The DIT Examiner : the Newspaper of the Dublin Institute of Technology Students' Union, February, 1998

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Recommended Citation
DIT Students Support CARI

The Children at Risk in Ireland Foundation (CARI) was founded in 1989. It is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. CARI was set up to provide post-assessment therapy services for children who have experienced child sexual abuse and also to provide support for non-abusing members of their families.

Students in DIT Mountjoy Square are involved in running charity events for CARI throughout the year. So far over £1,000 has been raised and the target is £10,000. DITSU have also decided to adopt CARI as one of two charities that will benefit from any money raised during Rag Week.

What Can You Do?
The discovery, or even the suspicion, that a child is being sexually abused can be very disconcerting. If you have any concerns, or simply want more information, phone one of their helplines in complete confidence.

Dublin 01 - 830 8529
Limerick 061 - 411 331

Rag Week on Planet DIT

It rolls around again, and this one promises to be bigger and phatter than anything seen.

From booze croozes and band battles to bus-laden rag trips and bed-pushing sponsorship runs, DITSU has organised a bucketload of events, happenings and goings-on.

Rag Balls a-plenty vie for space with Mystery Tours, pub crawls, sex quizzes and naked mud-wrestling.

Of course, lectures will still be taking place, and projects, essays, lab reports and the like will still gain top priority when it comes to the crunch.

But when you've put your notes and books away, and you're satisfied that you'll pass you're exams then Hey — go a bit wild, Wickid.

USIS Education Officer Malcolm Byrne explains the specifics of TEASTAS to an interested group of Union of officers from the DIT, RTC and University sectors.

Fitzgibbon Cup in reach as DIT go through

DIT -- A Second Rate University?

Under the newly created national certification awarding body, Teastas, which currently the DIT is scrutinised and supervised regarding DIT awards certification, Teastas propose that even if, which will most likely happen, the DIT University status will be certified and scrutinised by Teastas.

All other Universities are currently under the remit of the Higher Education Authority (HEA), so why, therefore, should the DIT, on becoming a University, not be covered by the remit of the HEA? It is clearly an attempt by Teastas to justify their existence. They have no remit with regard to any other University in the state. Why should they have any remit with regard to the DIT as a University.

It is essential that these measures not be allowed to be put in place, and that like all other fully-fledged Universities, the DIT as a University would be treated as such. Anything else would be a step backwards and would devalue any progress made to date on DIT’s transition to University status. Please support any further action by your Students' Union to make the DIT a first rate University.
Johnny Foreigner

Anyone see Ms. Aine Ni Chonaill over the past few weeks? If the name doesn't mean anything to you, Ms. Ni Chonaill is a concerned Irish citizen. She's concerned with the influx of darkies, spies, Bosnians and other Ausländer. According to Ms. Ni Chonaill, now is the time to act on the refugee issue. She's right, of course, except that what she means by 'act' and what 'act' should actually mean are two entirely different things really. For this concerned, white, western European, professional woman, legislation to 'protect' against the racial pollution of our country should be rushed through our parliament before its too late. Some of her friends probably think its already too late, what with all those foreigners of every shade and nationality running around on social welfare and nicking our jobs.

Some Anti-Fascists who protested against a meeting she called recently were immediately dubbed Fascists by some of the Ni Chonaill camp. There is a small stink of irony lurking here, but I can't quite put my finger on it. Can you smell it?

Scáiníní Eacóidh

An bhfuil son duine Aine Ni Chonaill le deanadh? Mura pháilteann an t-aithne rud ar bith daoibh, is saothar imnighch Fírteannach I Aíne. Tá si buarthacht fionn iomlánadh ar na wops, agus Ausländer eile nach iad. De réir Bh. Úf Chonaill, is anois is ceart gníomhaíocht a thabhairt le ceist na ndéanadh a ríteach. Tá imní in a chuid aicí, ach amhain go bhfuil difriocht fíor i an ghníomhaíocht an áit i gceist uí fíin agus an gníomhaíocht is ceart a dhéanamh. Don bhhean inmheasc, geal, iar-Eorpach, profaisiunta sea, is ceart cheart a bhfuil sibh nó a thabhairt a bhí ag anois treachtaíochthacht a bhí trí réimse fìobhaíocht sásta go ndearfach da cuid de go bhfuil sé ro-dhéanach. Swaois go fofleann cuid de chuid an ghníomhaíochtaí fíor uí fíin, le fós na heachtrannaigh ar fad sásta go rith iad agus na postanna agus na leasa shúisialtaigh againne á ghoil an ¿?

Baisteadh Faisistigh láithreach ag campa Ni Chonaill ar ghrupa Frith-Faisistigh a chur in aghaidh cruinniú a thionadh an bhean faoi stiú. Ta aon airde de an bhfeidhm uí Faisistigh agus na postanna agus na leasa shúisialtaigh againne á ghoil an ¿?

Cearbhall Ó Stochdaín

Disabilities Awareness Day

In filling out our CAO/CAS application forms, one must consider many different colleges before making that final choice. These decisions are based on many different criteria such as where the drink is cheapest and what the male/female class ratios are. However, for the disabled student, this choice is even tougher. Not only must they choose between colleges based on academic reputation, they must also, in order to enjoy a comfortable college life, make decisions on the best facilities for their particular needs. This decision should be made quicker for disabled students by ensuring that all colleges have the appropriate facilities in their colleges, allowing disabled students to be free to choose colleges on a facility basis and concentrate on choosing a college based on academic matters.

The consideration of this fact has led equality officers throughout the DIT to come to the realisation that, although DIT is the largest college in the country, and provides courses that are unique to the establishment, DIT as a whole is not wheelchair accessible, and their provisions for the deaf and blind leave a lot to be desired. The actual number of disabled students in DIT — which is regarded by many as few — is irrelevant. It is our concern, however, how many students for whom the college does not cover on a day to day basis. Although the DIT has arrived to rectify this situation by appointing a disability officer, Linda Maguire, a long road stretches ahead. It is the aim of the equality officers on the 11 March to raise awareness of the daily problems that face a disabled student in DIT. It is through the student body that reform and consideration for others can be achieved. Our awareness can rectify the situation and solve the problem of the disabled.

On 11 March the Irish Wheelchair Association, the National Council for the Blind, the National Rehabilitation Board, Guide Dogs Association, Rehab and the Irish Council for the Status of People with Disabilities — to mention but a few — are sending representatives to conduct discussions and workshops in the DIT. It is our hope that an event will be held that night in Gleeson Hall, Kevin St., for all to attend.

Your support could make a difference. Hopefully all will gain from the day that lies ahead.

Orlagh Burke
Equality Officer, DITSU Kevin St.
Going for Gold
by Thomas Felle

When people ask me what Gaise is, I start to tell them exactly what it has been for me. The insight it has given me into the lives of so many people. However, after the first two serious months of wash and ease, there are three days of preparing distance to make up enough bicycle miles to qualify for the Silver award. Easy. Hell hath no fury like the pike a bicycle can give you in the middle of glorious West Ireland summer storms. Sleeping in tents where there’s more water inside than outside didn’t help much. The funny thing is, I’d do it all again because I enjoyed myself thoroughly. I got my Silver award two weeks before I did my Leaving Cert. The following September I started my Gold award.

Going for Gold is a noble honour in itself, or so my PAL kept telling me. It does take up a major part of your life for two years, however. For the first half of that two year term I concentrated on my personal skill and my venture project.

I remember from school-going days, during the concert and musical season, everybody always gathered around the person who plays the guitar or the piano, and stared in amazement as chords plucked or notes played. I played tin whistle as a young whiscapillion but to no great success. I suppose it was a romantic idea, but yet one was intent on following when I decided I would purchase a guitar and learn to play it. After a quick consultation with a musician, I turned up at one of his lessons one Wednesday night in September 1995. One year later I was playing. More importantly though, I was playing because I loved playing, not because my parents wanted me to play, or not even because I wanted to do it for some award. I loved it and I loved sitting for hours trying to work out what chord an artist used in a song to make it sound the way it sounded. If I had to pick one moment out of my whole Gaise experience, it would be in that cold room in Portumna one Winter’s evening when myself and another girl who was also learning guitar listened in awe with tears welling in both our eyes as our teacher, Brian played and sang one of his own songs. He told both of us that we could do the same, and then proved it to us by making us it right there and then.

My venture project was not a trip to Mount Everest. It wasn’t even a week’s army survival. It was however, one of the most moving experiences of my life, and one I will certainly never forget.

When I was beginning as a member of the group of sick and old people to Lourdes. Six months later, I stood in a pub in Lourdes drinking Stella Artois to beat the band with friends I made for life.

I had a bit of a dilemma in deciding what I was going to do to fulfill the community involvement requirement. I was moving to Dublin to start college that September and I didn’t know where to begin looking for a place in Dublin. I went for my regular visit to my PAL and told her of my problem. Ten minutes later it was all solved: I started as a volunteer in Concern International in Camden Street within the month. I suppose everybody feels guilty as pictures of famine stricken African children flash before our eyes on the news from time to time. For me it was great to be able to do my bit to help the tremendous work being done in Africa and many other third world and developing countries in the world.

My physical recreation requirement was fulfilled by me learning to swim in the colloquial in DIT Kevin Street. It is said that you are best just to dive in at the deep end and hope for the best, well there’s a little more to it than that. Again a life long ambition was fulfilled and so was my log book.

This Christmas, I got an invitation from the Gaise Awards office to attend an awards ceremony in Dublin Castle on January 22. There were 35 awards to be presented with Gold Galaxies. There were four from my old school getting one. Three of my school friends, who started the Bronze Award with me almost five years ago were among the 4. I am the fourth.
Opposition to student feedback survey

by Sarah Marriott

A proposed survey to discover what students really think about their courses and lecturers has been criticised by Aungier St SU President, Siobhan Weeke.

The results of the student survey questionnaire will be given to the course lecturer who will then "summarise" the level of student satisfaction with his or her course, and put the results on a staff survey questionnaire. It is proposed that DIT will introduce these questionnaires in 1998 as part of the revised quality assurance programme. Siobhan Weeke, SU President of Aungier St, is not satisfied with this proposal. "I'd like to see it changed before the end of the year," she said. "If you're going to have quality assurance, you've got to have quality assessment. Until the forms go the course director instead of the lecturer concerned, there is little point in filling them in."

It is proposed that each student will be requested to complete a questionnaire on each of their course component/subject, "as she/he experienced it".

The draft survey, which is divided into six sections, offers four possible answers: from "unacceptable", 'acceptable', and 'good' through to 'very good'. Subjects dealt with range from: 'Organisation and content' (which includes issues such as relevance and content of syllabus, balance between theory and practical work, and course administration), and 'Presentation' (which covers standard of delivery and punctuality of lecturer), to 'Effectiveness of communication' (which deals with method(s) of teaching and handouts/visual aids).

Although the survey is anonymous, students expressed concern that lecturers might be able to determine the identity of the students who had been critical of his or her teaching style, and that this could affect final marks. The final section of the questionnaire calls for a general summary which would be handwritten. This general evaluation and suggestions category is divided into three parts: 'good features of the component course', 'weaknesses of the course', and 'suggestions for improvement'.

It seems that the reasoning behind the lecturers receiving the student surveys is that they will receive direct feedback on their teaching skills. Then, according to one lecturer, the teacher can work out where he or she needs to improve. Siobhan feels that this is inadequate: "There's nothing to stop the lecturer binning the whole lot or saying that they never received any completed forms.

One Aungier St lecturer believes that these questionnaires will not change anything. "This is just a political statement," he said, "Like a lot of things, it's just verbalising objectives. There is a need for training of third-level lecturers in education and teaching skills and there is also a need for honest feedback of the opinions of the customer, the student." He warns that care would have to be taken with group dynamics, or there might be some victimizing of a lecturer. However, he feels that, with enough openness and "enough people involved with a sense of decency, things don't get out of hand.

DIT students have described it as: "pointless" and "frivolous". One postgraduate student said: "It's like the police investigating the police," and another believes: "There should be an independent body dealing with the feedback."

Theatre review

The Wake by Tom Murphy

by Eoin Hennigan

There is only one word which can describe Stanley Townsend's performance in Tom Murphy's The Wake - outstanding. Indeed, his is one of a number of strong performances all round in this new production currently running at the Abbey theatre.

The Wake is Murphy's 24th play, and follows in the traditions of the small-town narrow-mindedness which he portrayed in his other works A Crucial Week and Conversations On A Homecoming, relying heavily on language to portray the communities and surroundings of the characters.

However, a weak plot fails to build on the promise of the characters and the well delivered acting. The first half promise much but it wanes away in the second, the plot being lost as Murphy delves too much into exploring the characters' mental psyche.

Vera (Jane Brennan) is an ostentatious in an upper class family who returns home from America to sell her inheritance - a house. Selling the house, she feels, will finally sever her links with the family.

Her siblings, disgusted, plan to take drastic Action to prevent the sale, but confusing Vera is not easy. For starters she stays with an old flame, Finbar (David Heffern), in a local council estate called the "Punjah", causing much embarrassment to the family.

What follows is a ragged tale of conspiracy, reminiscing and sexual values, and when it reaches its climax it turns out not as exposed and finishes off weakly.

Vera's problems lie with her brother Tom (Phelim Drew) and sister Mary (Gwen Foucett), who do not want the hotel to be taken out of the family's hands.

The only member of the family who appears to be on Vera's side is Loretto (lowrin Townsend), who given the play a touch of humour is badly needed. Directed by Patrick Manson, The Wake runs at the Abbey theatre until March 7th.

Attention all you puffs!

A society for all you Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals has been set up recently in Aungier St to hopefully fill the yawning gap left by Kevin St. Anyway, over the next couple of months there shall be regular meetings as well as inter-college socials so that we can all get together and have a good ol' barney. If you would like to know more on dates and times and the like get your pink little fingers to your nearest computer and give us a call at LGBCSOC@DIT.IE.

This is also the address for any queer ies (sic), Alternatively contact your SU as we will be faxing them regular up-dates. P.S. If there's any prank mail I'll get me mother after you!
Dennis the menace gets ‘time-out’

by June Edwards

A recent perusal through Dennis the Menace annual from 1978 confirmed just how much life has changed in just two decades.

Back in 1978 Dennis, that loveable spiky-haired character clad in the familiar striped jersey, who was every parent’s nightmare and every child’s hero, ended each adventure receiving ‘six of the best’ from an irate Dad. The last picture-frame was reserved for the image of Dad with Dennis slung unceremoniously across his knee, being beaten with a slipper, and occasionally with another implement such as an iron pot.

Part of the fun for readers was the hope that with each new story, Dennis would commit a fresh ‘crime’ and get away with it. But he never did, and we the readers laughed merrily along, not too concerned for his plight.

In 1978 most people believed that a good ‘smack’ or ‘spanking’ as it was politely called, didn’t do children a bit of harm, infact it prevented them from becoming ‘spoilt’. However, the attitudes and thinking of corporal punishment in schools in 1978c attitudes began very slowly but surely to change. When sociologists and educators began to openly discuss and discourage physical punishment of the issue became a source of public debate.

German Social Psychologist and author Elisabeth Noelle-Neumann suggested in the 1960s that public opinion acted as a form of social control. She explored how society perceived public opinion and adapted attitudes to what is perceived to be acceptable. So it was with spanking. The more the issue was argued publicly the more willing the public were to change prevailing attitudes.

The ISPCC’s Educational Campaign of 1995 sought to change Irish attitudes toward physical punishment of children. The bill boards met the public gaze with the sad face of childhood accompanied by the message ‘35% of Irish adults now believe slapping children is wrong. Think About it, Let’s Value Childhood’.

A survey conducted by the IMS/ISPCC in 1993 questioned 1,000 adults between the ages of 16 to 54 on how often they had been hit with an open hand at home (20% constantly or frequently). A further 23% were hit with a flexible implement and 37% were hit with a rigid implement. Of the people surveyed, 46% said that they felt humiliated and degraded by physical punishment; 23% said that the effects of the punishment lasted 24 hours or more.

The report of the Irish Law Reform Commission on Non-Fatal Offences Against the Person, 1994 recommended that ‘whereas it would be premature to abolish the common law chastisement exception (which allows for “reasonable chastisement” of children up to 17 years by parents) the re-education of parents should proceed without delay and the exception should be abolished at the right time’.

The ISPCC continues to sustain a political campaign for a legal ban of all forms of physical punishment in this country, believing it to be imperative to human rights.

Editor of the Beano comic, Euan Kerr, creator of Dennis the Menace, referring to the late 70’s-80s edition commented ‘As scriptwriter for Dennis the Menace and The Bash Street Kids at the time, I was never comfortable that inflicting pain should be regarded as funny’. He added that with the outlawing of the cane and belt in British schools in the late 70’s, it was decided by his predecessor Harry Cramond ‘that corporal punishment was no longer appropriate for our comic...while a wrongdoer in our comics nowadays still faces retribution we try to do so in a more humane time-out’ in his room.

It seems as if in 1998, Dennis’s parents have finally realised that their teenage son never benefited from the slipper or belt. He is now happily enjoying a more humane ‘time-out’ in his room.

Spring is in the Air

Christmas and New Year have come and gone for another year and the soul January days do little to help spirits flag occasionally. Yes already I can see a stretch of the evenings, except when it is raining, but hope spring eternal as I look forward to new challenges and opportunities and half a new academic year under the proverbial belt!

Life is all around me with evidence of spring in Mother Nature, buds, little plants and shrubs everywhere. There is constant growth in many areas of my own life too. The academic challenge is significant and indeed important but it is only one part of my development. Let me not forget the social, spiritual, psychological, physical and experiential aspects of my life also. I am challenged continually to grow and mature as inexorably as possible. Many of the Greek philosophers put the emphasis on the mental life without existential area, a little as if it were my routine from one moment to the next. The old yarn from the great who was celebrating his hundredth birthday replied when asked to explain his great age said ‘I had known I was going to live so long I would have taken better care of myself’ is a lesson for me.

The wisdom of the elderly is often not what I want to hear but it is a wise word of lived experience, hence in value. They old wisdom and traditions from the country folk we tried and tested, often they may not be the most efficient but they have served generations through the ages and should not be allowed to die. Today, more than ever, we try to keep in touch with our roots, familial and national. Let us not forget any aspect of our genetic DNA structure for herein is the raw material with which we mould our lives and being.

The challenge is to present well at all fronts and to be comfortable and secure in myself. I can attend to different aspects of my personality from time to time, focusing on relationships and social life as time and resources allow. It is important that there are people in whom I can confide and test the waters of immortality. Our spirituality calls us to seek a relationship with our Creator, however tenuous, to spend time with like-minded individuals and occasionally leave aside the mundane and secular world for the peace and quiet of a more reflective and creative time adorned with nature, self and God.

If I am a scientist of computer’s souls, it is important that I dip into the arts occasionally. Visit an art gallery, appreciate the most artistic and Imaginative genius of both artists and contemporaries, for there are as many hues on this expansive of reality as there are unique individuals. None of us have all the answers. The danger is that I become complacent with my own little world and accept it without regard for other experiences. I become inarticulate and single-minded in my approach and outlook. I fail to fully appreciate the other’s opinion and so, out of my own subconscious inadequacy, I do not fully respect the unique invaluable outlook and attitude of the other and this may lead to dehydration and often a failure to retain. Our world is rich in experience and opportunity for all of us to grow, flower and blossom to maximum potential. It is often our human inadequacy that prevents us achieving our goal. Often we blame others because we have difficulty with our own sense of failure or other times we set parameters for ourselves that are unnecessary and superfluous.

The Gospel of Saint Matthew challenges us in the Beatitudes (Ch 5) to excel and perfect ourselves in all aspects of our being. It recognizes the giftedness of each one and calls to us to give the more for our own betterment and that of others. This is the challenge of a lifetime. God has blessed us with a tremendous set of gifts, share them with others and feel the sense of satisfaction in giving of self and accept the pristine reward of return when it comes your way!

Finbarr A. Neylon (Kevin St)
DITSU RAG WEEK

AUNGIER ST

Just-When-You-Thought-It-Was-Safe-To-Start-Studying Day
12pm Official Opening in the SU
12:30pm DJ Mck Glyn in canteen
Tequila & Taos Competition, Mission Impossible, Head & Chest Shave, Prizes Galore!
3:30pm Pub Quiz and Carlsberg promotion in Barney Murphy's
DIT Aungier St / DIT Mountjoy Sq
Cross-Fertilisation Evening
5:30-7:30 Happy Hour in Club USI...party games & DJ...
8pm Kanoaet in the Furnace & Guinness Promotion in Club USI
10pm Ready, Steady, Go! Ball in Boomerang's
Ticket: £3 from SU Shop Over 18 & ID essential, ticket only event.

BOLTON ST

Monday
12:30pm DJ & Party Games
2pm Pub Games
8pm G-Force Night

Tuesday
11am Human Checkers
12:30pm Single Out
2pm Pub Games
4pm Guinness Promo
7pm Rag Trip

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY
CATHAL BRUGHA St

Monday
12-2pm Coca Cola Party in the Common Room
3-5pm Zak Powers, Hypnotist, in Legends of Sounds, £2, Over 18
8pm Games in The Back Gate

Tuesday
8:30am Booze Cruise (Dublin Port to Holyhead) Tickets £10
8pm Guinness Party in The Back Gate

Wednesday
12-2pm Bands in the Common Room
3-4pm Lecturers Firing Range
5pm Pub Crawl and Pub Games (various locations)

Thursday
10:30-11:30am Charity Bed Push down O'Connell St
12-1:30pm DJ in Common Room
1:30-5pm Interclass Table Quiz in Common Room (£10 per team of five)
9pm onwards GUINNESS RAG BALL in TEMPLE THEATRE (£6)

Friday
12 noon Mystery Film in Virgin Cinemas, Parnell St.

KEVIN ST

Monday
“College days are the best days of your life”
All day long in Gleeson Hall
13:00 Hypnotist Barry Sinclair
Free leprechauns, £2
14:30 Revenge is sweet-Tony is getting his headshaved if the £1000 is there.
15:00 Band Society in top flight
17:00 Riverdance, I think not. Ceili.
18:00 Ya-hoo! Bar opens.
19:00 Gigantic Table Quiz £10 per table of 5
22:00 Sing your heart out-Karaoke

Tuesday
“We are there yet? Are we there yet?”
11:30 Rag Trip-Carlow & Waterford, £8
13:00 If you didn’t get a ticket, Treasure Hunt
5-9pm Mean Fiddler Free 2for1 cocktails
17:00 More cheap drink in Barney’s

Wednesday
“The day between Tuesday and Thursday”
13:00 Blind Date
14:30 Man Hunt in College
19:00 Again more cheap drinks in Barney’s and Devitt’s
22:00 Access all area - Rag Ball in the Pod, Chocolate Bar and Red Box. £3

Thursday
“The day after the night before”
13:00 DJ in the Snackery & Pool Finals
14:00 Students’ Choice. Whatever you want to do, Cinema? Bowling?
Booze Cruise?
21:00 Seventh Hevin.

Mountjoy Sq

Monday
On Your Marks, Get Set, Go!
1pm Crazy Games with the one and only DJ Glynn in the Canteen
3pm Make sure you’re Listening, A Mystery Keg will be announced
6pm Get Those Beers Down You, with a Pre-Boomerang Promo in Club USI
9:30 pm Mountjoy Sq and Aungier St are going to Dublin’s Hottest Niteclub, for the “Ready, Steady, Go! Ball” Tickets Only Event!!

Tuesday
1pm Our own Andy Woods Singing Live in the Canteen
2pm DART Crawl
8pm Rag Week PUB COMAD in The Big Tree, Guinness Promo & Prizes

Wednesday
1pm Busking Competition in the Canteen — Anyone can enter
3pm 3 Legged Pub Crawl — Assemble outside College
Strip Darts & Sex Quiz, Stoney’s
8:30pm Infamous ‘Crazy Night’ — Venue To Be Confirmed
Finals of the Boat Race
Mr & Mrs COMAD
Sticky Bun Contest
Iron Stomach Contest

Thursday
12pm DJ in the Canteen
2pm Free Keg in The Shakespeare
4pm Make Sure You Have Your Ticket for the Rag Ball, then put your Glad Rags On!
7pm Big Tree — Massive Pre-Ball Promotion
9:30pm Buses Start Leaving for Rag Ball 98 in the Vortex Nightclub, Dunshaughlin, Co. Meath.
2:30am Buses return to Dublin
6am Still Standing? Mad Bastards’ Morning in Slattery’s Early House, Capel St.

Friday
Rag Week Video in the Canteen.

Friday
“There’s no place like home”
Despite winning by double scores this was a hard won victory for the DIT hurling team in the preliminary round of the Fitzgibbon Cup. As the form of the Kerry hurlers was unknown no chances were taken by the DIT team management in their preparations for the game at Terenure. Tralee proved to be physically strong and uncompromising opponents who were eventually defeated by the skill and discipline of the home team.

PJ Coady opened the DIT score sheet with a point from play. On the fourth and seventh minutes Coady added two further points from short range. The first DIT score from play came from Niall Gilligan who collected a Sean Duignan clearance and pointed. The visitors then put DIT under sustained pressure which was absorbed by the DIT back formation ably marshalled by captain Darren Caulfield. DIT could count themselves lucky that this period of pressure, which lasted for the final quarter of the game, only resulted in two frees. The final DIT score was a point by Gilligan who showed his opponents how to do it.

The DIT team was:

Maguire, D. Caulfield, N. McCaffrey, S. Hickey, D. Spain, T. McGrath, P. Finnerty, M. Fitzsimons, S. Duignan (0-1), J. Cullen (0-1), P. Coady (0-5), M. Murphy (0-1), D. Quinn, N. Gilligan (1-2), G. Ennis

Substitutions: M. Corcoran for M. Murphy, P. Blake for M. Fitzsimons, C. Buggy for G. Ennis

AND THE SECOND

DIT 0 - 16 TCD 1 - 5

Just four days after defeating Tralee the DIT hurlers faced TCD in a first round Fitzgibbon Cup game at Belfield. If Tralee were an unknown quantity for the team management, Trinity, who had defeated Galway RTC, were a completely unknown quantity. Trinity, who won the toss elected to play into the strong downfield wind. They seemed to go over the bar but the referee signalled a wide by the referee. A foul on Gilligan was punished by Coady with a thirty metre free into the sun and strong wind. He repeated that dose twice in the next two minutes and a Trevor McGrath ball which was latched onto by Darragh Quinn ended up over the bar on the twelfth minute. TCD, who had added on a point during the DIT blitz, then on tacked two more points to their tally. Coady sent over another free from the forty five metre line to end the DIT scoring spree with six minutes to go. What seemed like a certain point from the same position by Coady was ruled to be wide by the referee. In the dying minutes of the game TCD staged a rally which saw them score two further points in normal time and a goal, from a penalty, late in extra time.

The DIT team lined out as follows:

Maguire, D. Caulfield, N. McCaffrey, S. Hickey, D. Spain, T. McGrath (0-2), P. Finnerty, M. Fitzsimons (0-1), S. Duignan (0-1), J. Cullen, P. Coady (0-9), M. Murphy D. Quinn (0-2), N. Gilligan, M. Corcoran (0-7)

Hockeyed out of it

Sandra Wilkinson

DIT Ladies v UCC

A 1-1 draw was a very satisfactory result against UCC. Considering the DIT team had never played together before, the performance was good. Understandably, the team started out shakily and play was sloppy. Despite the best efforts of our own defence, Cork were 1-0 up at half time. However, after the restart the players adjusted to each other and play improved. Emer O’Byrne slotted the ball past the Cork goalkeeper to bring the score to 1-1 and this was how it remained at full time.

Fiona Walsh at sweeper and Avril Copeland as goalkeeper both had excellent games and were instrumental in keeping the defence solid and the score level. All in all this was a promising start for the DIT ladies team. If the team’s talent for scoring on the pitch can be as good as it is off the pitch, the season looks to be a successful one!

DIT Ladies v UUJ

After a delayed and extremely long journey to Belfast the DIT overcame many disadvantages to draw 2-2 against a very talented Ulster side. Without the excellence of our usual goalkeeper Avril Copeland, we had to call upon a very unwilling Glenda Bailey (Mountjoy Sq) who agreed to step in at the last moment. Missing three other valuable players, Fiona Walsh, Niamh Murphy and Jenny Ross, we were forced to rearrange positions. Emer O’Byrne, Rebecca McLoughlin and Maim Malone adapted well to their new positions at centre back, sweeper and left wing respectively.

UUJ were first to score, making full use of a free ball due to confusion among our own defence. DIT retaliated with a goal from left wing, Niamh McIvor. Again the Ulster side scored leaving the score at 1-2. We came back with a goal coming from an excellent short corner struck by Fiona Sweeney.

Emer O’Byrne shone at her new position at centre back, keeping the defence strong and steady. Positional changes at half time, in which more emphasis was placed on attacking, made a huge difference. This experimenting with players and positions would prove to be useful when choosing the team for the Triangular Tournament the following week.

Triangular Tournament

THE match of the Triangular Tournament in Waterford had to be that between the DIT Ladies and the RTC Ladies. As this was the deciding match for the ladies it was decided by captains and refereeing that the teams would play 35 minutes a side, and a very hard fought 70 minutes it was to be.

After the initial surge of pressure by the RTC team, the DITs found their feet. Despite this, the RTCs were first on the score sheet. The DITs rose to the challenge and after a period of pressure we were rewarded with a short corner. Emer O’Byrne’s accurate push-out was reverse-sticked stopped by Sandra Wilkinson and superbly struck by Fiona Sweeney, hitting the back-board, bringing the score to 1-1.

As the first half was coming to a close the players were tiring and after a scramble in the DIT circle one of the RTC players kicked the ball past goalie Avril Copeland. The referee, unable to see the incident, awarded a goal, despite much demonstration from both the DIT players and supporters. This decision however, aroused intense desire to win among both RTC and DIT teams and from here on, each DIT player put 100% into their game.

Directly from pass back a spirited’ drive into the RTC circle resulted in a corner. Again, in the same way as our first goal, this corner was superbly executed, with Emer O’Byrne getting a touch on Fiona’s strike, deflecting it into the goal. 2-2, and with that the half-time whistle blew.

Tensions were running high as the second half commenced. Both sides played hard and tough, but RTC, with an early break, drove into our circle, winning a penalty corner which they converted. Refusing to give up, we placed all our energies into attack, realising that we had nothing to lose at 2-3 down. This paid off as we won another corner after Fiona was taken down by the goal keeper (incidentally, this foul usually results in a penalty stroke). We made full use of this chance and in a repeat of our first goal, Fiona Sweeney again hit the back board. The atmosphere was amazing as both players and supporters were elated.

The full time whistle sounded and it was decided that 5 minutes of extra time would be played after which, if a draw remained the game would be decided by penalty flicks. Both mentally and physically exhausted, neither team relished the prospect of another 10 minutes play. With a trip to Holland to be won and adrenaline pumping we fought on with a new urgency, realising that the victor would most likely be the team which scored first. Our defence, Brona, Emer, Mo, Rebecca and Avril were strong and the midfield of Wendy, Sandra and Nicola, though visibly tiring, worked hard.

At the change around after 5 minutes the score was still level. The tension was becoming unbearable. With only a few minutes to go we got a short corner. We opted for the straight shot again but this time Fiona’s shot was saved by the keeper. Emer, however,
Jay Bird,

UTA is their darkest effort yet. Adam Devlin’s distorted, ragged guitar sound cleverly augmenting Morris’ take on modern America — the blaring claxon that comes out of nowhere increasing the sense of unease as they move into Manic territory.

Down at the Reservoir and Solomon Bites the Worm are the exact opposite — jaunty and concocted with a sense of mischief. If one must make a Mod connection then let it be this: Return... captures the spirit of Ogden’s Nut Gone Flakes. And that’s good enough for me.

Michael Scully

The blooz brothers are back in town and they’re getting better at it.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO SONIC BIONIC REGARDING ANYTHING MUSICAL WELCOME.

ON DISK OR NOT AT ALL PLEASE.

DIEUS ...

LIKE ASH IF ASH WERE ADULTS.

THE SUNBEAM JUST THE SIMILARITY BETWEEN HIS SOUNDS. SOME GIFT ELECTRONIC.

DIDN’T, BUT GETS THERE CRASHING.

OR CAN KOOL? JA, NARILCH.

GARbage LOAD OF ACCESSORIAL.

LAYERS ARE LEAD SINGER, JOE DINOSAUR O’G’s FAME, BUT THAT’S REFERENCE TO MR MADS 0.

YOU EXPECT FOR IT TO Erupt...(PHRASE)

THE BACKGROUND HERE, A LA KRAFTWERK OR CAN, KOOL JA, ESTABLISH.

MEDiUMWAVE PLAY THE MUSIC CENTRE, FEB 13 AND THE MEAN CHAOS, CENTRE, FEB 13 AND THE MEAN...

THANK GOD FOR...

ENGLAND (ONLY...

2CD COLLECTION, THE SECOND OF WHICH...

The blues brothers are back in town and they’re getting better at it.

\[ \text{Influx} \]

\[ @ \text{Redbox} \]

Feb 21 SLAM/Soma Records Party feat. SLAM, Funk D’Void and MAAS

Doors: 10pm

\[ \text{Kitchen} \]

Billy Nasty Friday 13

Billy Scarry Dooms: 10.30pm

\[ \text{Competition} \]

Influx are offering two pairs of tickets to the Soma Records Party in the Redbox, Sat Feb 21. (1st correct entries). All’s you gotta do is answer this Q.

Q1. What daft French duo are Soma attributed as having broken?

Answers on an old mule to: The Editor, the DIT Examiner, DITSU Kevin St. Kevin St. Dublin 8. Tel: 464 4636

\[ \text{The bios} \]

\[ \text{Chaos} \]

\[ \text{Return to the Last Chance Saloon} \]

\[ \text{The Bluetones PolyGram} \]

PULP

\[ \text{It begins exquisitely softly, and you expect for it to erupt immediately and frighteningly into blues-dup pop-rock. It doesn’t, but gets there gradually, going through Joy Division for a short cut until they come out the other side like a Flaw with me as the garbage-can of necessary sounds. Some gift electronic noises dotted throughout the background here, la Kraftwerk or Can, Koool ja, establish. Mediumwave play The Music Centre, Feb 13 and the Mean Fiddler on Feb 18. Tune in.} \]

\[ \text{goldie saturatesreturn \}}

\[ \text{reEL records} \]

\[ \text{This is a 2CD collection, the second of which contains the Noel Gallagher-collaborated temperature, and also digital and the rest of the regular-length choose which comprise the ‘album’ proper. The first CD is a 75 minute, two-track disc containing mother and trash, and breezes with ease through quite an eclectic grouping of musical styles from the obligatory d ’n ’ b to operatic soprano, orchestral classical and even minimalist-ambient. There are probably more genres there still. Finding the second disc heavy going at times, I was more concerned with the swagger of manege, a fine feast into the world of experimentation. goldie has obviously spent some time with his expert team of sonic scientists in various music laboratories to deliver the aural banquet that is saturatesreturn. The Bluetones today, their first album, Expecting to Fly, was a guitar pop gem that was ripped out of the ordinary by the introspective, intelligent lyrics of vocalist Mark Morris. Whatever about expecting to fly, reaching number one in the album charts means that two years later expectations are high. Too high. But, true to form, they deliver with a little charm and a lot of style. As recent b-side Niffin’s Bridge suggested, the Bluetones are in transition. This is a much heavier record, with elements of blues, rock, and even proto-metal (not as bad as it sounds) combining with glorious pop to produce soaring crescendos, especially on If, Broken Star and The red box.} \]

\[ \text{THE CLUBBED TO A BLOODY PULP} \]

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\[ \text{Chaos} \]
The Juniper interview due to be included in this issue has been held off until the March issue. This also applies to the photography section, and the second dx98 supplement both of which were also due to appear this month. These changes were unavoidable and the Editor would like to ensure contributors and readers that anything omitted from this issue will be considered for publication next month.

February

Wed 4 Baxtie, Cedar, National Prayer Breakfast. Doors 8:30pm Adm £4/£3

Wed 11 Northlight Rasorblade, Observers, Plague Monkeys Doors: 8:30pm Adm £4/£3

Wed 18 Paleside Poets, Mediumwave Doors: 8:30pm Adm £4/£3

Thur 19 Nick Heyward with guest John Butler Doors: 8:30pm Adm £6

Sat 21 Santa Cruz with guests Goldrush Doors: 8:30pm Adm £6

Wed 25 Ricky Ross Doors: 8:30 Adm £7

Fri 27 Manor Doors 8:30 Adm £5

of

conversational CHAos -- the SONIC BIONIC interview

Mind your Manor!

Leah Henry tried to corner roudy rockers Manor somewhere on the grounds of their musical estate recently, as they tried to fend off some of the blasted peasantry.

A brutal bag of badges, as calculated as they are consistent. "Some bands think they're brilliant, we know we are." Manor, a Dublin-based band with an Athens line-up, set to take the Mean Fiddler by storm on Feb. 27th. A four-quiet outfit, Manor are currently steeping their authority all over the Dublin turf.

Tony Villiers (bass), from Athame Clay and Kandy man Gerry Kavanagh (guitar and vocals), Mark Congen (drums), and Gordon Lee (guitars), have succeeded in making quite a dent on Dublin's rivalling music scene since moving here. Manor were featured in early February 1996 and hinted Tony Villiers says it was a year of learning. "We kept quiet for most of that year. We played a couple of low-key gigs in Dublin but it was basically a year of getting to know each other again, to help us have a sound and form a team. Things started to pick up for the band in early 1997.

Following a couple of more high profile gigs, they decided in June of this year to release E.P. on Sep. 26th 1997. Manor released their debut E.P. Definitely Poised (labeled record), at a big launch in Whelans. Said lead vocalist Gerry Kavanagh: "This is the culmination of eight months hard graft, blood, sweat and tears. At the start of this year we were playing to 15 people at our local pub, now we are launching our E.P. on consecutive nights."

In December 1997, the band returned to the studio to start recording material for an album and are currently working on it.

It's now February 1998. Two years down the road and what have Manor achieved?

I spoke to bassist Tony Villiers: "We have an E.P. out, so one of our biggest ambitions has been realized there. We also have a new manager. We have an album more or less recorded and we've been nominated for the Heminor Hot Press Music Awards for Best New Band of '97. It's been a great two years so far.

"Directly, Manor's started to earn an income. They are perhaps trade, without ever sounding self-conscious or styled by retro, rock'n'roll, without going overboard by making a big statement to the fact. Said Tony: "We don't have any obvious influences directly in the music, but we are influenced by bands like Radiohead, The Who, Sun Ra, Teenage Fan Club. The list is endless. There's a real broad spectrum."

It seems the band have been hard in their tag-dodging, possessing a distinct sound but refusing to become pigeonholed into any one music genre. They have at times been compared to Embrace but it is not a comparison they welcome: "Yeah, we have been compared to Embrace but we wouldn't say we're influenced by them. We're far better than Embrace. Check out a live show and you'll see."

Indeed, Manor have become well-known for their brazen live shows: "That's what we're renowned for at the moment. Because we're very little recording experience, the live shows have won over a lot of people, especially in the North. It's the standard set up without the frills. Live, it's a knockout," says Tony.

Based on the success of their debut E.P., "Definitely Poised," full-length albums should be Manor well on their way. The four tracks featured on the E.P. are but a teasing starter for their fans, whetting the appetites of the many who have followed their live gigs.

The tale of "Definitely Poised," the opening track, is one of self-announcement for the band: "We're delicate boys, delicately poised, making some noise..." The tale is sold by a voice which bears similarities between Lloyd Cole, Lloyd Cole and the Costumettes, and Finn Hayley's (Travis) powerful baritone — but with an understated emotional resonance that quietly tells us it speaks the truth. Perhaps Manor know even better than us where their destiny lies. Creeping guitars, a complimentary drum'n' bass coupling, and swelling strings threaten to engulf you.

Elsewhere, 'Pretty Peculiar' suggest power and freshness backed by a strong melody. One high-volume rush through this track will get the blood pumping. The closing track, an acoustic version of "Delicate Boys," rolls in like a lullaby. The pure passion in Gerry Kavanagh's voice ensures that you won't fall in love with the track. You'll dive. Wake up Orient Colour Scene, you're dead! No really.

The fact that Manor started their own record label, ensured involvement at every level of the creating. The name both records stands for Bag of Badges. As Tony explains: "Badges are crazy creatures. If you put more than one badge in a bag, they'll start attaching each other. We haven't tried it. We've just heard from a reliable source!"

Fans of the Mean Fiddler will hope that these badges are not catastrophically when they play there this month. Manor are currently unsigned: "For the Delicately Poised E.P., we have our own record label which we would love to be able to continue but finance really dictates everything. We're not signed at all now but hopefully we'll have some good news this year," said Tony.

Although Manor are now beginning to reap the benefits of the more from Andy Topo was not, according to Tony, down to the so-called without music scene here. "The main reason for the move now is because the singer stuff and quiet music, Dwell in the live music scene. There are thousands of bands trying to make it at the moment and everyone is just tired. A and R men are just bottomed-out. They rarely sign bands in the South anymore."

February 27th sees Manor's fifth gig at the Mean Fiddler. So what can one expect from Manor on this night? The Friday gig will be the guts of the new album. We've a fresh approach to the whole set mainly due to recording the album and getting to know the songs from the beginning again. We reckon there's three or four singles on the album and we'll be showing off all of them. It will be a knock-out show."

And what of Manor's ambitions for the future? Personally, I'd like to meet Bob Dylan, but that's besides the point. To secure a major record deal is the main priority at the moment. Fame and fortune and a good record deal, that's the goal. Absolutely perfect.

We're very much除 tending bands really. So, do Manor possess that something extra to make them rise above all the thousands of hopefuls on the scene? A healthy self-confidence and a pervasive persistence has paid off much of their hard graft of the past two years.

A successful debut E.P., a new manager in the form of Derek Turner, who has played with the Honeybunch, a new album on the way, and a nomination for the Heminor Hot Press Music Awards for Best New Band of '97 — welcome to the world of Manor: Look out 1998, the year is theirs for the taking.

Leah Henry is a Degree student of Journalism at DIT Angler St.
The Big Lebowski

Starring: Jeff Bridges, John Goodman, Steve Buscemi, Julianne Moore
Director: Joel Coen
Producer: Ethan Coen.

A case of mistaken identity involving a unemployed, laid back Californian and a millionaire businessman form the basis of the brilliant new comedy thriller from the Coen brothers.

Jeff Bridges, who prefers to be called The Dude (Jeff Bridges), is a lacker with a passion for bowling and hallucinogenic drugs. When two thugs break into his apartment and try to convince him that he is indeed the rich Lebowski and ask him for stacks of cash, he decides to follow up by paying a visit to his wealthy namesake and get a replacement for his stolen rug. (don't ask.)

Big Lebowski employs the dude's services when he believes his wife has been kidnapped. The reluctant hero and his friend Walter (John Goodman) are now on the case. When they go for the handover of cash for young empty headed wife, they mess it up and are left to ponder their shortcomings in the amateur private eye stakes, over many bowling games with their friend Donnie.

General mayhem ensues as they try to retrieve the money, encountering various crazy characters along the way. Big Lebowski's militant feminist daughter, played by Julianne Moore, is sure that her father is trying to embezzle funds from their corporation and has her eye on the dude as a possible mate for copulation. She is not the only one looking for the young Mrs Lebowski. Former employer and Porn King, Jackie Treesborn, is owed money and a bunch of novice German blackmailers who call themselves The Nihilists, decide it would be a good business venture to get in on the action, engaging in unexpected methods to extract information (at one stage they drop a goat-like creature into dude's bath where he is lying, stoned).

Having three different parties to lend off as he tries to somehow work out where the Big Lebowski's wife has gone, the dude begins to wonder whether she has been kidnapped at all and how to keep his Vietnam Vet buddy, Walter, a bit of a trigger happy, guru, ho kind of guy, from going over the edge.

Exortion, double dealing and deception are all familiar themes for the Coen brothers and all themes are employed here in a comedy along the same lines of Raising Arizona. There are some hilarious dream sequences with the dude caught in a humorous bowling alley, a big Dufield foiles musical number in which he gets to dance down an enormous staircase.

The cast for any Coen brothers film is usually guaranteed some damn fine roles and this film is no exception. Jeff Bridges turns in an excellent performance as the unwrapped dude. For whom, the pot head would-be Philip Marlowe, pacifist and a one time rodeo Metallica, things are "slow at the moment" hence he embraces the novelty of being involved with something so exciting as this kidnapping case "....well, you know this is a very difficult case...a lot of ins and outs...a lot of wheres and what fers...". (John Goodman is also excellent as the wacky Walter who regales the dude with stories of his friends lying face down in the mud-ridden trenches back in 'Nam. Another Coen regular, John Turturro, almost steals the show with the small part of Jesus, the bowling legend, a sight to see in tight purple lycra. Although Steve Buscemi, who was so good in their last outing, may feel somewhat hard done by with his fairly minor role of Donnie.

Sam - handlebar moustache- Elliot also stars as the cowboy narrator who rambles on about rumbleweeds and forgets the plot of the story.

The script, co-written by the Coen brothers is sharp, surreal and wickedly funny - all you would expect from the people who made Fargo and the Hudsucker Proxy, and the soundtrack, with songs by the Rolling Stones and The Eagles, captures perfectly the period of time the dude wishes would be left in. All Coen Brothers fans should be well pleased with The Big Lebowski, it could even perhaps persuade those unconverted to their distinctive style and humour with this hilariously funny film.

Marital bliss is fully evident in this romantic scene.

The Ice Storm

Starring: Kevin Kline, Sigourney Weaver, Joan Allen, Christine Ricci.
Director: Ang Lee.

Ang Lee is no stranger to the subject of dysfunctional families. Having dealt with just that in Eat, Drink, Man. Woman - now the director of Sense and Sensibility has chosen to explore this idea further in his latest film, The Ice Storm. Set in Connecticut in 1973 with Watergate and the American Feminist women's movement about to explode, two families - the Fords and the Carvers are planning their Thanksgiving and trying to avoid their many domestic problems which have dogged them throughout the year.

Banker Ben Ford (Kevin Kline) is the well meaning, bumbling husband of Elena (Joan Allen) - who is well aware that their marriage is not working out and is close to a breakdown. Their children, meanwhile are about to discover sex. Daughter Wendy (Christine Ricci) is more than a little curious about the neighbouring Carver boys and their son Paul (Toby Maguire) has gone to New York in the hope of bedding a beautiful rich girl.

The Carvers themselves are not without troubles. Jim and Janey's marriage is also on the rocks yet they seem to accept that there is no point in trying to save it. Janey, played by Sigourney Weaver, is thoroughly bored with her humdrum housewife existence while her husband, played by Jim Sheridan, is too busy with his work to notice her frustration. In search of a little excitement Bea and Janey engage in a little neighbourly extramarital affair.

We arrive at the dramatic highpoint with a "key Party", a partner swapping, vodka making fiasco the actual scene. Janey is curiously disinterested in their affair and Elena is unusually vocal.

The seventies atmosphere is perfectly recreated, from Kevin Kline's dodgy hair and gaudy furniture in the family home. The effect of the actual ice storm on the night of the cocktail party leaves you positively shivering at the natural surroundings are slowly but surely smothered.

Ang Lee's direction is spot on and all performances are excellent. The four teenagers (who also include Elijah Wood and Adam Hann-Byrde) take their cue from their parents, whose hypnotic behaviour leaves them all the more determined to find out what all the fuss is about. "...I'll show you mine if you show me yours". Kevin Kline has never been better as Ben who expounds hypnotical speeches at his daughter but perhaps the biggest steal the show. Joan Allen delivers another widely portrayed ( Nixon, The Crucible) with a difference and Weaver is brilliant as the frosty unfulfilled Janey.

Both she and Elena are indicative of the transition many women found themselves in during the early seventies. Having been given the nod to burn their bras, they realise they are caught in non-starter marriages with children to consider. Chomping at the bit to join the sexual revolution, yet slow to encourage their offspring to do the same. Much as they want to take up the Gloria Steinem cause, it is hard for them to articulate the smug grievance along the lines of "...husband, stop drooping our neighbour...."

Adapted from Rick Moody's novel of the same title (written, coincidentally in 1994). The Ice Storm has already won the award for best screenplay at Cannes last year for James Shamus' witty and at turns tragic script. A little gem of a film which is both entertaining and thought provoking, on the subject of marital breakdown and the absence of any real communication within the nuclear family unit.