

1997

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

DIT: Students' Union

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Recommended Citation

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the DIT Examiner

The Newspaper of the Dublin Institute of Technology Students' Union

September '97



Gaisce, the National Award for achievement is on again this year. Find out what it all means.
Page 5



Straight out of the fridge, it's the DIT Freshers' Weeks. See the DIT-wide Timetables now!
Pages 6&7



Another year, another sportsday. Find out all about it and other sports monstrosities.
Pages 8&9



Win tickets to see Fat Boy Slim in the Redbox, courtesy of Influx!! Plus The Driven and The Bluetones!!
Pages 10&11

Welcome to DITSU

The DITSU elections, held each year shortly before the summer, allow you, the students, to choose your local Students' Union Executive, ie all the SU officers.

Sinéad Pidgeon, Site President last year in Aungier St., was elected Overall DITSU President, the first female to attain the position.

DITSU EXECUTIVE 1997-1998

Aungier St

Site President: Siobhán Weekes
Dep. President: Derek O'Shea
Clubs/Socs: Paul Weber
Ents: Maurice Doegan
Equality: Joanne Quirk
Pt-time: Leigh Farrelly
PRO: Thomas Felle

Bolton St

Site President: Ross O'Daly
Dep. President: Charlie Mitchell
Clubs/Socs: Gary Cullen
Ents: Barry Smith
Gaeilge: Marguerite Fitzpatrick
Apprentice: Pat Moore

Cathal Brugha St

Site President: Bob Coghlan
Dep. President: Nicola Doyle
Clubs/Socs: Laura Ennis
Ents: Shane Robinson
PRO: Sarah Jane Miller

Kevin St

Site President: Tony Choi
Dep. President: Sarah McGovern
Clubs/Socs: Sarah Gardiner
Ents: Sarah Corcoran
Equality: Orla Burke
Gaeilge: Con Ó Céadaigh
PRO: Colum Cunningham

Mountjoy Sq

Site President: Ronan Emmert
Dep. President: Rosemarie Daly
Clubs/Socs: Patrick Kelly
Ents: John Sweetman
Gaeilge: John Maher
PRO: Trudy Murray
Pt-time: Zoey Scanlon

CATHAL BRUGHHA ST EXTENSION OPEN



Former Minister for Education, Niamh Bhreathnach, addresses the gathering in Marlboro St.

The long awaited and very impressive, nine-storey extension to DIT Cathal Brugha St was officially opened during the summer by then-Minister for Education, Niamh Bhreathnach.

Many dignitaries gathered for the cheese-and-wine reception in the new building, which has its main entrance directly opposite the Department of Education HQ on Marlboro St. Among those there were the Minister herself, Alderman Brendan Lynch, Mayor of Dublin, and DIT President,

Dr. Brendan Goldsmith, as well as members of DIT Governing Body and staff throughout the DIT.

The sun shone down heartily as Ms Bhreathnach cut the ribbon, signalling the launch of the newest section of DIT real estate in the heart of the city.

Upstairs, the speeches were given in the (training) bar, while the wine flowed in deluvian proportions (though, of course, the Examiner declined the invitation to drink) and the cheese, crackers and assorted

sweet meats made the rounds. Ms Bhreathnach described the food and tourism industry, with which Cathal Brugha Street is always associated, as "...a fantastic sector that is benefitting the economy and benefitting the coffers of the Department of Finance when it is successful. Its a wonderful investment...and so central to the creation of new employment, and I wish this building, and all who pass through it and all who teach here a safe journey into the next millennium."

Dr. Goldsmith, President of the DIT, gave a lifting speech regarding the remarkable headway made by the DIT in its short, yet successful, incarnation to date. He described the extension as "a symbol of the further development of the Institute since its establishment in 1993."

The School of Food Science and Environmental Health will be housed in the new extension, and it will contain class rooms, science laboratories, staff areas and, most importantly, the training bar.

Degree Powers Conferred on DIT: University Status on review

Shortly before being ousted from power in the recent General Election, the then Minister for Education, Niamh Bhreathnach, granted the DIT the power to confer its own degrees, to come into effect in the academic year 1998-1999.

The decision was finally made after much lobbying on the part of students and staff throughout the DIT. It means that in future, degrees

which were traditionally granted to DIT students by Trinity College will become bona fide DIT qualifications, bestowed by the Institute itself. This, it is hoped, will gain the DIT the international recognition which it feels it deserves.

Along with the power to award its own degrees, which it has now secured, the DIT is actively seeking University status. Failing to include the Institute in the Universities Bill

which was eventually passed and thus made into an Act by the Oireachtas in May this year, then-minister Bhreathnach promised to establish an international review board to examine the DIT's case for inclusion in the Universities Act by order. This would mean that, were the body to recommend University status for the DIT, that it could be included in the Act at a later date.

That international body is cur-

rently meeting and, though there is no specific date deadline by which they must report, it is hoped that the outcome of their deliberations will be favourable.

Sinéad Pidgeon, DITSU President, said that while she welcomed degree awarding powers, 'The full effects for students won't be realised until the Institute receives its long-overdue status as a University.'



the DIT Examiner

DITSU, DIT Kevin Street, Kevin St., Dublin 8. Ph: 402 4636
Ph/Fax: 478 3154

What's up?

Its September again, only this time you're in the DIT for at least the first time in your life. The down side is that you're here to educate yourself, learn the ins and outs of your particular craft, and try and round your personality and character some more.

The up side is that you can get lingers for a lot of the time, dodge a reasonable amount of lectures without being a twat about the whole thing, and participate in the largest students' union in the country. If its sport, drink, cinema, music, fruit, toast or wallop you want, it'll be in the DIT Examiner. If its not in it, write something about it, and send it in to the address above. Do not send money, drugs or animals through the post, as these items generally tend to settle during transit and invariably come out the other end in a right old mess.

You must remember that, above all, this is your newspaper, you control its destiny and what it will have to say for the coming year. Fill it.

Meán Fómhar atá ann arís agus tá tú in ITBÁC don chéad uair, ar a laghad. An droch-scéal ná go bhfuil tú anseo le oideachas d'fháil, le foghlaim faoi na tréithe éagsúla a bhaineann le do thréad áirithe, agus chun do charactar agus pearsantacht a mhúnladh chun deise.

An dea-scéal ná go mbeith tú in ann é seo ar fad a dhéanamh agus tú caochta as do cheann do mhór-chuid an ama, mám mhaith de na léachtanna agar a sheachaint gan óinseach a dhéanamh díot féin, agus a bheith páirteach san Aontas Mac Léinn is mó sa tír. Más cúrsaí spóirt, ólachán, scannáin, ceol, torthaí, tóst no craiceann atá uait, is san Examiner a bheidh sé. Mura bhfuil sé san Examiner, scríobh rud éigin faoi, agus cur chuig an seoladh thuas-luaite láithreach é. Ná cur drugaí, airgead, ná ainmhithe sa phost, óir loitítear an saghas stuif seo de ghnáth sula sroicheann sé ceann scríbe.

Cuimhnigh, thar gach ní eile, gur leatsa an nuachtán seo, tusa a rialaíonn an saol aige agus cad a bheidh á rá aige don bhliain os ár gcomhair amach. Lón é.

Cearbhall Ó Síocháin

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So apart from being the largest
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- + 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** **EAGARTHÓIR**
Armed Resistance by David Hasselhoff
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 ghlacfar le haon leitis 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.

Gaeilge

A chairde,

Ba mhaith leis an DIT Examiner a chur in iúl do dhaoine go bhfuil fáilte roimh ábhar trí Ghaeilge a bhaineann le h-aon chuid den saol san Institiúid.

Más mian libh tuile eolas a fháil ina thaobh cur glaoch ar Cearbhall ag 402 4636 chun cúrsaí a phlé.

Seachas sin, tig libh bia a fhágaint taobh amuigh dá dhóras istioiche, óir ní minic a bheathaítear é, an lead bocht.

Le gach dea-mhéin,
An tEagarthóir.

Great Paper

Dear Sir,

what the hell do you mean by refusing to publish argumentative and disparaging letters by disgruntled punters? You'd think all students were useless, inanimate, illiterate, spiteful pools of bile with nothing to do all day but write venomous letters to newspaper editors. I've been writing to you each issue without fail, and have yet to see any of my work published.

This merely highlights the fact that your newspaper has lost touch with the greater student body and the issues which dictate their agendas.

Incidentally, that episode of East Enders which depicted the Irish as a bunch of drunken mullahs with no self-respect and serious personality problems hit the nail right on the head for me. In all my life I've never met such a bunch of debauched semi-pro dipso's. And the roads are desperate. And another thing, if I wasn't so busy keeping tabs on the moral decline of student newspapers I'd be out there campaigning for some thing or other.

Yours,
Lando Calrissian,
Sky City.

Letter

Dear Sir,

will you publish my letter in the Examiner?

Yours,
Burt Reynolds,
Famous Actor.

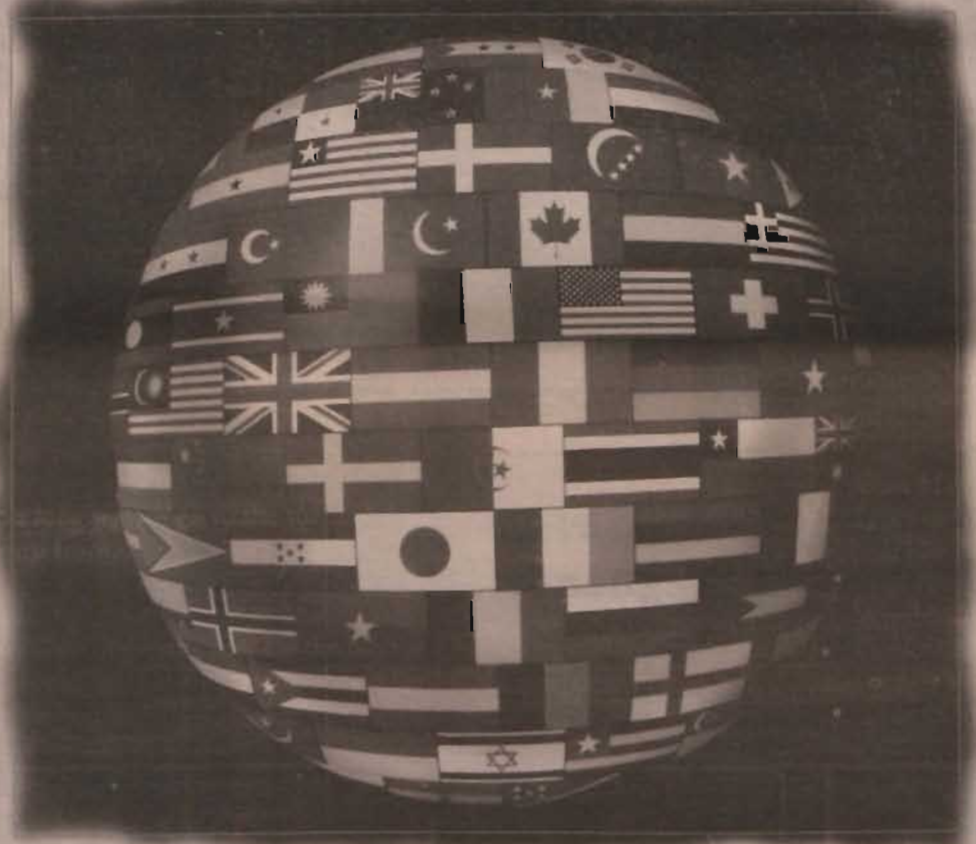
Contributions WelcomE

Should you feel like writing for the DIT Examiner on a regular or a once off basis why not contact the Editor at 402 4636. The Editor rarely leaves his desk in the Student's Union in Kevin St., so feel free to send him any piece of information generally relevant to students in the DIT, or torment him as you see fit. You can always call in and say 'Woss goin on?!', send in photographs, small parcels or knitwear, as these are always received kindly.

Fáilte RoimH Chúnamh ScríofA

Más dóigh leat gur mhaith leat scríobh ar son an DIT Examiner ar bhonn rialta no eile, téigh i dteagmháil leis an Eagarthóir ag 402 4636. Is annamh a fhágann an t-Eagarthóir a dheise in Aontas na Mac Léinn is Sráid Chaoimhín, mar sin bí cinnte aon eolas a sheoladh chuige i dtaobh stuif a bhaineann le saol na mic léinn in ITBÁC. Tig leat bualadh isteach agus 'Woss goin on?!' a fhiafraigh, grianghrafanna, pacáistí beaga nó déantúis ollna a sheoladh isteach, óir cuirtear fáilte i gcónaí roimh a leithéid.

remember the global village?



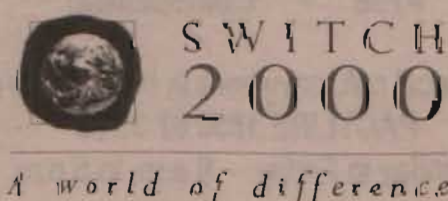
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Gaisce

THE NATIONAL CHALLENGE AWARD



Gaisce is the most prestigious National Award in Ireland for young people who set and achieve a demanding challenge for themselves. It is open to young adults up to the age of 25. A wide range of youth organisations, sporting organisations, educational establishments and industry are involved.

The Gaisce programme is essentially about agreeing a challenge with a young person that she/he will endeavour to reach from an agreed time onwards. The challenge is relative to the person's ability. It sets out to develop the young person as an individual and also to introduce him/her to community involvement.

Gaisce is non-competitive, in that each young person who achieves their agreed challenge (for either bronze, silver or gold) will get their award. Bronze and Silver Awards are targeted at young people in one particular year of their secondary education. This is normally the year after the Junior Certificate or the transition year. Gold Awards are targeted at young people who have left second level education and who have the time and the ability to take on a very demanding challenge.

This is achieved either at college or in employer bodies or indeed with young unemployed people. It takes about one year to complete the activities for a Bronze Award; one and half years for a Silver Award and two years for a Gold Award. Awards are presented to young people who set and achieve a demanding challenge of themselves in each of the following four areas:-

A community activity; e.g. lifesaving

A personal skill; e.g. learning to play a musical instrument

A physical activity; e.g. martial arts

An adventurous; e.g. an adventurous expedition

Gaisce is the National Challenge Award from the President of Ireland to the young people of Ireland. A similar type of Award operates in 66 countries worldwide and it is generally recognised as one of the world's most successful young programmes. The word Gaisce is an old Irish word meaning 'a deed of valour', 'a great achievement' or 'a proud moment'.

Bronze and Silver Awards are presented annually by celebrities and dignitaries. Gold Awards are presented annually by the President of Ireland in Dublin Castle.

For your free Information Kit send now:

**John T. Murphy,
Director of Marketing,
GAISCE - The President's Award,
State Apartments,
Dublin Castle,
Dublin 2.**

Telephone: (01) 475 8746 / 475 8747

Fax: (01) 475 8749

Have you registered to vote?

**If not, get on the case now.
Here's how.**

New arrangements have been made for those who may not be able to vote in their designated polling station. Check details at your local authority office where you can also obtain an application form.

The form must be with the local authority of the area you want to vote in by September 30 at the latest.



*Some of last year's Gaisce winners receiving their medals in the RDS in May this year.
Top: Ken Gargan, ET 221, Kevin St. Above: Yvonne Dwyer, DT 200, Kevin St., Cathy Silke, DT 272, Kevin St., and Stephen Kenny, DT 231, Kevin St., with Ray Darcy, famous guy, and Sister Margaret Buckley, Chaplaincy, Kevin St., at the ceremony after the presentation.*

freshers' week

Kevin St

Mon 29 Sep - Fri 3 Oct

Monday

12:00 Officer Introduction in the Snackery
13:00 Bingo in the Snackery with prizes
17:00 USI Beer Promotions Games and Bands, comedians + DJ till 1:00am

Tuesday

13:00 Hypnotist in the Gleeson Hall
17:00 Beer Promotions in Devitt's
20:00 Karaoke in Barney Murphy's with Prizes

Wednesday

11:00 Clubs & Societies Day in Gleeson Hall
20:00 Pub Quiz in USI + Beer Promotions & Pub Crawl

Thursday

13:00 Comedian in Gleeson Hall
17:00 Pre-ball Drink at Guinness Party Night in Barney Murphy's and Devitt's
22:30 Freshers' Ball in the Olympic Ballroom

Friday

13:00 Cinema in the Ambassador



Aungier St

Mon 6 Oct - Th 9 Oct

Monday

12:30 Official Opening Reception
Boat Race
2:30 3-legged Pub Crawl
3:00 Fun Day in Club USI
Bingo
PubQuiz
Kwizoke & whole lot more!
9:30 Disco in Club USI

Tuesday

10:30 Clubs&Socs Stands Day
Information and Recruitment for all DIT
Aungier St Clubs & Socs
12:30 Fun Day in Canteen
DJ in Canteen
Iron Stomach competition
Blind Date spot prizes
1:00 Clothes sale in aid of St Luke's Hospital
Morgan, Part 2, Matinique
ALL AT LOW PRICES!!
5:00 Hudson Blue promo in Barney Murphy's
9:00 Zac Powers & Disco in the

Wednesday

1:00 Pool Competition in Common Room
4:00 Budweiser promo in Sorohan's
6:00 "Friends" in Common Room
8:30 Guinness promo in Gleesons & Live Music or D'Aungier Zone in Sorohan's
11:30 Free night in The Court niteclub

Thursday

12:30 Ice Skating in Dolphin's Barn
3:00 Treasure Hunt
Time to Chill Out for the Big Night!!!!
8:00 PARTY ANIMALS Guinness party in Gleeson's
10:30 Freshers' Ball in The Furnace
Free Draw: Nokia GSM mobile phone from the Carphone Warehouse.



Mountjoy Sq

Mon 6 Oct - Th 9 Oct

Monday

Lunchtime: DJ in the Canteen - Coca Cola Promotion
Free keg of Guinness in Stoney's
Disco that night in Boomerangs Niteclub Temple Bar

Tuesday

Clubs & Societies Stands Day
Lunchtime: Band in the canteen
Guinness Promotions during the Day
Race Night in the Back Gate

Wednesday

Lunchtime: DJ in the Canteen
Sex Quiz in Stoney's
Boat Race - Big Tree
'Pub COMAD' Karaoke in the Big Tree that night
Disco afterwards in Rumours Niteclub

Thursday

Lark in the Park
FM104 Broadcasting outside the College
Games and Promotions in Mountjoy Sq Park
Guinness Promotion that night in The Big Tree
Freshers' Ball - Watch out for Posters

Friday

Day of Rest

seachtain na n-úraithe

Bolton St
Mon 6 Oct - Fr 10 Oct

Monday

Defrosting Day
8:30am Free Irish Times
11:00am Fresher Mag release (10 Ball tickets Raffle)
12:30pm Edward White Hypnotist
2:00pm Alcoholics Starting Block in Four Seasons
8:00pm DJ & Promotions in The Four Seasons

Pace Yourself
Its a Long Week to Go

Tuesday

Warming Day
9:00am 12+ Companies with plenty to offer. Don't miss out!
11:00am Speed Eaters with food from Declan's Sandwich Bar (Great Spot Prizes)
12:30pm DJ in Common Room. Spot prizes & games.
4:00pm AA Meeting in Seasons. Promotion.
8:00pm Bolton St in the Crypt Bar, Temple Theatre.
10:00pm Even Odds Ball with St Pats in Temple Theatre.

Wednesday

Shit Hot Day
9:00am Clubs & Societies Stands (Hidden Prizes)
12:30pm Mega Treasure Hunt (Super Prizes on offer)
1:00pm Opening of AIB Year Pool League. Guest appearance & games by Fergal O'Brien
4:00pm Promotion in Four Seasons Theme Event
8:00pm Karaoke & Promotions in The Four Seasons
11:00pm Free Night Mega prizes & Promotions in Club USI

Thursday

Sweat & Steam
8:30am Free Irish Times
11:00am Parnell Centre Fun Hour £1.00 per head 4 two hrs.
12:30pm USI Disco Scene Big Games & Prizes (Bouncy Castles etc)
2:00pm Trip Warm Up (Big Promo) in the Four Seasons
4:30pm Buses to ??? Club 1
6:00pm AIB Disco & Games
9:00pm Buses to ??? Club 2
2:30am Return to Dublin

Friday

Chill Out Zone
9:00am - 11:00am Breakfast Party
12:00pm Video Coverage of the Week in Common Room
1:00pm Free Bus Passes Home Promotion
That's it for now. Study a bit and get ready for Halloween Ball.

Cathal Brugha St
Mon 13 Oct - Th 16 Oct

Monday

DJ in Common Room 12-2pm
4-7pm Pub Quiz, Back Gate
Karaoke 8pm

Tuesday

Clubs + Socs Day
Stands in Common Room
Guinness Party

Wednesday

Welfare + InfoDay
Stands in Common Room
Band in Back Gate

Thursday

Sports Day ALSAA 11am-6pm
Freshers' Ball 8pm-2am Club USI

Further promotions will be added to this timetable ensuring a fully packed week of fun.

Warning

Its Freshers week. Go and get hammered, make your moves and deal with the consequences (word used by old squares and reptiles).

If you insist on drinking the whole week away, for God's sake be sure you can handle what you swallow. Don't take dumb chances with stuff you know little or nothing about.



GAA CLG

New GAA Officer for the DIT



Barry Downey, DIT's new
GAA Development Officer

This year brings with it a new face, that of DIT GAA Officer Barry Downey who takes over from previous officer Josephine Rogers.

Barry hails from Dublin and is a member of the St. Anne's (Bohernabreena) Club. Injury ended his playing days in 1991 and since then he has been making a name for himself in the world of coaching, working with the Dublin County Board for almost five years.

Barry's new role deals with all aspects of GAA and its sports. He is there to set up Clubs administration, structures to assist clubs, teams and students. So, if you have any queries on clubs, games or training, then give Barry a call on ext. 3424 (ad prefix 402 if dialling from outside DIT) or mobile 088 270 58 72.

Welcome back to a new year that hopefully will prove as successful as our previous year in GAA.

Who's Got The Biggest Pen?

For many months last year the biggest and best clubs & societies battled it out for the most extensive coverage in the *Examiner*, a prize which most probably goes to the DIT Hurling Club, and reporter extraordinaire Tony Kinsella, PRO of same.

The Hurling Club enjoyed a very successful season last year, toppling notable teams (Galway in the Fitzgibbon Cup being the most memorable), in their quest for undisputed champions of their craft.

The challenge is open to all again this year -- make it your business to fill these pages with news, views and, if you feel like it, rackets and cues.

If you feel a particular club, team, society or species of student are getting too much coverage in the newspaper, don't phone the editor ranting about it -- write something on a club you're in, or a mountain you shimmied up. The

Examiner is here for the specific purpose of giving you a place to voice your opinions and thoughts on all things sporting.

It doesn't even have to be sport in the narrow sense; if you think swimming is a sport, then go on! Send something in to the *Examiner*. Who knows? It might slip past our sub-editor board and get printed!

Watch out for major events throughout the year in the more popular categories, and draw attention to the ones you feel are being hard done by. Only YOU can make the difference. Especially if you get your mates to help. Think of all the beer companies just dying to sponsor sporting challenges and competitions. You'd be a fool to let this chance slip by. As large multinational sporting goods companies sometimes say, Do It, Just.

D.I.T. SPORTS DAY



Venue: ALSAA Sports Complex

Date: Thursday 16 October

Time: 12pm - 4pm



OUTDOOR SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Time	Activity
12-4pm	7-a-side Soccer Blitz
12-4pm	GAA, Hurling, and Camogie Blitz
12-4pm	7-a-side Rugby Blitz
12-4pm	Pitch and Putt
12-4pm	Tennis
2-3pm	Cross-Country Race (M & W)
1-4pm	11-a-side Mixed Hockey Blitz
2-4pm	7-a-side Ladies Soccer Blitz
3-4pm	7-a-side Ladies Rugby Blitz

INDOOR SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Time	Activity
12-2pm	Basketball Blitz (M & W)
12-2pm	Squash
12-2pm	Volleyball Blitz (M & W)
1-2pm	Swimming
1-3pm	Badminton
2-3pm	Aerobics and Step Aerobics
2-3pm	Karate
1-2pm	Tae Kwon-Do

Also running throughout the day are plenty of fun games, from three-legged races and water fights to bouncing around on the bouncy castle - ideal for the not so sporty student!! So come on out and get involved in as many sports activities as you can on the day, there is something out there for everyone to enjoy!!

*Fixtures may be subject to change -- watch notice boards for more info or ask at your local Students' Union

THE FA PREMIERSHIP

Here's a quick look at all the teams in the most exciting league in the world...with Del Godson

Arsenal

The Gunners have a real chance of collecting some silverware this season. Always hard to score against and with proven goalscorers like Wright, Bergkamp and Marc Overmars, they should end the season with a trophy.

Aston Villa

Have made a poor start. Big signing Collymore, who, in my book is over-rated, will want to bag at least 20 goals for them to have any success. Reliable Yorke and Draper will be their successes.

Barnsley

I think they will find it too tough in the Premiership. My guess is they will go down come May.

Blackburn Rovers

With Dahlin, Sutton and Flitcroft, they stand a good chance of battling for the title. Roy Hodgson is obviously a man well capable of winning in the big time. And if time is a drug, then Roy Hodgson is a giant manager injecting it into the FA's arsewicket.

Chelsea

Another team with a serious chance of adding to last years FA Cup with more silverware. Zola, LeBoeuf, De Matteo, Hughes, Vialli & Co. have shown that on their day they're a match for anyone.

Coventry City

Dion Dublin is their greatest threat up front with McAllister holding things in midfield. They've escaped relegation once too many times for me.

Crystal Palace

I can see Lombardo making an impact at Palace, however, they will need some more world class players stand any chance of staying up.

Derby County

Like last season Derby will be hard to beat. Asanović and Sturridge should cause defenders problems.

Everton

I think they've a long way to go to the successful days of the eighties. They need more consistency up front.

Leeds United

I'm afraid its another mid-table year for the boys at Elland Road. Hasselbank and Bowyer will score some goals but Leeds are always hard to score against so they will finish around eighth or ninth.

Leicester City

They have already beaten Liverpool at Anfield, but with European games added to their season I can't see them doing much else. Key players are Heskey, Claridge and Izzett.

Liverpool

Following their recent disappointing seasons, Liverpool have bought Ince, Leonhardson, Murphy, Karl Heinz-Riedle and along with Fowler and new whizz kid Michael Owen I will be very surprised if they are not crowned champions. They have played some of the best football in recent years and with their new signings aboard they will have the strength and character to go all the way.

Manchester United

They won the title last year without being outstanding. Sheringham should make a great difference up front. They will miss Cantona a lot, although with Beckham and Keane they will be a force to be reckoned with. I would say that their biggest hope of a trophy is the European Cup, which I'm confident that they will win.

Newcastle United

Haven't a hope of winning the league without Shearer. Only joking! Under King Kenny anything is possible. Liverpool's biggest challenger for the title. I think Ian Rush will score a lot more for the toon army than he did for Leeds last Season.

Sheffield Wednesday

Always a surprise, well for a bit of each season anyway. Paolo Di Canio should make a difference up front. A good bet for either the Coca-Cola cup or the FA Cup.

Southampton

They've made a bad start to the season. They always seem to survive by the skin of their teeth but not this year I fear!

Tottenham Hotspur

Its definitely Gerry Francis' last season in charge if they cannot collect some silverware. A man who of admirable quality, Les Ferdinand, and his Newcastle colleague, David Ginola should keep Francis in a job at least till next year.

West Ham United

Last year they barely survived, this year will be different. John Hartson & Paul Kitson just can't stop scoring. Well capable of a place in Europe next season.

Wimbledon

Unlike last season's great start, I can't see Wimbledon doing much this season. Kinnear is a great manager though his resources are limited and so is his squad.

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ALBUMS

Welcome back for another year of music reviews and a mini gig guide for 1997. Since I last was talking to you we have had the Puff Daddy EXPLOSION, The Verve and Roni Size winning a Mercury Award with his D'n'B album, New Forms. So what is left for the rest of the coming term? I'm sure you all had a great summer and I'm glad to be allowed back!

david holmes let's get killed go!beat

David Holmes 'Let's Get Killed' is, by all accounts tales of New York. This album was born in the summer of 1996, when David travelled from his home in Belfast to America to explore Hell's Kitchen and the mayhem it offers. He went to Central Park to watch the skaters wheel by.

Certain tunes became interlinked with his New York escapades. 'Rodney Years' is a tribute to a street astrologer who tells David that he is a 'bad' man. This is probably the most surprising, thrilling and downright genius album you're likely to hear all year long. David is also known as a DJ, having hosted the now-legendary Supersweet night in Belfast, which developed into Shake Your Brain. He also became an in-demand remixer, doing U2's Discotheque.

His own music became more ambitious and visually inclined. The capstone of his 1995 debut album 'This Film's Crap, Let's Slash the Seats', was a track called 'No Man's Land' which aimed to translate the emotional power of the film, 'In The Name Of The Father'. David Holmes is a story-spinner, a techno-mod, a fear auteur. He has arranged these voices around him as regulated as a dream.

David Holmes 'Let's Get Killed' is released on Go! Beat through Polydor Records.

C.C 11/10 (IT'S WHAT I LIKE!)

portishead portishead go!beat

To be released on the 29 Th. September 1997.

Well about time! If you have never heard of these former Mercury Award

winners, I honestly don't know where

the hell you have been for the last few years! The debut album, 'Dummy', was a refreshing change when it was released, with 'Portishead' following in the same vein. The story of Portishead is like that of many other bands; Barrow and Gibbons met on an Enterprise Allowance Scheme induction course. The wonders of the dole! The most amazing thing about this album is the way songs lodge in the memory. They ridiculed the 'difficult second album' syndrome, but it took three years to concoct their second riveting trip-hop collection. There are moments of sheer terror here, echoes and shadows. 'Humming' is pure cine-funk, 'Cowboys' is already for me the great lost single of '97, the list of moments is endless. Portishead have realised that life is harsh but they are harsher! For all those who know their stuff, you would be a fool not to drown in them again.

C.C 9/10 (I can't give top marks twice in one issue!)

SEE YOU ALL NEXT MONTH



DJ Shadow

dj shadow endroducing MoWax

The future of Hip-Hop lies partly hidden between Shadow's sheets. Paying tribute to all the big guns of the beats circuit since the Sugar Hill Gang, right the way through to the untouchable (like Elliot Ness) Dr Dre, DJ Shadow and his 100%-sampled sounds has finally entered the arena in a big way, ie, following years of banging away on the US's west coast, he has landed himself a

mother and father of an album.

Some geezer in the Guardian mentioned the word 'genius' when treating the Shadow's latest disk to a listen. Some might agree, and even though I don't, it's still a ground-breaking record.

The Number Song, the third track on Endroducing is a blast of progressive hip-hop giving plenty of BPM and a particularly juicy tom break in the middle. A delightful horns breakdown shares the limelight with the bass heavy piano background to round this one off.

Changeling: Transmission 1 is a dream flavoured space drift which wanders in a Future Sound of London manner until the space transmission feedback at the tail wraps it up.

What does your Soul Look Like (Pt 4), the fifth on the disk, is very good. From here, your soul looks very content indeed. This song has absolutely no intention of leaving the couch for any reason. The mesmeric bass doesn't

change throughout, but with the jazz-style crash going on behind it, it makes for a very relaxing number. Could verge dangerously towards the boring, though.

Shadow clearly likes giving his tunes titles which sound like Swedish sentences, as *Stem / Long Stem* ** *Transmission 2* proves conclusively. This is the Guinness one.

There are more gems scattered around this cd, including *Organ Donor*, where our man from Frisco gets great mileage out of an old piano exercise, and one or two tracks which dump him squarely in Vangelis' bracket. Will make a lot of people buy samplers, some of whom will hopefully, like DJ Shadow, have some talent.

Contributions to Sonic Bionic regarding anything musical welcome. On disk or not at all please.

CLUBBED TO A BLOODY PULP

Influx

@ Redbox

- Sat 27 Sep: Fat Boy Slim (Skint)
Psychonauts (MoWax)
Johnny Moy (Influx)
- Sat 4 Oct: Gemini (Relief, Chicago)
Stuart McMillan (Slam, Soma)
Billy Scurry (Loose)
- Sat 11 Oct: Death in Vegas (Live on stage)
Black Star Liner (Live)
Richard Fearless
Johnny Moy (Influx)
- Fri 31 Oct: DJ Sneak
Darren Emerson (Underworld)
Stephen Mulhall (Influx)

Studentnites

Wednesdays @ Redbox

- Oct 1 Redbox: Jon Pleased Wimmin
Paddy Sheridan
- PoD: Billy Scurry
Stephen Mulhall
- ChocBar: Arveene Juthan
- Oct 8 Redbox: Tony de Vir
Paddy Sheridan
- PoD: Johnny Moy
Billy Scurry
- ChocBar: Glen Brady

Competition

Influx are offering a double tickets to see Fat Boy Slim on the 1st of October. All you have to do is...

Q. Which reggae choreographers did Fat Boy Slim play bass with?

Answers on an old mule to:
The Editor,
DIT Examiner,
DITSU Kevin St,
Kevin St,
Dublin 8. Ph: 402 4636

- Oct 15 Redbox: Rocky & Diesel
Billy Scurry
- PoD: Mark Dixon
Paddy Sheridan
- ChocBar: Noel Phelan
- Oct 22 Redbox: Allister Whitehead
Paddy Sheridan
- PoD: Dave Hiles
Arveene Juthan
- ChocBar: Stephen Mulhall

conversational cHAos -- the SONIC BIONIC interview

Enter the Driven

The Driven in conversation with *the DIT Examiner*.

The Driven are Limerick four-piece Brendan Markham (lead vocals), Darrin Mullins (lead guitar), Paul Power (bass), and Ned Kennedy (drums). With the exception of Paul Power, who joined in 1995, the Driven have been playing together for close to six years. With the arrival of Paul the band got themselves organised, recorded a demo in Cork and headed to London to ply their wares. So impressive was the recording that it got them a deal with Polydor almost immediately, and they've been based in London until now. They have an album on the way in the new year, and have already released two singles, both of which are featured on the forthcoming cd. On a hot day in the summer, in the city, ChaOS went to shoot the breeze with them.



L-r: Brendan, Paul, Ned & Darrin.

Your album travels across many musical styles from 60s and 70s arena rock to 80s metal to shades of 90s (careful, now) grunge. Was it your intention to create such an across-the-board sound?

"No, it's just the way it turns out, really. It's from being down in Limerick, in the middle of nowhere, from the lack of exposure to proper gigs or 'a scene'," explains Brendan.

So you had to invent a whole musical sphere around yourselves without immediate examples and come up with your own raw material. Does that mean that you have no musical influences?

"Lots of influences, but all unintentional," Brendan continues. "We, all like different styles of music. Most of Darrin's music, I wouldn't listen to, and vice versa." Ned puts it down to being comfortable with musical styles as opposed to particular songs or individuals. He says simply, "It's not like imitation. It's more like tipping your hat to guys that went before you that did it. There's little bits and pieces of them that I've taken on board but there's a lot of myself that I like to reinvent and I give my own input. There's a lot of different influences and we kind of melt them all together and we like what comes out."

They respect a variety of styles from Something Happens and U2 to The Frames and Cactus World News on the Irish front, with Leonard Cohen and the, as-yet-still-alive Rolling Stones from outside the island. So how did you grow and form what you are now?

"There was no band within a fifty mile radius of us playing original songs," says Ned, filling in the blanks. "We were the nemesis of the cover band. We spent years at home playing in pubs, and playing our own songs, like 'Secret Police' and 'Jesus Loves You', to people who wanted to hear Madonna and Meatloaf. And they started to like us for it."

So is the album a 'two years, six months...etc' of the band — the whole-story-of-The Driven-until-now type of thing?

Paul explains, "Well four or five songs [on the album] have been around with the band for a couple of years and then I joined and we did our thing of it. At the moment we're writing an awful lot of new material, so the album that's coming out is us up until about the end of the recording. Our next record is being written at the moment, in rehearsals and stuff, but there's not one song on it that's pre-95. They're all fresh."

They're changing now, and already thinking about the next thing. But that has a lot to do with living in the very expensive capital of Britain. It was partly this which prompted a move back to Ireland, Brendan tells me.

"Instead of sitting around on our arses if you've a week off in London, and not really wanting to be spending loads of money on rehearsals we want to be able to come back here [Ireland] and be playing these new

songs and throw them in every now and again live. You want to give the songs the chance to develop in that way."

Would you say you're more musically an American rock'n'roll band as opposed to a British rock'n'roll band?

"Yeah I would," Paul says straight away. "We're definitely not an English rock'n'roll group anyway."

"Without a doubt," says Ned. "We really do consider ourselves more influenced by American music than English." He elaborates by addressing two English examples.

"I mean, you've got The Smiths, you've got The Police but there's only a handful of great ones." And the American ones?

"For Paul, Stone Temple Pilots hit the spot, Pearl Jam for Darrin, and for me it was Nirvana and The Pixies and stuff."

"Older English and new American" says Brendan by way of explanation.

If you're not in it for the money, and it's your love of the music that makes you tick right now, how happy were you with the amount of slack given to you by your label?

"When we were negotiating the deal we made sure that we had as much artistic freedom as possible," says Darrin.

"The most important thing for us was that recording the album was left up to us and our producer [John Kelly]. We weren't put under pressure to work with our producer, we chose him eventually. We decided 'Right, we like this guy,'" says Ned.

And like him they might, for he had just done the Beautiful South's *Blue is the Colour*, and, though The Driven might be musically leftier afield than the English musicians, they felt it made sense for Kelly to produce them. All this record-label pampering took its toll, and they don't deny that they went hell-for-leather for a cut of the rock'n'roll life when it presented itself to them, though.

"We did get caught up in it, our egos did get pumped up, we did spend too much money, we drank too much, and now we don't ever drink before gigs, because we fucked up big time," admits Brendan.

So you've actually gotten over the process of getting loaded at every opportunity?

"They're all agreed on this one. 'You have to, like. The honeymoon is well over for us,'" laughs Paul.

"Because when you're in the middle of it you don't realise it," says Brendan, "and then you wake up one day and say 'Hold it a second — what was I doing here again? I was in a band, wasn't I? You just get caught up in all the bullshit.'"

The lads agree that, like many of their predecessors — My Little Funhouse, The Cranberries — they, too, were practically forced into going abroad to get record company attention. It meant that they had to learn a lot of things fast. They seem to show a maturity gained from being forced to take notice of what has been happening around them over the past two years. They look at the different aspects of being in a band — which is, after all, their job — on a fairly professional basis. Its sort of a 'we have a gig to play, plug it all in and let's get crackin' outlook, and it's a healthy one to have. Having played with Kula Shaker, Skunk Anansie and Kanosha, Wisconsin's finest, Weezer, The Driven have been exposed to some of the upper echelons of popular music. So what have they learned about the music industry since they started gigging with the big wigs?

"Don't drink before going on stage!" Are you more comfortable as a studio band or a live band?

"Oh, a live band. That was our biggest problem, going into a studio," says Darrin, early memories obviously flooding back.

"A lot of bands become a band in the studio which is probably the worst thing you could possibly do. It's easy to write a song in a studio because everything sounds brilliant," says Paul. Darrin concurs. "All our songs are written outside the studio. Most of them were written at home."

The main thing for The Driven is to identify and nail down the specifics of a song when they're recording it, to give it a solid base. This way there's no confusion. Then later, when they want to bend and reshape stuff during a gig, they already have a blue-print from which to work and develop from.

Any Irish gigs coming up?

"That's the worst thing about being signed. You're left sitting on your arse for ages and then everything becomes politics. If we had the choice we'd be playing tomorrow and the next day and the day after that; take two days off and do it all again for another five days."

The Driven will be beefing up their Irish profile over the next few months, so keep an ear cocked for 'Secret Police' (released Aug 25 last) and an eye on their future. They've danced with the cannibals, and this is rock and roll.

Thanks to Debbie @ Polygram for continued support.

Where did you go? When the Bluetones came to town.

Three quarters of the Bluetones spoke to ChaOS about recording their new album (while attached to Tequila drips), old A-Ha records and the sound of gun-silencers. The Bluetones are guitarist Adam Devlin, drummer Eds Chesters, and brothers Mark (vocals) and Scott (bass) Morriss. The four are one and they have no leader. They exist as a musical entity for about five years now, and to this day continue to exhibit human traits and characteristics, despite being 'in a band'.

Eds, Scott and Mark are tucking into sambos in their Olympia dressing room, preparatory to gigging later in the evening. Apparently the sambos are nice, particularly the sausage ones. Adam has gone to buy some socks.

If you were drinking loads of Tequila while recording the new album, is there a Mexican flavour to it?

"Kinda," says Mark, "some of the tracks had a huge Mexican feel to them. In the last year or so, there's been an increased awareness in Mexican culture in the whole group. We've started watching a lot of Mexican cinema and just getting into it. No real reason, it's just something we like."

Was there anything you wanted or expected to hear from this new album while recording it?

"Just for ourselves, we can hear how we've grown as a group. There were certain things we expected from it such as the sound of this record, compared to the last one."

More produced?

Not necessarily. "We've got more control over the sounds now than we used to have," explains Scott. "We have more of an idea about the sounds we wanted to hear."

"We kind of know how it works a little bit better," says Eds, sipping a beer. It took thirteen weeks in all to record the total of eighteen songs.

They feel under no obligation to record company execs or any other bosses. They control their own destinies to a greater or lesser extent.

"The only people we feel responsible to are ourselves and our friends," Mark points out. Despite their heightened success on a commercial front, they still find it easy enough to keep a perspective, and claim they can still find time for their fans. They have yet to hire personal body guards. "It's also important to us to have time for ourselves right now, because we know that, as soon as it's all finished it's going to be non-stop for two years and that'll be plenty of time for our fans then."

They once did a cover of Tupac Shakur's California Love, one of the funkier West Coast numbers ever written, and they also get to keep the fat-suits from the Marblehead Johnson — The Big Performance, a gem of a video comparable to Primus' Winona's Big Brown Beaver in the clothing department.

What else motivates them? Politics?

"Eh...No," say all three in unison.

As a one-time fan of A-Ha, Mark had a recent listen to the Scandinavian trio for posterity. His thoughts?

"Get into acting, Morten."



Scott, Adam, Mark & Eds. Eds later complains that his silencer was that of the acoustics of a wooden room, which was why it sounded so different

Finally, because such things trouble him, ChaOS asked the Bluetones to give their interpretations of the elusive sound of a pistol-silencer, a lá countless Bonds and other spy movies.

"Teeu! Teeu!" said Scott. "Duvv!" said Eds. "Pttff!" said Mark. They're awright, these guys, but they'd never make spies.

The Bluetones new album is due for release in early 1998.



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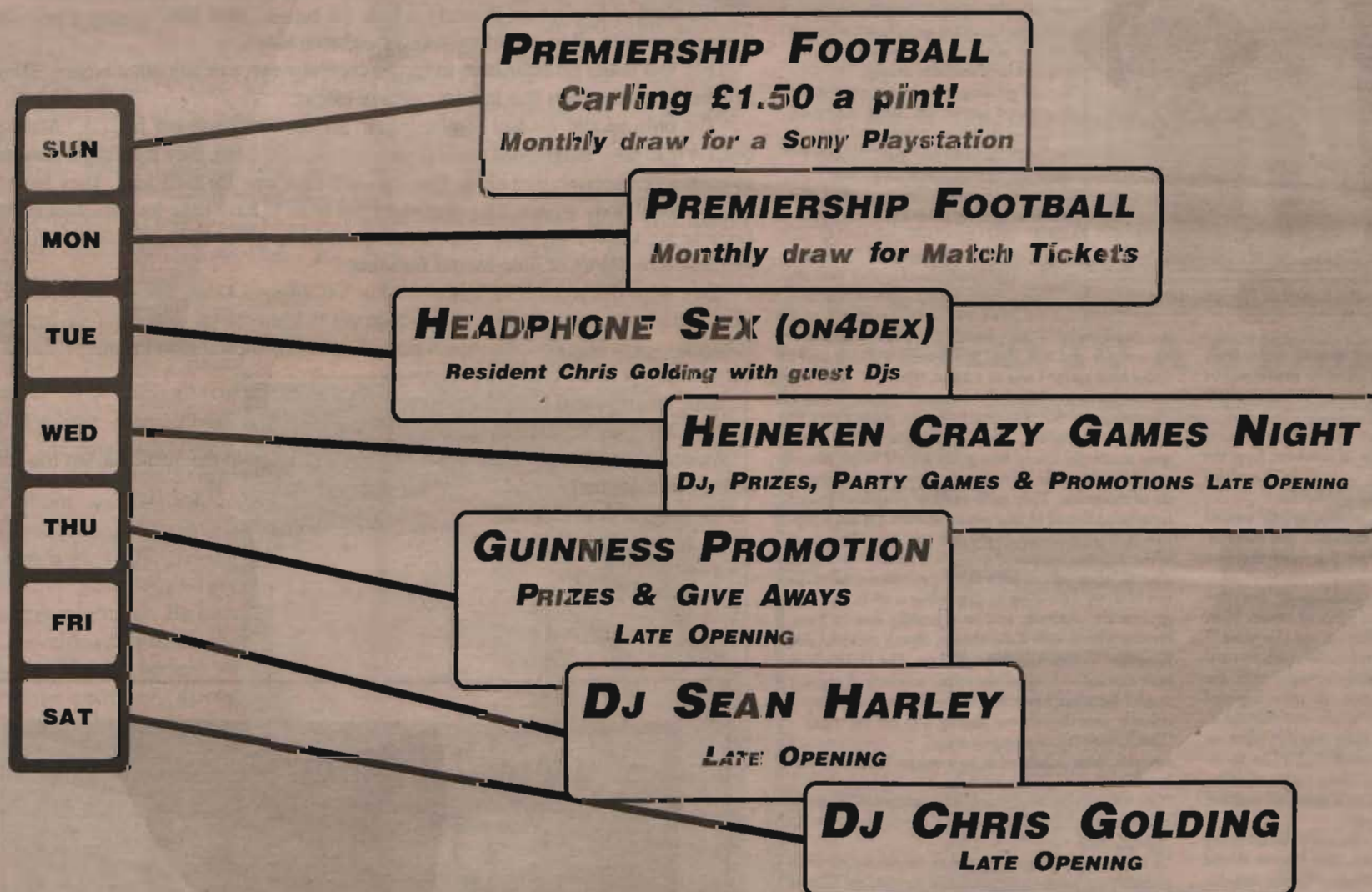
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