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The DIT Examiner : the Newspaper of the Dublin Institute of Technology Students' Union, May, 1996

DIT Students' Union

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The DIT Examiner

The Newspaper of the Dublin Institute of Technology Students' Union

May '96



DIT's Southside GAA clubs recently held a very quite function to reward the best players of the year.

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It's been another very active year for the students of DIT and an intriguing time politically. We take a look back at what happened and how.

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There were no shortage of photo opportunities this year and DIT students were, as ever, more than willing subjects.

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Development in DIT has reached an impasse. Unless a substantial site is acquired by the institute, many plans may have to be shelved.

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DIT Moves Closer to Degree Awarding Status

DIT took a step closer to acquiring its own degree awarding powers last week following a week-long series of meetings with a review team from the Higher Education Authority.

The HEA group will now submit a report based on its review, which will then be submitted to the Department of Education and pending approval from the Minister, Niamh Bhreathnach, the DIT should have its own degree awarding abilities by September 1996.

Dr Brendan Goldsmith, President of the DIT, told the DIT Examiner that the report should be wrapped up by the end of May.

"We're still on course and I see no reason to say we should not be looking at it by the beginning of next year."

The DIT recently completed a critical self-evaluation study which was used by the review team for overall background information and to identify areas that may require particular attention during the site visit. All DIT sites were visited by the team and, in an encouraging development, a session with a group of students was organised in each site. Each group was made up of two post graduate students, two under-

graduate degree students and two undergraduate diploma students.

Colman Byrne, Overall President of DITSU said that the team was very much in favour of student representation.

"A lot of that was the Scandinavian input [there were representatives from Sweden and Denmark on the team]. Their culture is completely different in third level education where students have massive representation, 50 percent on committees and that sort of thing." The Danish representative is part of an institute that is exclusively involved in the study of the quality of institutes.

"Our representation is very low on those terms and they became our standard bearers, saying what we've been saying for a good while. I think they improved our cause."

DITSU has also drafted a 15 page response to the DIT's self-evaluation study. It is primarily concerned with course committee structure and was submitted before the review team arrived in DIT. Mr Byrne believes that the visit strengthens the case for increased representation on committees.

The review team spent some time

with students in each DIT site and the overall response seems to have been favourable.

"We want to extend representation on course committees. For example we've asked for 11 people on academic council and we hope to get six. That would be the Overall President and the other five [sabbaticals]. The argument for that is how can your representative go to academic board and represent views from Cathal Brugha Street if you are from Kevin Street? You need a specific person."

"The HEA people raised the topic of student representation on course committees with each of them [the students] and they were very interested in what they had to say," said Helen Ryan, Site President in DIT Kevin Street's students' union.

"They said that students obviously make up the greatest number of people in the college and that the students and staff are the two you have to hear from."

Dan Wade, Site President in DIT Aungier Street said that, amongst other subjects, the group asked about lecturing standards and orientation for first year students and what assistance was

available from the college in this area.

In Cathal Brugha Street, much of the questioning revolved around the numbers of hours students had to spend in class during the day, with the point being made that courses in universities generally did not require such heavy attendance. "They were very interested everything," said Patricia Moran, Site Deputy President in Cathal Brugha Street Students' Union.

Alison Flanagan, Site President in Bolton Street Students' Union, said that the review team were very receptive to what the students had to say and that the main topic of interest for the students who attended the session was the prospect of DIT getting its own degree awarding powers. The overall impression was that the review team was genuinely interested in what students and student representatives had to say.

Mr Byrne said that official feedback from the week-long review had been positive.

"Going out on a limb, I'd say that it was pretty good, a couple of members that were quite happy. They were impressed with a lot of different aspects."



Making Music in College Green last weekend

Bach to the Beatles

Fortunately, the sun shone. Saturday began in disappointingly overcast fashion and none too promising but the weather improved as the day went on and the music didn't stop for 12 hours.

The marathon session, *A Celebration of music from Bach to the Beatles and Beyond* was organised by DIT Chatham Row, the College of Music and took place last Saturday at College Green. All the college's main ensemble groups, many soloists and smaller groups took part in this marathon fund raiser which hoped to generate up to £10,000. The money will go into the fund to be used to send the College's Concert Band to America later this year. The band will be performing in Yale University, Boston College, Rutgers University and Barnstable High School, Massachusetts. The trip will cost in total £43,000. To date, £16,000 has been raised.

As the title of the marathon session promised, the diversity of styles was impressive throughout the day, with Classical, Opera, Big Band and Pop all being performed with great skill, and enthusiasm by the college's various bands, to the delight of the many who paused to listen. As they played other members of DIT Chatham Row busied themselves collecting money from those who sat and listened and those who simply slowed down as they walked by.



Aungier Street Student Wins First Time Around

A Student from DIT Aungier Street was one of the winners in the Hewlett Packard/Irish Independent competition. Declan Moran, a business student, claims that this was the first competition he has entered. His prize is a multimedia computer with colour printer.

Pictured (L-R) are: Una Halligan, Public Affairs Manager, Hewlett Packard; Clara Lucey, prizewinner (DCU); Declan Moran, prizewinner (Aungier St); Carol McMenamin, Business Development Manager, Independent Newspapers and Orla Kelly, H.R. Specialist, Hewlett Packard

Club 100 Does It Again



The ever industrious people at Club 100 in DIT Mountjoy Square recently presented a cheque for the princely sum of £5,000 to representatives from the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre and The Friends of St Luke's Hospital. The presentation was attended by Mervyn Taylor TD, Minister for Equality and Law Reform.

Pictured (L-R) are: James Fegan (Club 100), Kate Uí Ghallachor (DIT Mountjoy Square), Eoghan Doherty (Friends of St Luke's) and Mervyn Taylor, TD, Minister for Equality and Law Reform.

The DIT Examiner

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Clarifications

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

HEA Seminar on Stress Highlights the Problems for Students

On Wednesday 17th April, the Higher Education Authority (HEA) hosted a seminar on "Addressing Stress to Enhance the Educational Experience at Third-Level". The areas discussed were Student Stress including Examination Stress, Students at Risk, Student Support Services, the first year experience and issues relating to mature, part-time, overseas students and students with disabilities.

The aim of the Seminar was to attempt to examine the issues involved in Student Stress and to raise awareness among academic and administrative staff, students and policy-makers. The HEA will produce a report from the seminar and this will be submitted to the Department of Education.

Stress is defined as a product that arises from an excess of environmental demand over the individuals' capacity to meet them. Stress factors include transition, employment, financial, relationship, alcohol/drugs or parental problems.

Academic issues tend to play the largest role in student stress, especially around exam time. It is evident that many students fall into a stressful condition due to the inadequacy of college academic support services, for example, overcrowding problems, badly stocked library facilities and the availability of computers and printers.

The inadequacies of the Irish Maintenance Grant System can lead to a financial strain on students. For those

who qualify for a grant, the payment is not adequate to live on and for those who don't qualify, the students must rely on parental support, a bank loan or a part-time job. Students living away from home tend to be worse off as they must pay for rent, heat, food, books and travel to name but a few. A student who does not have enough money for rent or to eat will be put under severe financial stress. Students who are ill and cannot afford to visit the doctor are putting their own health at risk. In DIT we are fortunate to have the Medical Centre facility where there is nurse on hand from 9am-6pm and a doctor during certain hours. Even though there is no cost to see the doctor, the more important expense is the medication to get better. This is an added financial burden on any student.

Stress is a common experience for many of us, but it is when stress is extreme that it becomes a problem. It can be controlled if you can switch off, let go and relax. Student stress is a factor of college life, when you can have academic, financial or relationship problems. The best way to control stress while in college is to always make time for yourself, read a book, do some exercise, meet friends and get involved in Clubs and Societies. Especially around exam time, remember to eat three meals a day (and not McDonalds each time), don't drink too much tea or coffee and avoid an excessive amount of alcohol. It is with a fully balanced diet and exercise that you can try to control stress.

The Exam Appeals Procedure

Each year, the DIT's Exam Appeals Board received on average, 10 appeals from students regarding exams results. They are usually concerned with an upgrading of a result but not always. Occasionally, there is a request to sit a supplemental exam if the usual supplemental options have been exhausted.

There is an appeal procedure that should be followed and it should be available from both the library and the exams office in each DIT site. This is not always the case and so we will here outline the procedure as clearly as is possible. This procedure is there to be used if you feel you have a genuine case.

Tom Duff, the DIT's Academic Registrar, has pointed out that the exam appeals board, which is independent of individual colleges, cannot change results but can pass onto the exams board information that may not have been available at the time of the exam. This may then result in the exam board reconvening to consider the student's case.

1. First step is to get an Examination Appeals Form (Form A1). This should be available from the Administrative Section of the relevant college.

2. This form must be completed in block letters or typescript and lodged with the relevant director within two weeks of the publication of the Provisional Examination Results and accompanied by the appropriate fee (£37). The relevant director must then sign and date the appeal and he will then forward it to the Academic Registrar (Tom Duff). It must be accompanied by:

A.. Information as to whether

(i) the appellant [student making the appeal] has made efforts to resolve, through the relevant Head of School/Department the difficulty which has given rise to the appeal

(ii) a recheck has been requested and, if so, state the outcome if processed

(iii) the Examination Board has been made aware of any special circumstances, including medical, affecting the appellant's case prior to determination of results

(iv) the students in general and the prospective appellant in particular, have been informed of the appropriate course regulations

Other information which must accompany the appeal is

B. A written evaluation of the case from the relevant director, including comment on the allegations, if any, contained therein

C. Medical certificates relevant to the case

D. The appellant's academic record in previous years and a transcript of his/her current class group's examination results in respect of which the appeal is being sought

E. The process by which the appellant may continue his/her studies if the appeal is unsuccessful

F. Any other relevant information on the case.

Be sure to include any information that may be relevant, and if including any medical certificates, ensure that

you list their inclusion on the appeals form in the appropriate section of the form.

Section 10 of the form asks the appellant to 'please specify the change you seek in your result as a consequence of this appeal'. This section, according to Tom Duff, was introduced because there have been students who were requesting a further supplemental exam rather than an upgrading of a result. Don't be worried by the request. State honestly your feeling on the matter and why.

There is space provided on the appeals form (section 8) in which you may present your case in your own words. If you feel there is insufficient space provided on the form, you can continue on separate sheets of paper but make sure you include them with your appeal and indicate clearly their inclusion.

There is a facility for presenting your case to the board, either by yourself or with a willing lecturer/representative of the students' union. One of these could present the case for you or you can forego this option entirely. It will not prejudice your case.

Hopefully, you will not need recourse to this facility, but if you do, don't be afraid to make your case.

Reflections Of Rag Week

I look in the mirror and what do I see
A man that no longer resembles me
I stare at the reflection
And With closer inspection
I see a man who used to think
Now he devotes his life to drink

He talks to people thru bloodshot eyes
As everyone else gets on with their lives
He drinks in pubs and thinks he is cool
Barmen take his money and think he is a fool
This was a man who used to think
Some might say he should see a shrink

He thinks it cool to drink like a fish
Next day he can't hold down a tasty dish
This was a man who used to think
About where he would get his next drink
This was a man who always went on the piss
Never thought about the things he would miss
Not until it was too late
Maybe that was just his fate

by Ciarán O'Donnell

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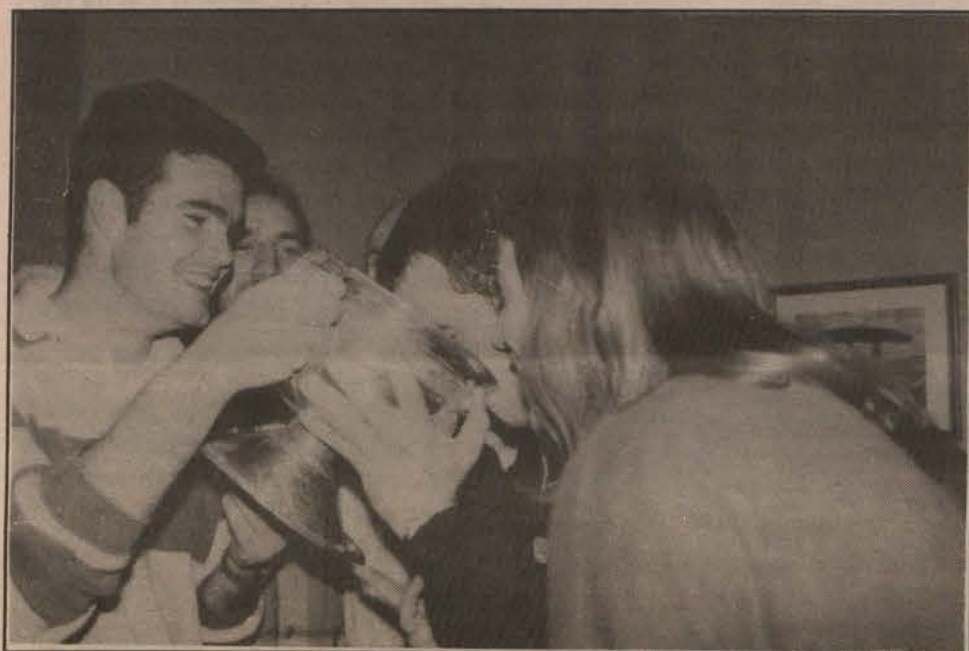
GAA Clubs

Reward Their Best

DIT's southside GAA clubs held a presentation ceremony in Gleeson's of Camden Street to recognise the best of this season's players. As with the similar Northside event held in February the winners were chosen by the players themselves and the event was sponsored by Heineken.

The winners were: Kevin Street: Footballer of the Year - Richard Kelly; Hurler of the Year - Keith Slevin; Woman Footballer of the Year - Mary Keirnan; Clubperson of the Year - J.J. Keany

Aungier Street: Footballer of the Year - Ronan McGrath; Hurler of the Year - Marc Wade; Club person of the Year - Peadar Moran



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DIT Plans Feast of Cluture

Plans for an intensive cultural week are well under way in DIT. The series of events will incorporate the institute's contribution to the European Year of Lifelong Living, the third phase of the Music Education National Debate MEND, sponsored by DIT and an exhibition encompassing the cultural and artistic aspects of the institute.

Thought the overall package has yet to be finalised and must be approved by the institute's Governing Body, Frank Heneghan, Director of Cultural Affairs in DIT, believes that together the various sections will amount to "a fairly substantial cultural event".

The idea for an exhibition of the institute's contribution to visual art was

first mooted in Mountjoy Square last year and has been expanded to include in scope a wider variety of subjects.

"We have gone out and tried to track the whole institute and present an exhibition of not just the visual arts but any kind of artefact or craft piece which is in any sense tangible - the design for a car, an architectural design, something which can be related in the mind to technology but also have some connection into the area of human imagination, areas we rightly describe as art."

The exhibition has been costed at around £40,000, though Mr Heneghan believes that this can perhaps be reduced a little. It is hoped that the money will come from the cultural affairs budget and the individual DIT

sites. He feels that the catalogue which such an exhibition would need could be used as an effective tool in the promotion of the institute in general and would therefore represent a wise investment.

Married to this exhibition will be the third phase of MEND and the best of a series of photographs taken over a particular day in September, which will represent DIT's contribution to the Year of Lifelong Learning. Any photograph giving the a visual image of Dublin as a city of lifelong learning will be acceptable and the best material from the day will be used in the exhibition.

Also involved in the DIT's response to the Year of Lifelong Learning will be a series of lectures in the form of interactive half day seminars on the topic of lifelong learning.

So far two topics have been identified for discussion, though Mr Heneghan says there may well be more by the time the seminars are organised.

"One is the impact of information technology and how that can be used in the promotion of lifelong learning and the other one is the relationship between the institutes of education and the community it serves, how institutes can expand their areas of operation to absorb community concerns and serve the community better. That lecture course will be going ahead in Autumn."

Also associated with the Year of Lifelong Learning is a proposed series of research projects. There will be a major project leading to a higher post

graduate qualification for the person chosen, as well as a series of smaller projects which will be open to students and staff of the institute. It is envisaged that the major project will be open to candidates from outside the DIT. Again, these plans have yet to be approved by Governing Body.

The final element in the week of culture will be the third and final phase of the MEND debate which will comprise an interaction between an international group and the most distinguished Irish contributors from the earlier phases.

"The debate is DIT taking its own problem, throwing it into the national pool and saying because DIT has a problem, because DIT represents approximately 30% of total institutional music education, it's a national problem. DIT sponsors the debate but the debate will look at the national scene in education. The recommendations will be fed back into DIT's whole dilemma and DIT will reorientate itself and try to serve music education in the best way it sees fit"

Again, a definitive list of issues to be discussed has not yet been drawn up but the debate will include such topics as an assessment of music education, teacher training and the separation of the concepts of professional and amateur in music - "the idea of how education is going to take the two types of people, the general pool and the specialist pool".

At the end of the week of debate there will be a gala concert in the National Concert Hall.



Orla Boylan, a student with DIT Chatham Row, is about to make her Broadway debut marking yet another high point in the seemingly inexorable rise of this talented soprano.

Last year she won the Veronica Dunne Bursary and recently she became the first Irish student to win a major award in very prestigious ASLICO (Italian Opera and Concert Association) Annual Young European Community Opera Singers' Competition. Orla was the only soprano, one of only two women and the only non-Italian to win. Her prize will take the form of two five month periods in La Scala, Milan over the next two years.

The route to the final of the competition was not an easy one. Pre-selection auditions were held in Covent Garden and from there Orla progressed to the first round, in which there were 64 singers. In the semi-final there were 30 other competitors, half of them sopranos. In the final, she was up against 16 singers, seven of them sopranos. She was one of seven winners.

Frank Heneghan, DIT's Director of Cultural Affairs said that the institute was very proud of Orla's achievements.

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And Now, the End is Near

As has become usual in DIT recently, it's been a busy year. A strike, a mass student demonstration, a sit in, a referendum, two current DITSU officers elected to the executive of USI, the Union of Students in Ireland and the first ever institute-wide rag week, with the ball being held in The Point Depot. Not bad for eight months.

One must continue to wonder at the DIT's capacity for self-delusion. In the face of repeated protests, so often in the recent past the only language that is heard, many of them continue to do as little as possible to redress the many grievances deeply felt by students. So it was again at the beginning of this academic year. No sooner had they returned than they were out again; this time it was the long suffering students in DIT Chatham Row who spend long days working and practising in a building that looks marginally older than Newgrange. On a rainy day in October, they set up in the street and protested noisily for many hours, causing enough disruption and displaying enough determination to get the attention of those with the power to do something about the deplorable state of affairs in DIT Chatham Row. The protest also highlighted once again the student solidarity within the DIT with representatives from the other sites more than happy to join in and shout out.

Meanwhile, up in the Durkin Building, students from DIT Cathal Brugha Street were just the teensiest bit fed up with the ongoing lack of a canteen and any sort of decent common room. Once again, it seemed as if someone had decided that the best policy was to do absolutely nothing and let them eat cake. The problem was that the students didn't have anywhere to enjoy any sort of baked confectionery. Representations were made from the students themselves and the students union, wonder of wonders, the Durkin Building now has a canteen facility and a half decent common room. Now, ask yourselves, how much work did it actually take once someone was cattle prodded into action? Not a

Cork, Galway and Belfast and a spot of hat-eating by your correspondent, who had been somewhat sceptical about the Dublin event. The abolition of undergraduate fees has been achieved but there are many other equally pressing issues which have to be addressed. And the students of Ireland are still angry enough to get out and make themselves heard. The marchers, well behaved and exceptionally noisy, made a point of letting the fine types in Trinity College exactly what they were missing by sitting down outside the college and jeering. For DITSU, another high point came in the time honoured form of an occupation. The offices of Democratic Left on Abbey Street were the chosen target and the end result was a speedily arranged meeting with party leader and Minister for Social Welfare Proinsias de Rossa.

A survey carried out by USI showed that, contrary to popular belief, the vast majority of students are not dining on caviar and magnums of champagne. According to the survey, half of them are working part-time, one third never eat breakfast and one third could not afford to visit a doctor last year. Another survey, carried out by the DIT Examiner, indicated that two thirds of DIT students would be voting in favour of removing the ban on divorce in the November referendum. It was a fair reflection of the general vote in Dublin but far from resembling the picture in the country as a whole.

Onto December and the DITSU referendum. There were 12 motions to be voted upon and all were passed by overwhelming majorities, including that which proposed the abolition of the position of Women's Rights Officer. It was a referendum on the same issue last year which resulted in huge problems for DITSU. This time all went smoothly though it is very



November 15th, 1995. The way they were

to the joyous sight of furniture in their common room. They would have been forgiven for believing they had mistakenly wandered into the wrong building. Over in DIT Kevin Street, the foot dragging over the serious issue of campus security was finally, belatedly addressed with the installation of security cameras and the introduction of the campus watch scheme. The new measures certainly won't completely stamp out crime in Kevin Street but they will hopefully curtail the incidence of theft.

DIT rag week began to look like a reality, though it was known that not everyone was in favour, with the most serious rumblings of discontent coming from DIT Aungier Street.

It was seen as a risky venture, nowhere more so than in relation to the proposed DIT rag ball, which was to take place in the Point Depot. The mid-February week itself was frantic and occasionally scrappy but the Rag Ball was more successful than many thought, with more than 6,000 students descending on the Point, and the general consensus was that the experimental rag week was a success. Improvements can be made, of course, but they're for next year.

March is the time of elections and USI annual congress. Colin Joyce was elected Overall President while the person he succeeds, Colman Byrne, was subsequently elected as President of USI at Congress, which was held in Galway. DIT Kevin Street's Helen Ryan was elected as Welfare Officer. Congress was a bad tempered affair, with many dissatisfactions being voiced and Colman Byrne being left in no doubt as to the difficulties that lie ahead. Also in March was DIT's second institute-wide sports day. A month earlier and more hastily organised than last year's triumphant affair, it proved disappointing in terms of weather, participation and spectators but at least lessons can be learned. The number of participants came to no more than a few hundred committed people, the spectators were few and far between, due in no small part to the foul weather conditions and the big wigs were conspicuous only by their absence. Either they largely didn't bother to support the event or they were safely tucked away in the warmth of the VIP area.

Over in Kevin Street they began to take the issue of safety very seriously indeed, organised a very polite fire drill during which everyone was evacuated with the minimum of fuss; everyone, that is except for those staff and students in the old building, anyone in the swimming pool and the few hardy asbestos clad individuals in the new building who stayed put for the hell of it.

And so to the exams, in which most of you are currently embroiled, some more embroiled than others. At this point, everything shuts down, though over the summer, work will continue on the extension to DIT Cathal Brugha Street. It is due for completion this coming September. Don't hold your breath.

Construction is due to commence on phase two of the Aungier Street project. Once again, don't bother inhaling and holding on. It'll be a while yet.



Beginning the year with a bang, and other assorted sounds in Chatham Row

great deal. Not much at all.

November's student highlight was the week of action, which culminated in simultaneous marches in Dublin,

doubtful that we have heard the last of the contentious WRO debate.

After the Christmas break, the students in the Durkin Building returned

A Picture Profile of '96



Growing Pains for DIT

DIT has reached a crucial point in its development as a unified institution. The changes that could be implemented have been but unless a large Northside site is acquired, the more ambitious plans could be set back by years.

In May 1996, the DIT is at something of a standstill in terms of large scale development. Yes, the extension to Cathal Brugha Street is coming along nicely and phase two of the Aungier Street development, for which funds have already been set aside, is at an advanced planning stage. But until DIT acquires a substantial site in the city there can be only limited physical development of the faculty structure, the deficiencies in the institutions sports facilities will remain and there can be no development of student campus accommodation.

In the DIT's recently published Quality Assurance Review, (Self Evaluation Study) reference is made to an "extensive hospital site in the North Inner City", widely believed to be the Grange Gorman site, which would suit the institute's physical development needs but Dr Brendan Goldsmith is reluctant to reveal much about the subject.

"There are still a lot of difficulties on that site and I certainly wouldn't like to refer to it by name. There are delicate negotiations shall we say and its by no means a certainty. I wouldn't like to give anyone the impression that we can definitely pull it off. I am slightly optimistic that we can get something out of it but it would be rash at this stage to suggest that yes, this is going to happen."

Certainly the acquisition of the site would pave the way for the ambitious physical development plans he has in mind for the institute. He is keen to develop the perception of a unified DIT and while the sites remain as scattered as they are at present, this development can only occur at a piecemeal rate, if at all. Put simply, the acquisition of a substantial new site is vital for the planned future of the DIT.

"Well, for example, we're going to have to find a headquarters. We can't stay here [Pembroke Street] indefinitely but that's much less important than the fact that we can't make development. We're about to launch into a faculty structure in September and for realistic development we'd probably need to move at least one faculty up to a new site to allow development elsewhere." This of course cannot yet happen; while Dr Goldsmith says there is the possibility of small scale movement of individual sections, there is not the possibility of a wide spread move. For the time being the physical development of the faculty structure is on hold.

Nonetheless, the loose federation of sites in the DIT is coming together and eventually it is envisaged that there will be two extensive campuses, one on either side of the Liffey.

"It makes sense to go for the north-

side and southside twin campus approach. It seems the only sensible long term approach to me."

He admits the current situation is a source of frustration but warns that even if the northside site is acquired, there will be still be significant obstacles for the DIT in terms of doing something with it.

"Even if we acquire this additional facility, it would only be acquired in a phased way or at least only developed in a phased way. Acquiring the site is one thing, finding the money to put buildings on it is another. Nonetheless the actual acquisition is absolutely vital."

Dr Goldsmith sees the Kevin Street and Aungier Street sites as representing the Southside aspect of the planned twin campus arrangement and is keen to develop the links between the two. This has led to rumours of a planned common restaurant facility to be located in Aungier Street which after all is nowhere near completion.

"We certainly want to see development in phase two of Aungier Street that consolidates it as a single campus. So I would like to see a common restaurant facility and a common library facility. That doesn't necessarily mean that all the other pieces will have to be closed down because it is not clear we'd have enough space for just one restaurant. But it is absolutely clear in my own mind that there can be no question of this being ghettoised, of this front piece of it really being Rathmines and the back really COMAD and Kevin Street. It can be only one campus."

In the longer term, it is hoped that there will be some sort of physical link between these two southside sites; Dr Goldsmith suggested that a tunnel might be a possibility.

"In the long term of course it makes sense to have some joining up."

Talk of common libraries tends to make people suspicious. Whatever the quality of the current library facilities, the idea of having to track over to another DIT site in order to get a book is not an appealing one and would undoubtedly be deeply resented by students. In the Scott Tallon Walker report on the Physical Development Plan for the DIT there is mention of central library, which would presumably be located in the northside campus of the future. Dr Goldsmith does not want people to think that in future library facilities will be so centralised as to make study more of a chore than it is at present.

"I have heard people talking about this and I think they misunderstand. I think each campus has to have a major library facility. This will be more than a library in the traditional sense, we're

looking for a real information service centre. It's important that you have that but equally it makes no sense to tell a person that they have to trot miles to get somewhere."

The other significant hold up for the DIT at present is the lack of degree awarding powers. Last Christmas Dr Goldsmith told The DIT Examiner that they would be in place by the end of this academic year. He believes that this is still the case.

"The state of play is that the Minister set up a group under the HEA and they asked us to do a self evaluation exercise which we have done and that has been sent." Last week the group visited head office to see how the self evaluation lives up to the reality. A report will be drafted and this has been promised for the end of May.

"We're still on course and I see no reason not to say we should be looking forward to it by the beginning of next year." It is notable that he is being less than certain about this. He is not a man to leap without looking and generally chooses his words carefully but he speaks here like one who has become used to delay on the issue. To be fair, any reticence he might have is understandable given that way back in July 1992, the then Minister for Education, Seamus Brennan said the following: "The Dublin Institute of technology will be given degree awarding powers and my target, subject to discussions, would be that within 12 months we might be able to arrive at that position." Even then the language was less than convincing.

The ability to award its own degrees is vital for the DIT because, like it or not, it will be seen as second best to the university sector until it has this power. Such is the cachet of the power. The perception of the institute remains that of poor relation and DIT is working hard to change this. For example, it is planned that the title of Professor will be introduced on a phased basis in the near future, according to the Quality Assurance Review (Self Evaluation Study). There will be a number of different candidates: holders of senior academic posts will 'normally have the title professor', while individual academic staff may be granted the title professor in recognition of academic distinction. Further the title 'visiting professor' will be considered for senior external personnel who have agreed to have formal links with DIT either for short periods or on a longer basis. Unless the whole business is handled with great care, there will most likely be ructions.



Dr Brendan Goldsmith, President of DIT

"That's an issue that has to be resolved. The question of introducing the title of professor will undoubtedly come in time and there will have to be an agreed mechanism for doing it. Many institutions have gone through this, usually there is some sort of committee involved and that committee will normally have external membership and we would certainly see that has appropriate. We don't want to devalue the whole process. It's a difficult process and one that will happen in time, but there are problems with it, with industrial relations and frankly, with salaries and these are all at present outside our control, we don't have any real input into what happens."

One area where DIT has input and badly needs to take some action is in the area of night courses. Numbers have fallen off dramatically in recent years and will continue to fall unless some measures are taken. The competition is fierce in this lucrative area which for a long time has been an important part of the institute's brief.

"We have taken some action. There'll be a different type of ad campaign this time and a different approach to the booklets. Another issue seems to be that some of our campuses are not terribly student friendly in the evenings, we're trying to address that as well. And there are issues that are beyond our control, the difficulty in parking in the city in the evening may be a factor. Another issue is that the whole nature of part time education is changing and one of the issues we have to face up to, and we are, is the whole question of making the thing easier, more modularised." He reckons there will be an increased demand for shorter courses, "bite sized pieces if you know what I mean."

The cost of the night time courses has increased and this must have had an effect but he believes they are still relatively cheap.

DIT goes into the summer with a huge amount to do in terms of actual physical work. The lack of the much needed facility is going to hinder that work a great deal and even when (or if) the site is acquired, the work will just be beginning. The cost of developing it will be enormous. Brendan Goldsmith has his work cut out for him over the next couple of years.

The Culture of Dependency

Dermot Blake, welfare officer in DIT Kevin Street Students' Union outlines some of the categories of drugs floating about, the effects that can have on the user and where to go for help if you think you need it.

When reading about the different categories of drugs that are misused one must remember that in each category there are drugs of varying degrees of strength, effect and danger to the user.

1) Sedatives (Depressants)

Some examples of sedatives are : Alcohol, sleeping pills, tranquillisers and anti-depressants.

Effects on the taker and related problems.

They have a tendency to give a feeling of relaxation but we all know that this may not be true, as in the case of a person who has consumed alcohol and can often become very agitated. A problem with this form of drug abuse is their availability and in the past many people have become dependant on sedatives that were on prescription from their own G.P. We also see in the newspapers time and time again articles on underage drinking which at times can lead to problems in later life. When the tablet form of a sedative is combined with alcohol there is a risk of overdose. The user can also become dependant with regular use.

2) Stimulants

Some examples of Stimulants are : Nicotine, weight reducing pills, amphetamines (speed) and cocaine.

Effects on the taker and related problems.

Stimulants in a way are the opposite to sedatives, in the respect that they have the effect of increasing mental activity rather than the relaxing effect of sedatives. This form of drug when taken can give a feeling of confidence and superiority that the person may not have without the drug. Abusers can experience problems such as anxiety, panic attacks, depression, fatigue, dependence and overdose. A problem related to some stimulants is that the effect can often depend on the mood the person taking the drug is in at that time.

3) Hallucinogens.

Some examples of Hallucinogens are : L.S.D.,

inhalants/solvents (often referred to as the poor person's drug), magic mushrooms. Ecstasy would be classed as a hallucinogenic amphetamine.

Effects on the taker and related problems.

The hallucinogen may distort reality. In turn this could cause problems if it is taken in a dangerous area such as a city centre where there would be a lot of traffic. The hallucinogen can cause paranoia, confusion of time/distance and disturbance of reality. Most of the drugs in this class, (excluding magic mushrooms and solvents) are manufactured in back-street laboratories by amateur chemists which can lead to obvious problems. Also, if these people develop a new form of drug they can often try them on the most innocent of their customers

A flashback which is a reoccurrence of your "trip" can occur a few months later or possibly years later and can also become dangerous if you are in control of a car or a piece of heavy machinery at the time of the flashback. It is extremely important to note that even one experiment with solvents may be fatal and has been proven as such. Solvents are also the most widely available and cheapest of all drugs which can be abused. They can be found in any household. Examples include Butane, aerosols, paints, deodorants, petrol and the old favourite glue.

4) Opiates or Narcotics

Some examples of opiates are Morphine, Heroin, Phyllophyl, Opium, Codeine, Diconal, Palfium, Pethidine, Omnipon and Distalgesics.

Effects on the taker and related problems.

This type of drug is widely used in the medical field for its pain relieving qualities. They all originate from the poppy plant. There are varying forms and strengths of this class of drug, as can be seen from the names given above. Dangers associated with Opiate abuse are the risk that is taken when sharing needles with other drug abusers, that may be carrying a number of viruses including the H.I.V. virus. Continued use of Heroin

bring about a deterioration of all standards of behaviour. The risk of overdose and death is always high. Another thing that must be remembered whose opiates are concerned is the fact that they are highly addictive. Opium is also a form of an opiate that may be smoked through a long stemmed pipe, recently heroin and morphine have become more popular among the abusers.

N.B.

There are a number of stages that are set out for people that have a problem with drug abuse such as the experimental stage. When a person goes beyond the experimental stages, then the problem begins to develop and one may need help. So if anyone feels that they have a problem or even a query, no matter how big or small they consider it, advice is available in the Students' Union.

The Demon Drink

We are all old enough to realise that drink can become a serious problem if we are not careful how to deal with it. Ireland as you know has a strong pub culture and as some students are often staying away from home for the first time, they can easily get carried away at times (literally). A drink is great don't get me wrong, but during college life, it is often the place where a problem with alcohol can show its face for the first time. So take a drink but don't become dependent and kill all your brain cells - you need them for studying.

Phone Numbers

National Drug Advisory & Treatment Centre
723355/748412
Coolmine Therapeutic Community 8384545

Official DIT Merchandise Now Available



White tee shirts: £5.50
Navy tee shirts: £6.50



White/navy polo shirts: £8.00



Navy sweat shirts: £9.00

Available from your students' union shops

Mad About the House

At DIY I have a tendency to DIE. My lack of expertise in this most manly of pursuits has been reinforced several times recently, and on each occasion with significant levels of pain, since I moved into a new flat. It's not as if I don't know that I am useless at nailing, sticking, paring and hanging (I was going to include screwing but I won't) as my novel all thumbs approach has led to disappointment in the past, many many times.

Take my inter cert. I was a diligent, bookish type of 15-year-old, content enough to wear the school uniform once I could drag the tie into a suitably rakish position and wear docs with everything. English and History appealed to me greatly whereas subjects involving numbers frequently reduced me to tears and woodwork invariably left me wondering how much pain I'd feel if I decided to end it all with a skinny chisel - I'm sure it had a technical name but I couldn't remember it now if you threatened me with one. Anyway, the inter cert went well, very well in fact, though its numbing irrelevance all these years later makes me wonder why I bothered. Running, nay skipping, from the school with my little piece of parchment all a flutter, I made my way home across the school's sports field, the brightness of the day and my mood only slightly tainted by the glaring, angry E beside Woodwork. Not that I cared because I'd never have to lift a mallet again. I'd felt somewhat different dur-

ing the practical exam, it must be admitted. Actually, I'd felt very queasy indeed as I glanced around at my classmates who were managing successfully to make a square shaped piece using a series of different joints. Mortice and Tenon, dovetail and many others (technical terms don't you know). Mine, however, only fitted together if it was a three piece exercise with one exceptionally long side. And as for the piece of dowel (that's roundy wood) that should have fitted snugly across the middle of the piece was in my case placed gingerly on the top, from where it regularly rolled off.

I was pretty sure that I had made a fairly hideous mess of the whole thing but with the safety net of the technical side of the exam - where does one find wood? Draw a tree and the likes - I felt equally sure that I could scrape a D. Imagine my surprise.

Still, I was not deterred, not even the sad coincidence that the only teacher I met on that fateful day was the little man who had taught me, or tried very hard, woodwork. "How'd you get on?" he shouted with greatly misplaced confidence.

"E is the most commonly used letter in the alphabet," I shot back cryptically before running away.

I made one more attempt as a teenager to prove myself the handiest of handymen, endeavouring one fine afternoon to paint the garden seat, a procedure which very soon was taking much more time than I was prepared to

give it. It was also a messy business.

Having succeeded in getting some paint on the chair and a great deal more on my arms, hair and teeth and taunted by the happy cries of friends playing football nearby, I decided to eschew the time-honoured brush and paint approach. Instead, I lifted the tin of paint and began to carefully pour it over the chair. I was pretty sure it would work and indeed it was going rather well until the dog wandered into the equation and ruined everything. From that day I have been barred from the garage, prohibited from having anything to do with carpentry and freed from all decorating duties. Occasionally I am allowed to hang balloons at Christmas.

I was determined to recapture that sense of rugged manliness that comes from DIY activities and since I moved into my own place have taken to wandering about with some nails in my mouth looking at the proposed location for a shelf and then sucking air through my teeth whilst shaking my head slowly. I have been taken to hospital five times as a direct result of this behaviour.

However, I refuse to give up and later this week will grout the tiles in the shower. I have asked my flatmate, who has been a model of patience throughout my DIY frenzy - what this involves. She told me that it involves bringing the electric heater into the shower and, when both bars are burning brightly, turning on the water. Can't wait.

The Ornery Way to Travel

Marcus Kelly, intrepid traveller, successor to Hannibal, Phileas Fogg and Amerigo Vespucci and a man who seems to know a little too much about leather pants braves the bus and tells it like it is.

Hannibal. Now there was a man. Two centuries before the birth of Christ he sat on an elephant's back, left the blazing plains of Spain behind him, traipsed across the Pyrenees, across the South of France, over the Alps and down the leg of Italy. When he finally dismounted somewhere in Southern Italy he wouldn't have stopped a pig in a passageway so bow-legged was he. He cared not. He had stoically endured all that which would leave others shuddering like a cheap washing machine. But alas, he can never be granted the full title of "seasoned traveller", for though his little ramble across Europe on elephant back was indeed a trifle testing, he never suffered that one true test, that which is both the maker of seasoned travellers and of babbling physical wrecks - travelling Bus Eireann.

I wouldn't mind but it looks so bloody easy on telly. In the old ad, a gleaming superbuss laden with beaming faces glides through picturesque landscape somewhere in Televisionland. Back at the farmstead a smiling red setter pricks his ears and dashes down a rustic lane on hearing the familiar hum and hiss of the approaching bus. The bus comes to a smooth halt right at the gate (and not a yard behind) just as Rover - the smiling-red-setter reaches the gate with paws outstretched. John-Boy Walton alights and the bus departs without Rover so much as thinking of cocking his leg to the rear wheel. In their latest advertisement we are met with still further flawless images of travel. Why there is even a dainty lady with whom one could exchange glances in the mirror. Hannibal would undoubtedly scoff contemptuously at the seeming cake-walk easiness of it all, but all is not

what it seems. In reality when you travel with Bus Eireann you must be ready to face a myriad of tribulations. Before you get on the beasts at all, you must have your stratagem tuned sweet as a Stradavarius.

You see, it can all look a little too damn good when you're standing fourth in the queue in Busáras on a Friday evening. Everyone is reasonably civilised looking and you assume by their formation that they are familiar with the concept of queuing. Feeling falsely safe in this assumption you blink, and in that brief interim of oblivion a bus appears and half of the queue flash by in a hail of anarchy. When you get to the back of the bus there remains a void the size of a billiard ball into which you must squeeze two weeks washing and a lever arch file. When you finally set foot on the bus, having hustled, hassled, scraped, spat and farted your way there, you think as you gasp for breath and leak sweat that surely the worst is over. Au Contraire, for now you must face an infernal being, a minion of Satan himself: the Driver. The driver is invariably small, a would be Napoleon with ashen fingers, soiled teeth, a smoker's cough and two holes for eyes who snorts caustic quips with hiccup-like abruptness and resolute consistency, sometimes called Peter (if anyone should know of an exception the ring Guinness not me). If it pleases him you will pass.

Having humoured the sullen one, you shuffle sideways down the aisle thinking that now at last it must be plain sailing. Don't believe it for a second or complacency will be the rock on which you will surely perish. Seat selection warrants only the most meticulous and rigorous consideration. You must choose the side of the bus that is less

vulnerable to the potentially broiling rays of the sun or you will find yourself sizzling like a pig on a spit. Similarly, a seat over the heater vent is not a seat. It is a sweat box. If, before going to bed, you fancy peeling off your trousers as though they were a jumbo sized elastoplast and screaming profanities down at two bald legs then the sweat box is all yours. A window frame smack in the middle of your view is most irritating. It will have you jinking like a boxer at passing objects and dreaming of producing an angle-grinder from beneath your seat to horse the bloody thing out of it. Once all these foreseen obstacles to comfort have been successfully evaded you sit down. This heralds an end to the foreseen and a beginning to the horrifying unforeseen. Now you are truly in the lap of the Gods.

Popping "The Beatles" into your walkman you snuggle down for five and a half hours of an arse-callusing journey south and press PLAY. After ten utterly silent minutes you reluctantly face the reality that just maybe your batteries are dead. Either that or some iniquitous nymph has switched your Beatles tape for "The Greatest Hits of Marcel Marceau". Sadly, however, the latter is never the case for your batteries have been drained by a strange phenomenon known as "The Bus and Battery Phenomenon". You try desperately to look at the bright side of things by thanking God that the hooter isn't stuck (yes it has happened to me!) Still reeling from this latest blow you reach into your bag and try to gain some solace in a little snack and watch the last few stragglers board. Just as the engine shudders into life an unsuspecting pair of leather trousers sits into the sweat box and in an apathetic explosion of laugh-

ter you accidentally spit about nine barbecue flavoured Hula Hoops over a radius of approximately six feet. An elderly man turns to show his displeasure with a face that wouldn't look out of place in a thistle-sucking competition but then revenge is his for beside you sits a rather stout maiden with an equally stout handbag and a threatening potential to talk incessantly. Pressed against the window like a tinned pilchard you take refuge under your mute headphones. You try to look menacing and unsociable but she teases you out from under your headphones and you flounder helplessly in a torrent of small talk. You could almost wish for a hooter to stick, for a long monotonous whine would for a long come as a welcome relief. Even the sweat box and bald legs would be an acceptable alternative. By the time you reach "Borris-in-Arsehole" in Co. Offaly (my healthy dislike for Borris-in-Ossary gave birth to this rather crude pseudonym) for your comfort stop your ears are blistered and your spirit weak. You have heard about everything from her husband's prostate problems to her grandchildren's pet squirrel called Terence who won't drink milk but loves Mild Green Fairy Liquid.

When you eventually get home you are in a foul mood. Your tongue is sharp, your arse numb, your ears melting from five and a half hours of "This is My Life" and your legs forever bent at the knee (Peter didn't help be merely slowing down to about 20mph when dropping you off at the gates). But, like Hannibal after his more harmless little trek across Europe, you care not. You will rally swiftly for you have yet again crossed the great divide. You truly are a seasoned dweller.

by Marcus Kelly

DIT Students Go MAD in Galway

With entries from four of the DIT sites and most of the country's RTCs, the 1996 Music and Drama Festival (MAD) got under way on Saturday, April 30th in the heartland of Michael D's cultural haven for alternative artistic types and "Wanna Bes".

Galway City was a buzz in its usual laid-back manner until Friday evening when DIT hit town. Mountjoy Square finally made it on Saturday morning, their annual dress dance having kept them up all night: such is the stamina of winners. Was it a sign of things to come?

In the Drama section, on behalf of DIT Aungier Street, equipped with their promotional literature (which in its very attractive, colourful manner served some purpose, I'm sure) took the stage and did their college proud. Indeed their sheer confidence was quite plain through the weekend right up until the awards' ceremony. DIT Kevin Street as usual put up a good show with good individual performances all round.

Cathal Brugha Street? Well what can be said about their performance? Effort, energy, sweat and tears and tears and tears! Well done to the gang!

The last of the DITs to perform was last year's overall winners, the Mountjoy

Maestros, who once again wrote their own production from scratch, the type of play which in the past has earned them so much credit at MAD festivals. Performing to a reasonably small audience they still managed to bring down the house with great efforts from newcomers such as Niamh Nolan and older heads such as David Grogan Wyatt whose talents blended very well together.

In the music/bands competition, it was Aungier Street who held the candle of hope for DIT after their impressive exhibition on Saturday Night under the baton of the one and only Desmond Grogan.

Sunday Morning came, and went, and in the early afternoon the presentation ceremony began in Foxes' pub on Eyre Square. Aungier Street took up a prime position, in anticipation of prizes perhaps. Firstly, the bands got their prizes and indeed it was Des's babies who scooped the premier award as a tight haired gentleman declared loudly from the crowd that "I am their manager". And so he is!

Then it was the turn of the drama awards with what can only be described as a small little man from the Punchbag Theatre stood on a stool to give his

overall analysis. What a surprise, DIT wiped the floor, once again. To begin with, Kevin Street were highly commended for best female performance. They were followed by Aungier Street who picked up a director's award with their answer to Jim Carrey, Mark O'Gorman (ex Mountjoy Sq. student) picking up their award in modest fashion, wrapping his hands around the overall prize. Presumptions?

The Cathal Brugha Street posse, who obviously tugged the heart strings of the small little man from the Punchbag Theatre, were granted a special prize for their exceptional effort.

And what can be said about the Mighty Mountjoy? Firstly, they received a very special trophy for Director Alex McLellan's sterling co-ordination of such a large cast (20). Then came the announcement of the award everyone had been hanging on for, the overall MAD Drama Trophy. For the second year running, the entry with the largest cast and an original production scooped the treasured shield. Well done to all from Mountjoy!

All who attended the MAD festival would like to express their thanks to Ms Hanley and all in Galway RTC for hosting the event.

by Pdraig Staunton

Action Where it Counts

On behalf of the Social Action Group of Kevin Street and Aungier St we would like to bring to your attention our activities during the year.

A biweekly visit to primary schools, (Whitefriar St and Francis St) was our most frequent activity where we engaged in helping children with their homework, a two-way process beneficial to both parties. Only two percent or so of these children reach third level education - college is not an integral part of these children's lives. Through their activities with us they are given an insight into college life and its advantages.

In December an old folks party was organised for local OAPs. Invitations were in great demand due to the success of previous years. A three course Christmas dinner was served in a seasonally decorated Gleeson Hall, followed by a few fox-trots as the band played on...

On March 25th the swimming pool was brimful with energetic children who then ventured forth to the canteen where they were treated to cuisine à la Kevin St. An invigorating afternoon was had by all!

Finally, the group itself was treated to a formidable feast and some well appreciated drink in the Chicago Pizza Pie factory. The group would like to thank the staff and chaplaincy of Kevin St in particular Sr. Margaret Buckley, who put in a tremendous effort.

New members are always welcome and very much needed. See ya next year!

Michelle Lunden and Cathy Silke

THE IRISH TIMES

DITSU Simplex

CROSSWORD

Competition

PRIZE: First 3 correct entries drawn will each receive a £20 gift voucher for DITSU Students Union Shop.

RULES: Only open to members of the DIT colleges. Employees of DITSU and THE IRISH TIMES are not eligible to enter. No Photocopies - Entries close: Fri. 17th May.

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

NAME _____

COLLEGE _____

YEAR _____

COURSE _____

STUDENT NO. _____

THE IRISH TIMES

STUDENT PRICE
55p

THE IRISH TIMES
FOR THE TIMES WE LIVE IN

Last Issue's winners were:

Catherine Silke

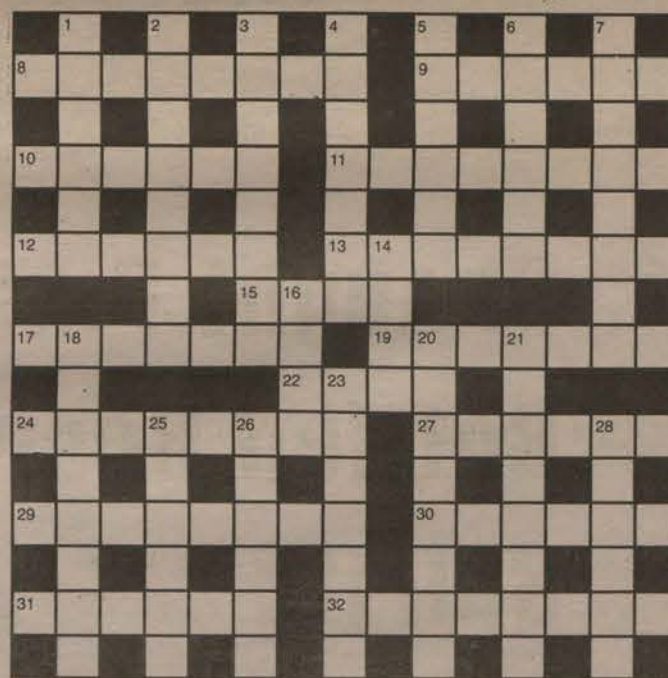
(DIT Kevin St.)

Anne-Marie Masterston

(DIT Kevin Sq.)

Brian Horgan

(DIT Cathal Brugha St.)



ACROSS

- 8 'For peace comes...slow' (Yeats) (8)
- 9 Yea, won over by single traffic-flow (3-3)
- 10 Lasso, rope for catching horses (6)
- 11 No, nice it is not to smoke (8)
- 12 Large mounted gun (6)
- 13 Scatter wildly in small drops (8)
- 15 Impish enjoyment (4)
- 17 One who lives alone and avoids people (7)
- 19 Secret way of acting or doing something (7)
- 22 Fruit of the blackthorn (4)
- 24 Complete, not limited by anything (8)
- 27 Paltry, miserable (6)
- 29 Apparel, dress (8)
- 30 Tenth parts, once payable to church (6)
- 31 Sheep with very fine wool (6)
- 32.. Physical or mental disability (8)

DOWN

1. Fleet of armed ships (6)
2. No oil tap here, but it's up to yourself (8)
3. Items in a house such as built-in cupboards (8)
4. Worry unduly, struggle over a decision (7)
5. Association football (6)
6. The scientist went on (6)
7. Motot-cyclist's long glove. (8)
14. A Mexican dollar (4)
16. For fear that, in case (4)
18. Blamed me for having treated a dead body (8)
20. Trying to persuade to evil, enticing (8)
21. Slaughter-house (8)
23. Long, tiresomely so perhaps (7)
25. Get, gain (6)
26. In it, everyone is singing in the same pitch (6)
- 28 To make it up is to make up for lost time or ground (6)

COMPETITION NO. 8

Tips to Get You Through the Exams

Dos and donts for the last 7 days before exams - from the Counsellor

7

DO
• Revise subjects in reverse order - last exam first

• Practice answering past exam questions using Key Cards

• Take at least 20 minutes exercise in fresh air

DON'T

• Burn the midnight oil

6

DO

• Follow revision timetable carefully

• Take at least 20 minutes exercise in fresh air

• Take rest and relaxation

DON'T

• Panic about not having enough time - revise steadily

5

DO

• Work out how many hours are left

• Reallocate revision hours if necessary

• Take at least 20 minutes exercise in fresh air

• Practice answering past questions

DON'T

• Eat junk food - include fresh fruit and fish in your diet

• Think negatively

4

DO

• Revise actively by asking and answering questions

• Relaxation exercises and take some physical exercise

• Make list of what you'll need in exam hall

DON'T

• Allow gloomy talk by other students to induce panic

3

DO

• Revise first two subjects

• Summarise Key Card facts on 3 or 4 summary cards

• Take exercise in fresh air and get good night's sleep

2

DO

• Revise first subject examined

• Use summary cards but check against Key Cards

• Take exercise in fresh air

• Pack what you'll need for exam

• Take at least TWO hours off before bed.

• Enjoy yourself.

THE BIG DAY

• Eat a good breakfast, for instance, scrambled eggs, grilled bacon, toast and

fruit juice. Don't drink more than two cups of coffee or tea.

• Leave home with plenty of time to spare. Aim to arrive 30 minutes before the start of the exam.

• Avoid frantic last minute revision. Just read through summary cards to jog memory. But DON'T take these into exam room!

• Relax immediately prior to exam. Suck a glucose sweet or eat some raisins before exam.

• In the exam, read every question carefully. If stuck on a short answer question don't ponder - move straight to next question and leave time at the end to go back.

• Allocate time for EACH question. • •

• Allow 5 minutes for reading each question and 10 minutes for checking at the end.

• After the exam concentrate on relaxation and preparing for next exam.



National Students Centre

"The basic principle of the Union of Students in Ireland is the defence and promotion of the fundamental educational, political, social, cultural and welfare interests of Irish students."

The National Students Centre was established in 1993 with that in mind, so as to provide you with good quality, low cost entertainment facilities."

We read over our founding principle again recently and figured we needed to change some things. So from Thursday the 16th of November our new price list will be:-

Draught Pints £1.70

Bottled Beer £1.50

Spirits £1.65

Liqueurs £1.80

Soft Drinks 75p



It's your Club, use it !

**Remember every Thursday, Friday & Saturday
Music & Munchies till 1 • Beer till 12.30
MEMBERS FREE • GUESTS £2 AFTER 10.30**

A Good Year for GAA

DIT may have no sports grounds of its own but the enthusiasm and will to win is there in its various teams. Last year Josephine Rogers was appointed as DIT's GAA Officer, with responsibility for co-ordinating GAA sporting activities, encouraging new players and, as she said herself, getting women's teams off the ground. She has worked tirelessly throughout the year, with dedication, enthusiasm and determination and the achievement of the GAA clubs have been significant. Congratulations to all the teams, in all the sports and may they outdo themselves next year.

Handball: 1st time for a DIT club

Won Silver Ladies Singles All Ireland League

Won Silver Ladies Singles All Ireland Championship

Plus four others also qualified for above events

Ladies Football: 1st time for a DIT Club

Reached Leinster Semi Finals

Each College bar Aungier St developed a Ladies Team

Camogie: 1st time for a DIT Club

Brought home no silver ware but participated in all games

Hurling

Freshers reached All Ireland Quarter Finals U-21 team in the Dublin Championships for the first time

Seniors eventually beaten by UCC by four points. UCC went on to win the Fitzgibbon Cup.

Seniors participated in and reached Semi Finals of Queen's Northern Tournament

Football

Seniors reached Trench Final

Seniors reached League Final for first time, had never before even won a league game

Intermediates won All Ireland League Division Two

U-21 team in Dublin Championships, Second Round.