

2005

## The Compact, Issue 1, 3rd of October, 2005

DIT: Students' Union

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# the compact



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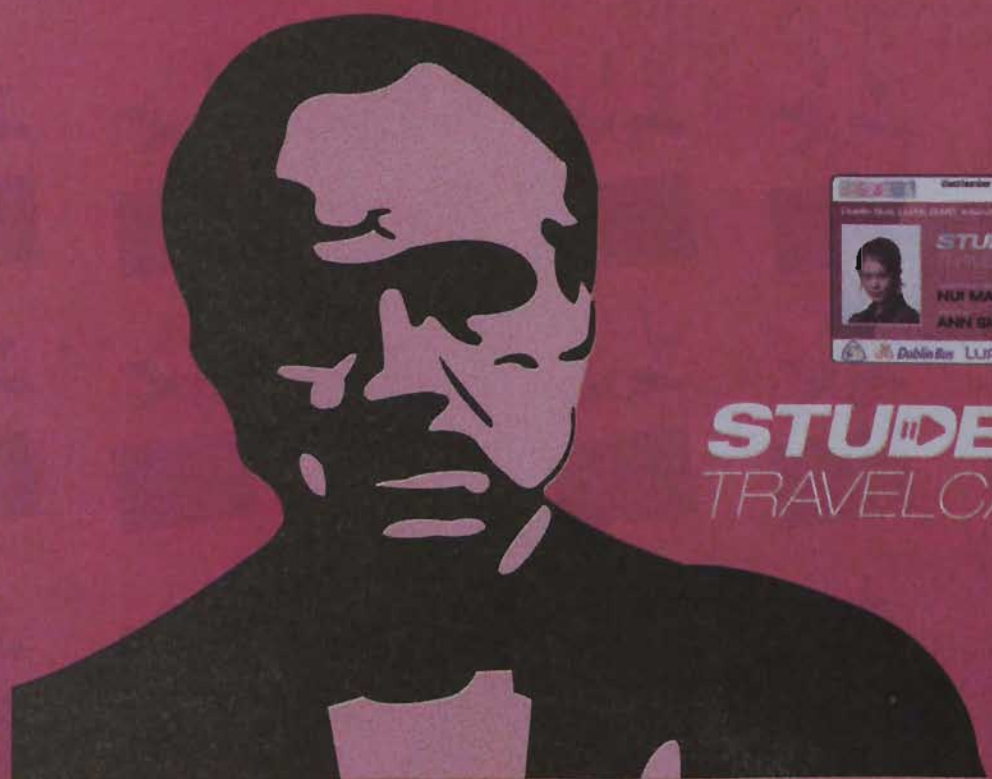
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## Editorial.

Hello everyone and welcome to the new Students' Union publication, The Compact.

A lot of hard work has been put into getting this magazine out on time for the Freshers Week so I hope you will all like the result which is on offer.

There is a diverse collection of the news, features and opinion pieces so there should be something for everyone here; there is Student Union/College news, Business, Technology, Sports, Fashion and Entertainment.

There are also a number of good interviews in this edition including a chat with Ben Rawlins, an Audio Technician, and Shigeto Wada, an Assistant Lecturer in Music Technology, who both work in the DIT on Rathmines Road about the production of music and where music is going. There are also interviews with Celtic-Pro Wrestling star 'The Celtic Tiger' Blake Norton and Chairperson of the Paintball Society, Peter Monaghan.

And please also check-out our special Vox-Pop and see why students in DIT feel that the 'Rip-Off Republic' tag fits.

The interactive side of the magazine will play a major part in the magazine's success during the academic year as I want it to be representative of the people who are going to read it; it's your magazine so if you have any suggestions about its contents or have a chip on your shoulder about something you can contact me personally or any member of the team here.

As the year progresses and the magazine develops I want the magazine to acquire a strong

team of writers and contributors from all the DIT's in the Dublin area and hopefully this magazine will serve as a vehicle for students to voice their opinions in a rational manner so their views and opinions can be taken seriously.

If a diverse group of students get involved in the magazine (those who do journalism and those who do not) it will be a success: there is no question about that and together we can tackle the real issues that affect students today.

So, if you are a journalism student or if you want advice about how to write or get involved in the magazine I want to hear from you. We have vacancies in news, fashion, sports, business, science and entertainment so please get in touch with me now! What are you waiting for?

I hope you enjoy the first edition and I look forward to the journey ahead.

**Cormac Cahill**  
Editor  
compact@ditsu.ie  
Tel: 087 660 1912.





## DITSU President's Welcome

Hello and welcome to DIT Students' Union in the academic year 2005 – 2006. I hope all the freshers are settling in ok, and are ready for freshers week '05, and that the rest of you are all settling back into your college life ok. Remember we in the students union are here to help in whatever way we can, so get in touch!

It is my driving ambition as President of the Students' Union this year to encourage and increase participation and involvement in college life across the board, be it in the social, sporting or aca-

ademic side of life. In my opinion, college life is 20% academic and 80% life! While it is important to strike a balance, the experience and knowledge to be gained from interaction with others, especially those from different backgrounds is immense, and I believe this is the key to becoming the ideal graduate. So get out and get involved in Clubs, societies, entertainments, the student union or whatever you can!

One major area we will be encouraging this year is that of class rep's. The class rep is the cornerstone of the union, and it is vital every class has an effective class rep, otherwise your voice cannot be heard. All problems, issues and variances within your course should be brought by the class rep to the relevant body, be it the course committee, the department or the Students union. We sit on all manner of committees and boards to ensure your voice is heard, so make us aware of the problems, otherwise we won't know them and we will not be able to sort them out.

The Compact will be a major player in keeping people abreast of what's going on across DIT, in the student union and any external affairs affecting student

life. It will try to cover all aspects of college life and serve students in and around all the DIT's. We have a full time editor from outside the college this year to give the magazine a professional edge and we want students from all the different faculties to get involved to make this publication as inclusive as possible. If you have any contributions or criticisms please send them in, all is welcome!

Make sure to attend as many DIT Student Union events as possible, these are arranged using your money and are the best events in the city! Keep an eye out for your local nights every Wednesday in The Big Tree and Tramco, and nights such as the Tradfest and the Fashion show.

Hopefully it will be a great year and already I've seen the signs that it will shape up to be the best year yet, and I've been in college for six years!!

So come on and help us make it that special year, please get involved and make your voice heard. After all, it's your union, and we are here to put U in it! Bob Coggins, President!



## DIT President's Welcome

Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) can be a daunting place. There is a multiplicity of sites, from the Docks to Rathmines, from Portland Row to Aungier Street, with students doing literally everything including 100's of courses at all levels. Our students hail from every county of Ireland, over 50 different countries and their ages range from 5 to 80.

Despite this, DIT is a friendly place, we generally have small class sizes that enable students to get to know both their lecturers and one another. The limitations of some of our facilities have not stopped the development of strong student social and sporting

activities. DIT students have excelled in activities as diverse as for example Gaelic sports, equestrianism, athletics, extreme Frisbee and go-karting! We also have had thriving activities in drama and in charitable works such as St Vincent de Paul.

So whatever your interests, get involved! The opportunities in third-level education to develop personally are as important as the skills and expertise that your chosen course will provide. I hope you enjoy your time at DIT.

Brian Norton



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## Banda Aceh

Earlier this year, DIT Students Union Ltd. passed a Board decision to make an annual contribution to a developing country under its Social Corporate responsibility programme.

This year the chosen project was to sponsor two of the outgoing sabbatical officers to travel to Banda Aceh in Indonesia and work where the tsunami hit.

Jarlath Molloy, (outgoing DITSU President 04-05), and Sharon Hughes, (me, outgoing DITSU Vice President 04-05) were asked if we would like to participate in the programme and we both agreed.

We left for Banda Aceh on the 5th July 2005 and travelled the length of Indonesia. Even though we had seen plenty of tsunami footage before we left Ireland it didn't come close to what we saw when we arrived. The entire city was literally wiped off the face of the planet. Eight months on there is still very little reconstruction work going on. The Indonesian Gov-

ernment only released the first of the donated tsunami funds in July, seven months after the tragedy. Many people are still living in refugee tents or shacks they have constructed from the debris, they are also relying on International NGO's to provide them with food and water.

It was really weird to see. The rainy season is over and grass has started growing over the debris, and it's hard to picture that what looks like a field now was once a densely populated area.

We were working with a local NGO in Banda Aceh called Forum Bangun Aceh, FBA. FBA are a group of local men who became frustrated with the lack of reconstruction and set about sourcing their own funds. They deal on an education, communi-





ty, local and individual level. One of their biggest projects currently is the construction of an elementary school, the funding for which was donated by the Dublin Port Company.

Our jobs varied a lot. We taught English in 2 of the local High Schools that had lost their English teachers to the tsunami. We also tried to encourage the children to take up scholarships in other countries as the city is reconstructed around them, so we talked to them a lot about Western culture and traditions. Very few of them have or had TV or Internet so they're really curious about our ways and us.

We also hounded Irish companies for sponsorship, which was difficult, as many of them have already made sizable donations

to the tsunami relief effort. We did have some luck however and managed to source funding for the reconstruction of 8 small salt factories that will restart an entire community. We also made an application to Development Co-Operation Ireland for the construction of a much needed Community Centre in one of the destroyed villages, we don't know whether its been granted yet though.

We helped the volunteers in the office with the production of proposals to companies who had shown an interest in donating money to them and did a lot of translation and correction to documents.

We did a lot of liaising with Irish companies who were providing aid over there and submitted fur-

ther proposals. These included a clean water plant and the reconstruction of the port there, which is essential to provide a means of getting construction material into the region.

We had an amazing time over there and we're extremely grateful for being offered the opportunity to go. The people are always smiling and they're so friendly and warm, they just want to get back on with their lives. The average cost of restarting a family business is less than €500 and it can provide for a large amount of people, so if you have any ideas for raising some cash that will go DIRECTLY to the people of Banda Aceh please get in contact through the Students Union, we'd love to hear from you.





SOCIETY IN FOCUS  
BY CORMAC CAHILL

# The Aungier St. Paintball Society

## Who are you?

My name is Peter Monaghan. I am a second year Marketing student in Aungier Street and I'm also the Chairperson on the Aungier Street Paintball Society.

## What is the paintball society?

Well, I actually took over the Paintball Society last year it was set up in 2001 by a guy called Jamie McCormack, he has since left the college because he has graduated. I just turned up at Club & Socs week last year and I said 'Where's my Paintball Society?', so I went downstairs and they said there is none so I said I would do it, so they put me in contact with Jamie and from there I went about running the society.

## Are there many places to go in Dublin?

Well in the Dublin area there is a place in Santry and a place in Roundwood in Wicklow and there's also Crossfire, but I've never been there. The Aungier Street crowd usually go to Skirmish in Roundwood, we

have a good relationship with them and we always have good fun when we get there and we would go about five times a year. Because we were late in setting up last year we got everything the way we wanted but we are trying to organise a weekend or an overnight trip this year or maybe even an inter-DIT league with the Paint Soc in Kevin Street and Bolton Street.

## How dangerous is it?

Oh, no it's not dangerous. I mean it's the equivalent of a small sting and you have a whole realm of safety equipment so and there's rules in place to keep you safe again and it wouldn't be a sport if it wasn't safe.

## Is there extra points for getting the chairperson?

No, there isn't!

## Is it for everyone?

Yea, absolutely. I mean even halfway through games people start smoking and it's short

games of around 20 minutes so you just need to be fit for 20 minutes and then you can sit down and have a smoke or whatever and then you are off again, but I mean we have never had a problem.

## How did you get on at the society awards last year?

I myself won best fresher, from the society because I pretty much annoyed the people who run the societies last year that's what I say happened, but it's recognition that I took over the society and ran it for the year and the society came 2nd and 3rd in a few categories.

## Why should people join the society?

Well, we have been in the top three in every category of societies for the last few years, we are one of the more established societies and I'm not sure that many others that were set up in 2001 are still running and we have a great team and we always have great fun and any comprehensions about fear of paintball can be easily dispelled.



## DIT Societies

The Societies office welcomes you to DIT, our theme for this year is; get involved, you have the opportunity to partake in the biggest a best part of college life societies. With over 80 societies there's something for every one and if there isn't you can form a new one.

Societies are run by students for Students. They are supported by DIT and Students' Union through advice, administration and finance. Societies are at the heart of the student life, you can run all sorts of events, publish your own newsletter, hold debates, organise charity events, travel, hold exhibitions and competitions.

Societies in DIT have two prime objectives, to organise events, which would be of interest, be it a debate, a gig, play, or other activities no matter how alternative they may be. The other objective is to provide a social forum for all its members.

The Clubs and Societies sign up day will be happening in all colleges on the, 11th and 12th of October. Here you can meet committee members of various clubs/socs and find out if you would like

to join their club or society. Be prepared to pay your membership fee on the day. Membership will be between €1 and €5.00. This money goes straight into the Club or Society. You should always make sure you get value for money if you join.

You can also join throughout the year by filling out a membership form in the Societies office based in Aungier St or by calling into your local Students Union. You can also find a society and join their mailing list online at [www.socs.dit.ie](http://www.socs.dit.ie).

If you want to set up a new society or have any questions about existing societies call the DIT Societies office team Anita Conway and Brian Whitney, we can help you get started with plenty of advice and of course that all important financial assistance.

### Contact Us

**Societies Office** (01) 402 3172

**Anita Conway**  
DIT Societies Organiser:  
Email [anita.conway@dit.ie](mailto:anita.conway@dit.ie)  
Tel: (01) 402 7123 / 086 637 6374

**Brian Whitney**  
Assistant Societies Organiser  
(Northside)  
Email: [brian.whitney@dit.ie](mailto:brian.whitney@dit.ie)

Watch out for our Special Events during the year:

**Clubs and Socs Fest**  
10th - 14th of October

**Clubs & Socs 70s Ball**  
14th of October

**DIT Fashion show**  
@ Vicar Street  
23rd November

**Tradfest 05**  
@ Vicar Street  
8th November

**DIT RAG Carnival**

**DIT Drama Fest 06**  
@ Theatre 30  
Teachers Club Parnell St  
27th February to March 11th

**DIT Art & Design Week 06**

**DIT Societies Awards Night**  
(Early April)

**Board of Irish College**  
**National Societies Awards**  
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## INM Face Challenge

**Remember the Dublin Daily? No? Come on, think again. Yea, you got it, the newspaper that surfaced in spring 2003 that promised to challenge the monopoly enjoyed by the Evening Herald and the Independent News and Media group (INM) but quickly disappeared by August of that same year.**

Dublin remains the only European city devoid of a dedicated daily metropolitan but this all set to change with the imminent launch of the tabloid freesheet Metro from UK-based Associated Newspapers.

The new freesheet will strategically target people at Dublin Bus, Luas and Dart stations and Associated Newspapers have employed a number of staff to undertake the arduous task on a daily basis. The distinguished Irish broadsheet, The Irish Times, have agreed to supply content and print the newspaper at its paper plant in Citywest.

Viscount Rothermere, Chairman of Associated Newspapers, which is a subsidiary of the Daily Mail and General Trust plc (DMGT), already controls the ailing Ireland on Sunday and the classified tabloid, The Buy & Sell in Ireland and, in the UK, can boast an impressive portfolio that includes The Daily Mail, The Sunday Mail, Evening Standard, the London Metro and Metro Editions in 12 other British cities and also an advertising publication, Loot.

Tony O'Reilly, Chairman of INM, already has a growing presence in Australasia and South Africa but remains particularly protective of their Irish market, which currently accounts for 25.8% of INM's total revenues and 31.7% of the groups €141 million operating profits.

There is also cause for concern among media analysts who observed the dismal failure that was the Dublin Daily which launched amid a haze of publicity in spring 2003 and quickly disappeared from view just four months later. However, Associated Newspapers' experience in the UK market should prove vital and that they can point to the fact that the London version of the Metro has a circulation of well over 1 million.

The threat posed to INM, and their dominance of the Irish market, should be taken seriously and according to Sunday Times journalist, Ciaran Hancock, that is just the case, "INM are certainly taking the threat seriously. Associated has secured a warehouse in Goldenbridge Industrial Estate in Inchicore from which to distribute Metro. It is close to that of Newsread, a distribution subsidiary of INM. The existence of the warehouse is known to INM chiefs and it is said to be under constant surveillance as the Irish publisher seeks to get intelligence on when it UK rival plans to hit the streets."

Media commentators are hopeful that Associated Newspapers' move in to the Irish newspaper market will galvanise the Irish industry and the new Metro will act as a long-term replacement for the now defunct Evening Press. David Sneddon, who is the Managing Director of Mindshare says that, "It will be great for competition, and it will sharpen everyone's game, they have a lot of loyal advertisers and a good track record. They are prepared to go in for the long haul."

We will wait and see.



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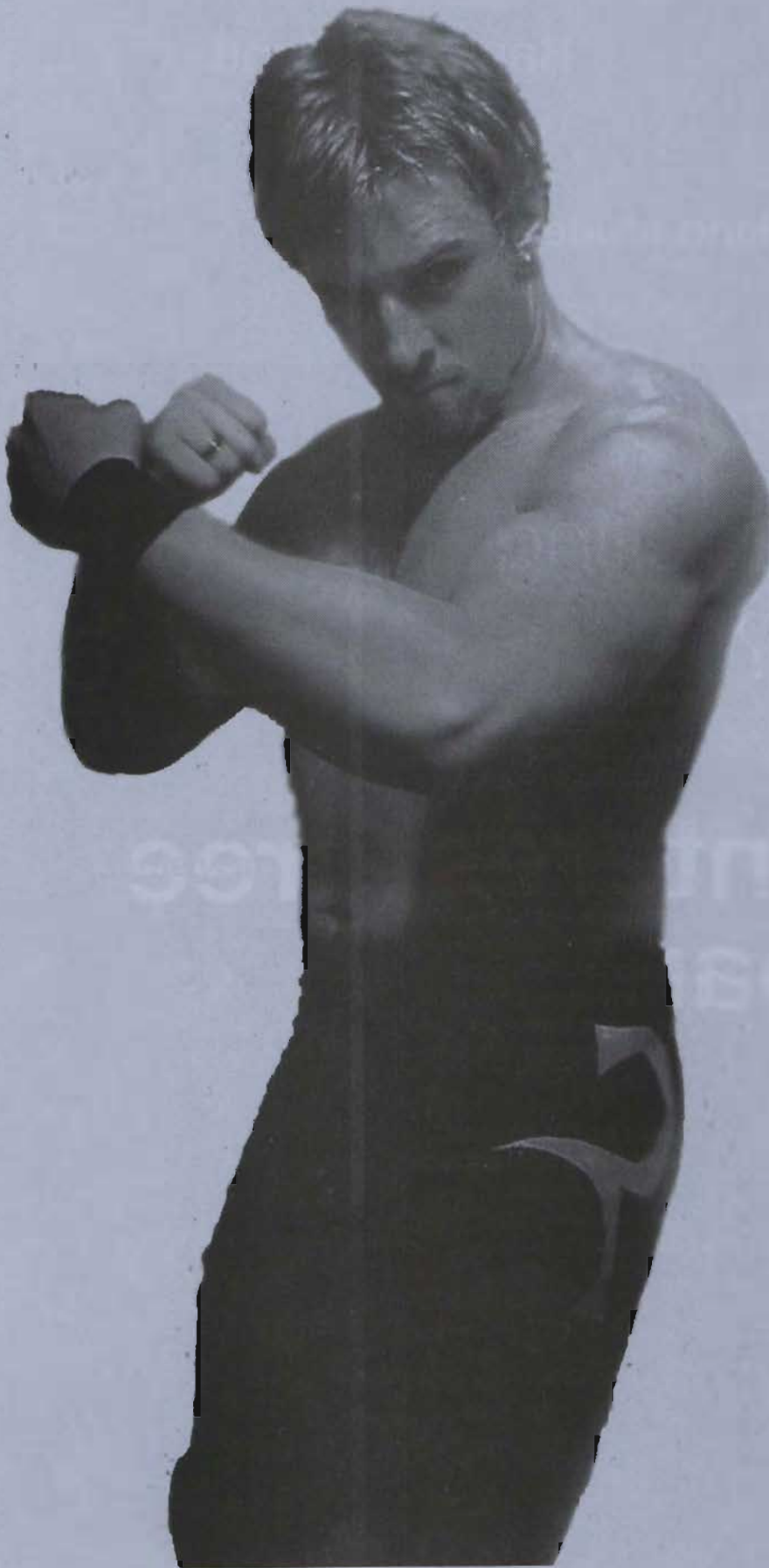
# Wrestle Maniacs

**Do you think that wrestling is for actors? All it's participants ego-centric maniacs who prance around in tights? Well think again...**

I went along on the debut night to Ireland's own newly-established Celtic Pro-Wrestling to have a word with it's creator, 'The Celtic Tiger' Blake Norton, about his journalistic career, his hopes for the future, hard working Irish wrestlers and how he came about to train in the Hart Dungeon in Calgary, Canada which belongs to the world famous Hart family.

**Who are you?**

I am 'The Celtic Tiger' Blake Norton the last survivor of the Hart Family Dungeon, I myself have been wrestling for six years, I actually have a journalistic background I was the editor of a wrestling magazine and a wrestling website for ign.com in San Francisco, they do a lot of video games and stuff. I have done a lot of media work and I also have done a television show and I did a lot of media work in wrestling so I was always a fan and six years ago I had the chance to write a story basically about how to become a pro-wrestler in the world famous Hart Dungeon in Calgary, Canada. So I went up there to train and ever since I've been a wrestler who once was a journalist as opposed to visa-versa.







**So it was almost by mistake that you became a wrestler?**

Well, I wouldn't say it was by mistake. I mean, that was always the grand plan but living in Ireland at sixteen years of age I wasn't old enough to move over to another country to train, but through the money I got through my love of wrestling and my journalistic career that I developed here in Ireland. I ended up in Calgary and learnt to wrestle so I was very lucky, and that's why I tried to do some training back here to sort of share it with them the way the people in Calgary shared it with me.

**How did you come about finding Irish wrestlers?**

I mean wrestling is one of those weird things. If you don't get it you just think it's completely stupid but if you do get it, it's the most entertaining, most enjoyable, most compelling thing, y'know? And so it's very cliquee, y'know? It's not like people who are casual music fans, people just tend to be hardcore wrestling fans and go to great lengths and these are the guys who saw it on television and thought 'Wow!', that's something I wanna be apart of, that could be

interesting, and because people were aware of my work through journalism, they were aware of my career to a degree when I came over here helping people with training. We just got so many and now we have thirty-five students and there's more coming in every week.

**There's a show that went on for everyone tonight but there is a danger element?**

It's very, very dangerous and people don't realise I mean, you were here tonight and you could get a pretty good grasp of when guys get thrown across the ring and off the top rope, it's not a trampoline and it's not soft and in fact if you want I can go out there and show it to you? - it's steel, with wood, with canvas on top and carpets in the middle so you don't get cut open and that's it. People who don't get wrestling, talk about how it's circus-like, which is true to a degree, and how everybody knows how to fall but there's no way to know how to fall that is not going to cause great pain and often injury and you get thrown around the ring by very big, very strong guys and it is very physical.

**Where do see the Celtic Pro-Wrestling going realistically?**

Whether it lasts a month, a year or ten years some of these guys will go on to have excellent careers, most of them will not because it's way too hard a business and very few people ever succeed, but tonight everyone went out there and enjoyed doing what they do and the crowd were obviously electric and they loved it and the people performing loved it and twenty years from now, if this was their last match, at least they can sit back, flick on the video tape and go 'Wow!' At least I had a chance to live my dream. So I don't worry too much about twenty years from now being a millionaire or anything like that. If tonight goes well if everyone is happy, safe, sound, the crowd went home happy and I didn't lose my ass financially then we are ok!

**Kids need to be careful though right?**

I think everyone when they were a kid has wrestled around their yard or in their living room, including me, and a lot of kids can get seriously injured because it's so difficult to try to prevent serious injury but when you are that young and you don't even know the best technique to try to prevent injury and you don't know how to protect yourself. It's like going into a boxing ring and not knowing how to block a punch, y'know? And if you go in there not knowing how to block a punch you will end your career in one night. So my advice to any kid who watches wrestling - love it, put your friends in headlock but don't go jumping off stuff because one day you might get the chance to live your dream but not if you're in a wheelchair.

For information on all upcoming Celtic Pro-Wrestling events visit, [www.celticprowrestling.com](http://www.celticprowrestling.com) or call (086) 404-1117



## The Science of Music

Popular music has changed beyond all recognition in the last twenty-years with the cult of celebrity, the iPod generation and the advent of television shows such as the X-Factor.

However, the technology and the equipment now used in recording studios around the world has improved immensely to produce a lot of good sounds and quality grooves.

Last week, I had a chat with two colleagues who both work in the Music Faculty in the Rathmines DIT, Ben Rawlins, Audio Technician, and Shigeto Wada, Assistant Lecture, about some of the equipment they have in their recording studio, the difference between analog and digital recording, the problem with television shows such as X Factor and the free lunchtime recitals by DIT Rathmines music students coming our way this year.

**What kind of equipment have you got here?**

Shigeto - We have audio equipment and other equipment that is just used for teaching let's say such as Apple Mac, about 16 of them, and software which is mostly computer based, maybe a part of the reason for that is that there is about one hundred students coming in here every





week and giving equipment to every student is simply impossible. So teaching here is more on the software side than the equipment side.

**The recording studio you have in there, how does it compare to the great studios in London or New York?**

Ben - No it wouldn't compare, but you must remember that it is a teaching facility so we are not here to make a student's album sound as good if they went to Windmill or Western Studios in Dublin. The control room we have here is the dedicated recording facility, we also have a location recording system with protocols and we have digital Yamaha console. Shigeto is creating the music and I'm recording the music but the system in here, in the control room, is basically protocols and a mix system.

**Do some students prefer analog to digital?**

Shigeto - Yes, during lectures some students do say they have, but my approach to it is, in the end what is analog sound and what is digital sound? Because, in the end, computer is analog equipment. Most audio based digital programs are just trying to re-create or mimicking the old great analog equipment. So we discuss with students the digital sound and then we discuss where they want to go and we can discuss that. Some students want an analog system.

**Artists such as Ryan Adams have recorded music purposely in analog. Is that going backwards and is that a bad thing?**

Ben - Well if you want a retro sound, and if you're Ryan Adams but yea he is going to go to a specific studio like The White Stripes do; they have recorded in one specific studio in London with analog equipment and analog

desks but still with the pro-tools so even though people are saying they wanna go retro it still has to be mastered afterwards and will end up as a digital format anyway. But a lot of this is fads and fashion,

**Is this equipment accessible to people or do they have to have a lot of money to buy this?**

Ben - If it's going into a computer it's still going through an analog to digital converter so it's still being dealt with in the analog world but those converters cost a lot of money, the converter we have inside is just a box and it cost about €2,500. It's really the converter that costs the most but then people want the best microphone or the best cable. We get a lot of students coming in here saying they have done a demo on their computer at home and it doesn't sound like a record I just bought. But obviously it doesn't, because that studio has so much more.

**Could you tell me about the lunchtime shows that the students put on here for free?**

Ben - Yea we have a lunchtime recitals on a Wednesday every week. They start in the middle of October and run until Christmas. They are for fourth years and performance students, then we do concerts in Chatham Row on Mondays and they are the third years and they are free and it's classical and opera. This is the most modern pieces you can get so yea it's a nice way to spend your lunch.

**Are we getting to a situation whereby the music is getting worse but the production is getting better? Are bands like Franz Ferdinand just a popular band that are well produced?**

Ben - I think that's always been the case, if you look at the '80's or the 90's there's always been a band in the charts and they have been picked for a certain reason

and then the market follows itself; it's like a band like Franz Ferdinand who sell records, the record company will then sign ten bands who are like Franz Ferdinand because that producer now has a proven track record in selling, he's brought in to produce this other band in the same studio and they same techniques and it will sell. It's just like Keane are a mini Coldplay it's just the market, it's a very fickle market, it's like Bob Dylan said; the music business in 10% music and 90% business

Shigeto - I often wonder when music has become a money-making machine, but is that really what music is supposed to be? Every great musician that I have met y'know?, they have loved music first, then fortunately they made money, without the money they would still be doing it. Often, now, there is an opposite movement.

**Is it harder for kids who are in a band, to write their own songs, play their own instruments with programmes like the X Factor? Do people still want to write songs?**

Shigeto - The thing with X Factor is that there is surprisingly a lot of variation and diversity but, each person has a particular taste and a particular type of sound so what we see is all this diversity but what you (the participants) are choosing is just that, only that? Which I think is a very cynical.

Ben - We seem to be forgetting that X Factor is a television programme, it's a game show, a huge money-making game show. They are interested in making a television show so they are interested in people who have a shock value, someone who is so bad you are going to cringe in your seat, that's the big deal, once the programme is over who cares about the artists? But if anyone's interested in music they will just think that it's sh\*\*e!



## Back to college with style!

Five Key Looks  
for this season.

FASHION

BY LILI FORBERG





< OPPOSITE PAGE

**Sheepskin.** Perfect your autumn look with sheepskin Uggs.

Cream J'Lo hoody, New York (€45), Hot denim pants, Morgan, (€105), Black Ugg boots, Korky's (€200)

RIGHT >

**Sequins.** Pep your outfit by day or glamour up at night

Blue petrol jeans, Topshop (€61), White vest 'wife-beater' top, Topshop (€8), Blue sequined belt, Penny's (€6)

BOTTOM

(From left to right)

**The New Black.** The old favourite returns in a variety of fantastic wearable options

Black leather corset top, Morgan (€95), Black boot cut jeans, Miss Selfridge's (€65), Black silver strip stiletto's, Zerep (€30)

**Stripes.** Hark back to the Eighties' Two Tone movement

Black fitted T, Topshop (€12), Denim mini skirt, Oasis (€45), Black legging tights, Pennys (€2), Pink and black stripy tie, Tie Rack (€15), Black leather belt, models own

**Swirly Dresses.** There's nothing like a gorgeous, voluminous skirt to put a girl in a spin

Pink bra top, models own, Violent pink skirt, Morgan (€81)

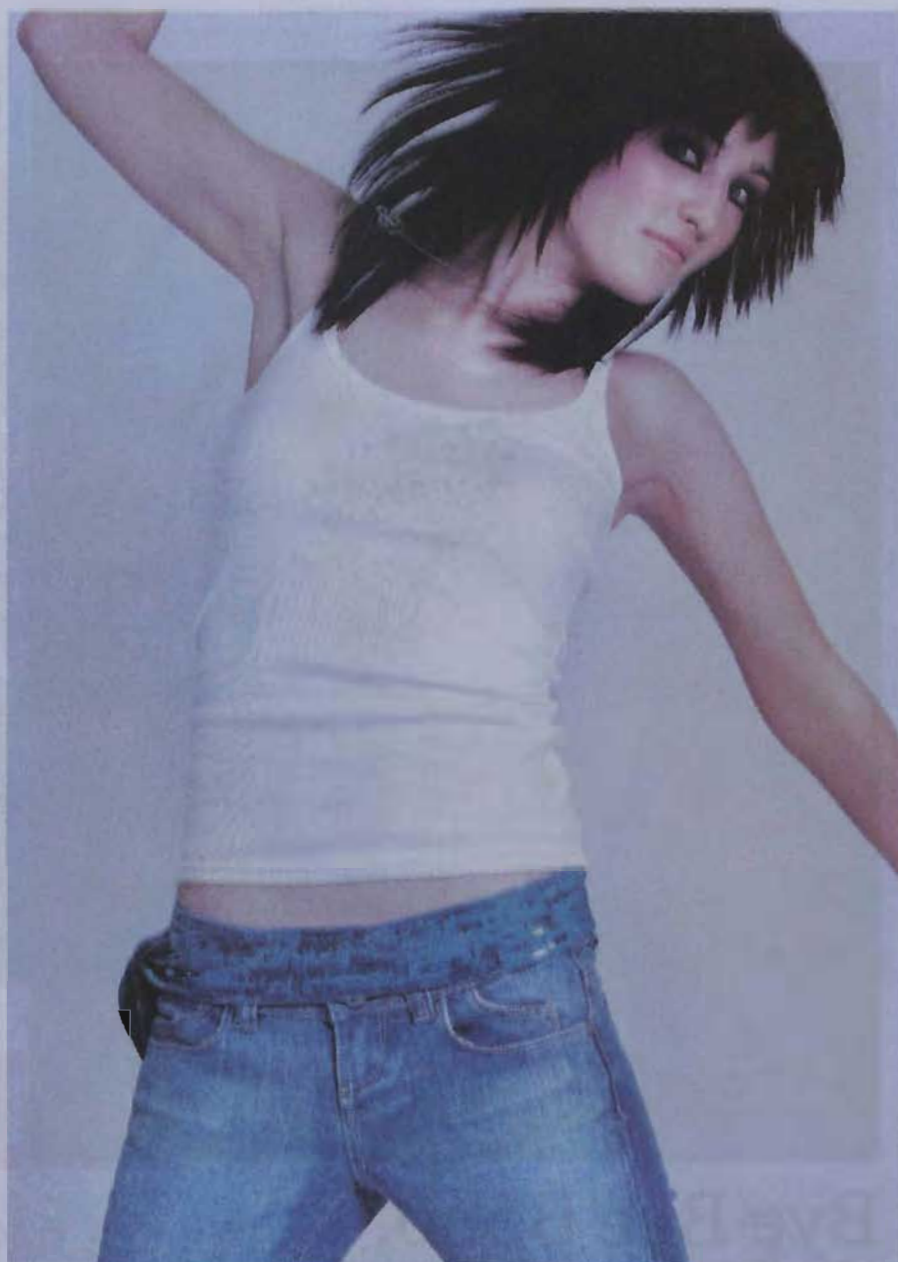
Photography: Lili Forberg ([www.misslili.net](http://www.misslili.net))

Models: Deirbhla Hogan & Ruth Melody

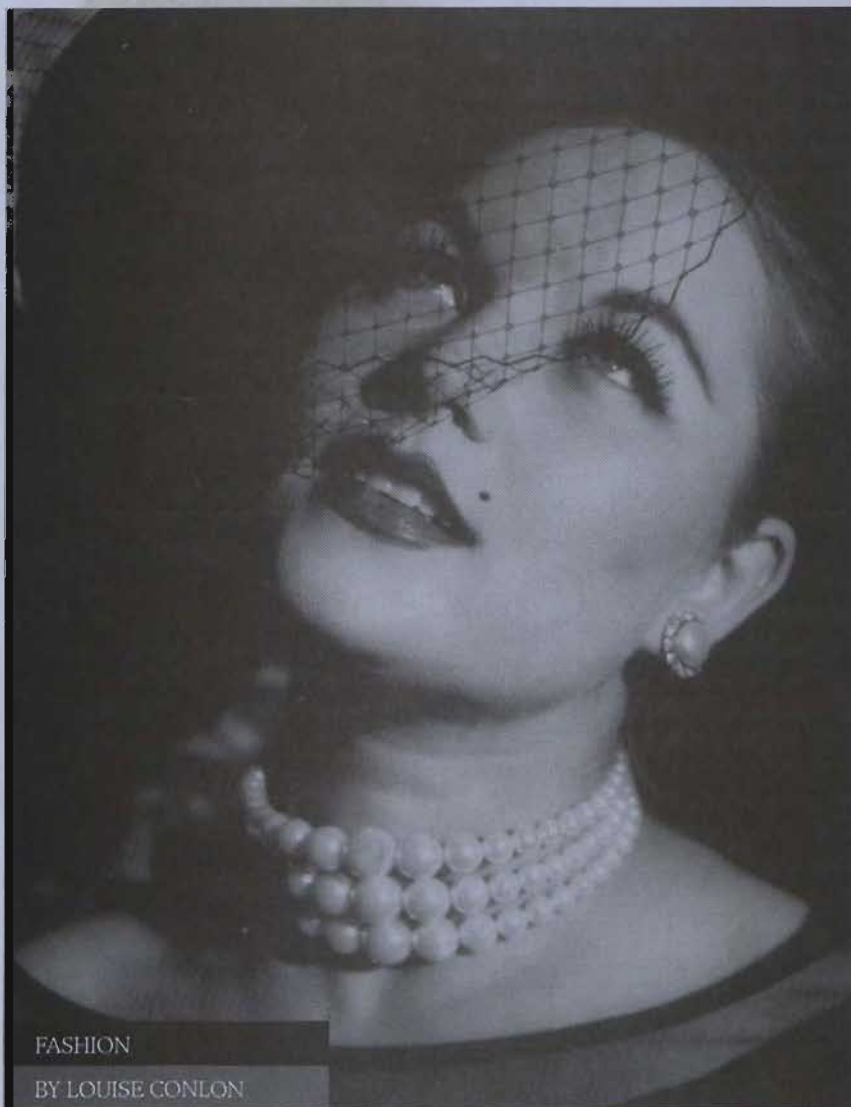
@ BScene The Agency ([www.bscene.ie](http://www.bscene.ie))

Hair: Simon Reilly @ Peter Mark, Stephens Green

Make-Up: Derek Carbury @ Brown Sugar







FASHION

BY LOUISE CONLON

## Bye Bye Boho, Hello Hollywood Chic

**There is a distinct air of old Hollywood glamour emanating from the Autumn-Winter trends 2005.**

Bohemian Chic is chic no more ladies, it's time to ditch the gypsy skirts and the floral prints, and embrace the dramatic styles this season, with volume injected skirts, embellished military coats, and shimmering shades of grey to brighten the most mono-tone of days.

Those in the know will be delighted to hear that sixties legendary shoe designer Terry de Havilland, who this season made his return to London Fashion Week, has an exclusive diffusion collection available in Buffalo, de Havz. So fabulous are his shoes that Jean Paul Gaultier and Lanvin are crawling at his feet practically begging him to work for their respective labels, but he's turned them down! And in case all that wasn't impressive enough, he's been nominated for the Accessory Designer of the Year gong at this year's British Fashion Awards.

So get thee to Buffalo and pay homage to his spectacular skyscrapers!

Brave the bitter cold winter winds in Russian inspired fur wraps and stoles remnant of Anna Karenina. Pull the boots up high over the drainpipe jeans and invest in a beautiful coat in this seasons 'it' fabric, tweed.

Black is most definitely black, this time paying tribute to heroines of the bygone Hitchcock era. Make like Hitchcock queen Grace Kelly by investing in a pair of gorgeous leather gloves, and use the wide belts to give your waist that nipped in sexiness we long for!

The more adventurous fashionistas will be found this season in the Brown Thomas Young Contemporary department, checking out new addition L.A.M.B. L.A.M.B is the latest offering from the cult fashion world to hit Dublin, and is the brainchild of rock goddess Gwen Stefani. Fresh from its debut at New York Fashion Week, the label is very Vivienne Westwood, and oh so eclectic, with pieces as diverse as is possible. From windbreaker tracksuits to luminous satin parachute culottes, Stefani's label is pure fashion escapism, and not for the faint-hearted!

If you do anything with fashion this Autumn Winter, break the rules. Mix golds and silvers, clash strong colours and prints, wear bright tights with those beautiful new peep-toes. Play with proportions, and team dinky kitten heels with a slouchy oversized bag. Leopard Print is big for the feet this season, be it kitten heels, peep-toes, or skyscraping stilettos.

This season is all about the individual, break all the rules, go crazy, and enjoy!



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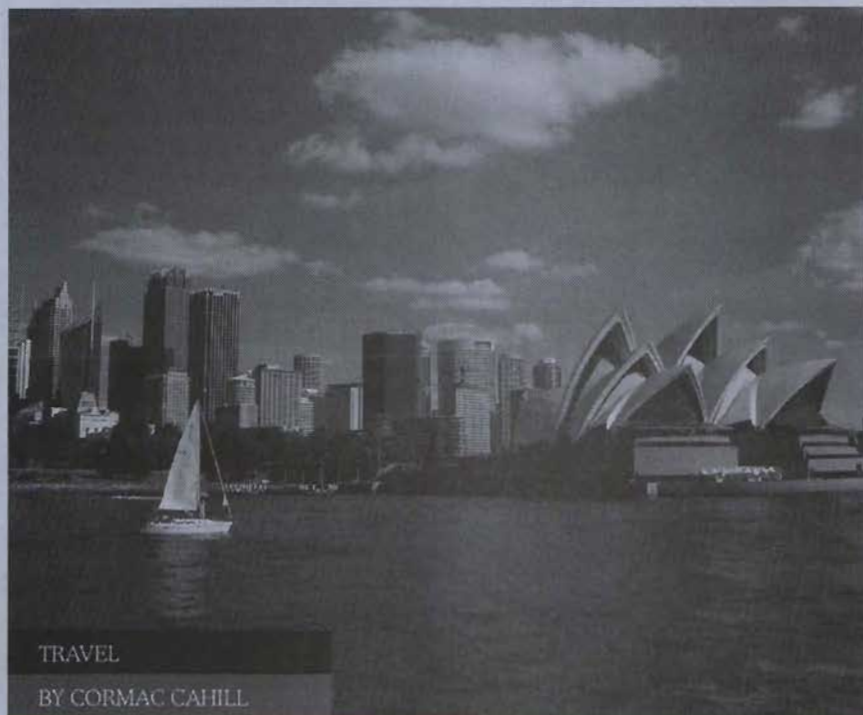
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TRAVEL

BY CORMAC CAHILL

## Let the Backpacker Beware

**The East Coast of Australia is full of magical wonders including the Great Barrier Reef and numerous tropical rainforests. However, backpackers must keep their eyes open and be prepared to ask the travel operators along the coast some hard questions.**

Backpacking down the east coast of Australia is by now almost cliché; you fly to Cairns in Northern Queensland, travel through Townsville, Airlie Beach, take in the Whitsunday Islands, see the Fraser Islands, take in Brisbane then Noosa and Byron Bay and back to Sydney. There you go, you've spent a lot of hard earned money but you've had the time of your life in beautiful surroundings, so what's the problem? Backpackers do it every year, right? You're right, I did the same myself this summer but returned with a sour taste in my mouth from an encounter I had with an Australian travel agent, Beaches Backpackers, and I now believe that backpackers who travel on the east coast of Australia are being taken advantage of by the greed of such travel operators.

Myself and five friends travelled down the east coast of Australia in July and we booked a Beaches Backpackers package tour through an agent of theirs in Cairns in Northern Queensland that included a 3 day/3 night sailing trip around the Whitsunday Islands, a 3 day/2 night safari in Fraser Island and 3 free nights in

any Beaches hostel in Queensland all for \$500.00 per person. The operator assured us that the package was all inclusive and no other charges would be added - but she was wrong.

When we arrived at Airlie Beach to check-in for the sailing trip, we were met with a few extra charges including an extra \$27.00 for reef tax, \$10.00 for the hiring of a sting suit and \$40.00 for an 'upgrade' to a double room for each couple sharing (despite the fact that there were ONLY double rooms on the boat). We questioned this but to no avail so we just paid up and bit our lips - all we wanted to do was have a good time after all.

After a pleasurable 3 day cruise we had to check-in for our safari trip in Fraser Islands but were met with a barrage of other charges including an extra \$1000.00 for an insurance refundable bond from one member of the group (which did not cover Third Party damage or under body damage) \$20.00 for Vehicle insurance, \$15.00 for Fuel and Fees, \$5.00 for Luggage Storage, \$2.00 for Ice and \$2.00 for the use of showers on the Fraser Island.

We were astounded at the rising costs as we had been ensured that the \$500.00 package was all-inclusive but the total cost now was approximately \$620.00 per person (depending on how many showers we had that is). Well, we simply had enough and decided that we couldn't trust Beaches Backpackers anymore so we cut our losses and cancelled the Fraser Island part of our trip with no refund.

I contacted the Marketing Manager of Beaches Backpackers, Sallie Gregory, and asked her what the reason behind these charges were, 'The main reason for these charges is that they are non-commissionable fees to



agents. For example to offer 20% commission on these fees would mean that we would need to increase the charges to cover our costs. Our aim is to ensure that these charges are kept as low as possible.'

I told her that the representative from Beaches had assured us that package was all-inclusive and she expressed some regret, 'While myself and Bianca Curtis (Marketing Team) spend time regularly training and upgrading our agents on the details of these payable direct charges, we can not guarantee that all agents will remember to pass on this information to our clients.'

I was then told that the staff member who had initially mislead us had left the company, 'In regard to the response to your initial questions in Airlie Beach, please be assured that this has been raised with the relevant staff member, who is no longer working with Beaches Airlie Beach.... there was obviously a misunderstanding in her interpretation or her communication to you.' In other words she didn't tell us the truth.

Sallie Gregory dealt swiftly and professionally in dealing with my complaint and offered a refund for the Fraser Island part of our trip which amounted to a \$135.00 per person. However, there still is a major question mark over the validity such extra charges, or as Sallie Gregory put it, 'payable direct charges', that we and countless others have had to pay on our travels along the east coast of Australia.

In the glossy Beaches Backpackers brochure there is a list of excursions with prices beside them but these do not include the extra charges and beside one of them is a small box that says 'Additional paid direct includes food & alcohol, fuel \$15 & insurance \$20 \*subject to change'. But this does

not go anyway to explain the extra charges that we incurred along the way.

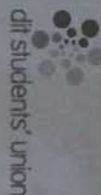
It now seems obvious to me that the reason the excursions are not all-inclusive is to make them more attractive to the average backpacker, if the price for the trip that my group did was all-inclusive there is no way we would have done it as it would have been advertised at \$620.00, at least.

Stephen Merrigan, who was in the group with me said, 'It was a disgrace, we couldn't get sense out of any of the reps, they kept on telling us different things and we were going around in circles with them - I considered going home I was that annoyed with the charges, they just kept on coming...I always thought that the Australians were organised and honest - but now I've changed my mind'.

This was bad business on behalf of Beaches Backpackers - they must know that the backpackers availing of their tours are often young and inexperienced, many miles from home and ultimately vulnerable to such bad business. This situation should never have happened to my group and I hope that it would never happen to another group in the future, but it will unless such tour operators insure that all the packages it offers to its agents are all-inclusive.

This would make it easier for the backpacker to decide what they can actually afford but, unfortunately, this doesn't seem likely in the near future. I would therefore ask all backpackers travelling the east coast of Australia to be wary and ask plenty of questions about the TOTAL price of a package tour before handing over their hard earned money. Because if you don't ask questions you make be taken advantage of many, many miles from home.

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## Just Ask Molly

Email your questions to: [compact@ditsu.ie](mailto:compact@ditsu.ie)

**"It's all new and lots of people get worried about embarking on third level education.."**

Hi Molly,  
I've just arrived in DIT as a first year. When I was at secondary school I decided I'd like to do engineering. So here I am in DIT and now I'm having second thoughts, as there is loads of maths on the course and I don't really like maths. I think I've made a huge mistake. I'm really stressed about it. What can I do?

First of all can I welcome you to DIT; it's a great place to be a student. First thing: don't panic! It's all new and lots of people get worried about embarking on third level education. The college takes its responsibilities toward the student seriously. There are lots of things that you can do to help dissuade these anxieties. Remember its early days so maybe you might think of giving the course a chance.

The 'Maths Learning Centre' is new to DIT and will help all students in all courses who think that they are having difficulties with maths. They'll help if its calculations, maths formula or anything related to maths.

They won't do your work for you but they will help you out with the tricky maths bits. It's a free service and no academic lecturers are involved so you won't bump into anyone you know. You can look for some more information on the internet at: [www.maths.dit.ie](http://www.maths.dit.ie) where you'll find details of when and where you can access the service. You can also just drop in and say hello to the gang. Remember you'll need to bring your lecture notes with you.

The first port of call when you're having difficulties with your course should be your course

tutor. If you don't know who that is, call in to the school office or chat to a friendly lecturer and they'll point you in the right direction.

You might also think of contacting the DIT Retention Officer Frank Costello (01) 402 7660 or [frank.costello@dit.ie](mailto:frank.costello@dit.ie) and have a chat with him. His job is to try and keep you in college!

Remember that if you do decide to drop out you have to let the college know, or you will be required to pay full fees if you choose to start a second course elsewhere in the future

The careers service can help you with identifying your strengths and weaknesses, information available on the web at: [www.dit.ie/DIT/careers](http://www.dit.ie/DIT/careers)

Hope it all works out.  
Good luck!

.....  
**Hi Molly,**  
**I've just found a lovely place to live for the year and the rent's not too bad. How lucky am I? Anyway the reason I'm writing is that the landlord wants me to sign a 12 month lease and I know I'm only going to be around till the end of college, in 9 months time. What's the story with that?**

Well, a lease is legally binding and you have to stick by it or you will be penalised. There is new legislation that protects tenant's rights and it's called the Residential Tenancies Act 2004.

Though it is not written into the Act that a landlord can keep your deposit if you break the lease by leaving before it's finished, a landlord cannot be made out of pocket by something the tenant does wrong. He/she can pursue you through the courts or the 'Private Residential Tenancies Board', if He/she loses out because you left early; and the courts will most likely rule in the landlord's favour.

However there is a bit of a loophole you can try. In the Act it says that you can't sublet the dwelling without the landlord's written consent. However, where a landlord refuses consent to a sub-let a fixed term tenancy (like a 12 month lease), the tenant can terminate the tenancy before the tenancy expires. This means that if you want to leave in 9 months time you can ask the landlord if you can sub-let to another person.

You can always contact Threshold on (01) 6786096 for more information.

Have fun in the new gaff and good luck.

If you need help or assistance during this year the Students' Union are there for you, so if you are having problems just drop them a line.

Email your questions to Molly at: [compact@ditsu.ie](mailto:compact@ditsu.ie)





IRISH CULTURE  
BY NIAMH EGAN

## A Nation Gone GAA

As the GAA season draws to a close, Niamh Egan looked at the history of the sporting organisation that unites communities, creates healthy rivalry and prompts a passion in every *flor-gael*.

On Saturday 1st November 1884, a small group of spirited Irishmen met in Miss Hayes's Commercial Hotel in Thurles, Co. Tipperary and founded the Gaelic Athletic Association for the preservation and cultivation of national pastimes. The seven founder members were Michael Cusack, Maurice Davin (who presided) John Wyse Power, John McKay, J. K. Bracken, Joseph O'Ryan and Thomas St. George McCarthy.

Shortly after at the third meeting, rules for football and hurling were drawn up and in January 1885 they were published in the United Irishman newspaper. It wasn't until 1886 that the GAA introduced County Committees and these became the units of representation for the new All-Ireland championship.

In 1913 Croke Park became the home of the GAA. And as the GAA were the ground's most frequent users, they purchased the site for £3,500 and immediately renamed the ground Croke Park in honour of the association's first patron Archbishop Croke of Cashel.

Over the subsequent 40 years Croke Park was developed and redeveloped as finances allowed. The Railway End, also known as Hill 16, was constructed from the rubble left in Sackville Street (now O'Connell Street) after the 1916 rising. The first Hogan stand (named after Tipperary footballer Michael Hogan) was built in 1924 and followed by the construction of the Cusack stand (named after one of the original founders of the GAA Michael Cusack) in 1937. The Canal End terrace

was constructed in 1949 and was subsequently followed by the construction of the Nally stand (named after Pat Nally) in 1952. Since these initial buildings, reconstruction and redevelopment of various sections of the ground have taken place.

At present the Gaelic Athletic Association is run by Central Council (Árd Chomhairle), although the day-to-day affairs are dealt with by the Management Committee (An Coiste Bainistí). The Management Committee is responsible for organising the All-Ireland series of the club and county championships and these bodies will ratify any major changes to the GAA.

The Provincial Councils are the organisations responsible for the arrangement of GAA matters within their Province. They organise the Provincial Championships for clubs and counties in both hurling and football, and look after organisational and disciplinary matters in their respective provinces. Counties have a number of Divisional or Juvenile Boards to organise competitions at district and youth levels. The County Board (and / or subsidiary boards) will organise competitions for the clubs within its jurisdiction. They are also responsible for the organisation of teams to play at inter-county level.

In 1925, under the direction of GAA President William Clifford, it was decided to allocate ten per cent of all gate receipts for grounds development. The Leinster Council's decision to grant a loan for the purchase of a ground in Drogheda set a precedent that other Provincial Councils followed. Gaelic grounds, owned and controlled by the GAA, were provided throughout the country. This policy, supported by grants from GAA central and provincial boards, has enabled even small parish clubs to own their own premises to the present day.



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## DIT Welcomes Diversity

### Students' Union Vice President urges DIT staff to welcome the challenges posed by Diversity

Bernadette Farrell SU Vice President of Student & Academic Affairs spoke at a seminar entitled 'Embracing Diversity' held recently in DIT Aungier St.

In her keynote address, Bernadette spoke passionately about the need for all staff in the DIT but particularly academics to wake up to the fact that the profile of the 'typical' student is changing and that this means we must all adopt new open and inclusive policies and practices. 'Diversity poses many challenges for us all but we must see these challenges as opportunities to improve the service that we all provide and undoubtedly this will make college life more vibrant and stimulating for us all'

Describing the changing student profile, Bernadette said that today there are a growing number of what is loosely call 'non-traditional' students. She added 'ten years ago the vast majority of DIT students were aged between 18 and 21, post leaving-cert and born in Ireland. Now we welcome international students who see Ireland and especially DIT with its high academic standards as the ideal place to get the best education in Europe. We also have a growing number of other student groups such as mature students and part-time students.

Emphasising that college life is a series of learning experiences, not just in coursework but also in a student's involvement in other activities Bernadette said the Students' Union has begun to proactively address these issues also. 'We in the Students Union recognise that our activities need to reflect the needs of all our members. This year we have made a commitment to expand the range of activities and

entertainment choices we organise for students so that we are more inclusive. For example, we hope to run non-alcohol events for students who for religious/cultural reasons are not interested in the pub / club culture. There is a possibility of including tours of Dublin city for international students and students from other parts of Ireland.

She added that the Students Union was often the first port of call for students with problems with college life. 'Increasingly we are seeing students for whom the DIT college experience is fraught with obstacles and difficulties. International students who have different approaches to learning than we have; gay & lesbian students who are experiencing difficulties; mature students who are finding the return to education traumatic. We need to ensure that we are open to addressing these concerns positively.

Bernadette warmly welcomed the decision to focus on Diversity this year and said that the Students' Union was looking forward to making a positive contribution to the focus on diversity.

Professor Áine Hyland, Vice-President, UCC was another keynote speaker. In her address, Professor Hyland focussed on the variations in students' abilities and in particular the 'multiple intelligences' they possess. Drawing on Gardner's theory, she said that we must recognise that intelligence is not fixed, and that we must adapt teaching to allow students to use their intelligence profile.

The President of the DIT, Professor Brian Norton also spoke at the event. In his opening address he welcomed the focus on Diversity saying that that Ireland, as an open knowledge economy, needed to know and understand other cultures and Irish people needed to be able to work with others. He said "This campaign will focus attention on the major advantages diversity offers us, and during this year we not only intend to embrace that diversity but also harness it for the benefit of everyone in the Institute. We will look at how we do things and aim to remove unnecessary barriers that are placed in the way of students, either in the curriculum or in how it is delivered."

The seminar was organised by Dr Jen Harvey, Head of Lifelong Learning, to raise awareness and is the start of a campaign the highlight diversity issues in DIT. The campaign will include lots of activities throughout the year at faculty level, at institute level and in the range of services available to DIT students through the Institute and through DIT Students' Union.





# CONCERNED ABOUT SUICIDE

## What Are The Warning Signs?

Most people who had suicidal thoughts really want to die, they just want an end to their pain. These are some of the signs which may indicate that someone is thinking of taking their life.

- A previous suicide attempt.
- Currently expressing suicidal thoughts.
- Preoccupation with death.
- Depression.
- Becoming isolated.
- Substance/Drug/Alcohol abuse.
- Sudden changes in mood/behaviour.
- Making final arrangements (e.g. giving away prized possessions).

## Associated Risk Factors

- Access to a method of suicide e.g. medication, firearms.
- Loss of significant other (close friend/family member).
- Impulsiveness & risk taking behaviour.
- Relationship break-up.

N.B. Some of these warning signs are associated with everyday behaviour and should be looked at in context with the overall picture of the individual. However, the more warning signs, the higher the risk.

## Suicide: Key Facts in Ireland (North & South)

- There has been an increase in male suicide over a 20 year period.
- More males take their lives than females.
- Suicide is a leading cause of death in young people.
- Suicide occurs in all groups of society.
- There is no single cause for suicide.
- It could happen to anyone.

## Self-Harm Attempted Suicide

Many people carry out what are called acts of deliberate self-harm and whilst not all of these acts could be classified as attempted suicide, many of them are.

- All acts of self-harm should be taken seriously.
- Self-harm is a communication of intense distress.
- Both males and females self-harm.
- It is a particular problem with young people.
- Many people who self-harm are under the influence of alcohol.

## How To Respond

If you're concerned about somebody you can follow these three steps:

### Show Your Care

Offer support and let them know you care. Say something like:

"I'm worried about you and I want to help"  
"Tell me about what's worrying you"  
"Whatever's bothering you, we'll go through this together"

### Ask The Question!

Talking about the subject doesn't put it in people's heads.

"Do you feel like harming yourself?"  
"Do you feel like harming your life?"

## Call For Help

Encourage them to seek help

"Let's talk to someone who can help"  
"I will stay with you until you get help"  
"You're not alone and others know a way out of this"

Republic of Ireland 1850 609690

Contact your local, or [je@seamenline.org](mailto:je@seamenline.org)

or for info on services in your area  
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Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive





FRESHER COLUMN  
BY SHARON VOGIATZI

## Fresher in a daze-ee!

The night before my first day in DIT was spent tossing and turning in a sea of excitement and nervousness.

Having sentenced myself to commuting from Naas, I was up at the crack of dawn in order to catch a bus that took almost two hours to grace Dublin with its presence. Fortunately, I had The Strawberry

Alarm Clock to keep me amused. I must have looked a sight; chuckling away to something no one else could hear and occasionally growling at the lady beside me who kept digging me in the ribs as she applied lipstick and mascara. "It's 7am! Nobody cares what you look like!"

Saved by the sight of The Bleeding Horse. I sauntered along Camden Street, inhaling its foreignness and trying not to look directly at The Thesis Shop; is that feckin' shop going to stare at me accusingly for the next four years? There it stood; DIT Aungier St.



THE MATURE ANGLE  
BY MAJELLA LAVIN

## Legally not blonde.

According to Oscar Wilde "the difference between literature and journalism is that journalism is unreadable and literature is not read".

Suddenly seeing my name in print becomes as attainable as an evening with the Pope and I can definitely kiss goodbye to that

"Man Booker" prize nomination I allowed myself to dream of. Yet I still find myself on the steps of DIT awaiting registration for a journalism undergrad??

Standing outside of the normal school leaver / straight to college forum in terms of age is a difficult place to be. Couple that with a break from full time education of almost 10 years and that just takes your difficulty and raises it by one hundred. These thoughts and a good deal more were orbiting my gray matter on the first day of college. Going for the, nonchalant yet confident stance I glanced



THE 3RD COLUMN  
BY MAURA FAY

## I'm Tired of Bertie.

I've always been interested in what makes a person want to become a politician; Is it in the interests of personal gain? Or maybe they genuinely want to make a difference in the quality of people's lives.

Which politicians could fit into this category?

Well, I suppose Joe Higgins, the Socialist Party TD for Dublin West who only accepts the average industrial wage out of his Dail pay packet and diverts the rest into Socialist party funds to fight campaigns such as those of the Turkish Gama workers.

Dr Gerry Crowley, an Independent TD for Mayo, who topped the poll in the last general election is another "do-gooder". He has taken on the plight of the Rossport 5 (They have been in prison now



I walked in and was handed a free copy of The Irish Times. Sister Mary beamed radiantly at me and pointed me in the direction of the orientation. By the time I had figured out what stairs actually went up to level five, I was more disorientated than anything else! The fuzzy feeling in my head stayed with me as we were bombarded with information about subjects, timetables and support services. And just in case you thought you were invincible, you might come out of The Palace on your first night out and break both your legs.

Luckily, Adonis..er..Yannis (sorry, Freudian slip) would be there for us if we needed some counselling. The highlight was when DITSU came in to tell us about all the clubs and social events. Ah, where else would you find a Virgin Society where you get funded to go place because it's your "first time"? I wonder if I could arrange an excursion to Mount Vesuvias?

At lunch time, we were entertained by a couple of comedians. The first guy was funny enough but the second guy was just cringe worthy and I got the feeling that he might run home to

have a good cry in his pillow or else just badmouth the humourless DIT over a pint or seven.

Next up was a girl singing about masturbation. At that stage I didn't know whether I was coming or going, so I plodded off for a surprisingly quick and efficient registration and I got issued with my student card and the photo is horrendous! I'm going to have to show that to a jeering bus driver for a whole year! In a haze of fun and madness I left DIT.

Four days until classes start, now that's what college life is all about!

---

around and had a sinking feeling that I would be the "mammy" of the class with the average age of a first year students being 19.

The decision to go to college is a big one whether you're eighteen or twenty eight. Your chosen course could potentially pave a career which you will follow until retirement comes knocking, so a little research and a lot of thought may be a good idea. If one was to write life's gig guide, it would conventionally be; school, college, work, finding that perfect person to light a fire in your belly, settling down, spawning a new genera-

tion and finally winding down with a good cigar and some fine cognac. Luckily for those of us who crashed and burned where convention was concerned pages, three and four of the CAO form throw us a life line in the shape of a mature student application.

Leading up to the course start date my expectations changed with the same ferocity as the Irish weather. Would my quest for knowledge outweigh my usually laid back demeanor? Would my classmates look on me as the "Tim nice but Dim" character they smiled at but couldn't relate to?

Regardless of whether any of these scenarios rang true we are all now in the same boat. The next four years will see friendships formed, first opinions ditched and a common wall to bang ones head off come exam time which will neither be ageist or classis. With that in mind I need not care so much about demographics and concentrate my efforts on disproving Wilde's quote. Mind you getting the editor to read and then publish this certainly deserves a clap on an old girls back!

---

for almost three months for disobeying a court order instructing them not to interfere with work on the Shell Corrib gas pipeline) and has lobbied extensively for their release.

One man who really got my sympathy vote was Liam O Gógáin who ran as an Independent in the Meath by-election in March. His campaign was to highlight the issue of discrimination against fathers in child custody cases.

The Progressive Democrats on the other hand are great for the middle class: terrible for the work-

ing class. Their "pro-competition, pro-consumer policies" favour those who have money, but are thrifty with it.

Michael McDowell thinks "inequality is an incentive to the economy" and Mary Harney wants to build private hospitals for private patients while subsidising the cost of these new hospitals with taxpayers' money to the tune of 42%

The Fine Gael/Labour coalition pact initiative seems to be giving them a good chance of getting into power in the next general

election. But what will we do without Bertie as Taoiseach? The man once described as the "the most devious, the most cunning of them all" by none other than Charles Haughey.

I'm tired of Bertie's attitude of "if the economy is going well, then everything else should be too". Sorry Bertie but that's wrong.

Thanks to Eddie Hobbs the political landscape has become interesting once again and has been reignited by people on the street that the inequality doesn't have to go on.



# Are we living in a Rip-Off Republic?

The Compact talked to few DIT students to gauge their thoughts on the Eddie Hobbs phenomenon and to see are they feeling the pinch of the Rip-Off Republic.



Daragh Gibbons  
3rd Year Business

"You can lay the blame partly with the government for the tax rates 'cause you're taxed for everything but also I think the country has become particularly greedy, everyone wants to live a bit more, it's just a vicious circle."



Liza O'Riordan  
3rd Year BMusEd

"The Government aren't to blame for everything it's also businesses who rip each other off. I would think about leaving Dublin because the cost of living here is too expensive. Going out is nearly impossible now it's €20 for a taxi, €10 in the place and €5 for a pint. It's a joke."



Michelle Dwyer  
1st Year Business

"Yea it is rip-off Ireland because everyone is getting ripped off by prices. Clothes are more expensive than in France like all the designer labels. There's loads of people to blame, you can't just blame one person"



Kiara Berry  
1st Year Business

"Of course it's rip-off Ireland, most things are expensive, whatever you want to buy is more expensive than anywhere else in the world, all the clothes are really dear in this country. When I finish college I'm gonna move to America"



Morgan Slattery  
Master Stat.  
Management

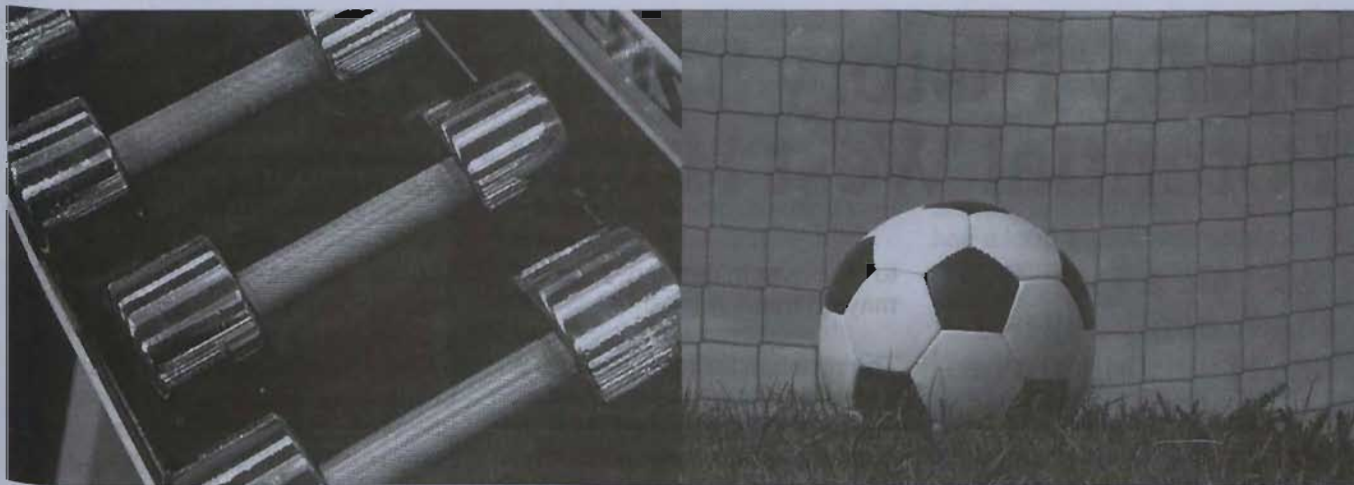
"Yea, it is, it's so more expensive than any other European countries. Drink is expensive of course. I was in a club the other day called Rio's and it cost me €10 to get in and €5.20 for a pint and I'm definitely not going back there again."



Valerie Farrell  
2nd Year  
Journalism

"I blame businesses because they know people are going to buy the stuff and it's people naivety as well because they are going to buy it anyway, America and Eastern Europe is cheaper"





## Sport at DIT

**As DIT is committed to the pursuit of excellence in all aspects of its work, we in the Sports Unit are also committed to ensuring that quality sports opportunities are available to our student members.**

A dedicated sports team works extremely hard to ensure you have access to ALL of the quality sports programmes and facilities DIT has to offer. Over the years we have developed a comprehensive sports programme which offers a mixture of outdoor and indoor, competitive and non-competitive recreational activities catering for beginners through to elite athletes. The 'Team' (listed below) is always at hand to assist you in identifying the different sports activities on offer to you, 'The Students'. Whether your chosen activity is outdoor or indoor, team based or individual, competitive or fun, there is an activity for You.

At the moment there are over forty vibrant sports clubs at the Institute that facilitate all levels of abilities from the leisure seeking to the competition orientated.

We offer a large diversity of activity among the large number of official Sports Clubs, with activities as diverse as Basketball and Aqua Aerobics, Hill Walking and Martial Arts Activities, Yoga and Scuba Diving. Students who are new to the DIT find that involvement in a sport often, via a sports club, helps them settle into college life by providing a wide circle of friends. So make sure you participate in at least one activity during your stay at the Institute.

### The 'Team' - Contact Details

**Niamh O'Callaghan**  
Sports Development Officer  
niamh.ocallaghan@dit.ie  
Tel.: 01 4024153/087 2985849

**Caragh O'Buachalla**  
Sports Development Officer  
caragh.obuachalla@dit.ie  
Tel.: 01 4024341/087 2933442

**Herbie McClelland**  
Sports Development Officer  
Tel.: 01 4023042/087 2245507

**Seamus Byrne**  
Physical Education Lecturer  
seamus.byrne@dit.ie  
Tel.: 01 4024634

**Daragh Biddlecombe**  
GAA Development Officer  
Tel.: 087 2245508

### Sports Facilities at DIT

The Institute has a number of quality sports facilities that cater for a wide variety of sports.

DIT Kevin Street Leisure Facilities Include:

- 'State of the Art' Gymnasium which boasts an extensive variety of world class exercise and fitness equipment
- 18 meter four lane Pool
- Martial Arts Centre of Excellence

Bolton Street Facilities Include:

- New fully equipped gym with latest high-tec exercise and fitness equipment - this newly developed facility will open to students in late October 2005
- A multi-purpose sports hall

'Whether you are interested in a leisurely swim or a more strenuous workout..... our leisure facilities provide the perfect setting'. All of our facilities are supervised by qualified professional staff. For more information on our opening hours, membership rates and pool/fitness class programme please visit our sports facilities website -- [www.ditsports.ie](http://www.ditsports.ie) or e-mail [info@ditsports.ie](mailto:info@ditsports.ie)



# Murky History Shadows Over Potential West Ham Purchase

**"MSI are a very shady company no-one is actually aware of who these investors are and it may not be true but it has been reported that they have strong links to money laundering groups and fixing football matches."**

SPORTS

BY CORMAC CAHILL

"We should stand and fight, for this club is one club that can't be bought", says an anonymous fan on the official West Ham United website's fans' forum amid the prospect of the football club being taken over by Media Sport Investment (MSI) with many football purists up in arms about another club selling out to the money.

The £200m bid is being fronted by MSI's chairman, Kia Joorabchian, 34 year-old Iranian-born business man and representatives from MSI have already met with West Ham United officials where a price of £45m on buying the club, £30m for the club's debts, £30m to keep cash flow going and a further £100m on investments on new players was discussed. Joorabchian has been quoted as saying that, "If there is any bid made, it will only be for next year. But if next week the board of directors decides that they want to start to make a bid

to take over in January, then we may do that."

The problem for football purists and Uefa, the games European rulers, is not necessarily MSI themselves but more so the unknown backers of the company and their murky past. It is alleged that Boris Berezovsky, a 59 year-old Russian oligarch and Badri Patarkatsishvili, the wealthiest man in Georgia owner the country's football champions Dinamo Tbilisi, are involved with MSI. The pair have also been linked with MSI's part-ownership of Brazilian football side, Corinthians and in an interview with the Observer newspaper last August, Badri admitted as much, "we have invested in a wonderful football club in Brazil, Corinthians. We have invested in the Brazil team with Boris Berezovsky."

"I have a couple of (football) investments that I am reluctant to mention - they are in the process of being finalised. I think money has a wonderful habit of flowing where it feels comfortable. I invest in these football clubs with friends", Badri continued.

However, in another interview with the Observer newspaper, Boris Berezovsky denied that he had any involvement with Badri, West Ham United and MSI but conceded he has agreed to help out Corinthians, "I am not an investor in MSI. Company management has asked me to invest in the team (Corinthians), but I told them I had no such intention. I have invested in the construction of the stadium for the club."

The backers of MSI may be in doubt but one thing is for sure

- Berezovsky cannot go back to Russia while President Vladimir Putin is in power. There, he faces a long list of charges against him including embezzling \$13m from his own car empire, Logovaz, back in 1994, for embezzling money from Aeroflot, for defrauding one of Russia's biggest car companies, Avtovaz, and for financing Chechen guerillas.

Berezovsky became a major oil magnate in Russia when, in 1995, then President, Boris Yeltsin, offered him a newly-created oil company, Sibneft, for over \$100m even though it was later valued at over \$1bn. In 2000, Berezovsky fell out of favour with newly elected Putin and sold out his holdings in Sibneft to a certain Roman Abramovich and fled Russia facing fraud charges. Berezovsky was then offered political asylum in the UK and now resides in London where he is now known as Platon Elinen to the Home Office.

There are many theories as to why Berezovsky would want to buy West Ham United and according to distinguished Independent journalist, David Conn, these reasons may be the same as why fellow billionaire and old business partner, Roman Abramovich, bought Chelsea in 2003. "Vladimir Putin's government has moved against several oligarchs for various alleged crimes, and while Abramovich was buying Chelsea and becoming a global icon through the incomparable publicity vehicle of football, (fellow oligarch) Mikhail Khodorkovsky was being stripped of his company, liberty and money"

"Abramovich bought a football club - to make himself more se-



cure by building his image around Europe and moving money out of Russia...courtesy of Sky TV and tabloid newspapers' coverage of football as a glorious soap opera, he has settled into a celebrity not unlike that of the more local businessmen who bought clubs in the century before him."

The West Ham United brand is a marketable commodity, so what do the fans think of it all? A sell-out to alleged crooks or are they simply putting their beloved football club first? I checked out the live fans' forum on the official West Ham United website ([www.whufc.com](http://www.whufc.com)) where many fans have been exchanging their views on the proposed take-over.

A fan who was using the name "smiller836" on the fans' forum left this message, "If MSI gets control of Upton Park and the team we all love - they will destroy us.

We won't be famous for bringing the best of English youth to football no more. We will be like Chelsea who have bought their way to success. I don't know about you but I certainly don't want that."

Another fan, who was anonymous, left another message on the forum supporting the proposed take over. "At the end of the day Hammers supporters want to see a little success every so often. I have passed the legacy onto my 2 sons and 2 daughters and they have endured the taunting from the Chels (Chelsea) the Arse (Arsenal) & Totts (Tottenham Hotspur) amongst others in the last couple of seasons. It would be nice to have something to shout about again. Another Paulo Di Canio would do nicely that you very much. Lets give our Sons & Daughters something to shout about. Come on u irons".

The future of West Ham United remains in the balance and a lot will depend on the principle owners of the football club who include Chairman Terry Brown and the two families who have had a long association with the club, namely the Cearns and the Hills.

Uefa, European rulers of the game are concerned about the increased amount of investors involved in the purchasing of football clubs in Europe as they believe this continues to be the trend there is an increased risk of money laundering, bribery and match fixing. Lars-Christer Olsson, Uefa chief executive, says that this is true, "For the illegal gamblers and money launderers, it is a good way to make their money clean."

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# Reviews

☆☆☆☆☆ TERRIBLE  
 ★☆☆☆☆ POOR  
 ★★★☆☆ AVERAGE

★★★☆☆ GOOD  
 ★★★★★ EXCELLENT  
 ★★★★★ UNMISSABLE



## Pride & Prejudice

By: Valerie Farrell

★★★★★

The new film version of Jane Austen's classic, *Pride and Prejudice*, resembles more a study in realism than a period drama. It is murkier and grittier than the BBC adaptation of the novel; gone are the empire-line pristine costumes instead, Elizabeth Bennett (Keira Knightley), and her four sisters appear in grubby browns and greys bare no make-up and windswept hair.

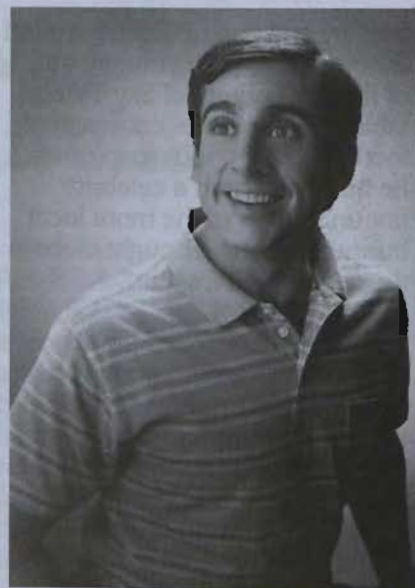
Despite impressive performances by Knightley, Judi Dench (Lady Catherine de Burgh) and also Donald Sutherland and Brenda Blethyn, as the surprisingly happily married Mr. and Mrs. Bennett, the real star of the film is the director Joe Wright, especially when you consider that this is his feature film debut.

Some of the images in the film are breathtaking; the opening credits alone took away all my cynicism for a film version of my favourite novel (and starring Keira Knightley of all people!). The director, Joe Wright, manages to make the English countryside appear beautiful but forbidding; you can almost feel the frosty morning through which Elizabeth and Mr. Darcy (Matthew MacFadyen) tramp to meet each other.

Another memorable scene is when Elizabeth Bennett strides away from Mr. Darcy through the public ball with a look of triumph on her face after injuring his pride, Mr. Bingley (Simon Woods) then reaches out to touch the back of Jane Bennett's (Rosamund Pike) dress, as a child would do, as he walks behind her.

All these things more than make-up for the sparse and sometimes awkward dialogue (I'm pretty sure "What did you do to Mr. Darcy?" was not in Austen's novel) and the over simplification of some of the sharper satire in the novel which results in characters appearing to be "dumbed down".

This film should be seen by everyone: even if you've never had an interest in the novel. Keira Knightley gives her best performance to date as the emotionally isolated Elizabeth Bennett. All in all, famous and unfamiliar faces make *Pride and Prejudice* one of the most original films of 2005 - It beats the horrendous *Stealth* anyway.



## The 40-Year-Old Virgin

By Sharon Vogiatzi

★★★★★

"The longer you wait, the harder it gets" is one of the taglines used to promote *The 40-Year-Old Virgin*. My advice would be not to wait to go to see this romantic comedy. It's full of fun and laughter and, unlike many of today's comedies, it doesn't star Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson or even Vince Vaughn, but boasts a refreshingly unknown cast. And the result is uproarious!

Steve Carrell (best known for portraying David Brent in the American version of *The Office*) plays Andy Stitzer in the lead role as a shy, slightly geeky man who's more comfortable playing video games and watching *Survivor* with his neighbours than socialising. He rides to his job in an electronics store every day but, unfortunately, that's about all he... (Oh, you get what I'm trying to say, don't you?!) He's had a couple of disastrous first attempts at sex (recounted in a very comical flashback scene) and has decided to give up trying.

One night, over a game of poker, his workmates are discussing their sexual exploits. David (played



see the world  
differently



[oxygen.ie](http://oxygen.ie)



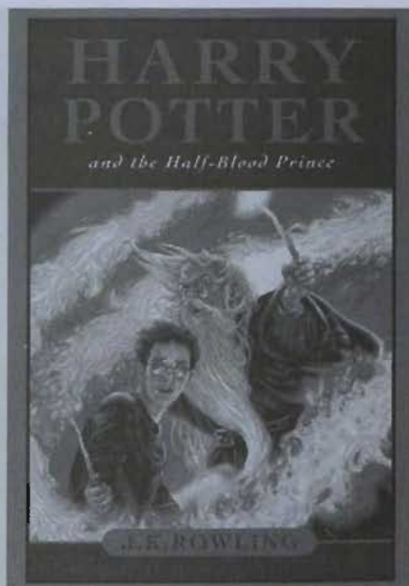
by Paul Rudd- you may recognise him as Phoebe's hubbie in *Friends*), is refusing to speak of anything other than his love-hate relationship with his cheating ex-girlfriend and randy Cal is recounting one of his many sex/animal tales. They turn to Andy for his contribution and he tells them, rather hesitantly, about an imaginary previous girlfriend, who he says was "freaky", liked to talk dirty and wanted sex all the time. When he describes her breasts as "bags of sand", the guys cop that Andy is a virgin and decide to get him laid.

This becomes their main priority and leads to some outrageous nights out where copious amounts of alcohol are consumed. It appears that Andy is about to get lucky but the lady he goes off with almost kills them both while drink-driving and ends up vomiting all over him (seafood has now officially lost its appeal for me).

Beneath it all, Andy doesn't want just anybody but he must grow up in order to get the woman he wants. This means stripping his apartment bare of anything unsexy, selling his vintage action figures and...waxing his chest. This scene is side-splitting! According to various newspaper articles and websites, the chest-waxing and the blood on Steve Carrell's shirt afterwards were real. One wonders were the obscenities spurring out of Carrell's mouth part of the script or were they real-life too??

A lesser cast could have lost its audience with the often crude sex jokes.

The 40-Year-Old Virgin is well worth the ride to the cinema. Aside from all the cringing (if you're dumb enough to go with your ma), this movie will have you laughing out loud.



## Harry Potter & The Half-Blood Prince

By Sharon Vogiatzi



I feel it necessary, before reviewing the book itself, to describe the magic and anticipation that abounded on the 16th July. Bookshops around the country opened at midnight to allow enthusiastic children and their sleepy, but secretly excited, parents to purchase a copy of the eagerly-awaited sixth instalment of the Harry Potter fix.

I was dragged along to the newly-opened Barker and Jones in Naas by a thirteen-year-old Spanish student no less. The queue went all the way up the main street and resembled a scene freshly plucked from J.K. Rowling's imagination. Kids dressed as their favourite 'Harry Potter' characters hopped impatiently from foot to foot. A flame-thrower grinned maniacally and hissed at the crowds. Balloons were handed out, photos were snapped, and a gloating grown-up drove by, waving the much-desired hardback out the window at us poor suckers waiting in the cold. The guards standing nearby reminded me of Muggles caught somewhere

between Hogwarts and the Leaky Cauldron. It was when I spotted a young boy, who must have been no older than ten, walk out of the shop, his head buried in the book already, that I decided I had to purchase myself a copy. With the adult cover, I might add. And it was well worth it! I have to admit, I was a bit disappointed at the start. It didn't haul me in with the same urgency as did the other five parts. It wasn't until the third chapter that we got to meet Harry again.

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince is certainly one of the darker of the series. Still, J.K. Rowling manages to mix well the bewitching ingredients of danger, suspense, humour, romance and heart-breaking sadness.

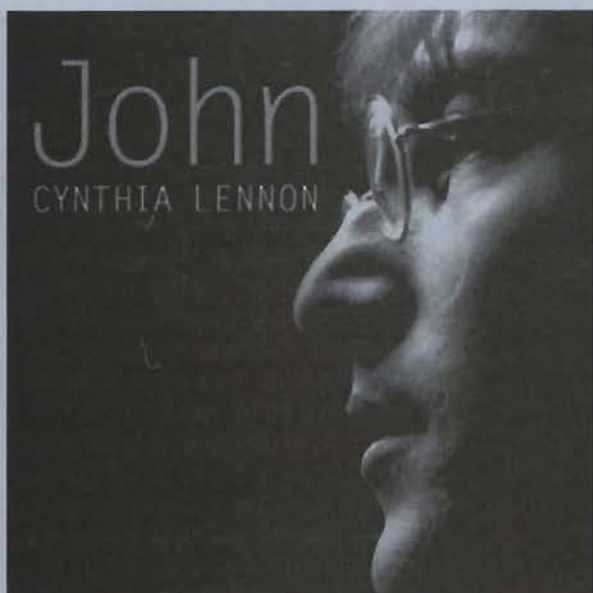
However, it seems that Harry is not just interested in the Weasleys for their comedy value. Much to his dismay, Harry finds himself becoming more and more attracted to Ginny. Will he be able to suppress his emotions and if he can't, will Ron approve? Or will Harry die before he gets his lucky break?

Harry has been through a lot and is determined to avenge his parents' death. His bravery helps him find the answers lurking behind the questions such as: What happened to Dumbledore's hand? Is the usually wise principal being foolish in trusting the sinister Snape?

With Professor Trelawney's prophecy looming ominously throughout, readers can't help but wonder, who will die in the next and last of the Harry Potter series- Harry or, dare I speak His Name, Voldemort?

Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince had me wishing I could throw on an Invisibility Cloak so I could enjoy the journey in peace!





## John

By Cormac Cahill



This book questions the public persona that Lennon fashioned around the world in the early 1970's as the honest, loving and caring peacemaker. Cynthia Lennon, John's first wife, offers the reader a devastating account of John Lennon's tempers, tantrums and physical abuse towards her that dominated their time together.

The book does not hold back and John is portrayed as being cruel not just Cynthia herself but to the couple's only son Julian. This is especially true when Cynthia tells the reader about their messy divorce and the arrival of Yoko Ono in the late 1960's. After that, Cynthia and Julian were forgotten about. "I learnt from newspaper reports that John had gone to live in the United States with Yoko - without a word to eight-year old Julian. It was three years before Julian saw his father again."

This is typical of the tone and mood of the book and will leave readers seriously questioning Lennon's sporting of peace on an international scale while neglecting his ex-wife and son.

After John's murder on 8th December 1980, Julian was invited to New York by Yoko to grieve: but Cynthia was not. Yoko isn't spared either.

This book offers a unique insight into what the real John Lennon was about. Next time you hear 'Imagine' on the radio, spare a thought for Cynthia and Julian Lennon won't you?

# Food for Thought.

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# Freshers' Week Events

## 3rd – 7th October 2005

### Aungier St.

**MONDAY**  
Pillow Challenge, DJ,  
Band, Pool Killers  
Eating Competition  
P.M: Cornerstone

**TUESDAY**  
DJ, Band, Evening  
18.30: F-RAG TRIP  
(Mystery Destination)  
Buses depart Aungier St.

**WEDNESDAY**  
County Colours  
Classic GAA on Big  
Screens 10 – 2 pm  
Student Night in Tramco  
with Band:  
'Big Generator'

**THURSDAY**  
DIT FRESHERS FAIR  
Aungier St. Campus

### Bolton St.

**MONDAY**  
Jousting, DJ, Band  
Killer Pool, Eating Com-  
petition, P.M: Bodkins

**TUESDAY**  
DJ, Band, Evening  
18.30: F-RAG TRIP  
(Mystery Destination)  
Buses depart MJSq.

**WEDNESDAY**  
County Colours  
Classic GAA on Big  
Screens  
Student Night in Big  
Tree with Band:  
'Blue Moose'

**THURSDAY**  
DIT FRESHERS FAIR  
Aungier St. Campus

### Cathal Brugha Street

**MONDAY**  
Sumo Challenge ,Band  
Pool Killers, Eating Com-  
petition , P.M: Sidewalk

**TUESDAY**  
DJ, Band, Evening  
18.30: F-RAG TRIP  
(Mystery Destination)  
Buses depart MJSq.

**WEDNESDAY**  
County Colours  
Classic GAA on big  
screens  
Student Night in Big  
Tree with Band:  
'Blue Moose'

**THURSDAY**  
DIT FRESHERS FAIR  
Aungier St. Campus

### Kevin St.

**MONDAY**  
Bouncy Castle, DJ, Band  
Eating Competition  
P.M Cornerstone

**TUESDAY**  
DJ, Band ,Evening  
18.30: F-RAG TRIP  
(Mystery Destination)  
Buses depart Aungier St.

**WEDNESDAY**  
County Colours  
Classic GAA on the big  
screens  
Student Night in Tramco  
with Band:  
'Big Generator'

**THURSDAY**  
DIT FRESHERS FAIR  
Aungier St. Campus

### Mountjoy Sq.

**MONDAY**  
Fat Tarts, DJ, Band  
Pool killers, Eating Com-  
petition, Evening: Living  
Room

**TUESDAY**  
DJ, Band, Evening  
18.30: F-RAG TRIP  
(Mystery Destination)  
Buses depart MJSq.

### WEDNESDAY

County Colours  
Classic GAA on the big  
screens  
Student Night in Big  
Tree with Band Blue  
Moose

### Rathmines

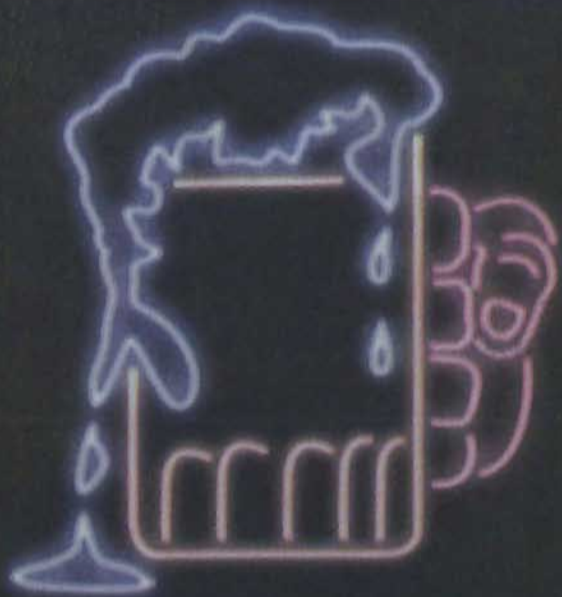
**MONDAY**  
Bungee Run  
p.m Tramco

**TUESDAY**  
DJ, Pool Killers, Evening  
18.30: F-RAG TRIP  
(Mystery Destination)  
Buses depart Aungier St.

**WEDNESDAY**  
County Colours  
Classic GAA on the big  
screens  
Student Night in Tramco  
with Band:  
'Big Generator'

**THURSDAY**  
DIT FRESHERS FAIR  
Aungier St. Campus





# Top Places to Eat, Drink & Listen to Music.

Your guide to going out in Dublin

ENTERTAINMENT

BY CORMAC CAHILL

## Tram Co.

121 Lower Rathmines Road, Dublin 6.

This is one of the better pub/club venues in Dublin and it is situated very much in the heart of the really decent night-life area of the Lower Rathmines Road. Tram Co. has been extensively refurbished and is unrecognisable from the more traditional and rustic look of years gone by.

It re-opened in June 2004 and now boasts a fully covered outside terrace at the back with electric heating (to accommodate those who still worship the pint and a smoke combination) and also oak floors and stainless steel stairs.

If it's dancing you're after in a busy and friendly environment you can't go wrong here. There are DJ's here seven days a week (at least there was when I was in college!) so check out local listings for more details.

## The Big Tree

39 Dorset Street Lower, Dublin 1.

This was the venue for the DIT Students' Union Virgin Ball (Northside) on the 21st September and I would recommend you make this your new favourite local this year (especially if you are in Bolton Street or Mountjoy Square) as there is a lot to be said for this decent watering hole.

The venue has moved away slightly from its traditional past and is now consists of a modern interior with a relaxed, contemporary feel to the place. The Big Tree also cater extremely well for students with a wide array of live music throughout the week and a great food menu to choose from makes this the ideal student hide out.

## The Corner Stone

44 Wexford Street, Dublin 2.

This pub could be thought of as some what of a contradiction - It possesses the rustic qualities of a traditional Irish bar and the suave contemporary feel of a modern day club. But these two qualities have been fused together to create the unique setting that is The Corner Stone.

The first thing you will notice about this pub is the cross section of Dublin patrons that frequent it - there you will see business men, office folk and students alike, who sit down together harmoniously, and enjoy the commendable Guinness that is on offer here.

One of the main pull factors of this pub is the lunchtime food menu that it provides and at affordable prices too so not to disrupt student budgets too much.

There is no live music at this venue but there is plenty of DJ nights here so watch out for local listings.

## O'Neills Bar

Suffolk Street, Dublin 2.

O' Neills enjoys a unique setting on Suffolk St. in the very heart of Dublin city centre, just off Dame St. and Grafton St. This is a traditional pub that does not play any loud music but instead, hosts a live traditional music session every weekend.

There you will find many small rooms and snugs ideal for a great drinking session on a number of floors and levels that offers the pub uniqueness not found in many pubs in Dublin any longer.

The pub's staff are extremely friendly (get one of the oul' lads to pull you a pint of Guinness it's the best you can get in Dublin!).



## Bodkins Bar

Bolton Street,  
Dublin 1.

This contemporary venue offers a great duke box that keeps its clientele happy until closing time. This is offered in a relaxed atmosphere and don't be worried about high entry fees this place is free and on Friday nights offers the best in electronic music.

The inside of the pub is spacious with contemporary feel compared to other pubs in the area and the modern interior appears cosy and warm and not too clinical and the good acoustics make for good music and good prices and friendly staff what are you all waiting for?

## The Living Room,

Cathal Brugha Street,  
Dublin 1.

This is positioned in the busy Cathal Brugha St. just off the ubiquitous

O'Connell Street and offers a diverse range of beer, larger and stout. This is certainly a lively pub and a wide range of music can be enjoyed here whether it be pop, rock or traditional music this could be the place for you?

The inside of the pub has a contemporary feel and offers a nice welcome if the stress of college is getting you down. During the week there is good craic in the pub with fine beer but the weekends is definitely when this place gets going and the friendly staff will make sure you aren't waiting too long for that pint you crave.

## Slattery's Pub

217-219 Lower Rathmines Road,  
Dublin 6.

This is another traditional pub but this time in the heart of Rathmines, just a 10 minute walk from Stephen's Green but well worth it. Slattery's is another tradi-

tional pub in every sense of the word. There are bar stools, snugs, tiny enclaves with sloping floors (if you don't believe me go and see for yourself!) and an open sitting area.

The decor is mostly wooden and traditional, but not retro; you get the feeling these fixtures and fittings have been here since the creation of the State itself. The place possesses something that is quite unique and the Guinness here is faultless and served by efficient staff.

Before the smoking ban, a billow of smoke would hit patrons on arriving in the pub's wooden doors but these welcomed patrons in and didn't deter them away. All things must pass thanks to the PC Police but the pub has lost a small bit of character since the smokers were forced to have their fix outside of the pub's walls.

## Whelans,

25 Wexford Street,  
Dublin 2.

If you have never heard about this live music venue before then you will pretty soon. Whelans has hosted some of the best alternative music that Ireland has had to offer for the last couple of decades. They have boasted the emergence of such artists as Paddy Casey, Declan Sinnott, Juliet Turner and even The Thrills, who have gone on the have reasonable success.

It is very much an old fashioned pub (the bar tops and tiles date back to the 1950's). There is music on there constantly either in the form of a backdrop to conversation or in the form of countless gigs that go on in the back section of the pub every night of the week. There is also a DJ that plays after these gigs on the weekends until late.

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Bolton St. D1

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"Bolton Streets Off Campus Bar"

Live Sports Events  
Student Parties Welcome





# Virgin Ball

**SOUTHSIDE** > The one thing that sticks in my mind about the Tram Co. Virgin Ball is that the band Zoot Alures was loud; bloody loud. They played a varied set that included a couple of U2 numbers and disappeared into the night leaving me ears ringing as I left the premises after a few (free) pints of Miller.

Anyone who was there will tell you that the night went really well and everyone seemed to have a

great time (just see the pictures on the [www.ditsu.ie](http://www.ditsu.ie) if you don't believe me!).

When I first arrived at 9pm the place was empty and I had to check my ticket to see if I had arrived too early. "It did say 9pm on the ticket, didn't it?" yea, it did but these freshers like to be fashionably late, so I waited for them.

I was relieved to see that by 10pm the band had started (to make

to go deaf) and the freshers had started to arrive, leaving a massive queue far behind them as they made their way to the bar.

The band played very well to a receptive crowd and as I sat back and took a few pictures with my camera for the magazine I thought to myself, "It's not bad being a student is it?"

I'm giving the night a 9/10.



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THE ULTIMATE 90'S NIGHT



**FRANKIE SAYS**  
IT'S THE  
CHEESEST  
90'S NIGHT  
IN TOWN

**MIAMI VICE**



## Mile High Club



## Charity-Party



MONDAY NIGHT

## 90'spotting

SELECT DRINKS €4 • COCKTAILS €5  
ADMISSION FREE

TUESDAY NIGHT

## Tunes & Cheese

DEY DOWN & DIRTY TILL 2.30am  
ADMISSION FREE

THURSDAY NIGHT

## FRANKIE SAYS

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FRIDAY NIGHT

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PROMOTION STARTS TUESDAY 7th OCTOBER

SATURDAY NIGHT

## Mile High Club

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HEAD TO Q BAR & LET THE GOOD TIMES BEGIN

SUNDAY NIGHT

## Charity-Party

PARTY HERE TO MOVE YOUR FEEL  
ADMISSION FREE

# STUDENT MANIA



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# The Living Room

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Monday night is student night

Pool Tables

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**NORTHSIDE** > The night began at 9pm with eager freshers queuing anxiously outside The Big Tree on Dorset Street and, with tickets priced at just €5, who wouldn't want to?

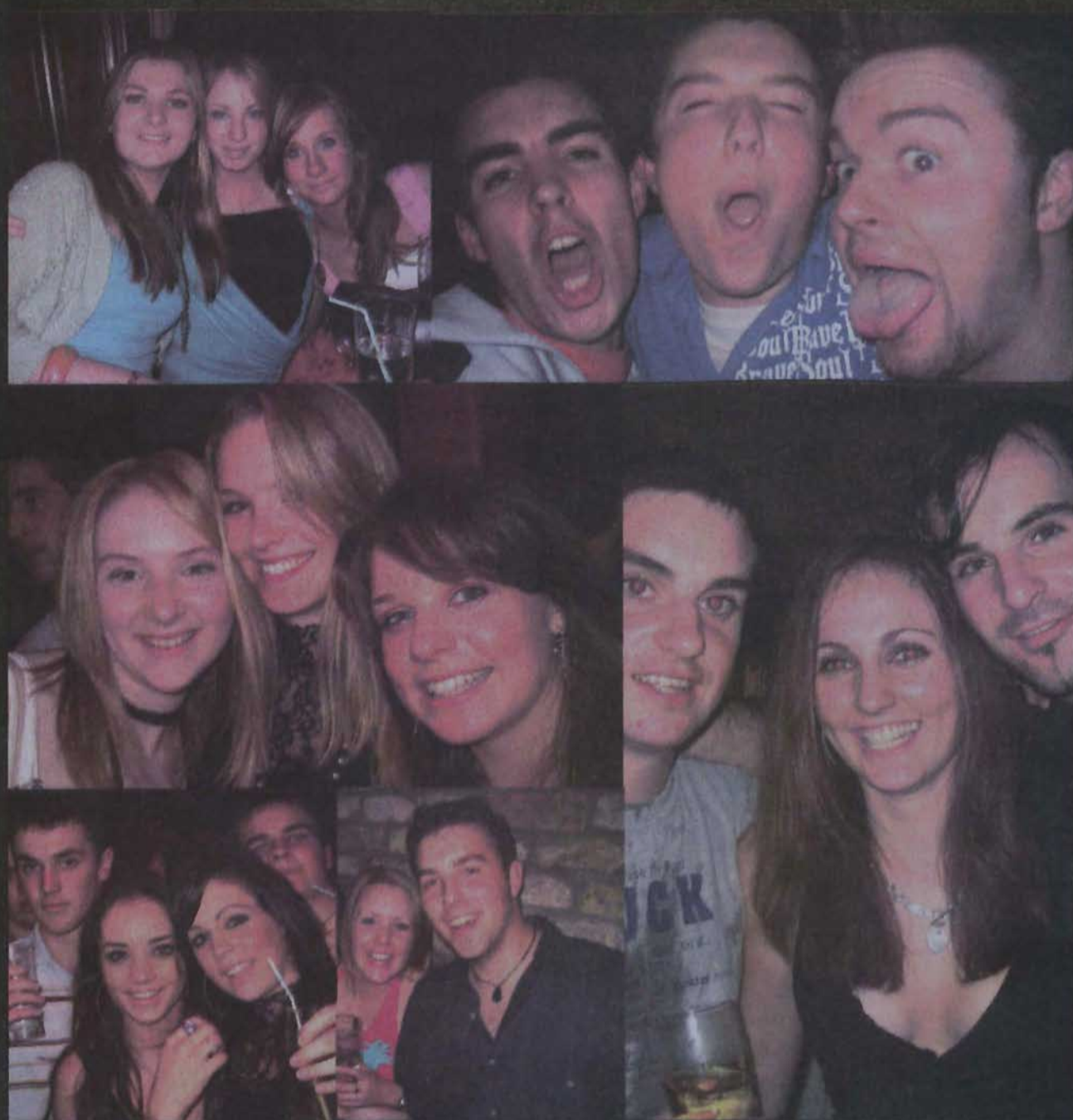
By 10pm the bar began to fill up with students from all the DIT's, including Bolton St., Augier St., Kevin's St. and Cathal Brugha St., all chatting and having a good

time in the new surroundings of their college lives.

A really good band called Blue Moose came out at about 10.00pm and provided the night's great entertainment with quality music and after they did that the night began to get going with excellent covers of chart topping music.

The bar was almost full to capacity by midnight with 700 to 800 students enjoying promotions on Fosters at €3 a pint it turned out to be a great night.

In all, it was a very successful freshers debut night of the academic year and will be followed by many more in the coming weeks.







# VERTIGO

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# The Cornerstone

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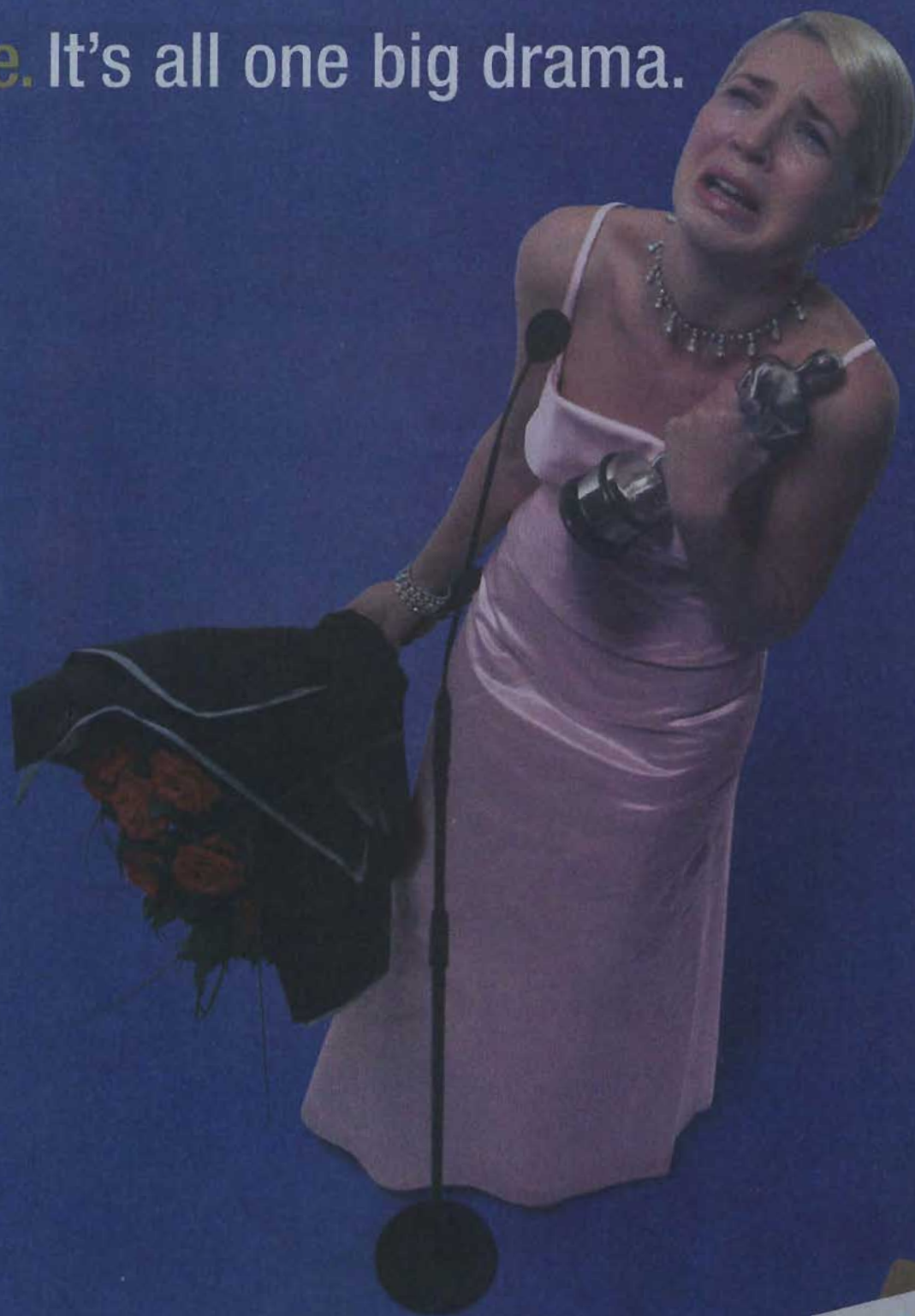


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