

1997

The DIT Examiner: the Newspaper of the Dublin Institute of Technology Students' Union March, 1997

DIT: Students' Union

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The DIT Examiner

The Newspaper of the Dublin Institute of Technology Students' Union

March 1997



DIT can't seem to stop winning at the moment. Check it all out Pages 12-14, 15



Peace in pieces? David Ervine of the PUP thinks not. In discussion with Lisa Armstrong Page 15



Robbie Whelan tells of the goings on of a troupe of footie-junkies on the trail of The Red Army. Page 5



A veritable feast of film flows in our direction via Joanne Hayden's capable eyes. REEL LIFE gets the beef. Page 18

Election Fever Hits

Initial casualty reports indicate that over 52 people have been injured mentally in opening exchanges for the much coveted Students' Union Executive positions.

Voting: Wednesday 12 March

USI, TCD, UCD

In a highly unexpected outcome in the Supreme Court last week, Students' Unions TCD, UCD and USI, who faced the charge of being held jointly liable, emerged victorious from the eight year legal battle with SPUC that has plagued successive Union officers since it began in 1989.

The result will mean that the permanent injunction imposed by the courts on the Unions prohibiting them from distributing any information on abortion shall be lifted. A loss for the Unions in the courts would have left them with a hefty legal bill totalling in the region of £350,000.

There is still the possibility that SPUC may appeal the case in the European Court of Human Rights, should they decide to pursue the issue further, though this now seems unlikely.

Smooth Talkers

Aungier St. Debating Society will be publishing their treatise on clinical insanity in April's Examiner, so keep your tongues peeled.

BUSINESS BREAKFAST TOASTED BY INDUSTRY MAJORS

The sixth annual Student Business Breakfast, held in Jury's Hotel, Ballsbridge last month, has been declared a runaway success.

The Mountjoy Square event, organised by the Student Administration Society — made up of Second and Third year students — of the School of Business and Management in conjunction with the Links Placement Programme, took as its theme the ramifications of EU monetary union on small firms; EMU: The Business Implications for the SME (Small & Medium sized Enterprises).

The occasion was attended by 250 people, including 124 representatives of leading Irish business concerns. Guest speaker, Minister for

Finance Ruairí Quinn, impressed upon those gathered the necessity for maintaining strong links between industry and undergraduates who are about to enter the workplace. His public stature and knowledge of European finance mechanisms helped to attract a very strong base of companies, particularly those in the financial sector. Among the recognised names in attendance were Young Advertising, Price Waterhouse, Deloitte & Touche, Craig Gardner, KPMG and Bell Advertising to name but a few of the bigger names. Equally as important are the SMEs, who also turned out in force, the event being of obvious relevance to them.

Stacy MacCarthy, manager of the Links

Programme for the past four years, was extremely pleased with the way the Breakfast turned out, particularly in the manner in which the students showed themselves to be capable of organising such a massive undertaking.

"Ruairí Quinn was very good on the morning. Its a big audience difference, students and employers, but he catered for everyone," explains MacCarthy.

Maxine Smyth, secretary of the Society, was impressed with the way he drew up a simple image of a complex area. "He was comparing the whole EMU situation to a sporting event and red-cards and off-side and how the economies are relating to it. He was an excellent speaker. The employers were genuinely

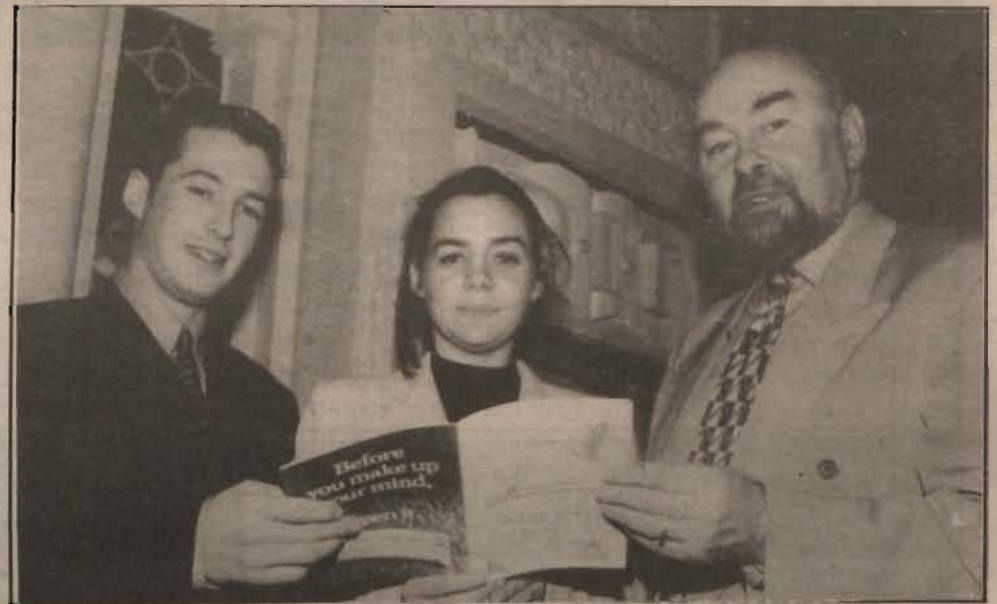
impressed in the end. I'd say the vast majority of them will be back next year, and you'll have more applications for tickets."

Indeed, Young advertising were impressed enough to write to the Society following the occasion congratulating them on its high standard.

Administration students are trained specifically as all-round managers capable of running smaller outfits who can't afford a Marketing Director and a Financial Director, and to this end are conversant with all skills relevant to the overall management of SMEs.

The growth undergone by the event has been magnificent. Stacy MacCarthy maintains, "I think at the first event we probably had

to page 3



Pádraig Staunton and Maxine Smyth, of the Administration Society, Mountjoy Sq., with Minister for Finance Ruairí Quinn, at the Irish Independent Student Business Breakfast 1997 in Jury's Hotel.



'UN-CORK THE BUBBLY!' CRY THE MANIC FANS OF CHAMPAGNE SUPERNOVA
Crazy fans of the two biggest cover bands in the world packed the Point Depot on the Thursday of Rag Week to show their admiration for such talent. Oasis cogs Champagne Supernova and Beatles ape-artists the Paperback Beatles came to town for the DIT Rag Ball. Catch up with the photographic-account of the week, pp.10-11.

The DIT Examiner

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VOTE MARCH 12

Cearbhall Ó Síocháin

Mountjoy Sq Art & Design Week

The Mountjoy Sq. Art & Design Week will take place this year from March 18 until March 21. This is the third year of the now annual Art & Design Week. In the previous two years the themes of Art & Design Week were Visual Confusion and Medieval respectively. This year's theme is a Sci Fi one. With so many great Sci Fi movies, ranging from Star Wars to V, countless number of ideas about exactly what should be included in the week have been thrown about, but finally after much creative brainstorming a provisional timetable has been put together (see below). The centrepiece of the week will be the turning of the Mountjoy Sq canteen into something which, on paper, can only be described as a cross between a space ship and the freaky funky bar in Star Wars! Throughout the week many Sci Fi type activities will take place in our space canteen, but at the moment all plans are top secret! On the Thursday night a big Sci Fi Fancy

Dress Banquet will take place in the canteen followed by a dance orientated disco in the Furnace. Students from all DIT Colleges are invited to come on board and help out in the organisation of the week. As Sci Fi is such a broad and popular theme we want every Sci Fier in DIT to come along and have a bit of fun at all the events, you're all welcome! May the fun be with you!

Art & Design Week Timetable
Tuesday 18 March: The Opening of the Canteen Ceremony
Fun and Games in the canteen
Monster Sci Fi Table Quiz in Stoneys
Wednesday 19 March: Quasar outing to the Plex
Sci Fi Night in The Big Tree
Thursday 20 March: The Sci Fi Banquet in the canteen
The Sci Fi Ball in The Furnace (inc. DJ Francois and Drum n Bass Djs)
Sponsored by GUINNESS

MEET YOUR FUTURE EMPLOYER!!!

The Debating Society DIT Aungier St
Business Breakfast

Wednesday March 19 at 8.15am.

**TOP BUSINESSES AND EMPLOYERS
WILL BE THERE. WILL YOU?**

Sort yourself out!
Get ahead in your career!

MEET YOUR FUTURE EMPLOYER

For further details, contact the Deb Soc at the SU, or by e-mail: khora@dit.ie

So apart from being the largest
students' union in the country

What has **Ditsu** ever done for me?

Well we organise and provide:

- + FRESHERS/ARTS/WELFARE/RAG WEEKS
- + COMPREHENSIVE SUBSIDISED ENTS.
- + FREE WELFARE ADVICE
- + FREE FINANCIAL ADVICE
- + HELP WITH COURSE PROBLEMS
- + HELP WITH GRANT PROBLEMS
- + HELP AND RESOURCES FOR CLUBS AND SOCIETIES
- + FREE STUDENT NEWSPAPERS AND MAGAZINES
- + REPRESENTATION WITHIN THE COLLEGE, WITHIN DIT GOVERNING BODY AND NATIONALLY
- + CAMPAIGNS ON ISSUES LIKE STUDENT HARDSHIP, ACCOMMODATION AND SAFETY, LIBRARY FACILITIES, CATERING
- + RAISES THOUSANDS FOR CHARITY THROUGH RAG WEEK
- + 2ND HAND BOOK SERVICE
- + PUBLISHES FREE YEARLY HANDBOOK AND WELFARE MANUAL
- + DETAILED ACCOMMODATION LIST AT START OF EVERY YEAR
- + INTEREST FREE WELFARE LOANS
- + USIT CARDS
- + CHEAP PHOTOCOPYING
- + SU SHOP WITH WIDE RANGE OF PRODUCTS AT COMPETITIVE PRICES
- + SECRETARIAL SERVICE, PAST EXAM PAPERS AND FAX SERVICE
- + POOL TABLES AND VIDEO GAMES
- + PAYPHONE IN SU OFFICE
- + CONDOM MACHINES IN TOILETS
- + FRESHERS, HALLOWEEN, CHRISTMAS, RAG, EASTER, LAST CHANCE BALLS
- + FASHION SHOW
- + BEER PROMOTIONS
- + CHEAP PASSPORT PHOTOS
- + FRESHERS WELCOME PACKS
- + POSTAL ADDRESS FACILITY
- + AND ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT US TO DO!

Ditsu

**RUN BY STUDENTS FOR STUDENTS
SO GET INVOLVED!
IT'S YOUR STUDENTS' UNION.**

Clarifications

Should you encounter anything you feel is in need of clarification in this, or any other issue of the DIT Examiner, please contact the editor and any such matters shall then be clarified in the subsequent edition

Editor: Cearbhall Ó Síocháin
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Tea-boy: Cearbhall Ó Síocháin

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Winners of previous Irish Times Crossword competition, Feb '97:
1. Sarah Walsh, WAS 1, Kevin St
2. Niamh Kelly, Environmental Health, Cathal Brugha St
3. Angela Kelly, FT491, Cathal Brugha St
Prizes can be collected from Kevin St. SU offices.

Lettuce to the Editor

Any lettuce sent to the Examiner for the attention of the Editor should be clearly marked. Ní ghlacfar le haon leitís mharbh. Sending dead lettuce to the Editor is a strict no-no. Tig libh scríobh chuig an seoladh seo a leanas:

The Editor,
DIT Examiner,
DITSU,
DIT Kevin St.,
Kevin St.,
Dublin 8.

An tEagarthóir,
DIT Examiner,
DITSU,
ITBÁC Sráid Chaoimhín,
Sráid Chaoimhín,
BÁC 8.

Hurling

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you in relation to references to the DIT Hurling team 'eating turkey' in a letter from Mr. Ross O'Daly, Clubs and Societies Officer, Bolton St., which was in the February 1997 issue of the DIT Examiner.

While I am sure that Mr. O'Daly was not intending to cast aspersions on the DIT Hurling team, his implications of gormandising by the Hurling team are unwarranted.

The Hurling team commenced training on Monday 6 January 1997, a week before the recommencement of the academic year.

A total of ten training sessions were held during that week, leaving little time for eating turkey.

Yours sincerely,
A. Kinsella,
DIT Kevin St.

Andres Lenehan,
Public Relations Officer,
Cathal Brugha St.

Rag Week

Dear Sir,

As most people know, RAG means Raise A Grand, something which may have happened but not as much as we would have liked. I thoroughly enjoyed every night of the week and attended various other DIT college events, but I think most people slacked off in donating money by Tuesday. Fair enough, many people did donate at various events, but the participation in collecting money was quite poor. Everybody has to be told the real reason for RAG week until they are brainwashed with the word charity. At present the figures for moneys going to charities have not been released, but last year's (nearly £3,500) was a total disgrace. Next year corporate sponsorship for the whole week and the Rag Ball must be sought in order for the week to be a success, both financially and socially.

As regards the Rag Ball, to fill the Point next year a few things have to be taken into consideration:

-- a headline band have to play the Point to get the people there.

Token 'Funny' Letter

Dear Sir,

The only thing that the Inland Revenue has not taxed is your willy. This is due to the fact that 40% of the time it is hanging around unemployed, 30% of the time it is pissed off, 20% of the time it is hard up, and 10% of the time it is employed but operates in total darkness. Furthermore it has two dependents and they are both nuts.

Accordingly, after April 1996 your willy will be taxed on its size using the willy checker scale below.

Willy Checker Scale

10-12 inches	Luxury Tax £50 per annum
8-9 inches	Pole Tax £25 per annum
6-7 inches	Privilege Tax £15 per annum

4-5 inches Nuisance Tax
£5 per annum

Note:

Anyone under 4 inches is eligible for a refund. Do not apply for an extension. Males with willies in excess of 12 inches should file under Capital Gains Tax.

Yours faithfully
Robin Cuthepeckeroff
Inspector

Ditsu Elections

Dear Sir,

In relation to the participation of all colleges in this year's DITSU elections, I notice with regret that there are no candidates running for the position of Equality Officer in any of the northside colleges.

I feel the office of Equality is of extreme importance to all students, and that it is essential that students in each site respect and understand this.

Could I then make a plea to your readers to be more conscious of this matter?

I strongly hope that the story will change in time for the by-elections.

Tony Choi,
Equality Officer,
Kevin St.

Business Breakfast cont'd

about thirty employers there, and we used to have all the students from all the four years there. Now we only allow four from each class to go, except for third years, otherwise we have too many students."

One can understand the reasons for this. This time round, breakfast was laid on for 250 people; the logistics of organising a breakfast for a number any greater would begin to enter the realms of the impossible.

The Administration Society is made up of students of the four year course in Administration and Marketing, who begin their placement in April of their third year. The Committee which organises the Breakfast is made up of Second year students who can reap the benefits of the programme the following year.

Stacy MacCarthy's job is — not too unlike that of head-hunt firms — to create links between individual companies and their potential future employees, in this case individual students. The event serves as part of their Advanced Diploma in Administration and Marketing.

It soon took on a higher profile as it was given decent coverage by RTE on the evening news. The Irish Times were there, as were the sponsors themselves, the Irish Independent. The Independent article the following day centred around the minister's speech itself, in which he warned of the threat of the loss of 28,000 jobs which could come about were Britain to exclude itself from the EMU.

DRUG SENSE 1997 THE AGONY AND THE ECTASY A SPECIAL SEMINAR



Speakers: Paul and Janet Betts

The Betts daughter died tragically from ecstasy in 1995. They will be sharing their moving story with staff and students. There will also be a special showing of a powerful video on ecstasy. This seminar will be held at the following locations:

Place: DIT Aungier Street	DIT Bolton Street
Date: 10th March	11th March
Time: 12 -2	12 -2
Room: A408	Room: 259

This is an experience not be missed.

OPEN TO EVERYONE

For further information: contact Jacqui Duffy at 402 3352

Mozambique - a second glance

Eamonn Ó Mórdha

There's always a certain excitement involved in returning to an 'exotic' destination for which you have fond memories.

The expectation of re-experiencing whatever it was that seemed so special before is mixed with a cautious hope that whatever changes there have been have been for the better.

I first visited Mozambique in 1994 to observe its first multiparty election. I had just been to South Africa where optimism and celebration were the most perceivable emotions during its election. Mozambique, though with a very different history from South Africa, was also approaching a new era in its history. Racked by years of war, firstly its war of independence and then a war of destabilisation mainly sponsored by the Apartheid regime in South Africa, Mozambique had emerged with a peace process which at least possessed the possibility of ending the conflict and bringing Mozambique into a period of calm in which to rebuild itself.

Though the conflict in Mozambique had been long and bloody and the cost in human life and material resources had been high, the elections went off peacefully and without any major hitches. The Frelimo government was returned into office and the other parties seemed to accept the result.

Mozambique is an extremely poor country with a high foreign debt, a large section of the population who are starving, landmines littering the country and a productive sector which was all but destroyed during the war. The election itself could not of course solve all the problems facing Mozambique but it could create the atmosphere and conditions necessary for Mozambique to address and deal with these issues.

My memories of Mozambique had been mixed. It was a country which had obviously suffered severely from years of war, economic decline and periodic drought yet a certain easy-going friendly atmosphere made it an enjoyable place to have to spend six months. Though living conditions are not the most comfortable the foreigner can generally expect to have the means to live a little better than what the locals are forced to endure. Whatever small luxuries there are will commonly be shared with visitors and generally I had felt that Mozambique was, above all, a very welcoming place.

Two years later, in July this year, I found myself once again in Mozambique. This time I was finishing an MA and had decided to do my thesis somewhere I was familiar with and had enjoyed. I was interested to see what had come of the optimism of the election period and what changes had taken place. My thesis topic was EU aid to Mozambique so my focus of attention would be different from

before but closely related.

Myself and my companions flew first to South Africa and then took a train to Maputo, capital of Mozambique. Arriving at the heavily fortified border I was immediately reminded that the relationship between these two countries had long been characterised by complete animosity. Maputo itself didn't seem to have changed much, at least not to the eye. Its a relatively big city but it doesn't have the same bustle as many other cities of comparable size.

Its tree lined boulevards and avenues and an amount of cafe culture can make it a pleasant place to stroll away an afternoon. Take care when strolling in Maputo, however, as many of the manhole covers have been removed illegally and sold for scrap.

Having already visited a place and experiencing something of the situation there it can often lead to a sense of complacency. There's no mistaking the fact that Mozambique is extremely poor and this time around I found the level of poverty didn't surprise me at first. Well, I hadn't really expected too much to have changed in two years.

Had things improved in Mozambique in the last two years? Certainly it does possess great economic potential and there are reasons to be optimistic. Mozambique, however, relies very heavily on foreign aid. In previous decades much aid was tied to such things as the purchase of goods from the donor country, in many cases military hardware. Today, aid continues to be tied and Mozambique is a prime example.

The International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and many of the donors will give the much needed financial assistance only on condition that Mozambique follows an externally designed development path. Key economic decisions are, in effect, taken out of the hand of the government. Economic targets are set with little consideration of the effect they will have on the poorer sections of society.

The prospects for Mozambique in the future are unsure. One thing is sure, however, and that is that unless Mozambique is allowed to design its own 'development' model set its own priorities and decide on its own needs then its future will continue to be unsure and the externally imposed model will be unsustainable.

If foreign aid is to assist Mozambique in its 'development' it will need to transform itself from a charity model to a true solidarity model which allows the people of Mozambique to decide their own future. The peace has been maintained but Mozambique has gained little. Who knows what the future will bring?



Pictured at the launch of his book *The Robinsons of North Kildare*, Jimmie Robinson, author, with DIT President Dr. Brendan Goldsmith, Terri Garvey of RTE's 'The Family Tree', Lord Mayor of Dublin, Alderman Brendan Lynch PC, and legendary racing personality, G.W. Robinson

The Robinsons of North Kildare 300 Years of Family History

This is a unique history of a family who have lived for 9 generations in the Broadford area. It is a history incorporating farm diaries dating from 1800, a collection of a priest's letters from penal times, a Repeal Movement Membership Card and a letter from Mr. 1829, Daniel O'Connell.

The entire publication was the brainchild of James Robinson, DIT

Photographer, and staff member in DIT Kevin St., who spent four years researching and compiling the history, and the funding he arranged at his own cost.

At 380 pages its a right humdinger of a book, and the £20 it costs is less than you'd put in a baby's hand.

You can contact James Robinson through the Physics Department, DIT Kevin St.

Ph: 402 4557

Major Disaster

by Dan O'Neill

There is only one certainty about the forthcoming British General Election; the Conservatives, after eighteen years in power, are going to lose power.

The recent by-election in the Wirral saw a 17% swing to the Labour party. If the result in May sees Labour win by even half that swing, they'll have a majority of over 100 seats. Commentators are calling it the most significant election in years.

The post electoral map of Britain will see the Conservatives becoming a party with perhaps as little as two seats in Scotland, none in Wales and a handful in the major conurbations. In the words of Observer columnist Peter Kellner, the Tory party will become a party of "suburbs and shires". They could become a purely English party, and an increasingly isolated one at that. Even if one takes into account the fact that at the 1992 election some voters would not disclose to pollsters their intention to vote Tory, the Conservatives would need the electorate to be monumental fibbers to have a chance at even achieving, if that's the word, a hung parliament.

When the Conservatives lose, expect there to be a divisive period of internal policy debate which will uncannily mirror the divisions that struck the Labour party in the early 1980's. The Tory party is a party of government. Conservatives, like Fianna Fail, have a will to power. John Major, for all the abuse heaped upon him over the past five years, has just about kept together a coalition of Free-traders, nationalists, christian democrats, 'New-Right' MPs and old landed grandees. Their time could be up. Opposition can dangerously encourage

thought about policy and this is where the danger lies.

Britain's policy towards the European Union is the major issue of conflict within the Tory party (usually referred to by its shorthand name, 'Europe'). The Conservatives will a house a majority of 'Euro-sceptics' after May. The party will be split whoever wins the leadership election, be it Michael Portillo on the right, Ken Clarke on the left or someone like Gillian Shepard as a centrist compromise in the Major mould. There is a possibility of the Tory party splitting into two and leading to the formation of a Christian Democrat party and an English Nationalist party. Although this is unlikely, it is conceivable and as such is indicative of the state of turmoil the Conservative party finds itself in.

The Labour party's lead is unassailable for several reasons. Voter weariness with the same party for 18 years, the cult of personality built up around Tony Blair and a perception of Labour as 'sound' on the economy have all contributed to Labour's rise in the polls. It is by wooing the middle classes that Labour has secured its imminent victory. Labour recently stated that their would be no increase on the basic rate of income tax for those earning over £100,000. This led many Labour party workers and supporters to ask that if the party no longer stood for re-distribution of wealth, what did it stand for? Tony Blair has in a short space of time transformed a party that ten years ago called for the nationalisation of native industries, into a British version of the US Democrats.

Mountjoy Sq visit the 'Pool

Four dozen Comadians recently rocketed off on an excursion to Scouser City, Arizona, or Liverpool, as it is sometimes called. Dey doo dough don't dey dough?

Report by Robbie Whelan

No goals, no women, but what a weekend!

The fourth annual COMAD SOCCER trip this year took our intrepid lads (and seven lassies) back to Liverpool and back to goalless Anfield. With the lads' girlfriends promptly banned after last year's trip (due to all their nagging!) off went the 41 lads and 7 girlies. Leaving Dun Laoghaire on the Speedboat our gang hit the bar by 11am. Two hours later and hurtling through (sheep filled) Wales, the boozing continued and the poor unfortunate Brian Nevin got soaked when his bag fell off the rail onto his beer and all over his lap. By the time we hit Chester some troops were already struggling, namely Conor 'Bilic' Hannon and our Brian. On the DART to Liverpool a nameless COMADIAN could no longer contain himself and promptly wet himself, but ah sure he was on his holiers and didn't give a Bilic's! At 4pm we checked into our Hotel (not a hostel, I might add) and settled in to drink our Duty Free Fosters and watch Sky Sports, which every room had (we're yuppies).

Later that night it was time to go groovin' with the meeting place arranged as the Arena Bar on Matthews Street, however, three of our boys misread their itineraries and instead made their way to the bar at Anfield, only five miles from Matthews Street, and we won't tell youse that it was Brian (again), Ronan Quinn and Thos Murphy. For all those who made it to the right meeting place it was soon onto our old favourite spot, Slater's, where pints of lager retail at £1.00 and bottled beer retails at £1.10, however, at midnight the prices go up...a whole 10p — now that's what you call a student bar, not like some of our famous student bars here in Áth Cliath, where

behaved themselves admirably! Popular chat-up line of the night was — COMAD lad: 'Hi, I'm Irish'. Scouser Girl: 'Fook off ya tosser!' Hence no women.

However, unbeknownst to the BUZZ group, an industrious bunch of 4th year non-soccer team heads off out of the city to a place called THE GRAFTON (described by Mark Lee the next night as 'THE GRAB A GRANNY NIGHTCLUB') to amazing success for two of their punters, one of whom was the only tee-totaller on the trip (You see can see it can pay off not to be locked out of your head when trying to click!) and the other was the most famous barman in the Dublin Hills. On the way home a stop in Toxteth's Red Light district proved intriguing cos' when they got back to the hotel, one of our group was arguing with the night porter to let the very same 'Lady' into his room. Our punter was very embarrassed when our friends informed the porter about who she was! Other stories of the night included the three lads

who went to a strip show thinking it was a disco, no wonder they were surprised when the bouncer warned them to keep their hands off the ladies. One of the rooms doubled for Button Moon, because that's where its occupants thought they were after smoking a few funny cigarettes! Also, one of our group with red hair who's named after a Croatian went sleep walking with his willy in his hand only for the night porter to meet him on the stairs. However, our friend totally dismissed the porter's story that he'd peed on the stairs, until the porter was able to tell him all about the tattoo on his right breast!

The next day was match day and off we all headed for Anfield, mind you only 1 hour later than scheduled. At this stage a serious moment: at 1:30 we laid our beautiful wreath at the Hillsborough Memorial at Anfield, which is in memory of the 95 fans who died at the FA Cup semi-final in 1989. The memorial is a very emotional sight, and even our Manchester United fans found themselves getting emotional. Many Liverpool people complimented us on our wreath and at this point I'd like to say thank you very much to each and every person who contributed to the wreath collection in the canteen just before Christmas. We raised £75 and it was well worth it, thank you.

Lets not really dwell on the match. A good first half could have 3-1 to the Reds, but didn't, however, the second half was complete shit! and once again the 'Curse of COMAD' struck as we didn't get to see a goal at either end, so we couldn't go mad in our 4 rows in the KOP. Full Time: 0-0.

Later, after all the lads chanting and cheering on contestant No. 1 in Blind Date (she was picked and when we were sober the next week we discovered she was actually a bowler, talk about beer goggles!)

back to Slater's we went, well, who wouldn't at those prices! Much later, locked again, the group split into many different groups to go Niteclubbing. Some of the lads went to a GAY club (is there something they're not telling us!) but got refused (what a sickener!) whilst a mixture of boys and girls went to some Jazz Club, once again a strange choice on the Saturday Night of your Holiers, however, they had a



A silent moment: the Hillsborough Memorial where the Irish visitors laid a wreath

great time boogying to Michael Jackson's greatest hits, others went back to the Buzz, whilst another bunch went to the 051 CLUB. This is where all the action was with our Darcy pulling a cracker and the rest of the lads bailing in with shifts (allegedly, cos this reporter wasn't there!) - however, they do have some pictures to prove it, but they're censored! Back in the Buzz our SU Pres was making a show of himself dancing in a cage, whilst the old "Do you know I'm Irish?" line was receiving colourful responses similar to the night before. At the Granny Club, Mark Lee and Colin Joyce (DIT Taoiseach) legged it when Harry Enfield's fat slags tried to chat them up! So with our group spread out all over Liverpool most returned to the Hotel to finish off the Fosters — well, nearly all! Remember the most famous barman in the Dublin mountains? Well, he clicked a Spanish Richard called...wait for it...IRA (pronounced like Vera) who took him across the Mersey to Birkenhead (only 30 miles away) and, legend has it, now only legend, shagged his brains out! So at least someone got laid!

Back at the Hotel, everyone got locked and stayed up to watch Wayne McCullough get bashed! The next day everyone got up and started the journey home by getting in the valuable supplies — beer, 3 litres of cider, popcorn and newspapers, particularly the Sunday Sport (which, if you know your newspapers, isn't remotely interested in sort). Finally we arrived back home to find the DART delayed for only one hour. When we eventually got into town everyone headed to Bilic's flat for another session, and to prove how much bonding went on, 8 of the lads slept on top of each other in a pile on Bilic's floor, but alas, we were home and we were happy. See yas next year. Thank you very much to our sponsors Guinness for our sexy informative expensive t-shirts and the sponsorship dosh, to the Big Tree for sponsoring us money-wise, and to Coca-Cola for their dosh too. We love you Guinness, Big Tree and Coke, again, we love you Guinness, the Big Tree and Coca-Cola — OK that's enough licking up. As they say in Liverpool "Got to run, here's the Bizzies"



The 'sokkor' team that went to Mersey, part of the entire crew who ventured eastward in search of debauched scouser women and a result at Anfield, were let down by women and LFC both.

a pint of lager retails at £2.40! After 10 bottles of beer each, we left Slater's sober (?) and went onto the BUZZ. Well, Holy Jaysus, what a place, for those of youse who thought our COMAD girls dressed skimpily at the Chrimbo Ball, well, this was like a night at Stringfellow's table dancing G-String joint. This reporter has NEVER heard so many swear in utter disbelief at the sight of the BUZZ women. A quick 'lads, lets get a few more gargles in then we'll have the Dutch courage to chat them up' was heard even though the lads had been drinking for a mere 15 hours at this stage! While the lads dithered, the COMAD birdies showed them how it should be done with our Barbarella clicking a rumoured four times, Julie sorting out his mate, Louise — lost count, Linda — with one of our own or was she? Siobhán went for the skipper Bilic (how does Joey the Lips do it?) whilst Tara and Aisling

Kiss My Baby!

Election time has rolled around again and the difference this time is?...we'll let them tell us themselves...

Sabbaticals: Aungier St, Bolton St, Cathal Brugha St, Kevin St, Mountjoy Sq.

Name: Ronan Casey

Age: 22
College: DIT Cathal Brugha Street
Position sought: Deputy President / Welfare Officer

1 What have you done for your college until now?

I've been actively involved with the CBS Union over the past 5 years. For three years I've been an active member of the Rag Week teams designing t-shirts, PRO campaigns & editing the Rag Mag for 2 years.

2 What motivates you?

A Union that's approachable & always there for the students & their welfare. A well run Union with a great, dedicated team of sabbatical officers.

3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialaigh / Uachtarán?

Deoch a cheannach do gach duine a thug vóta dom.

4 Where do your weaknesses lie?

I'm afraid I'm the perfect candidate.

5 What should DITSU be doing to increase student participation and interest in DIT issues?

To try to get rid of the segregation that still lies within the different colleges & their annexes. The DITSU officers should be more aware of ground level student needs.

Name: Tony Choi

Age: 20 and 4 months
College: Kevin St
Position sought: Site President

1 What have you done for your college until now?

As an officer in the Union for the past two years and also a member of the Sports Council, I've fulfilled my post to the best of my abilities. I've represented the college in numerous meetings and conferences.

2 What motivates you?

The students and my instincts.

3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialaigh / Uachtarán?

Celebrate.

4 Where do your weaknesses lie?

In being too nice to everyone.

5 What should DITSU be doing to increase student participation and interest in DIT issues?

Instead of attaching the students to the Union, officers should approach the students and create a better relationship between the Union and the students.

Name: Bob Coghlan

Age: 21
College: Sráid Chathail Brugha
Position sought: Site President

1 What have you done for your college until now?

Bob has helped many students in Cathal Brugha St. during his two years as a part-time officer and in his capacity as Welfare Officer this year. Bob has worked on many campaigns to improve student welfare and facilities within the college including work on the DIT Sports Campaign, as well as lobbying for an increase in printers in the computer rooms and also working to improve facilities in the common room.

2 What motivates you?

Bob is motivated by the ability to be in a position to help people who are experiencing difficulties in college life. Bob wants to be able to offer students everything that they deserve, whether it be good facilities or top class social events.

3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialaigh / Uachtarán?

Is é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh Bob mar Uachtarán ná níos mó ríomhairí agus clódoirí a chur isteach sa choláiste.

4 Where do your weaknesses lie?

Bob's main weakness is an inability to say 'no'. This has sometimes led to him trying to do too many things at the same time. However, this can also be looked on positively in that it shows that Bob is always willing to help.

5 What should DITSU be doing to increase student participation and interest in DIT issues?

Bob feels that DITSU needs to lose the elitist image which still lingers in some students' minds. DITSU needs to come out of the SU offices and 'back to the people', ie SU officers need to be seen more in the canteen, common room and other student areas.

Name: Rose Daly

Age: 19
College: Mountjoy Square
Position Sought: Deputy President / Welfare Officer

1 What have you done for your college until now?

I am Equality Officer on the Union this year which has involved a number of awareness campaigns. I was also on the Freshers and Rag Crews 96/97, and I have helped in the day to day running of the union

2 What motivates you?

The need to fulfill my objectives, I am motivated by issues of concern, needs that have to be ratified

3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialaigh / Uachtarán?

Ar tis ta me ag iarraidh leansta ar aghaidh leis ar obair a rinne oifigi leasa shoisialaigh a bhi ann romham me, sula thosoidh me le mo chuid smaointe fhein

4 Where do your weaknesses lie?

Italian men. No seriously like everyone I have my weaknesses but I do intend not to let them interfere with my job as Deputy President/ Welfare officer.

5 What should DITSU be doing to increase student participation and interest in DIT issues?

I feel DITSU should become more answerable and more approachable to students. I feel that if this can be achieved then student participation will increase because it will help combat the disillusionment felt by many people about DITSU

Name: Nicola Doyle

Age: 19
College: Cathal Brugha Street
Position Contested: Site Deputy President / Welfare Officer

1 What have you done for your college until now?

During my first year, I played for both the camogie and badminton

teams in the college. I also play for teams outside college. I am a member of the Dramatic Society in Cathal Brugha Street and had a memorable part in the play held during AIDS week.

I am currently President of the Scientific Society in Cathal Brugha Street, this society is course related.

2 What motivates you?

An interest in the welfare of my fellow students is really the main reason for my involvement in these elections. The welfare of students is a number one priority and the scope of 'student welfare' is a broad one.

3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialaigh?

An chéad rud a dheanfainn mar Oifigeach Leasa Shoisialaigh no an database Leasa Shoisialaigh a chuir suas chun data ionas go mbeigh na macleinn DIT abalta eolas a fhail go heasca. Fresin gheobhaidh me eolas nua don tseastán.

4 Where do your weaknesses lie?

I can be stubborn and argumentative at times. But this can also be a good point too except to the person or people that I am arguing with.

5 What should DITSU be doing to increase student participation in DIT issues?

The point about Cert students, and there is quite a lot of them, who would be interested in becoming more involved in DITSU issues but can't because even a little time out of classes means money docked. Basically they have no rights in the students' union, a fact I hope something will be done about in the near future.

Name: Patricia 'Trish' Egan

Age: 21
College: Kevin St
Position sought: Deputy President / Welfare Officer

1 What have you done for your college until now?

I have been a Class Rep for the past two years, I am a DIT Councillor this year. I organised and still run the Yoga Society in Kevin St., I am secretary of the Volleyball Club. I am a member of both the Caving and Set Dancing Clubs.

2 What motivates you?

I'm high on life and I have to be doing something all the time.

3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialaigh / Uachtarán?

Ba mhaith liom daoine a chur ar an eolas maidir le na seirbhísí atá ar fáil in Aontas na Macleinn. Ní mór aghaidh a thabhairt ar tithíocht, deontais, seirbhís cúram leannaí agus ríomhairí.

4 Where do your weaknesses lie?

I'm not able to resist a challenge.

5 What should DITSU be doing to increase student participation and interest in DIT issues?

Firstly, mandate Sabbaticals to make themselves known to all their students. At present, the SU don't seem to be approachable. Get that altered, gain the trust of most students, then issues that arise locally can be dealt with on-site.

Name: Ronan Emmet

Age: 21
College: Mountjoy Square,
Position sought: Site President

1 What have you done for your college until now?

As Deputy President / Welfare Officer I have dealt with many of the welfare issues in MOUNTJOY SQ. The introduction of pay phones, internet access, photo copiers, facilities for art students, Niteline which was a bonus for us.

2 What motivates you?

I enjoy working in the SU and meeting people. It's a thankless job, and the notion of people not knowing what the union does, makes me motivated to go out and tell people what we actually do.

3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialaigh?

The first thing is to set up structures in the union so that everything we have started will be continued when I am gone. Niteline will be in its teething stage and I will be working on that also.

4 Where do your weaknesses lie?

This year I found it hard having to say no to students looking for welfare loans, which is a weakness. I hope that I will be a stronger person next year.

5 What should DITSU be doing to increase student participation in DIT issues?

The sports facilities campaign is one that the majority of students in DIT have in common DITSU needs to increase its press image on a national basis. We need to get out and explain this to students who don't understand it.

Name: Sarah McGovern

Age: 19
College: Kevin St
Position sought: Deputy President / Welfare Officer

1 What have you done for your college until now?

I have represented, entertained, lobbied and promoted on behalf of my college.

2 What motivates you?

A good kick up the arse now and then!!

3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialaigh / Uachtarán?

An chéad rud a dhéanfaidh mé ná an Ghacilge a fhoghlaim!!!

4 Where do your weaknesses lie?

Question 3!

5 What should DITSU be doing to increase student participation and interest in DIT issues?

DITSU should be listening to the students. From the information they gain they should market and promote DIT issues.

Name: Charlie Mitchell

Age: 21
College: Bolton St
Position sought: Deputy President / Welfare Officer

1 What have you done for your college until now?

I was Ents Officer for the college

this year and held many successful events. I also helped campaign for the Universities Bill.

2 What motivates you?

Seeing other people getting on with their lives and knowing that I might have done something to help.

3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialaigh / Uachtarán?

Ba mhaith liom ionduchtú a eagrú i gcóir na mic léinn atá ag teacht chuig an choláiste an bhliain seo chugainn — agus iarracht a dhéanamh caidreamh oibre a chrothú le na húdaráis sa choláiste chun cabhrú liom mo mhó chuid oibre a dhéanamh i rith na bliana.

4 Where do your weaknesses lie?

I hate seeing things go wrong and thinking I could have done more even if I've done my best.

5 What should DITSU be doing to increase student participation and interest in DIT issues?

Go to the students and not expect the students to come to them.

Name: Mairéad Molloy

Age: 19

College: Bolton St

Position sought: Deputy President / Welfare Officer

1 What have you done for your college until now?

I began the year as Class Rep and from there I was elected to DIT Council and the Women's Affairs Committee. I am also Treasurer of the Printing Society and a member of the Ents crew.

2 What motivates you?

I'm motivated by the knowledge that if I am elected I will be in a position to make things better for the students by improving the services provided and by listening to their problems and ideas.

3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialaigh / Uachtarán?

Aithne a chur ar na hOifigigh eile sa choláiste ionas go mbeidh mé in ann an post is fearr a dhéanamh agus ní féidir é sin a dhéanamh gan a gcabhair.

4 Where do your weaknesses lie?

My most obvious weakness is that I haven't been a member of the Executive but I have been preparing myself by going to all Council

Meetings since the start of the year, class rep training National Council and Women's Congress.

5 What should DITSU be doing to increase student participation and interest in DIT issues?

Making the Union visible in the college, giving Class Reps incentives to be the best they can and getting feedback from classes, so that DIT issues are student issues.

Name: Stefan Murphy

Age: 20

College: DIT Mountjoy Sq

Position sought: Deputy President / Welfare Officer

1 What have you done for your college until now?

I've not held a Students Union position up until this point, but I've been actively involved in the Soccer Club for the past two years.

2 What motivates you?

Challenge motivates me, also being told that I'm not good enough to do something motivates me.

3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialaigh / Uachtarán?

Ba mhaith liom iarracht mhór a dhéanamh ó thaobh 'DIT Helpline' a bhunú i mo choláiste féin.

4 Where do your weaknesses lie?

I'm a passionate person and sometimes I've been guilty of letting my heart rule my mind.

5 What should DITSU be doing to increase student participation and interest in DIT issues?

Increasing communications with the students: there can never be enough of it.

Name: Ross O' Daly

Age: 20

College: Bolton St

Position sought: Site President

1 What have you done for your college until now?

Organisation of buses, hostels, jerseys, etc for Clubs and Socs. Negotiated installation of sports equipment cabinets and a silverware cabinet. Aided in day to day running of SU Office.

2 What motivates you?

Organisation of buses, hostels, jerseys, etc for Clubs and Socs. Negotiated installation of sports equipment cabinets and a silverware cabinet. Aided in day to day running of SU Office.

Criticism and Confrontation

3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialaigh / Uachtarán?

Caidreamh oibre a chruthú le húdaráis an choláiste, le bheith in ann rudaí a phlé leo, ar son na mic léinn i rith na bliana agus obair a thosú do Sheachtain Freshers.

4 Where do your weaknesses lie?

Thick and stubborn, but I am from Naaavan. I suppose I could also do with a little bit of tact. I always speak my mind!

5 What should DITSU be doing to increase student participation and interest in DIT issues?

DITSU should be publicised a lot more on a national level. More articles, results and dates in the national press and photographs about the Institute will instil pride in our college and in the students.

Name: Darragh O'Dwyer

Age: 20

College: Aungier St

Position sought: Site President

1 What have you done for your college until now?

Apart from being Treasurer of the Rugby Club, I have had little experience in college affairs or the SU. However, I felt that that had more to do with the SU, as I felt it was insular, a thing I hope to remedy.

2 What motivates you?

I like a challenge and that's how I would see my year as President to be; a challenge to do better in the job than anyone has done before.

3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialaigh / Uachtarán?

An chéad rud atá ag teastáil ná athrú i gcultúr sóisialta sa choláiste; ba mhaith liom daire a fheiceáil a bheith níos cairdiúil le chéile. Is é an rud is tábhachtaí sa choláiste ná saol sóisialta níos fearr a bheith ann.

4 Where do your weaknesses lie?

I sometimes come across as being shy and quiet but this will not effect my ability to get the job done.

5 What should DITSU be doing to increase student participation and interest in DIT issues?

DITSU should encourage the setting up of a stronger Class Rep system, to make the body of students move

involved and aware of issues and not just SU officers.

Name: Siobhán Weekes

Age: 21

College: Aungier St

Position sought: Site President

1 What have you done for your college until now?

I have been in Aungier St for 3 years and have been involved in the Union during this time.

2 What motivates you?

My major motivation is helping people and solving their problems. Knowing that I can make a difference and that I do make a difference is all the motivation I need.

3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialaigh / Uachtarán?

Má éiríonn liom sa toghchán, beidh mé ag tosú mo phost ar 1 Iúil. Le seo, beidh m'inn ann a lán oibre a dhéanamh sna m'fosa roimh Meán Fhómhair. Beidh mé in ann obair libhse chun Aontas láidir a shocrú daoibh, agus an Aontas a choimeád láidir.

4 Where do your weaknesses lie?

Marlboro Lights and DIT Aungier St. While I keep promising myself that I will quit smoking, I promise you that I won't quit DITSU Aungier St. until you are happy with the services it provides. Oh, and Guinness of course!

5 What should DITSU be doing to increase student participation and interest in DIT issues?

The DITSU Executive must listen to all students, Class Reps, councillors and part-time offices. If elected President, I promise to do & say what you want me to do & say, especially n DITSU Executive meetings, where decisions affecting all of us are made.

The DIT Examiner accepts no liability for any questionnaires not returned.

DITSU Overall President

Dermot Blake

1. How are you going to solve the problem of facilities for Chatham Row?

The main problem in Chatham Row is the lack of proper practice rooms and Ensemble rooms. They both need acoustics to suit all musical instruments. I see the problem being solved by two means:

A) If the Grangegorman site is bought and if so this still may take a 3 year building project

or

B) If the DIT does not decide to buy the site, there are 2 options to rent a new site with suitable acoustics etc. or to try and revamp the Rathmines building to cater for the Music students.

2. DIT teams are tired of trekking to 'home' games in Terenure — how do you propose to calm them down?

There must be some system that could be implemented on both a local and DIT level by which students could be given expenses for travel within Dublin. But money will become the problem again.

3. Drinking on campus is a

favourite for students — will you seek permission for this to be allowed throughout the DIT?

No.

4. As DITSU is the biggest union in the country, don't you think USI should be paying us more attention?

Yes. USI should be paying us more attention on a more local level as well as they have been doing on a national level. That is the job of the Union Development Officer in USI.

5. Most students couldn't give a shit about what you Union hacks do - what do you say to THAT?

Firstly, there are a lot of students that do give a shit. If the rest gave a little bit of a shit they might learn and see that all the work done by the SU is for them.

Sinéad Pidgeon

1. How are you going to solve the problem of facilities for Chatham Row?

Chatham Row is often regarded as the poor relation of the DIT. I will not give false promises but this issue had been raised and will hopefully be solved with the completion of the Faculty structure. My utmost attention will be given to the Conservatory next year.

2. DIT teams are tired of trekking to 'home' games in Terenure — how do you propose to calm them down?

Being an inner city college, no green site has been available until recent times. As head of the sports campaign, I am very hopeful that this site will be ours by the end of the year. So calm down trekkers, we will get our just demands in due course.

3. Drinking on campus is a favourite for students — will you seek permission for this to be allowed throughout the DIT?

Dublin City is our campus, and we have been drinking on campus for 100 years. We are supporting 500 plus publicans and God help them if we

were to stop now!

4. As DITSU is the biggest union in the country, don't you think USI should be paying us more attention?

Yes, I do think the National Union should pay us more attention and a special meeting was held in January with the officers of USI to try to rectify these problems. However if students of DIT continue to complain the solution would be a referendum.

5. Most students couldn't give a shit about what you Union hacks do - what do you say to THAT?

DITSU is nothing without student involvement. Its time for mass involvement. Believe it or not every student does and has benefitted through

SU Shop

Welfare

Entertainments

Common Room Facilities

Sport

Counselling and Health Care

Constructive Criticism is one of the best things for the Union. If you have a problem, let us know.

Battle of the Bands

Rag Week wouldn't be the same without a Band competition. Ours was in Eamonn Doran's and ploughed through the best parts of 40 bands in heats. The DIT Examiner was there for the final, held on the Wednesday of the most notorious week in the history of mankind.

by the Examiner trying to make their impression felt. The thundering bass opening of 'Flycatcher' caught a few votes, sure enough, yet though the club was by then over half-full, no-one threatened to penetrate the sacred mosh-pit. Sloth continued with their set, a melodic mixture of 70s punk entwined with the stylistic nuances of their self-proclaimed



Des gets palpitations as the night gets underway, though he needn't have worried; once started, the occasion rolled along at its own pace. Amber nectar flowed and all went well.

A few grown-ups lurked in the shadows — and idols, Fugazi. Zebedee sprung on-stage with the energy of cats and launched into a Skynard-cum-Black Crowes effort complete



SLOTH display no sloth-like qualities as they fidget around the expansive stage in Doran's.

some even lurked out of the shadows — amid the surprisingly with 'eeeow!!' and 'ahh!!' vocal effects. It kicked mildly only, but



Great googly-moogly -- its SMILEY in an out of focus snap by crikey!

mixed crowd. Having missed Pigs in Zen and Smoking Jacket — sorry fellas — Sloth were the first band seen

was enhanced by the lead singer's Dylanesque sounding voice, albeit slightly put on. Then came the bit where it was suddenly clear who these guys thought they

were, and that moment was fiendish. Anyone who sings "Its your letters" a la REEF for TFI Friday during a band competition deserves to be shown no pity or mercy. *Cwucifiction's too good for 'em, sir.* Despite a bit too much Wah-wah-wanking, Zebedee showed us what the whole event was about, and that's to enjoy the thing. They leaped about and had a laugh, and that's what cuts the cheese. If you can't laugh, get out.

Goldberry must have been talking among themselves during their precursors' set, for they strode on and belted straight into a very polished 'Light my candle', but they

melodic and well presented. All in all, though, these guys were in it more for the limelight than for the enjoyment. Hunting the Glory a tad, they went over their entitled time limit, opting for a jacks-number which sauntered along haphazardly without any real direction. Played well but not too fair.

Bolton Street's Inure came out and stood nervously without moving as they presented us with their Pearl Jam / Neil Young influenced tunes. Though the name doesn't sound dead-on-balls accurate, this band didn't seem to revel in their on-stage sojourn but concentrated deeply on the task at hand. The singer's deep, resonant



INURE take no chances on skipping a chord but the end result is well-played music



JACUZZI JUNGLE show that with a bit of colour you always come across in the best light

completely missed out on the 'Have a laugh' nature of the Battle. By this stage, judges Smiley Bolger, Aidan Walsh and Shane Brannigan were mingling,

vocals suited the music well, and Inure might just be back in 98 to contend again.

Relaxed Atmosphere brought anything but such a thing as they



Pulling faces with the ease and dexterity of Morph, RELAXED ATMOSPHERE sure know how to shine

having arrived fashionably late. Goldberry played on — and they could play quite well — giving us Rush-like strains -- generally

bum-rushed Inure off stage and hustled everyone in the vicinity as they prepared to storm the feckin' Bastille. Thinking that perhaps



VENA CAVA, the hippest rock band to sport a flute player since Jethro Tull, and winners of the DIT BAND Society's Battle of the Bands, relaxing in The Point Depot after their Rag Ball gig.

they had won the competition before they even played, these guys pulled every face and posed as much as they could. However, they definitely know how to perform, as they proved with a carbon cover of Living Color's 'Love Rears its Ugly Head'. They can play, they can sing, and if they don't piss too many people off they might go a long way. They got the crowd going, but maybe that was because they had most mates there on the night, including a certain bleach-haired Aungier St. geezer. Good contenders, they had a laugh and played some decent funky numbers, which is what everyone wants, isn't it?

Bongos and a trumpet were

dragged out for the five-piece **Jacuzzi Jungle**, whose stage presence was the biggest of the

their all, and were rewarded with the only real live honest-to-God heaving mosh pit all night. I was

rhythms and, at times, ska-like guitar 'changes', this Kevin St. outfit were received very well, as they sang about rum and sea and sand. Or so I thought, at any rate.

Floorpie failed to show and it was **Hollowpoint's** turn to stomp a few songs out. After the Examiner's photographer was satisfied that they were not going to mug her, she was of the impression that they were actually OK. Looking like a cross between Sepultura, Fun Lovin Criminals and maybe Napalm Death for a bit of colour, it was all hair as **Hollowpoint** cut the air with some of the liveliest music heard all evening.

These young blokes gave it

your guitars out.) Also one of the only bands to look further afield for their musical instruments than the standard drums-guitar-bass outfit, **Vena Cava** pulsed like an Aorta.

Congratulations to Des Grogan, founder and spiritual leader of the DIT B.A.N.D. Society, for his second year organising the Rag Week Battle of the Bands, thanks also to **Heineken** and **Track Mix Studios** for their solid support

throughout, and of course míle buíochas l e

Eamonn Doran's

evening, partly due to their use of more than just guitars, partly due to their colourful threads. They gave the impression of accomplished musicians, they were older than most of the other bands, and they were the biggest crowd get-goers of the night. Combining Caribbean

slightly confused on the lyrics front, though. When we were informed in screaming tones that 'You can make it in Hell!', I figured they were alluding to jam of some sort. I'm sure

Hell would be hot enough to make jam, but whether there'd be enough sugar or not, is another matter entirely. Fair heavy metal balls then, to them **Hollowpointers**.

Then it was the turn of eventual winners **Vena Cava**, who for some strange reason had a girl -- what? --

w e could have

Eamonn Doran's with only one condition: maybe next year

RRRRRRRAAAAAAAAAARRRRR! Rock the way it should be played - thank you HOLLOWPOINT

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Four-piece GOLDBERRY show that you don't need long hair to rock out

playing with them. (Yes, the only band in the entire band competition with a girl in the line-up -- how come? Are we to be left with a solid blokish legacy, giving the impression that DIT might actually be a seminary? Come on girls, get

the Battle on in the New York Dorans?

Chaos



'I want to swallow my bicycle, I want to swallow my bike,' said the Juggling Fugitive as he mesmerised various onlookers in Kevin St. Later on he took to throwing knives with scant regard for student safety.

WE took all the schmoove schnaps from RAG WEEK and packed 'em all together in a great big floppy section which you now see before you.



Rag Week 97



Leandre from Hair Raisers goes mad for the Kevin St Head-Shave. OW!!

Ball rolls along smoothly

The Rag was no drag. With 4,600 confirmed kills this year's Rag Ball must go down as a hit. Ask anyone of the participants on the night and they would have answered — admittedly in drunken gibberish, but understandable all the same — that, yes, they were having a blast, thank you.

Vena Cava, stylish winners of the DIT Battle of the Bands, took to the stage first, a tough job, but one they took admirably to.

The Paperback Beatles, being professionals, had it easier, but played a blinder all the same. They had it together right down to the slopey mustaches. Kicking off with *Sgt. Pepper's*, they stormed through *Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds*, *Penny Lane* and the rest of the greats. *Hello Goodbye* was particularly well cogged, and despite the fact that they couldn't really sing, they had strong Liverpudlian accents, so they were covered.

As a warm-up band the Paperbacks did more than their fair share, paving the way for the real thing; the real fake thing, headliners, Oasis coverband, Champagne Supernova. The emphasis might easily be placed here on the 'Cham', but for the night it was in it, they fit like Twix.

No fatalities were recorded, despite the fact that one or two participants tried to drink themselves to death. A spectacularly great picnic it was, yes.



'You want some?! Eh? I'll bleedin' DO you, son!' explains another head-shave victim to a quaking camera person. Needless to say, she had the best hair cut on the day. No messing, honest.



From top: Mashing fellow students to pulp, Bouncy Boxing in violent Bolton St.; Big Pint Céili causes people to dance round in circles instead of in a straight line; John Nolan, purportedly from Bolton St, does an impression of... we're not sure what, exactly, (maybe Donkey Kong) at the RAG BALL; first casualty of the evening in the Point, bathed in drunken light. He later wrote a best selling beat-generation novel which was nominated for the Booker.



How many bands do you know who can boast Superman on the drums? Cathal Brughha St had these guys in for Rag Week, and they wailed, yes.



Eoin Fitzgerald (Chatham Row) and Richard Conville (Kevin St) havin' a schwingin' time at the crazy RAG BALL.



Catherine Mahon, Clare O' Dowd and Berenice Murray (all Cahal Brugha St) with stars in their eyes, as they wait for Champagne Supernova to croon.



George Arrison does dough don't be dough

Every picture tells a story and some of these are looking for publishers to complete their trilogies. Just look at the state of some of these people. You'd swear they had never seen the inside of a camera shop before, let alone the flash of a bulb. Have a gaze, write down what springs to mind and then burn the paper you wrote it on.



'They're the bitch you hated, two twisted animatahs -- yeah!'

Bhí an cúig lá seo iontach, ar fheabhas. Seachtain gan sárú don chuid is mó a bhí anseo, agus cé nár bailíodh an t-uafás airgead d'ospidéal na bpáistí i gCromghlin ná do Cairde, ach ní chialaíonn sé sin gur droch-thoradh ar fad é.

I measc buaicphoinntí na seachtaine bhí comórtas Battle of the Bands in Eamonn Doran's, Berradh Cinn i Sráid Chaoimhín, Booze Cruise ag Sráid Chathail Brugha agus Bouncy Boxing i Sráid Bholton.

Chuaigh bus ar seachrán ar Rag Trip Shráid Chaoimhín, faraoir,

ach tháinig gach turasóir slán as. Ba bheag nár cuireadh an Booze Cruise ag Sráid Chathail Brugha ar ceal de bharr na droch-aimsire, agus fuair Uachtarán Sráid Bolton, Colin Costello léasadh mhaith san dornáilfocht, nuair ar chuir sé na láimhíní air féin sa bhfáinne troda don Bouncy Boxing ar an Déardaoin.

Bailíodh breis agus £2,400 do na lucht charthanachta, agus táthar ag súil le tuille go luath. Ar ndóigh, bhí an Rag Ball ar siúl i dtreo deireadh na seachtaine, agus bhí gach rath ar sin.



A slightly bemused 'Paul McCartney' and the scientifically wigged-out PAPERBACK BEATLES backstage at The Point. No groupies for a cover band?

Seachtain na nGlobal 97



'No I don't need medical help! Can't you see I'm about to ring the doorbell on the house of nirvana?'



One needs a spongy brain for the Iron Stomach in these here parts.



A close up of the real thing leaves one feeling the need to expel semi-digested food from tummy very fast.



A shower of Big Pint token thingies tries to engulf a real live woman somewhere in Drink City, Arizona.

Fitzgibbon Cup Thriller

Senior hurlers beaten by one point in extra time

Tony Kinsella

8-2-97

WRTC 0-17
DIT 0-16

The DIT team which lined out under captain Darren Caulfield at Walsh Park, Waterford, was identical to the team which had defeated UCG in the first round of the Fitzgibbon Cup. The home team played with a bitterly cold and strong down field wind in the first half on a heavy pitch which was to cut up badly later in the afternoon.

The first score of the game went to WRTC when their halfback converted a point from a 65 metre free. A pass from DIT midfielder, Mick Fitzpatrick, found wing forward Martin Corcoran who was fouled. The subsequent 20 metre free was converted by half forward Gerry Ennis, the DIT marksman. The home team then registered 4 points without reply in the next 5 minutes.

The WRTC half forward who was in for a certain goal was foiled by goalkeeper Seamus Killeen. Mark Murphy started the DIT comeback with two points while Ollie Canning collected and delivered a low pass from his opposite number,

Martin Corcoran, to reduce the DIT deficit to a single point after 23 minutes of play. While WRTC scored 2 more points, play flowed back to DIT who put over 3 points to 1 by WRTC to leave the half time scoreboard reading 8 points for WRTC to 7 points for DIT.

The DIT scores in the final minutes of the first half came from two frees which were converted by Gerry Ennis and a neat point from play by full forward Ray Doran.

Within the first minute of the resumption, Mark Murphy levelled the scores with a fine drive from 50 metres. WRTC regained the lead from a free which was cancelled by a superb conversion from 90 metres by half back Paul Finnerty. DIT put WRTC under intense pressure which unfortunately yielded no reward. WRTC attacks continually foundered on the rocks with typically bravura performances by the DIT defence and midfielders.

On 16 minutes the home team half back put up the white flag and his score was followed by two more points to give WRTC a 3 point advantage going into the closing 10 minutes of the game. DIT were undaunted by the prospect of clawing back the game.

Martin Corcoran began the fight back with an excellent point from a very tight angle. A DIT free was

converted with superb aplomb by Gerry Ennis and a Mick Fitzpatrick pass found Ennis for another point.

forward raised the white flag. A DIT point by Mark Murphy put the visitors back in the driving seat.



The DIT Senior Hurling team which lost by a fraction to WRTC in Walsh Park in early February. It meant the end of their Cup hopes.

A WRTC point seemed to give the home side victory but a last gasp point by Ollie Canning resulted in extra time being played, the scores being level at 13 points.

Declan Maher, wearing number 17, came on for Ollie Devine on the resumption of the first period of extra time. Maher soon put his name on the score sheet with a converted free. The DIT lead was taken back when the WRTC half

The second DIT substitution saw Trevor Hayes replace Enda Hoey just before the half-time whistle.

WRTC were rocked to their core on the resumption when Mark Murphy put DIT 2 points ahead. While WRTC subsequently scored 3 points without reply the DIT attack had no luck in their valiant attempts to hold on to their lead, and, when that slipped away, to get the vital point for a replay.

When referee Dickie Murphy blew full time both sides were physically and emotionally exhausted after a tense, exciting and, ultimately heartbreaking game for DIT.

The WRTC Chairman and coaching staff were loud in their praise of the DIT team who gave them the closest run that they had experienced in recent years. DIT, who had been written off before the start of the Fitzgibbon Cup series, have shown what determination and discipline can achieve in a very short space of time. DIT are now a force to be reckoned with in hurling and, in future, our opponents will treat us with considerable respect.

While the senior team are out for this season, don't forget that the Intermediate and Freshers' teams are still in the running for championship honours in their grades. **Come out and support them!**

DIT Senior Hurling: Seamus Killeen, Darren Caulfield, Trevor MacGrath, Art Flannery, Enda Hoey, Liam Walsh, Paul Finnerty, Mick Fitzsimons, Sean Duignan, Mark Murphy, Ollie Devine, Gerry Ennis, Martin Corcoran, Ray Doran, Ollie Canning. Subs: Dave Haughton, Declan Maher, Darragh Spain, Lorcán MacMathúna, Trevor Hayes, Martin Murphy.

FRESHERS HOLD OUT TO REACH SEMI-FINAL

Peter Casey

D.I.T.....3-8
MAYNOOTH1-8

The first year hurlers of the D.I.T gave an emphatic display to overcome the might of St. Patrick's College, Maynooth in the quarter final of the All-Ireland Championship. This win has rewarded them with a revenge match against Waterford R.T.C in the Semi-Final.

Inspired by some great work by David Clohessy, Mark Murphy and Gerry Ennis the D.I.T lads held an interval lead of 8 points with points coming from Rory Hickey, Mark Murphy, Joe Cullen and Gerry Ennis.

Just before the half time break Ennis followed up a ball hit by Hickey to crash home a great goal from about five yards out.

However, this half was marred by the sending off of two players; Paul Finnerty, D.I.T centre back and his marker on the Maynooth team. These two players can feel harshly treated. However, the game had been tense all through the half and it was unfortunate that these players were the ones singled out. The lead which the Dublin lads held at half time was very small given the strength of the wind, and it could be seen that the lads were facing an uphill battle going into the second half.

The lads asserted themselves well and with two goals from Rory Hickey — one a spectacular, kicked effort, the D.I.T lads held out to record a famous victory. Victory was made even sweeter when it was learned after the game that their football counterparts had reached the final. All out now for the double.

TEAM: Lar Lacey, Frank O' Meara, David Clohessy, John Kelly, Mark Heffernan, Paul Finnerty, Philip Blake, Joe Cullen, Michael O'Brien, Rory Hickey, Mark Murphy, Martin Corcoran, Darragh McCormack, David Horey, Gerry Ennis. Subs: Sean Cleary, Enda Kennedy.

DIT LADIES TAKE DERRY BY STORM

DIT 3-13
Magee College, Derry 0-2

The DIT ladies made the long, but worthwhile trek to Derry on Wednesday last to take on the Ulster champions in the quarter final of the division 2 league. With little time to warm up the Southern girls took the game to their opponents from the start

against a gale force wind with points from Sharon Wall, Sheila Quinn and a goal via Anita Conway. Tremendous work from Olivia Keogh and Ruth English at midfield ensured the DIT forwards of good possession though points proved difficult to come by against the North Atlantic wind. Magee were only able to score two points with the wind but could have had a goal but for a good save from Monaghan girl Mairead McGahon. The half ended 2-3 to 0-2 to the visi-

tors.

The second half proved to be a relatively easy affair for the DIT and but for a Pele like goal from Conway from a free and a long range point from McGahon there was little to talk about. Best for the DIT were Keogh, English, Wall, Conway and Quinn with the backs having little to do. DIT now play UCG in the semi-final this week.

DIT: M.McGahon, M. Fitzgerald, C.Ferry, O. Doyle, M.Keogh, A.Boland, A.Hackett,



Higher Education All-Ireland Cross Country Championships
 These championships were hosted for the first time ever by the DIT X-Country Club and part-sponsored by Guinness at the picturesque Magazine Fort on Wed 19 Feb. Pictured above is Kevin St. student Eugene O'Neill, winner of the men's race. He was followed home by Martin Heary, also Kevin St., and Colin Coyne of Waterford RTC, but formerly of Bolton St. Fourth in was Cathal Brugha St.'s Humphries Toomey. Fiona McGann (Kevin St) strode home in 20.09 minutes to take the women's title, ahead of Paula Corbett of Waterford and Garda Catherine Leavy.

DIT Handball serves up results

The DIT Handball Club established itself firmly on the handball map this year with a string of successful matches the length and breadth of the country. The crowning victory was in the winning of the varsities at Tralee RTC in February, and a special report will follow next month.

Their winning ways have also been recorded in the Dublin Championships and Dublin League. From November to January the DIT Handballers have made an impression on the Dublin Championships when Pádraig Gaffney (Bolton St.) carried off a junior singles title beating George Ryan (St. Malachi's) in the final, next year he must play senior. Shane Dermer and Frank Semple (both Kevin St.) won out the novice doubles

over a St. Patrick's pair, Ward and Heffernan. Other efforts were made by D. Nolan, S. Kiernan (Aungier St.), M. Derham (Cathal Brugha St.), D. Hallisey (Kevin St.), P. Brady (Mountjoy Sq.).

There has also been success in the Dublin junior league with 4 wins from 5 matches that puts them top of the league. They now go on to the semi-final. The victories were against Portobello District (5-2), Garda (7-0), St. Pat's A (7-0), and Leixlip (6-1). They lost out to St. Pat's A in the semi-final at Croke Park on Thursday March 6.

The DCU Handball Club are hosting a weekend tournament on April 4 and 5. For all levels of players, all students are welcome, phone Frank @ 282 0910 or Josephine @ 088 502 969.



GAA President elect Joe McDonagh with DIT Handball Club. L-R: Damien Hallisey, Shane Dermer, Pádraig Gaffney, Joe McDonagh, Paul Brady, Clare Doyle and Frank Semple.

President Elect Visits DIT GAA Clubs

On Tuesday last when victory for the DIT GAA clubs was high in the air, President elect Mr. Joe McDonagh was the GAA Clubs guest of honour at a seminar hosted by DIT GAA Club held in Bolton St. College.

Mr. McDonagh spoke of his College days in UCG and complemented all the students both male and female for attending his speech, he paid recognition to the Handball Club who had just returned from Tralee having won the All-Ireland Team A event. Also during his congratulations to the Handball Club the victorious football freshers team arrived back from Waterford to a warm and well-deserved applause.

He then went onto to send good wishes to all at the Clubs in their up-coming competitions. He also complemented all the hard work done by the students, staff and Josephine the Development Officer.

A questions and answers session was held after the speeches and all queries were satisfied including topics ranging

from tickets to development, third level competition to media.

Mr. McDonagh proved to be a very popular man on the night and all in DIT GAA Clubs have no doubt that he will make a very popular president nationwide. However, the night did not end in Bolton St., as a light 'beverage' had been arranged at a social location, and it was there, to the delight of the students especially to those from the west of Ireland that Mr. McDonagh stood up and sang 'The West's Awake'.

This was received with a thundering applause from a full house and an encore was called, so from there on in to the late hours we had a chorus of the fine voice of the President elect and the GAA students.

On behalf of all the DIT GAA Clubs (Handball, Ladies Football, Camogie, Football and Hurling) we would like to wish Mr. McDonagh every success in his role and look forward to having him back again in the future.

Ladies and Freshers Split Spoils in Galway

	Freshers	Ladies
DIT	2-8	0-8
UCG	1-10	3-7

This double header at Dangan, Galway on Thursday 27 made for an interesting trip down with the lads not being distracted by the presence of the ladies, so focused were they on the task in hand! It was to prove a disappointing day for the ladies as they went out to a much more organised and fitter UCG team. However it was only the second time they have been beaten this season and they still have the championship to come.

The freshers semi-final was a different affair. Nail-biting, thrilling, heart-stopping are just some of the words that could be used to describe it. From start to finish this game epitomised the physical yet skilful nature of colleges football and kept a partial crowd on their toes right to the final whistle - eight minutes into injury time! UCG settled into the game much quicker than the visitors with two points. Niall Crossan opened the scoring for the DIT in the tenth minute with a close in free after two previous wides. However in the seventeenth minute a lofted ball into the square deceived Nally in goal and Donnellan at corner back in the blustery conditions and allowed McKiernan to flick over the head of the keeper to give UCG a four point lead and a boost of confidence. With the tough tackling and hard earned possession scores proved very difficult to come by for both teams though UCG were guilty of wasting some scorable chances and going for goal when points were for the taking. DIT also had chances in this period but only a second point from Crossan was to come in this half for them followed by two UCG points just before the interval. The score was 1-4 to 0-2 to the Galway lads at half-time. Although the

wind was blowing across the field it appeared as though DIT would be shooting into the scoring goals in the second half and this indeed proved to be the case. UCG opened the scoring again in this half with a fine point to give them a six point advantage. Some heavy pressure followed from DIT with the ball hardly out of their opponents half for six or seven minutes. A well placed pass from Barry Monaghan found Crossan in the right corner with the UCG defence pushing out to meet him but they failed to stop him jinxing along the end-line and blasting to the net past the keepers left. UCG responded immediately with a solo effort from Fallon. A point from Joel Carr brought it back to three with fifteen minutes to go and there was never going to be a wider gap on the score sheet from here on in. Crowd encroachment on the sideline stopped play twice in this period with everyone wanting to get closer to the action. Rory Sweeney brought the teams closer with a fine point from 35 yards on the resumption. Some pressure play from DIT was met with tough defending by UCG and the difference was kept to two points. UCG broke up the field for their seventh point to give them a three point cushion. It was full-time! The next eight minutes was to prove nerve wrecking for both teams and supporters with no one knowing how much injury time the referee was going to play for the stoppages for the many injuries and field encroachments. A Crossan free brought it back to two after Carr was fouled whilst bearing down on goal. A point three minutes later from McMahon and UCG surely felt they were on their way to the final but an immediate reply came with a break down the left and again Crossan was on hand to slot it over but more was needed. Two wides in succession followed and it looked as though it was

all over for the visitors but the DIT never gave up and an inspirational moment was to follow. An inspired catch from the captain Mike Ryan in the middle of the park gave possession back. A link up with Rory Griffith found Michael Cantwell ten yards out with the keeper advancing and his defence struggling. Cantwell flicked on to Crossan with the Erin's Isle man having no one to beat to tap it to the net. DIT were in front for the first time in the game and 68 minutes had been played! UCG took the quick kick out and progressed to the DIT forty but after Ryan's interception the final whistle, which was being dreaded just thirty seconds earlier by the visitors, sounded and DIT were in their first ever Freshers final amid dramatic scenes. It was a cruel twist of fate for Galway but they contributed to an enthralling contest. DIT will now play either UCD/UCC or Jordantown in the final on March 12 (this may be changed). All support would be greatly appreciated on what promises to be a great day. Buses will be arranged.

To rub salt into the UCG wound the entire DIT contingent headed for the students bar and made themselves heard with fine renditions of "Yogi Bear" and "Up the Fairway"; Those time honoured pieces of football folklore. While some stayed in Galway to really rub it in the rest had to endure the bus-driver home with a strict alcohol ban; Which was fully adhered to!

DIT: C.Nally (Meath), R.O'Brien (Dublin), E.McEntyre (Longford), N.Donnellan (Cavan), R.Sweeney (Donegal), M.Ryan (c)(Roscommon), D.Kelly & A.O'Brien (Dublin), B.Frawley (Clare) K.MacDonald (Meath), B.Monaghan (Donegal), N.Crossan (Dublin), J.Cogan (Sligo), M.Cantwell (Meath), J.Carr (Donegal). Subs used: R.Griffith for E.McEntyre, 45 min & P.McHale for J.Cogan, 60 min.

DIT Hockey Team see off challengers in ICHA final

The Irish Colleges Hockey Association Finals took place at Railway Union and Pembroke Wanderers Hockey Grounds on Thursday 23 February.

To reach the finals, colleges had to qualify through regionalised leagues which have been running since last October. The eight finalists played in two groups of four throughout the day and the top

teams in each group played in the final. This was won by DIT Kevin St. from Inchicore after a penalty competition, due to a nil-all scoreline by the end of ordinary time.

Immediately after the final all the teams retired to the bar for a Table Quiz which was sponsored by Guinness Group Sales, who also supplied two kegs for the occasion.



Back row L-R: Enda Hoey, Clare Richardson, Sinéad Ní Chonchúir, Catherine Grace, Mairéad McGahon, Mary Collins, Peter Casey. Front L-R: Anita Conway, Joan Morris, Aishling McDermott, Avril Boland, Róisín Ní Cheallaigh

DIT Camogie has strong future

The DIT Camogie team took part in the Division Three League Blitz on Saturday which was held in the UCD grounds. Even though it was only held over one day this was an All Ireland Finals competition.

In the quarter final DIT were to face St. Drumcondra, which seemed as though it was going to be an uphill task as DIT had taken on St. Pat's earlier in the week and were beaten badly, however, when the game began it was a different story all thanks to the management of Peter 'Bousy' Casey and Enda Hoey, it must be their Clare expertise that changed things. This was an exciting game and at half time the scoreline more than the St. Pat's girls could handle. Lady of the match was the Superb Avril Boland who kept Pat's 'Wanda' out of the game completely. 'Wanda' was the machine engine behind St. Pat's throughout their league campaign until she met Boland. Final score: St. Pat's 2-4 DIT 1-2.

The Semi-Final versus Marino College was a more evenly contested game, in the first half

Marino were the fresh team and if they had steadied themselves more they could have pulled off a semi-final shock victory. DIT opened the scoreline in the first minute with a goal from the team captain Catherine Grace.

In the second half, corner back Joan Morris was moved to mid-field and this was when DIT pulled the game away from the Marino girls. Morris added 1-2 to the scoreline.

The final was played and it was St. Pat's who were their opponents again. At this stage all the players were showing signs of having played three games in a row, however, they battled on and that is exactly what this final was. It was exciting to the finish when St. Pat's recovered to be the first ever winners of the Division Three CCIA camogie Shield. Their were scenes of excitement and sorrow but nobody could have complained on the day as it was an excellent final.

Final score:
St. Pat's 4-3 DIT 0-4

Josephine Rogers,
GAA Development Officer

DIT Handball makes Junior League Semis

The DIT Handball Club qualified for the finals of the Dublin junior league championships in a close semi final match with St. Pat's winning 4-2 on the night. Having previously beaten their opponents 7-0 the students were pinned to their shirt collars as the vastly experienced Pat's player Jimmy Heffernan (all Ireland winner 1984) took the first game 15-12 from Shane Dormer (Kevin St.). However, Shane dug deep and equalised winning 15-9 in the second game. In the doubles match again the DIT trailed in the first game to John Downey (all Ireland winner 1993) and Declan Ryan losing 15-14, in the second game Paul Brady (Mountjoy Sq.) and Frank Semple (Kevin St.) equalised the match on a 15-13 score line, in the last doubles match the DIT team won out 15-9 and lead for the first time on the night. Padraic Gaffney (Bolton St.) was the last representa-

ly but inevitably there had to be a winner and the section finished up:

1st: Stephen O Loughlin
2nd: Brian Conway
3rd: Robert Byrne

Next section was the Continuous, which is a bit like kick-boxing with each fighter trying to gain the most points in a 90 sec. round without the referee stopping the bout after each point as he does in semi-contact.

Duncan Rowe was our only member with experience of this type of competition and so entered this section. Even though he landed a brilliant 'jump spinning hook kick' which gained him the nick-name Duncan 'Van Damme' Rowe, he failed to place.

Our next trophies were gained in the Kata section which is where the competitors perform 'patterns' or 'forms' (a set of moves) for the judges to score.

Cillian O' Connell picked up 1st place here and Duncan 'Van Damme' Rowe picked up 3rd place.

Finally was the 'Destruction' section. This is where each competitor uses their strength and technique to break boards. Ray Murphy, a white belt beginner, managed to beat all opposition here, which included a number of experienced black belts, by powering through boards with his Bad Hand!

Special thanks are given to Dundalk RTC for their hospitality and we hope to see them, and all the other colleges, at the first ever All Ireland 8 Man Team Event Spectacular to be hosted by John Kavanagh, Chief Instructor of Bolton St Freestyle.

For more info on events and training times contact me on Ph:01-4023621 or Fax:01-8722997.

John Kavanagh



L-R: Duncan Rowe, Robert Ó Rabairt, Cillian Kinnane, Robert Byrne, John Kavanagh (Coach), Clive Carter, C. Cleary, Ray Murphy with some of the booty the captured in at the Tae Kwon Do Open in Dundalk.

tive into the court and needed to win one game for victory and he did it comfortably in his first game winning 15-8.

The victory puts DIT into the final against the Garda team whom they trounced 7-0 in the league match but lessons were learned and they will be up for the game in Croke Park Wednesday 6.30 p.m.

As preparation for the final, all the team are in training at Croker during the week and each are involved in games over the weekend. P. Brady and P. Gaffney meet in the all Ireland semi finals of the minor doubles respectively representing Ulster and Connacht while S. Dormer plays the Laois senior singles semi final and F. Semple plays the Wicklow doubles intermediate semi final.

Frank Semple

David Ervine: The Moderate Voice of Loyalism

Lisa Armstrong interviews the leader of the Progressive Unionists.

The peace initiative can be salvaged, says David Ervine. Unlike some mainstream Unionists he is willing to give Sinn Fein one last chance to enter into the talks process, if the IRA declares another ceasefire.

"In many ways the peace process doesn't exist, because there is no peace, but a political process exists"; said Mr Ervine. This could move the situation on.

"The peace process remains alive in people's hearts, the desire for it is there," he added.

After 25 years of stalemate, most people want peace. This was why hopes rose so high when the latest peace efforts began.

Mr Ervine said:

"Peace is not just the absence of violence. Peace is the creation of trust, the diminishment of emotionalism, the diminishment of sectarianism and the creation of commonality."

The peace initiative can be resurrected he says, if:

The IRA declares another ceasefire

Sinn Fein will be allowed to enter the talks

Decommissioning is not demanded before talks begin

He accepts that the IRA should be given one last chance. If they were to call another ceasefire this would open the doorway for talks with Sinn Fein, but until this is apparent the door will remain barred. He told me, "I think it's important that we recognise that we all need each other in the process of negotiation."

Northern Ireland's problems can only "be resolved or transformed around a table". Achieving a political settlement would be a slow and confusing business. There was much that we could learn from other peace settlements throughout the world like those in place in South Africa, the Middle East and even Bosnia.

The Progressive Unionist leader said, "there are lessons which can be learned in terms of the importance of the negotiated process and how that process of negotiation works."

Wholly inclusive dialogue was the only positive way to move forward, he stressed. It was important that all sides recognise the futility of the war.

"The two nationalist communities, the British and Irish nationalists, have to recognise that we have to

co-exist whilst maintaining our allegiances and aspirations."

Loyalist representatives seem less reluctant than mainstream unionist parties, to enter into talks with Sinn Fein and negotiate with Dublin politicians which may involve contemplating a compromise settlement that would involve cross-border links with Dublin.

Mr Ervine said, "all sides to the conflict would have to re-examine their attitudes." He dreams of a time when the political parties can enter into wholly inclusive dialogue against a backdrop of peace. He agrees that the dialogue should include Sinn Fein: however he will only speak to them when the IRA declares a formal ceasefire.

"The barrier to the wholly inclusive dialogue is violence. It's IRA violence, it has to stop and when it stops I believe that the circumstances can be created where talks can take place."

When a process of trust is established the political process would flourish. Areas of contention would narrow and the logjam to progress would break.

"Decommissioning will only happen in Northern Ireland as we begin a process of trust," he said, stressing that when you increased the primacy of politics over paramilitarism you were able to take away the mindset of those who formally gave little thought to democracy. It would be a long laborious process but until this occurred the road forward would remain blocked.

Mr Ervine said problems which are apparent in Northern Ireland stem from an inherent mistrust, felt by each side and their joint apprehension towards the British and Irish governments. If this could be overcome the political deadlock would end.

It seems surprising that Mr Ervine, a former member of the paramilitaries is willing to reach his hand across the political divide when others who have been in politics for years in Northern Ireland are still unwilling to do so.

"I'm prepared to put my hand across the divide because that's what it requires. I've witnessed the lack of moderacy, I've witnessed the lack of toleration and they haven't worked, maybe my theory will."

Mr Ervine has often been described as being the moderate voice of loyalism. He doesn't regard him-

self as a natural politician but he believes he plays an important role by talking to loyalists. His goal is to achieve democracy in Northern Ireland:

"We have to give our society back to the people who really own it, not the hard men on either side, but the ordinary people who have been marginalised and feel totally helpless and alienated by the violence that goes on around them."

The peace initiative has proceeded in stops and sudden starts, increasingly getting bogged down with the issue of decommissioning.

Armed loyalist groups agree that decommissioning weapons before political talks is a bad idea. This would only be resolved when trust through the process of negotiation from all sides is in place.

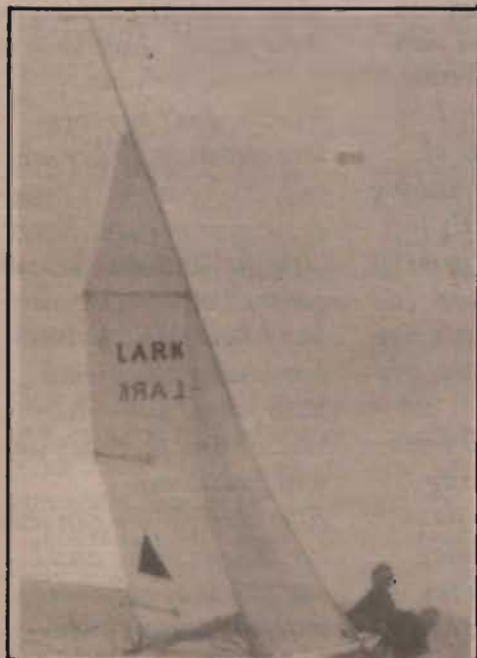
Mr Ervine maintains: "The requirement is to create a twin process that will converge at the same point."

As we near the marching season it is important to avoid another summer of confrontation. The Progressive Unionist leader is in no doubt that "the violent Republican movement have been behind some manipulation in relation to the marching season". Confrontation has resulted as a direct response to the subjugation of culture and "the subjugation of anybody's culture is not the answer, it's about co-existence". As long as we remain reticent, there is no understanding between the two cultures and this is easily manipulated. This is what is happening now and "implacable opposites attract".

Mr Ervine said: "The residents within the flash point areas, like Harryville, will have to engage in dialogue with the members of the Orange Order." It would not have to be done directly, but via mediation groups that could work towards solving the problem as well as educating one another. As the situation stands, the events in Harryville were "damaging to the whole notion of the Union." This must be resolved to create a stable society where the two sides of the divide could live together.

As for the future of Northern Ireland:

"The talks process can succeed, if not this week, some year. That's the way it'll be done and Northern Ireland's problems will be resolved or transformed around a table. Why not now?"



The 1997 Sailing Intervarsities were this year hosted by DIT. Teams travelled from all parts of the country to Dunmore East, Co. Waterford to participate. The numbers reached an all-time high with twenty-eight teams (six per team) entered for three days competitive sailing.

DIT altered the usual line-up and changed the constitution to allow RTCs and smaller colleges to enter the event. Being only the third year that DIT has entered the intervarsities, this year we organised the largest to date.

DIT Stage Biggest Sailing Intervarsities

It was a task taken on by a committee that was formed back in October comprising students from various DIT campuses.

The amount of students totalled approximately three hundred. The quiet fishing and tourist village was awoken by sailors out to prove themselves and do their colleges proud against elements and their rivals. Taking place in February, sailing was threatened by weather with high winds and choppy seas on the Thursday night before racing. It looked as if a lot of effort on the part of the committee may have been in vain. However, with fourteen Laser IIs and six Larks (sailing dinghies) and a strong rescue fleet of nine boats on the pier, it was hoped that the forecast was wrong.

Yes, Friday morning, the sun shone and a gentle breeze blew across the bay. Hungover sailors were abruptly awoken as all the boats were eagerly rigged. The race course was laid and all the dinghies hit the water. The race course was set up with a laptop computer, radio base and plenty of paperwork to handle the onslaught of results, protests and queries.

The early morning briefing on the race plan was given by Johnny Horgan (Shoremaster) at the top of the sleep. A logistical nightmare was to be managed efficiently and effectively for all teams to get on the water. The first teams hit the water and the momentum began, race after race, team after team.

Thrills and spills were aplenty, embarrassing capsize and stupid errors were made which in the end wiped out some colleges. Saturday, crunch time as regards racing and the weather obliged by holding off. All full committee once again manned all stations. Early morning racing, two flights of boats on the water and knockout stages would decide who was left for the quarters, semis and final on Sunday.

A crowd gathered in the Yacht Club bar made up of spectators and teammates cheering their colleagues on from the balcony, and jeering at the unfortunates who looked at some stages like they preferred being in the water rather than in it. The racing finished in the evening with only the top eight teams remaining, who were all in contention to win the right to represent Ireland in the University Team Racing World Championships in France.

Saturday night, disco night, all sailors and supporters gathered in the Ocean Hotel. A buffet meal was served and it was agreed that University of Limerick was to take on

the task of staging the 1998 Sailing Intervarsities on Lough Derg. Carlsberg prizes were raffled off, and dancing continued into the small hours. A late start was given to the first of the quarter finals beginning around eleven o'clock on Sunday. The semis started not long after. London rocketed through beating DCU in an exciting two race battle. Unfortunately, DIT were unlucky, being beaten by a top class UCD team.

Down to the final. Ireland (UCD) taking on England (guest-London) Rescue boats buzzed around as the swell grew larger and winds strengthened. Skill and expertise was needed to keep the boats upright in these testing conditions. Bang! Start gun. Flags dropped. The final began. UCD came out victorious but to win outright they had to prove themselves in the best of three races. The second race began after some damaged equipment was replaced. A tough London team battled hard and won the second race. It was now all to play for, but UCD pulled through to take the trophy after some expertise and exciting sailing.

Overall the event was a great success. The efficiency of the committee was praised by all including the Yacht Clubs general committee. Even if teams hopes were dashed on the water the nightly entertainments more than compensated.

Dave Doherty

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: Fri. 11 April

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

NAME _____
COLLEGE _____
YEAR _____
COURSE _____
STUDENT NO. _____

For Feb '97 winners see page 2

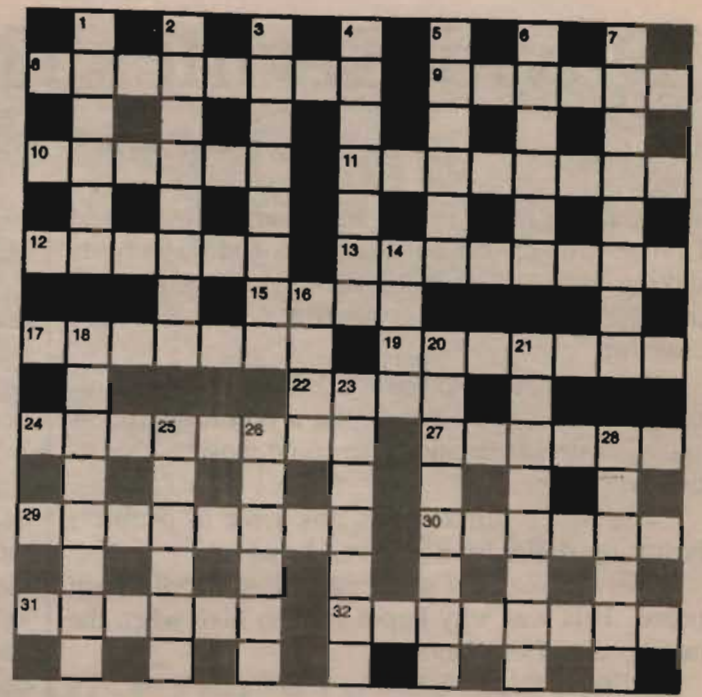
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Ditsu

Dublin Institute of Technology Students Union
STUDENTS UNION SHOPS



ACROSS

- 8 A series of things following in order (8)
- 9 Marcel, French novelist (6)
- 10 Plates could be part of a basic diet (6)
- 11 Centaurs from ancient state of Northern Italy (8)
- 12 Agree to (6)
- 13 Go illegally onto another's land (8)
- 15 Covering for the foot (4)
- 17 Strong grass used in rope-making (7)
- 19 Eighth planet from the sun (7)
- 22 B, in Greece (4)
- 24 Believing and following established religious doctrines (8)
- 27 Depended (6)
- 29 Leavings of famous hypnotist (8)
- 30 Don made an incursion into the IRA (6)
- 31 Put in with needle and syringe (6)
- 32 Could Ned Green generate or induce? (8)

DOWN

- 1 Type of tank for sewage (6)
- 2 Order to appear in court (8)
- 3 Catch or hold the attention (8)
- 4 Met me? No, just had a reminder (7)
- 5 Thinly scattered (6)
- 6 Throw a coin to decide (6)
- 7 Hired killer (8)
- 14 Money paid for use of property (4)
- 16 Tramp, vagrant (4)
- 18 Trying or fighting hard (8)
- 20 Payments for work done (8)
- 21 Fair to those with different views (8)
- 23 Roused the feelings of (7)
- 25 Inaugural gift, coin in new handbag, say (6)
- 26 Scarcity, lack (6)
- 28 Avoided or escaped (6)

COMPETITION NO. 5

Dear Agatha,

Having problems? Acting slightly weird? Biting your own toes off in a shark-like feeding frenzy? Let Agatha do for you.

LETTER OF THE WEEK

Dear Agatha,
I'm 22 years old and I think I may have a problem. I love defacing women. Sometimes I spend hours in front of the computer pinching, squeezing, stretching and pulling the faces of Ireland's top celebrities until they're unrecognisable. The best part is when you can make skinny women look fat or make them have big faces with tiny wee eyes. What a howl! Already today I've defaced Emer Quinn and Michelle Rocca and it's not even lunch time.

Please help me.

Your problem is of the Freudian nature. I have consulted a psychologist on this matter, and have been told that you obviously have a very domineering mother and your photo squeezing obsession is a way of getting back at her without actually causing her any physical bodily harm. Your defacing women on screen is because you can't face them in real life. Making skinny women fat is your way of getting back at all those rejections from skinny 'beautiful' women. Because you can't have them, you want to make them less attractive to other males. You need help you sick and sad individual. I'm afraid I cannot offer any. You Freudian freak, take your problems elsewhere.

Dear Agatha,
A friend of mine has a problem. She is obsessive in everything she does, whether it's cleaning, studying, drinking or eating. She does nothing by halves.

In our last year at university she studied in the library from the crack of dawn to late at night. She used to sniff the books and when the night-porter tried to close up, she used to go into hysterics, screaming and crying.

Her most recent obsession is sorting out piles of newspapers in chronological order and putting them into boxes, she is driving herself and everyone around her, crazy. I have to either help or kill her. What should I do?

I don't think it is your friend who has the problem, it is you. I hate these people who write in hypo-

thetical situations about themselves and attribute it to other people. By writing 'I have a problem', you would have been on the first road to recovery. As it stands you have a lot of therapy to go through.

Your problem is known as Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD). It is a disorder but its still no excuse for your behaviour. Book yourself into a mental home for a year and if there is still no improvement then you have got to face up to a very lonely existence. A life where friends only appear in dreams and normality is a mere fantasy.

Dear Agatha
I have a problem with the belt of my trousers, which seems to be on a sliding scale at the moment. I am a foreign student studying at DIT and when I first came

here, I had to pull my belt in two notches. This made me very happy cos I felt all skinny. As the new skinny me, I decided that I could then eat lots of sweeties and it's crushing my will to live. My belt buckle is back to its original notch and I am scared that if I don't control my eating, soon, my belt won't fit me at all.

My friends from home say that eating loads is what you do when you move away from home as you try and deal with the empty space inside of you.

Does this mean I have a serious psychological problem, or am just a greedy guts?? Please, stop my cravings!!!

Yours, a tormented soul.

You're a bit of a moaning minnie, aren't you. Listen, just do yourself a favour and adapt. Buy a bigger belt. Not everyone

in this world can be beautiful and skinny and you're obviously not one of those people. Live with it.

As for your friends, don't pay them any attention. They are only trying to make excuses for your obesity. You're a fat girl and they haven't got the heart to tell you but I have. Ditch these liars and make friends with people fatter than you are and that way you will feel skinny.

Alternatively you can send me in your photo and I can give it to our reader with the photo pinching obsession.

lem will verify this) to get a job with no qualifications. But if you take a little initiative you can get by.

you are. This should get you enough money to buy yourself a bottle of white spirits so you can drown away your sorrows in a permanent state of stupor.

sonic bionic

Live Gig

Audio Hip

@ Shakespeare Bar

Shit name, let's hope they change it, but without a doubt, the most original cover band I have ever seen in my life. Do not talk to me about No-Way-Sis, the Australian Anythings, or any variation and/or "pun" on the word Beatles.

Why do I sound like a sad git? A cover band that goes from a punked-up live version of 'Children' by señor Robert Miles to 'Down Under' by Men at Work to 'Step On' by the Happy Mondays defies any immediate categorisation that springs to mind, except that they are indeed a cover band; thereafter all quantifiable clichés are rendered obsolete.

They also write their own stuff (including a keys-led Zappaesque tune), but, for the moment, it is their choice and range of covers which hoists them above the crowd. Sure, they do Lynnard Skynnard's tribute to white supremacy, 'Sweet (WASP) Home Alabama', a must for any pub band. But they also carbon-graft Buffalo Springfield's 'Something Happening Here', and give Faith No More's 'Midlife Crisis' a good seeing to.

Their bass player has been torn straight from an old Grateful Dead line-up, and their keyboardist shows no signs of flagging under the strain of his medicinal bottle of Buckfast, as he wanders through the quavers and flats of the Orb's 'Blue Room'.

The only thing that would make their set total-complete is a version of that epitome of late seventies British punk 'No More Heroes', or any Stranglers number for that matter.

Their control is extremely tight, bordering on virtuosity. It can only be experienced. Shakespeare Bar, Parnell Street, Thursdays and Saturdays, no CC.

ChaOS

Lucid Dreams

@ Barney Murphy's

This up-and-coming band came to my attention about two years ago in Charlie's Rock Bar. They were formed in 1993 in south county Dublin by these energetic fun-loving lads. I had the pleasure of seeing them live on many occasions and have enjoyed every moment. The demo contains 3 original songs: "Bring the House

Down", the most scorching of openers. It has to be their favourite considering the amount of energy put into it, (but then they put an enormous amount into everything they do. For evidence look closely at Paul's T-shirt after they play live (he's the drummer by the way!). "Goodbye " and "Rain Falls", the other two little gems from the demo are simple but powerful at the same time. Lucid Dreams are looking for 1997 to be their year (and if there is any justice in this world, it should be!). They have two songs featuring on a compilation with other young bands which is out in the next month or so. I am now about to put my reputation on the line; are you ready? I believe that they will have a single in the charts by this time next year and if not will be on a hugh world-wide tour (meaning they won't have time to go into the studio). I had the chance to meet the band to ask Dave (lead guitar) one question: George Michael, love him or hate him? Reply: Feckin' love that guy!

Lucid Dreams play the Mean Fiddler at the end of March, rock gig of the month. They hope to have their own CD out this year so keep your eyes open.

C.C 9/10

ALBUMS

U2 - POP

Well, well, well, at last the hype is over, nobody left lining up in the dark in a long queue outside record shops in the city centre. "POP" is here at last, the question I asked before I heard the album was, "But people think it's the album of the year before hearing it!" How do I review this? Can I slag off our biggest export since Guinness? Howie B is evident, but, I ask myself, will it work, considering the "Passengers" album flopped? "If God will send me angels", a track which is indeed unique, a ballad with a hip hop beat and a t.v evangelist thrown in for good measure. Most praise must go to the final 3 songs. 'If you wear that Velvet Underwear', and 'Please Wake up Dead Man', are two songs which make a very interesting and serious finale which is an excellent end to what could be a misunderstood album. 'If you wear that velvet underwear' will help you out with that girl you picked up and brought back to flat.

She wants a number for the local cab company and in a moment of clarity you reach over to the cd player and

slip on track number 10! Have some faith, it does work 'Wake up dead man' will not be on "The Late Late Show " you'll soon see why. The problem with a lot of music today is that people try to hard to search for a message ,in POP we're told "don't try too hard to think" a wise bit of advice!

Give it time that's all I ask. I'm not into U2 but I'd fork out £25 to see it live.

C.C 8/10

DAFT PUNK-Homework

The outrageously hot young techno/house outfit straight from the inSEINE town of Paris, have released their debut album "Homework". In the previous edition I was warning you about the Sonic Boom in the French dance scene (and I was right!). This is

by all means a concept album, there is a message behind each track and on the artwork that lay dormant on the sleeve. In my opinion the Punks could not care less if you like them as long as they have a laugh, convention is thrown out the top floor of the Eiffel Tower. They really have a bit of everything in their ensemble Funk, Disco, Techno, Hip Hop all rolled together in a frenzy of pure madness. "Round the World", a track with a "put your flares on" hook, John Travolta would love this baby. Old skool is most excellently evident. "Da Funk" is an MTV fave at this moment in time, this scratchin' mix of electro past is excellent, the video like the rest of the tracks is that bit different to what you may be use to. Convention Sucks This album is the most fun I've had this year (well, except for the obvious!) This has more to offer than "Big City Night's ", a most enjoyable affair at £12.99 you can't go wrong! Luv these guys

CLUBBED TO A BLOODY PULP

Genesis

@ Parnell Mooney
Fri 28 Feb

This club is a definite for those looking for a fun night out. It is a comparatively new club which has been going since August '96 and run in both the Parnell Mooney and The 13th Floor, Mc Grath's. The setting is pretty intimate which allows for a very laid back and friendly atmosphere. Beware, though, the night flies as the four DJ's play their upbeat techno mixes. Refreshingly non-posing crowd, consisting mainly of regulars who return time after time for guaranteed dance session. Another bonus of GENESIS is the hassle free door policy and very reasonable £4 admission price. DJ's on the night were residents Gedge and Mig with guests on the night being Jonathon Hussy (Planet Dub) and John Dee (Genius)

Influx

@ Kitchen
Thur 6 Mar

We arrived in the Kitchen amidst shrieks of "I can't believe we got in!" from excited young club goers. Thursday nights at the Kitchen presented by Influx draws a younger, more studenty crowd than you might expect in a usual trendy Temple Bar nightclub. The decor is very inventive with a well designed lighting system. The sounds on the night were excellent as DJ's Johnny Moy and Richard Firless kept the dance floor hopping. A nice relaxed atmosphere, with a healthy mixture of casual chatters and dedicated dancers. The door policy is slightly rigid as many got stopped in their tracks by the thorough bouncers on entering. Drink prices were quite reasonable but unfortunately it appeared that the bar staff had taken a sip out of all the pints. If you're looking for something to do on a Thursday night the Kitchen is a good place to check out.

Ruth Delaney
Seult Ó Síocháin



Joanne Hayden

English Patient Storms the Picturehouse

THE ENGLISH PATIENT

Nominated for twelve Oscars, Anthony Minghella's adaptation of *The English Patient*, is beautifully-shot, multi-layered and extremely evocative. Based on a Booker Prize-winning novel by Michael Ondaatje and structured around a series of flash-backs, the film is set in North Africa and Italy before and during World War II.

Ralph Fiennes plays the so-called "English" Patient, a badly burned man claiming to be an amnesiac. Half-alive and barely functioning, he has ended up in wartime Italy, where Hanna, (Juliette Binoche) a French-Canadian nurse wanting to ease his trauma and discomfort, takes him to a ruined deserted monastery in Tuscany. Hanna, who has lost friends and lovers to the war, believes she is cursed and develops an intense affinity with her dying patient. As she listens to his fragmented memories and reads from his book, scenes from Hanna's makeshift hospital are intercut with a turbulent, colonial North Africa and a clandestine love affair. The peace and healing power of the Tuscan monastery, juxtapose the intensity of the Casablancaesque romance and a desert, more haunting, thirsty and ruthless than in *Laurence of Arabia*.

As a myriad of characters arrive at the monastery and their lives interconnect, we learn more about the dramatic experiences of the disfigured man lying in the bed, as the significance of political rights and wrongs are rendered irrelevant when love is threatened.

The English Patient encompasses all of the themes of a stereotypically weepy film - war, love, betrayal, death, nurture, friendship - yet it never resorts to maudlin sentimentality. The characters, sometimes effectively underplayed, are multi-dimensional. Nothing seems clichéd or superfluous and the flashbacks don't disorientate the viewer or detract from engagement with the characters. For the first time in months, I didn't want the film to end.

The English Patient goes on general release on March 14.

PORTRAIT OF A LADY

Jane Campion's latest film *Portrait of a Lady* is more austere and dejected than the acclaimed *Piano* or *An Angel at my Table*. The film is eclectic. Footage of different eras, black and white and colour shots combine with mixed tempo editing techniques and obscure camera angles. Campion has remained aware of the possibilities afforded by the cinematic medium through which she works, the form of the film is therefore always imaginative, sometimes even challenging.

Portrait of a Lady is not action-driven but rather a studied work of the psychological motivations of various characters. The film begins with a voice over of Australian females discussing kissing, followed by a dream-like sequence of girls in 1990s clothing. These are Campion's first attempts to emphasise the continuing relevance of

themes which emerge during the film. Throughout *Portrait* the director continues to give the story of an idealistic intelligent young woman, broken down by a turbulent relationship with a pathological misogynist, a contemporary resonance.

Based on the novel by Henry James, *Portrait*, apart from one purposely disjointed travelling sequence, takes place in England and Italy. Nicole Kidman plays Isabel Archer, an American whose uncle leaves her a fortune. John Malkovitch is her abusive husband who, in collaboration with his ex-lover Madame Merle (Barbra Hershey), plays psychologically manipulative games with his wife. The malign love-triangle created by Gilbert and Madame Merle is not unlike that created by John Malkovitch and Glen Close in *Dangerous Liaisons*. Malkovitch's character in *Portrait* however, is more unrepentant and intrinsically evil, as he attempts to control and often humiliate the women in his life.

Portrait of a Lady is a predominantly dark film although the potential redemption of Isabel is at least hinted at. Her consistent support from a string of admirers lighten her burden somewhat and the music is as dramatically intense as in *The Piano*.

At: Savoy, Santry, Virgin, UCI.

MARVIN'S ROOM

Plays, as adaptations from Shakespeare to Tennessee Williams to David Mamet prove, can translate well onto the screen. With actors like Robert De Niro, Meryl Streep (if you like her) Leonardo DiCaprio and Diane Keaton, *Marvin's Room*, adapted from a play by Scott McPherson, has an extremely talented cast. Ultimately however the film failed to transcend the limitations of its original medium, relying extensively on con-

trived metaphors and melodrama to carry a static and unengaging story.

Meryl Streep and Diane Keaton play Lee and Bessie, estranged sisters eventually forced to reconcile when Bessie is diagnosed as having leukemia. For twenty years Bessie has played martyr, stoically devoting her time to arranging doctor's visits, coordinating medication and providing emotional support for her bed-ridden father (Marvin) and eccentric aunt. Lee, bringing up two boys alone, one of whom is a convicted arsonist, has steadfastly refused to take responsibility for her ailing relatives.

Responding to a request from Bessie, Lee with her sons, travels to her old family home in Florida, hoping that one of the three of them will prove a suitable bone marrow donor.

Much of the action revolves around the emerging closeness of the two sisters and Bessie's bonding with her errant nephew (Leonardo DiCaprio). Robert De Niro hardly features as the inept doctor whose incompetent brother is ridiculously overplayed by Dan Hedaya.

At times the film tries hard to be humorous but tends to meander into the predictable and repetitive. Various scenes are stretched for their dramatic effect and artificially constructed symbolic potential. Director Jerry Zaks attempts to cast an ironic comment on the ideal of the nuclear family and unreality of the American dream. As a family in a state of collapse laps up the superficiality and commercialism of Disneyland, pill bottles, wigs and inconsequential actions become sites of superimposed pseudo-complex meanings.

Marvin's Room was shown as part of the ACC Dublin Film Festival and goes on general release in June.

In this, the first part of a three part saga, Damien Pedreschi, Team Captain of DIT Swim Team, gives us a pool-side view of life in the lanes. The opening section gives the background to one of the DIT's oldest clubs.

DIT SWIM TEAM

Team president : Claire Corbett.
Team captain : Damian Pedreschi.

DIT Mountjoy Sq. Dublin 1.
Phone & fax 8363044.
email : dpedreschi@dit.ie

The DIT SWIM TEAM is the longest established DIT sports club in existence. It could be argued that the DIT SWIM TEAM preceded the DIT itself. Before the DIT ever came together as an integrated institution, the DIT SWIM TEAM had pooled its resources to compete at the highest levels. It was not long before the DIT gained "provisional" Intervarsity status, and once they let us get our foot in the door we proceeded to stroll on through. Over the years we as a team have gained the respect (and the fear) of

the other competing universities, and more specifically over the past four years we have become one of the three major players on the Intervarsity scene. Our goal in recent years has been to close the gap between us and the three teams that used occupy the top three positions, namely UCD, Trinity & Queens. This objective has been successfully completed. We are now lying second in the national Intervarsity rankings. QUB are no longer in the top three, Trinity are one place behind us in 3rd position, and just in front of us are UCD. This year UCD won by the closest of margins, despite a wonderful DIT performance.

This is an astounding achievement when all the factors are taken into consideration. Notably both UCD and TRINITY operate on budgets three times as large as the

THE DIT SWIM & POLO TEAM - fighting its way to the top.



Political Footballs

Denis Byrne

As a sports lover there are two types of town in rural Ireland. There are 'Gaelic' towns and 'Soccer' towns. I come from a 'Gaelic' town. For this reason Gaelic games will always be my first love. This love has been embedded in my bones since the first time I listened to old people talk of the exploits of men who wore both club and count jerseys. To this day I could go into any bar in my home town and find someone to argue with about the merits of the latest 'find' who wears the Green and Gold of Donegal.

As a teenager I remember travelling home on the bus with an under-age team from my club. The bus stopped at traffic lights as a soccer match was taking place adjacent to the road and the driver turned around and said, 'Don't be looking in there, boys.' I knew from the tone of his voice and the look on his face that he was only half-joking. His expression encapsulated all the fears of dedicated GAA people throughout the country. These were, and are, genuine fears for the future of the game that I love.

It was against this background that, at the age of eleven, I became interested in soccer. I was too young to realise the enormity of the choices I was making and the guilt it would cause in later life. My interest in 'The Foreign Game' developed not from watching the English League on television, but from hearing stories about another team further north. This team wore green and white hooped shirts as they plied their trade in a stadium known as 'Paradise' in the east end of Glasgow.

The spiritual and physical connection between Donegal and Glasgow has always been a strong one. Donegal people began leaving in their thousands at the beginning of this century to find work in the factories and shipyards along the Clyde. In 1940 my uncle became one of them.

As his children grew up they started making the journey in the opposite direction, wearing these green and white hooped shirts and speaking of life in the 'Jungle', the 'Hill 16' of Celtic Park. Weird and wonderful stories were recounted of lives spent following Celtic and one, in particular, stands out in my mind. A friend of my cousin's attended a 1967 European Cup Final in Lisbon which Celtic won. After the game he got the first available flight back to Glasgow to join in the celebrations. Arriving in Glasgow he suddenly remembered that he had actually driven across Europe to get to the game and his car was still parked in a little side street in Lisbon.

Listening to my cousins made me determine to stand in the 'Jungle' one day, and I did, years later in the 1980s.

In those heady days of the late 1980s being a Celtic supporter was like being a Manchester United supporter today - easy. When I couldn't get to Glasgow I travelled to Malin Head, as close as I could get to Scotland without getting wet, to watch the Scottish Cup Finals live on Scottish television.

Trophy followed trophy in those years. Then the 1990s dawned and all changed. Eight barren years have passed while I have watched the other half of Glasgow celebrate. Despite this, my intense love for the club and that green and white hooped shirt remains undiminished as does my love for the GAA.

DIT Swim Team. Added to that is the fact that they offer swim scholarships and therefore attract Ireland's top International swimmers. It is factors such as these that we have worked around to motivate ourselves as a team to compete at Intervarsity level. This motivation and dedication has been spear-headed in previous years by a dedicated bunch of DIT SWIM TEAM

committee members, without whom we could not be where we are today, they include:

Peter Wynne (Kevin St.) 1988 - 93, Fergal O' Reilly (Aungier St.) 1989 - 94, Stuart Clarke (Bolton St) 1991 - 1997, Maeve Mc Cleane (CBS) 1993 - 1995, Francis Corcoran (Aungier St.) 1993 - 97, Claire Corbett 1994 - present & Damian Pedreschi (Mountjoy Sq.) 1993 - present.

We hope that as the years contin-



From top: DIT Men's Water Polo Team; Brendan Giles explodes off the block in the recent Intervarsities Men's 100m Breast Stroke; Dawn McElhinn starts the Ladies 100m Front Crawl - the competition was very successful for DIT.

ue to pass that the names added to this list will ensure that the DIT SWIM TEAM continues to grow from strength to strength, and consolidates its position at the highest levels of Intervarsity competition.

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MONTH FOR
REPORT ON
INTERVARSITIES**

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