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## Cheated Nursing Students Voice Concerns

by Claire Shaughnessy

First year nursing students received a massive shock in recent weeks when they received revised academic and clinical timetables. The highly controversial move has left students angry and bewildered with a deficit of eight weeks of holidays in their first year alone.

The move has been made by UL academic officials in an effort to bring the university's nursing courses in line with An Bord Altranais guidelines. The nursing board, which regulates registration of qualified nurses, requires courses to fulfil certain criteria. This includes the provision of 58 academic weeks of theory and a further 72 practical weeks of clinical placement. However the initial timetable produced by UL did not suffice, with 70 weeks of academic theory and only 63 weeks of clinical



UL Students on the Children of Chernobyl walk (see back page)

placement. The dilemma has been caused by fundamental changes introduced to nursing courses this year.

Prior to September 2002 nursing was a three-year full-time diploma course with no significant summer break. It has now been changed to a four-year

*continued on page 6*

## UL Student wins National Award

by Laura Greer

21 year-old Martin Gildea has all the ordinary pressures of College life; essays, exams, lectures and the normal workload, but has had considerably more to deal with than most. Gildea spent the first ten years of his life in and out of hospital as a result of a rare aggressive childhood cancer affecting his bowels. He was well again since 1991 until he discovered, just three weeks before starting in UL, that he had a malignant tumour and would have to undergo intensive treatment.

Last Saturday Gildea was awarded the ESB Rehab Foundation Young Person of the Year Award on RTE for his attitude to life and

indomitable spirit. "I made the decision that I was going to get better and get on with my life," said Gildea, now in third year Business Studies.

The Award, in its 28th year awarded eight recipients for their different achievements and for the inspiration they show to others.

Having made the decision to commence college Gildea spent most of his first year in College making up for missed lectures and essays as a result of medical treatment. "It was difficult to catch up, I had to do a lot of study. I wasn't able to go out on a mad tear like everyone else in first year, but I got through." His treatment finished successfully in September 2001.



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## President - Eoin Ó Broin

A Chairde,

A heart felt thanks to all of you who offered words of condolence to me over the last few weeks. I was overwhelmed with the level of support, the cards, flowers to the house, texts, emails & phone calls I got. I am very grateful to you for this, as it has been an unnerving time for me to say the least. I took a week off at home and then came back down to slowly get back to work. Thankfully there has been plenty to keep my mind occupied since!

Like the bus lanes - we have been granted permission to have a delegation from the students union address the transportation & infrastructure committee of Limerick City Council on the subject of bus lanes. This committee meets at 4pm on December 9th in City Hall. We would be hoping a number of students would accompany to the meeting where they can watch proceedings from The viewing gallery. This is our chance to let the city councillors who have a say in this area and the city engineers know the gravity of the situation from a students perspective!

Secondly fair play to all who came on the fees protest last Friday at such short notice. Bertie both heard and saw the students from UL making their feelings about the possible reintroduction of fees known. Two students, Denise & Jenny managed to have a word with him while he was under the glare of the TV cameras. Myself, I was entertaining the

Student's union presidents of 5 of the other six Universities in the country and the deputy president from UCD who were in UL for FUSU. FUSU is the forum of University Students Unions. It's a bi monthly round table where the students unions exchange ideas on campaigning issues and services issues. It was interesting to hear the different set ups around the country. They came up to the protest too and were quite impressed. We managed to get a meeting with Bertie too. However he didn't tell us anything we hadn't already heard from Noel Dempsey)-: except that their shouldn't be any problem with the minister meeting SU delegations up and down the country. Between the lines I got the impression that Bertie is fully behind the concept of "those who can get to college under their own steam doing so."

An open meeting on the subject of ents in UL took place on Thursday evening. The turnout was less than expected which is hopefully a testament to how high a regard ents in UL is held and the organising and creativity of Dave the ents manager and the ents committee. Some items discussed were Kolledge Week and the possibility of a RAG MAG for sale to help raise a fortune for charity. RAG as you may know stands from receiving & giving so all ideas on giving the RAG its rightful place in Kolledge week welcome. Other items discussed were how the lodge impacts on the rest of ents in UL and town;-) Look out for more open meetings on the subject of prices around campus and on student



services in UL.

On other on campus activity I have seen the plans for the 5th student village and for a school of nursing. Fairly impressive stuff and aesthetically quite pleasing too, which will take UL to another level all together. We have the nicest campus in the county at the moment and it's going to get even better! That's not just me saying it it the students of other colleges too.

One interesting thing I took from FUSU was that there is a student run co-op bookshop in Trinity. A number of the other students unions have some class of a 2nd hand bookshop

too. This is something I will be putting to class reps on Tuesday night to see the level of interest.

As it's coming towards the end of the year people have been asking if there have been any progress on Library opening hours. The simple answer is yes thanks to the Trojan work and vision of the head of the Library John Lancaster. Expect a progress report before Christmas hopefully with good news to follow soon after that.

Thata all for now - talk to you soon.

Slan,

## Welfare/Deputy President - Gráinne Heffron

Dia Dhiabh

On Thursday of Week 8 we had the Chernobyl Children's Walk. There was a poor turnout from UL students and we were completely outshone by the hoards of students from Mary I who put in a massive effort and raised €15,000 and counting. Quite an achievement! I would really like to thank our Class Reps, Outreach Members and Walkers who went to classes and harassed their friends for the €1,800 raised so far. I accept some responsibility for the poor fundraising figure as I was late in organising things but I was also disappointed by the lack of response from UL students. However after four years in UL one gets used to the apathy among the majority of students. While the primary reason people are here is to get their degree, students seem to have time to socialise and drink their money away in the pubs or their houses and can't spare 2 hours of the whole year for a charity walk, or €1 of their money to help those really in need.

I know that students say the students' union doesn't do enough to inform people about what is going on and as I stated I do accept that more effort

could have been put in but other things overcame me. It's difficult when you have to put your heart and soul into organising an event in order to get 400 students from the whole of UL to turn out as did for the fees protest. While this number is more than has marched in years from UL it is still a tiny minority of students. A lot less effort went into The Walk and hence, I guess the pathetic turnout. Even the Art College had more students there than UL.

I wish that students would take some responsibility for themselves and find out what is going on in UL and in the world. As a student I enjoyed the socialising and drinking like everyone else but there is always time for other things. When you are working you will have less time so why waste the free time you have now? If you think the students' union is crap then come and tell us. If you didn't even know what Greek Week was about or that it was even taking place then let me know. I am not afraid of criticism. What I loath is the apathy and apparent lack of interest that is so prevalent in UL. Take some responsibility for your lives and the lives of those around you. You are the future. You may think that phrase



hackneyed and trite but it's the truth. And if I thought the future was what I witness in the apathy I see in UL I would give up now. I believe in ordinary peoples' ability to change the status quo. Maybe you thought that your €1 would be of no benefit but if every student in UL donated €1 that would be €10,000. If every student donated €3.70 that would be €37,000. Think about this the next

time you down a pint in the Stables.

I realise that the people who read this article are probably fully aware of what is going on and get involved but I needed to rant so apologies.

Until the revolution

Gráinne

## Education - Margaret Ryan

Hi everybody!

So it's week 10. Is anyone thinking about exams yet? You should be at this stage. Even if you haven't a tap done yet, there's still time. You just need to take a calm and logical approach. Work out a study timetable including breaks to eat / sleep / exercise and you'll be grand. Remember, there's no point in cramming, you'll fall asleep in the middle of the exam. (I'm not joking, it happened to a friend of mine once.)

I said last time that I'd tell you more about Céifin, the conference I was at in Ennis. I was a bit sceptical before I went, I'll cheerfully admit that. But I have to say, I enjoyed it to pieces. The title of the conference was Values and Ethics: Can I make a difference? Now I know it sounds like some kind of religious love-fest, but it was surprisingly practical. Most of the people there had a good dose of cop-

on and a lot of practical solutions were posed to some of our social problem. And for once, the "young people" weren't being blamed for everything. It was at least recognised that we are not the only people that make mistakes. In fact, there was a lot of anger at the fact that the world / country that we are being handed is full of corruption, hunger, debt, and so we are handicapped (in the horse racing sense) from the start.


But I met a lot of interesting people while I was there, and had many conversations that may be considered to be odd, but which I enjoyed greatly. One lady that I talked to was a librarian in Dublin, who had done a stint in Thurles at one stage. We were talking about getting kids to read, and how people do that. Now, I maintain that kids whose parents read to them are more likely to be book addicts in later life. (I'm a case in point) As well as getting



kids into good habits earlier, you're also helping the relationship between parents and kids.

problem with was that some people seemed to think that school is a babysitting service and that it's up to teachers to ensure that kids learn everything that they're supposed to

But one of the things I did have a



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**TUES** DJ John Kelly  
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academically, along with being the moral caretakers of those in their charge. Now to me, that's just rubbish. No teacher could be expected to do all that. Just think, in primary school, the teachers have them for something like 5 ½ hours a day. In secondary School it's something like 7 hours. But when you

take out breaks and so forth, you're talking about 4 ¾ hours and 5 ¾ hours respectively. It's an argument that I have too many times with too many people and I'm not going to expect ye to listen to it, but suffice it to say that education, at the primary and secondary levels is a cooperative venture between parents

and teachers.

And as regards what I've been up to for the last two weeks, I've been at Faculty Boards, I've been interviewed by Live 95 FM about Seanad Elections in which UL graduates are not allowed to vote, even though the referendum was

passed 23 years ago (for more info [www.graduateequality.com](http://www.graduateequality.com)) and I've been dealing with Student Cases.

So, as always, if you have any questions, please call in or email me. Talk to you again soon

Margaret.

## Communications - Paddy Buckley

Hi everyone,

I've spent a lot of time the last 2 weeks working with the Radio Soc and Peter Burrows in particular on a replacement for Wired FM. At this stage, its looking like we'll have something up and running for next semester, so anyone who interested in getting involved in that can get in touch with me over the next week by calling into the S.U. or emailing me. We're hopeful to get back up and running, but it will take a good deal of work from people to make it viable. On this note, I'd like to pay special credit to Peter Burrows in particular who has been really pushing this.

I'm also sitting on the Budget Review committee of Clubs and Socs'. At the moment, the Students Union is responsible for administering Clubs and Societies, and a big part of this job is dividing out the money to the various clubs and societies. At the moment, this is done on a points basis. Every club and society is rated on various criteria, such as number of members, activity on campus, etc,etc. The points they receive then determine how much they get from the budget. The system we have was

set up about 4 years ago by Clubs and Soc's themselves, and is a vast improvement on what went before it. However, its still not perfect, and the Budget Review Committee is looking at ways to make the system fairer on all clubs and socs. At the same time, anything that that we come up will essentially be nothing more than tweaks. The fact of the matter is that Clubs and Socs in U.L. are chronically underfunded. We have more and more Clubs and Socs coming on line all the time (7 new ones in the last 3 weeks) and that means that the budget has to be stretched thinner and thinner. Clubs and Socs in U.L.. receive 211,000 euros. In Trinity College, the Societies alone receive 500,000. That is an enormous difference, and means that C & S's in UL will always face an uphill struggle financially.

This is especially important when its looked at in the wider context. First of all, there's the college's alcohol policy, which prohibits C & S's from getting sponsorship from Drinks companies, who would traditionally have been generous sponsors of student based activities. The SU was promised last year that a special



group in the college would be set up to find outside sponsors to replace these companies, composed of member with "a proven track record" in getting sponsorship. Unfortunately, we're still waiting for that committee to be set up, and in the mean time Clubs and Soc's are suffering.

There were a number of other promises which were made with regards to the alcohol policy. Most noticeably, its states that Wednesday afternoon will be free of teaching in order to allow Clubs and Socs time to train, meet etc,etc. That is an assurance that was given in a document which was passed by the Governing Authority of the University, yet far from their being any attempt to clear Wednesday afternoon, the situation this year is going from bad to worse, with more and more classes, tutorials and labs being scheduled on Wednesday afternoon. The Students' Union, the Stables and Scholars Clubs and the Arts Office have all fulfilled their responsibilities under the alcohol policy. The University hasn't. Its as simple as that. The attitude seems to be "we have an alcohol policy we can wave in peoples faces, so thats alright"

Even leaving aside the string of

unfulfilled commitments in the alcohol policy, one still has to question to approach being taken by the University with regards to it. The entire alcohol policy seems to be geared towards an almost prohibitionist stance. We'll stop advertising alcohol, we'll ban promotions, and then people will stop drinking. That's poppycock of the highest order. What will happen, what is happening and what the SU last year said would happen is that people will go to the off-licence and drink at home.

If you want to encourage students not to drink, then there is only one real way to go about it, and that is to give them alternatives to drinking. Given that the location of Castletroy effectively rules out options like cinemas, bowling etc, all you are really left with is Clubs and Socs. If the University is really serious about "promoting low-risk drinking and discouraging high-risk drinking" then rather than writing a high-sounding policy which they seem to have no intention of sticking to anyways, maybe its time they started putting their money where their mouth is and start giving Clubs and Socs the money they need to grow and develop

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## Your Letter(s)

### On Nymphomanism

My friend is a self-proclaimed nymphomaniac. But I'm not sure. I think she just likes to gloss over the fact that she likes to have sex with lots and lots of different men. Really, really likes it in fact.

This comes from a girl who blames from chronic laziness and 15hr a day sleeping habit on a genetic imbalance. I think its more to do with a mental imbalance myself but I'm keeping quiet on that one.

The thing is she's not alone. There are thousands "suffering" from this condition, possibly hundreds here in UL alone. They are a secretive bunch, like drug addicts, alcoholics, trainspotters and stamp collectors - they try to keep their secret lives to themselves, but occasionally this melting pot of sins spills into other areas of their lives. It dictates their every waking moment. For this girl sex is all she ever talks about. Well, that and Eastenders.

The frightening thing is that she doesn't seem to enjoy it. Not the sex of course, thats a bit of a mixed bag, or so she tells me. The sad thing is, like all addictions, the substance abused is not wanted for itself alone, but to get to something, somewhere else. She doesn't always initially want to have sex with these men she fancies but reckons sure, life is about give and take. She gives them something they want and they give her something she wants back - right? Wrong.

The word she is looking for but is too afraid to say is called a relationship. As we all know, relationships are not solely about sex but certainly play a part in it. The problem with throwing sex

head first into the equation is that it doesn't equal a relationship. Sex plus nothing equals just sex -get it? ( and they say women aren't mathematically minded - huh!)

College life is a breeding ground for lots of things, like honing that lazy bone to perfection, but for relationships it ain't. The same way The Lodge is a prime spot for getting absolutely bloody bladdered (first necessary requirement if you want to make it through the night there), and not conducive for embarking on life-long relationships or looking for "that special someone". It just aint gonna happen honey. Might as well be looking into a field of thistles as D'unbelievables would say.

If you're the Samantha Jones type of girl who knows what she wants, knows how to get it and whose only concern is her hair the next morning then I applaud you. Hoorah for ball-breaking women, if you'll excuse the pun. If however, you fit into the aforementioned nymph girl category with other ulterior motives than sex - JUST SAY NO - you never know what might happen. Might it be possible he just wants you for you? At least you'll know then if he's worthy enough to be with you and not the other way around.

Anne Sheridan.

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## Cheated Nursing Students Voice Concerns (contd)

*continued from frontpage*  
semesterised degree program.

In the original system student nurses were provided with a special grant to compensate for lost earnings during the summer months. Inherently this is where the problem lies. Since the grant has been abolished nurses feel they should be entitled to an equal opportunity to work, earn and indeed travel during the summer months. However, with the new timetable, student nurses will be in college until the end of June (a whole month after other courses finish) and will return in

early August for three weeks of unpaid clinical placement. It is believed that this will adversely affect chances of finding a summer job for the majority of nursing students.

Although the students accept that their accreditation is dependent on certain criteria they feel cheated that such significant changes were imposed on them without consultation. Mary Ellen Mulcahy, a first year Intellectual disability-nursing student told to An Focal "It's not fair! They just sprung it on us and expected us to go along with it..."

finding a part-time job at the end of June will be impossible!" These sentiments were further reiterated by ULSU Education officer Margaret Ryan who commented "the lack of consultation is very autocratic and shows a lack of respect and concern for the needs of nursing students"

With complaints lodged by student reps, the Academic Program Review Committee met in recent weeks but failed to come to decision. A second meeting, to discuss the revised nursing submission, was cancelled last Thursday due to "constraints"

concerning the processing of the application with the College of Science faculty board. Consultation continues...

## New Boathouse For UL

by Paul Lee

From the Clubs & Societies Office and my apologies for not getting around to inform the wider student audience of Clubs & Societies activities before now, due to the manic nature of administration demands from this office during term time. I will attempt to provide an update on the proposed Boathouse which appeared in the last edition just clarify the history of this project and its current status.

In effect this is a project that involves TWO of the Clubs on campus namely the Rowing club and the Kayak Club. The need for a boathouse stems from the fact that both clubs have a substantial volume of equipment on their inventory lists but unfortunately have no specific designated storage space. The combined value of the equipment currently in both clubs possession is in excess of €140,000. In the case of the Kayak club they have their equipment temporarily being stored in the old sports Building as part of an arrangement with the Sports Department and PESS Department but the Rowing club are not so fortunate as they have to rent "rack space" from other rowing Clubs in Limerick which is costing in excess of €4000 per annum. Needless to say for a student run club it is a necessary evil but given the limited funds on offer for all 70 clubs and societies on campus the situation cannot continue indefinitely. A defining moment in the argument for a boathouse came in the last academic year when the Rowing Club suffered the effects of an arson attack on the Castleconnell Boat club, which cost the club approximately £18,000 and a further £3000 in vandalism to equipment being stored in the St. Michael Rowing club.

The then President and current President of the Rowing Club Colin Byrne first put the argument forward almost 4 years ago. Colin advanced the argument to then SU General Manager Mr Gerry Barry at that time and the project has never gone away since. Even though Colin has since graduated he has maintained his loyalty to the UL Club and has been a central figure in the project. The cause was taken light years ahead by the former ULSU President Mick Phelan in the various forums such as the Governing Authority and the Finance Committee of the University and an application was also submitted to the Foundation Committee, the persistence and belief by all concerned in the project eventually gained a listening ear from the University namely President Dr. Roger Downer and the Vice President of Administration Mr John O' Connor. The application

to the UL Foundation was rejected, as there were many other more immediate academic necessities. It was also made clear that the University did not have the financial resources to fund such a venture. Mick Phelan with the various student representatives refined the proposal based on this information and requested instead that the University allocate a parcel of land close to the "Black Bridge" on the UL side, and that we would eventually make the argument to the students of the University to fund the project similar to the Arena and the Student Centre via a levy. Naturally enough this would be at an advanced stage of the proposed venture, which we are nowhere near at the moment.

Currently the situation is that a committee has been formed consisting of University representatives, the Students Union and two



**Effects of the Arson attack  
on UL Rowing Clubs Boats**

student representatives one from the Rowing Club, Mr. Dairé Cronin, and another from the Kayak Club, Ms. Jennifer Johnston. Although the University agree in principle on the parcel of land this is subject to the suitability of the location to be verified by experts in the Rowing fraternity. The Rowing Club and Mr. Dairé Cronin in particular have been the major instigators of this aspect of the proposed venture mainly due to the fact that

storage AND the body of water are of paramount importance to their club as an area to train whereas for the Kayak club the Boathouse is an issue mainly of storage. The stretch of water to date has been assessed by Mr. Fergal O Callaghan a FISA representative (French Acronym for World Governing Body for Rowing) and most recently by Mr. Michael O' Callaghan, the Chairperson for the Inniscarra National Rowing Project in Cork and the world renowned coach Mr. Torr Nilson who (to the best of my knowledge) is currently nominated within FISA as the "International Rowing Coach of the year". In the last month Mr. Nilson has been to China and is currently in Milan, so trying to receive a written approval of the suitability of the water has proved elusive but once we receive the written documentation the committee to investigate the project will then sit to discuss the real nuts and bolts of the proposed Boathouse. It is still very much at a conceptual stage but with Rose Healy another member of the Rowing Club engaged on a fact-finding mission in Boston we believe this is a project, which will be put before the students in the not too distant future.

I hope this clarifies the situation thus far and more updates will be provided on the proposed Boathouse Project as we progress.

I'll provide further updates in the next issue on the likes of the Board of Irish Colleges first seminar that ULSU hosted in the South Court Hotel at the Weekend and the impending clubs and societies Health and Safety Policy. We are currently receiving legal guidance from the Sweeney Mc Gann solicitor firm in Limerick City on health and safety. Other issues dominating proceedings include another student driven Budgetary Review Committee to try and enhance and improve the mechanisms by which we distribute our €240,000 of funds to all clubs & societies. Another project is the much anticipated carrying out of a professional survey on student's attitudes to extra curricular activities and the part (if any) they have to play in the overall University experience.

If you have any thoughts or queries regarding this article or Clubs and Societies in general please don't hesitate to contact me at Paul.Lee@ul.ie it may take a day or two but all emails eventually get answered.

Regards,

Paul

## Registration Fees

by Sarah Devitt



Going back to college for my final year was always going to be a daunting one. The dreaded FYP was fast becoming a reality and then to top it all off Noel Dempsey, Minister for Education, ups the Registration fee and the buzz is that he was about to reintroduce fees. What!? He shouldn't be able to do that, right? Like every other student on campus I was left stunned. People started asking me how I could be a member of Fianna Fáil when my party was trying to "fleece" students. I knew I had to get to the bottom of this and that is exactly what I did last Tuesday, the 19th, in Dublin when the National Youth Committee of Ógra Fianna Fáil, of which I am a member, met with the Minister to air our frustrations and concerns. What I learned was most informative. The first major issue concerned the increase of the Registration Fee. Why was it introduced? Why was it seemingly sprung on us? In 1995/96 free fees was introduced with 190 euro being charged for the first two academic years of its existence with it then being due for review. This

charge related to the cost of exam fees, student services and the Student Union. In 1997/98 the colleges and universities made a submission to the government that services actually cost the equivalent of €508, so the Registration fee was increased to €317. When the Minister came into office in June of this year this was reviewed and it was found that the costs had increased to €679 in line with inflation. This fee wholly relates to the cost of exam fees, student services and the Student Union and in no shape or form covers any of the other costs associated with the attendance.

The reintroduction of fees was the next issue to be addressed. We wanted clear answers and that is exactly what we got. It has long been accepted that those with inherent



Minister Noel Dempsey

disadvantages are excluded from attending college or university for many reasons, with affordability being one of the main reasons. This is neither fair nor just and should not be tolerated. Education is the primary way to implement social justice and so it should be a high priority of any Minister for Education to put into practice any proposal to ensure this. Those from a disadvantaged background are ten times less likely to enter the fields of Finance or Management. This is not acceptable. This is why the Minister has implemented the policy that while every department must cut its budget, the section in the Education Department that deals specifically with disadvantaged students will not be cut

The Primary Education section has received a 4% cut in its budget allocation with Secondary Schools budget allocation being frozen. Third Level Education is also being cut, but it should be noted that it is not being cut to inject money into another section but is being done as a reaction to the current economic climate.

I know that I would like to see maintenance grants increased and college fees to be abolished, but I also would like to know that if someone I loved got sick that I could rely on a health service to give them the best care no matter what the cost. A budget is about balancing the

books and doing the best one can for as many people as possible. It is about weighing up the pros and cons of every situation. It has long been recognised that there are those in society that could pay for their children to go to college without the government paying for their tuition. What is being proposed is that those in this bracket pay their own way and the money saved from this initiative would be put back into the system to aid those who would not have had the opportunity to further their education under the present system. What is currently happening is that those with additio

What about those already in the system? Will they be affected? The answer is no. This proposal will affect those that will be looking to attend third level in the future. There is also a question of legality if those presently in third level were asked to pay fees. Those in third level at present have already entered the process at agreed criteria and this will not be changed.

I know that the present changes in the Educational system are daunting and some feel confused. Ógra Fianna Fáil meets every Monday in Room 4 at 6, and everyone is welcome to attend.

## Child Abuse & the Church - Where to from here?

by Grainne Heffron

There are many things in life that can get you down and sometimes if you dwell too long on them, life itself can become unbearable. Every now and then something does make an impact and you find yourself thinking about it a lot. I happened to see the Prime Time programme on Child Sex Abuse within the Catholic Clergy in Ireland, and I was, like so many other people disturbed and disgusted. Of course this was not a new revelation but it was the first time I really listened to the stories of the victims and their families. There seemed to be such wide spread abuse and cover up that it was even hard to comprehend. Most of the cases were in the east coast and it made me wonder about the rest of the county and the cases that still have to be unearthed.

I was brought up a catholic and I would still consider myself catholic if a little lapsed. There are lots of things about the church that I have problems with but this is unbelievable. To think that people who are supposed to be following the words and example of Jesus (whether you believe

in his existence or not, he had pretty sound teachings) could be causing such pain and scaring people for life and that the superiors in the church did little or nothing to help. I argued with myself that it was a different time and people didn't know better but really that doesn't cut it. I mean we are talking about rape. I accept that people did not



Archbishop O'Connell, who faces criticism over his handling of paedophile priests

understand the nature of paedophilia but whether it was thought to be an illness that could be treated or not these people had still committed terrible crimes.

Some clergy have spoken out about the scandal and I applaud them for it is not an easy thing to stand up to an institution so strong. The Hussey inquiry is taking place at the moment and while it is a step in the right direction it is too late for many people. Jesus' teaching of compassion seems to have been, in this case, focused on the sinner and not the victim. If I may quote Brenda Power from the Tribune, the church seemed to have 'a perverse view of casual sex and a casual view of perverse sex'. I hope the church and the victims can come through this but a lot more will have to be done. Church leaders need to take a stand and stop hiding behind Canon Law.

## Christmas Days in the Stables Club

by *Enda Nagle*

Due to its continued success, this year's annual 'Christmas Daze' organised by The Stables Club is being expanded and is now dubbed 'Christmas Week'. It promises to be a week to remember - check out last year's photos at [www.stablesclub.com](http://www.stablesclub.com)!

Last year, due to your generosity of UL students, Fr. Gerry Daly of the Redemptorist Poor Campaign was presented with over € 5000 on behalf of the students who supported the fundraiser. It is a very worthy cause, and any support is greatly appreciated.

This year, Christmas Week is kicking off with Christmas Karaoke on Tuesday night (December 3rd) at about 9pm. As always, all are encouraged



**Christmas Daze last year in the Stables**  
to attend and participate. Wednesday, a DJ will

kick off the day's entertainment at 4pm. Later on in the evening the popular band Free Beer will be playing, with a DJ wrapping up the night. Thursday's entertainment will follow the same structure with a DJ from 4pm and Noel McLoughlin playing later Thursday.

Entry at the door is € 5, with the first 400 students getting a free pint sponsored by The Stables Club each day. Doors open at 4pm. All proceeds will be donated to Fr. Daly's Redemptorist Poor Campaign.

As always, fancy dress is greatly encouraged and rewarded. So come on, get out the santa hats and costumes - plenty of elves to help out with the festivities! And for those of you who 'forget', we have plenty of santa hats to distribute throughout the night!

## Ethics - Choosing right from wrong

by *Amy Auer*

There are two approaches to understanding and solving the global conflicts that abound in the world today: either begin with the system or begin with the individual. History has shown a multitude of explorations into global conflicts from the perspective of the system. Evaluating the causes and consequences that relate to the politics, the legislation, and the governments of the international arena has overwhelmed peace research. We've tried to understand the goals and the intentions of nations as a whole. While this approach is absolutely crucial, I think that there's more to it. A major piece of the puzzle is missing by ignoring the contribution of the individual. Ultimately the system functions by the working of people, so I think it is foolish not to look at the motivations, beliefs, and instinctual behaviours of people. From the decision of a child to the decision of a world leader, every person is faced with a choice based in ethics. Human integrity in choosing right from wrong is at the core of every conflict, interpersonal to international.

We live in an "anything goes" type world, where everyone is struggling so determinately and ridiculously to

be on top, that we've lost touch with one another as humans. If we're going to survive in this world, and live worthwhile lives, we must learn to live together. Social integration depends on each and every person's ethical judgement in decision-making. It comes down to the Golden Rule: think about the consequences of your individual actions and question whether your treating someone the way you'd expect to be treated.

Ethical development in the world right now isn't exactly outstanding. We work on a system of external rewards and punishments. We need to start taking responsibility for our actions. We can foster cohesion by seeing past selfish motivations and realizing that not one person is inherently better than another. The apprehension to act altruistically is understandable. We live in an imperfect world where there doesn't seem to be a reason to trust anyone. Why should I be a good person if no one else is going to be? That just makes me an easy target in this game we call life. I think, however, that there are concrete alternatives and concern for others is something everyone should want to adopt into their daily lives.

We make ethical decisions everyday

in ordinary situations. Every decision has a domino effect; therefore, knowing the good from the bad is of utmost importance. There is actually a term called, 'Everyday Ethics.' It refers to the fact that everyone has a choice. Everyday ethics isn't talked about as often as global ethics because it's a much more personal issue; it holds people accountable and hits too close to home.

Global issues are at a comfortable distance and can be widely discussed over dinner or at the office. We are restricted in our ability to resolve such ethics and can therefore voice our opinion. The thought of turning the mirror around and examining personal motivations is often snubbed. No one wants to face the reality or the hypocrisy emanating from his or her own lives. We keep that door closed and pretend that what we do has no affect on others.

I am going to presume that our unethical behaviour comes from either ignorance or weak conviction. If it is ignorance than there's hope, if it's weak conviction, then we have another problem, for another article. As for ignorance, ethics can be taught. Granted it's been taught for the past 2500 years, beginning with Socrates and philosophy, but self-

sacrifice can be a difficult theory to grasp. Ethics courses challenge students to think beyond themselves. Ethical knowledge is half the battle toward ethical thought and behaviour. The ethical difficulties that a person faces can vary depending on circumstance and age. It is, therefore, crucial to teach ethics at every level of the educational system and then again within every field in the market.

An underpinning habit that is a must for an ethical person is honesty. To flourish in an interconnected world, we must realize that doubt and distrust are devastating to individual and communal relationships. An aspect of deception that often gets overlooked is self-deception. Rationalizing and justifying unethical behaviour can form non-virtuous habits. By deceiving ourselves, habits become so ingrained in our character that we often don't even see the affects.

Examine your own life. What are your moral standards and are they consistent with your behaviour? I mentioned at the beginning that there are global ethics and everyday ethics; it's time we looked in the mirror and faced our personal contradictions.

## Land of the free?

by *Gary Fox*

Americans today are now feeling fears and emotions more commonly felt by residents of downtown Grozny. Terror and destruction have been transferred from their TV screens to their homes, streets and even schools. 9/11 is etched on the mind of every American and in particular New Yorkers as a day never to be forgotten and as the day terror came

home to America.

One year on and the images still haunt Americans daily, even billboards on every street are still advertising counselling services for those still affected by 9/11. Whilst 9/11 2002 passed without event it would be the actions of an American that would lead to Americans once again feeling vulnerable and under siege. The actions of John Allen

Muhammad & Lee Malvo became the new 9/11 except this time for over 2 weeks it was a faceless and unknown enemy.

Seemingly random and senseless, they struck without warning and left no trace. As the days passed and the body count grew into double figures, the search became more desperate. However this time Bush & Co had no remote country upon which to vent its

anger. At times the police search was shown to be bungling and incompetent. The sheer volume of investigators and branches of law enforcement involved made co-operation and effective communication difficult at the best of times. The FBI, Secret Service and Homeland security all scrambled for some clue as to the identity of the sniper.



## Land of the free? (contd)

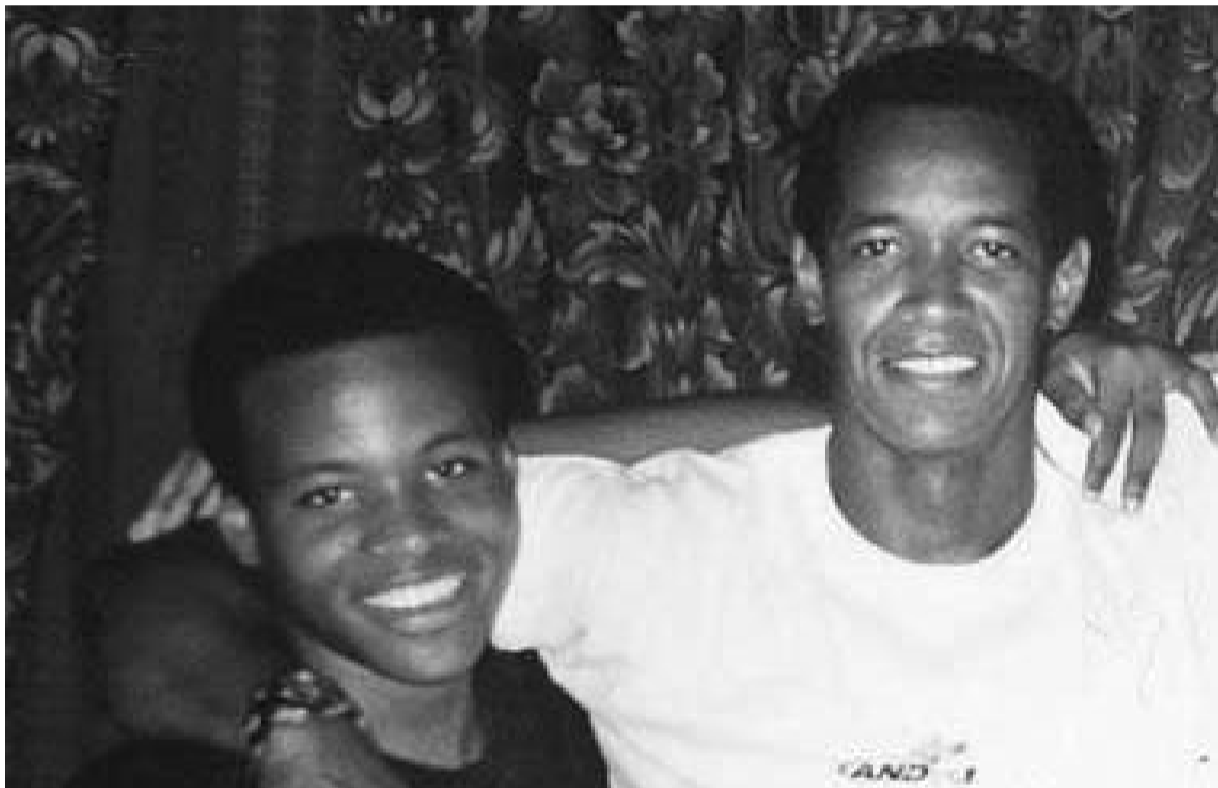
False information and wrong sightings led to many dead ends for the investigators. Links to Al-Qaeda inevitably rose and were dashed. The mysterious white mini-van that was reportedly sighted at the scene of more than one of the killings proved to be little more than a white elephant. The actual Chevy Caprice the killers had bought and were using was stopped at least over 10 times over the course of the investigation for various misdemeanours ranging from running a red light to being asleep in a public place but on each occasion the licence check showed no reason to suspect the occupants.

What finally began to close the net on the suspects was their own ego. They made numerous calls to police hotlines but each time they were treated as pranksters due to the sheer volume of calls being

received at the time. It was until they finally contacted Reverend William Sullivan claiming credit for the killings and giving information that would lead the authorities to hastily widen their search from the DC area to Montgomery, Alabama where they found evidence and fingerprints linking Muhammad and Malvo to a robbery and murder of a woman in Montgomery on September 21st last. With this information the authorities were able to narrow their search, issuing a warrant for the arrests of John Muhammad 41 and Lee Malvo who was only 17 at the time and originally from Jamaica. On October 24th, 22 days after the killing spree started, an alert trucker spotted the Chevy Caprice parked in a parking lot off a highway a short distance outside Washington, ironically it was in similar parking lots the suspects had reportedly stalked and picked their victims. Muhammad and

his young accomplice were in deep slumber as Federal agents and police surrounded their vehicle armed with submachine guns and expecting heavy resistance. But as the windows of their caprice smashed, the suspects barely moved, seemingly unable to comprehend what was happening as they were dragged from their killing machine into the cold night air. The sky was filled with screams but witnesses were unable to ascertain whether they were from the suspects or the authorities. This was a sudden and unexpected end to one of the most brutal and mindless killing sprees in the history of the United States.

So what might the future hold for American and its citizens? At a time when Islamic fundamentalism is reaching new levels, many Americans can't help but feel distinctly uneasy by the declared Jihad against America, American business interests abroad and American citizens. With the inability to capture Osama Bin Laden and the almost daily warnings of imminent attacks against American interests without any specific information being issued by the FBI. It would seem all the American citizens can do is assume the brace position and hope the imminent crash landing of their safety and happiness isn't so rough. But in saying that, they have some glimmer of hope for Americans in the form of Mr G. Bush. When asked of his opinion of the developing situation in the Middle East, Bush said, "I have opinions of my own, strong opinions, but I don't always agree with them"



John Lee Malvo (left) & John Allen Muhammad

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## The future of Croke Park

It seems that the greedy powers that be in the GAA are once again tryin to stamp out all ideas of "FOREIGN" sports in their grounds. Our dream to hold Euro 2008 is rapidly fading because of some old fashioned gits who cant see beyond themselves. Another motion that is popping up regularly is that of paying the players. This again is being completely shot down. I think that both should be brought in, with a strong link between the 2.

Croke park attracted attendances of over 75,000 on more than 6 occasions this year, with crowds in excess of 50,000 being present every other sunday. This amounts to serious money. Take the All-Ireland Football Final, 79,502 people were present. €45 for a stand ticket, €20 for a terrace, that amounts to almost €3.3 million. I would estimate that the gaa took in say roughly €25 million this year (fair estimate!) between all games (league and championships).

The main question on everybody's lips is "where does all the f\*\*\*\*\*g money go"? You hear it every sunday. Paying spectators need some answers. For the Leinster football final, the GAA released a list of income and expenditure for the press. It made some interesting reading. Needless to say, they put the emphasis on what was going out rather than what was coming in. Sponsorship was ignored, income from t.v. not mentioned, income from all the food and drink sold on the ground, again, this was left out. They just based their income on ticket sales and programme sales. Their list of expenses were quite substantial however - the band, the stewards, electricity, security, bar staff, the tea ladies, the ground staff, the players... sorry, hang on a minute, did I say the players? What was I thinking!? They get nothing but the €0.40 cents a mile travel expenses. Do you honestly think that 79,000 people come to see the Artane boys band play? Do the f\*\*king tea ladies entertain the crowd!? Do they what?! At the end of the day, the 60 or so players, the managers, the refs, the linesmen, the umpires - they all deserve something for their efforts.

First of all, let me say that I'm not suggesting that money goes astray in

the GAA (well not in so many words anyway!). I understand fully that a vast majority of money goes on the continuing journey to turn Croke Park into one of the world's finest stadiums. That can't be denied, but come on where did it go all along? Grass roots? I ain't seen it much. The majority of club and even county grounds around the country have been financed by the local people. The G.A.A. gives very little towards ground development outside of the pale!! What I am saying is, that funds could be managed a lot better. It's not that hard.

Getting their priorities right is what the gaa should look at - priority one is the players, look after them. We have been hearing a lot of crap for years about this famous "Bertie Bowl". Realistically we don't need it. Open up Croke Park, let the world see what we Irish can do. A country like Wales has one of the finest stadiums in the world, re-built for roughly the same amount as what has gone into Croker. It has since staged a rugby world cup final.

Making Croker our national stadium would be the best thing the GAA could do, they would get the remainder of the money needed to finish the job, off the government. The money saved on the Bertie Bowl could then be divided out into other stadiums around the country. Putting say €10 million into each of the major grounds, for instance Thurles, Cork, Killarney, Limerick, Galway, Clones, Portlaoise, and Navan would give us 10 or more top class stadiums, capable of holding major tournaments on our own, many years down the line.

Just take the last couple of years sporting action in the country, outside of the GAA. In terms of soccer internationals, we have had three massive qualifiers against Holland, Portugal and Iran at the great dump that is Lansdowne Road. For competitive internationals, the capacity is somewhere in the region of 33,000. Dare I suggest, Croker would have been at near capacity for those three games?? That is more than double the attendance, than what they had. The GAA could command a huge slice of these gate receipts, say 25%. The FAI would



Croke Park on match day

have all costs such as security, staff etc, so the GAA would have very little expenses to cover. Up coming internationals such as the now crucial Russia match, will also attract bumper crowds to the Jones' Roads venue. Add in rugby internationals, another two guaranteed 60,000 plus crowds for 6 nations games, (don't think Italy would guarantee a full house!), the normal high profile friendlies such as last week's Australia match (50,000 and more if was available), the odd Heineken Cup final (due in this year I think) and you have the bones of 8 or 9 massive attendances at Croker. There are then less attractive qualifiers in both soccer and rugby, which would attract in the region of 35,000. I read recently that, Croker was only open for action for 26 days this year (it's now closed until the spring). That is a serious waste. Making it our national arena would add another say 20 days to that and it wouldn't interfere with the gaa season, as most soccer and rugby games, are played in the winter. The pitch cost something like €2 million, so that would be no problem, either.

So where would this "extra" revenue go to? This money should then be put into a fund which would see players, managers, officials etc rewarded financially. Some people will say that some players deserve

more than others. This ain't true, as all county teams, no matter how bad they are, train as hard as the rest. The easiest solution would be to pay players from when they start training, to when they exit the championship (when training obviously stops!). The G.P.A. are campaigning for €127 per week for each player. What I would suggest, maybe start at say €80 per week (plus travel expenses), then increase by €10 for every 4 weeks that their season lasts. This would mean, that a player training three or four nights a week in September for an All-Ireland Final, would be taking home approximately €160 plus expenses (which are paid by the county boards) per week. This is not an unreasonable sum. When everything is taken into account, this amounts to serious money, somewhere in the region of €3.5 million, but that would surely be covered by renting the grounds. And what do the players give back in return? An awful lot more.

Something has to be done, as players and indeed supporters are getting more and more disgruntled by the day, at the short comings that are beginning to creep into the G.A.A. More and more support is growing for both motions however and I feel it is only a matter of time before both are passed. And rightly so.

## Champions League Phase 2

by Anthony Kilpatrick

The UEFA Champions League second round is upon us yet again, and this year it certainly is appearing to have the finest group of teams we all could have hoped for.

This year the majority of the usual suspects made it safely into round 2: Defending champions Real Madrid, Spanish Primera Liga champions Valencia, and the domestically demoralised Manchester United. But we also have a few surprise packages this year, most notably in F.C

Basle, who overcame the mighty Liverpool to be the first Swiss team to reach the last 16 in the history of the competition.

But not all of the European giants marched on to this stage of the competition: Bayern Munich, runners up in the 1999 final, finished bottom of their group, and as I said before, Liverpool had to settle for a Uefa Cup spot after finishing behind Valencia and F.C Basle in round 1. This will have its obvious implications for these two clubs, mainly due to the fact that they will miss out on the ten million euro cash windfall for successfully reaching phase 2.

With the exit of these two previous winners from the competition in the first round, we can see quite clearly that it was a tough opening draw, with a lot of superb teams. But regardless of this fact, UEFA has changed the format of the competition for the 2003/2004 season, with the abolishment of the first group stage. This is terrible news for some of the smaller European clubs attempting to break into the continent's elite tournament, and earn some much-needed money and experience for the future. I hope Uefa see sense eventually and continue to let the likes of Lokomotiv Moscow and Basle enthral us with their hunger and passion for

## Champions League Phase 2 (contd)

the game. The move also dashes any hopes that an Eircom league club here in Ireland could ever play in the competition.

Champions League 2nd round draw

### Group A

Barcelona  
Bayer Leverkusen  
Inter Milan  
Newcastle United

### Group B

A.S Roma  
Ajax  
Valencia  
Arsenal

### Group C

Real Madrid  
A.C Milan  
Borussia Dortmund  
Lokomotiv Moscow

### Group D

Juventus  
Manchester United  
Deportivo  
F.C Basle

All of the above groups this year could be considered the 'Group of Death' due to the great teams included within them. But the most anticipated group would most certainly be Group B, and that is not due to me being an Arsenal fan!!

Valencia, who knocked the Gunners out at the quarterfinals stage of the tournament two years ago, are the obvious favourites to top the group due to their excellent consistency in Europe throughout the last couple of years. But there appear to be no certainties in this tournament, and the group underdogs Ajax could cause a stir, regardless of their poor performance against Inter Milan in Amsterdam two weeks ago in-group phase 1.

It is impossible to rule out Arsenal from qualifying from Group B though. Their great domestic form has thankfully returned, and they are once again sitting pretty at the peak of the Premiership. And with such class as Thierry Henry and Patrick Viera, they could go all the way this year.

Looking at the above draw, it is quite impossible to predict a winner at this early stage. But the media have put their firm beliefs in defending champions



Inter Milan, one of this years favourites

Real Madrid. I disagree. Real Madrid appears to have too many big stars for their own good. When you have big names such as Ronaldo, Roberto-Carlos, and Luis Figo on the one team, the weaker players tend to get ignored, and the team in turn do not work as an efficient unit. This was a self-explanatory sight in-group phase 1, especially in both games against AEK Athens, where the European champions could only manage draws. This attitude amongst the better players will prove costly against their new opponents in Group C, especially against AC Milan, my group favourites.

Personally, I predict both Milan clubs to progress far in the tournament this season. This is due to firstly, their strict and intelligent managers in Carlo Ancelotti and Hector Couper, and secondly, to the rejuvenated Italian passion to do well in European football, which had taken a slump in recent years. And with the likes of Hernan Crespo, Christian Vieri, and Filippo Inzaghi representing the Italian sides, these two sides look like safe bets for the Knockout stages. Another club I predict to do particularly well this year must be English champions Arsenal. There is such a great amount of depth, class, and finesse to this squad that they are getting increasingly difficult to beat. Last year this side was knocked out at this stage of the competition due to their abysmal away record. But with impressive wins away to PSV Eindhoven (4-0)

and Auxerre (1-0) in phase 1, it appears Arsene Wenger's men have worked out any problems, and are getting even hungrier for success this season.

As always, there is usually one dark horse in the competition, and I believe that this year, Swiss side FC Basle will play that role. In the qualifying stages, they knocked out Scottish champions Glasgow Celtic to progress into phase 1. Then they surprised us even further by giving Liverpool an early and unexpected departure at the early stage. This side has a fabulous awareness at picking out teammates with their stylish passing game, and with their attacking 4-3-3 formation, can not only shred defences to pieces, but are also an absolute joy to watch. Their only problem lies in their back line, as they tend to play the unreliable offside trap excessively. So we will have to wait and see what surprises they will put on show this week. But I honestly think that FC Basle can win their group.

The second stage of the Uefa Champions League begins Tuesday and Wednesday the 26th and 27th of November, and can be seen live on TV3. With these mouth-watering ties to look forward to, be sure to skip all study, work, and exams, so as to marvel at the delights of the beautiful game: I've cleared it with all of your lecturers, honest!!

## What your mobile phone says about you

by Deirdre Shaughnessy

There's a certain school of thought which claims the mobile phone has become a status symbol among young, socially conscious go-getters (us, apparently). I wonder. You see, there are plenty of types of status symbol. Most people never think about stuff like this but... well, let's just say I have too much time on my hands.

First of all, mobiles as phallic symbols... what is going on with that? Psychologists claim that almost anything of value a man owns-cars are another good example-is a symbol of his "measure" as a man. Many cars have been made popular solely on their phallic appearance (I'm told Lamborghinis, but I wouldn't

know a Lamborghini from a Batmobile.) Anyway, back to my point. Since when was "Look, look, mine's smaller than yours!" the cry of a virile, hot-blooded young man (or even a male UL student)? Since the invention of the mobile phone, that's when. The 'bricks' of yesteryear are constantly being replaced mini-versions that seem to be getting smaller at such a rate that soon they'll be microscopic. Personally, I don't find the whole mobile mania thing very macho. Seeing the latest tiny Siemens in the clutches of a six foot sex-god (not that there are too many of those around) just makes me-and many of my friends-burst out laughing. It's about as macho as getting a manicure (although certain 'macho men' from Plassey village might object to the vetoing of men's manicures-Orientation week



memories! Oh God!)

Phones as symbols of wealth? Definitely. It seems to me that however big your house, however designer your clothes, nothing proclaims your trust fund (or desperation to be cool) as accurately as the make, model and modernity of your mobile. Everybody knows at least one person whose mobile is surgically attached to their texting hand. Despite this, it seems to be renewed every time you see them. Sound familiar? I can guarantee you there's someone in your phonebook like that. If there's not, it's probably you. You sad git. (Ok, so I'm jealous).

I hate to sound like an ad, but your phone says a lot about your

*continued on next page*

## What your mobile phone says about you (contd)

personality. Those of us with antiquated devices are stubborn and loyal to our (since entering the hallowed gates of UL) oldest friends. Or else we're just poor. I know which category I fit into. Besides make & model, there's a lot of other stuff on a phone that can make you stand out (or blend in with all the other fanatics with "You'll never walk alone" as their ringtone). Ringtones. There's a character-defining commodity if ever I heard one. They tell the world immediately if you're extremely sopy

(Celine Dion), you fancy yourself (unheard-of German hardhouse you got on the Net), you reckon you're a bit of a joker (The Simpsons/Father Ted) or you have no friends (silence, duh).

Phone covers are another thing. This mostly applies to girls (or maybe guys who are too much in touch with their feminine side), but if you have one of a cartoon character, it's intended to tell the world you're a girly girl, sweet and innocent as

morning dew on a rose. This is usually accessorised with a Westlife ringtone. Then there are the cars/sports/drink-related covers. Two words; hard men. Indeed.

Now that you've familiarised yourself with the various personality types indicated by a simple mobile phone your life will never be the same again. You'll know that "hard man" chatting you up in The Stables by his irritating ringtone and tiny phone (and wonder what else that signifies) and

thus avoid potential heartache when he decides he's too cool for you. Alternatively, fellas will recognise a demanding, sopy, girly girl the minute they hear a tinny version of 'Unbreakable' (as if Westlife weren't tinny enough already) emanating from her pocket. You've been warned!

## Exhibition in UL on the church's newest saint

by James Hurley

In 1970, the year I was born, Jewish psychiatrist and Nazi death camp survivor Viktor Frankl met Saint Josemaría Escrivá in Rome. Later Frankl wrote of 'the refreshing serenity which emanated from him and warmed the whole conversation', the unbelievable rhythm' with which his thought flowed, and 'his amazing capacity' for getting into 'immediate contact' with those he was speaking to. Frankl went on: 'Escrivá evidently lived totally in the present moment, he opened out to it completely, and gave himself entirely to it'.

What had energized this man's mind? Where did he get his charisma? Why was it that people who met him were so 'warmed' by an intense conversational encounter? How come the Pope last October declared him Saint Josemaría - 'the Saint of the ordinary'? I am not sure that I can answer all of these questions, especially in a short piece such as this, but I will give it my best attempt.

Josemaría Escrivá was born to devout Catholic parents in Barbastro, northeastern Spain, one hundred years ago. From about fifteen years of age, he felt that God wanted something special from him, but what? He started going to Mass and Holy Communion daily and to regular confession. At sixteen he began studying for the priesthood and was ordained in 1925. A few years later he undertook a doctorate in civil law in Madrid. His cheerful personality and wide range of cultural interests made him a magnet for students who eagerly sought his company. Years later, in an interview with a student paper, he would say: 'Since I was sixteen - and I am now sixty five - I have never lost contact with the university'.

In October 1928, while doing a retreat, he at last saw clearly what God wanted of him. He was to found a way to holiness for ordinary Christians, through daily work and one's ordinary duties, what he later named Opus Dei (Latin for Work of

God). To this calling he dedicated the rest of his life.

I have spoken to many people who met Monsignor Escrivá in person. One was a UCD philosophy graduate who lived with him while doing further studies in Rome. He recalls the founder of Opus Dei tugging good-humouredly at his long hair, poking fun at everyone, cracking jokes and exuding a general air of light-heartedness and serenity. Another friend was struck by his 'vision' to start a university from scratch - the University of Navarre in Pamplona, Spain - when funding for such a project seemed impossible.

It was his infectious optimism that impressed Roscrea-born paediatrician Dr Berry Kiely. As she put it: 'He was never one to moan and groan about what was wrong, how awful things were, and so on. This wasn't just a matter of being optimistic by nature, but was a consequence of his deep faith and confidence in God's providence as well as his conviction that this was all part and parcel of God's plan for us ordinary lay people, namely, that we should try to make the world a better place'.

Monsignor Escrivá lived in Rome from 1946 until his death on 26 June 1975. In August 1959 he visited Dublin, Galway and the Rock of Cashel in Co. Tipperary. By the time of his death Opus Dei had spread to the five continents, with over 60,000 members from 80 countries.

The path to canonisation was not easy. Though the Church concluded that he had lived a very holy life, two proven miracles were also required - one for beatification and one for canonisation. After an exhaustive examination of his life and work - a process that lasted nearly ten years - Pope John Paul II beatified him on 17 May 1992 in St Peter's Square. That same year, a Spanish surgeon who prayed to the saint was cured of chronic radiodermatitis. Following approval of this miracle, the Holy See set the 6 October last as the date for his canonisation. Over

300,000 pilgrims were in Rome for the event. Being there ten years after I had first learnt about Saint Josemaría - in my final year at UL - was an especially moving experience.

From 25 November to 8 December, there will be an exhibition in the Foundation Building of UL. It features biographical details, memorabilia from the saint's visit to Ireland and testimonies from those who knew him personally. The exhibition also includes photos from several voluntary service projects his message has inspired in Limerick and internationally. It is organized by

UL Patrons of Citywise, Castleville Study Centre in Castletroy and Overdale Study Centre on the Ennis Road. A 50-minute multimedia presentation on his life and teachings will take place on Wed, 4 December at 4pm in FB028. Students, faculty and staff are all welcome. For more information, telephone 331223 or 326219.

It may also be of interest to know that Saint Josemaría Escrivá's books can be viewed at [www.escrivaworks.org](http://www.escrivaworks.org) while the international web site [www.opusdei.org](http://www.opusdei.org) has information about both the new saint and Opus Dei



**ATTENTION 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> YEARS**  
**CAMPUS ACCOMMODATION 2003/04**





- Application forms will be available from 03 December 2002 until 25 January 2003 at the village reception offices.
- Rooms will be allocated by means of random selection (lottery).
- Successful applicants will receive details by 28 February 2003 and will be required to pay a booking deposit of €130 to secure the room.
- There will be a quota of rooms for all years.

**There will be no need to queue on 03 December**

**Postgraduate Students**

- Application forms will be available on 03 December 2002 through until 04 July 2003 from the village receptions.
- Rooms will be allocated by means of random selection (lottery).
- Successful applicants will receive details by 18 July 2003 and will be required to pay a booking deposit of €130 to secure the room.
- The period of application is longer for postgraduate students to allow students from other universities the opportunity to apply for campus accommodation. It is normal for postgraduate students transferring to UL not to receive notification until the summer months.

**There will be no need to queue on 03 December**

ulsu ents

pay attention

des bishop

&

jerome holland

@

the scholars function room

Tues Week 10

# Week 8 & Week 9



# Week 8 & Week 9



## The Stables Club Annual Christmas Week

in aid of

### THE POOR OF LIMERICK

#### Week 10

Monday

The Extreme Sport Promotion  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH COORS LIGHT  
Music Soc Open Mic

Tuesday

Karaoke

Wednesday

BAND: Free Beer

Thursday

PaintBall Challenge  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH HEINEKEN & COMBATZONE  
DJ Aidan 10.30 - close

Friday

80's Night 9pm



Plenty of Mistletoe... Promise!



## Arena Sports Club

Your Sports Location!

[www.arenasportsclub.com](http://www.arenasportsclub.com)



#### WEEK 10

Monday

The Greatest Music

Tuesday

Trad Session - All Welcome

Wednesday

'Open Mic' - Your opportunity to dazzle

Thursday

Jamming with the Folk Club

Friday

Music Night

Sunday

Jamming & Trad Session



#### WEEK 11

Monday

The Greatest Music

Tuesday

Trad Session - All Welcome

Wednesday

'Open Mic' - Your opportunity to dazzle

- singing, comedy or instruments

Thursday

Jamming with the Folk Club

Friday

Music Night

Sunday

Jamming & Trad Session

### Christmas Daze

#### Week 11 - Christmas Week

Monday

Music Society Open Mic

Tuesday

Christmas Karaoke

Wednesday

Christmas Daze

- DJ 4-6pm

- Free Beer

Thursday

Christmas Daze

- DJ 4-6pm

- Noel McLaughlin

Friday

80's Night

The Stables Club will be hosting our Annual Christmas Week on Week 11 (2nd-6th December). This year, we have decided to adopt the **Poor of Limerick** as the group which will benefit from your support.

We are giving FREE santa hats out at the door and the first 400 will get a FREE pint courtesy of The Stables Club.

FOR CHRISTMAS DAZE THE FOLLOWING RESTRICTIONS APPLY  
**CLUB MEMBERS ONLY**  
**NO PASS OUTS | ID ESSENTIAL**  
PLEASE CO-OPERATE WITH ALL STEWARDS

T (061) 330139 - F (061) 330176  
E [info@stablesclub.com](mailto:info@stablesclub.com) - W [www.stablesclub.com](http://www.stablesclub.com)

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**Tuesday Week 10: Murphy's Comedy Club****Scholar's Function Room****Des Bishop****Doors @ 8pm****Wednesday Week 10: Doc's Niteclub****Thursday Week 10: The MARKET****Tuesday Week 11: Murphy's Comedy Club - Brendan Bourke****Wednesday Week 11: Doc's Niteclub****Thursday Week 11: The MARKET****YOUR WEEKLY NIGHTS OUT**

wed @ Docs

thurs @ The Market

tickets 7/7.50 euro

including buses

UL arts office presents

**AUTUMN FILM SEASON**

free film in the Monnet

every Monday @ 6:30

Week 10 -You And Me Tide

**THE MURPHY'S DOT COMEDY**

Scholar's Function Room

Tues Wk. 10

**Des Bishop**

Tues Wk. 11

**Brendan Bourke**

Doors @ 8pm

Price - Come and find out

**ALL TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM STUDENTS'  
UNION RECEPTION FROM THE MONDAY OF  
EACH WEEK @ 9AM**



# Harder Generation

by *Timmy Hennessy*

A lot has happened in the few weeks since my ramblings have been printed (what the f?lk happened last edition????), so some of this news that was pretty fresh (and some exclusive) isn't so much now.

Hard House returned to the temple theatre on November the 15th with the opening night of the new Baby Doll Records residency, Baby Brother, in the crypt.

The opening night featured sets from babydolly senior Mark Kavanagh and 2nd in command Alan Pullen.

## Review- The Frames

by *Peter Burrows*

I have to admit I have been waiting for Wednesday's gig in the UCH since I first heard about it way back in Week One. Waiting is perhaps the wrong word, salivating, rambling and prone to the occasional bout of incoherent babbling when the topic was mentioned might be closer to the truth. UL favourites "The Frames" were back in town and anyone who has ever witnessed them live would understand my occasional hysterics.

Like many other Irish artists, the band has experienced the big record label and decided it wasn't for their taste. In that spirit, they usually invite like-minded bands to support them. On Wednesday it was the turn of "Turn" (sorry) and "Jim and Jenny and the Pine Tops", two bands which are about as far from one another as Dublin is from Dubai.

"Jim and Jenny" are a bluegrass band hailing from Philadelphia with a sound that is familiar to fans of "Oh Brother Where Art Thou" The uniqueness of the band stems from their writing of their own material. Songs like "Light of Day" and "One more in the cabin" were certainly toe thumping catchy and were a pleasant intro to the evening's entertainment. On the down side I thought that Jenny's vocals were nauseating at times and the fine line between screeching and singing was crossed on more than one occasion. While this may be a feature of the music style my eardrums certainly didn't appreciate it.

"Turn" however I certainly did appreciate, good old fashioned rock with a set that included "Heartache, Empathy, Summer Song, Forward, To much to make up on , Queen of my heart and Another year over". This band were loud and confident on stage. They are the very personification of rock reinvented, a trio of competent (thanks Dave) musicians who are aware of their rock roots with a sound found somewhere between Iron Maiden and Bon Jovi. I must admit that type of music doesn't really tickle my pickle but I found myself enjoying the gig and the two avid fans alongside me seemed genuinely delighted.

Prior to the gig I was debating what song "The Frames" would open with. Experience has taught me that the opening song usually sets the tone for the rest of the gig, whether an

The night will run every Friday, with Kavanagh and Pullen alternating week to week. Guests will include the likes of Superfast Oz (OD404), Paul Glazby, Justin Bourne, Lee Haslam et al playing once a month. There will be a strong focus on Irish talent like Jonathan Rice, Dave Bee, Ken Tobin and John Kerrigan and who knows maybe my good self all getting a shot.

Go to [www.babydoll.ie](http://www.babydoll.ie) for more details...

There are a few projects being worked on in the city as I write, but as nothing is sorted yet I cant give out any details. All I can and will say is that there might be some new hard

audience will be treated to the quiet intimate Frames or the banging rocking, moshers wet dream Frames. When the distinctive opening chords of "Revelate" resounded around the hall I was pleasantly surprised - rocking it was then. That's when the second song really threw me, Glen, Joe and Colm harmonising brilliantly at the opening of Star Star\*\*. Never has the two faces of the band been so evident and talk about grabbing the audience by the gonads. A bold statement indeed and a sign, if anybody in the crowd needed it of the assuredness which the band display at there live gigs.

Following the dichotomy of the opening two tracks the band settled with a track from their last album "Lay me down" and the brilliant "God bless Mom" dedicated to Ents Manager Dave's mother - an nice touch for the man who has single handedly made Glen and Co UL's favourite band. While I was hoping to hear more new material at the gig the one new track "People get ready" hinted at the promise any future album might hold, with a distinctively violin undertone and the characteristic mellowness which was common in "For the birds" both evident and combining to create the magic which endears Frame's tracks to their fans. "Rent day blues", "Pavement Tune" and "The stars are underground" quickly followed with the audience lapping up Glens every gyration. Mellowing once again into "Your Face" before finishing with "Santa Maria" I was reminded once again of the rolla-coaster ride of emotion which is a Frames gig these days. Thankfully the expected standing ovation did materialise and we were treated to an encore beginning with the addictively catchy and interactive "The Blood" with the fans taking the place of the violin as Glen stood solo on stage. Fitzcaraldo followed before amazingly they went off stage again to bellows of "more". I distinctly got the feeling that the band wanted to continue playing but were unable to for reasons unknown. Sprinting back on stage Glen announced that they couldn't finish without playing "Heyday" a song written by the late Mic Christopher, a friend of the band who tragically died last year. Encouraged by Glen we all stood and accompanied the band in their finale before leaving feeling excited, refreshed and once again wondering when I would once again be fortunate enough to see Irelands greatest live act.

dance nights starting up in the new year, but trust me you'll hear about them.

I mentioned last time that Kiss 106 Fm is coming back, well its here, still very weak but I'm told its being worked on, and will soon be up to full power. Watch the [www.clubbing.com](http://www.clubbing.com) message-board for posts with more details.

And last but not least, just to say congrats to Anne Savage (Jay Pidgeon's nicer looking half) on her high placing in the Dj Mag dj poll (she came 27th)

Chart:

Resident Chart: By Timmy Hennessy, while under some serious influence..

Alan Pullen - Get The Fuck Up (Dj Love Mix) [Babydoll]  
 Mark Kavanagh & Stimulant Dj's - Work It Out [Stimulant]  
 Jon Rundell & Sam Reeves - Africane (Nick Sentience Mix) [Retek]  
 Incisions - Beyond Motion (Paul Glazby & Paul Janes Mix) [Vicious Circle]  
 Joy Kitikonti - Joydontstop (BK Mix) [Nukleuz]  
 Raff n Jay Pidgeon - Killer Bees [Fevah]  
 Mark Kavanagh - Moo Moo Land 1 [Babydoll]

Bill & Ben (The Irish Men) - The Beautiful Hoover [CDR]  
 Tony De Vit - I Don't Care (BK Mix) [Tidy]  
 Mark Grey - 99.9 (Paul Glazby Mix) [Vicious Circle]  
 Guest Chart: Hard House by Jay Pidgeon....  
 Tony De Vit - I Don't Care (BK Mix) [Tidy]  
 Mark Grey - 99.9 [Vicious Circle]  
 Spencer Freeland - The Underground (Illogik Mix) [Short Circuit Acetate]  
 BK - Badass (James Lawson Mix) [Nukleuz]  
 Mark Kavanagh - Moo Moo Land (Disc 2) [Babydoll]  
 Raff n Jay Pidgeon - Killer Bees (Prime Mover Mix) [Fevah]  
 Project Mayhem & Tony Heron - Soon As The People Move [Banging Tunes]  
 Ted Tobias - Headspace (OD404 Mix) [Retek]  
 Ben Kaye & Daz - Time Please (Tom Ingamells Mix) [CDR]  
 Justin Bourne - Corruption [ReCharge]

I think that's about it from me this week, if for some strange reason you feel compelled to contact me the addy is [hardergeneration@eircom.net](mailto:hardergeneration@eircom.net) so until next time, be good! (Moo Moo!! etc etc)

### University of Limerick Drama Society Presents INSIGNIFICANCE

A comedy about life, death, sex and the universe...relatively speaking.



Johnathan Swift Theatre, B1023

Admission 5, members 3 Euro

November 26th, 27th and 28th at 8pm

## Clubs & Societies Events: Week10

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT/SUN
<b>Games Society</b> Role-Playing Games 19:45, EG006 including Dungeons & Dragons  <b>Drama Society</b> Workshops 7:30, B1023  <b>Music Society</b> Live Music Stables, 9:30	<b>Debating Union</b> Weekly Debate 7:00, Scholars Function Room  <b>Drama Society</b> Show "Insignificance" Johnathon Swift, 8:00 <b>Games Society</b> Role-Playing Games 19:30, EGO06 including Vampire  <b>UL Kickboxing</b> Training for beginners to advanced 9-10 Old Sports Building  <b>Traditional Music Soc</b> Trad Session in the Sports Bar, 9:30 - 12:00  <b>Enviromental Soc</b> Meeting, 7:00 Meeting Room 3 in the SU  Anti-Nuke and Anti-War Stands - Tuesday - Thursday Main Canteen & Courtyard	<b>Tennis Club</b> Coaching, Tennis Courts 2-3 Beginners 3-4 Improved 4-5 Advanced Training 11-12:30 All Welcome  <b>Games Society</b> Role-Playing Games 19:00, EG006 including Apocalypse <b>Chess Club</b> Chess In The Canteen 7 - 9, Main Canteen  <b>History Society</b> Concern Fast information & Display Main Canteen  <b>10 Forward</b> "Leon", directors cut 7:30 PSA Center  <b>Drama Society</b> Show "Insignificance" Johnathon Swift, 8:00 <b>Softball Club</b> Training Astro turf, 2:00	<b>Games Society</b> Computer Gaming (LAN) 19:00, Sufers Counter Strike/Quake Role-Playing Games 18:00, EG006 including Vampire <b>Dance Society</b> Irish Dancing Classes 6 - 7 Dromroe Village  <b>Ten Forward &amp; Aero</b> "Air Force 1" 7:30, Meeting Room 5 SU Building  <b>Folk Group</b> Folk Group Session 9:30 - 11:30 Meeting Room, Arena Bar  <b>Fine Gael</b> Get registered to vote Main Canteen  <b>Drama Society</b> Show "Insignificance" Johnathon Swift, 8:00 <b>French Society</b> Canadian Speaker 6:30, A1066 <b>UL Pool &amp; Darts</b> Darts Tournament 8:00, Function Room, Sports Bar	<b>Softball Club</b> Training Pitch 1, 2:00	<b>Mountain Biking</b> Cycle Every Sunday, Leaving PESS building at 11:00  <b>Tennis Club</b> Training/Practies All Levels Saturday 11-12:30  <b>Softball Club</b> Training Pitch 1, 2:00

## Clubs & Societies Events: Week11

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT/SUN
<b>Games Society</b> Role-Playing Games 19:45, EG006 including Dungeons & Dragons  <b>Dance Society</b> Salsa Club 8 - 11, Scholars Function Room <b>Music Society</b> Live Band "Veneer" Stables, 9:30	<b>Debating Union</b> Weekly Debate 7:00, Scholars Function Room  <b>Games Society</b> Role-Playing Games 19:00, EG006 including Whitewolf  <b>Games Society</b> Role-Playing Games 19:00, EG002 2nd Ed D&D  <b>Traditional Music Soc</b> Trad Session in the Sports Bar, 9:30 - 12:00  <b>UL Kickboxing</b> Training for beginners to advanced 9-10 Old Sports Building	<b>Games Society</b> Role-Playing Games 19:00, EG006 including Whitewolf  <b>Chess Club</b> Chess In The Canteen 7 - 9, Main Canteen  <b>10 Forward</b> 60's Batman "The funniest film ever" 7:30 PSA Center  <b>Drama Society</b> Workshops 7:30, B1023	<b>Dance Society</b> Irish Dancing Classes 6 - 7 Dromroe Village  <b>Games Society</b> Computer Gaming (LAN) 19:00, Sufers Counter Strike/Quake  Role-Playing Games 18:00, EG006 including Vampire  <b>10 Forward</b> Film "Orange County" Room 5 SU Center 7:30  <b>Folk Group</b> Folk Group Session 9:30 - 11:30 Meeting Room, Arena Bar		<b>Tennis Club</b> Training/Practies All Levels Saturday 11-12:30  <b>Softball Club</b> Training Pitch 1, 2:00  <b>Outdoor Pursuits</b> Scotland Training Trip Sunday, Stable, 9:00

## UL Social Dance Club

by Brian Considine

The UL Social Dance Club have been enjoying an exceptionally successful and busy first semester. Catering for 150 members varying from beginner, intermediate and advanced levels of dance, we include very basic social dance moves which will get you around the floor at all those social occasions. So whether it's that student ball, wedding or business function you're attending, you'll have no problems.

So far this semester, we have learned Samba, Jive, Cha Cha Cha and the Slow Rhythm Foxtrot as well as the Argentino Tango. Classes are run twice weekly, on Tuesdays at 7.30pm in the Schrödinger Building concourse (top floor) or on Thursday at 7pm in Kilmurry Village Hall. Both classes have proved to be popular and enjoyable and have been well attended. As mentioned above we have introduced this term, the Argentino Tango (which is taking the dancing world by storm). It is a close proximity, sexy, sensual dance performed to Latin music so you can see why it is proving so popular, especially with the lads. In

October, we attended an Argentino Tango workshop in Cork given by professional dancers Claudio and Veronica Rosario from Argentina. The workshop was then followed by an exhilarating



tango exhibition. Later in the evening, participants danced the night away to a live band in Jury's Hotel in Cork

As we are now heading into the christmas period and towards the end of the semester's classes,

this semester's Gala night has been arranged for Sunday 24th November in the Arena Sports Bar commencing at 8.30pm. Appropriate music is being provided by a DJ for what should prove to be a great night. All are welcome to attend although only a limited number of tickets are available.

Plans for next semester include attendance at at least one more workshop in Dublin or London. For those members that are interested, we will also be introducing medal tests for our members. These are basically accreditation awards in the form of certificates or medals awarded by the Irish Board of Ballroom Dancing to students who achieve a good standard of proficiency in certain dances. The last time we organised these medal tests, all of our students were either commended or highly commended.

So whether you're a serious dancer, looking for a bit of crack or just want some good healthy exercise, you'd be more than welcome. If you wish to join up, just come down to Kilmurry Village Hall on a Thursday night at 7pm.

## ULFC Ladies Soccer Match Results

by Eoin Killackey

**ULFC 1-1 Sligo IT**  
**ULFC B 3-1 Sligo IT**  
**ULFC 11-0 Colaiste Ide**  
**ULFC B 5-1 Castlebar IT**  
**ULFC 2-1 Cork IT**

As the above indicate, both our Ladies Squads have yet to lose a game this season. Our Senior Ladies face UCD Wednesday Week 10 in UL. The Seniors seem to have turned the corner after a disappointing score draw with Sligo, with a convincing win over Ide and a hard fought win over Cork IT. Several UL Ladies have been playing very well in these games, with performances of note from Sarah Kelly, saving a penalty against Cork IT on her Premier



Valerie Mulcahy

League debut, Valerie Mulcahy, with 5 goals in the win over Ide, and especially Eilish McNulty, who has gone from Freshers Squad to the starting 11 of the seniors, and hasn't ever looked out of her depth.

Our Freshers squad have played 2 matches and won both of them! They are one win away from winning the Munster/Connaught Regional League and from there, it is hoped that they could aim for promotion to the WSCAI First Division.

ULFC defend their Freshers Intervarsities on the weekend of Week 9, so hopefully we will have successfully defended the title by the time you read this. We have 2 teams in the tournament, our 1st team being captained by Michelle Ryan, who has

never had any difficulties travelling home from away matches!

There will now be a training session for all on the Astrorurf at 5pm on Mondays.

If anyone would like to join the Ladies, all you need to do is email Ladies\_Soccer@hotmail.com and you will be forwarded all the information you need.

## Busy Week for UL Waterpolo

It has been a very busy seven days for UL water polo and the season seems to have really taken off with a big splash. It started last Saturday the 2nd of November in the UL arena. First up were the ladies, with an amazing turn out of 13 people, for possibly the first time ever, the UL girls were fielding a full squad and so morale was high from the very beginning. A young, fast and enthusiastic Half Moon team from Dublin were our opponents and worthy opponents they proved to be. It was goal for goal all the way and with many of UL's freshers and new comers playing for the first time, making a great impression, they each proved deserving of their place on the team.

We were, however, very grateful for the few familiar faces from last year who proved essential with Edel Quinn scoring 3 goals and who could forget Kate Burke, our American superstar scoring an amazing 4. We are currently seeking to persuade Kate not to go back to the "Windy City" next semester, we would really love to keep her here a while longer!!!! Although we lost 11-9 it was a victory in itself, that such a new and inexperienced team could do so well in a National League match, and we are looking forward to great things from the ladies in the future.

Next up were the lads and they faced a very strong Dublin Celts team but again the dedication on the UL players stood to their advantage with a squad



UL Waterpolo Clubmembers

of 13 as apposed to the 7 that turned up for the opposition. The boys displayed great teamwork and obviously those hours of training are paying off as they dominated the match from beginning to end. Again, freshers and new comers were all given their chance to shine; it was the experience and ability of the good old reliable that carried the team to victory, however. With the very impressive goal scoring ability and experience of Colin Hedderman and Brian Murray and the great work of goalie Adrian Cosgrove the UL men managed a victory of 10-5.

Having just about recovered from the National

League matches our next challenge was the annual 35's competition against DCU. Known for being good fun, this year's 35's were no different. After having decided to play a mixed match, because of both sides lacking in numbers, the fun started and although they put on a great display of skill and ability, unfortunately it wasn't meant to be, and DCU were victorious.

After a tiring week UL ladies headed to Cork for their second National League performance in a week, against UCC. Unfortunately fielding a much smaller team of only eight people the ladies were at a disadvantage from the beginning. UCC had a very impressive, experienced side along with a gallery full of supporters. It just wasn't meant to be for UL and despite playing a very good match the absence of the rest of the squad was too debilitating for UL and UCC were the deserving winners at the end of the day.

Hopefully, this will only be the start of a very busy and exciting year for UL water polo and we would just like to thank our coach Brian Murray for dedicating his time to both training and to traveling to the matches. The UL water polo training takes place in the Arena pool on Monday from 10-11 and on Wednesday from 9-11 and all are welcome. We would love, as many new members as possible, so with any luck there will be a few new faces in training, and remember no experience is needed.

# UL Rugby Club Season Report

The college rugby kicked off the 2002/2003 season in fine style with two big wins for the men's teams against visiting French college Ecole Polytechnique Wednesday October 30. On a sometimes-sunlit UL main field the first game quickly turned into a scoring fest for the home side, made up mostly of freshers, who dotted down eight times for the 50-0 victory. Although all players contributed to the dazzling display none worked harder than blindside flanker Gordon Coleman up front, while Rob Tierney and Alan O' Boyle cut merry capers out wide.

The second match featured a few more seasoned local players up against the stronger of the visiting teams. After absorbing some early pressure, the throw-together home team played with remarkable unity to out-power and outpace the fired-up visitors for a well-earned 31-0 win. Captain courageous Willy Kelly epitomised the forward effort, alongside dynamic open side flanker John-Ed O' Connor who linked well with blindside Sean O' Neill and number 8 David Brosnan who were in commanding form. In the backs winger Ronan Likely was all pace and power, thriving on the excellent service given to him by inside centre Daniel Reed. Replacement winger Donagh O'Sullivan provided the highlight of the day. In his first ever

game of rugby Donagh stunned himself and the crowd when he pounced on a sharply taken intercept to scamper 30m down the pitch to go within metres of the opposition try line. An elated Donagh was regaled the feat for several hours afterwards to anyone within earshot.

All in all it was a fine effort by the UL sides whose performance belied the lack of preparation they had for the games.

The women's team had an equally good start to the season with their first league game on the 6th of November. A total of twenty-two ladies toggled out for the 3 o'clock kick-off on the main pitch not to mention a few ladies who were participating with other teams in the 35's competition. Just before the game the weather took a turn for the worst and UL captain Lynne Cantwell had her work cut out for her trying to keep the team warm with numerous laps of the soccer pitch. Once the game begun it was easy to see that the training sessions had paid off. UL looked like a better-drilled side against the Carlow IT team. The experience from players such as Lynne Cantwell, Fiona Coghlan, scrum-half Miriam Clegg and Valerie Ní Artaigh blended well with the rookies on the team. Laura Real did well in the lineouts while Sinéad Glackin and Emma Stanley looked



UL Rugby club in action

very comfortable on the ball. Even when substitutions were made at half time, UL were able to keep the scores coming. The half time score was 20 - 0. While it was clear that UL had the winning of the game from the start, it has to be said that the Carlow side never gave up and that some of their players show good potential. The final score was 41 - 0 to the home side. Scorers: Lynne Cantwell 3 tries, Valarie Harty 3 tries, Rachel Tucker 1 try, Fiona Coghlan 3 conversions. Coach Rohan West said "It was a solid all round performance for our first game of the season. A number of Freshers were able to get their first taste of competitive rugby and were impressive. Another fine crop of Freshers to complement our outstanding veterans."

The curtain raiser to the women's game was the men's freshers game against the travelling DCU team which was part of the 35's competition, in which the UL team were valiant losers. The home side went down fighting 12-7 after putting in a magnificent show against a much bigger and more experienced Dublin side. The UL boys, some of whom were only playing their second ever game of rugby really put their bodies on the line for the cause to restrict DCU's scoring chances and were unlucky not to capitalise on a few more themselves.

Struggling with a lack of numbers due to a raft of unavailability's, the forward pack only had the bare 8 players for the whole game but didn't

flinch against their opposites despite giving away considerable height and bulk. What they lacked in this department the forwards more than made up for in heart in the biting cold conditions. The effort was exemplified by hooker Paul McCarthy who threw himself around the pitch despite suffering a bad blow to his shoulder early on in the game. McCarthy was well supported up front by all his forwards, none more so than prop John Mc Avinue, second rower Conor Ryan and flanker Gordon Coleman.

However, the pain just got too much and he was forced to retire near the end of the match.

Without him there, the communication in the lineout faltered and UL lost many crucial throws near the DCU line that may have resulted in the try that sealed the match for them. In the backs inside centre JP Ryder was UL's most potent attacking force and scorer of the first try of the match in the 15th minute. A fine solo effort which saw him just carve up the defence.

Scrum half Billy Fitzgerald was a tireless performer while left wing Donagh O'Sullivan continued to impress with another committed display despite it being only his second game.

All and all a gutsy effort to the home lads.



UL Rugby Club in action

## OPC - The Clifden Odyssey

The second weekend trip of the semester was again a great success, with 30 people taking the weekend off and relaxing in the beautiful Mammturks and twelve Bens-Or so they thought...

Friday night of the trip was spent travelling to Letterfrack in Galway, just outside Clifden. There was a quick stop in Galway city to pick up a few recruits and a bit o' dinner. We then arrived in Clifden at about 9:30 where we went straight to the 100 year old hostel greeted by the smell of the turf fire. A bit of craic had bed was now the preferred option.

At 9am the following morning, we woke the troops and had everyone on the bus at a record 10am, the first time, according to Pat Curtin the driver/lunatic, we were ever on time. The journey took us to the



foot of Ben Bán where after two hours we were on the final approach and summated at 12:30. A quick

decision and we went over to Lugantarrif. We were back down and on the bus at 4:15 and in the hostel for 4:45. Showers and dinner had we the visited the pub/nightclub/pool hall/kiddie disco to mingle with the locals and enjoy a hot cocoa (ish).

Sunday morning order had been returned (we were late for the bus) but nevertheless we got some hillwalking, sightseeing and rockclimbing of sorts done.

After an uneventful journey back to the city we love so well we returned to our respective abodes-smelly but happy.

Any queries contact [opc@csn.ul.ie](mailto:opc@csn.ul.ie)  
Check out our website at  
<http://waldo.csis.ul.ie/OPC/>

## Fresher Camogie team bring home the cup

by Aine Power

Hopes were high in the UL camogie club from an early stage this year as an impressive number of first years answered the recruitment call in week 2. From an early stage it was evident that all the potential was there for the 2002/03 season to be a great one for UL camogie club. Fresher training commenced in week 3 under the guidance of Mick O' Dwyer and Seán Murphy. The talent on display from the outset was most encouraging. The management team outlined their goal for the team from the very beginning - to retain the Fresher Cup that was won in impressive fashion by the current bunch of second years in 2001. Five weeks of consistent training followed and by the time the fresher tournament came around, interest among the freshers was such that numbers were sufficient to enter two teams in the competition.

On November 9th 18 first year camogie players set out for Athlone Institute of Technology with high hopes of retaining the Isobel O' Neill Cup. The panel was split into two teams with competition for places very intense. Very little separated the teams with players' standards consistently high in both teams.

A total of twelve teams competed in the competition representing third level colleges from all around the country. The teams were split into three groups of four. The draw was not kind to Team B as they were drawn against Jordanstown, WIT and LIT in the first stage of the competition. Despite coming up against such tough competition, the team acquitted themselves very well. In their opening match they came up against a very strong Jordanstown team who were later to progress to the final. Despite a valiant effort, the team lost out to their northern opponents. The next game saw the team come up against local rivals - LIT. At half time the odds were against the team getting anything from the match as LIT led by seven points. However, in the second half the team showed true UL grit and determination by clawing their way back into the match and drawing level. Orla King in goals came to the team's rescue on several occasions, while Gillian Moore, Nicola Hayes, Eimear McCarthy and Susie Forristal were very effective in defence and at midfield. Doing the damage in attack were Jenny O' Grady and Fiona Murphy. LIT can count themselves fortunate to hold out for a draw because had the game gone on any longer there is no doubt that UL would have snatched victory. In their final group match, the team played WIT. Up to half time UL were very much in with a shout and were unlucky to be behind at that stage. In the second half, the exertions of the previous match began to take their toll on the team who were forced to operate without any substitutes following a nasty hand

injury sustained by Anne Clery. Unfortunately, a strong WIT team emerged victorious.

Team A were drawn in the same group as UCD, Sligo IT and Mary I. The first two matches against UCD and Mary I saw the team throw down the gauntlet to the other teams as they disposed of both challenges in impressive fashion. The team showed their ruthless streak in the following game against Sligo as they racked up the scores. The team emerged from the group stage with a one hundred percent record and were looking in good shape for the remainder of the competition. This was all accomplished despite losing goalkeeper Claire Burke who was unfortunately not well



UL Camogie Club in action

enough to take her position in goal.

After a short break, it was time for the semi-final against WIT. A strong challenge was expected from WIT who are perennially strong in the freshers competition. The opening exchanges were very tight as both teams tried to impose themselves on the opposition. As the game went on, however, it became obvious that WIT could not hold out against a UL team that was firing on all cylinders. Much as WIT tried they simply could not contain UL's free scoring forwards, while their attackers had no joy in trying to breach a rock solid UL defence. In the end, UL ran out quite comfortable winners. For the second year in a row, a UL team would contest the final would contest the final of the premier fresher camogie competition in the country. While UL were disposing of WIT, Jordanstown were involved in a mammoth struggle against NUIG, eventually winning through after extra time. The final saw the two best teams on the day pitted against each other. Jordanstown were very much the surprise package of the competition and UL were careful not to underestimate them. Putting all thoughts of fatigue to the back of their minds, UL took to the field in the final, buoyed by the inspiring words of Mick. Straight from the throw in UL got down to business. Having taken the lead at an early stage,

the team never looked back. They kept their foot on the throttle for the entire match and were rewarded with a richly deserved victory. Aine Kelleher lifted the trophy to the delight of the assembled UL support.

The victory was a great team effort. Roisín Corcoran and Siobhan O' Doherty were extremely effective at midfield. They used their strength and skill to full advantage to win vast amounts of possession and set up many scoring opportunities for the lethal forward line of Jeannette Feighery, Jennifer O' Leary and Karen Kelly. These three forwards terrorised opposition defences all day and exhausted the arms of umpires who seemed to reply to every shot on goal with the wave of a green flag. At the back, captain Aine Kelleher lead by example in everything she did, coming out with the ball time after time. Jean O' Sullivan played with a maturity that belied her young years as she thwarted attack after attack. It is said that the key to any successful team is its last line of defence. This is certainly true of the UL team. Eilish O' Sullivan was called upon at very short notice to deputise for Claire Burke in goal. She showed that her considerable talents outfield were equally matched by her skills between the posts. Eilish pulled off many saves that full time goalkeepers would have been proud of and set up many attacks with well-placed puck outs.

The victory was a great way to end a most enjoyable day. The success of both teams is due in no small part to the excellent management team of Mick O' Dwyer and Sean Murphy. At times it seemed like they were helped out at training by half of the male population of second year P.E. as Derek McConn, Peter Beirne and Tom Domhnaill all came out regularly to assist. They showed excellent commitment to the team from the very start. Unfortunately on the day of the tournament, Seán was unable to attend due to club commitments with Blackrock so Peter and Tom Mac stepped in to lend a hand. On the day both teams were very fit, well organised, disciplined and in general were a credit to the lads. They overcame adversity and responded very well to the injuries incurred on the day and to the earlier loss of the very promising Eimear O' Friel through illness. Both teams were well supported by UL players both past and present who ensured that whatever was happening on the pitch, the battle of the supporters was always won by UL. The club now hope that victory in the cup and the encouraging performance of the second team will provide a stepping-stone for greater things in the coming season. Who knows maybe this all-ireland won't be the only one the club will win this season!

## Drama Soc Propaganda

by Adrian Crowe

Greetings, boys and girls, this is another test transmission from the annals of the great U.L Drama Society, well its been about 3 weeks since I last put ink to paper and let the outside public know what we've been up to (not including Ella's report in the last An Focal) so the rest of the crew in their wisdom decided that James would get no more fish-heads handed into his cage unless he actually did something, so here we go.

First off: Thanks to everyone who came to Regency Romance, it was certainly fantastic to see so many people present in the J. Swift, and everyone certainly had a whale of a time, kudos also to Kev, Aims, and Di for doing such a goddamn excellent



Scenes From Regency Romance

job onstage, you made us all proud, wee Chucky, all in all a blinding and oh yeah special thanks to wee success. Jade for her cameo appearance as

Second of all: Insignificance baby yeah, that is certainly gonna be something else, the cast contains me your humble narrator, Michael Keary, Aimee Kerrigan, Rory Deegan, and the one and only Michael Dave "Last Temptation of Michael Flatley" Corley, mouth-watering eh? I'm not too sure of the date but I assure you, it's gonna be something else altogether, so don't miss it or else retribution will be swift and violent.....

As always we'll be meeting in the J.S every Monday and Wednesday at the hour of either 7 or 7:30, for more info mail us at [dramasoc@skynet.ie](mailto:dramasoc@skynet.ie) or else mail me at [dairuggerxv@wherethefuckaremy pants.com](mailto:dairuggerxv@wherethefuckaremy pants.com), or [0127329@student.ul.ie](mailto:0127329@student.ul.ie). Check our web page, we have a forum up so get signing. All the love and stuff.....

# University of Limerick Badminton Club

by Ronan Walsh

The University of Limerick Badminton Club have, this year entered a Division 6 team into the Limerick County team for the 1st Year ever and played their first competitive game last Tuesday night in Effin, on the Cork/Limerick border.

Just to give a brief background to the Div. 6 team, we comprise of 3 second Years, four 1st Years, a sassy Swedish Erasmus student (there's alliteration for ya!) & an Elec. Eng. Co-op Student. For it's inaugural year, the team is being captained by David Delaney, hence giving the indication that the team hasn't got a hope of organising themselves efficiently enough to take its grasp on the Division 6 League. Aside from the managerial handicap, the UL team have a strong men's side of;

Adrian Crowe (Galway), Michael Conroy (Offaly) David Delaney (Waterford, go on Ballygunner!) and Limerick men, Damien Flynn and Barry Gleeson. Equally impressive is their ladies section in; Jane Sandal(Kilkenny), Leona Drennan (Cork), Alison Grehan (some nest past Dublin called Meath, Bernadette de'Bruin (also Cork and unsuccessfully educated at UCC, seeing her quick transfer to UL) and last, but not least, Swedish Erasmus student, Charlotte Hjelm, to add her vital Scandinavian charm and skill to the Castletroy outfit.

Going into their first competitive game, the UL team were unaware of what to expect. However they arrived in Effin Community Hall with great hunger and expectations that were evident as each player took to the court.

Up first was the Ladies Singles, in which our own Jane Sandall got us off to a successful start. Despite coming from Kilkenny TOWN, (to which I may stress to all the Cats in the club), Jane did not let this inherited flaw effect her as she won comfortably in 2 sets on a scoreline of, 11-3, 11-1)

Next on court was ickle 1st Year, Michael who frightened the inner shite out of us in a 3 Set thriller. After losing the first set, Mike tied the game in a closely fought second set, and proved why he was a bigger danger than the Offaly team in the years to come by sealing matters in the Third Set to take a comfortable 2-0 advantage.

Doubles followed with myself and Adrian Crowe taking on the young men from Effin. Whatever we may have brought with us on that mad Road Trip to Effin, we certainly left our main ingredient behind in TALENT. Despite winning 15-11, 15-7, we were a disgrace and embarrassed ourselves



UL Badminton Club

more than UL Tennis Club player would do on a Badminton court. 3-0 up and cruising towards our first win of the season. out came our Ladies Doubles pair of housemates, Leona and Charlotte. While the rest of the team had trained with the Outdoor Pursuits Club in the Superquinn Freezers during October, Leona's absence for that all-important aspect of badminton training became all too apparent as she almost froze to death in the hall and had to be wheel barrowed as a block of human ice to Court 1, Effin. Following some hatchet work done by shuttlecocks to the skull, Leona was soon revived and dominated the court as she and Charlotte sealed victory for the

students.

Three Mixed-Doubles games remained to play, from which maximum points were secured. Jane and Adrian won in straight sets of 13-10, 11-4. A delighted Adrian was glad to have left the nightmare of Men's Singles behind him and quoted this victory as his greatest victory since the Drama Society told him, he couldn't act and to sit in a big chair and shout orders. Second Mixed; saw Charlotte and Damien Flynn overcome their competitors while dropping a set in the process. Damien, the only team player to have served time in Effin for playing for Mungret, hit majestic drop shots from the back line, much to the delight of the students.

Last up saw myself and Alison Grehan seal a clean sheet for UL as we, once again defeated the visitors in straight sets to finish the night on a high. Alison was particularly impressive at the net. She is presently in the process of a get-out clause, which is sure to solely seal her services for the next 4 years.

After a sporting game, the UL team were treated to a feast of delicacies by the home team. Great credit id due to Effin Div. 6 team for a fine sporting game and the generous refreshments, which were laid on afterwards.

I would also especially like to thank Fr. PJ Sommers, our very own singing priest (well, he's in the Folk Group anyway) and Paul Stephenson, accompanied by his dog, Holly (she would be a cocker spaniel, by the way) who provided transport out to Effin on Tuesday night. Thanks lads. Thanks to Effin captain, Anne Marie Carroll for organising an exciting night and we look forward to the Home leg in the New Year.

The Division 6 team will now take on the Limerick city team, Shuttle in their next match in UL Arena on the 2nd of December. All support would be gratefully appreciated for this up and coming team bidding to repeat Div 5's success last year.

## Encouraging performance for ULRC at Tribesmen Time Trial

by Amy Judge

Despite the poor weather conditions over the weekend of the Tribesmen Time Trial did go ahead on the River Corrib, Galway. University of Limerick Rowing Club entered six boats, all of which were raced. Many thanks again to AIB for sponsoring the entries.

Competing in the first event, two men's novice fours tried their crews up against tough opposition. As well as a friendly rivalry between the two UL crews, the rowers fared well against crews from all the other Universities and clubs around Ireland including local Limerick rivals St. Michaels. Amazingly enough, the fact that the Tribesman Time Trial was the first taste of racing for many of the UL rowers, the crews finished a credible 8th and 11th in a large field of intermediate crews.

In the second race, our two scullers, Cathal Moynihan and Rory O Donoghue, battled through very difficult sculling conditions finishing second and fourth respectively.

Other triumphs of the day included the women's intermediate four and the men's intermediate eight. Both

crews performed extremely well and provided significant challenges for their competitors. Although under pressure from the UCC eight in the opening minutes of the race, the intermediate men kept focused and gradually started to pull away, leaving UCC to row in their wash and making considerable inroads into the UCD eight which was ahead. It was a very spirited performance by all in the crew with everyone from cox to bow with the "never say die" attitude. The inter eight finished in a time of 15 minutes 43 seconds.

Spirits were high later on that evening in Nevada Smiths when the local rivals St. Michaels revealed that they had bettered University of Limerick in both the eights and fours. The St. Michaels crew would not let this die are they were challenged by ULRC to a "boat race" with a difference. This would be bigger than anytime trial could ever be. The winner would be showered in praise and the loser would be undoubtedly taunted beyond belief.

The management of Nevada Smiths provided the pints and both clubs turned out "eight" rowers each. The tension before the race was palpable and some early technical difficulties left UL playing catch up for the



UL Rowers at the Tribemen Time Trial

remainder of the race. St. Michaels were overrating UL and finished a full pint ahead of a distraught UL. The students were beaten at the own game. However, later on that night following a steward's enquiry it was revealed that St. Michaels had been disqualified for allegedly only having seven on their crew. The pride of the club was restored and was strengthened when Dan told the bouncers of Icon where to stick their "Management decision, not to let us in". It was breakfast in Finnegan's followed by regular Club business as

the new recruits were on the water for afternoon training.

A great weekend was had by all and the next event for University of Limerick will be at St. Michael's Head of River on the 7th of December where local pride will again be at stake and all crews will be hoping to lay down a marker on which they can build-on throughout the year. ULRC is still recruiting new rowers and coxes of all experiences and anybody interested is asked to e-mail the club at irow@ul.ie

## Young Fine Gael Register To Vote Campaign

The University of Limerick Branch of Young Fine Gael, re-invigorated following their successful National Conference in Dublin last weekend, sprang straight back into action last week and organised a "Get Registered to Vote" day last Thursday.

There was an excellent response from the student body, with a steady flow of people arriving at the stand in the canteen throughout the day. In total over 150 people signed up to vote.

Branch Chairman Robbie Carroll said that he was

delighted by the positive response: "It's great to see that people are so enthusiastic to have their name on the Register of Electors. In Young Fine Gael we strongly believe that everyone should have the opportunity to make their voice heard, whatever their views on politics or on how our society should develop. By signing onto the Register of Electors, they're making sure that their opinions are taken into account"

In other news, ULYFG is busy making plans for it's upcoming Sleepout in Limerick City on the 12th of December. We hope to raise awareness about this

problem in Limerick, and hopefully raise money for a worthy cause. The Branch is also continuing with plans for the remainder of the year (top of the bill is our Christmas party !!!), and getting ideas together for the 2nd Semester including trips to the Dáil, Brussels, Stormont, and best of all the visit of Fine Gael Leader Enda Kenny to UL !!

If there's anyone out there who would like to get involved in any way, please don't hesitate to contact anyone on the Committee, any of our members, or to drop us a line at [ulyfg@hotmail.com](mailto:ulyfg@hotmail.com)

## UL Soccer Match Report

by Martin Hayes

### Cork City 2 UL 3

UL recorded a tremendous 3-2 victory away to Cork City in the Eircom League U21 Division on Sunday of Week 8.

Cork had the better of things early on and a good save was needed from Ben Spicer (1st Business) to keep us on level terms. After weathering some early pressure UL went 1-0 up on the half hour when Tom Cooper(2nd Electronic Eng.) pounced on a mixup in the City defence to fire home from about twelve yards out.

The next half hour saw UL get right on top as Cork were forced to throw more bodies into attack. Pat Finucane (2nd Business) put us 2-0



UL Mens soccer team

up early in the second half after a good build up involving Mark Holland (2nd Business), Peter Murphy(4th Comp. Sys) and a good through ball from Tom Cooper.

Cork came right back into it now and scored twice to level the game with 10 minutes remaining. Our captain Stephen Enright(2nd Business), who had a great game, got a deserved winner for UL with 5 minutes to go.

This is a great victory for UL at the home of one of the traditional powerhouses of Irish football.

UL (4-3-3) Spicer, Reidy, Murtagh, Brady, Killackey, Holland, Enright, Murphy, McCarthy, Cooper, Finucane.

ULFC are sponsored this year by Kostal, Analog Devices and the Diageo group of companies.

## Kayak Club hit Killarney for some craic

by Angela Rehill

As the majority of sane people were sleeping in the early morning hours of Saturday, October 16th week 8, us mad kayakers were up at the not so very bright time of 7a.m getting ready to hit the rivers of Killarney in Co. Kerry. As the last stragglers made it to the bus we departed UL shortly after 8. A much needed pit stop was requested, for some breakfast rolls. And we were ready to roll again. Bags in the aisles and cd speakers suspended from the ceiling, no sympathy was given to those suffering from the previous night and were not allowed sleep-oh it's such a cruel world!

Our first river was the Lower Carragh where we were joined by those driving and UCC on the fresher trip. Once everyone was on the water, we were split into two groups lead by Cathal and Paul. The river, a grade 2 with a grade three section, was a nice confidence builder for the freshers. The water flow was relatively calm through the flat water with increased flow through the rapids. The lack of trees over hanging the river banks gave relief to those who know "trees are not your friend". The only obstructions were the rocks which were frequent due to the lack of water. They only caused

the biggest hassle through the grade 3 section with almost everyone getting through with little difficulty. However Siobhan got stranded on top of a rock who was nudged off by Paddy and experienced a different view of things as she floated down backwards! Meanwhile I got completely pinned by a rock and the only way out was to abandon boat as it had got completely wedged and was not moving. Cheers to John who abandoned boat too and helped me. After river walking it the bank we were good to go again. At the next eddy we practised ferry-gliding-paddling across a river while pointing upstream. The remaining section of the river was relatively unchallenging.

After reaching our get-off point, we were congratulated by our group leader, Cathal with everyone's paddling complimented as having improved. On a high from that boast we retreated back to the bus to go in search of more paddling.

We struck off for the Upper Carragh but as there wasn't enough water, we headed for the surf in a remote area called Rossbeigh. With absolutely flat water and no surf we left for Killarney to book into our hostel in the town, Neptune's. After dinner the day's events were reminisced upon. That night we hit the streets of Killarney to spread some madness and bond



UL Kayakers in Kilarney

with the locals in Mustang Sally's and McSorley's. After a night of craic and garlic, cheese and chips we retired for the night raring to go for a day of surf the following day.

The next morning up, brighter and

not quite as early as the previous morning, a traditional fry breakfast was welcomed by most people! There was a toss up between Castle Gregory and the beach from the day before, Rossbeigh. The decision of Castle Gregory made, the bus collected us shortly after 12 and we were ready to rock, paddle and roll! However once again, we were once again greeted by complete flat water. Hopes not quashed, we headed down to the coast about 5, 6 miles to Strabally strand. Conditions slightly improved we stayed put, bared the cold and hit the surf. After some wave catching, the trailer was loaded and we struck for home. The weekend's events were reflected upon before retiring for the night.

Cheers to Paul, the trip organiser, Homer and Paddy, our quippies and to Cathal and Darren for their help and invaluable experience. And if you'd like to catch up with the club and what it's up to in the future find us at the pool sessions Tuesday to Thursday from 10p.m to 11p.m.

## New Labour leadership attend UL for Labour Youth National Conference

by Manus Bree

After a very successful year on campus Labour Youth has been just a busy this year. In the past 8 weeks we've had two very successful campaigns, been to three demonstrations, a Labour Party Regional conference, the leadership hustings and organised and hosted our national conference. Our first campaign focused on Labour policy regarding rented accommodation and student's rights as tenants. We ran it along side the Students Union's welfare week and with the support of Threshold. We are currently in the process of pressurising the Union to take up our campaign as long-term project. Towards the end of October we ran our second campaign, 'No War Planes at Shannon Airport', we've collected over 300 signatories

so far and got positive support from the student body in our response to the up coming war in Iraq and the use of Irish Airports by US planes. Last month our members attended the national demonstration organised by Peace and Neutrality Alliance at Shannon airport and we will hopefully be sending a larger number to the up coming demonstration on Dec. 8th. Following the event we got publicity in the regional press and on local radio. Labour youth have been to the fore (Labour Minister abolished fees in 1995) in the Anti-Reintroduction of college fees campaign and were the only political party present at the big protest in the city. We hope to increase the campaign over the next few months and are preparing to bring our spokesperson on education Jan O'Sullivan TD to UL next week. Our biggest event so far was the

hosting of Labour Youths' most prestigious annual event, its National Youth Conference. The two-day event chaired by Manus Bree, brought together young socialists from all over the country to debate issues, to take part in workshops and to have some craic. The conference was attended by our new leadership, Pat Rabbitt TD, Liz McManus TD, Jan O'Sullivan TD and Senator Kathleen O'Meara. Motions proposed included issues such as Poverty Elimination, Irish Neutrality, Abortion, Car Insurance, the Future of Europe as well as Rented Accommodation and Taxation. Two of our members Richard Brennan and Katherine Harford were very vocal in the debates. Our plan for the next month is to hold another campaign and hopefully get one more speaker to the university before Christmas. We

have proposed to have a campaign centred on Union Membership and speaker to promote an area of Labour Party policy. As you can see folks we are a proactive movement not just happy to sit around a table and debate issues but to get out and fight for what we believe in! If you have strong beliefs and share our vision of an Ireland where everyone has equal right to live peacefully and to prosper, a world where the principle of need replaces the principle of greed, give us a bell or come along to our next meeting (Tuesday @ 5.30 room 2, SU).

*The cause of Labour is the cause of Ireland, the cause of Ireland is the cause of Labour" - James Connolly*

## U.L.H.S. - Getting acquainted with Dublin City

by Shane Kirwan

How many students does it take it to change a light bulb? Well in the case of U.L.H.S. it would take more than the requisite six Einstein's. How many students does it take to realise that the light switch is to the left wall as you head in the door at shoulder height? Well in the case of...

An inauspicious yet mildly amusing episode to kick off, in earnest, the History Society's trip to Dublin a few weeks back. Not one to kiss and tell, but Alen, Emma, John, Patrick and Eleanor has a lot to answer for! Mount Eccles Court hostel on Gardner St. was the location and I'm sure we have been the butt of jokes with the locals, henceforth. The idea of the weekend was to discover at first hand the finer aspects of Dublin's rich heritage. Reappraising that mantra immediately, it was collectively decided that a 'back to basics' methodology was to be undertaken in order not to make complete donkeys out of us.

On cold prompt reflection, we decided to revert to utter folly and went on a rendezvous of the virtuous O'Connell St. at eleven o' clock at night. The menu for the evening's activity: batter burgers, card games and the finest bottle of chardonnay that money can buy. (€12.54 if memory can serve me correctly) Friday nights will never be the same again! Heated discussion about the upcoming museums, monuments and high street stores ensue until the ungodly hour of quarter past two. Though from what I've been told, the debate continued long into the night: conscious or subconsciously. Does that ring a bell JH? You can't remember. Well I know there were four others who were hanging onto your every word...whether they liked it or not!

Our first port of call beyond on the historically relevant part of our trip was St. Mary's Abbey one of the largest and most important monasteries in Ireland. In time-honoured tradition (at this stage), we find out that the exhibition is closed for renovations. A famine of sorts ensues as its now 11 a.m. and we are all starved of places to see and museums to digest. Emma Stafford steps in to the breach and books us onto the Dublin bus tour. 'From Famine to Feast' is not only a first year history book; it perfectly illustrates our uptake in

fortunes from that moment of inspired leadership onwards. The tour entailed an open-top double-deck bus taking in attractions such as Trinity College, Christ Church, St Patrick's Cathedral, Kilmainham, Guinness Brewery and The Phoenix Park. Utilising the hop on, hop off strategy we transformed ourselves from hopeless electrician apprentices to battle hardened navigators with a little help from Dublin Bus.

Dublin City Hall was our first recourse to museum



### Professions of the Past during Greek Week

embellishing. Depicting the story of what has transpired to evolve into Dublin City. The exhibition traces the evolution of Ireland's capital city, from before the Anglo Norman invasion of 1170 to the present day. Items on display such as the Great Sword given by Henry VI, moulds for the 13th century city seal, early charters and manuscripts and other civic regalia. With accompanying audiovisuals Dublin City Hall museum served to inform, investigate and reveal many aspects of the different governing bodies residing in Dublin gone centuries past.

Which brings us seamlessly onto Dublin Castle. Originally built on the orders of King John in 1204

and has enjoyed a somewhat quiet history. Silken Thomas Fitzgerald laid siege in 1534, a fire destroyed much of the castle in 1684, and the events of the 1916 Easter Rising. It was lightly defended in 1916 and probably would have fallen if the insurrectionists only realized how light the opposition was they faced. The castle was used as the official residence of the British viceroys of Ireland, until the Viceregal Lodge was built in Phoenix Park. This slightly impersonal description is partly down to the basic fact that yours truly was not there.

Not before a visit to Christchurch one of Dublin's finest historic buildings and a few prayers more in hope than expectation. Patrick senior and myself went down to a bar on Thomas St. to witness a piece of history of our own. Yes indeed, that first victory against Australia in twenty odd years was the most positive exercise in soul enriching since Eamon de Valera's rebuttal of William Gladstone in 1939. (A slight exaggeration perhaps but try telling a bar packed with rugby headed revellers on the sound of that final whistle!)

Choosing to ignore the aforementioned red-letter day in Irish sporting history. The girls went to Collins Barracks, Ireland's largest and Europe's oldest military barracks. (An overly exaggerated way of keeping cover if you ask me!) This eclectic collection ranges from the exotic to the mundane, and highlights were the excellent Curator's Choice room where museum curators from throughout Ireland have submitted items of particular interest, and the Irish Silver Room which demonstrates the craftsmanship of early Irish silversmiths. Emma informed me that the massive dollhouse on display was of particular interest. (The Wonder Years huh, sure you can't beat them!)

What I've just described is only a snippet of the fun packed day we all had in Dublin that day. Alas my project work is beckoning and it's back to the drawing board. I'll conclude by informing you that our next trip will be to Bealkelly Woods in Co. Clare at the end of week 10. Entitled 'Weekend in the Woods' I'll nip all your preconceptions at the bud by informing one and all that this is a trades fair in similar vintage to our 'Professions of the Past' project during Greek Week. All interested parties keep an eye out on the history notice board or contact us via e-mail for more information.



# University of Limerick Dance Society

by Anne-Marie Murphy

Hi to all we would like to tell you what Dance Soc have been up to this semester so far, and the highlight so far. Classes have run as scheduled for the year even if not many of you joined in with the fun we've been having. Every Thursday we have had Irish Dancing with teacher Breda Mc Inerney, Garrard in Dromroe Village Hall from 6pm to 7.30pm. These classes will finish up with the last class in week 11 of this semester. Also we have had our salsa classes every second Monday in the with Xavier Cauvin, in the Scholars Function Room



UL Dance Society in action

from 8pm till 11.30pm. Have to say not many of you are able to last the night, as it is a lot of exercise to get used to. The last Salsa Night (Salsa Club, this is what we are calling it as it is full night of Salsa) will be on Monday 2nd of December. Then our Set Dancing Night which has been on once a month with instructor Pat O'Connell, and music from musicians from the IWMC. We hope to finish the semester on a festive note with our Christmas Party on the Night of the Set Dancing Night so it will incorporate all the dancing that has gone on throughout the semester so far. We would like to thank our sponsors this year so far who are: The Scholars Club, Afrimania, and the Irish Department here in the college, Mick Dolan, Patricia Moriarty - The Arts Officer, and the students union. We really

appreciate all of your support and thank you all very much.

We have managed to visit the Belltable to see Voyages, which is a production by Cathy Sharp, which had a low turn out, but a very enjoyable night. In addition, the set dancing weekend was attended by very few members but hopefully more people seen the posters and got to enjoy the weekend too.

Then the highlight of this semester by far has been the long trip to Bundoran to enjoy a Salsa weekend with Afrimania. Three of our members had the pleasures of enjoying this weekend and our newest Salsa Dancing member has given a full account on what his experience was like, and a more long term member has summed the weekend up to finish off with. See some great photos too. Thank you Afrimania again for yet another enjoyable and totally fulfilling weekend of Salsa at its best. Well after hoping on the Big Blue Bus, we were on our way. Just a small matter of a 5-hour journey through some of the worst roads in Ireland, all the time listening to that crazy salsa stuff. Eventually we arrived in Bundoran just in time for the first class for Beginners around 8:00pm.

Now seeing as I only had been to 2 classes before and the obvious quality of the other's was such that they were able to make sweeping graceful movements, with immaculate timing, I felt a little bit intimidated. However there was no need to worry as the first teacher, Mel C from Birmingham, took all us poor misfits under her wing and taught us the first few basic steps for about an hour. This was great fun, as it gave us some time to get the rhythm of the steps and more importantly to lose our inhibitions about salsa dancing without the aid of a lot of drink.

After that there was basically a free for all disco during which everyone got in on the act. It was amazing I can tell you. It isn't often that you can just sit down sober in a nightclub (or anywhere else) and just admire the way some of the couples were twirling around each other. Age wasn't a factor either as people of all ages had come and some of the fifty-somethings were absolutely jaw dropping in their magnificence? There was a strange atmosphere there as well as you could go up to any girl (or fella if you were female) and just ask them to dance with no pressure, but also with no ulterior motives in mind. This was even expected and encouraged. Needless to say, I found this, a brilliant idea.

Next morning we got up for some more classes. Intermediates were taught again by Mel C, and Advanced by Dr Rumba, a right character. I decided to attend as did the others, even though I basically had no idea how to do those moves, and damn near ending up falling over a few times.

After that, there were more beginner classes, this time with partners. This is actually easier than dancing by yourself, because if you lose the rhythm of the steps, your partner can bring you back to the beat. A good laugh was had by all for this session.

Then Dr Rumba led us all for some African dancing. I loved this! The idea with this was not to dance with your partner, but to out-do him/her. You basically screamed out and jumped around



Dancing the night away in Bundoran

like a crippled monkey on steroids all the time in sync with the drumbeats. We had to do some stretches before and after this as you can mess up your knees if you are not prepared for the exertions. Still I would recommend any resident of the Lodge to this sort of dance, as you will take to this like a duck to water.

After a break and some much needed dinner, we were back in the hall for some classes in advanced salsa from Geraldo and Magdalena who put on quite a show. I was content to just watch this as my knees were killing me from the African dancing. But I tell you, you could just sit there for an hour watching those two maestros at work! Spinning, twirling, leaping there was nothing that they could not do.

It's important to realise that, everyone else is still a learner, no matter if they have been doing it for 2 years or 2 days and to give it a try even if you do feel like a pansy.

For three days, Bundoran was the Mecca of Irish Salsa. Dance addicts came from near and far, to learn laugh & love the cheerful Latin grooves. Throughout the weekend, there were lessons suiting all levels, and on Saturday evening, a competition inspired and energized us all. The Bundoran Salsa Weekend was a fantastically supportive & enthusiastic environment -- for beginners learning first steps and for long-time Salseros/as reawakening their passion for the dance.

## UL Judo Club

by Declan Butler

For those of you who don't know Judo is a modern olympic combat sport consisting mainly of throws and various holds and submission techniques. Judo originated in Japan towards the end of the 19th century and is now one of the most practiced martial arts in the world.

The year got off to a flying start for the club with over 100 members signed up in week 1 alone. These new members ranged from complete beginners to international players and come from as far afield as the USA, France and Japan. There were

major changes made to the club at the start of the year as our former coach Joe Monaghan moved on from the club. However this left the way open for Dermot McNamara to take charge.

The first competition of the year was the Irish Open held in the National Basketball Arena in Tallaght. There were over 400 competitors at the event from 13 different countries including Norway, Malta and even Australia. Despite the high level of competition TJ Davitt somehow managed to take the gold in the youths u-90kg category. In doing so he became the first person of the millennium to retain an Irish Open



title. John Power produced some incredible performances in the senior u-66kg category and was very unlucky to fall just short of the bronze.

The next competition coming up will be the Munster championship where the club looks to build on the success of last year. In the mean time the training continues and new members are always welcomed and encouraged to come along all you need is an old track suit and a desire to kick ass!!!

TRAINING TIMES ARE MONDAY 8:00 - 10:00 IN THE ARENA

WEDNESDAY 6 - 7:30 IN THE OLD SPORTS BUILDING

For any queries about the club email ULJUDO@EMAIL.COM

# Aeronautical Society Report

by Ruth Bagnell

So far this semester UL Aeronautical Society has been extremely busy with events nearly every week. The Aeronautical Society comprises of students of all different disciplines varying from those studying languages to Engineering. A trip to Shannon Air Traffic Control was the first outing organised this year. Students got a chance to climb all the steps to the top of the tower and look over the airport. All members found this trip stimulating and entertaining. The group looked over the ramp. Some Aer Lingus aircraft (Airbus A330's) were on stand. Tugs and baggage carts whizzed around on the apron below. The main runway could also be seen from the tower. Unfortunately there were no movements during the tour. The group met some of the controllers and asked all sorts of questions. The September 11th incident was foremost on the thoughts of some humanities students. The controllers were extremely helpful and accommodating. The Irish Aviation Authority runs the operations centre located below the control tower. Radar data detailing the airspace over Ireland and out into the Atlantic Ocean is shown on screens here. Two controllers operate each screen. One watches the screen and decides on where aircraft should move and the other talks with the crews of those aircraft. It was interesting to see who actually controls aircraft movements.

A lecture about "The Fokker Aircraft Company; A business in life and death" was next on the agenda. Mr. Antoin Dalton, who worked in the industry for many years, described to a group how the aircraft manufacturer was established and how it struggled through the decades and eventually failed. This gave society members another view on the world of aviation. Fokker had been a leading aircraft manufacturer during World War II. Its aircraft were robust and reliable. Some Fokker aircraft are still flown today by airlines.

Shannon Aerospace Ltd (SAL) is possibly the best-known aircraft maintenance facility in Munster. Opened in 1992 the massive hangar can accommodate 6 narrow body aircraft. Aircraft Maintenance Technicians strip aircraft down and inspect each component individually. Owned by Swissair and Lufthansa Technik, SAL can maintain Airbus, Boeing and McDonnell Douglas aircraft. More than 800 highly skilled workers are employed in the facility. The group toured the hangar floor and saw technicians working on different systems and controls. The vast number of wires and cables that string the aircraft amazed everyone. Workshops provide support to the technicians. Sheet metal workers, upholsterers and electricians, to name a few, repair damaged parts or interiors. SAL operates on a team basis. Each team then has a team-leader. Above the hangar floor is the Engineering Department. For most budding Aeronautical Engineers this was their chance to see how engineers work. The department was crowded with massive manuals on every type of aircraft and system maintained by SAL. Engineers busily hacked at their computers. Again the engineers were very forthcoming with

information and questions were asked freely. Finance and Marketing had a whole level to themselves. It seemed that here was where the money was! Finance controls the purse strings of the company. Aircraft parts are very expensive. Screws that might normally cost a few cents could cost a few euros. Pumps or panels could cost a few thousand euros, easily. Thanks to the Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering who sponsored this trip.



Member of the Aeronautical Society

Money raised by UL Aeronautical Society during Greek Week went to the Limerick Rape Crisis Centre. We could be seen in the Stables Courtyard on Tuesday of Week 5. A Flight Simulator was our main attraction. This event was run in conjunction with UL Computer Society and UL Games Society (we also borrowed an extension lead from Drama Soc, thanks Ella!). The Flight Simulator was open to all and all money raised went to charity. A lot of fun was to be had; some contestants tried their best to crash the aircraft deliberately. The skies will never be safe again! Meanwhile, in the main canteen our annual Aero Bar eating competition took place. This year it was a little different with the introduction of the FLYTE bar. I am not sure that stuffing these low fat chocolate bars down your throat is the best way to diet! Still it was for charity. A paper aircraft making competition exposed the talents of UL students. Held during elections in the canteen students tried their hand at making paper fly. Some interesting attempts were cause for great excitement. Norah Patten (1st Aero Eng) excelled in this competition. Her creation travelled over 60 canteen floor tiles! There'll be a job for her in aircraft design yet!

Ex-RAF fighter pilot, Gerry Humphries, gave a lecture to an awestruck audience about some of his experiences. This event always proves to be an entertaining and enlightening. There was a good turn out to listen to Mr. Humphries describe serving with the RAF during the Gulf War. He was a Harrier pilot. A slide show depicted the operation of the vertical take off and landing capabilities of this aircraft. He described being in combat and having to land in underdeveloped landing strips. It was amazing to speak to a man who had seen so much.

An Aviation Quiz held in week 7 attracted some attention. A team was being sought for the Royal Aeronautical Society (RAES) annual Aerochallenge. This event is aimed specifically at the RAES's young members and is held in London. A team of three was selected - Conor McBreen, Robert Joscelyn and Finnian Dawson. UL were successful in this event in 2000.

UL Aeronautical Society's Aviation Exhibition during week 8 proved successful. Model aircraft were

very little knowledge of aviation enjoyed the friendly atmosphere, not to mention the chocolate biscuits! A 40mm L60 Bofor Anti-Aircraft shell caused a bit of a stir. It's not that we want to shoot planes down; we just want to get a closer look!!!

Science week was held in week 8. NASA astronaut, Gregory H. Johnson, spoke to a large group of people in the Jean Monnet. He gave details about the type of training he went through and what kind of work he did. He described why there was no gravity on the moon and explained what happened in the Challenger disaster. Enthusiasts from 7yrs to 70yrs of age attended. A member of the audience had the chance of putting on a space suit, which didn't really fit as well as it should have. Beach balls representing planets were to be seen in the hands of children orbiting each other. After the lecture Aeronautical Society members cornered the astronaut and asked some difficult questions. Job opportunities in NASA may not be as scarce as we thought. For every astronaut there must be at least 10 Aeronautical Engineers, according to Mr Johnson.

Paintballing is planned for Saturday week 9. This will be run in conjunction with UL's Games Society. There are no plans for any Anti-Aircraft firing during this exercise. Air Force 1 will be shown on Thursday Week 10. The time and location is to be confirmed. This event is being run with the help of Ten Forward. Many thanks to UL Games Society and Ten Forward for their help. For more information about UL Aeronautical Society check out [www.csn.ul.ie/%7Eaerosoc](http://www.csn.ul.ie/%7Eaerosoc) or email me [9925538@student.ul.ie](mailto:9925538@student.ul.ie).



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# Campus News

by Valerie Gunning

## EATING IN VENUS LAB TAKES LIFE OF THIRD STUDENT:

The tragic deaths of three students have failed to warn the student population about the unparalleled dangers of eating in front of computers.

Last Thursday afternoon, Alice Byron, a third year environmental science student, was enjoying a light snack of a three-foot long baguette, while casually checking her email. Eyewitnesses described what happened next.

"It was just awful," sobbed friend Caroline Crompton, a third year law and accounting student. "I had forwarded her a list of Tipperary jokes, and she read them and burst out laughing hysterically. Then she lost grip of the baguette and the full weight of it landed on her foot. She screamed and slumped onto the keyboard. That image will be replayed in my mind, forever."

Miss Byron was rushed to Limerick Regional Hospital in the advanced stages of septicaemia, but was pronounced dead hours later.

The tragedy has prompted a fresh campaign by the ITD to alert students not to bring their lunch, snacks, or large legs of juicy succulent lamb to eat in front of the computers. A night porter in the Venus lab is quite often seen prising cans of Red Bull, for example, from students late at night and is campaigning for greater awareness.

"It may seem to many, that when I demand people take their triple espressos outside, I'm just simply trying to inconvenience them or on a power-trip," the night porter told 'An Focal'. "But I took this job to save lives."

A new campaign includes a heart-wrenching photo of Miss Byron wired to a life-support machine on her hospital bed, with the slogan: "Do Not Risk It For A Biscuit."

The tragedies began when a student brought a large bowl of steaming hot beef stroganoff into the computer lab. After a few minutes he distractedly placed his hand into the bowl instead of onto the mouse. His scream shattered the fluorescent light fitting above him, showering him with razor-sharp glass. He died instantly.

Additionally, another student was finishing an essay in the 24-hour lab, just before dawn. She had brought a large Goodfellas Deep-Pan Pepperoni Pizza to eat during the night. Upon completing her work, and finding that the printer had, astonishingly, run out of paper, the tired, dazed and confused student accidentally attempted to load a slice of pizza into the paper tray. The printer spurted out a spray of hot tomato sauce all over her eyes and face, causing blindness, shock, and third degree burns.

## STUDENT DROPS CONFIDENT LOVE MACHINE FACADE AFTER THREE YEARS:

Third year Tim 'Tiger' Kavanagh is finally dropping his confident love machine persona in favour of being himself. "I'm sick of keeping it up," he admitted, "it didn't get me anywhere at all."

Mr. Kavanagh's reputation was established in orientation week of first year when he amazed his new friends with astounding tales of sexual conquests and feats. He then went on to earn the title "the love machine" with a series of brief passionate relationships. "They just made me feel awful," Mr. Kavanagh confessed, "all I really want to do is sit in front of 'Telly Bingo' and eat Hula Hoops."

The late-night reveller has also admitted that his "blonde bombshell" girlfriend from home is a complete fabrication. "It was lies, all lies," said Mr. Kavanagh, "every thing I said. Even the bit about the erotic weekend in Paris." Neighbours confirm that the only place Tim went on the said weekend was to his local Xtra-Vision store.

"I don't even like the Lodge," claimed the man who once spent 11 consecutive nights within its beer-stained walls. "I don't like drinking or going to house parties and I especially don't like treating girls like objects. Most of them I made up anyway: obviously there was never a Scandinavian snowboarder and part-time Wonderbra model living around the corner." Friends reacted with sympathy and astonishment to Mr. Kavanagh's revelations. "I thought that Tiger was having the time of his life," said housemate Ben Dover, "and now it turns out her doesn't like the taste of vodka? What? After that night of drinking games? It must have been torture for him."

"I'm looking forward to getting rid of the mirrored sunglasses," said Mr. Kavanagh. "What was I thinking?!"

# Your Stars

by Mystic Meg

## Aries: (March 21—April 19)

You aren't the kind of person who enjoys the spotlight, so it's disturbing when you discover that you actually are the center of the universe.

## Taurus: (April 20—May 20)

You'll be truly surprised next week when a British gentleman teaches you the meaning of the word "bugger." Surprised, and rather disappointed.

## Gemini: (May 21—June 21)

You will suffer dire consequences after toying with powerful forces you do not understand, namely gravity.

## Cancer: (June 22—July 22)

Having a girl pop out of the birthday cake was a fine idea, but you really should have given more thought to when the cake is cut.

## Leo: (July 23—Aug. 22)

That you can laugh at what is about to happen to you only proves you have a sick sense of humour.

## Virgo: (Aug. 23—Sept. 22)

Deep water doesn't faze you. Just as well because that's where you are about to go.

## Libra: (Sept. 23—Oct. 23)

The fact that you think you know whats going on is only proof positive that you are even more out of your depth than usual.

## Scorpio: (Oct. 24—Nov. 21)

Your experience of adversity proves invaluable this week as it allows you to instantly recognise the same mistake you've already made before.

## Sagittarius: (Nov. 22—Dec. 21)

Although ignorance may be bliss, you have still to receive the multiple orgasms you so richly deserve

## Capricorn: (Dec. 22—Jan. 19)

This week, the stars reveal that your sole purpose in life is to serve as a warning to others.

## Aquarius: (Jan. 20—Feb. 18)

Monday will start great, with everything seeming to go your way, until you realise you are driving the wrong way in the wrong lane

## Pisces: (Feb. 19—March 20)

It's always darkest before dawn. So if you're going to steal the neighbor's newspaper, that's the time to do it.

## An Focal Contributors

### Editor

Paddy Buckley

### Writers

Clare Shaughnessy  
 Laura Greer  
 Peter Burrows  
 Anthony Kirpatrick  
 Anne Sheridan  
 Eamonn O'Flynn  
 Marie-Claire Butler  
 Patrick McHugh  
 Micheal Deering  
 Stephen Harrington  
 Fiachra O'Luain  
 Ella Daly  
 Mary Sweeney

James Hoare  
 Mairghead Neligan  
 Ruth Bagnall  
 Luke Curley  
 James Fitzgerald  
 Barry Mc Mackin  
 Amy Judge

### Proofreading

Marie-Claire Butler

### Photographs

Jennifer Aherne  
 UL Photographic Society  
 Patricia Moriarty  
 The Internet

*continued from frontpage*

Gildea thanks his parents saying, "they have been so brilliant to me right the way down through the years," and in his acceptance speech on RTE he remembered his Mother for her unwavering presence by his side during his six-month stay in Crumlin hospital in 1991. It was through frequent hospital visits that the Gildea family stayed with friend Annette Carol, who having seen the Martins bravery and determination nominated him for the award.

Gildea now has an active college life and participates greatly with Ogra Fianna Fail as he says, "it's important to take an interest in what goes on around you." True to his party, when Tanaiste Mary Harney presented him



**Martin Gildea (back, centre) pictured at the ESB Awards**

his award and jokingly asked if he would join the Progressive Democrats, Gildea smiling said, "never!" A keen sports enthusiast, Gildea follows soccer, rugby, and formula one and can be regularly found on the golf course.

It is blatant from speaking to Gildea that he is not one to feel sorry for himself and why he deserved the award is clear. "I don't see myself as any different from anyone else," he said, "I just want to go on." Gildea is back enjoying college and is delighted to have received the award. As regards the future he says, "I don't know what will happen, I'm just taking it as it comes."

## Low UL turnout for Charity walk

*by Claire Shaughnessy*

Although dismal weather and mandatory week eight chaos didn't help matters Welfare Officer Gráinne Heffron said she was "disappointed" by the poor turnout of UL student for last weeks Chernobyl 10k walk. With an overall turnout of about 500 Gráinne wished to express her gratitude to everyone who contributed especially the 20 UL students that did get out their walking shoes.



**Students at the Chernobyl walk**

It is certain that the €1,800 contributed by UL students will go a long way in improving the lives and health of many afflicted Belarusian children. However the sum was somewhat overshadowed by the massive €15,000 collected by students of Mary Immaculate College.

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