Greystones. In spite of the sceptics, this was one of the most successful Freshers' balls ever. The craic on the buses was fantastic and with a niteclub that cost £3 million to build, you really couldn't do any better. Well done to all involved in the week; it was fantastic.

One of Mr North's Misters

In typical CBS style, Freshers week kicked off with free beer. This was followed by a Mad Bastard/Bitch competition which proved to be one of the highlights of the week, with people losing all inhibitions and gaining stardom status within the college.

Cid Sarah proved to be a great success with many future DIT relationships being established ... I'll leave the rest to your imagination.

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Suddenly need to have eight more pints in the next half hour. It's a thought that had not occurred until the realisation struck home but now that it had found a home, it was going nowhere. The demand would be carried out and let anyone try to stop you and they would soon see what it was like to have someone flail their fists wildly somewhere near their head without ever connecting.

In a sharply edited scene, you look from clock to crowded bar to the sad remains in your sweaty hand of what had once been a complete beer. With a speed that is shocking you fling the dregs down your gullet, wipe away that which missed the gaping maw completely and launch yourself at the bar, fervently wishing for the seething mass of people who really should not be in the way.

Employing a nearby tub of grease, you slick up and suddenly find yourself able to slip unnoticed between people's fingers.

"EIGHT PINTS OF SOMETHING!!" you yell at the bar staff persist in serving people who (a) do not shout incoherently (b) do not look as if they should be in a hospital and/or (c) are not weeping, you lose what small vestiges of dignity you had been holding onto. In short, you begin to beg, turning the word "PLEEEEAAAASE" it goes. You are of course disgusted with yourself but desperate times - 11pm - call for desperate measures. Eventually you are served because everyone wants you to stop whining and a bearing is out of the question.

Carrying as many glasses as is possible (not practical as practicality left with dignity and got a taxi home), you slip and slide to a place permitted by the increasing paranoia. Once under the table you simply horse the beer into yourself, keeping a cock eye on the wall clock, the hands of which are moving so fast they appear to be waving.

It is later, though, with the onset of blindness and the total absence of comprehension as to your surroundings, it is impossible to tell how much later, or where the later is located. You hadn't really wanted all those extra beers, or at least not all together, in one hour's drinking time has not been to reduce to amount taken but to increase both rate and number. It's hard to define some logic from the situation but then again, it's hard to define, decide or even attempt anything at the moment. You are no longer vertical, your pants are on your head and Steve is not speaking to you.
DIT's Rugby Team Seeks the Winning Formula Stateside

This week, DIT's rugby team leaves for the USA for a short tour which it is hoped will set the mood for the coming season and the Bank of Ireland Ascent Cup campaign.

"It's about forming a team to win it, to offer a serious challenge to the likes of Limerick and Waterford," said Joe McGrath, chairperson of DIT Mountjoy Square's sports council.

The team, 21 players in all, will leave for America on October 28th and will return to Ireland on November 4th. Two matches will be played in Albany, New York, and these will include a game against the East Coast champions. After that the tour moves onto Boston where the opponents will be MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology).

Mr McGrath says that he wants to ensure that the DIT team is not seen as elitist and in order to facilitate this, there are plans to upgrade the Glenon Cup competition and attempts are being made to have a DIT Freshers' Team in the O'Boyle Cup.

"We could have two major pieces of silverware in the DIT cabinet at the end of the year," says McGrath.

As the DIT sports day earlier this year

Doreen Curran, a final year student on the B.Mus. Performance/Graduate Diploma in Music at DIT Chatham Row is the overall winner of the RTE 'Go For It' talent competition. She picked up a money prize of £2000 plus a week in a recording studio in RTE, and the Go For It trophy. In November, she will sing with the Opera Theatre Company's production of Monteverdi's Orpheo.

Doreen has previously won prizes in college, at Feiseanna Ceoil and Feiseanna Maitrí in Dublin as well as in her home town of Derry.

Earlier this year, she was a prize winner in the Yamaha Music Foundation of Europe Competition for singers and sang the role of Dido in Henry Purcell's 'Dido and Aeneas' at the National Concert Hall, Dublin and at the West Waterford Festival of Early Music in Lismore.

Pictured (l to r) are Anne Marie O'Sullivan, Head of the Vocal, Operatic and Dramatic Studies in DIT Chatham Row, and Doreen Curran.

The Four Seasons, recently refurbished and now under new management, has become one of Dublin's Best Pubs.

Always a buzz of excitement!

A top 100 pub (source: the official Good Pub Guide)

The Shakespeare Bar

160 Parnell Street

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Dublin's Newest Student Pub

Now Open

Worth Checking Out
Irish is trendy. That's the message circulating among third-level students for some time now. Just walk into any one of the pubs in Dublin where young people meet and the chances are that you will hear the latest song from Kylie Minogue and Niall Breslin or the latest或许是 latest, best-selling Fiction, Chicles, Species, or last night's FA Cup-final being discussed as Gaeilge.

One of the buzz words among young folks these days is "trad" and any session of traditional music is sure to attract a snaluate whether it be in Milltown Malbay in County Clare or Ballycastle in County Antrim. This year from the 2-12 November Dublin will have its own festival of traditional music, Oireachtas '95. The various Oireachtas competitions provide an opportunity for all to see and hear some of the most talented instrumentalists and singers. One competition especially worth looking out for this year is the uilleann pipe competition which boasts eleven pipers, it's no bad thing for the best step was the uterus and no noisier singer is probably one of the most famous of the Oireachtas competitions. But if this is your idea of fun why not hold open down to Break for the Border. While because the seal's competition will be going on in the Shelbourne a break for the Border will be experiencing a new phenomenon, Damhsa Line or Line Dancing tri Ghaeilge.

As everyone knows third level students have a hectic social life but I strongly recommend that you cancel all engagements for the 8th November and head for the National Concert Hall where Tomás Mac Anna's spectacular presentation of Stad agus Sláin, a commemoration of the Famine, is an occasion not to be missed. Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Eireann's 32 member National Folk Orchestra will provide the music for Stad agus Sláin. That same night you will have a unique opportunity to hear the Glasgow Hebridean Choir who have just appeared recently on the latest album by the Scottish Gaelic Rock Group Run Rig.

Of special interest to third level students is a new venture at the Festival this year - the two day Oireachtas Film exhibition Fis '95 in the Irish Film Centre on the 6 and 7 November. Some of your parents may remember the news films produced by Gaol Linn in the fifties and shown weekly in cinemas throughout the country before the age of television. These and other films made in Irish during the 50's, 60's, 70's, and 80's will be shown on the first day of the exhibition in an attempt to show how the film industry has evolved in Ireland. The second day will then concentrate on new film producers' works and the type of film we can expect to see on Telifis na Gaeltacht. There will also be frequent opportunities for discussion which should prove very interesting since many of the people involved in the film-making industry will be present.

Among the guest speakers will be Eoghan Harris, Noel O'Brion, Fiona Keane, and Cillian Fennel. If you have any opinions/ideas about Irish films and want to give them an airing come along to the IFC on the 6 and 7 November.

Over all then with sessions lasting into the early hours of the morning, on in The Harcourt, The Russell, The Shelbourne and of course Club an Chorrubh, practically every night, Oireachtas '95 promises to be 10 day feast of music and craic the likes of which Dublin has never seen before. A full programme of events is available from An Oireachtas.

Further Information: Dónal O Maolabbháil.

And remember its not all trad at the Oireachtas. Thursday 2 November the Irish Rock Group Einniu gives a touring start to Seilep na hOige in the Gleeson Hall, Kevinn College Street of Technology at 9pm., to be followed at 11pm. by the young traditional group An Scadán Rua. On Friday 3rd November at 11.00 pm the Welsh rock band Y Monïs can be heard at the same venue and on Saturday night, same place same time the Belfast rock group Breag, will be playing. Over the weekend there are various sporting activities for the underseventeens in the Sports Centre DCU, in the Fianna Grounds in Glasnevin and in the swimming pool in Belvedere, and a dance workshop in DCU and Scoil Chaitríon where youngsters between the ages of fifteen and seventeen can become expert at the samba and darmhail na mburchaill bó.

Walking Tall

Joseph Hayden needs £1,200 by November 10th. (Of such dilemmas are answered to Ross made). Joseph, a former DIT student, has been chosen to be part of a ten week expedition to Chile, under the Inchape Initiative which begins in January 1996. The 22-year-old had to undergo a rigorous selection process which involved a 36 hours period in the Oxford countryside when the temperature fell to nine below zero. He and the other hopefuls had to build ponchos, rafts, take part in rescue and undergo a series of mental and physical tasks, all of which were designed to test the mettle of those who intended to make the trip to Chile. Joseph was chosen for then had to complete the no less challenging task of raising the money necessary to pay for the expedition. He has managed to raise £1,500, primarily through a spon- sored trek to Laragh in Wicklow but there remains the small matter of £1,200. His employers, Guinness, have agreed to give him three months off and a free flight when he returns. All he needs is the money.

The expedition is the first to benefit from The Inchape Initiative, a £2.5m partnership between youth development charity Raleigh International and Inchape, an international marketing and services group. Participants on the Inchape Initiative will be undertaking community work of benefit to the inhabitants of Chile - the Mapuche Indians - in a region of the country renowned for its wilderness, wild landscape and unpredictable climate. The expeditioners can expect to see a sweltering 30 Fahrenheit to a terrifyingly cold minus 40 in the space of one day. Another problem for the expedition team will be the attitude they will be working at heights of 10,000 feet, where the air is very thin.

"The big thing about Chile is getting to where you have to be," says Joseph. "It's either walk, or by horse or by mule" The team's destination is the rather inaccessible Chonos Archipelago. 100 people will take part and Joseph is the only Irish person among them.

"I can't wait to go," he says.

He believes that he will be a completely different person when he returns from Chile, having seen and experienced things that most Irish people never do.

November 15th The Main Event

4 regions

2 Governments
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1. Be 18 or over and in third level
2. Process an up to date NSC STUDENT CARD
3. Buy a CHATHAM STUDENT MEMBERSHIP from your Students' Union
   Membership fees at the NSC
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   students@nsc.ie
4. Be willing to be in awe.

The National Student Centre is like nowhere you could find before and like everything you always wanted. Daytime, evening and late night, it's always happenin' in different ways. And it's run by people like you, for people like you - individuals. But we've all at least one common cause - we want somewhere really good to go that's not expensive, where you're respected, where there's lots to do, or even nothing to do and where you'll meet, talk to and laugh with kindred souls. At the National Students' Centre, that's not asking too much. That's just asking for what we've got.

NATIONAL STUDENTS CENTRE
1/2 Aston Place, Temple Bar, Dublin 2

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MEND
Moves to Phase Two

Phase Two of the Music Education National Debate, sponsored once again by the Dublin Institute of Technology, will take place in DIT Bolton Street on 11th and 12th of November. Phase One was held in April/May of this year and sought to focus on the most pressing current issues in relation to music education in Ireland.

The main topics of discussion during Phase Two will include Philosophies of Music Education; performance in Music Education; The Focus of Second Level Music Education; Third Level Music Education and The Imminence of Music Education in Ireland. Experts in the relevant areas from as far afield as America, London, Canada and the Philippines will be attending the debate.

An analysis of the programme of papers will be completed and will be submitted to a distinguished international panel of experts in the field of music education for further interaction.

On November 11th, there will be a musical showcase to highlight the debate. The theme is "Broadway Magic" and the evening of music will feature work by Rodgers and Hammerstein, Leonard Bernstein and Andrew Lloyd Webber. DIT Chatham Row, College of Music concert band and choral society, conducted by William Hapin will provide the bulk of the evening's entertainment, with special guests Na Cásadalgh and the National Children's Choir and Orchestra conducted by Seán Creamer. Compete for the evening will be Peter Sweeney.

Ticket prices are £10 and £8 (£5 concession). The evening begins at 8pm. Tickets can be booked from the National Concert Hall booking office (ph. 6711533).

Get Out Your Glad Rags!

Cathal Brugha Street's social event of the year, the annual Dress Dance takes place in The Country Club, Portmarnock, on November 10th. Tickets, costing a mere £20, are available from the Students' Union Office. Do not, repeat do not, miss out on this night of nights.

Chatham Row students blow their own trumpet.

A current pressing issue in music education!