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, Student 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.

Finance Ruairi 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.

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.

"Ruairi 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 magnificant, Stacy MacCarthy maintains, "I think at the first event we probably had to page 3.

'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 cloggers Champagne Supernova and Beatles super-artists the Paperback Beatles came to town for the DIT Rag Ball. Catch up with the photographic account of the week, pp.10-11.
DIT Examiner
DITSU, DIT Kevin Street, Kevin St., Dublin 8. Ph: 492 4636
Fax: 478 3154

VOTE
MARCH 12

Cearbhall Ó Siocháin

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 brain-storming 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 March 18: The Opening of the Canteen Ceremony
Fun and Games in the canteen
Monster Sci Fi Table Quiz in Stoneys

Wednesday March 19: Quasar out to the Plex
Sci Fi Night in The Big Tree

Thursday March 20: The Sci Fi Banquet in the canteen
The Sci Fi Ball in The Furnace (inc. DJ François and Drum n Bass Djs)
Sponsored by GUINNESS

Clarithations

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.

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
+ USITCARDS
+ 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

Winnners 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.

Printed by Datascope,
Enniscorthy Co. Wexford
Lettuce to the Editor

Any lettuce sent to the Examiner for the attention of the Editor should be clearly marked. Ní ghlauch le haon leithis mhárth. Sending dead lettuce to the Editor is a strict no-no. Tig lúb scríobh chug an seoladh seo a leanas:

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

An tEagarthóir,
DIT Examiner,
DITSU,
ITBAC Sráid Chaoimhín,
Sráid Chaoimhín,
BAC 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 commencement of the academic year. A total of ten training sessions were held during that week, leaving little time for eating turkey.

Yours sincerely,
A. Kiassia,
DIT Kevin St.

An Eagarthóir,
DIT Examiner,
DITSU,
ITBAC Sráid Chaoimhín,
Sráid Chaoimhín,
BAC 8.

The support should come from a well known local or Irish band and a top Irish DJ. -- the alcohol has to be cheaper - beer sponsorship. If Heineken sponsored the Rag Ball then why was the Heineken not cheaper? -- Open the upstairs balcony. This year the best views of the Ball were seen by no DIT student unlike last year. Why was it closed?

Don't get me wrong, I thought that the bands and the DJs who played were brilliant show, got the crowd going and were co-ordinated to the very second. Lastly, posters in good taste for the Ball should be produced. Bad publicity is not needed. One last point. If every student in DIT donates £1 at their Rag Trip and £1 on the Thursday of next year's Rag Week, £50,000 will be raised for charity.

Yours faithfully,
Robin Cuthepeckeroff
Inspector

Ditsu Elections

Dear Sir,

In relation to the participation of all colleges in this year's DitsuS 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.

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.

Yours sincerely,
A. Kiassia,
DIT Kevin St.

Andres Lenehan,
Public Relations Officer,
Cathal Brugha St.

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Willy Checker Scale</th>
<th>Luxury Tax</th>
<th>Pole Tax</th>
<th>Privilege Tax</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10-12 inches</td>
<td>£50 per annum</td>
<td>£25 per annum</td>
<td>£15 per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8-9 inches</td>
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<tr>
<td>6-7 inches</td>
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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.

RTE

DRUG SENSE 1997

THE AGONY AND THE ECSTASY

A SPECIAL SEMINAR

Speakers: Paul and Janet Bettis

The Bettis 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
Date: 10th March
Time: 12 -2
Room: A408

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

This is an experience not to be missed.
OPEN TO EVERYONE

For further information: contact Jacqui Duffy at 402 3352
There’s always a certain excitement involved in returning to an ‘exotic’ destination for which you have fond memories. The expectation of re-experiencing what you’ve seen 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 elections. Though the conditions were very different, Mozambique was also approaching a new era in its history. Racked by years of war, firstly its war of independence and subsequently its war primarily sponsored by the apartheid regime in South Africa, Mozambique had emerged with a peace process which at least provided the opportunity 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 world had little consideration of the effect they had on the human life and material resources, the elections went off peacefully and without any major incidents. Though the result 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 civil war, economic decline and periodic drought yet a certain easy-going friendly atmosphere made it an enjoyable place to stroll away an afternoon. Take care when strolling in Maputo, however, as many of the shops and cafes there are heavily frequented by the international community. Landmines littering the countryside, land mines are a constant threat.

Having 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 much to have changed in two years.

The International Monetary Fund, who have long been discussing aid to Mozambique, has been forestry, education and other areas, that Mozambique follows the external development path. Key economic decisions are, in effect, taken out of the hands of the government. Economic targets must be met and if they are not met then the country’s situation will get worse and the country will face economic problems. This is an example of how the IMF is helping to make sure that Mozambique follows the correct path.

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.

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

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. 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 have voted for the Conservative party, they should not have voted for the Labour party, they may still have voted for one of the smaller parties.

When the Conservatives lose, expect there to be a divisive period of internal party debate which will undoubtedly mirror the divisions that wrecked 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, totally referred to by its shorthand name, ‘Europe’. The Conservatives will have a majority of ‘Euro-sceptics’ after May. The party will be split whatever the leadership election, be it Michael Portillo on the right, Ken Clarke on the left or someone like Gillian Shephard 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 collapse 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 winning 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 if the Labour party would do something of the sort. This time around the Conservatives have been transformed a party that ten years ago called for the nationalisation of nationalised industries, into a British version of the US Democrats.
Mountjoy So 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?

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 girllies. Leaving Dun Laoghaire on the Speedpool our gang hit the bar by 11am. Two hours later and hustling through (sheep filled) Wales, the buzzing continued and the poor unfortunate Brian Nevin got soaked when his bag fell off the raft onto his beer and all over his lip. 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 all sure he was on his holiers and didn't give a Biic'. 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 missed their trains 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), Roman Quinn and Thos Murphy. For all those who made it to the right meeting place it was soon onto our old favourites: spot, Slater's, where pints of lager retail at £1.00 and bottled beer retail 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 Ath Chláth, where

behaved themselves admirably! Popular chat-up line of the night was - COMAD lad: 'Hi, I'm Irish'. Scouser Gir: 'Do you know what's a bowler!'? 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-totaler 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 banman in the Dublin Hills. On the way back 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 porter was very embarrassed when our friends informed the porter about her name - Ouw! 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 15 mins by DART. At this stage a serious commotion: 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 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.

Lots not really dwelt on the match. A good first half could have seen 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, and couldn't go mad in our 4 rows at 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 boxer, talk about beer goggles!) back to Slater's we went, well, who wouldn't at those prices! Much later, locked again, the group split four ways. We love you Guinness, Big Tree and Coca-Cola — OK that's enough licking up. As they say in Liverpool "Got to run, here's the Bizzies".

The 'solrstor'team that UJt:nt to Mersey, part of the entire erew who vlmtured eastward in search of debauched seoUler women and a result at Anfield, mind you only 1 hour 15 mins by DART. At this stage a serious commotion: 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 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.

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Kiss My Baby!

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

Name: Ronan Casey
Age: 21
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 team designing t-shirts, Promotions & editing the Rag Mag for 2 years.
2 What position are you running for?
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 Shóisialtaigh / Uachtarán?
Doch…a chéadú a deacair duit a thugadh dó.
4 Cad é an chead rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialtaigh / Uachtarán?
I'm afraid I'm the perfect candidate.
5 What should DITSU do to increase 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: Rose Daly
Age: 19
College: Mountjoy Square
Position Sought: Deputy President / Welfare Officer
1 What have you done for your college until now?
I'm an 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 Freshers Week.
2 What motivates you?
The need to fulfill my objectives, I'm motivated by issues that need to be ratified.
3 Where do your weaknesses lie?
I'm high on life and have to be doing something all the time.
4 What should DITSU do to increase student participation and interest in DIT issues?
I'm not able to resist a challenge.
5 What should DITSU do to increase student participation in DIT issues?
I have dealt with many of the welfare, sports facilities and arts issues.

Name: Nicola Doyle
Age: 19
College: Cathal Brugha Street
Position Contestant: Site Deputy President / Welfare Officer
1 What have you done for your college until now?
During my first year, I played for both the basketball and badminton teams in the college. I also play for teams outside college.
I am a member of the Dramatic Society in the college 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?
I'm afraid I'm the perfect candidate.
3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialtaigh / Uachtarán?
An chéadú a deacair a thugadh dó.
4 What should DITSU do to increase student participation and interest in DIT issues?
I'm afraid I'm the perfect candidate.
5 What should DITSU do to increase student participation in DIT issues?
I'm afraid I'm the perfect candidate.

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, sports facilities and arts issues. The introduction of pay phones, internet access, photo copiers, facilities for arts students. Nitis 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 Shóisialtaigh / Uachtarán?
Féileadh do measadh do chuid ann. Ní féidir leis an Roinn Shóisialtaigh a charú suas chun duine ionas go mbeadh maolmhin DIT. Léas a dhéanfadh go hiomlán a bheith i bhfeidhmiú.
4 What should DITSU do to increase student participation in DIT issues?
I have started will be continued when I am gone. Nitis will be in its testing stage and I will be working on that.
5 What should DITSU do to increase student participation in DIT issues?
The points is to set up structures in the union so that everything we have started will be continued when I am gone. Nitis will be in its testing stage and I will be working on that.

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, be­ bided and promoted on behalf of my college.
2 What motivates you?
A good kick up the arse and then strut.
3 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialtaigh / Uachtarán?
An chéadú a deacair duit.
4 Where do your weaknesses lie?
Ach an bhfuil aithneann dot.
5 Cad é an chéad rud a dhéanfaidh tú mar Oifigeach Leasa Shóisialtaigh / Uachtarán?
An chéadú a deacair duit.

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 Ems Officer for the college.
**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 SU Council and the Women’s Affairs Committee. I am also Treasurer of the Printing Society and Friend of the Ents crew.  
2 What motivates you?  
I am 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 cheud rud a tháinig do chuid costais féin?  
I sometimes come across as being shy and quiet but this will not effect my ability to get the job done.  
4 Where do your weaknesses lie?  
I have been guilty of letting my heart rule my mind. I like a challenge and that’s how I see my year as President to be: a challenge to do better in the SU than anyone has done before.  
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 a thing I hope to remedy.

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**Name: Ross O’Daly**  
**Age:** 20  
**College: Bolton St**  
**Position sought:** Site President  
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 10 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 cheud rud a tháinig do chuid costais féin?  
Apart from being Treasurer of the Rugby Club, I have had little experience in college affairs or the SU. However I felt that if had more to do with the SU, as I felt it was in vain, a thing I hope to remedy.  
4 Where do your weaknesses lie?  
I like a challenge and that’s how I see my year as President to be: a challenge to do better in the SU than anyone has done before.

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**Name: Siobhan Weekes**  
**Age:** 21  
**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 if had more to do with the SU, as I felt it was in vain, a thing I hope to remedy.  
2 What motivates you?  
I sometimes come across as being shy and quiet but this will not effect my ability to get the job done.  
3 Cad é an cheud rud a tháinig do chuid costais féin?  
I have been in Aungier St for 3 years and have been involved in the Union during this time.

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**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.

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**Name: Darragh O’Dwyer**  
**Age:** 20  
**College: Aungier St**  
**Position sought:** Site President  
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 2 years.  
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 cheud rud a tháinig do chuid costais féin?  
Apart from being Treasurer of the Rugby Club, I have had little experience in college affairs or the SU. However I felt that if had more to do with the SU, as I felt it was in vain, a thing I hope to remedy.  
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 moveобеспечен for travel within Dublin and to some of the new developments in the City such as the proposed St. Mary’s Park Stadium. If elected I will ensure that this goes ahead and that the SU is part of the decision making process. I believe that there should be a committee established to study this project in more detail before any decisions are made.  
6 What would you do to improve the services provided by the Union?  
I would like to see a greater emphasis on the Student Representative Body and it’s role in decision making. At present the SU is seen as being the office and the student representatives as being office bearers. I would like to see a more student orientated approach to the work of the SU, with greater input from the students and a greater role for the SRC.  
7 What are your weaknesses?  
I am sometimes too quick to draw conclusions and I need to work on my patience.  
8 What should DITSU be doing to ensure that the next generation of students is aware of the work of the SU?  
I would like to see a greater emphasis on the Student Representative Body and it’s role in decision making. At present the SU is seen as being the office and the student representatives as being office bearers. I would like to see a more student orientated approach to the work of the SU, with greater input from the students and a greater role for the SRC.  
9 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 and aware of issues and not just SU officers.
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 were, and that moment was splendid. Anyone who sings "It's your letters" a la REEF for TFI Friday during a band competition deserves to be shown no pity or mercy. Cwacification'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 taking among themselves during their precursors' set, for they strode on and belted straight into a very polished 'Light my candle', but they

Great goggle-monkey -- it's Smiley in an out of focus snap by crokey!

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

pulling faces with the ease and dexterity of Morph, RELAXED ATMOSPHERE was good heat in them.

Sloth display "0 sloth-like qualities as they fidget around the expansive stage in Doran's.

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

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

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

JACUZZI JUNGLE

smiley Bolger, Aidan Walsh and Shane Brannigan were mingling, thinking that perhaps

VOCALS SUIT THE MUSIC WELL, AND INURE MIGHT JUST BE BACK IN 98 TO CONTEST AGAIN.

RELAXED ATMOSPHERE BROUGHT ANYTHING BUT SUCH A THING AS THEY

Sloth display "0 sloth-like qualities as they fidget around the expansive stage in Doran's.

A few grown-ups lurked in the shadows -- and

Zebedee sprung on-stage with the energy of cats and launched into a Skynard-cum-Black Crowes effort complete
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 Colour'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 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-pleasers of the night. Combining Caribbean rhythms and, at times, skull-like guitar 'changs', 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 their all, and were rewarded with the only real live honest-to-God heaving mosh pit all night. I was 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? -- 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 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 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 to milé bufochas l e
"I want to mangle my bicycle, I want to mangle my body," said the Juggling Fugitive to his bemused various onlookers in Kevin St. Later on he took to throwing knives with scant regard for student safety.

From top: Mashingfellow students to pulp, Bouncy Boxing in violent Bolton St.; Big Pint Cli" causes people to dance round in circles instead of in a straight line; John Nolan, purportedly from Bolton St, does an impression of 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.

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.

Ball rolls along smoothly

The Rag was no drag. With 4,000 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 sloopy 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 but was in it, they fit like a glove.

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

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

Leisulve from Hair Raisers goes mad for the Kevin St Head-Shave. OWW!

You want a smell of the Pita blend? DO you, our, oops! epsilon another head-shave victim in a quickly converging person. Needless to say, she had the box hair out on the day. No grunting, though.

From top: Mashing fellow students in pulp, Beauchey Boxing in violent Bolton St.; Big Pint Cill 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.
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 identified to the team which had defeated UCG in the first round of the Fitzgibbon Cup. The home team played with a bitter 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 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 goalstopper Seamus Killeen. The DIT defence and midfielders.

On 16 minutes the home team had just 2 points up a 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 unsettled 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.

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

WRTC were rockied on their core in 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 Chairmen 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.

The WRTC and DIT teams played to a deciding game in late February. It meant the end of their Cup hopes.

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.

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

FRESHERS HOLD OUT TO REACH SEMI-FINAL

Peter Casey

DIT: M. McGahon, M. Fitzgerald, G. Berry, O. Doyle, M. Keogh, A. Boland, A. Hackett.

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 in midfield ensured the DIT forwards of good possession though points proved difficult to come by against the North Atlantic wind. The lads 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 visitors.

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, DIT centre back and his marker on the Maynooth team. These two players can feel harshly treated. However, the game had been even throughout 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 DIT 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.

Trevor Hayes, Darren Caulfield, Trevor MacGrath, Art Flannery, Enda Hoey, Liam Walsh, Paul Finnerty, Mick Fitzsimmons, Sean Duignan, Mark Murphy, Olivia Keogh, Gerry Ennis, Martin Corcoran, Ray Donn, Ollie Canning. Subs; Dave Haughton, Declan Maher, Darragh Spain, Lorcan MacMathuna, Trevor Hayes, Martin Murphy.

DIT Senior Hurling: Seamus Killeen, Darren Caulfield, Trevor MacGrath, Art Flannery, Enda Hoey, Liam Walsh, Paul Finnerty, Mick Fitzsimmons, Sean Duignan, Mark Murphy, Olivia Keogh, Gerry Ennis, Martin Corcoran, Ray Donn, Ollie Canning. Subs; Dave Haughton, Declan Maher, Darragh Spain, Lorcan MacMathuna, Trevor Hayes, Martin Murphy.
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 Healy, also Kevin St., and Colm Cuneen of Waterford RTC but formerly of Belton St. Fourth in was Cathal Brugha St’s Hampelmann.

Toomney, Fiona McGowan (Kevin St) strode home in 20.09 minutes to take the women’s title, ahead of Paula Corbett and Garda Catherine Lacey.

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 Victoria Shield in Tramore this month and a special report will follow next month.

Their winning ways have also been reflected in a four club and Tramore and Dublin League. From November to January the DIT Handballers have made an impression on the Dublin Championships at Parkview Gaffney (Belton St.) carried off a junior singles title bearing George Ryan (St. Matachi) in the final, next year he must play senior. Shane Derkar and Frank Sempel (both Kevin St.) won out the novice doubles over St.Patrick’s pair. Ward and Heffernan. Other efforts were made by D. Nolan, S. Kiernan (Aeugier St.), M. Durkan (Cathal Brough St.), D. Halliday (Kevin St.), R. Brady (Mountjoy St.).

All have been made in the Dublin junior leagues with 4 wins from 5 matches that puts them top of the league. They now go on in the semi-final. The victors being Frommungs (2), Gardn (7-0), Pat’s A (7-0) and Lepal (6-1). They lost out to St. Pat’s A in the semi-final at Croke Park on Tuesday March 6.

The DCC Handball Club are hosting a weekend tournament on April 4 and 5. For all levels of players, all students are welcome, phone Frank 028 8910 or Josephine @ 815 501 609.

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 honour of a seminar hosted by DIT GAA Club held in Bolton St. College.

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

He then went on to send good wishes to all the Clubs in their upcoming fixtures. He also complimented all the hard work done by the students staff and the Development Officer.

A questions and answers session was held after the speeches and all questions 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 to give him credit to make a very popular president nationwide. However, the night did not end in Bolton. St., as a fight ‘beverage’ had been held at the Mac. 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 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 new role and look forward to having him back again in the future.

Ladies and Freshers Split Spoils in Galway

Freshers Ladies

DIT 2-8
UCG 1-10

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, throttling, 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 college 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. Howard out of the second free rounded the square Dallied in goal and Donellan at corner back in the blusery conditions and allowed McKiernan to flick over the head of the keeper to give DIT a goal and a burst 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 scrorable chances and going for goal when points were 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 use him but they failed to stop him jinking along the end-line and blasting to the net past the keepers left. UCG responded immediately with a sole effort from Fulton. A point from Joe Cafferty 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 waiting 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 prove nerve wrecking for both teams and supporters with no one willing to go in to extra time. Rory Sweeney was going to play for the stoppages for the many injuries and field encroachments. A Crossan free brought it back to two after Caff 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 tap it to the net. DIT were in front for the first time in the game and 65 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 drangled 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 or UL in the final on March 12 (this may be changed). All support will 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 “Yesir Bear” and “Up the Fairways”. These time honoured pieces of football folklore. While some stayed in Galway to really rub it in the east had to endure the bus-driver home with a wet alcohol ban. Which was fully adhered to!

Home: C. Kelly (Meath), R. O’Brien (Dublin), E. Emery (Longford), N. Donnellan (Cavan), S. Swinny (Donegal), M. Ryan (2 Roscommon), D. Kelly & A. Caffey (Dublin), B. Frawley (Cork), K. Macdonald (Meath), B. Monaghan (Donegal), N. Crosson (Dublin), J. Cogan (Sligo), N. Cantwell (Meath), J. Caff (Donegal). Subs used: R. Griffith for E. Emery, 45 min & P. McHale for J. Cogan, 40 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.

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 as thanks to the management of Peter ‘Bousy’ Casey and Enda Hoye, 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 Super Avril Boland who kept Pat’s ‘Wanda’ an exciting game and at half time it seemed as though it was going to be an uphill task as DIT had taken

Sunday 2 March 1997 and the Bolton St Freestyle Sport Karate Club headed down to Dundalk RFC to compete in the All Ireland Open Tae Kwon Do Championships. Even though the club had only been running since the beginning of the year, spirits and expectations were high, and rightly so.

First event was Kamite, also called semi-contact fighting, a speciality of Bolton St. Each round lasts 90 seconds and the competitor with the most points goes through to the next round, a knockout system. Nearly every one of the ten competitors from Bolton St made it through the preliminary rounds leaving it up to three of the Bolton Bears to decide who won. These were Stephen O’Loughlin, Brian Conway and Robert Byrne. Each competitor fought brilliant 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 ‘Destuction’ 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 RFC 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:01-872997.

John Kavanagh

Bolton Street Freestylers show they have a style all their own

The victory puts DIT into the last round, a knockout system. Nearly everyone of the ten competitors from Bolton St made it through the preliminary rounds leaving it up to three of the Bolton Bears to decide who won. These were Stephen O’Loughlin, Brian Conway and Robert Byrne. Each competitor fought brilliant but inevitably there had to be a winner and the section finished up:

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John Kavanagh

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 15-8. Having previously beaten their opponents 7-0 the students were pinned down in their first game

The victory puts DIT into the final against the Greta 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.

At preparation for the final, all the team are in training at Croke Park 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

14
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 serious 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.

"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 talks.
- Decommissioning is not demanded before talks begin.

If the IRA is accepted, Sinn Fein may be included, as they have been in the past. The Nationalists, at least, can be included in a process that involves Sinn Fein and Dublin politics 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." Hedreams of a time when the political parties can enter into wholeheight inclusive dialogue against a backdrop of peace. He agreed that an end to the IRA and Sinn Fein would be a positive move. However, he would only allow them to speak 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 flower. Areas of contention would narrow and the political process would begin to 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 form the state’s 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 that the Nationalist 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 moderation, I’ve witnessed the lack of tolerance 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 himself as a naural politician but he believes he plays an important role by talking to loyalists. His goal is to achieve democracy in Northern Ireland.

He has been described as the peace initiative 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 loyalists groups agree that decommissioning issue is more important than others.

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 and the two communities coming together and understanding the two cultures and this is easily manipulated. This is what is happening now and ‘impalacable opposiites atract’.

The progress of the talks 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 of the Orange Order. 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?"

**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 totalling approximately three hundred. The quiet fishing and tourist village was awoken by sailors out to prove themselves and do their colleges proud against each other.

Tackling problems in February, the week 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 15              rcs 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.

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 of the committee to include RCSCs and smaller colleges to cater to the event.

Being only the third year that DIT has entered the Intervarsities, this year we organised the largest to date.

The early morning briefing on the race plan was given by Johnny Horrigan (Shoremaster) at the top of the slope. A logistical nightmare was to be managed efficiently and effectively for all 1550 competitors on the water. The racing teams hit the water and the momentum began, race after race, team after team. Thrills and spills were aplenty as embarrassing capsizes 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 along with some early morning racing. Flights of boats on the water and knockout stages would decide who was left for the quarters, semi-final and final on Sunday.

A crowd gathered in the Yacht Club bar made up of spectators and team mates cheering their colleagues on from the balcony, and Jeering at the unfortunates who looked 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. When Champions.simps 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.

The efficiency of the committee was praised by all including the Yacht Clubs general committee. Even if the event was not as exciting as in previous years, it was a great success.
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 sliding into hysterics, screaming and crying. It is because you can't face them in real life. Making skinny women fat is one way of getting back at them without actually causing her any physical bodily harm. Your defacing women obviously have a very domineering mother and your photo pinching obsession is because you can't face them in real life. Making skinny women fat is one way of getting back at them without actually causing her any physical bodily harm.

Your problem is of the Freudian nature. It is a disorder known as Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD). It is a disorder but it's 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 as 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 I just a greedy guts? Please, stop my craving!!!

Yours, a tormented soul.

You're a bit of a moaning minxie, 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. Disch these liars and make friends with people fatter than you and that way you will feel skinny.

Alternatively you can send me in your photo and I can give it to our reader. I can add more on to your photo pinching obsession. There is nothing wrong with your teeth, it is just the way your mouth is. I will sign it. You can get a job with no qualifications. But if you take a little initiative you can get by on your own. You are. This should get you enough money to buy a bottle of white spirits so you can drown away your sorrows in a permanent state of stupor.
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. Don't talk to me about No-Way-Sis, but without a doubt, the most original version and/or “pun” on the word Beatles. They also write their own stuff (including a keys-led Zappasque tune), but, for the moment, it is their choice and range of covers which hoists them above the crowd. Sure, they do Lynyard Skynnard’s tribute to white supremacy, ‘Sweet (WASP) Home Alabama’, a must for any pub band. 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 ‘Bice 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.

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 scrunching 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 huge 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 gui­ ter) 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 8/10

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, McC Grath’s. The setting is pretty intimate which allows for a very laid back and friendly atmosphere.

We were going to go to the Parnell, but 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
Iseult O’Siochain
Tuscany. Hanna, who has lost her Tuscan monastery, juxtaposes the patient. As she listens to his fragmented memories and reads from his book, scenes from Hanna’s intense affinity with her dying amnesiac. Half-alive and barely breathing and thirsty and ruthless than in Laurence of Arabia.

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 flashbacks, 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 Englishman. He has ended up in a ruined deserted monastery in Tuscany. Hanna, who has lost friends and lovers to the war, believes she is cursed and develops a intense affinity with her dying patient. As she listens to his fragmented memories and reads from his book, scenes from his traumatic past 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 rejected 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 purposefully disjointed travelling sequence, takes place in England and Italy. Nicole Kidman plays Isabel Archer, an American whose uncle leaves her a fortune. John Malkovich 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 Malkovich 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 lightens her burden somewhat and the music is as dramatically intense as in The Piano.

At: Savoy, Santry, Virgin, UCL

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 contrived 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 estranged 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 the 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: Damien Pedreschi
DIT Mountjoy Sq. Dublin 1.
Phone & fax 8363894.
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. UCD 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 DIT.

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 green and white hooped shirts as they plied their trade in a stadium known as ‘Paradise’ in the east end of Glasgow.

In 1940 my uncle became one of them.

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 only hated life. 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 these. 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 of another team further north. This team wore green and white hooped shirts and speaking of life in the 'Jungle', the 'Hill 16' of Celtic Park. Weird and wonderful stories were recounted by another team further north. This team wore green and white hooped shirts as they piled 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. The 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 blue 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.

In a little side street in Lisbon.

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

As 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, but 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.

THE DIT SWIM & POLO TEAM

From top: DIT Men's Water Polo Team, Brendan Cote exploits off the block in the recent invitational Men's 100m Breast Stroke; Dream McKeown wins the Ladies 100m Front Crawl - the competition was very intense for DIT.

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 here. We are today, we include:

Peter Wynne (Kevin St.) 1988 - 93, Fergal O'Reilly (Aungier St.) 1989 - 94, Stuart Clarke (Bolton St) 1991 - 1997, Maeve McColgan (Carrigallen St) 1993 - 95, Francis Corcoran (Aungier St) 1993 - 97, Claire Corbett 1994 - present & Damien Pedreschi (Mountjoy Sq) 1993 - present.

We hope that as the years continue 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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