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

DIT Students' Union

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Get Down, Get Down

Thousands of first year students in the Dublin Institute of Technology thronged the capital's streets, bars and nightclubs last week as they heralded the dawn of a new college year with the revelries of Freshers' Week. Iron stomach contests, bouncy castles, hypnotist displays and all manner of entertainment kept students' attention well away from any vestiges of learning, education or other words generally taboo during the first month or so of third level life.

Lard was eaten and cooking oil drunk, Celine Dion was convincingly impersonated and people were warned about mischievous fairies lurking in college halls—all in the name of fun and a few laughs.

With close to 30,000 individuals making their mark on the second-last Freshers' Week of the millennium, the DIT was represented quite fully in the various drinking emporia and boogie venues across the city. Though not all of them wore fantastical wigs the likes of which were in evidence in the Tivoli on the Thursday, it is obvious that they all share a devotion to letting go in for the sake of a good time. So now all that matters is what Rag Week has in store.

USI face membership split

Southern Area to disaffiliate if North gets its way

The Union of Students in Ireland is currently facing what may be an extremely damaging outcome to shifts in allegiances among its membership. The rift is so large that the latest reports indicate that the entire Southern Area will pull out if any of the Northern colleges get just one more vote at National Council.

The disagreement stems from voting procedures surrounding the election of an Independent Chair and an Independent Deputy Chair to National Council. Two candidates were in the running for that position, Paul McMenamin, formerly of Queen's University Belfast, and Malcolm Byrne, until last year a USI Officer, the eventual outcome of the election being that McMenamin won by 80-66.

The importance of an independent chair was outlined by DITSU President Ross O'Daly: "What it means for USI is that it protects the organisation from claims of practising excessive control, or of being an effective dictatorship, because the chair can make decisions independent of USI Officer Board."

Dublin Institute of Technology Students' Union, DITSU, supported the election of McMenamin to the position of more p4
We buried a friend the other day, a friend who took his own life. He left family, friends and acquaintances behind to deal with the loss. He can't regret his act, that's for all of us to do, because he made the decision to go beyond the point of no return.

Watching those he has left behind trying to comprehend his actions leaves you feeling powerless, hopeless and frustrated. To some extent, these are pointless feelings; he was an adult, capable of making his own decisions, and there were no warning signs to be read in anything he did before it was too late.

If you have ever harboured thoughts of taking your own life you should seriously, seriously consider the consequences of your proposed actions — you won't be here to face the aftermath, but those who love you will.

Chuireamar cara linn an lá faoi dheireadh, cara a chur lámh ina bháis féin.
D'fhág sé clann agus goilte, caide agus lucht aiteanta ina dhaighd leis an gcailleach a léimhséilí. Ní thig leis féin a bheith áfásach, is sinne a chaithfidh é sin a bhráith, mar go ndeachaigh sé leis an tairseach na fillit.
Ag breathnú orthu síud atá fáththa ina dhaighd aige, agus iad ag iarraidh dul i ngleic leis an gníomh aige, fáthar tús agus braistint éadóchasach, fruschrach, agus lag agat. Go pointe, is braistint gan fheidhm iad; báidh dhuine fásta é a raibh de chumas aige a bhreithaigh féin a dheánamh, agus ní raibh rabhadh ar bith ann go ndéanfadh sé an breith seo go du go raibh sé ro-dhéanach.
Má bhí ceist riamh ann go raibh tú ag smaoineamh ar lámh a chur i do bháis féin, d'fhéadfadh tusa ann le aghaidh a thabhairt ar na h-iarmaírte, ach beidh siad síud is gaire dod' chrot.

Cearbhall Ó Siocháin

EDITOR Cearbhall Ó Síocháin EAGARTHÓIR
LAYOUT ChaOS LEAGAN AMACH

Thanks to Paul O'Loughlin-Kennedy
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Clariations
Should you see any inaccuracies printed in any issue of The DIT Examiner you should contact the Editor immediately. The matter will be reviewed and any necessary changes made.

November Deadline: Fri 30 Oct

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Co Down
Northern Ireland
BT30 6JU

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1 October 1998

To Whom It May Concern,

My 17 year old son, Seán Ryan, from Downpatrick, Co. Down, has been missing from home since Tuesday 1st September. He was seen in Galway City on Wednesday 2nd September. Since then there has been no information about his whereabouts. As you can appreciate my wife and myself, his brothers and sisters, and his friends are totally devastated by Seán's disappearance.

He is a schoolboy who had expectations of going to university next year and he is a likeable, pleasant, quiet person. He had been working as a part-time chef for a year so he would have skills to enable him to obtain employment in the hotel/restaurant trade. He left home with what we now believe to be some perceived personal issues but we wish to assure him that we have absolutely no problems with any issue he might have. We will help him and support him in any way we can.

I would be extremely grateful if you would publicise or display the enclosed information about Seán in the hope that someone who might have spoken to him, or knows where he is, could contact us or ask Seán to please contact us, or contact any main Garda station or the RUC at Downpatrick 01396 615511. His mother and I are distraught and we simply wish to know that he is safe and well.

Thank you very much.
Gerry Ryan.

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AGED 17 FROM
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If you think you can help in any way at all, please do not hesitate to contact Seán's parents or the relevant authorities at the addresses and telephone numbers supplied.

Know the facts, Use Your Voice, Cast the Vote!
Nov.25 '98
It's Your Call!
The New Constitution for the New Students' Union!
Lettuce 2D Editor

Dear Editor,

What the bloody hell is going on with you? Only last week you were fulminating around with your friends from the Ferrari team, Fast Eddie and Sly Schumi, popping between Lillies and Renards like there was no tomorrow.

Not only does this all probably come directly from the coffers of the DIT Students' Union, generous in the extreme in handing you a fat expense account for sundry purposes, but you probably justify this as 'work', ridiculing the stuff of the same name which honest, decent, hard-working people like myself and my friend Jeff here do. (Jeff says 'Hello'.)

And another thing, why the fuchsia-wine do you believe that we're interested in reading about Kinky Friedman (if he's so funny then why didn't he win the Edinburgh Perrier Award instead of Tommy Yet?) Another-Example-Of-Brilliant-Home-Grown-Talent-Virtually-Guaranteed-Notoriety-And-Fame-Because-RTE-Quickly-Thumbed-Him-Down (learn), or Jim White, or anyone you spoke to in your last issue. They are all boring individuals, QED.

And that's something else - do you honestly expect us to credit you with an open-minded approach to all things bright and beautiful if you insist on publishing letters with the out-and-out crackpots hell-bent on reducing us all to tears for the sake of the thundering spud on every minor little thing they find slightly upsetting or in any way disappointing with the Examiners? I sincerely doubt that, my skinny Hanson-Haired friend. And for God's sake - give up going to gigs, pretending you're 'cool' and 'hip' and 'happenin', 'blindin', 'wikkid', 'phat' or 'phamous' - cos you know what? You're NOT O-T spells NOT and you're not it too nya-nya-na-nya-nya.

Professor Dwight G. Kelly
DIT School of Proper Behaviour

PS About Thursday, the wife thinks you should come for 8 since we intend to have drinks on the lawn before we commence with the banquet. HRH the Duchess will only round off the first half of the week, highlight the sheer scale and social ability of the DIT students. Hypnotists, DJs, strippers, bouncy castles, bands (Abbaesque, Boogie Allstars), comedians, garage bands and even our own Sabbatical Officers operating in banking. From a bird's-eye perspective I now fully believe the hype to be true. The DIT Students' Union goes leaps and bounds above any other college in the facilitation and development of the week; the image and the activity of the students will only round off the first half of the week, finally, a word of praise and appreciation to the Sabbatical Officers for their planning and development of the week; the part-time officers, without whom the week could never have been pulled off, and in particular the Ents Officers in each campus. And last, but not least, to the 30,000 students who saw it their duty to sacrifice their 4 days of academic pursuit to gaudingly keep up the pride, the image and the activity of the students of DIT.

Ross O'Daly
DITSU
Overall President

The Overall's Overview

Another year, another Freshers' Week. All in all, the one across all 6 campuses has proven to be a great success. From Boomerangs, to the Back Bar, Club Liquid in Bray, Knightsbridge and Break for The Border, Stakits Hotel, Champion Sports Bar, The Four Seasons, Bohkins' Yam Hall, Sam McCarthy's, Big Tree, Barney Murphy's, Devitt's, Sorohan's and Gleeson's, over 30,000 students across 4 nights in the DIT, decimated the city.

Eleven nightclubs, and 12,000 in ticket sales, and the added day-time events, to keep the students going through the week, highlight the sheer scale and social ability of the DIT students. Hypnotists, DJs, strippers, bouncy castles, bands (Abbaesque, Boogie Allstars), comedians, garage bands and even our own Sabbatical Officers operating in banking. From a bird's-eye perspective I now fully believe the hype to be true. The DIT Students' Union goes leaps and bounds beyond any other college in the facilitation of numerous and comprehensive entertainments and social events.

Ross O'Daly
DITSU
Overall President

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Prizes given to first ten correct entries untimely ripp'd from the stomach of a three-toed sea sleoth.
Independent Chair, the reasoning behind which is explained by O’Daly.

“I feel that certain members of the National Officer Board have shown a complete lack of knowledge of the USI constitution. To date the members of Officer Board assigned with running National Council have done anything but that.”

The Northern colleges maintain that there is a discrepancy in the form of a gap or lacuna in the USI constitution, and wish to alter it to rectify the situation. This would entitle them to more votes. They have been invited by USI, according to Deputy President, Ronan Emmett, to provide documentation showing this deficiency, and if they have failed to do so. USI, for their part, are adamant that, on the advice of their own legal team, there is no gap or lacuna in the constitution, and that the Northern colleges are not entitled to any more votes. Both sides are at loggerheads, and it would seem that no matter what the outcome, USI stand to lose a certain proportion of their membership. If the Northern colleges don’t get what they see as rightfully theirs, they leave, if they do, the Southern Area leaves.

Says Emmett of the potential loss; “The small colleges (such as Limerick IT) are the ones that pay the affiliation money, we don’t get one penny from the Northern colleges. Even as Northern Area Liaison Officer, I do not believe that they are entitled to more votes. I would be more worried about losing the colleges in the South.”

Ross O’Daly explains his position further; “DITSU are of the opinion that one should do the right thing irrespective of popularity or subsequent consequences. If UU or QUB do not get their rightful delegate entitlements under The Bi-lateral Agreement, and they leave USI, they also leave NUS. The National Union in Britain will see that as USI discriminating against the Northern colleges.”

What about the threatened pull-out?

“I would see it as a lack of vision on the part of colleges threatening disillusionment.”

This election was decided on a card vote, which differs from a normal vote (which allows for a one-college-one-vote system) in that it effectively introduces proportional representation, in this case giving those backing McMenamin a much greater electoral strength. The card vote was called for by the following five colleges: Dublin Institute of Technology, Tallaght Institute of Technology, Sligo Institute of Technology, Queens University, Belfast and the University of Ulster. None of these are members of the Southern Area.

USI, presumably, along with most, if not all, of the colleges in the Southern Area, were backing Byrne, with the five colleges who called for a card vote opting for, and getting, McMenamin. (This would seem like simple democracy at work.) The spat is more complicated than this, however, as the Northern colleges are members of both USI and the British National Union of Students and this creates problems.

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Built through Toyota’s fascinating new Hybrid technology, it looks like a normal, healthy road-worthy automobile - but underneath the bonnet its deviously clever engine hides the truth - it combines all the efficiency of a petrol engine, with all the cleanliness of an electric one.

As Director of the Faculty of Engineering, it was Mr. Frank Brennan who oversaw the proceedings, introducing, in turn, the Minister for the Environment and Local Government, Noel Dempsey, TD, Dr. Tim Mahony, His Excellency Kazahara-San of Toyota Japan, and Dr. Brendan Goldsmith, President of the Dublin Institute of Technology.

As over half the auto-apprentices in Ireland are trained in DIT Bolton Street, it seemed like the obvious choice of venue, and followed on from Citroen’s decision to host a design course in the same site earlier this year.

Dr. Goldsmith spoke of the launch as ‘reflecting the dynamism of the Institute’ which prides itself on course content and structure which ‘arises directly from feedback from the industry’. It was almost with glee that he told those gathered of the ‘spin around through Dublin traffic’ which he had taken earlier in the day.

Dr. Tim Mahony, quite a modest and likeable man who described himself as ‘the quintessential used-car salesman’, who has been behind Toyota Ireland since it’s inception, in 1973, spoke of his ‘feeling like the guy who drove the first Model T, or the first Beetle’.

Noel Dempsey, having already suffered at the hand of a media spin crafted by Toyota, was glad to say that when he took the Prius for a spin, that he hadn’t done what his British counterpart, John Prescott, MP, had done previously with an automobile manufacturer’s very expensive show-car, namely crashed it. (New Labour Minister Prescott dented Honda’s solar-powered car when he took it for a short test-drive earlier this year.) The TD was also firm on the example Toyota were setting on air quality, and announced in no uncertain terms, that ‘greater fuel con-
Social File: Timorese Resistance

Bill Corcoran and Carl O'Brien spent a month in the Indonesian capital, Jakarta, this summer, where they met one of the leaders of the East Timorese resistance who continues to work for his country's freedom from the oppressive Indonesian military regime.

The crowd explode. The Indonesian soccer commentator trips excitedly over his words. Everyone's eyes are superglued to the World Cup semi-final on the TV set in the corner of the cafe.

Russoo, an East Timorese student in his twenties, hardly notices. He sits in front of a brimming glass of beer which he hasn't touched for the last half hour and continues to talk and gesture forcefully. His attentions are fixed on explaining why he has risked his life for his country and what his hopes, as leader of the National Resistance of East Timorese Students, are for the future of his homeland.

"Everyone in East Timor has lost someone close to them, some have lost their entire families. Naturally this is a great emotional factor in our struggle. We fight with commitment and hope. Even if there is no hope for freedom, we have the commitment to free the country. We have stood under 23 years of oppressive regime and we can still resist. We will resist," he says.

Russoo exudes a fierce determination, yet he speaks in soft measured tones and is barely audible at times over the commentary of the frenetic World Cup match in the background.

Situated to the extreme east of Indonesia's vast archipelago of 13,677 islands, the east of Timor looks an insignificant island, a thousand miles from the bustling Indonesian capital of Jakarta. Yet it was this insignificant island that Indonesia invaded in 1975, placing its people under a brutal system of repression.

The number of dead is too huge to comprehend. An estimated 200,000 killed in a little-reported war between the Indonesian army and East Timorese guerrillas. Countless others kidnapped and tortured for acts as innocent as sending petitions to the UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan.

But things are changing slowly. When former president Suharto was dramatically toppled from power last May, his successor, BJ Habibie, was flung into the presidency of a country on the brink of collapse. In a desperate bid to win the lucrative hearts of the international community, he relaxed his predecessor's dictatorial style and finally decided to open the book on East Timor.

"It's freer to talk now than under Suharto and we have more hope in the new regime, but the difference isn't as good as it seems. We are able to express our ideas freely now, not because we have been granted the freedom but because the government is weak. The military is strong. They are the ones with the real power."

Indonesia's invasion of East Timor has never been officially recognised by most of the international community. Now desperate for money to rescue the country's haemorrhaged economy, Indonesia has never needed international support so badly.

"Habibie has never shown any interest in East Timor. But I believe Habibie intends to solve the economic problems in Indonesia. For that reason he has put a solution for Timor into his consideration because he is dependent on outside countries to solve his economic problems." Suddenly the subservient Habibie finds that his reforms aren't so much those of his own, but those prompted by the international community.

Already the Indonesian government has offered a form of 'special status' for East Timor with autonomy similar to that already in other areas of the archipelago. This minor change of status falls far short of Timorese hopes, yet Russoo and other resistance activists would be ready to accept it — only if it was the will of their people.

"The choice of the East Timorese people must be exercised through a referendum. When the people are ready to vote, let them, and if a special status or autonomy or independence is the choice, so be it. Our basic demand is independence, but if the people of East Timor vote against it, we will accept that."

Russoo takes a rare sip of his beer. The overcrowded, cramped cafe is the middle of Jakarta is a long distance and several time zones away from his homeland. How then does he find the reaction of Indonesian students to the plight of the East Timorese?

"We have got great support from them despite the strong distortion of information here on East Timor over the years. The Indonesian media has been forced to report all of the things in favour of keeping East Timor illegally integrated in Indonesia. But since 1992, students have begun to discover that the cause of Timor is an international one."

In the background, the TV silences and the cafe hushed as the match slips into penalties. Russoo talks even more quietly.

"Some East Timorese have been used by the Indonesian government and this must be acknowledged. There could be much bad feeling left among East Timorese, so even in a community without Indonesia, it could be very easy for one group to disagree with the other. This makes it all the more important that we have a referendum and that the choice of the majority of the East Timorese is exercised democratically. All we want is for the country to be free from any outside power. Then it's up to the people to decide what they want."

He is interrupted by a roar from the cafe as people jump from their seats and shake their fists triumphantly in the air. His words are smothered by the noise, but it doesn't matter. You can see his eyes widen as he studies the celebrating hordes. His battle is about to enter its final phase and it mightn't be long before he gets to experience the same emotion.
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Fionnuala Mac Aodh
Bainisteoir Raidió na Life 102FM

Ceoil Rádhaí na Life 5 Bhihain ar an aisteoir a mhíniú. Labhair an DIT Examinor leis an mbean a stiurthóireadh trí bliain aonuas agus a bheidh ina mbun sa todhcháil.

Tá Fionnuala Mac Aodh ag obair le Raidió na Life anois leis an bheithcnilse bliain go leith, rud a chiallaíonn go bhfuil sé ann ar naAth bhéagmar, nuair a chéad cloisdeadh an stáisiúin phobail seo ar an aisteoir. Idir seo agus séin iad an-chúlaítaigh, agus na ceadta craoltóireachtaí, idir ciric agus cósasa, tar éis seal a chaitheann le Cearn’s-á-7 Béo. An háirithe is mó atá tarlaítear leisigh den chúl bhliain, tá leithéid an chlár-lescéideál, a thosaigh i 1993 leis an 35 uair a chloig, ina aghaidh na seachtaine, agus atá anois ag cloiditse de 70 uair a chloig.

“Bhuil nuair a thosaigh mise bhimiar ag craotadh óna cúig go dtí leith haearn tar éis a deich agus báimid ag craoladh anois óna leith haearn tar éis a ceathair go dtí meán-oiche agus ó mheán-lá go meán-oiche ar an Satharn agus ar an Dornbhach. Sin ceann de na háitreachtaí is mó. Agus na daoine a tháinig agus ata imithe agus ata anois san earnaill craoltóireachtaí. Chabhrigh teach Tellfis na Gaeilge go mbeadh leis sin, is docha, aca a tim le daoine a fhíchealainn. Muirí mar shimpla, tan-samh, ghabhann Cathal Gobnúchos do Raidió na Life ag an traenáil a thugann siad do dhaonlath. Ar deireadh thiar thall tá “caith-cineadh a bhfuil an dhaonamh go dhearnach, gcaithfeadh gach aon bheith a phingin de sin ar fhograíocht agus poiblíocht” a bheith ar Raidió na Life. On tús bhi daoine ag iarraidh eSin a dhaonamh, agus bhi roinnt de léacht na Gaeilge a bhi ina choinné mar nach raibh se ag cloi leis an sean-nósanna na Gaeilge.”

Ceann des na laigeachtaithe is mo a chuirteann isterach ar reachtail Raidió na Life na an deacairacht airgeadas a ghabhann le margachtaí an stáisiúin. An mbíonn se deacair troid i geoinne eacpa fogaíochta agus poiblíocht: “Bionn i gcónaí, is fadh fheanúcht eSin. De bharr nach bhfuil an airgead ag teacht againn, tá sé in aon tacair deacair an stáisiúin a chur chun cinn. D’eangachtaíar Páibhí Quiz dha bhliain o shin ag ar tháinig 500 dúnla [is meas is cuíomh liom e bhunadh] go deo amach an 12in eacpa fogaíochtachta,” saothar a bhíonn aici.

Raidió na Life o thus, rud a chur leis na fadhbanna aca maoiniú a bhailiú. Thaingh reiteach ar an bhfhadbheag trí bliain o shin, nuair a tugadh ceannas d'ioladh fogaíochta don stáisiún.

“Bhi Deirdre Ni Dháiligh ag plé le urraiocht o thus, agus d'eirigh liom €30,000 a thogaim isteach sa chead bhliain, ach ó fuairmear an cead de chroilaidisinta againn faoi lathair.”

An rud goillíníonn duit e go bhfuagann daoine le dul go craolóirí na nuaíf, agus eile chomh luath agus a olltar raid i gceist aordú faoi fhoirfnosaithe i Raidió na Life?

“Ceuidh an mhíniú a bhí ann leis an deacairacht gcaithfeadh siad bheith de chuid ag ina dhiaidh. Ach is ndaithe e sin do stáisiúin comhlhobhail, te a oscailte do ghach duine, ach an rud eile de na go scannear an éirí leis na cláracha. Bheartaíonn an, tar eis e sin ar fad a thug, go bhfuilfaisceafaí cuí leis post a chruithin - daoine ar os Conor O Tuama, a bhí anseo ar an scéim FAS ar feadh dá bhliain, agus gur cruthaíodh post do anois. Ach caithfear scoimheolaí leis an gcomhthálaíocht a thabhairt leis na stáisiúin - nior bunaíodh mar stáisiúin trachtala e Raidió na Life, agus ni bhíodh sé riamh mar sin. Is go airgead a thuirleadh ach ne fiidir dul thar thoir agus a cheapadh gurbh e an fhogaíochtachta a utilítear. Taobh amuigh de sin ba bhreif: liom go mbeadh muid in ann a bheith ag craoladh 24 uair a chloig sa lá, cuip bhlainthiis an boithir.”

Leis an meid dul chuimh cinn ata staistiúin trachtala e Raidió na Life, agus staistiúin laistigh de chuid bliain, a beac ghabhann againn agus bhíodh sé riamh mar sin.”

Ni raibh cead fogaíochtachta ag Raidió na Life o thus, rud a chur leis na fadhbanna aca maoiniú.

Leas an meid “..níor bunaíodh mar staistiúin trachtala e Raidió na Life, agus staistiúin laistigh de chuid bliain, a beac ghabhann againn agus bhíodh sé riamh mar sin.”

IarRéalta Raidió na Life
Sharon Ni Bheoláin (Nuacht RTE / News2)
Aedín Ni Ghormnaíth (Raidió na Gaeilge)
Sínead Coomhghall (E-Mag / Echid Island)
Sínead Ni Churralaioch (Clare FM / Ceol Cainte / saor-rísireseacracht)
Claraoneach (Tuarisc / Iompar taisce)
Michael McCormack (0 Bhuin Go Barr - Pop TV)
Trent Benzer (Inch Nacais)
Roisin Sack (Popscene / Eurovision)

Agus soithre eile nach iad a chur a chuaidh am ar fail do Chead’s-A-Dú Beo.
Go maire tu céad a do bileán eile.
Freshers' Week Bad Craziness

Pic: Sinéad Corcoran, ChaOS

"Switching to manual override, grab a limb...I can just hear the oesopagus making the first anti-peristalsis noises..."

We had it all: Saucy presidents strutting their stuff, "sexy" shots in pet suits, and a guy who obeys different rules of gravity than earthlings.

Iron Stomach: how long can you put up with DJ MG before you empty the contents of your bog all over the floor?

Merciful Hour.

Lewd gestures, balls/willy jokes. Gotta be Aungier St.

Cunny: "Try and throw him up on the roof!"

Vinnie: "No, sell Try and make him throw up on the roof."

Say the hip hop, the hoppity, a-hip hop hop and you don’t stop
That's the way, ah-ha, ah-ha, I like it, ah-ha, ah-ha...

Did somebody mention Morten Harket?

Check this groove, check this groove, a-a-all night, it's alright ( Alright, a-a-allight...) I et cetera

"Ah you lookin at me...?"

Your round, pal...

"I couldn't...possibly...I've inadvertently got myself in...some sort of...vulcan mind-melt..."

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, the boys are refusing to part with their hard-earned lemon rind, butter, lard, oil etc

First year college - it's all down hill from here...

"Deejay Dave on Radio Friendly, boy..."

"What time is it?" "Herraasoyyy!"

"Is that my girl?" "Herraasoyyy!"

"Oh." "Herraasoyyy!"

Geiltíocht Sheachtain na nÚraiteach
DIT GAA Welcomes one and all

Welcome back to all at DIT GAA and we extend a warm welcome to all Freshers, looking forward to seeing as many getting involved in any code. Footballers have got their show on the road with training on Mon / Wed @ 6pm in Terenure, and are delighted to have Jody Moran back at the helm. They kicked off the U21 Championship with a game against Round Towers on October 3. Hurlers get back with a social, and training commenced Mon 5, again in Terenure @ 5pm. Anyone wanting to get involved with the hurlers can contact Damien McDonald @ 086 231 1367.

Our most successful team last year were the ladies footballers who gained promotion to Division 1 and crowned All-Ireland Champions. The same management team are continuing this year, and any interested parties should contact Gerard O’Connor on 087 275 2511. Camogie Club are delighted to announce that Dublin handball Club again won many titles throughout a hectic year which saw them compete in the US Collegiates in San Francisco. Details of training and up-coming events can be obtained by calling Frank Semple @ 087 671907.

Senior Hurlers, Brendan McLoughlin and Colin Fetherston will coach and manage the team this year and they expect to build on the success of the footballers.

Up-Coming Events & Fixtures:

Oct 8 Hurling Challenge v UCD @ Belfield, 4:30pm

Oct 10 U21H Championship v Crumlin Venue To Be Announced

Oct 12 Football AGM Aungier St @ 1:30pm

Oct 14 Hurling League Away v Queens

Oct 21 Football League DIT v TCD

Nov 5 Ladies Football Away v UCD

Also note Sports Day on 13 Oct in ALSAA. Any further enquiries contact Barry Downey, GAA Officer.

Ph: 402 3424
Mob: 087 270 5872
Heineken Sports Competition

Simply answer the following teaser. No calculators permitted. Brains used must belong to participant, read instructions carefully.

Is Heineken Ireland’s No.1 lager?

Yes □  No □

Winner to receive a Heineken Goodie-Bag. Y'all rush to the post office now, y'hear?

Answers (in fluent Obiwa) to:
Heineken Sports Competition,
The DIT Examiner,
Ground Floor,
Students' Union,
DIT Kevin Street.

Closing date for entries:
Fri 30 Oct 98

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Heineken

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Attention!! All DIT staff and students

Come and Sing with the
DIT Choral Society

Conductor: Bernie Sherlock

Rehearsals: Tuesdays 6.30 - 9.00 pm
Gleeson Hall, DIT Kevin Street

The 1998-99 programme includes:

* Choral Weekend in Galway Nov. 98
  * Christmas Concert in Christ Church Cathedral Dec. 98
  * Charles Moyer de Memloup pour Noel & Toscapha A Time for Christmas

* Honegger’s exciting Le Roi David April 99 Dublin & Limerick

The DIT Choral Society was formed in 1990 to bring together students and staff from all DIT Colleges to perform great choral masterpieces. Rehearsal tapes are provided for those who cannot read music; rehearsals are fun and there is a decent coffee break halfway through! All DIT staff and students are welcome. However, weekly attendance at rehearsals is essential to ensure excellent performances.


Bernie Sherlock is the Choral Director of the DIT Conservatory of Music, and a music lecturer in both DIT and TCD. An honours graduate of TCD, she studied conducting for 2 years in Hungary with Zoltan Herbotty Koszor and Peter Erkel. She has extensive choral experience with children’s and adult choirs, and her choirs have won prizes at most Irish festivals including the 1996 Cork International Choral Festival.

Further info.: Tel. 402 4773

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Noticeboard

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DIT Sailing Club
DIT Sailing Club will begin giving lessons from Sunday the 18 October for four weeks. They will take place in the INSS (Irish National Sailing School) in Dun Laoghaire — right beside the DMYC (Dublin Metropolitan Yacht Club) and the DART (Dublin Area Rapid Transit) line. Be sure to bring wet gear, deck shoes and warm woolies if you dislike cold weather. OK (Ostrich Kebabs)?

DIT Karting Club
Meeting
Room 259
1.30pm
Bolton Street
Wed 14 Oct

DIT Chess Club
Room K154
Every Wednesday
6pm
Kevin Street

For further information:
Clodagh Barry @ 066
811 4301
or
Michael Lewis @ 087
285 7662
DIT Students' Union


Date: 22/Oct/98

Class Reps can run for positions on Council on the day. Each Campus will be electing their respective Class Reps. Get all the required information to understand and actively participate in DITSU Council.

GLENDON HALL KEVIN ST. FROM 16PM

Are You Ready For Some More....

Challenging Times?

Last Year DIT Reached the Final of RTE's Challenging Times. This year we can do it

Watch out for Challenging Times Quizzes in your DIT Centre soon!

If you are interested contact:

Frank Mc Cann
Lecturer
Maths and General Studies
Belton Street
01 4023510

Lorcan Mc Grane
DIT Arts Officer
Fitzwilliam House
01 4023424
087 224 5508
lorcan.mcgrane@eir.ie

Influx Festival

Bank Holiday Weekend 22-25 October

Featuring...

The Chemical Brothers

Derrick Carter

Billy Nasty

Johnny Moy

Richard Sen

Luke Vibert

Glen Brady

Dub Pistols

And many more....

See p17 for full details.

THE LIBERTY

DUE OUT OCTOBER 23

Featuring

The Future of the Adelaide

What now for Dublin's Inner City Hospital?

The Councillors' Scrappage Scheme

Dublin City Council to introduce fresh blood

Northside v Southside

Discrepancies in the cost of living
Who runs the DIT?

Dr. Brendan Goldsmith, President of the Dublin Institute of Technology
The President's Office is located in the administrative Headquarters of the Institute, DIT Fitzwilliam House, in Upper Pembroke Street.

Faculty of Business
Mr. Paul Sullivan, Director of the Faculty of Business, is based in DIT Aungier Street. Mr. Sullivan was Acting Director in DIT Mountjoy Square since 1992 when he spent his early career as a Lecturer in Communications. In 1992, Mr. Sullivan was Head of Postgraduate and Management Studies for several months. Mr. Sullivan has responsibility for Management Studies, Accountancy, Distribution, Business & Management. He is administratively responsible for the DIT centre at Mountjoy Square, and is assisted in this area by Ms. Therese Grogan.

Faculty of Engineering
Mr. Francis Brennan, Director of the Faculty of Engineering, has his office in DIT Bolton Street. Mr. Brennan was Director of DIT Kevin Street for the past 14 years. He was previously Head of Postgraduate and Management Studies and a Lecturer in Electronic Engineering. Mr. Brennan has responsibility for Control Systems & Electrical Engineering, Electronics and Telecommunications, Electrical Installation, Science, Engineering Technology, Maths & General Studies, Transport and Engineering Trades. He is administratively responsible for the DIT centre at Bolton Street, and is assisted in this area by Mr. Tom Foley.

Faculty of Science
Dr. Matthew Hussey, Director, Faculty of Science, has his office in DIT Kevin Street. Dr. Hussey has been Head of the Department of Physics in DIT Kevin Street since 1983, prior to which he was a Lecturer in Physics for 8 years. Dr. Hussey has also been Chairperson of the Postgraduate Studies Committee for the Institute. Dr. Hussey has responsibility for Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Statistics, Computer Science, Biological Science, Bakery and Languages. He is administratively responsible for the DIT centre at Kevin Street, and is assisted in this area by Mr. Damien Gullanagh.

Faculty of Tourism and Food
Mr. Michael Mulvey, Director of the Faculty of Tourism and Food, is based in DIT Cathal Brugha Street. Mr. Mulvey has been involved with the School of Hotel Management and Tourism Management in DIT Cathal Brugha Street where he was a Lecturer, then Assistant Head of School and subsequently Acting Head from 1993. Mr. Mulvey has responsibility for Tourism, Food Operations, Food Science & Technology. He is administratively responsible for the DIT centre at Cathal Brugha Street, and is assisted in this area by Ms. Margo Fitzpatrick.

Director of Academic Affairs
Dr. David Gillingham is based in DIT Fitzwilliam House, and is the Director of Academic Affairs. Dr. Gillingham joined DIT from Groupe ESC Rennes, France, where he was Vice-President, Academic and International Relations and previously Dean / Director of Postgraduate Studies and Professor / Head of the Department of Marketing and Sales. Dr. Gillingham also worked in Canada where he was Head of the School of Commerce and Administration in Laurentian University.

Director of External Affairs
Dr. Declan Glynn is the Director of External Affairs and is based in DIT Fitzwilliam House. Dr. Glynn joined the Institute from Enterprise Equity where he was Chief Executive for eight years. Prior to this Dr. Glynn was Chief Executive of the National Board for Science and Technology. His early career was in Industry and the IDA.

Director of Finance
Mr. Ray Wills, the Director of Finance, is also based in DIT Fitzwilliam House. Mr. Wills was a Managing Consultant in Price Waterhouse where he had worked for 15 years before coming to the Institute.

Secretary to the Institute
Mr. Robert Lawlor (see main picture) is the Secretary to the Institute and has his office in DIT Fitzwilliam House. Mr. Lawlor was Director of DIT Cathal Brugha Street from 1973 to 1993 when he took up his present post. He served as a member of the Higher Education Authority for ten years and was Deputy Chairman of the Authority from 1991-1993.
Poet’s Corner
MaolSheaschlainn Ó Céallaigh

Traffic Island
Perhaps I should stay on this grassy oasis
Perhaps sheer surrender is best
And watch all the drivers who scoot to new places
With nowhere to offer them rest.
Perhaps some will throw me means to exist
Thoughmost will just throw me a jibe
Perhaps some will see me and want to enlist
And I’ll build up my own little tribe.
And though cut away from all good people there
I shall neither meet cad or weasel
My lungs will expand in the constant hot air
Just a little polluted by diesel.

As driver on driver goes past in his car
My fame will grow bigger and bigger
The town will make stories in which I will star
They’ll make me a mythical figure.
But when winter comes and the rain storms begin
My scheme will be knocked out of kilter
I’ll stand there, quite frozen, and drenched to the skin,
And beg passing drivers for shelter.

Space Travellers
We conquered space before we reached the moon;
We conquered it in penny magazines.
Before we flew the biplane or balloon
We filled it with imaginary scenes.

And many a daring tale of human hope
Ran to the skies, where pedants could not knock it.
What was ruled out, seen through the telescope?
There was no right or wrong.

The universe was infinite and vast
With planets that mankind would frolic daily in.
The future would be dangerous but rosy
And littered with a million kinds of alien.

And now, though astronauts scurry through Barsoom
Earth still resonates with echoes of our tales;
Space is not cold, while human hearts are warm.
We weave our myths where constellations gleam.

The great My Favourite Mistake opens for us
on another good record from the gal who
back-voiced Michael Jackson for a year and
And, like us, she’s probably thankful she gave that up.
Describing her first trip in There Goes The Neighbourhood, it comes out
on top of the acid-babble that ensued. She sees what the fuss is about and brings it to us
Is fun-from replete with brass.
Further on into the Sessions provides with
songs, which just emphasise the fact that this woman
is an extremely gifted songwriter, in
the great American tradition of Tom Petty (Footvile, It Don’t Hurt)
Many lines, the nature of “I dress up with a conscience when I think, you’ll be watching...”
in Am I Getting Through Pt.1, indicate the
sensations human qualities of a real person, though this song veers carelessly in a Zeppelin
direction, complete with huge Bonham sound on the drums.

You Don’t Bring Me Anything But Down
Smells like a single - it’s not great - and the
slow-mover, The Difficult Kind leads us into the
smiling regret of Mississippi.

The Dark emptiness of Crush and B...
AFRICA FESTIVAL

Theatre, Music, Film and various arts events will turn Dublin into a scene for the exploration of African culture later this month.

4th Africa Festival

Wed 28 Oct - Sun 8 Nov

Venues:
National Concert Hall, Dublin.
Irish Writers' Centre, Dublin.
Irish Film Centre, Dublin.
The National Theatre, Dublin (Peacock Stage).

Theatre:
Award-Winning Irish-language theatre company, An Barracht de híde will present a re-adapted reading of a specially-commissioned Irish language translation of Misère, a play by Thierry Nlandu Mayamba from Congo Kinshasa.
Peacock Theatre, Dublin, Sat 31 Oct, 11am.

Music
N’Faly Kouyate & Dunnyakan (Guinea-Conakry).
National Concert Hall, Dublin, Mon 2 Nov, 8pm.

Labi Siffre
Vicar Street, Thomas Street, Dublin. Thu 5 Nov, 8pm.

Bessa Band (Ghanaian Highlife Music).
UCD, Belfield, Wed 28 Oct, 1:45pm.
Whelan’s Dublin, Wed 28 Oct, 9pm.

Theatre
Misère*, a play by Thierry Nlandu Mayamba from Congo Kinshasa and translated by Liam Ó Muirthile. Three half-mad, hal-philosopher tramps sit around talking with humour on wasteland in a country devastated by corruption and the cult of power. Everything in the country has a price and can be bought — work, justice, love, diplomas — even a pass to a little corner of Paradise. They are wanderers in a monstrous labyrinth, devotees of Dionysus, who are unequally reconciled to their circumstances of material and spiritual destitution, as well as to the inevitable destruction of moral values, the result of what they modestly call 'the 20th Century'.

In an intense piece of work, an iconoclastic fresco which gives voice to the anguish and tribulations of those who are excluded from the community of so-called well-meaning people. It is rooted in the street, the last dusty refuge of those whose soul has not allowed them to travel on the tortuous paths which lead to Power and Money, not to suffer the 'enduring falsehoods of the dark'. Misère, of course, means 'misery', or 'wretchedness', but in the play is also the name of a girl / young woman. For the same double entendre to work in Irish, the translator has called it Aineáine, 'ainnisea' meaning 'wretchedness' or 'misery', but Aineáine, having the resonance, at least, of a woman's name, the other possibility is to retain the name Misère in French, which creates other difficulties within the text to be resolved.

Music
N’Faly Kouyate & Dunnyakan
Hailing from the Manding Empire (which encompasses Guinea, Mali, Senegal and Gambia) N’Faly Kouyate is the son of a Konkoba, the highest order of Griots (professional singers). An accomplished singer / songwriter, master of the kora (African harp/lute) and minstrel, N’Faly was shaped by the rigorous standards demanded of traditional musicians in West Africa. Nonetheless, he broadened his horizons to embrace jazz and classical music at a young age, and these influences are reflected in his line-up of Dunnyakan (Voice of the World).

As a founder and orchestral director of the Kaloum Saguére Theater Company, he was instrumental in the cultural development of his country, and in 1994 was appointed the youngest ever musical director of La Troupe Nationale de Guinée which went on to be awarded the first prize at the Festival de Bokité (Côte d’Ivoire).

N’Faly was a member of the Afro-Celt Sound System, a collaboration of Irish and African musicians which received critical acclaim in 1997.

Labi Siffre
Labi Siffre is best known for the Ivor Novello award-winning hit song (Something Inside) So Strong, written for the black community of apartheid South Africa, and for all the victims of injustice, and which has been adopted as an anthem by the marginalised and dispossessed in many countries.

With seven albums, further hit songs, Watch Me, It Must Be Love, and Crying, Laughing, Loving, Lyning, and a multitude of international performances over a period of twenty seven years, Labi Siffre has no interest in nostalgia, is more interested in the work than in the applause, and continues to change, develop and grow as an artist.

Following his successful 1997 debut at the Edinburgh Fringe with his performance piece A Day in the Knife ("Self-sufficient, re-readable, a gut-wrenching, emotional roller-coaster ride...compelling...fearless...an incisive talent...**, The Scotsman, 29 Aug 97), Labi Siffre took an extended version on a UK tour.

Based on, and introducing work from his third book, Monument, A Day in the Knife is a portrayal in songs and spoken word of a journey from childhood to adulthood in which brutality and ignorance are overcome by courage, hope and eventually, love.

“My work is founded on the (perhaps naive) belief that reason is the road to hope.”

The writer of three volumes of poetry, Nigger, Blood on the Page and the recently published Monument (all published by Xavier Books), Labi Siffre has made a moving, and for many, a disturbing impact as a poet, ‘live’ and on radio and TV.

Bessa Band (Ghanaian Highlife Music)
Highlife is a brand of guitar band music which emerged from the urban centres of former British colonies of the Gold Coast (now Ghana), Nigeria and Sierra Leone. It has now developed into a full electric band and its popularity extends throughout West Africa and beyond.

London-based Bessa Band are one of the finest exponents of Ghanaian Highlife music and this will be their first participation in the festival. Formed in 1989 to play original outstanding West African dance music, the Bessa Band is a mix of African and European musicians, bringing together Ghanaian hi-life music and jazz. In 1990, the band’s debut album, Sii Nana, was launched in the UK by a Jazz Moves Tour, which supports innovation musicians.

Since 1992 the band has toured the UK extensively with the support of four national touring grants from the Arts Council of England. The band also leads musical work/shop programmes which provide an insight and experience of African music. The Bessa Band released their second album, Accra Junction in 1993 on their own label (Ojama Productions - distributed by Sterne, London) on Europe and Ghana.

In August 1994, the band was invited to Ghana to host the state dance for the Afahye Festival. With support from the British Council the group toured Ghana and made a considerable impact on the cultural scene there. Together with their video, the tour popularised Bessa’s music and the final track Belembé became a hit.

Since then, the Bessa Band have completed a full national touring programme, including the 1995 Folk and Roots Festival in Jersey. They have completed Bessa the Live Album (Ojama 002), recorded at Conway Hall. The album was recorded in collaboration with Overtones and partly funded by the Arts Council. They have just released a dance album entitled Bessa Si Bella.
RELEASES

Regular Fries - Free the Regular Fries

Regular Fries claim to "encompass the history of the planets and the stars, the culture of fine art and graffiti" in their music, unfortunately, a listen to their E.P Free the Regular Fries proves none of the above. Rather, their music essentially encompasses guitar-based pop with a heavy mix of Black Grape and Primal Scream.

Having released their debut single themselves, (Doit Don't Do It), Regular Fries were signed to JBO records. Leave "The Proper" (17:57) on repeat a few times and you've listened to the whole E.P Nice, soft vocals are the highlight of this Scrambled-lunatic-influenced E.P. Perhaps the Fries are trying a little too hard.

Leah Henry

UNKLE - Psycom Fiction

Psycom Fiction is the result of a collaboration between MoWax label head James Lavelle and DJ Shadow. The album has been in the works for the past three years and features guests like Thom Yorke, Richard Ashcroft and Mike D. No doubt its debut will be propelled by the recent successes of Yorke and Ashcroft, but for the most part, the album passes without much cause for major comment. Basically, it involves electronic sounds being sent through the music of some of the biggest stars of rock, pop, and hip hop culture. What a waste of three years.

Leah Henry

The Crocketts - We are Skinny and Wirey

"I may be skinny and wiry, honey, but I can tell you the square root of every letter in the alphabet," beams Daisy Crocket, Dublin-born lead singer of The Crocketts. We May be Skinny and Wirey is the debut album from the Welsh-based band and sees them earning a well-deserved hero status.

Everything from the opening punk-rock raptures of "Flower Girl" and "Can't Count On You" to the painfully grade bulla of "Blaster Boy" and "Six Soon to be Sevens," confirm such a status. Achingly poignant love songs, raw and bitter rock some places, uniquely punk-pop in others - all delivered through the heart-breaking vulnerability of a voice that makes the band. They may be skinny and wiry, but we like it.

Leah Henry

Tindersticks

Dinkleys 92-97
This Way Up

Lions Are Black, wonderful weather - the outdoor gigs by the lake are cancelled for fear that the artists will be blown away. But those of us who escaped the wrath of the gods by skinning into the marquee (capacity 670) and examined Tindersticks are brought back to the warmth of that smoky-back open-air feel. The whole package is what is wanted and that includes the fact that the band like a look of group of friends who stumbled on stage and too laid back to leave.

Dinkleys 92-97 is the perfect introduction for the 'sandwich' virgin and the well-rounded companion for the veteran 'stack'. On first listen many different factors contribute to the impressions which seem closely linked in style you might have made it.

Michael McCormack

The Sweetest Songs

Payton Ivan's E.P "The Sweetest Songs" has received overwhelming response from the fans. The album's lead single "This Is Me" has already topped the charts. The album features ten tracks, including the hit single "All I Ever Wanted".

Ash

The Sound Of Music

Infectious

Ash - No Clear Sound

Ash's new album 'Infectious' begins with the beat Ash-sounding song heard to date, the very exciting Projects, a good choice for a record that is very far from Girl from Mars. It immediately drops into Low Ebb, a lyrically attractive ballad with much string accompaniment. "Jenius" you know, and Wildhart intentionally, captures quite effectively the surfness of the Beach Boys / Weezer / Happy Days kinda-music. Back to the exciting stuff again with the very metal Death Trip 21, though when you break it into its constituent parts it doesn't hold up so well.

Folk Song is great sunshine material, but perhaps a bit too heavy with more strings, electronics and other unnecessary additions tacked on. The song itself is a very worthy piece of music. Numbuskull introduces the capable scratch CV of DJ Dick Kurtaine but is hard to describe as anything but 'dripping'. Of the four, Burn Out, Aphrodisite, Fortune Teller (pretty raucous), I'm Gonna Fall (very VU&Nico), the first stands out as possibly the best track of the release, and though I've very little time for the music of Ash, their willingness to try new ideas stands them in pretty good stead on this 46-minute.

Chaos
THE MARBLES

Seamus Simon: vox / drums
Jonathan McGlynn: guitar / vox
Justin Whelan: bass

Skipping lightly over the famous patronage aspect of The Marbles we learn that they have successfully attracted the worthy attentions of ex-Pogues Terry Woods, who is their manager, of BB Fallon, who is their sometime photographer, and lately of Here Comes The Quiet Corrigan. Donal Dineen, who qualifies as some kind of mentor, both as tour co-biller and musical lighthouse. The recently-released single In My Eye / Got The Fear - is it the result of being in the studio since February this year?

“Well it's a re-recording we did in Wales with Simon Dawson. Our tastes are very diverse, we've lots of different angles and avenues to examine at the moment, and though everyone has their own favourite, this is just an Irish release. It was something we just stuck on cos we recorded it down the country on an 8-track. I like it a lot.” Is there an album due?

“Yeah there is. We did some tracks with Simon and Trevor (Burm) when we were in London for a week, and we also spent four weeks in Dublin with Ed Buller working on stuff. We're going to take the rest down the country where my cousin looks after a castle near Lough Key where we'll get to work on some more.”

Lough Key, eh? E-e-excellent. Obviously somewhere they're happy, then this Lough Key sanctuary?

“Well we used to go on the piss all the time here, and now that all our mates are off doing different things in college or wherever, it's great that we can all come back to the castle. There's a good feel there.”

They aren't the only ones who like the environs of Lough Key and its wooded serenity. Popey, the Examiner and a whole horde of marauding journalists have been steadily beating a track to their door there. Indeed, certain actors have also been spotted in the vicinity. As Seamus puts it, with a touch of the original disbelief in his voice, “I looked out the window and there's John Hurt coming along....!”

Currently halfway through their Here Comes The Night Out Tour with An ÍNuál Dineen, (they had just played the test of time.”

Though this might initially seem a little naïve, the proof is in the pudding that's touring the country at the moment, and attracting the admiration of many. Of heroes, for some reason, they have a lot of respect for four guys from Dublin, go by the name of U2, and Seamus cites ex-Nirvana and Foo Fighter, David Grohl, as one of his favourite drummers, and shares more than just an ability to hit, goat-skin hard— to be it. penning work as well. Does he find it difficult to be in the quite-uncommon position of having to keep time and sing as well?

“Tt write songs on the piano and the guitar but with the drums, if you don't have the notes, you can't hear if they sound right, very often. But I never really thought about it, I just always sang and drummed.” Just don't mention Phil 'Her Up' Collins. Now that would give me the fear.

The Marbles
In My Eye
ZTT

And its well in your eye they'll be before you know it. With life-long harmonies as effective as this one you'll have a fair idea that these fellas might be around for a few summers, and luckily they weren't signed to PolyGram. The first of two songs on this single release, In My Eye is destined for mucho radio play, and though that doesn't always mean that a song is intrinsically very good, In My Eye will be around for a while.

Of even greater saying power is the neon-and-rain, nine minute long Gut The Fear! This is wonderful, laconic ode of what is a distinctively metropolitan landscape. Sure, sitting in the background help, but this is genuine, didactic (look it up) movie soundtrack gear. It will please me to hear more of the Boyle lad's stock. Who said there was anything common about Ros?

influenx
influential festival weekend Oct 22-25

Thursday 22 Oct The Kitchen RICHARD SEN 11-2am
Friday 23 Oct Mean Fiddler DERRICK CARTER 11-2am
Sat 24 Oct Redbox CHEMICAL BROS / INVISIBLE ARMIES / JOHNNY MOY 10:30-2:30am
Sat 24 Oct Music Centre BILLY NASTY / ROB ROWLAND 11-2am
Sat 24 Oct Ría LUKE VIBERT (WAGON CHRIST) 11-2am
Sun 25 Oct Music Centre DUB PISTOLS / SUPERCHARGER / GLEN BRADY & JOHNNY MOY / BARRY ASHWORTH

For Competition see previous page
Ritual Character Slaying
No. 2 Pádraig Staunton,
Mountjoy Square.

Send potential RCS victim photographs to The Editor, The DIT Examiner, Students' Union, Ground Floor, DIT Kevin Street, Kevin St., Dublin 8. Submissions must include name, college, and course of victim and any other details regarding situation in which photo was taken etc.

Nothing too shocking, lowest form of humiliation considered, SU Officers in particular. Yes, especially SU Officers. (Much diabolical laughter)...
Velvet Goldmine

Director: Todd Haynes
Starring: Ewan McGregor, Johnathan Rhys Meyers, Brían O'Byrne.
Release Date: October 23rd

It was the inspired but bizarre last-concoction of Todd Haynes' latest collection of wacky, weird story telling that got the most attention. Famous names aside, this is a complex, witty and sensitive alternative fairy tale vision of Seventies British Glam Rock. Ewan McGregor is the self consciously named rocker, supposedly assassinated on stage but in reality disappears and constantly revisits himself. It's also the story of Arthur Baker (Christian Bale) who in an almost Orwellian 1984 is assigned to cover the 10th Anniversary of Slade's apparent demise. This opens the flood gates to his own vivid and lasting memories of the era which meant escape from small town England to the bright lights, dark clubs and platform shoes of early Seventies London.

The theme of constant change is ever present here in the frequent costume changes or fluctuations in musical style from the fluid self serve sexuality of the main characters. Few films have portrayed bisexuality with such, straightforward, vision, the characters here repeatedly distinguish themselves as bisexuals when met with constant pious jokes in the street against wearing slacks and make up. Slade's switching love interests from wife Mandy to an intense and passionate affair with Curt Wild also keep change prominent throughout the film. The 1984 sections are a harsh contrast, with bland music, music, blander, puts and an unseeing, almost surgical sexlessness.

To many the film may not make perfect sense, but what does it not the straightforward Glam Rock equivalent of This Spiral Top which could be. It does offer a lot to Art House during Slade's theatrical and expressionistic video pieces. Overall there is a broad comparison to the free-wheeling daftish decadence of Oscar Wilde's end to the 19th century and the insane over the top fashions, music and sexuality of the Seventies as portrayed here.

The very individual force behind this is Todd Haynes, whose debut indie film Superstar: The Karen Carpenter Story probably has its place in film history now because of its cast made entirely from Ken and Barbie dolls telling the story of the skinny songstress. Music too has a huge influence on the career of R.E.M.'s Michael Stipe co-produced and there is new music from the likes of Pulp, Placebo, Radiohead's Thom Yorke, Brian Eno and Grant Lee Buffalo.

Lorcan McGreavey

A Perfect Murder

Director: Andrew Davis

I don't know what it is about people today but when ideas such as making a Hitchcock film are touted around Hollywood everybody just seems to look to see who's drawn the short straw. Maybe its just that it Hitchcock we're dealing with and they feel his work cannot be equaled yet alone surpassed, or maybe they just haven't the balls to try. Enter Andrew Davis and his 1994 remake of Hitchcock's 1954 film Dial M for Murder! Forget 1954, forget London, forget Grace Kelly and most of all forget Alfred Hitchcock because this contemporary suspense thriller set in the bustling streets of New York has taken on a life of its own.

Michael Douglas, Gwyneth Paltrow and Viggo Mortenson head the cast of this cat and mouse game thriller, and with superb direction from Mr. Davis the film never loses its "What's lurking in the shadows" appeal. The film, however, isn't purely plot or character driven, because especially in the opening scenes, Danis Wolanskis photographic genius treats the audience to some of the most breath-taking shots of New York that I've ever seen. And despite the amazing beauty of these shots, as the camera pans across the skyscrapers to catch the sky in the background, they are not just for aesthetic effect. It's like they're saying "This is New York. Anything can happen here." And it does.

Steven Taylor (Michael Douglas) is a millionaire industrialist, but his wife Emily (Gwyneth Paltrow seems to be spending a little too much time with struggling artist David Shaw (Mortenson) in his Brooklyn loft. She thinks he's unaware of her passionate trysts but hey, he's a man and for men trust is hard to come by. Revenge! Or perhaps the appeal of her $100M trust fund! Who knows, but one of these two things sets the wheels in motion for a perfect murder with Emily claiming the leading role. Isn't love grand?

And following the not-so-perfect murder there ensues not a whodunnit but a howdunnit headed by Arab-American detective Mohamed Karaman (David Suchet). Each new twist was indeed surprising, a welcome departure from the usual type films of the genre.

Steven Taylor's character has been described as the 'centre of gravity in the story, an imposing national predator who plans the perfect murder.' Basically he's a conniving bastard and they couldn't have picked anyone better to play the part than Michael Douglas. Douglas actually describes Taylor as charming yet counterfeit and potentially lethal, but points out that the film shows he actually does love his wife, but pardon my ignorance, how does trying to kill your wife show how you love her? OK so perhaps I don't understand love as well as the makers of the film! Paltrow plays the emotionally-driven Emily who responds to each new event with strength and character. Once again Paltrow turns in an amazing performance but what else can we expect from such a talented actor. Surprisingly, however, I must admit that I found myself extremely impressed with Viggo Mortenson's portrayal of David Shaw, surprisingly because he isn't quite so established as his fellow leading actors. (Watch Sean Penn's Indian Runner - Ed.) And as for mostach-less Suchet, well, his accent's pretty good...

Perfect Murder is a real rollercoaster ride of a suspense thriller with excellent character portrayals by its leading actors. The plot, though intricately woven through sub-plot upon sub-plot, never ties itself up in its own genius. Its themes of greed, jealousy and intrigue will be close to everybody's heart I'm sure so don't make the mistake of missing this film. And for the guys who don't really care what the film is about I'll just repeat GWINETH PALTROW IS IN IT! And for the ladies there's always older man Michael Douglas or young blood Viggo Mortenson. A Perfect Murder and an almost perfect film? Don't miss it!

The Boss
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