

REFERENDUM RESULTS - BEST EVER TURNOUT

THE REFERENDUM ON REPEATS HAD THE BIGGEST EVER TURNOUT FROM STUDENTS IN THE HISTORY OF OF U.L. STUDENTS' UNIONS.

Week 8
Semester 1, 1995

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No one could have escaped the fact that it was referendum day if they walked through the canteen on Tuesday week 7. Different Class Reps and volunteers had helped with Banners, posters and flyers for the week before. So what was the outcome?

The outcome was that 3,700 students turned out for the referendum. The breakdown of results was that of the 3,700, 3,676 voted Yes, 21 voted No and 3 votes were spoilt. The numbers proved that not only were a huge majority of students in favour of re-implementing a repeat system but also students felt so strongly about it that they came out in their thousands to vote. The message sent as a result of the high turnout is that the momentum behind the campaign for repeats has grown further. The fact that 3,676 students came out to vote out a system in place and vote in a system that is ready for implementation is something that can not be ignored. This represents to the eyes of the Students' Union a major flaw in the current system in that students do not see the system as satisfactory.

The three sabbatical officers presented the results to the University President, Dr. Ed Walsh on the Wednesday following the referendum. The meeting with the President lasted an hour. In this meeting the S.U. representatives pointed out to the President that while the highest turnout of students previously had been 2,200, a turnout of 3,700 students could not afford to be ignored and would not be ignored. It was also pointed out that as more students had voted on this than had voted the sabbatical officers into power, that this demand from students was a high priority issue.

It was also stated that this referendum was the Students' Unions review of the present system. The Students' Union had walked out of a committee that was to review the

present system because it was recommended by the University Registrar that the current system be kept in place for minimum of three years. This was in the eyes of the Students' Union a preposterous remark in that it was influencing a group before investigation had taken place. It pressurised the academics involved to come up with a solution that would keep the registrar happy (thus cloud their judgement) and it was in breach of governing body request. The request was that before any recommendations were made, that the extent and terms of reference of the review be decided on between the University Registrar and the S.U. President Brian Synnott. The registrar did not meet with the President of the Students' Union and precepted a review of the system by stating what he wanted the outcome to be. The S.U. then had no choice but to hold a referendum and have their view stated. The referendum results are a statement of what the S.U. sees as the ultimate review (i.e. asking the students). The S.U. now recommends, not a personal view, but the view of it's members that the present repeat structure be replaced by the re implementation of repeat exams at the end of each academic year as recommended by the Final Report on Student Progression in April 1993.

The University Registrar did state, when telling Academic Council what he saw the outcome of a review into repeats should be, that obviously if there was a huge problem with the current system that major change could be recommended. Although this was practically said as an aside, what the referendum results now shows is that there is a huge problem and that a change has to be made and that is to re implement the repeat exams at the end of each academic year.

Academic council will meet on December 6th next, at this meeting a vote will be called on the repeat system in place. It will be sent at this meeting, just how representative of University views, Academic Council is.

Radio Week - WEEK 10

When you've recovered from Soul, brace yourself for the official launch of student Radio. WIRED FM. Broadcasting on 103FM the station has been coming together over the last year in W's Studio in Mary Immaculate College. The week will be full of give aways on air, interviews on the three student campuses in Limerick and a bit of craze!

SOUL '95

Week 9 sees the arrival of a major new festival to campus. SOUL '95 is it's name and there is an amazing line-up for students. Events such as a 14 piece samba band, the Multi-Cultural Food Fair, 24 hours a day Radio Broadcasting, the Heineken Debate, Late Night Films, the play 'Be Strong And No Fear Not' and a masked ball will make this a week to remember. Heineken and The Stables Club are

teaming up to ensure that this is a great social occasion. A programme for the week is included with this edition of An Focal. SOUL has benefited from the support of Canon, Bus Etraun, USIT and Limerick Corporation. Many thanks to them.

Enjoy.



DIVORCE SUPPLEMENT INSIDE

STUDENT'S UNION



University of Limerick

an Focal

University of Limerick Students' Union

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...through the voters on Tuesday week. Different Class Reps and volunteers had helped with the process, and there for the week before. So what was the result?

The referendum was held. A total of 2,875 students voted. The turnout was 78.5%. The results of the referendum were that 2,875 students voted in favour of the current system. The turnout was 78.5%.

...sent as a result of the high turnout is that the referendum behind the campaign for repeat has grown further. The fact that 2,875 students came out to vote-out a system in place and vote in a system that is ready for implementation is something that can not be ignored. This represents in the eyes of the Students Union a major flaw in the current system in that students do not see the system as satisfactory.

The three subcommittee officers presented the results to the University President, Dr. Ed Walsh on the Wednesday following the referendum. The meeting with the President lasted an hour. In this meeting the S.U. representatives pointed out to the President that while the highest turnout of students previously had been 2,200, a turnout of 2,700 students could not afford to be ignored and would not be ignored. It was also pointed out that as more students had voted on this than had voted the subcommittee officers into power, that the demand from students was a high priority issue.

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News

THE LAW EXEMPTIONS : THE SAGA CONTINUES

Happily this week there is some light emerging for all interested in the status of the law exemptions. Those following the case will know of the Queens Graduates who started the whole affair by taking a high court case and succeeding in getting the law exemptions scrapped for one and all. By a decision of the Incorporated Law Society of Ireland these exemptions have just been re-granted to all graduates from the law schools of the Republic and also granted to all Queens graduates.

This new development in the ongoing dispute comes as a welcome relief to the class of '95 who seemed to be facing a mountainous unforeseen obstacle (there's a ridiculously high failure rate for the Law Society entrance exam) but are now free to pursue their legal careers by entering Blackhall Place and commencing studies

leading to qualification as solicitors.

The group of graduates from Queens who took the initial case have now achieved what they set out to procure for themselves but far from all looking rosy there remains one contentious issue which is of particular interest to those reading this article for it pertains to the plight of the undergraduate. As things stand only those who have already been awarded their degrees are eligible for the exemptions while those currently working towards graduation and future prospective law students are not being granted the same. This would seem a highly unfair imposition on undergraduates who entered their courses with the expectation that graduation would indeed hand them the key to Blackhall and glamorous!! legal careers.



Law Students outside Blackhall Place in Dublin

We must then await the meeting of the Law Society scheduled for November 24th when the issue of exemptions for undergraduates comes up for review. The details of the ACLET (advisory council on legal education and training) meeting held last week, which

it was hoped would be reported here, have been deemed confidential but we may rest assured that they are on the side of the students.

Thus the Supreme Court appeal on December 12th will now be of little importance to undergraduates (the Queens

graduates will presumably state some case for the recovery of their legal fees) while the Divorce referendum, will, for a certain section of the populace not be the most important vote being held on November 24th.



Law Students outside Blackhall Place in Dublin

Brian's comment

Three thousand six hundred and seventy six people voted Yes in the repeats referendum. That is a figure that students should be very proud of, as it illustrates the depth of feeling on this issue. For the SU team it was a huge vote of confidence, for which we are fully appreciative. Yet we are only half way through the campaign.

There is a temptation to think that such a large vote in favour of repeats should persuade the college authorities to re introduce the 1993 progression policy. Unfortunately this can not be taken for granted. In fact, if you'll allow me to indulge in a little understatement, it seems that the *highest* university authorities do not see the relevance of such a huge turnout. This stance is a little ironic as the authorities have for years protested that the SU did not have the full support of the students. Now that this support is there, it is rubbished. And yet even with such blatant goal-post moving they expect the SU to still kick straight.

For the moment the SU *will* be as fair-minded as possible. The timetable is as follows; 23rd Nov. - Government Body; 27th Nov. - SU UGM; 6th Dec.-Academic Council. The most important of these dates will be the Academic Council. The SU has put down a motion asking Council to vote to reimplement the 1993 progression policy. Before that key date there are a number of other issues to be decided. It is the SU's opinion that the review timetabled for the end of the year is irrelevant as the decision has already been made by the registrar. We will be asking Governing Body for support on the issue in the wider sense. It is something that is more than an academic issue, as the reality is that an unjust progression policy has huge welfare implications.

Even more important than this is the **Union General Meeting on 27th Nov.** This meeting is vital as it will be up to the student body to decide what action will be taken if Academic Council vote against the SU proposal. Again the significance of this meeting can not be overemphasised as the SU is anxious that further action is driven by the student body.

So be under no illusions. We all have done fantastically well to achieve so much but the fact remains that our goal has still to be reached.

EXAM PAPERS

The S.U. is being swamped with people looking for past exam papers. What is happening with the papers is the following... We are currently trying to put exam papers on the computer network. This will take some time as we are experiencing a delay from college departments in sending us their papers on computer disk. We will have

some papers up in the coming weeks however others may take a bit longer. However the different departments in the college can give you past papers anyway. We had hoped that we would have had the papers on the network by now but we have only received a response from four of the University departments since our initial request three months

ago. Another memo has gone around to the Deans of each college and we hope to get a better response. In the mean time ITD are helping us getting the papers we have on disk on the network. If this system is in place it'll mean students can select all available papers from the computers anywhere in the college.

Referendum Results Biggest ever turnout

TOTAL VOTE:	3,700
TOTAL YES VOTE:	3,676
TOTAL NO VOTE:	21
TOTAL SPOILT VOTES:	3

Thanks Very Much For Voting!!

SEE YOU AT UGM MONDAY - WEEK 10

TIME TO SPEAK UP

To the person who was seen taking 2 Bose 802 speakers, 1 Leem microphone, 1 mic stand from EGO10 two weeks ago.....

Please return them to somewhere on campus where they can be recovered before Friday 24/11/94 or your name will be forwarded to Garda Declan Mulcahy of Henry Street Garda Station.

News

CLASS REPS

By now most classes will have class reps, for those of you without - get one quickly! At the moment we are putting together a list of nominations for the "Award for Excellence in Teaching". What this is basically, is an award for lecturers who excel in their job. If you have a lecturer you feel

should be awarded this, give your suggestion to your class reps. If class reps could then forward them to Duncan in the S.U., a list can be compiled before the next class rep meeting in week 10 and approved at the meeting.

YOU OWE STUDENT SERVICES £150

Yippee skippee... hello you beautiful grant cheque all £650...What?? I detect a slight increase of about £150.. Pray tell dear Local Authority but why so generous today? But wait, a vicious rumour abounds. ... "You will be billed for £150"EEEEEEK!!!

My spidey senses are tingling so it's high time I investigated this strange phenomena

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Knew, but only informed first years that, yes, £150 of the rather swelled maintenance cheque would be whipped away from them. They feel that it's up to the college to tell and didn't bother informing renewal

steps (don't try this at home kids!) This year fees have been halved and for the next academic year 96-97 fees will no longer exist. What is a new phenomena is the extra £187 in the bank - £150 of which you will be billed for instead of the previous practise of it being paid straight away and a case of out of sight - out of mind.

The reason for this is simple. Before all this happened those receiving full maintenance grant got £1,486 for the academic year. This year it has increased to £1,673 - a difference of £187. But because, as one Local Authority put it, it has increased more than the rate of inflation and therefore we get an increase into the hand of £37 (roll out the red carpet and crack open the bubbly!) and get billed for the £150 which is over and above the inflation rate.

If you are paying half fees



SU - The morning of the Referendum

WHAT GOES UP MUST COME DOWN!

How would you fancy an erection 2/3 the size of the Eiffel Tower protruding out of your backyard? The farming community of Gross village in West Clare find the notion a distinct turn-off. Titillated, they are not, but the promise of a glow-in-the-dark, flashing, verging - inducing structure, from which electromagnetic, anhythmic pulses emanate. In fact, they are feeling the effects of a very cold shower as they realise the Commissioners of Irish Lights (C.I.L.) in conjunction with the French government, are attempting to violate their fundamental democratic and

curiously located in Brest, also the control site of the French Navy. Frightening, also, is the fact that the Polaris submarines tested last month in Mururoa, those used to carry nuclear weapons, are those which will exclusively use the Loran-C mast! French engineers shall oversee the operation - us Paddies don't have the experience(s) as set out in this particular job description.

Despite the fact that there are pages devoted to research on the effects on birds and buried bones (honestly!), there is hardly ANY research on the effects on humans and farm animals! The C.I.L. refuse to give the structure

area. I am one of five children, a "middlin", fair, I average "farmers daughter (as they say!)". One of my brothers will inherit the farm (bloody typical!) and go on to do his bit for his country - that is, if this mast doesn't have the expected and feared health effects on his family and stock, pruning inevitably the family tree soons of our forefathers' seed!

In the High Court on the 3rd of

Oct., Judge Murphy declared the C.I.L. do not possess the power to build and/or operate the system. Only the Dept. of the Marine does.

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(I get the distinct whiff of "fobbing-off" with this one.)

THE STORY SO FAR:

Once upon a time when little boys and girls wanted to go to college some would pay fees (and moan forever about inequality and injustice) and some wouldn't pay fees and would be handed money each year (and moan forever about not having enough money)

Then the nice government got rid of fees in these two easy

steps (don't try this at home kids!) This year fees have been halved and for the next academic year 96-97 fees will no longer exist. What is a new phenomena is the extra £187 in the bank - £150 of which you will be billed for instead of the previous practise of it being paid straight away and a case of out of sight - out of mind.

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If you are paying half fees and have paid £150 do not worry as you will be refunded by your Local Authority. As for you on grants, you have been warned!

AT THE END OF THE DAY:

The villains abound and forever there will be some yuckyness in life.

In short, this £150 was always paid but who could be so despicable as to give you something and then take it back? Easy as taking candy from a baby.....

BLACK AND WHITE

Change is the second most fundamental thing we all have in common, are we ready for changes? Have we learnt from the past, will we learn from the ones in the future? There comes a time when all must change, the decayed will become new, there will be the occasions where we will remain unchanged unlike the sand on the shore of the sea. As Kahlil Gibran said; "does the song of the sea end at the shore or in the hearts of those who listen to it?" Are we ploughing water, trying to break through that which can never be broken? How many waters never reach the shore, we are tiny ripples

and our span is just as long, do we thunder and crash, hurting ourselves and others on the coarse shore. Change does occur, it takes generations, long after our second of upsurge. The unwillingness to give way in accountable degrees, instead giving way in pebbles and grains, yet still giving way! Is it time to change the imbalance? How long does silence endure, like underwater silence. We can burrow on or we can stand for what we believe, we have a mind and heart. We are not animals, or are we?

"How long must we sing this song?"

YES



SU - The morning of the Referendum

WHAT GOES UP MUST COME DOWN!

How would you fancy an erection 2/3 the size of the Eiffel Tower protruding out of your backside? The farming community of Cross village in West Clare find the notion a distinct turn-off. However, they are not, but the emissions do not emanate. In fact, they are feeling the effects of a very cold shower as they realise the Commissioners of Irish Lights (C.I.L.), in conjunction with the French government, are attempting to violate their fundamental democratic and human rights by imposing the repugnant LONG RANGE Navigation (LORAN-C) mast upon them.

Since December of 1992 and the election of the Loran-C Action Group, frightening revelations of French military involvement and the impossible challenge of banishing these persistent gauls from their tourist and agriculture - dependant shores, have come to the fore.

The C.I.L. have claimed the Loran system is to ensure "safety of marine environment and life at sea". Sure! That's why NONE of the 103 recommendations of the Donaldson Report on the topic mentions the need to carry the system aboard ship! Funny also how the Irish Fishermen's Organisation have formally declared they will not use the defunct Loran-C mast, favouring instead the up-to-date Decca and satellite systems.

In reality, the Loran system is a French military installations believed to be the French gateway to the Atlantic. Can't think why... sorry? Who said "Pacific"? The French are funding 50% of the capital costs, Ireland 45% and the Dutch the balance. Now, why would France fund that much cash to help humble Irish fishermen get home safely to their wives? I'm sure it's got nothing to do with the fact that, since pulling out of NATO, they have no guaranteed use of the GPS satellite system in time of hostilities and instead, want their own backup operation.

The little, black, er, knob which is to be the control device is

curiously located in Brest, also the control site of the French Navy. Frightening, also is the fact that the Polaris submarines tested last month in St. Marys, Stone, used to carry nuclear warheads. The LORAN-C mast is in this particular job description.

Despite the fact that there are pages devoted to research on the effects on birds and buried bones (honestly!), there is hardly ANY research on the effects on humans and farm animals! The C.I.L. refuse to give the structure a health indemnity to guarantee it's safety, yet they assure us there is no, no, no radiation. Their "experts" have based this wise credo on the fact that there is no research. Er, why not?

The possible compromise of our neutrality is also of national concern. Given that this is an Irish-Franco Agreement, that France posses ALL of the control over the mast, where does this leave our perennial policy of neutrality?

I live less than half a mile from the proposed 140 acre site, a plot of secretly bought, over-paid-for land acquired long before we were informed of the plans for our

area. I am one of five children, a "muddin' fair" (average "farmers daughter" (as they say)). One of my brothers will inherit the farm. (Probably typically) and as yet to the day has the title certificate - that is, it has not been registered. I have investigated such matters, and have been in the High Court on the 3rd of

Oct. Judge Murphy declared the C.I.L. do not possess the power to build and/or operate the system. Only the Dept. of the Marine does.

Therefore, it is up to you as the next generation, as members of democracy, as advocates of neutrality, as preservers of the environment, as those who lives this thing will affect, to ensure the French and C.I.L. do to override your civil rights. Join with organisation such as Greenpeace who have hedged support. Do this by sprinting down to the S.U. office - now! to sign the petition three, which implores the Minister for the Marine, Mr Sean Barrett, to see sense and desist from allowing this atrocity to become a reality. In this case, in every respect, SIZE DOES REALLY MATTER!

- L Lynch
- 2nd Law & Acc.

MURROE WASTE DISPOSAL

Refuse Collection Tags @ 50p

on sale in
SU Shop, Sean's Shop, Spar & the Hurlers Filing Station

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curiously located in Brest, also the control site of the French Navy. Frightening, also, is the fact that the Polaris submarines tested last month in Mururoa, those used to carry nuclear weapons, are those which will exclusively use the Loran-C mast! French engineers shall oversee the operation - us Paddies don't have the experience(s) as set out in this particular job description.

Despite the fact that there are pages devoted to research on the effects on birds and buried bones (honestly!), there is hardly ANY research on the effects on humans and farm animals! The C.I.L. refuse to give the structure a health indemnity to guarantee it's safety, yet they assure us there is no, no, no! association with radiation. Their "experts" have based this wise credo on the fact that there is no research. Er-why not?

The possible compromise of our neutrality is also of national concern. Given that this is an Irish-Franco Agreement, that France posses ALL of the control over the mast, where does this leave our perennial policy of neutrality?

I live less than half a mile from the proposed 140 acre site, a plot of secretly bought, over-paid-for land acquired long before we were informed of the plans for our

area. I am one of five children, a "middlin", fair, l'average "farmers daughter (as they say!). One of my brothers will inherit the farm (bloody typical!) and go on to do his bit for his country - that is, if this mast doesn't have the expected and feared health effects on his family and stock, printing inevitably the family tree

In the High Court on the 3rd of Oct., Judge Murphy declared the C.I.L. do not possess the power to build and/or operate the system. Only the Dept. of the Marine does.

Therefore, it is up to you as the next generation, as members of democracy, as advocates of neutrality, as preservers of the environment, as those who lives this thing will affect, to ensure the French and C.I.L. do to override your civil rights. Join with organisation such as Greenpeace who have hedged support. Do this by sprinting down to the S.U. office - now! to sign the petition three, which implores the Minister for the Marine, Mr Sean Barrett, to see sense and desist from allowing this atrocity to become a reality. In this case, in every respect, SIZE DOES REALLY MATTER!

- L Lynch
- 2nd Law & Acc.

MURROE WASTE

TORY SO FAR:

upon a time when
s and girls wanted to
lege some would pay
moan forever about
(and injustice) and
ouldn't pay fees and
handed money each
moan forever about
(enough money)
e nice government
es in these two easy

... grains, you have been
warned!

AT THE END OF THE DAY:

The villains abound and
forever there will be some
yuckiness in life.

In short, this £150 was
always paid but who could be so
despicable as to give you
something and then take it
back? Easy as taking candy
from a baby.....

BLACK AND WHITE

the second most
thing we all have
are we ready for
ve we learnt from
ve learn from the
future? There
when all must
decayed will
ere will be the
e we will remain
ke the sand on
sea. As Kahlil
oes the song of
the shore or in
ose who listen
oughing water,
through that
r be broken?
s never reach
e tiny ripples

and our span is just as long, do
we thunder and crash, hurting
ourselves and others on the
coarse shore. Change does
occur, it takes generations, long
after our second of upsurge.
The unwillingness to give way
in accountable degrees, instead
giving way in pebbles and
grains, yet still giving way! Is it
time to change the imbalance?

How long does silence
endure, like underwater
silence. We can burrow on or
we can stand for what we
believe, we have a mind and
heart. We are not animals, or
are we?

"How long must we sing this
song?"

them.

Since December of 1992 and
the election of the Loran-C Action
Group, frightening revelations of
French military involvement and
the impossible challenge of
banishing these persistent gauls
from their tourist and agriculture
- dependant shores, have come to
the fore.

The C.I.L. have claimed the
Loran system is to ensure "safety
of marine environment and life at
sea". Sure! That's why NONE of
the 103 recommendations of the
Donaldson Report on the topic
mentions the need to carry the
system aboard ship! Funny also
how the Irish Fishermen's
Organisation have formally
declared they will not use the
defunct Lorcan-C mast, favouring
instead the up-to-date Decca and
satellite systems.

In reality, the Loran system is
a French military installations
believed to be the French gateway
to the Atlantic. Can't think why
... sorry? Who said "Pacific"? The
French are funding 50% of the
capital costs, Ireland 45% and the
Dutch the balance. Now, why
would France fund that much
dosh to help humble Irish
fishermen get home safely to their
wives? I'm sure it's got nothing to
do with the fact that, since pulling
out of NATO, they have no
guaranteed use of the GPS
satellite system in time of
hostilities and instead, want their
own backup operation.

The little, black, er, knob
which is to be the control device is

with radiation. Their "experts"
have based this wise credo on the
fact that there is no research. Er-
why not?

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our neutrality is also of national
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respect, SIZE DOES REALLY
MATTER!

- L Lynch
- 2nd Law & Acc.

MURROE WASTE DISPOSAL

Refuse Collection Tags

@ 50p

on sale in

SU Shop, Sean's Shop, Spar &
the Hurlers Filing Station

News

Pzazz



2 Foxes Bow
Limerick

Limerick's
Silver Store

Pzazz

Pzazz has finally come to Limerick with it's new store situated in Foxes Bow in the heart of Limerick City. Pzazz, Limericks Sterling Silver Store specialises in handcrafted Sterling Silver and 100% Bronze Jewellery. They also stock a large range of other handcrafted Jewellery pieces, some made here in Limerick others from Cork, Clare, Galway and Mayo. These guys really know their Jewellery, endeavouring to only stock one or two of any one item to ensure that each piece has it's own unique character.

And if you're still having difficulty in choosing that special gift, they stock an expensive range of sterling silver lockets, aroma pendants, earrings and brooches. All the sterling silver is hallmarked and presented in a gift box.

The Pzazz philosophy is: exclusive Jewellery at affordable prices.

They are now taking deposits for Christmas, infact they take deposits all year round. Why not avail of a Pzazz gift voucher?

So for all your fashion accessories, why not be in vogue. Go to Pzazz!!

"Lesbians are Kinky"

This statement was the first thread woven in a little web of thought on the subject, written on the wall of a main-building toilet.

"Kinky" had been crossed out, replaced by "cool" which was in turn replaced by "Better lovers".

I read it and thought no more about it ... until today ... a week later and a return visit found me reading various additions:

Lesbians "Should be executed"
are "unnatural"
are "humans too"
should "go for it"
are "good fun"
should be "allowed do their own thing".

Then, in the outer parts of this "web", there were more elaborate comments:

"What's it like being one? I've being thinking about it".
"I think everyone thinks about it, girls are nice, It's just social stigma".
"I agree and I'm straight - leave 'em alone".

These various contributors got off their arses, took the pen out and expressed their opinions in a rather private way (I do hope that these authors take no offence to me quoting them), I was surprised and a variety of questions came to mind ...

- What does Irish society or moreover what do UL students think as regards homosexuality in women & men.
 - Is lesbianism less acceptable than or the same as homosexuality in men???
 - Why do people think that gay "humans" should be executed????
 - Are there many "closet gay" people???
 - What's written in the men's bogs ???
 - Why not invite people to write in on the subject???
- So get your pens to paper rather than the walls ... make this an interesting debate.

Mo.

THE TERM TO DATE WITH GUINNESS

By Liam Flannery - Guinness Representative

This term had indeed been busy for all brands within the Guinness portfolio and the student participation in all promotions, has been excellent.

GUINNESS

Since week 1, there has been a multitude of Guinness promotions in The Stables, Kilmurry and The Hurlers. The Dark glasses promotion in each venue was very well attended and excellent prizes were given away including portable CD players. The 33 cl bottle of Guinness promotions were a great success and they will return soon.



HARP CELEBRATION BREW is sponsoring the 11-a-side tournament and the competition to date has been attracting quality teams and has been a very successful sponsorship. Many thanks to Paddy Walsh.



Every Wednesday since week 4 has seen the Carlsberg Club Classic promotion take place in The Stables from 8.30 pm till late. The receipts for a good Wednesday night are the latest club hits mixed with ample supplies of Carlsberg lager. This promotion will be running for some time to come.

Budweiser

Watch out for the Bud Party night on Wednesday the 22nd in the Stables where the top prize is a Budweiser branded fridge filled with bottles of Budweiser! Christmas Day on Dec 7th will see more great Budweiser promotions in The Stables, Kilmurry and The Hurlers. It should be re-named Budweiser Day!

More Guinness news in the next issue including new product launches!

**Print
Stop**

SPECIAL OFFER

**Print
Stop**

3p 3p 3p 3p 3p 3p 3p

PER COPY ON A 90 UNIT COPYING CARD
WHILE STOCKS LAST

Dear Passenger.

It's quiet clear the only trip that your on is a destructive EGO trip. HUH!, come if it boys, and I do use the term loosely, what kind of planet are you marooned on? To say that your "well-balanced" and "knowledgeable" is a laugh, for it is transparently evident that your article is without substance and definitely pointless, basically, it's the crapiest "mumbo jumbo" ever published! In fact the more one reads its the more one is certain that the editor was desperate to fill a blank space. My companions, four out of six been male, and I did however manage to fall about in hysterics after reading your article. A laughter purely out of compassion for your sadness, a sadness clearly showing that you are indeed a UL student.

You boys, no doubt, are members of the male club who hang about the female toilet area at the disco shouting out purely ignorant jesters like "huba-huba, gonna get me some of that", or "any good in bed, luv", or some other foolishly outlandish comment. Do you honestly think this would stimulate a rabbit, not to even mention a woman?

"When faced with an Irish male you squirrmingly back into

your lion's den of snarling bitterness", your own words vividly outlining your failure with the magnificent sensuous female specimen. If your heads are ever to deflate and you discover that you would desire to be successful with your opposite sex I'm sure the lads here in Mary I would only be too happy to assist you. These, fine, sexy, pleasing gentlemen are definitely the "Cream of the crop", and for any future parent you should be eternally grateful if your children were to be fortunate enough to have one of these intelligent respecting men as their teachers.

Just before we end this article, my female colleagues and I would like to point out to you that when we say the Mary I. Lads are pleasing, do not be led to think that we are speaking about materialistics sexually these MEN are long lasting, powerfully penetrating, hot spicy sensual lovers, outlasting any five second "performance" by a UL male. We girls would adoringly accompany our men on any excursion they wish, but as for you sad individuals we are only too eager to stay behind.

The Refugees!

RADIOHEADS

In those sultry August evening when most of us were preparing ourselves for that unique concept called a college experience or perhaps readjusting to it, a small but intrepid group of Mary I students had a vision. This vision was called Student Radio. Many obstacles had to be overcome however. Even after they had gone through the various red-tape procedures of getting a broadcasting licence and finding enough dumb suckers to manage the radio's various components, there was a further, pressing problem. The actual extent of this only occurred to me when I asked a cross-section of students, young and old, Blur and Oasis fans alike what were their opinions of the radio. Disconcertingly none had any opinions at all either because they had never heard of its existence or didn't bother to listen to it. The latter group incidentally were a rare specimen, possibly because of the feeble PR the radio launch had. Quizzical eyebrows instead of positive sentiments was the reward for my diligence, so in a fit of pique I put finger to word

processor (this is the computer age folks) to give the beleaguered radio station a bit of much-needed marketing.

To save you searching through the countless notices for that one, elusive A4 sheet, I think it best if I supply the details, such as they are, myself. The station can be picked up on the 103 FM band It runs from 6.00 to 8.00 PM< from Monday to Thursday. The general breakdown of this is that from 6.00 to 7.00 the "Vox/Pop" programme is broadcast. This basically consists of college news, interviews and any extra bit of *Ad Lib* which the DJ feels like throwing in. The emphasis shifts to music from 7.00 to 8.00, consisting mainly of trendy "alternative" music through more diversity will be introduced in the coming weeks. Thenceforth Student 103 FM shall also have a new name. It now has the devastating title of Stud FM!

For those even rarer creatures who have listened to Student 103 a few times, it may well be that you are a bit nonplussed by it all. I know I was. The main problem as I see it is the striking mundanity of the DJ's style and the way they present their material. Their initial nervousness ^{is} understandable but their lack of adventure is not. Unless the radio station undergoes a major transformation in presentational style it will be an abject flop. Students want innovation, not a poor-man's

ON THE DEATH OF MARY DARCYS FATHER

Mary is a Fourth-Year B.A. Student.

Cúis bhróin dúinn do dhólás, a Mháire.

Sincerest sympathy, Mary,

From your College community.

2FM. Thankfully the powers that be seem to be realising the errors of their ways and hopefully the changing of the radio station's name will also lead to a radical shake-up in its broadcasting methods.

So I think I'll conclude with this thought for the day. When you are at home watching the news or whatever it is you do at six O'Clock, stop and turn on the radio. Resist the temptation to tune into boring 2 FM or the tediously repetitive Atlantic 252 and instead try out something altogether different. Check out the weird, wild, outrageous sounds of Stud FM. don't just take my word for it, do it today!

Jack Sprat.

Dermot Foley Pharmacy Ltd

News

WOLFMAN'S VIEW FROM OUTSIDE THE PERIMETER RESPONSIBILITY'S LAST STAND AT BALLYFERMOT HILL

Will we ever forget it? The one day that the police association decided to hold their annual convention in Ballyfermot, and of course, the Millwall Supporters Club had to be attending the Sinn Fein lecture on "101 Practical Uses For Petrol" at exactly the same place. You see, the gardai thought they had it sussed. They chose Ballyfermot because the majority of the Residents Association would probably be off robbing cars, mugging old ladies and partaking in other community benefit schemes. The gardai started causing hassle the minute they realised they were not alone, and they began beating up on the poor helpless residents. Indeed, so severe was the intimidation that the residents had no option but to petrol bomb the gardai, in order to get their children past the roadblocks of the cruel sadistic gardai, who at this stage were engaging in atrocities unseen since the reign of Hitler.

Enough of the lies! The responsibility for last Tuesday's riots rest with only one party - the rioters and the parents of those rioters. For too long, we have allowed what we learnt about our society to provide excuses for the reckless and

irresponsible actions of those living in disadvantaged areas. It's police intimidation, high unemployment, the lack of recreational facilities, the social climate. In fact, it's anybody's fault but their own. I can't wait for the day they blame the mundane Mr. Blobby for encouraging their children to shoplift!

It is their fault, and perhaps in some small way it is our own. These people are not engaged in criminal activities because there's nothing else to do, it's because the penalties are not severe enough. The fact is that everybody has the opportunity to engage in a criminal career. It is just that for the majority of people, the punishments more than outweigh the benefits.

Last week, we had the rather farcical situation of the parents blaming the police for delaying their child's ambulance. In the media rush to have a go at the authorities, nobody seemed to

have asked what a 4 year old child was doing standing beside a police van in the middle of a riot. Let's face it, if it was your 4 year old, would you leave them out to watch a riot?

Naturally, the police treated this claim with the respect it deserved, total and utter contempt. It seems to be a popular pastime for parents to blame the police for the high level of crime. But it's not the police who are leaving their children roam free around the estates in large unsupervised gangs. The failure of parents to take responsibility for their children is now coming home to roost. Unfortunately, the severe injuries which were suffered by a 4 year old and the murder (and presumably rape) of a 15 year old schoolgirl still don't seem to have registered with their guardians. Rather than accept that they are just as guilty for the injuries to their children as the perpetrators, they sling muck at the bodies which do their best to protect them.

What should we do? In my opinion, the only thing we can do is give the judiciary the discretionary power to prosecute parents where it is obvious that the parents have not shown the due care and attention to their children's upbringing. If parents are not prepared to put their foot down in order to contribute to a lawful society, then they will have to share the burden of the consequences!

LADIES DRESS HIRE

Elm Park Avenue,
Castletroy.

Open Evening's 5 pm till 10 pm
Beautiful Selection of dress
For Sale or Rent

Phone Josephine
@ 3336592 after 5 pm.

Sorry - Go Home and Vote!

Two weeks ago I rang the Garda station to find how students could change their registration address for the Divorce Referendum. "Sure no problem" was the answer "as long as the forms are in before November 10th." So 150 forms were collected from the station, their availability advertised and 150 students came down to the SU and changed their registration addresses - ALL IN VAIN.

I brought the forms back into the Garda station where I was informed that the Garda on duty had made a mistake and no, the forms couldn't be dropped back into the station the day before the deadline but actually the forms should have been sent to Dublin two weeks ago!!!!

Nuff said except someone messed up somewhere, and as a

result all the change of registration forms that students have filled out in the SU are null and void. So now you have to go home and vote, unless you are registered in Limerick. If you're not sure, check in a post office or (dare I say it) a Garda station.

If you are registered to vote in Limerick, your nearest polling booth is Monaleen National School. Because it's so far away (a 50 minute walk), the SU is organising a bus to take you there and back. We reckon that a 1 pm bus and a 6 pm would probably be the best, so if you're interested, sign up in the SU main office and if there's a big demand, we'll put on more buses.

Thieves Thrive

A quick warning to all students living in Castletroy - There has been

your f***ing room or we'll break your f***ing legs". Needless to say, the

possessions and your privacy. If strangers don't have ID, go into the village manager

Thieves Thrive

A quick warning to all students living in Castletroy - There has been a number of break-ins in the last week. Do not leave the house unattended, locking doors, setting the snarling Doberman loose etc. but these thieves don't take no for an answer.

Last Week, a student's house was broken into in College Court. Despite the fact it was only 9 pm and lots of activity around the place, the door was wedged open and over £700 worth of CD's, jewellery, equipment and clothes were stolen - not a nice sight to be met with after a hard night's slog in the library.

The week before a student in Elm Park woke up to the sound of thumping and walloping. He stumbled out of his bedroom door and called 'Shut up lads, I'm trying to get some kip'. The answer that came back was "Get the f** into

your f**ing room or we'll break your f**ing legs" Needless to say, the student in question spent the rest of the night wondering as a prisoner in his own room.

In Chestnut Close, a young female 1st year was slumbering peacefully after a couple of scoops in the Stables, awoke to the sound of noise downstairs and opened her door to find two guys filling their bags with student's stuff. Luckily, she has a loud, piercing scream which scared them off.

In Kilmurray village, naturally enough students are becoming agitated about the fact that strange men without identification are walking into student's houses and bedrooms without knocking. According to PCC, all service people should not only knock but have ID cards with them at all time. So basically, don't be afraid to ask for ID - it's your house, your

possessions and your privacy. If strangers don't have ID, go into the village manager, or security or the Welfare Officer or the Garda. And a special note from the village managers - Do Not leave your doors on latch!!

So I suppose the message is that everything isn't always honky-dory in Studentdom so look after yourselves and if you do suss something that's not quite right, or obviously wrong, let the Welfare officer or the Community garda know.

Lorna Kerin
Welfare Officer
Student's Union
061-202519

Declan Mulcahy
Community Garda
Henry St. station
061-414222

COMMERICAL FEATURE

What if you could carry out a whole range of banking transactions simply by using the phone?

Be your own banker

With Phonelink, you can check the balance of your accounts, pay bills, transfer funds from one account to another, get details of transactions and order statements all from the comfort of your own home. You'll find that it helps you manage your money by providing direct access to your accounts, even outside banking hours.

At the touch of a button

The service is available seven days a week (7.00am to 3.00pm). You just dial your local area telephone number, enter your Phonelink number

and special Personal Identification Number (PIN) and you're ready to do business. All of your transactions can be conducted by simply dialling numbers on your phone. You don't even have to speak, ensuring full confidentiality. If you experience any difficulty however, your call will automatically transfer to our customer service helpline and immediate assistance will be available.

You're in control

Once you experience the Phonelink Service you'll never look back. No more wondering about your balance before you go to the AIB Banklink machine or worrying whether or not a

payment or grant installment has gone through your account. Simply call Phonelink and the information is instantly available. Also, you can nominate a separate account to be linked to your account for the purpose of transferring monies between the accounts. In this way, if a parent has an account with AIB and uses the Phonelink service, they can nominate your account and lodge funds to it by Phonelink. You then have immediate access to the monies lodged!

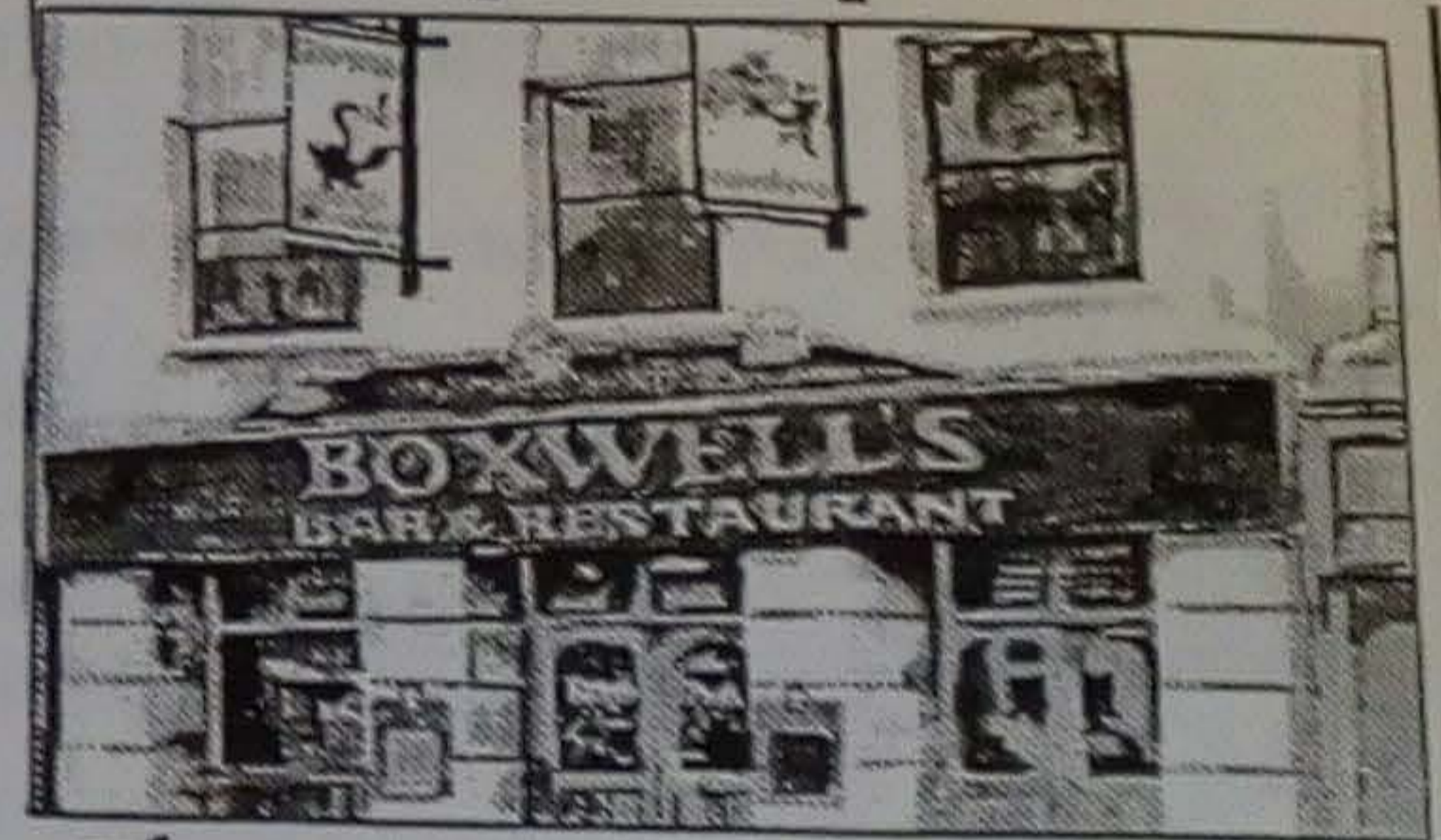
How do I apply?

Just call into your AIB Bank branch and on application can be processed on the spot. We look forward to seeing you.

Boxwells

Bar & Restaurant

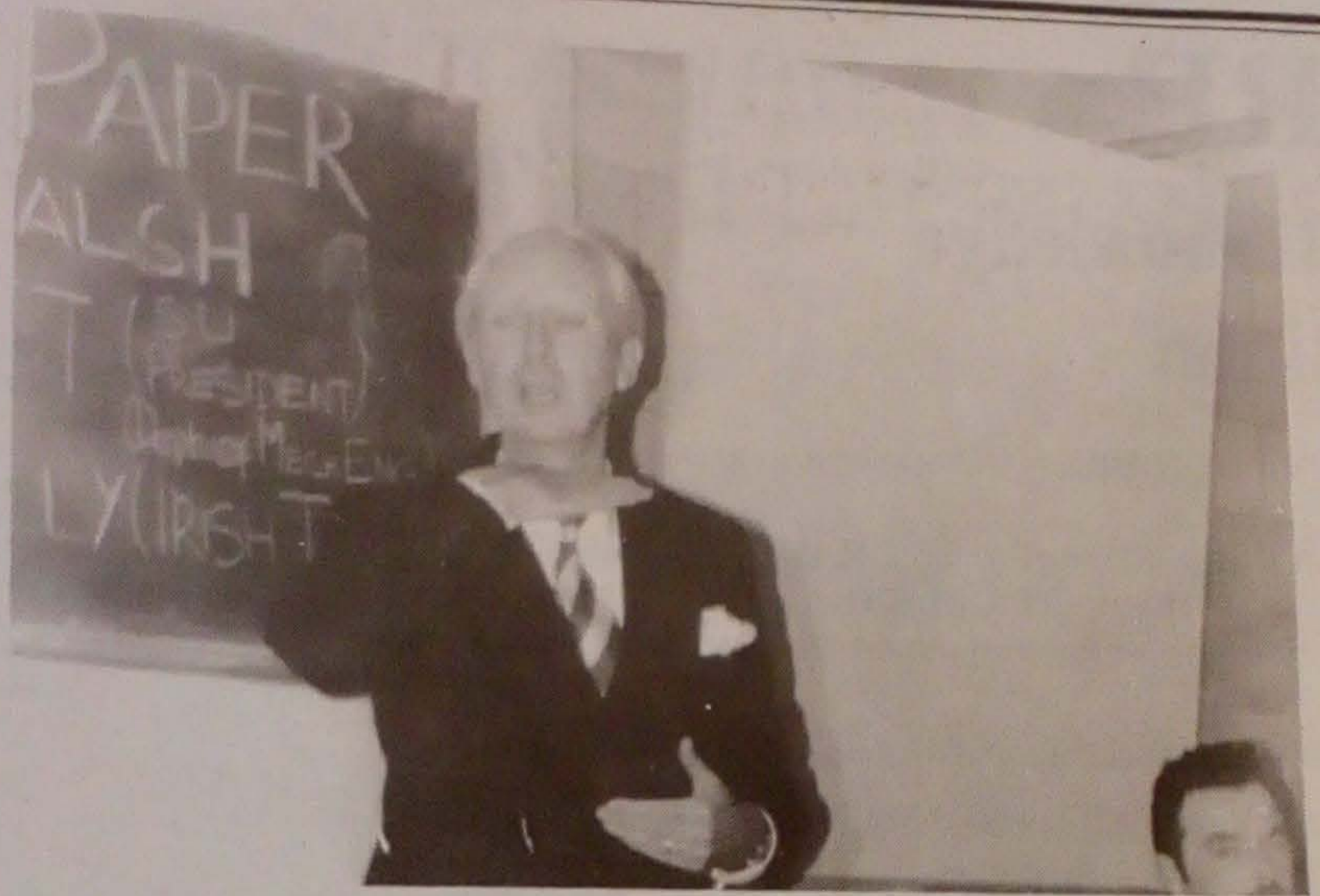
Why not try our
New Evening Menu
4p.m. - 9p.m.



The Eating and Drinking Place
15, Patrick Street, Limerick
Tel: 061 314226 Fax: 061 453790

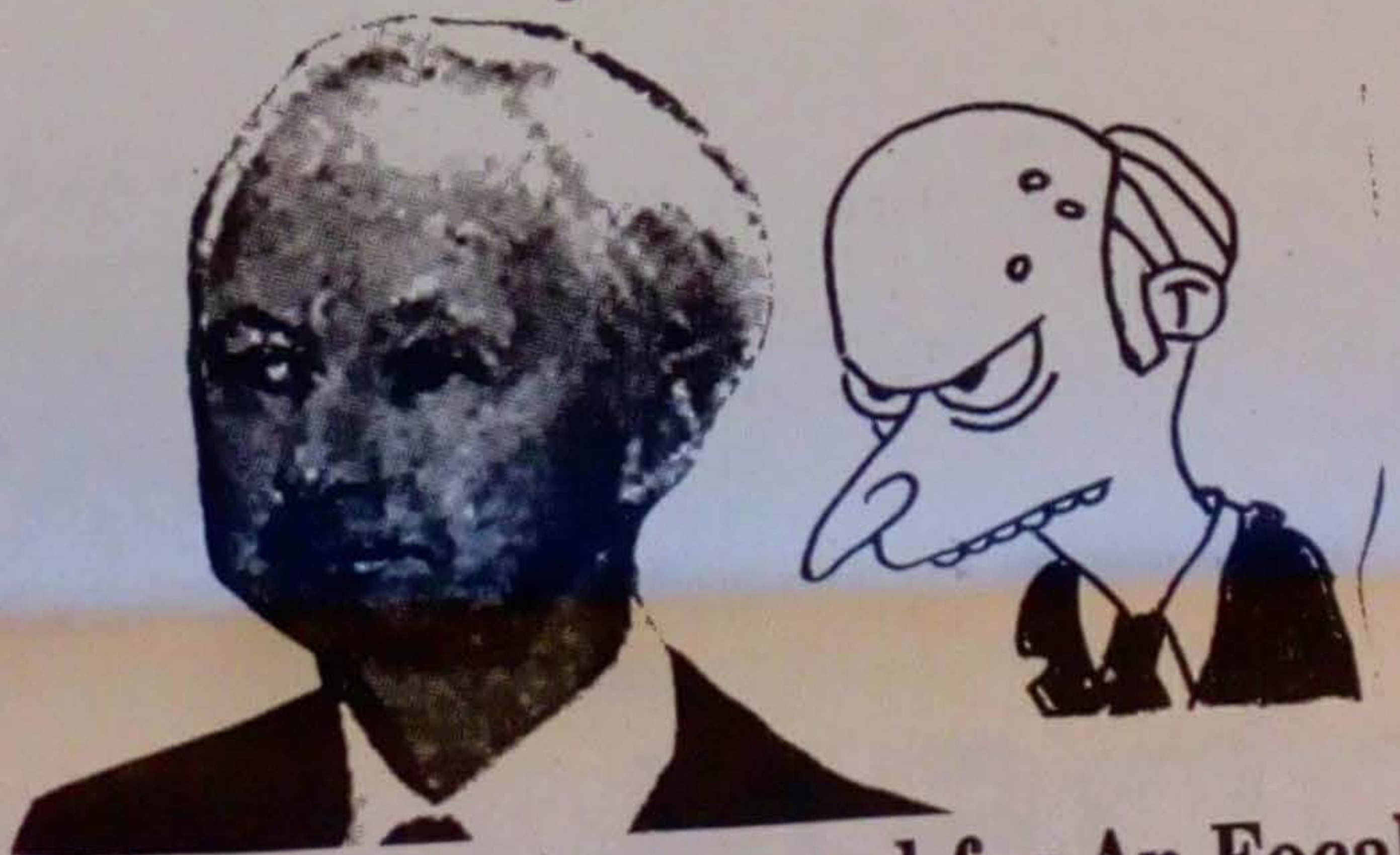
BAR EXTENSION
Thursday, Friday & Saturday

Pic Page



THE MANY FACES OF ED WALSH

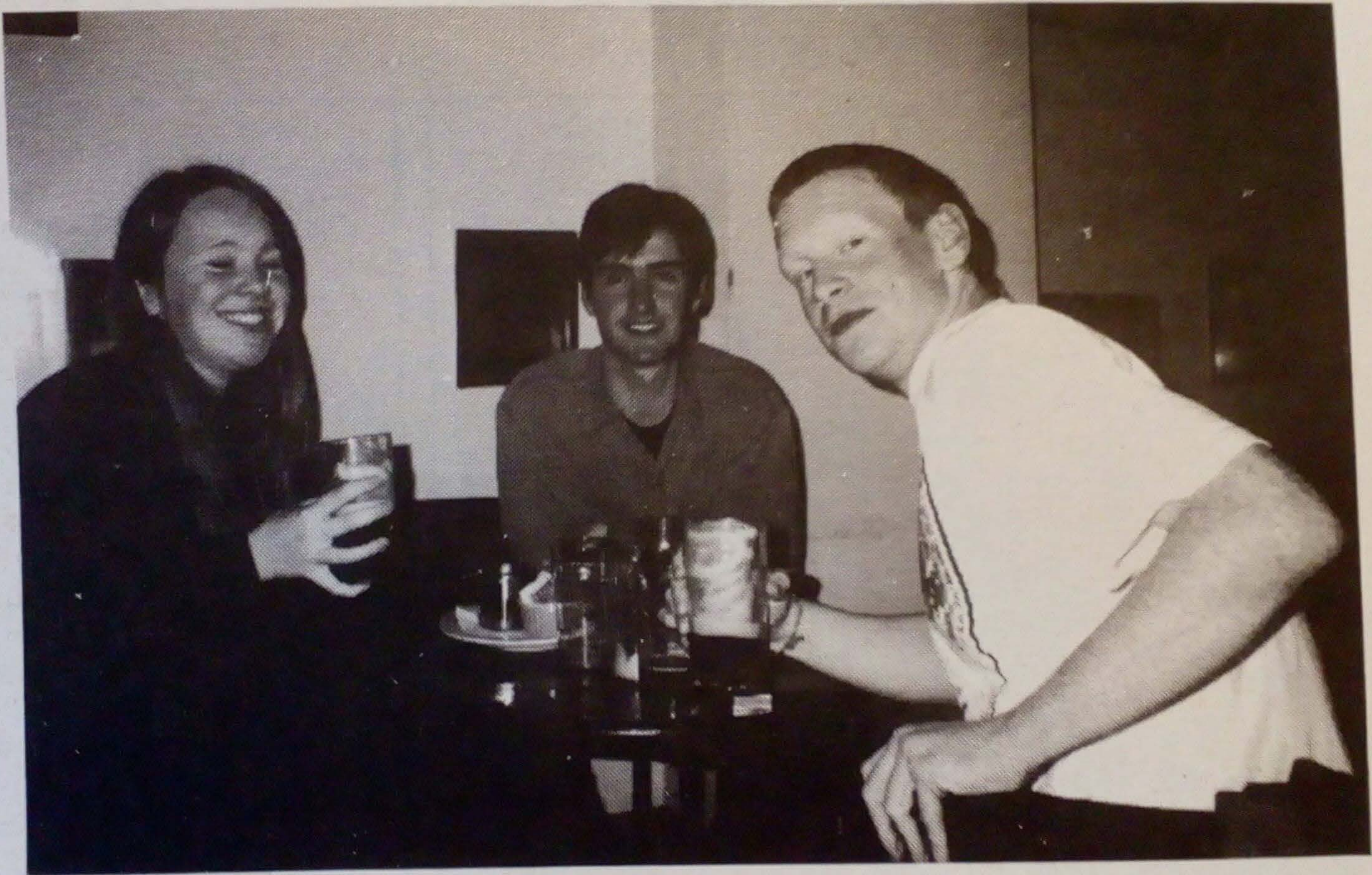
Demonstrating in the first photo what should be done with students looking for repeats. "Off with their heads, Colgan, Sorry I mean Smithers"



Students being surveyed for An Focal Divorce Poll

**Law Students Demo in Dublin
Before, During, After.**





COSGRAVES MAXOL CENTRE
DUBLIN ROAD, TEL 417784

es Strie

Students being surveyed for an local Divorce Poll



an Focal

University of Limerick Students' Union



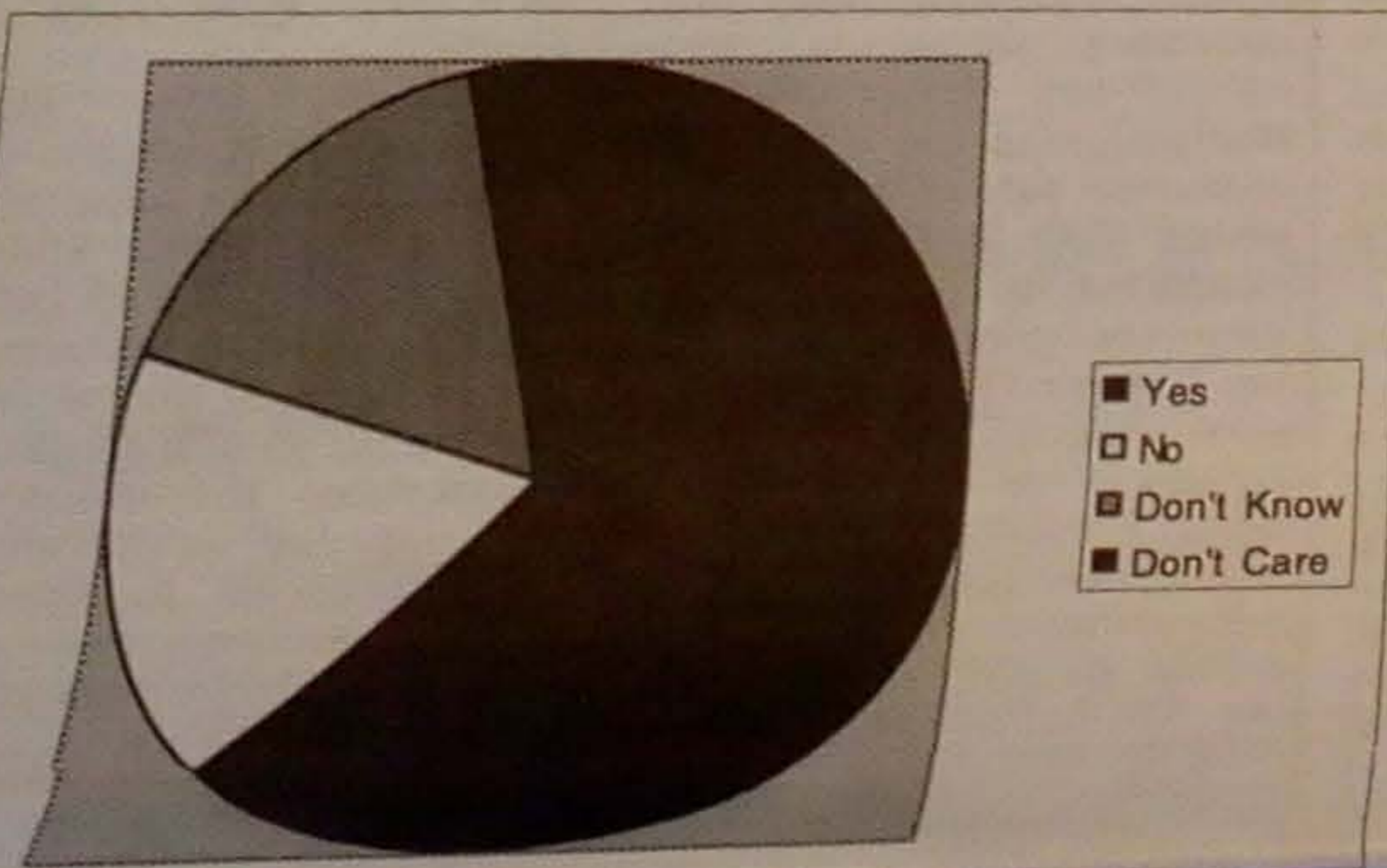
DIVORCE

SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO?

AN FOCAL DIVORCE POLL.

Do you think that divorce has a valid contribution to make to society?

by Gisela Grike & Greg Tynan



Divorce is a topic that has come very much into focus over the last few months, and with the referendum just around the corner, An Focal decided it was time to ask the students of UL how they felt on divorce. We asked the students of UL if they felt divorce had a valid contribution to make to society. Results of the poll are as follows.

Of the 100 people surveyed, 96 expressed an interest in the upcoming referendum. Only 4

people didn't care what the outcome was. The most surprising figure was the number of don't knows. There was almost as many people undecided as had said no. Yes was the predominate answer around the college with more than 60% of people voting yes. For every person who felt divorce had no contribution to give to society there was three people who disagreed.

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Arguments for and against the introduction of any form of Divorce as included in the government information booklet on the referendum .

Arguments in favour of Divorce:

1. In 1986 the census showed over 37,000 people separated. By 1991 the figure had risen to over 55,000, up by 48%. These marriages have collapsed even though you cannot get a divorce in Ireland.
2. At present people in second relationships lack proper legal recognition and protection. Now they are to be given a chance of remarriage in certain limited circumstances.
3. This is not "quickie" or easy divorce. The grounds are restrictive but fair. To get a divorce a person will have to show that
 - a) the couple have lived apart for 4 out of the last 5 years
 - b) there is no possibility of reconciliation
 - c) adequate provision in the circumstances has been or will be made for the spouses and the children
4. Divorce will give a chance to people who are in a stable and loving second relationship to obtain all the benefits that come from a happy marriage.
5. After a divorce both parents will continue to have the same rights and duties in respect of their children as they had prior to the divorce. For the first time children born to parents in a second relationship will have the chance to become members of a family based on marriage.
6. As for finance and property as it stands the court have to deal with all the financial consequences of marital breakdown. Divorce will not make any difference, it simply allows people to remarry.
7. The courts will continue to have power to ensure that fair and proper provision is made for all, and in particular dependent spouses and children. The question of proper provision must be considered at the time of the divorce application.
8. No-one will lose their right to any social welfare benefit or allowance by reason of the grant of a divorce.
9. Persons who are divorced will be taxed in exactly the same way as if they were legally separated.

Arguments against:

1. Divorce would change the legal basis of all marriages.
2. The law would no longer define marriage as a lifelong commitment. This would undermine, destabilise and devalue marriage, contrary to the constitutional guarantee by the State to protect the family and the institution of marriage.
3. The level of marriage breakdown in this country is low by comparison with other countries. The absence of divorce must contribute significantly to this low level.
4. Divorce would result in an increase in the number of broken marriages. This has been the experience in other countries where it has been introduced or made more freely available.
5. Children inevitably suffer as a result of marriage breakdown.
6. Children would be likely to have difficulty in adjusting to living with the partner and children of any second marriage.
7. The break up of a family leaves all its members less well off. Children and non-earning spouses, most typically women, are particularly vulnerable. Divorce and remarriage of the earning spouse would further impoverish the dependent spouse and children.
8. In seeking to avoid the central fact that status and rights can only be awarded to a second family at the expense of the members of the original family, the proposal leaves the protection for the members of the original family uncertain.
9. If divorce were introduced there could in practice be no going back. The potential benefits it might bring are doubtful and limited. Some of the evils it would bring are obvious and certain.

Comment on Poll

As the whole question of Divorce raises it's ugly or not so ugly head (depending on whatever way you're inclined) it really must be admitted that in

every respect it's unfortunate to know that so many people are experiencing marriage breakdown and these are a reality. But at least this

contd./p2

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CHILD OF A BROKEN MARRIAGE

- A VIEW FROM INSIDE.

I am writing this article because I'm fed up with all these people who claim to be speaking on my behalf. I am a child of a broken marriage (though strictly speaking I am no longer a child). I am one of those people that all you anti-divorce lobbyists are trying to protect. "It's the children who will suffer most" or "I'm worried about the effects on the kids". They're all lines we've heard a million times before and quite frankly I'm sick to death of it, children are a hell of a lot more resilient than most people accredit them.

Growing up in a small town I experienced at first hand the "anxiety" and "worry" felt by other adults in the community when my parents split up. (Please forgive my inherent sarcasm but years of hypocrisy and condemnation have slightly embittered me). I was whispered about and victimised because these "concerned" adults had conveniently let their own kids in on the scandal that was being created by my father. There was no such thing as a sympathetic ear or a "sorry for your trouble". Is it any wonder then I often wished my old man had just died instead of going off with another woman? At least then people would have accepted my depression, mood swings and anxiety instead of ignoring my

family situation and calling me a moody bitch. I won't deny the fact that my parents break-up caused me terrible grief and pain, from which I probably will never recover, but the treatment I received when I left my house every day only multiplied the damage done to me. Had my father died instead of his marriage we could have grieved openly rather than hide it all away like some dirty secret to be ashamed of.

I am voting for divorce later on this month not because it will take away the pain and hurt that a lot of us have suffered because it won't, but because it will at very least return our dignity to us. Surely no one needs telling that this is not a fairy tale world. Shit happens and marriages die and it's about time that this was recognised instead of people insulting our intelligence by suggesting that any marriage will stay alive if it is worked at. Please allow us, and our parents who are currently in a state of pathetic limbo, the right to divorce so we can mourn the loss of a marriage and begin to rebuild our lives. Please allow us to say, without shame, that we all tried our best but our parents' marriages have died, now let them rest in peace.

2nd Yr Law & European Studies.

BLACK AND WHITE

The following piece is fundamentally the view of the Church, and contrary to what you may or may not believe, the statement which the church has issued does make a lot of sense, whether you come from a religious or otherwise inclined background. It is put in straight, understandable and human terms. Be under no illusion, your vote, your conscience does matter. What you do will effect either yourself or those you know.

On the wedding day bride and groom declare before God that they take each other as husband and wife. At the marriage ceremonies very core is the premise, "Till death do us part": let's face it, this promise is unconditional. It is something which is made without any strings attached. Man and woman are facing an unknown future but they are saying that they will remain committed to each other until they are "parted by death". It can happen that in spite of great effort; the hopes and dreams of the wedding day can become dulled, life becomes intollerable and in some cases seperation may be the proper course of action. We probably all know friends or relatives who are seperated or in second unions. The church does want to show understanding towards partners and to the children and some would say that "remarriage" is the solution. But is "remarriage" the answer?

Firstly, it is a blatant denial of what the couple declared on their wedding day. "Remarriage" means their pledge is impossible to keep; the unconditional promise has been

if someone said to you "It's alright, it doesn't have to be for life."

The phrase "irretrievable breakdown" could mean nothing more than that one partner is determined to break the promise, to withdraw the promise.

The proposal before the people is a proposal about changing the civil law. There are many social implications of introducing divorce. The introduction of divorce would undermine marriage. This would weaken the status of the family. It would damage the rights and the wellbeing of both spouses and children. It is fair to say that it would ease the pain of some. It would also bring pain to a much greater number of people.

It is not possible to "remarry" in church. It is not possible to "remarry" in the sight of God. Should this referendum be passed there would be two entirely different meanings to the meaning of marriage in the eyes of the church and the eyes of the state. The church sees marriage as an unconditional promise for life. The state would regard marriage as a promise which could be broken at the request of either party.

The image of marriage is used throughout the bible to show that God's love is tender, that it is utterly reliable and faithful. "God's love endures in spite of rejection and ingratitude." This is the love which inspires and sustains the fidelity of wife and husband. Fidelity in marriage makes enormous demands. We, as a people need to be more sensitive to people especially those who

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2nd Yr Law & European Studies.

Man and woman are facing an unknown future but they are saying that they will remain committed to each other until they are "parted by death". It can happen that in spite of great effort; the hopes and dreams of the wedding day can become dulled, life becomes intolerable and in some cases separation may be the proper course of action. We probably all know friends or relatives who are separated or in second unions. The church does want to show understanding towards partners and to the children and some would say that "remarriage" is the solution. But is "remarriage" the answer?

Firstly, it is a blatant denial of what the couple declared on their wedding day. "Remarriage" means their pledge is impossible to keep; the unconditional promise has been broken.

Secondly, second unions are not necessarily more happy or more stable than the first. Indeed, statistics show them to be less stable. The forthcoming divorce referendum does not simply offer "a second chance." It provides third or even more chances. It would give a second chance to a spouse who has been violent or abusive.

The upcoming referendum would trivialise the commitment people make to each other, and now it is proposed that when one of the partners wants to get out of the union our courts can state that these promises are virtually worthless. Would you be happy on your wedding day

in church it is not possible to "remarry" in the sight of God. Should this referendum be passed there would be two entirely different meanings to the meaning of marriage in the eyes of the church and the eyes of the state. The church sees marriage as an unconditional promise for life. The state would regard marriage as a promise which could be broken at the request of either party.

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It is your duty as a citizen to think carefully about this, to think about the implications and responsibility that our vote will carry. Fidelity is possible. If our civil law expresses otherwise it will be more difficult for people to remain faithful to their marriage promises. Thank you for reading this.

Not allowed marry a first time

So what is the view from couples in Ireland who are not even allowed get married a first time never mind a second time! These people are the homosexual community in Ireland. In a recent letter to the editor of Gay Community News, Mick Quinlan, an activist with Dublin Aids Alliance stated that there was difficulty for a couple to obtain an annulment even if one of the partners was lesbian or gay. Mr. Quinlan

went on to state that the anti-divorce lobby group contains many people who encourage homophobia and bigotry. He also said that these same people would like to see the gay community in Ireland criminalised once again. Mr. Quinlan sees a YES vote as a vote that will support marginalised communities and urged lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people to vote yes.

Comment on Poll

p1 contd

whole issue is finally being addressed. The countdown is on for this very important issue which will inevitably effect all of us one way or another, with the referendum taking place on the 24th of this month. A major decision has to be made and let's face it it's one of the biggest issues that you and I will vote on in our life-time, (if not the biggest!)

Being students though, I suppose that it doesn't play an overly important part in our lives at the moment, and maybe this is why, according to the poll that 16% of the 100 students surveyed either didn't know what to vote and 4% actually didn't care. But we must bear in mind that *we* must look to the future and ask ourselves how *WE* will like to see *OUR* Irish society.

Ireland, the land of saints and scholars, should we then listen to our hearts or to our minds?

One of the most surprising things that struck me about the poll results is the slim difference between the 18% of NO votes and the 16% of don't know figure. Almost without question it was the general belief that students

were going to vote YES so you can see for yourself there is still a question over this! Therefore whatever you vote Yea or Nay and YES you should vote and voice your opinion, don't forget that we are the future and what the future holds for us all depends alot on US.

We're counting on YOU!

The Divorce Debate.

The Jean Monnet Lecture Theatre played host to a crowd almost as big as that which attended the SU AGM. But the purpose of this meeting was not about the SU but had everything to do with repeats. The Divorce Debate was precisely that, a debate on whether or not people are entitled to a second chance. On the Proposition Maga O'Brien of the Divorce Action Group and Catherine Kelleher of Right to Remarry. In Opposition to them were Nora Bennis of Family Solidarity and Jim Sexton of the Anti-Divorce Campaign.

Maga O'Brien opened the evening with a basic outlining of the facts concerning the situation in Ireland as it exists today. The figures were sometimes called into question but the general statement that up to 80,000 people are now separated went uncontested by Nora Bennis or Jim Sexton. Catherine Kelleher, a practising legal aid representative for families in Cork described the realities of the legal position concerning those presently separated and the benefits following divorce being introduced into Ireland. At all times the two speakers continuously called for the realities of the situation to be recognised and to accept the huge social injustices being served on people who are currently in a state of limbo.

Nora Bennis in her address to the house gave what one person claimed was merely a watered down version of Solidarity's manifesto. Her tone to the House was both condescending and patronising. She stated to an incredulous crowd that Divorce was adultery and a terrible evil that would leave women destitute and the victims of violent men who would end up being dependant on State Aid. What Mrs. Bennis failed to appreciate was the fact that 75% of all separation applications are made by women, that Separated women already are reliant on state aid and therefore will not pose a new hidden cost to the exchequer and the purpose of Divorce would give women in dangerous or violent relationships a means of escape.

This was all too easily brushed aside by Mrs. Bennis who never failed to amuse the crowd with her outrageous statements and ridiculous assertions. Jim Sexton called for love to be taken into consideration and his speech

followed an almost philosophical approach which left the crowd unimpressed. After the guest speakers had finished, the debate was then offered to the floor where upwards of 30 people spoke on a huge number of issues. Interestingly, there were a large number of older people in the crowd which reflected the huge interest generated by this debate. There may also have been the added attraction of being filmed for posterity by NBC America who filmed the debate for the American Network as a cover story in advance of Bill Clinton's Presidential visit. Nevertheless it was interesting to note the faces present. Grey hair was as much in evidence as the Doc Martens. Erasmus and American students came out of sheer curiosity that such a debate was taking place on an issue which is taken for granted in most countries. Some indeed were highly amused by the scare mongering of Nora Bennis and her followers and they were not alone. The principle impression that you could perceive from those opposed to the introduction of divorce in Ireland was that of being out of touch. Of being unable to grasp the stark realities of the "Hidden or Anonymous Generations," as one speaker from the floor maintained. The principle argument was that divorce is bad for women and children and that we will have to pay for divorce. The fact of the matter still remains, divorce is a basic civil right. It does not damage women, it empowers them. Their argument that we will have to pay for separated couples rang extremely hollowly when you are presented with the Catholic Right's "Christian" credentials. "Social welfare costs us money and we pay tax to support people on the dole, but screw the poor battered mother of five- she knew what she was getting into." If that is a Christian argument and that is in reality what we were told by Nora and her acolytes, is that if it's going to cost then forget it. This brings the whole hypocrisy of their argument into relief. Most (but not all) of these "Anti-Divorce" people are old, grey and bitter. They have no options left to themselves anymore. And they are damned if they are going to allow you to escape from an untenable position. This so-called divorce culture is academic. There already exists a separation culture in Ireland and its time we stopped ignoring it. Divorce is already with us in the form of Legal Separation. What this Referendum is about is the right to remarry, to have a

second chance, to give stability to children with only one parent, to be able to repeat in student terms. And let people be under no illusions, there will be no "quickie" divorce. The 5 year clause prevents this. And may I also remind the scaremongers that separation and then divorce are not the be all and end all. They are the means of last resort and will only be available to couples who can prove to the court that they have used every available avenue for reconciliation and compromise.

Separated people are not greedy, selfish creatures. They are the same as everybody else with the same pressures, problems and invariably, family commitments as those of others. What this referendum means is that they will have a legal status as will their children which they do not enjoy at present. Not every marriage is made in heaven. It would be marvellous if it were the case. But to emphasise the word, REALITY is a hell of a lot different. If you don't want to vote for divorce then that's your opinion and you are perfectly entitled to that opinion. But bear in mind all the people who you are directly sentencing to another long period in limbo. Show a bit of this famous "Christian" charity and think of others instead of yourself or your pocket. Be rational, do not fall for the

hype and misinformation. Nobody is pressuring you to get a divorce just because its available, legal separations and annulments have been around for some time and up until 1937 divorce existed in Ireland without any great social upheavals. And while your at it, if you don't feel like divorce and think its against your religion, don't be one of the many thousands who will discriminate against all non-Catholic creeds. That includes, Jews, Church of Ireland, Quakers, etc. Are you so narrow minded that you will dictate your religion over others? If so then good and well but once again think about how "Christian" your being. This may sound like a load of opinionated waffle - and so it is, but I for one know what I'm talking about being one of these "Anonymous" children who are so often patronised in the media and in common conversation. We don't want your pity or condescension, what we would like is your respect. Failing that all I can do is to call on your "Christian" charity to think of others who aren't quite as lucky, or secure as yourselves. Please vote YES in the Referendum.

P.P.

Divorce and the day Hello will mean Goodbye!

Today, I intend to provide you with the truth about divorce and the implications it will have for this country. People have often talked about that curse of Hello, but I and my sources know better. Indeed, it was only yesterday, over a brunch at her sea-side home that editor and utterly reliable confidante, Maggie Kuomi, confided her dark secret to me. Today, my dahlings, I can tell you the inside story. As we sipped on our glasses of Dom Boullibong (Dear Maggie never has been much of a hostess with the mostest, if you know what I mean), she told me that "it's all politics, of course. Those who don't play by the rules are fully deserving of what they get. I mean like, how about that insufferable woman Lizzie (Taylor). All I asked her to do was to get me a few pictures of Michael and the kids. I mean, what could I do but cover the pages with photos of her wedding. My personal

- loathing for Liz is notorious, with lines such as "Liz Hurley bears a canny resemblance to the late Marilyn Monroe". Sure, everybody knows that Liz isn't fat, a junkie and certainly wouldn't stoop to the level of a coalstack, unless it was designed by the man who gave us that dress!
- 5 Irish Couples Likely To Break Up If Divorce Is Introduced
- 1 Pat Kenny-Ireland's former most eligible bachelor gets a severe thumbs down from the Hello team. Indeed, they suscribe to the Dunphy school that Pat's jumpers are horrendous, and very un-celeb.like. Indeed, they're such an unmemorable couple that I only remembered Kathy's name now.
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Unfortunately, I'll have to censor the conversation here dahlings, as I'm sure Hubby Leonardo doesn't want to know her secret trysts with Antonio at their Alpine villa.

Maggie's Top 5 Hated Couples

1. Liz Taylor and "X". Liz always makes good cannon fodder-blondie at heart, photogenic and always seen at the right places. Liz just doesn't have time for such trivial matters as marriage.
2. Mandy Smith- One wonders what poor Mandy did. Not content with ripping her heart apart over Bill, Hello went after herself and Pat Van Den Hauwe with a vengeance, featuring them 4 times in 7 months. And who said blondes have all the fun!
3. Bob Geldof and Paula Yates- Bob deserved everything he got for going after the horsey set when they didn't contribute to Live Aid. And, of course, tarty Paula makes far better reading when she's having it off with someone else's boyfriend. After all, anybody who could call their child Fifi Trixibelle is hardly good mother material.
4. The Royals- Maggie admits this one is just pure jealousy. She never got over the fact that Diane and the Sloanes didn't give her first shot at dear old rich boy Charlie. Ever since, it's battlestations aboard the good ship Hello when it comes to the Royals.
5. Liz Hurley and Hugh Grant- Maggie is fuming over this one. How could Hughie get back together with the woman who'd forgive him for sleeping with a cheap 40 dollar hooker? Her

loathing for Liz is notorious, with lines such as "Liz Hurley bears a canny resemblance to the late Marilyn Monroe". Sure, everybody knows that Liz isn't fat, a junkie and certainly wouldn't stoop to the level of a coalstack, unless it was designed by the man who gave us that dress!

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1. Pat Kenny-Ireland's former most eligible bachelor gets a severe thumbs down from the Hello team. Indeed, they subscribe to the Dunphy school that Pat's jumpers are horrendous, and very un-celeb.like. Indeed, they're such an unmemorable couple that I only remembered Kathy's name now.
2. Miley and Biddy- Another member of the jumper brigade, Miley is just too much of a bogger to make it as a celebrity. If Biddy has any sense, she'll take up with Conor, who the whining Fidelma doesn't deserve, and clean Miley out for all he's worth. The farm would do grand for the autumn holidays.
3. Gay Byrne and Kathleen Watkins- Quite how Gaybo ended up with an I.C.A. member who bears only a passing resemblance to Maureen O'Hara is beyond me. What Gay needs to boost his aristocratic street cred is an Irish supermodel in the making. Olive Kearney would do quite nicely, thank you.
4. Gerry Ryan and Gerry Ryan- Gerry needs to take a serious break from himself. The sound of his nauseating self respecting housewives from Belveder to Montenotte. We think the real Gerry should look for everything except the head, which is big enough to cover the rest.
5. Ed Walsh and Leo Colgan- A rather obvious one, I know. Rather strange bedfellows, so I've heard, they come across as an upper class Laurel and Hardy, or Little and Large as the case may be! Personally, Ed should take the portraits for himself, so he can put them up in his private yacht at Lough Derg. Oh, sorry Ed, I wasn't supposed to let Leo know that I'd seen the king-sized double bed in the inner sanctum. Sorry dear, what can I say!!!!

Monica Looselips-Loosetongue IV in an interview with the Wolfman from her 5th floor penthouse at the Burlington.

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No to Divorce? - No to Marriage Men And Women In U.L.

What about it then? With all this talk of divorce, maybe we should be looking at how men and women get on before we even get involved in that bond that is marriage. The last issue of An Focal carried a letter to the women of Ireland. The letter which is re-printed below sparked off much debate and a stack of letters and articles came in. These articles are printed below with a foreword by Derena McDermott. Enjoy!

ALL ABORAD!

Well, the passengers made an impact. Their letter sparked off a hot

debate, whipping everyone into a frenzy. For some reason, wherever there's a whipping of such magnitude, one is eager to put ones boot in... so here goes. The passengers' letter (albeit a grammatical quagmire), was written bravely. On deciphering the letter - one deduces that the passengers feel:

1. That the women of U.L. (yes all of them!) are sour-pussed, antisocial, extreme, bitchy, sexually repressed, pathetic people, with unappealing biological anatomies.
2. That the menstrual cycle is a female 'weapon'.

There was alot of reference to the women of U.L. as physical beings. A case of 'have cerebrum?' (beware of the brain). Even if the letter was a contrivance on the part of the passengers to 'spark off' a debate - it was cruel. It was purposely hurtful. But these faults are not its great failing. The letter had no style, no intelligent pints for debate, and no acceptable evidence to put across a sound argument. Put simply - it was schoolyard journalism. To launch a counter-attack of the same vulgar type is the type of fit for tat petty exchange which is pathetic, and futile. Trading insults across the gender fence is no solution. Indeed, to study some of this week's replies, it is increasingly clear that emotion before rationalism does not a debate make. As third level students, we have come to expect a certain standard of writing and presentation of information. Neither the passengers nor the buck of the respondents have delivered the goods.

TO THINK: This separates us from the animal kingdom. Rationality, emotion and communication are the main gifts

bestowed upon us by evolution. To deride, taunt, insult or hurt any grouping within our society, is surely an act of irrationality, borne out of lack of communication, fuelled by the vilest of human emotions: hate.

However, if there is anything to land within the narrow confines of the passengers' infantile ramblings, it is this -

Thank you so much for saying that the women of U.L. do not deserve the title 'female'.

Each one of us is a unique person. Surely each person should be evaluated as such. I think: therefore I am; not to be confused with 'I bleed therefore I am'. It is ludicrous and ignorant to judge the individual as a 'female' or a 'male' alone.

Besides, if there are a narrow set of guidelines which one must satisfy in order to get on the bandwagon to 'femaleness' or 'maleness', then thanks, but the fare is too high - I'll keep my individuality. Who wants to be just another 'passenger'?

Derena McDermott
Grad Dip Womens Studies

Dear Irish Women,

We would consider ourselves well-travelled, well-balanced, knowledgeable, heterosexual, red-blooded male undergraduates in the humanities department.

Our question to the women of Ireland, whom we believe women in U.L. represent quite accurately, is, do you realise you have become an embittered body of people. "mna ná hEireann" have gradually evolved, since acquiring the vote, to "sour-pussed", anti-social extremists.

Why? I hear you growl from your gagging hordes of blubbling befoolery. When faced with an Irish man you crawl squirmingly back into your lion's den of snarling bitterness. Bitchiness masks social retardedness. Is hello so difficult to say? Our message to the marring masses of mothers is men Don't bite so stop biting us!

You are genetically backward compared to your European counterparts. Is this why you're so bitter. Perhaps there are other reasons? Is it the fact you have to pull your shirt out over your jeans. Does that piss you off, is that it? You pitiful specimens, you use your menstrual cycles to propa???? eternal and external misery on the rest of us.

Why do you find it necessary to mask and strangle everything that is beautiful and fresh in the damp, stinking, fermented wool of prudishness why you stand with your 'Feig' like knarled legs on a moral ground that sinks as rapidly as a healthy, virile heterosexual male's expectations as he enters the canteen and grabs sight of the garbling masses you are.

The people I most pity are the bewildered transvestites who try to emulate your pathetic stature.

Our advice shape up, or ship out and bring in women who deserve the title female. By the way girlies have you ever heard of the sexual revolution.

The passengers!

To the passengers

Yes, this is one of the many letters, I expect you'll receive from the pissed off population of females at UL.

What planet are you bunch of sex-starved (obviously), mummies boy's living on? I'd like to point out that when socially retarded males like yourselves start holding doors, buying lunch and sending flowers to their female counterparts, we in turn will revert to our womanly graces.

All girls do not "bite" or have pre-menstrual mood swings, or have knarled knees - I'm proud of

my 34" flawless legs! We love to be treated with respect, and like ladies. The day the male population at UL learn these basic manners - I'll run through the canteen naked. When brutish pigs like you earn the respect of us women, you'll have a crisis on your hands, because you won't be able to handle the sexy, saucy, seductive temptresses that will appear in your wake.

Learn to be gentlemen before you spout bullshit to the Ed. It's obvious that none of you have been man enough to meet any real women on this campus you pack of miserable, lonely, wasters.

Lou.

Guess who has never had a shag in his entire life?

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The passengers!

Chosen who has never had a shag in his entire life!

Chosen who has never had a shag in his entire life? "The Passenger". Your sexual frustration is obviously all consuming, solo performing clearly does not relieve your testosterone driven cravings and in a fit of resentful rejection you wrote that misogynist letter.

Serial rejection is responsible for your behaviour. You are obviously physically repulsive, visually offensive and completely devoid of personality. I doubt you have any redeeming quality. But I must congratulate you on your display of sub standard Inter Cert English - such impressive use of assonance and alliteration ... you obviously know how to use a dictionary ... but your inappropriate use of "genetic backwardness" goes to show how ill

informed, insufficiently educated and indeed ill bred you are.

You are definitely the pathetic drooling nerd who begs for 'a dance' and is met with the polite no ... you wouldn't have sufficient wit to refrain from asking "why not?" ... you therefore, deserve to be told, in no uncertain terms, how extremely revolting you are.

I question your virility - you have obviously not savoured the delights of a heaving bosom in quite some time. I have no doubt but your appearance triggers a complete and total hormonal shutdown in every sane female. The only thing you are shifting, dear boy, is the blame for your own inadequacies, on to the perceptive women of UL.

Laura Ingalls.

UL - THE EPIDEMIC !!!

It's a dreary November afternoon. We sit and ponder on the wonders of life in this our dear canteen. Suddenly a thought (or two) hits us. We need some sunshine in our lives! Yes. I stare thorough the thick blue-grey smoke of my Benson and Hedges with hopeful anticipation. My faithful sidekick coughs on my fumes, rubs her eyes, fixes her hair and does likewise. But to no avail. Miserably we exhale a sigh (and cigarette smoke). It's no good. It has to be said. **THERE ARE NO MEN IN THIS COLLEGE.**

There are plenty of male substitutes about but we're looking for real sunshine not electric light bulbs. What can we do? We've tried everything. We've left no stone unturned or pub unvisited or library searched or canteen scanned. We cannot find them.

Yet another thought enters our minds. Why the f**k is that guy walking around looking like a jackass with a baseball cap on? Oh

God, there's another one with a brutal haircut. Great, here comes 'I love myself', swivging his hips as a rhino would during mating season. Oh, there goes 'I do drugs or something, man' wearing black to match the rings around his eyes. Goodie, here comes the serious types - folder underarm and bag on back heading to the library. Jesus, here's a sheep. **THE F**KING HAIR ON HIM** He has to be Erasmus. No good living (or even bad living) Irish lad would have a head of hair that reminds us of a sheep's arse - would he???

This tiny percentage of the male population may not represent the true story or give a full and accurate account of the males in this college. We're not far wrong though. Will we ever find true sunshine in the midst of all these 100 watt light bulbs ???

Yours in severe sexual frustration xxxxxx

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What planet are you born of sex-starved (heterosexual), immature boy's living on? I'd like to point out that when socially retarded males like yourselves start holding doors, buying lunch and sending flowers to their female counterparts, we in turn will revert to our womanly graces.
All girls do not "bite" or have pre-menstrual mood swings, or have knarled knees - I'm proud of

be treated with respect. The male population at UL learn these basic manners - I'll run through the canteen naked. When British pigs like you earn the respect of us women, you'll have a crisis on your hands, because you won't be able to handle the sexy, savvy, seductive temptresses that will appear in your wake.
Learn to be gentlemen before you sport bullshit to the Ed. It's obvious that none of you have been man enough to meet any real women on this campus you pack of miserable, lonely, wasters.

Dear Ed,

Just a short reply to the passengers' letter in past weeks 'an Fool'.

It seems the authors of this piece of literary genius are suffering from an acute form of (possibly rejection induced) paranoia.

Maybe when, upon recovery, these sorry individuals grace the canteen with their presences again they might notice that the "garbling masses" of females present are most often involved in intelligent, witty conversations of some kind, **without their assistance. Feeling left out?**

Perhaps it never occurred to ye self proclaimed Adonis's that us UL women may have more important things on our minds than stuffing our shirts into our jeans in the hope of

being treated with respect. The male population at UL learn these basic manners - I'll run through the canteen naked. When British pigs like you earn the respect of us women, you'll have a crisis on your hands, because you won't be able to handle the sexy, savvy, seductive temptresses that will appear in your wake.

Learn to be gentlemen before you sport bullshit to the Ed. It's obvious that none of you have been man enough to meet any real women on this campus you pack of miserable, lonely, wasters.

It seems ye are caught in the cogs of sexual frustration, dear chaps - the revolution is in full swing from where I'm standing !!!

Sadhb.

A reply to the passengers.

I found your letter bemoaning the lack of femininity amongst UL female students both sad and strange. Strange because you claimed that someone who doesn't tuck their shirt into their jeans doesn't have P.M.T., has long slender shapely limbs and says "hello" a lot (constitutes) deserves the title female. Sad because it sounds like you buachaill had a deprived childhood.

You see, young girls are given dolls to act their fantasies out on (of sex goddesses). Cindy and Barbie wear sexy little black chiffon numbers, have long smooth legs, don't bleed the energy of life and now, thanks to the leaps and bounds that technology has undergone, Barbie and Cindy can now say "hello", if you push the right buttons.

So to right the wrongs you've suffered as little boys, why not buy a life-size blow-up Barbie doll? Or, seeing so as you're so "well-travelled and red-blooded", trot off to the meat-market known as Pigalle and fuck an empty-headed sex-slave. But don't worry, you're not alone in desiring women to look like painted, shapely sex-objects, our paternalistic, chauvinistic society has succeeded in convincing some women into

preferring beauty to brains. Although I understand their twisted logic because from your letter it would appear that the "average red-blooded humanities male can see much better than he can think."

If your attempts to seduce a rubber dolly or a street hooker don't work, perhaps you could go see the movie "Clueless" as I'm sure it will fulfil all your fantasies as to how female college students should look. Notice however that most of the audience are laughing. And if I do decide to show a bit of cleavage or leg, I don't feel like I have to or smile at leering assholes. On a personal note I don't think cunningly created outfits enable me to look like Miss Renthouse '85. Infact I don't think I need to do anything to prove my femininity as Ally Sheedy asserted. The fact is I can have any experience of life I want. I don't have to choose any one thing or act in any one way to define myself as a woman now. I am one.

May I leave you with a question - Why do you feel you have been so bitterly rejected by UL female students - could it be that we have (what you never) have. GREAT TASTE?

Ye.Soy.

Guess who has never had a shag in his entire life?

Guess who has never had a shag in his entire life? "The Passenger". Your sexual frustration is obviously all consuming, solo performing clearly does not relieve your testosterone driven cravings and in a fit of resentful rejection you wrote that misogynist letter.

Serial rejection is responsible for your behaviour. You are obviously physically repulsive, visually offensive and completely devoid of personality. I doubt you have any redeeming quality. But I must congratulate you on your display of sub standard Inter Cert English - such impressive use of assonance and alliteration .. you obviously know how to use a dictionary ... but your inappropriate use of "genetic backwardness" goes to show how ill

informed, insufficiently educated and indeed ill bred you are.

You are definitely the pathetic drooling nerd who begs for 'a dance' and is met with the polite no ... you wouldn't have sufficient wit to refrain from asking "why not?" ... you therefore, deserve to be told, in no uncertain terms, how extremely revolting you are.

I question your virility - you have obviously not savoured the delights of a heaving bosom in quite some time. I have no doubt but your appearance triggers a complete and total hormonal shutdown in every sane female. The only thing you are shifting, dear boy, is the blame for your own inadequacies, on to the perceptive women of UL.

Laura Ingalls.

No to Divorce? - No to Marriage

Men And Women In U.L.

What about it then? With all this talk of divorce, maybe we should be looking at how men and women get on before we even get involved in that bond that is marriage. The last issue of An Focal carried a letter to the women of Ireland. The letter which is re printed below sparked off much debate and a stack of letters and articles came in. These articles are printed below with a foreword by Derena McDermott. Enjoy!

ALL ABORAD!

Well, the passengers made an impact. Their letter sparked off a hot

debate, whipping everyone into a frenzy. For some reason, wherever there's a whipping of such magnitude, one is eager to put ones boot in ... so here goes. The passengers' letter (albeit a grammatical quagmire), was written bravely. On deciphering the letter - one deduces that the passengers feel:

1. That the women of U.L. (yes all of them!) are sour-pussed, antisocial, extreme, bitchy, sexually repressed, pathetic people, with unappealing biological anatomies.
2. That the menstrual cycle is a female 'weapon'.

There was alot of reference to the women of U.L. as physical beings. A case of 'cave cerebrum'? (beware of the brain). Even if the letter was a contrivance on the part of the passengers to "spark off" a debate - it was cruel. It was purposely hurtful. But these faults are not its great failing. The letter had no style, no intelligent pints for debate, and no acceptable evidence to put across a sound argument. Put simply - it was schoolyard journalism. To launch a counter-attack of the same vulgar type is the type of fit for tat petty exchange which is pathetic, and futile. Trading insults across the gender fence is no solution. Indeed, to study some of this week's replies, it is increasingly clear that emotion before rationalism does not a debate make. As third level students, we have come to expect a certain standard of writing and presentation of information. Neither the passengers nor the buck of the respondents have delivered the goods.

TO THINK: This separates us from the animal kingdom. Rationality, emotion and communication are the main gifts

bestowed upon us by evolution. To deride, taunt, insult or hurt any grouping within our society, is surely an act of irrationality, borne out of lack of communication, fuelled by the vilest of human emotions; hate.

However, if there is anything to land within the narrow confines of the passengers' infantile ramblings, it is this -

Thank you so much for saying that the women of U.L. do not deserve the title 'female'.

Each one of us is a unique person. Surely each person should be evaluated as such. 'I think; therefore I am; not to be confused with 'I bleed therefore I am'. It is ludicrous and ignorant to judge the individual as a 'female' or a 'male' alone.

Besides, if there are a narrow set of guidelines which one must satisfy in order to get on the bandwagon to 'femaleness' or 'maleness', then thanks, but the fare is too high - I'll keep my individuality. Who wants to be just another 'passenger'?

Derena McDermott
Grad Dip Womens Studies

Dear Irish Women,

We would consider ourselves well-travelled, well-balanced, knowledgeable, heterosexual, red-blooded male undergraduates in the humanities department.

Our question to the women of Ireland, whom we believe women in U.L. represent quite accurately, is, do you realise you have become an embittered body of people. "mna ná hEireann" have gradually evolved, since acquiring the vote, to "sour-pussed", anti-social extremists.

Why? I hear you growl from your gagging hordes of blubbery befoolery. When faced with an Irish man you crawl squirmingly back into your lion's den of snarling bitterness. Bitchiness masks social retardedness. Is hello so difficult to say? Our message to the marraling masses of mothers is men Don't bite so stop biting us!

A reply to the passengers.

I found your letter bemoaning the lack of femininity amongst UL female students both sad and strange. Strange because you claimed that someone who doesn't tuck their shirt into their jeans doesn't have P.M.T., has long slender shapely limbs and says "hello" a lot (constitutes) deserves the title female. Sad because it sounds like you buachaillí had a deprived childhood.

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May I leave you with a question - Why do you feel you have been so bitterly rejected by UL female students - could it be that we have (what you never) have, GREAT TASTE?

Yo.Soy.

Entertainments

THE PARK IS FINALLY READY TO RE-OPEN! **VIEW REVIEW REVIEW R**

After many false starts, and days in court, last Thursday the Park was granted a licence to re-open. Now with no legal opposition in the way, new lease holders (the Sir Henry's people from Cork). They are preparing to open, the new club is called "The Cairo" which they will run themselves at the weekend. We hope to be running in the next term Tuesday and Thursdays. But on Thursday 23rd, we have our own re-opening night (the Friday 24th, the Cairo will open officially to the public). We decided to dispense with the bus service, so we can keep the admission price to £3. We will also have a special promotion in the bar downstairs before the disco.

Upstairs: We have 3 areas, the Main Disco area, we have our own DJ Conor Cronin, doing a standard disco, in the second function (Carlton Room) we have an Indie Disco, the 3rd room, will be a chill out room (with a bar, and some chill sounds).

All areas will have bars, and in the main area food will be available.

Tickets are £3 each, on sale Thursday 12 - 3 pm from the ENT's stand, 8 - 11.30 pm SU Office, and the Hurlers 9.30 - 12.00 am. It is advisable to get your tickets early, as we'll be limiting the numbers. If this is successful we may run a few other nights before Christmas. All depending on your support.

HEINEKEN AND MURPHYS - WHATS HAPPENING?

Just thought I would update you on what is going on with promotions at present and what you can look forward to.

First of all HEINEKEN MATCH MADNESS. Because the enemy (namely Harp) have taken over the night of the 15th for Ireland v Portugal I have decided to postpone the selection of the winner for the trip to OLD TRAFFORD until next week and it will be selected during SoUL week on the Monday, 20th during the Southampton v Aston Villa match. The way it works is that 90 names will be selected and each one given a number between 1-90. Which ever person have the number corresponding to the time that the first goal is scored wins the trip (doing it this way means that I can't be influenced, which I am not at all happy about as it usually means a few drinks but the boss said it has to be done this way). So keep an eye out for the list of names - one will be posted in the Stables, the SU and the Canteen on Friday 17th.

HEINEKEN SoUL Fest will be

crazy antics and a chance to win a trip to Amsterdam (Tues), Murphys \$1.50/pint (Wed) and for all those who have sampled the Silver Bullet while in the States you will be delighted to hear that Coors Light has been launched in Ireland so Thurs will be a Coors Light Promotion. There is plenty for everyone to get involved in and chances to win liquid prizes in certain events. And don't forget the Masked Ball, excellent way to chat up someone without letting them know you're all embarrassed and stuff!!!!

There is also a COORS LIGHT Promotion this Thursday (16th) so if Duncan get his finger out you might be able to read this on Thursday.....

On the Murphys front it seems that most of you that have got tickets to reclaim your Draughtflow bottle have become very attached to them and don't want to give them in. I know there are lots out there and unless you have washed them all in your jeans please kindly come and collect your bottles. The promotion will probably run until week 10. Collection times will be at



might take you with him. His name is David Ryan so keep an eye on him. His name, along with that of the person successful on Tues 21st will go into a draw to win the great trip to

VIEW REVIEW REVIEW REVIEW REVIEW REVIEW REVIEW REVIEW REVIEW REVIEW

CANDLES BURN AS LIGHT FADES!

Hamlet at St. Mary's Cathedral,
Friday 10th November.

In a setting which enhances the magnificence of Shakespeare's finest musings, the cast of Island Theatre gave a performance which was truly worthy of their outstanding abilities.

First, to the setting. Even Valentino himself could not choose a more romantic setting for this play. Imagine huddling up to your girlfriend under a blanket in cathedral totally lit by candles. While this isn't deliberate (They're having problems with the lighting systems), the effect is fantastic and it creates a great atmosphere.

Performance wise, the acting was truly superb. Paul Meade, who plays Hamlet, claimed to be dissatisfied with his performance this evening. One can only wonder if this is perhaps false modesty, as his performance is certainly one of the best I have seen in the role. He plays Hamlet with a madness of soul, yet still lets the audience see the method behind the madness. From a personal point of view, the performance of Cathy Belton surely reaffirms her status as the best young actress in the country. The depth of emotion which she gives to the role of Ophelia is truly touching, and my sources tell me that she has often come off the stage in tears, so involved is she in her character. Myles Breen is suitably jovial, two-faced and underhand as Claudius while John Murphy plays the role of Polonius as if he was born for it. (No offence, John.)

If you want proof that this is the best production to come to Limerick since the visit

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HEINEKEN SoUL Fest will be happening from 20th to the 24th so get your drinking caps on. Look out for the posters and programmes outlining the activities. The promotions during the week will include Heineken bottles £1.20 (Mon), Heineken Big Breakfast, more

crazy antics and a chance to win a trip to Amsterdam (Tues), Murphys \$1.50/ pint (Wed) and for all those who have sampled the Silver Bullet while in the States you will be delighted to hear that Coors Light has been launched in Ireland so Thurs will be a Coors Light Promotion. There is plenty for everyone to get involved in and chances to win liquid prizes in certain events. And don't forget the Masked Ball, excellent way to chat up someone without letting them know you're all embarrassed and stuff!!!!

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If you know the bloke in the picture make sure and be nice to him as he could win a trip to Amsterdam and he



might take you with him. His name is David Ryan so keep an eye on him. His name, along with that of the person successful on Tues 21st will go into a draw to win the great trip to Amsterdam.

Apart from that look out for more promotions before Christmas and make sure and come out and support HEINEKEN SoUL Fest.

REVIEW REVIEW REVIEW

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If you want proof that this is the best production to come to Limerick since the visit of the Pope, I didn't actually miss getting pissed for the night. The play starts at 7.30pm, the tickets can be bought from the Cruises Street Marketing Suite and seats are on a first come, first served basis. Miss it at your peril!

SAVOY CINEMAS

Late Shows 12 Midnight Fri/Sa: 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5

2.00 4.30 8.00 10.00

KEANU REEVES

A WALK in the CLOUDS (12a)

"The Most Sensual, Passionate Romantic Love Story Of The Year"

2.15 4.30 8.00 10.00
sat/sun 4.30 8.00 10.00

MURPHY BROWN

THE WALKER

A hard hitting, topical and powerfully achieved one trick drama.

John Turturro

Guiltrip (11a)

One of the finest films to emerge from Ireland in decades. RTE GUIDE

2.00 4.30 8.00 10.00

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF NAKED GUN 3 1/2

TOMMY BOY (12a)

If at first you don't succeed, lower your standards.

2.00

DENZEL WASHINGTON

GENE HACKMAN

2.15

PATRICK SWAYZE

WESLEY SNIPES

4.30

CRIMSON TIDE

4.30

To Whom It May Concern,
Thanks For Everything!
Julie Newman

(12a)

7.45

DANGER RUNS DEEP (12a)

8.00

Attitude is Everything

9.55

sat/sun

7.45

9.55

sat/sun
12.00 2.00 4.20

2.15 sat/sun

NO SUCH THING AS GHOSTS?

Sat/Sun 12 NOON £1
Children & Parents

A choice of two films!

POCAHONTAS (Gen)

CASPER (Gen)

DUMB AND DUMBER

FREE WILLY 2

SoUL

Monday 20th November

SoUL commences with the launch of the Literary Society's poetry publication "Clochadoir." Tapping the talents of the students on campus "Clochadoir" is a high quality production well worth the £1.50 cover price.

Cool Batucada, who perform later in the night, will hold a 2 hour workshop in samba music at 3 p.m. in the Student Centre. Participants will be brought through warm-up games and exercises, introduced to the instruments used and then given the chance to play together using authentic Afro-Brazilian rhythms. Background information on samba and carnival will also be given. Admission to this Music Society event is £3.

Ten Forward, U.L.'s Star Trek Society, will start showing a veritable festival of sci-fi goodies at 6 p.m. in the Student Centre and other venues. For details of what's showing turn the page and look at Tuesday's programme.

The Debating Union run a Debating Workshop for first year students in CI058 at 7 p.m.. All welcome.

At 7.30 p.m. in the Jonathan Swift Theatre the Drama Society present "Be Strong And Fear Not" an adaptation of Frank McGuinness's highly acclaimed play "Someone Who'll Watch Over Me." The play charts the relationships between three very different political prisoners in the Lebanon. Often sad, frequently hilariously funny and always deeply stirring, this is a play not to be missed.

Cool Batucada are a 14 piece Samba band that was formed in 1991 by Colin Blakely (ex We Free Kings and Waterboys). They have made over 200 appearances in both Ireland and Great Britain, including the Notting Hill Carnival. Thanks to the Music Society, they perform LIVE and FREE in the Stables Club at about 9.30 p.m.. Without doubt one of the entertainment highlights of the semester, this event will have assistance from the Brizzilian Embassy in order to create a real samba atmosphere.

The Film Society commence their week of late night films at 10 p.m. in the Jean Monnet. Monday's offering is Taxi Driver, one of the most original movies ever. Scorsese creates a mindblowing view of the modern apocalypse amid the landscape of New York. Suberb performances from De Niro as an embittered Vietnam Marine Corps veteran and from Jodie Foster as a twelve year old prostitute make this 1976 film one of the landmarks of modern cinema.

Tuesday 21st November

Amnesty International continue their awareness drive that will be running all week long. Posters, blackboards and lecture visits will be used to heighten awareness amongst students of the plight of political prisoners across the globe.

Ten Forward will again be showing countless Star Trek films and episodes in the Student Centre and other venues from 6 p.m. onwards. Being shown over the course of Monday, Tuesday and Thursday are the likes of the following:

Star Trek: The Movies: Motion Picture, Wrath of Khan...Undiscovered Country, Generations.

Star Trek: The Original Series: The Cage, City On The Edge Of Forever, Trouble With Tribbles.

Star Trek: The Next Generation: Encounter At Farpoint, Best Of Both Worlds, All Good Things.

Star Trek: Deep Space Nine: The Way Of The Warrior, The Search, Jem Haddar, Maquis.

Star Trek: Voyager: Caretaker and others

Other Sci-Fi Episodes & Movies: Babylon 5, Red Dwarf, Bladerunner, the Star Wars Trilogy.

The Debating Union host the first two rounds of the Campus Bookshop Challenge Debate at 7 p.m. and 8.30 p.m. in EM009. The motions for debate are "This House believes that the West will regret free trade." and "This House believes that in this age there is a dearth of heroes."

"Be Strong And Fear Not" is again performed at 7.30 p.m. in the Jonathan Swift Theatre.

The Film Society continue their series of late night movies with "Betty Blue" at 10 p.m. a 1986 film by Jean Jacques Beineix. A wholly absorbing, sensitive and

The National Technological Park Science Fair

The science societies link up with the National Technological Park to expose students to some user-friendly science. Guest lectures, demonstrations and project exhibitions will run over the course of Wednesday and Thursday to provide a veritable festival of science.

The fair opens at 11 a.m. in the Atrium of the Foundation Building. For the course of the day there will be stands on the following:

Live Chemistry Demonstration in superconductivity, gases, colourful reactions, etc. from the Chem-Bio Society.

Environmental Awareness Stand with video demonstration from the Carson Society.

Materials Stand with video demonstrations provided by the Materials Science Society.

Principles of Physics Demonstrations including electronics and high voltage displays plus a video presentation courtesy of the Physics Society.

Can Sculpture Competition. This event, with prizes sponsored by Coca-Cola, is designed to get students recycling soft drinks cans in a creative manner. The Environmental Society run this colourful event.

The Sports Science Society tests how healthy you are. People could be in for some nasty surprises!!

Ever wanted to understand all that computer mumbo-jumbo? The Computer Society seek to clarify matters with a presentation on the Internet.

Room FB026 is dedicated all afternoon on Wednesday to the Science Fair. Guest lectures will intersperse the showing of videos on a wide range of scientific areas.

Additionally post-graduate science students display their projects in the form of posters. Informative and interesting, this is well worth checking out. Awards for the best individual and society exhibitions will be presented at 2 p.m.

Thursday 23rd November

Amnesty International will continue the awareness drive that they have been running all week with an information stand all day in the canteen. Be informed, you may feel compelled to do something to help.

As part of its excellent series of lunchtime concerts the Traditional Music Society host a concert in the Bourne Vincent Gallery at 1 p.m.. The concert features Siobhan Peoples and Michelle O'Brian on fiddle, Pat Marsh on Bouzouki and James Divine performing dance.

The Overseas Student Society present the Multi-Cultural Food Fair in the Main Canteen at 7 p.m.. This is always the biggest event of the year - 2000 people are expected to throng into the canteen to sample the wares of up to 20 different countries. All delicacies cooked by 100% natives of the country of origin (Thank God for Erasmus and Study Abroad!!) this is an event which you cannot miss. No excuses will be tolerated, so get to the canteen and chow down!!

The Drama Society will be running an acting workshop within a stone's throw of the food fair - in the Jonathan Swift Theatre to be precise. Taking place at 7.30 p.m. this is free and open to everyone. No experience is required. Talent is also entirely superfluous. Go-on, you know you want to!!

The Film Society's series of late night films comes to an end with David Lynch's bizarre movie "Wild At Heart." Screening at 10 p.m. in the Jean Monnet, this is an eclectic mix of the strange and the hilariously surreal, charting the flight of a middle class southern girl and her ex-convict lover from Georgia to California. Pursued by a crazy detective and a Vietnam-vet hitman the pair take refuge in their Bible - The Wizard Of Oz. Well worth catching.

Friday 24th November

...mission of the campus veterans and from home poster at a twelve year on prostrate make this 1976 film one of the landmarks of modern cinema.

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Star Trek: Deep Space Nine: The Way Of The Warrior, The Search, Jan Harday, Mirrors.

Star Trek: Voyager: Caretaker and others.

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The **Film Society** continue their series of late night movies with "Betty Blue" at 10 p.m. a 1986 film by Jean Jacques Beineix. A wholly absorbing, erotic and memorable picture of an obsessive love affair this is an acknowledged masterpiece of French cinema.

Wednesday 22nd November

The **Film-makers Society** run an all day workshop in film-making. The workshop will cover all areas of the art, from scripts through to filming. Starting at 9 a.m. interested parties should meet in the canteen. This is a chance for you to discover hidden talents or at least to have some fun.

The **Heineken Intersarsity Debate** is the biggest intersarsity debate in the country outside of the **World Championships**. 32 teams from all over the country do battle throughout the day in the preliminary rounds that take place all over campus. These rounds are at 11.30, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m..

Today's performance of "Be Strong And Fear Not" will be at the earlier time of 3 p.m..

The **Society for Creative Anachronisms** hold a medieval feast in the **Student Centre** at 7 p.m.. Medieval dress is encouraged but not compulsory. £3 for members and £5 for non members provides good value for the quantity of food and good fun available.

The **Debating Union** host the final of the **Heineken Intersarsity Debate** at 7.30 p.m. in **FX042**.

Amnesty International hold a candlelit vigil at the **Sundial** at 8.30 p.m.. By turning up you help to ensure that the unjustly imprisoned are not forgotten.

An **Irishman Gaelach** treats visitors to the **Stables Club** to a **Seisun** from about 9 p.m. onwards.

The **Film Society** give a showing of a truly interactive film: "The Rocky Horror Picture Show" at 10 p.m. in the **Jean Monnet**. Get into the mood people! Lose those inhibitions and dress up. There are liquid prizes for those that do. Let's do the time-warp again!!!

Don't Forget!!!

SoUL Radio will be broadcasting 24 hours a day, all week from the 19th of November at 103 FM. Be sure to tune in.

Also **Campus T.V.** will be showing their wares in the canteen for the duration of the week.

Amnesty International will continue the awareness drive that they have been running all week with an information stand all day in the canteen. Be informed, you may feel compelled to do something to help.

As part of its excellent series of lunchtime concerts the **Traditional Music Society** host a concert in the **Bourne Vincent Gallery** at 1 p.m.. The concert features **Sibhan Peoples** and **Michelle O'Brian** on fiddle, **Pat Marsh** on fiddle and **James Divine** performing dances.

The **Overseas Student Society** present the **Multi-Cultural Food Fair** in the **Main Canteen** at 7 p.m.. This is always the biggest event of the year - 2000 people are expected to throng into the canteen to sample the wares of up to 20 different countries. All delicacies cooked by 100% natives of the country of origin (Thank God for Erasmus and Study Abroad!) this is an event which you cannot miss. No excuses will be tolerated, so get to the canteen and chow down!

The **Drama Society** will be running an acting workshop within a stone's throw of the food fair - in the **Jonathan Swift Theatre** to be precise. Taking place at 7.30 p.m. this is free and open to everyone. No experience is required. Talent is also not a prerequisite. However, you better come with a bit of talent!

The **Film Society's** series of late night films comes to an end with **David Lynch's** bizarre movie "Wild At Heart". Screening at 10 p.m. in the **Jean Monnet**, this is an eclectic mix of the strange and the hilariously surreal, charting the flight of a middle class southern girl and her ex-convict lover from Georgia to California. Pursued by a crazy detective and a Vietnam-vet hitman the pair take refuge in their Bible - **The Wizard Of Oz**. Well worth catching.

Friday 24th November

Are you tired yet??? Well **SoUL** isn't quite over. The radio, of course, will still be broadcasting and **Campus T.V.** will be doing their stuff. In addition at 2 p.m. the **Traditional Music Society** host a **Bodhran Workshop** which is open to all. All of you who have wanted to play a musical instrument, this is your chance!! Don't let it slip by!!

As a social climax to the week the **Masked Ball** should be one of the all time great **U.L.** Balls. Tax and ball gown bedecked students will converge on the **Stables Club** at 7 p.m. before leaving for the **Castle Oaks Hotel**. After eating the best of meals the lucky revellers will start waltzing to a chamber orchestra before becoming more energetic at the disco. £20 is the price of a ticket to an evening that will be so unforgettable that some people might even remember it!

For those students not fortunate enough to get to the ball, there is ample consolation in the **Music Showcase** in the **Stables Club** that evening. Commencing at about 9 p.m. this **Music Society** run event will be a rocking way to end the week.

What's happening in The Stables Club?:

Monday Night: Live & Free **Cool Batacudia**, a 14 piece samba band team up with the **Brazilian Embassy** to bring some South American festival sounds to the **Stables Club**. A real carnival atmosphere is expected in this curtain raiser to **SoUL 95**. This Semester's on-campus musical highlight is not to be missed.

Tuesday Night: Teaming up with **SoUL's** social sponsor, **Heineken**, the **Stables Club** is the place to be for the **Big Late Breakfast Promotion**. Turn up and you never know what goodies you will come away with.

Wednesday Night: Taking on a traditional flavour the **Stables** is the venue for a **Seisun** and a **Murphy's** promotion (£1.50 a pint). Participants in the debate, play and **Science Fair** will all be converging to celebrate / commiserate in a musical atmosphere. It should be a good night.

Thursday Night: Yet more free entertainment from the **SoUL** club bar. **Shantytown** provide the musical accompaniment to those wishing to wash down the delights of the **Multi-Cultural Food Fair**. A promotion of an international variety will assist matters nicely.

Friday Night: **Happy Hour** in the **Stables Club** precedes the arrival of the ball goers. Then from 9 p.m. the **Musical Showcase** will ensure that **SoUL** gets a suitably energetic send off. Like the other **Stables** based entertainment, this is free to you, our members.

Opinion

Clothes Line Alert

6th November

I would just like to express my utter disgust at the depravity and incredible cheek of certain individuals who stole 4 pairs of jeans, with a collective value of £150, from my washing line in Elm Park last night. I would appreciate it if a word of warning could be issued advising people to



be vigilant when they have jeans on the line, and to not under any circumstances, leave them outside at night.

Inspired Thoughts



The typical Friday morning hanging about the canteen recovering from the previous night's festivities waiting for a damn lecture which was invariably cancelled, my companions and I start the normal Friday morning intellectual chat about the ways of the world. Where our thing/comment said in just unbelievably becomes the most intelligent 'spark' mentioned in the history of our little institution.

The subject - Rabbits and in particular their annoying little habit of digging bloody holes in one's garden. What should we do?

Being quite open minded we begin to formulate a plan for the

allows these pricking little buggers to enjoy their recreation.

A look at the business section in the paper, a realisation of the astronomical prices for the construction of the channel tunnel.

A quick thought and hey presto. Herd up all the rabbits in Britain send them down to Dover, working in teams and within the same time frame as that used by human constructors of the tunnel. And what have you got. One tunnel built. No huge construction costs, rabbits occupied from fucking up gardens, and £/l for how much? 7 or 8 tonnes of cabbage surely this could be a viable suggestion.

COLD CURRY AND THE FLU

It may seem strange but the purpose of this article is not to slag UL students (sound bunch of people - though I must admit I am pretty high on prescribed drugs at the moment). Neither do I wish to talk about repeats (my brain hurts too much to discuss such a conversation topic). The issue of divorce (Jesus no, that would involve thinking, something I'm not capable of doing at the present moment).

What I do wish to discuss is the annual arrival of the flu. (the very disease which I am presently suffering from). Already students are being struck down in their herds like some biblical plague. This flu strikes without mercy. One moment you're a healthy cheerful student the next moment you're green, close to death, can't move without pain, lost all appetite (even alcohol). The doctor doesn't prove much of a help. Those funny tablets

he prescribed only seem to make you high and vomit (I should know I think I set a world record for vomiting following the consumption of some of these tablets).

Your parents as it seems are out of the country, your brother doesn't want to know you (never forgiven you for exposing him as a Daniel O'Donnell fan).

Yes you are left to the mercy of your friends, their tried and trusted methods of recuperation.

- Eating 2 lemons and then having 3 bowls of chicken soup.
- Cold beef curry
- an enormous fry-up

All prove useless and in most cases dangerous in particular. Never eat cold beef curry when you have the flu - a lengthy visit to the toilet is one of the many side effects.

Perhaps the only method which has been any help to me is to stay in bed for at least 48



hours - with plenty of non-alcoholic drinks (resist the temptation for alcohol and you'll be soon downing pints again).

Yours

wish I was Dead (well at least temporarily) C 29.

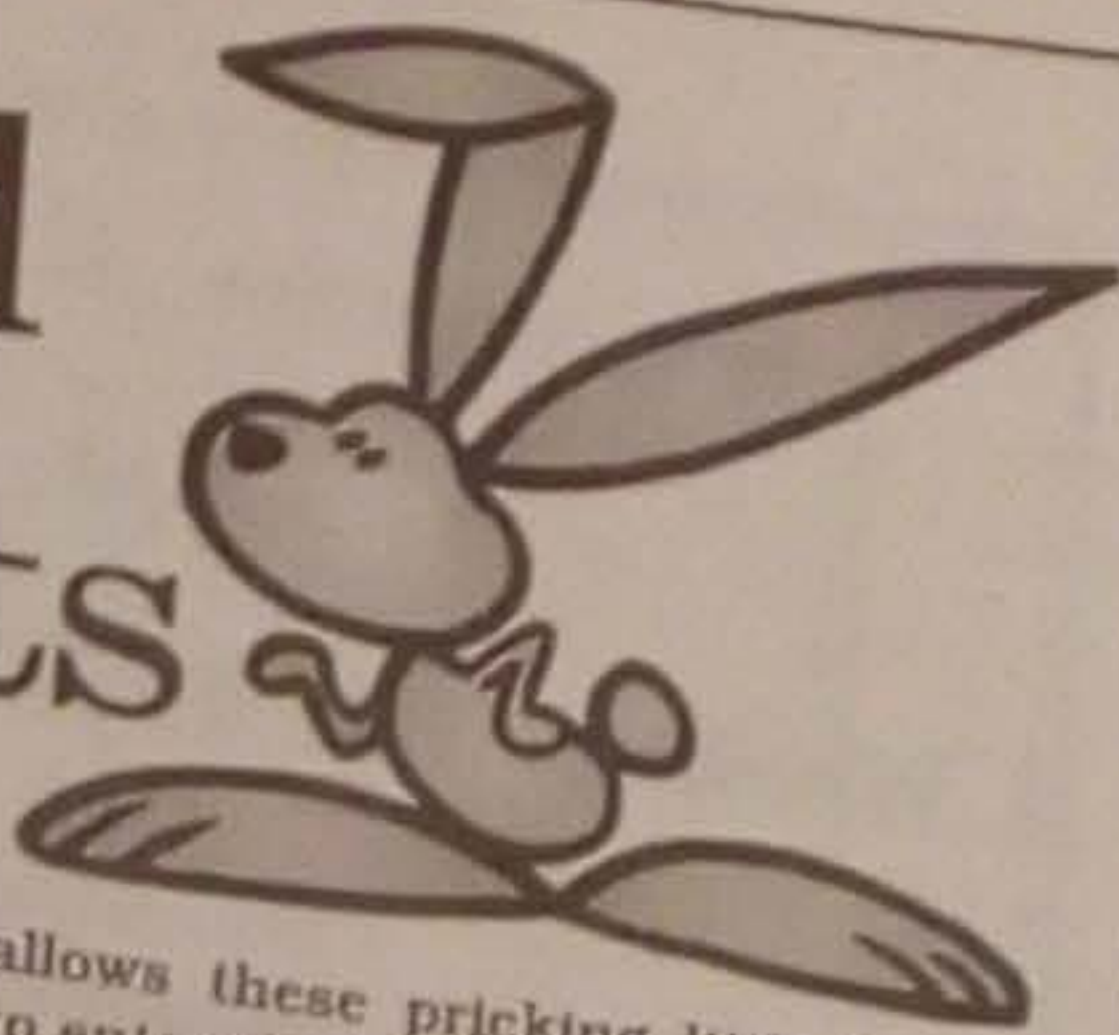
College Life is Rubbish

In response to Des, my esteemed friend, I am a fresher/first year in UL and at the

of a routine after seven weeks. At the start there was the novelty of being a student and

spending all day in a smoky room with the same people

Inspired Thoughts



The typical Friday morning hanging about the canteen recovering from the previous night's festivities waiting for a damn lecture which was invariably cancelled, my companions and I start the normal Friday morning intellectual chat about the ways of the world. Where one thing/comment said in jest unbelievably becomes the most intelligent 'spark' mentioned. In the history of our little institution.

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Being quite open minded we begin to formulate a plan for the benefit of governments, which also

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College

In response to Des, my esteemed friend, I am a fresher/first year in UL and at the moment I can't say I am proud of it. For a so called admirable ^{ents group} I don't see any benefits of it for the residents of Limerick city. For the "foreigners" studying here they're obviously having a blast because every time I frequent the Stables the foreigners I know from my class are there. Okay, so the Stables isn't exactly my favourite pub either, the Ents people, hard working I'm sure they are, could do a lot more for the high percentage of people who live in Limerick and who study in this academic mecca. There's not a lot for the residents of the city that doesn't involve obscene amounts of money. I enjoy my pint just as much as the next guy but I just wish the ents group could get it into their head that there is more to college social life than getting very drunk.

Between lectures and at lunch times there isn't too much we can do because of the lack of drink related entertainment. I myself have been forced to abandon the idea of going out on weeknights even for the social pint as its far too expensive. At present I'm living for the weekend so I can go on the tear at least once a week with my friends (Des, etc.) Most of these friends I speak of currently study in either this university, Limerick RTC, Mary I or the majority had the brains to leave home and study in UCG and when my Galway buddies do return home I always listen eagerly to their stories of drunken debauchery and often wonder why can't these tales of revelry have come from my mouth rather than theirs.

Even at this early stage, I'm having strong thoughts of getting a transfer as this university has become too much

PERFECTION

Things are coming to breaking point for all students with impeccable taste (like my associates and I). Something has to be done about the scourge of all decent living football fans.

Yes, you've guessed it, those **wankers who support Man. Utd. these people have the cheek to ridicule Liverpool for being eliminated in the second round of the UEFA cup by the score line of 0 - 1.**

These spastic's claim that Liverpool are shit; because of their elimination. But forgive my

ignorance, but were UTD not eliminated by a crap Russian team with a stupid name in Round 1.

It is about time UTD fans realised only a few terms refer to their outfit of **Criminals**, degenerates and knackers. And these terms are Crap, Shit, Absolutely pisspoor and mind numbingly awful..

Kop on youse plonkers (become scousers) Don't something youse can only aspire to.

PERFECTION which Liverpool represent.

Do we really want a god?

The question, as I see it, is not wheater there is or there isn't a god but whether we **want a god or not.**

Naturally enough the concept of there being a god appeals to most of us. It appeals to our natural need to believe that our lives are not futile and that somehow we will live on eternally, perferably not just through our children. We want for there to be, "**something more**", to life than just the daily drudgery through which we wade. We crave a real reason for living. Religions lead one to believe that we can live on forever in the presence of God (assuming there is one of course). They teach that if we live good and holy lives we will receive our just reward and find infinite happiness with god in the afterlife. Homo Sapiens however by their nature become easily accustomed to their surroundings. We do not know how good things are until we lose them. Therefore is it not inceivable that over an infite happiness. Then we would be ignorant of the fact that we were experiencing supreme happiness. What good is that to us?? Conversely of course would the same not be true for hell??

Perhaps we will be reincarnated when we die. Perhaps we are merely recycled spiritual matter! Where did the first spirits come from so? Where do the new ones we are constantly producing come from? This situation would be more demanding of the need to have a God. If we assume there is a God, he builds a universe, lands us here on a planet in the back-end of nowhere adds in a few new souls as time goes on ... why would he, (or she,) bother?? Either way it has to end somewhere so then what? God Says, "Cheers you lot gave me a few great laughs, thanks a million!" then, "poof!" we're history. No thanks, I don't want it and I definitely don't need it.

Then again maybe we're just an accident, a freak of nature of cosmic proportions. Perhaps this is all there is to life, what if there is no god, no reincarnation, no afterlife, nothing what then?

Whatever is true it had better be something new and different from the ideas we have on the topic because as far as I'm concerned the ones we've come up with are pretty dismal.

College Life is Rubbish

In response to Des, my esteemed friend, I am a fresher/first year in UL and at the moment I can't say I am proud of it. For a so called admirable ~~ent~~ group I don't see any benefits of it for the residents of Limerick city. For the "foreigners" studying here they're obviously having a blast because every time I frequent the Stables the foreigners I know from my class are there. Okay, so the Stables isn't exactly my favourite pub either, the Ents people, hard working I'm sure they are, could do a lot more for the high percentage of people who live in Limerick and who study in this academic mecca. There's not a lot for the residents of the city that doesn't involve obscene amounts of money. I enjoy my pint just as much as the next guy but I just wish the ents group could get it into their head that there is more to college social life than getting very drunk.

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Even at this early stage, I'm having strong thoughts of getting a transfer as this university has become too much

of a routine after seven weeks. At the start there was the novelty of being a student and queuing for an hour to get a pint in the Stables. Then, the hilarity of SUMS was discovered by one and all, and after a couple of weeks of questioning each others parents sexuality the novelty of this computer system had worn off too. For a couple of weeks the canteen was my salvation from the eternal boredom of UL, but

spending all day in a smoky room with the same people, good friends though they are, became even more boring than the lectures themselves and so I started going. And now, after I've lost my "World of Morrissey" album which gives me great comfort in moments of distress I can truly say that "College life is rubbish and I'm holding on for tomorrow".....
Mugz

Charlie Chaplins Pub



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Cruises St

Est. 1993

Tel 419885

Willie Browne
Live Every Tues. Night

Noel McGloughlin
Live Every Wed. Night

NOT FOR THE FAINT-HEARTED

Dear Dora,

Dear Dora,

Why do the lifts in UL always function so perfectly? Haven't they ever heard of Romance? I reckon they should have an operator on top of the lift with a spy hole and when he sees a single female with a single male in there alone-ooooops it broke down!

This would do wonders for the "dating game" in UL- It would overcome the awkwardness and there would be nowhere to run for either party. No friends to hide behind-It's you- totally alone, with only your natural instincts. The whole episode would have increased satisfaction if the lights went out as well and both taking part had to rely on their sense of touch.

Well does anyone have the initiative and foresight to become UL's Cilla Black?

Yours,

Maggie Manless.

Have You seen my Jesters Hat?????

Lost on Wed. Night Nov. 8th.

It's the last thing my mum made for me before she passed away, so you can imagine how much it means to me.

Please return it to the Students' Union, No questions asked.

Also my keys and the jesters hat was in my green army coat(You can keep the coat, that's something I can replace),but I need my house keys back PLEASE.

Dear Dora,

Last week demonstrated to me that good goods come in small packages. How could the statuesque, muscular Val Kilmes compare with the little, sexy, bundle of hormones which brought up the temperature in our canteen last Wednesday? It gave great pleasure to all present to see Batman strut into our place or ever present cancer and commence an oratory befitting the finest leaders of our land.

Tha target of this fine specimen of masculinity was a tall blushing blond suffering her 21st birthday. I'm sure any other girl would readily thank those who organised this piece of cabaret of erotica which gave their Wednesday afternoon new meaning. And when the clothes started to come off, the temperature in the canteen emulated the heights of those of the sponsored shave of last years Rag Week. Female faces all over the canteen became flushed as coats and scarves were removed to cool down. Eyes were fixed at a central point in the canteen (probably on Batmans chest or depending how far into his performance he was, elsewhere!)

As the whole episode evolved eyes grew wider until Batman stood naked down to his skimpy black bikini-like bottoms and his suspenders and stockings. Embarrassment in all it's essence could now be defined as the look on the face of the blushing blonde. In an instant Batman was standing on a chair with a wrapped oblong-shaped, present protruding from the suspender belt. Amid cheers and roars of encouragement the item was plucked out of there by the blushing blonde's mouth.

Breath was inhaled and gulped in, in several cases as attempts were made to gain control of racing hormones.

It all ended with a kiss for the blushing blonde as every female in the vicinity exhaled slowly and began a chorus of "Happy Birthday," singing as loudly as their lungs would allow to cover up their just past excitement.

And I thought, what embarrassment, my God wouldn't I love it if my birthday was honoured in such a way!

Letter to Ed

Dear Ed,

I know the purpose of this page is to make your complaints heard but using this page to off-load your psychological inadequacies as "the passengers" did last week in total misuse. It seems to me that this person may be totally retarded himself since most girls in U.L. are easy to talk to - so if he finds it so hard to get a girl to say "hello" to him, it's himself who has the problem. He talks of the women of UL being bitter - a home of lemons have nothing on him. Has somebody dumped him? - I say him because I don't think the women in UL would write something sounding like it was coming from a male mind who has hormone imbalances and suffering from extreme frustration. Our European counter-parts are sexually more liberated due to the society they grew up in - have you noticed though that some of these female continentals sole aim in life is to have some guy at their heels and so go around speaking and acting with all the intellect of a flea, with giggles in between. Do you want all Irish women reduced to a mushy pulp of giggles and bimbo comments? I would also like to state that the males in UL are the hottest specimens of masculinity in Ireland, this is excusable if a personality is present - but it is also fair to say in many cases the males of UL are the slowest to react to any kind invitation of friendship or more, by the time they do get up off their arses the girl has

forgotten the guy existed or decided to try a new model.

Do they expect girls to come running and flock all around the minute they enter the room? The last comment of "have we ever heard of the sexual revolution" is proof of my previous statement that the author of that letter was totally frustrated. I believe, as a female in UL, that the sexual revolution is in full swing in this university as I said already it seems this individual has had difficulty partaking in it!

Here's a bit of advice - Grow Up - nobody is going to run up to you and ask you to shag them or offer any other kind of invitation. Maybe the next time you are in the canteen you could try talking to one of those girls, you may actually find a personality and a pretty face. Also girls wouldn't go around with their t-shirts outside their jeans if assholes like you weren't so bloody critical - it's the likes of you who'll "strangle everything that is beautiful and fresh" in females. By the way read your letter again - now ask yourself why Irish girls "crawl" away from you.

The girlfriend of an Irish guy and a female of UL.



If you would like to reply to any of the articles printed in this paper

Please mark
Letters
Dear Ed, c/o an Focal
Students' Union

Dear Ed,

"Hello! How can I help you?" - UL Student Services ... must be a figment of my imagination! "The services & facilities of UL are here for the students".

Spot the lie in that sentence!

Many a time and oft as I stand unmoving in a queue for a "service" I wonder why that every time the UL administration do their job by serving us, the public, they feel as if they are doing us a big favour?

As the queue lengthens I wonder will the world have changed beyond recognition when I get back there! Upon reaching the top of the queue, the staff giggle conspiratorially to each other, the "what-do-you-want?" mask draws over their faces and some time later again they answer our polite queries with all the manners of an overflowing refuse sack. Alternatively in time honoured tradition they "pass-the-buck".

For this honour we are expected to fall on our knees and thank the "demi-gods" from the bottom of our hearts! My point is that these people are being well paid to discharge certain services to us students. Don't make us grovel for our rights.

2nd Humanities.

p.s. There are some exceptions to this general rule of ignorance, the S.U., Dist. & Library staff - Thank!

THE LOCKE BAR

Experience the warmth and atmosphere of
this old world tavern

Great Trad Sessions,
Sundays & Tuesdays

I got locked



University of Limerick Debating Union

Physic Go North

If you could Bottle
what makes Nancy's
so special...



Don't you think
we'd be selling it ourselves?

Nobody's quite sure what it is that makes Nancy's such a great pub. But they've been coming back for more, for over 35 years. Old world atmosphere, the finest selection of drinks..and excellent food.

It's a musical pub...enjoy it trad, or rocking... enjoy it live or... on tap. But most of all, enjoy Nancy's.

It's good for you.

NANCY BLAKES

...imitated for as long as we've been around.

DENMARK STREET LIMERICK

The Divorce Debate which took place on Nov. 1st was a great success with the Jean Monnet Theatre filled to capacity. NBC were there also to film the event which was sponsored by Heineken.

The UCC Colours match was won by UL and the special guest Anthony Loudon Connolly from Glasgow Union entertained the crowds at last weeks debate and also presented a gift of honorary life membership of Glasgow Debating Association to the Debating Union. He in return was presented with a medal and Honary life membership of the Unariversity of Limerick Debating Union.

The Debating Union will be hosting a number of events for the SoUL week in conjunction with Heineken. The principle event will be the Heineken Intervaristy. This event will involve upwards of 30 teams from around the country competing for a prize money of £ 250. Including speakers, adjudicators and organisers, this event will involve up to 100 people. The debaters themselves will take place all day Wednesday with the final of the event itself being held in FG 042 at 7.30 pm. This debate will also host the Lottery draw for which the prize money must be won.

Last weeks draw was held in the Students Union in case people were wondering the numbers drawn were : 3, 12, 15, 16. All four numbers are required to claim the prize. The numbers will win not more that £ 15. The tickets will be on sale in the canteen between 12 and 3 pm. Tickets can also be bought from any committee member, or at the debates themselves. Tickets are only £1 and if no one has last week's numbers then the jackpot will be £ 225. This money must be won on the night as it is the fifth week of the lottery.

The new and revitalised physics society head to Armagh on November 17th to meet with the stars and pints of the North. bumper weekend guaranteed.

For Science Week we will be having a stand located in the foundation building which will cater for all young Einstein's, complete with link up to weather satellite. Numerous lectures are also planned throughout the coming year. Everyone welcome. We can be found every Thurs in C1058 6 pm or else just check the notice board for upcoming events. Hope to see you all there !!!

WIRED F.M.

WIRED F.M. braodcasting on 103 FM is resounding throughout Limerick City. This radio station with it's state of the art studio is based in Mary Immaculate College and is student orientated, being run by both MI and UL students. The official launching of the station will be taking place on the 27th of November with Radio Week and there will be lots of good giveaways. So pump up the VOLUME!!!!

Why not get involved, the more the merrier.
WIRED F.M. Sound Harnessed!