



An Focal



The Official ULSU Newspaper

union.communication@student.ul.ie

www.ulsu.ul.ie

**Week Ten
Edition 5
Semester 1**



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ULSU Breaks Irish Blood Donating Record

Michelle Daly

The Blood Transfusion service held a clinic on campus in week 7 as part of the Greek Week celebrations and were able to get 702 donations of blood over the four day period. Not only does that number reflect the high level of generosity of the students of the university of limerick but also it is over three times the highest level of donor attendance in one week in the mid western region.

Speaking to an Focal Tara Curley of the Greek Week organizing committee, Welfare officer and Deputy President of the Students Union was 'delighted with the result. She especially wished to thank the blood transfusion service, in particular Breda Mulvihill, Area Organizer as well as the staff of the clinic. The Welfare officer who works with not only needy students but

also a number of local and national charities extended the invitation to the Transfusion service to come back to UL.

In the current climate of the low level of plasma and blood ever in this country this act of charity on behalf of the

the Blood Transfusion service stated that she wished to 'compliment the students for their enthusiasm, their support, their generosity but above all their willingness to give (and not count the cost) the most precious gift of all the gift of life.

I thank them for extending their hands to us and assisting us as a service to meet the demands and needs of out hospital services on a daily basis.



Blood donating during Greek week

The Greek Week events in Week 7 were commended by President McAleese and An Taoiseach Bertie Ahern. It is interesting in times when students are sometimes seen as drains on society not really giving anything back that so much good has been done by the students of university of Limerick.

students of the university of limerick will really make a difference to so many lives.

Breda Mulvihill speaking on behalf of

The demand for blood is constantly outstripping the supply, with **contd. on page 2**

Stop Press, Bomb Scare!

Prior to going to print the An Focal office was informed that on Friday morning a local Castletroy business received an unusual package in its mail, giving rise to the suspicion that the package contained a bomb. A parcel was delivered to a business in the Orchards, which had wires sticking out of it causing great concern amongst the employees. The business, although unconfirmed at the time of going to press, is believed to be the Ambassador dry cleaners. When contacted, the central office of the dry cleaning company had no comment. The area is currently cordoned off and there is a strong Garda presence.

by Jennifer O'Brien

New Car Parking arrangements are enforced By Alona Troy

Car parking. It is an issue divisive not only between university authorities and the students' union but also within the union itself and once again the issue has raised its ugly head. Students have alerted An Focal in recent weeks that parking problems are arising once again. It seems that in recent weeks car parking spaces are becoming increasingly hard to come by. From nine in the morning to four in the afternoon, car parking

spaces especially in the free car parks are at the premium. So the trusted reporters of An Focal had a look at the issue.



One of the main concerns that was raised by stu-

dents was the reallocation of general spaces to staff only. This concerned the car park of the Schumann Building and the car park of the University Arena. It transpires that indeed a section but not all of the Schumann car park has been re-designated as staff only. The University Arena car park remains a general car park, with no section reserved solely for staff.

The next issue that was raised by students **Continued on page 2**

Solution to Limericks traffic problem

by Claire Shaughnessy

As more and more vehicles pour onto the roads in and around Limerick peak time traffic has become a congested chaos.

Stagnant motoring has not been helped in recent times by the overwhelming amount of work being carried out on roads all over the city and county. Once we get out the city gridlock the road home is no better. However these disruptions are part of an intensive effort to improve Irish infrastructure by the year 2006.

The NDP, National Development Plan is a government initiative supported the European Union. The plan, which was published in the year 2000, is being implemented over a six-year period. It aims to bring Irish roads and infrastructure to international standard within this timeframe.

This will make our roads safer, faster and more efficient while simultaneously encouraging international investment and employment generation. These factors will lead to a healthier economy and a better standard of living for workers and commuters.

The primary objective of the plan is to improve the five major inter-urban route ways between Dublin, Limerick, Cork, Galway and Waterford as well as the M1 connecting the Republic to Northern Ireland.

In its agenda the NDP has focused much attention on Limericks infrastructure and its need for improvement, most notably the N20 connecting Limerick to Cork and Kerry.

This route will see a major overhaul with 5 schemes being

introduced along the route. The projects, which are presently at various levels of completion, will consist of a combined 62km of better road.

The by-passes of Blackpool and Croom will eliminate two well known bottle-necks along the route while the Paterickswell dual carriageway will produce a highly efficient flow of traffic.

While the urban traffic jam will always be a part of Limerick life...hopefully this government plan has chosen the correct route to commuting success making the journey home of the future faster, more comfortable and without a pothole in site... maybe that's just wishful thinking.

2p-The price of the Euro?

Peter Burrows

Last Tuesday evening I finally realised what giving a hundred and ten percent means. Glen Hansard and the Frames mesmerised a packed Jean Monnet theatre with a display, which could be listed in the dictionary under awesome. Personally it redefined the way I think about music gigs and it was worth every penny of the £10 ticket price. I have no doubt that the sheer brilliance of the gig has reached your ears by now so I'll curb my enthusiasm for writing the music review (ed. take note) and ask for your attention for a wee story.

Prior to the gig I went as is customary for a quiet pint in the Scholars Club. Feeling rather bloated and not in the mood for a Guinness I decided to brave a pint of Bud. Happily I handed over my £5, received my £2.50 change and ignorantly basked

in the anticipation of the good nights entertainment. I say ignorantly because at that time I was not aware of the travesty, which had just befallen me. In fact in it was not until I returned for a second that my attention was drawn to the price list on the wall. This list details the cost of the beverages in both Irish punts and in euros. Bud was listed on the wall as £2.48 / €3.15. It was then the full ignominy of what happened struck me, some uncaring cad had overcharged me for my pint and thus forced me to put pen to paper. Okay, so 2p is not the end of the world, if truth be know I



would have probably have put it in the collection box anyway (my quest for sainthood continues), what this did impress upon me though is how vigilant we will have to be in the coming months. All of us have noticed the concerted campaign by the Euro Changeover Committee to make people aware of the euro exchange rate. I am sure the slogan "the change is in your pocket" is embedded in the public consciousness by now. We have heard but have we listened? Despite the promise of prosecutions for those who use the euro changeover as an excuse to heighten profit margins, I am sure there will be many culprits. After all how many of us will trawl around our local shop with our calculator comparing last weeks price of a tin of beans to this weeks euro equivalent?

Don't get me wrong; I am not suggesting a conspiracy by the Scholars to do ULstudents out of their hard earned two pence. I realise that it is simply easier on a busy night to hand back a solid £2.50 rather than rummaging around in the till for 2p. I worked in a bar I understand this completely, my point is that the euro changeover leaves us all vulnerable to price discrepancies. So what can we do? Well the law protects against any discrepancies in the actual exchange process. The exact phrase used is "fair conversion". This means that a price in pounds must be convert-

ed using the six decimal conversion rate and then rounded down to the nearest euro equivalent in cent. Firstly most of us don't have a degree in maths, so obtain a euro conversion calculator and use it. Some mobile phones provide the function so extra equipment in your pocket may not be necessary.

What the law doesn't protect against is artificial price increase to bring a even price in punts to an even price in euros. A good example of this will be national lottery tickets, currently a winning streak gold ticket costs £1.50 which is 1.90 in euros. It will be interesting to see how long expires before the price of this ticket increase to €2. This type of price increase could be all too common the couple months following January 2002. My only advice is to shop around, ensure that the best deal is sought and notable offenders are avoided. Hopefully just like the gig on Tuesday night and with a modicum of awareness we can all get our money's worth.



Blood donations records smashed

(contdfrom page1)



many operations being cancelled daily due to the shortfall. Emergency operations involving road accident victims and others use up a large proportion of the blood presently in storage. Emergency cases can add strain on blood supplies that are already critically limited. Blood can only be stored for 35 days so the denad for donations is always urgent.

3,000 units are needs each week just to keep the supply going, every one unit donated can save a life. In UL in week 7 it was all so easy to see the generosity of students in ul to give up their time and their blood for charity, even students union president Mick Phelan was able to fit it into his busy schedule.

Though the end result of 702 units or people attending the clinic it was a great surprise to see how many students were turned away who wanted to give blood. Perhaps if these had been fit to donate the result would be even higher. As it was there was a continuous queue outside the clinic for the week as students

wanted to give blood.

Perhaps it may encourage more people to eat more healthily as most of the rejections were due to anemia or iron deficiency. Maybe by the time the Blood Transfusion board return we will have returned to full health and smash the record we've set.

As it was the fashion must around campus for week 7 was having a plaster on your arm as proof you had donated.



New Car parking arrangements cause concern

Continued from Page 1 with An Focal was the pay car park. Students raised the issue of people getting into the pay car park, not finding a space in which to park and consequently having to pay £1 to exit without having availed of the service. Once again this is a situation, which is unlikely to occur. There is a facility within the barrier system, which reacts when the car park is full by not admitting more cars until one leaves, thus negating the chances of someone being trapped inside the car park without a space.

There were also queries raised about the reserved visitors car park and mysterious cars driving around with UL-presidential stickers. Firstly the reserved visitor car park is solely for visitors who are assisting the university by way

There were also queries raised about the reserved visitors car park and mysterious cars driving around with UL presidential stickers

of teaching, development and research. It has to be booked in advanced and previously authorised. Now to the conspiracy theory. There was only one car on campus, for one day last week, which was been used by photographers who were doing some promotional work, which was allowed to park anywhere for short periods. This car did bear a note

signed by the President explaining the situation and emphasising that it was a once off exception.

With the queries of students answered, a situation remains. There is an increase of cars on campus and with the addition of the facility that is the University Arena, the numbers are likely to increase further. The addition of Dromoe Village is putting further cars in the Foundation car park. There are no plans in the short term for additional car parks and yet more and more spaces are being sectioned off. If parking is to become a lottery than it should be a fair lottery between all. Priority is given to staff that drives to work over students

who drive to college. For many students who live in the Limerick hinterland, driving is their only means of attending college. It is unfair that on arrival that they must then do battle for spaces.



Greek Week Review

To many people, Greek Week is still somewhat of a mystery, disappearing into the shadows of mysticism and legend from whence it metaphorically came. Here's what some of you missed out on!

Monday-Day One

The Greek Week Celebrity Table Quiz took place in the Stables and the Scholars simultaneously on the Monday of Week 7. Roughly 34 teams took part in the Stables, and about 37 in the Scholars, with the teams from each club competing for a club prize. The two pubs were also defending their campus honour against each other, as the overall winning team from the two clubs would win a star prize. Most were in high spirits and had an enjoyable night out; whether due to Grecian spirits or alcoholic ones, we won't bother to ask!

Various celebrities who had visited the campus over the semester had been videotaped reading out questions for each of the eight rounds, covering subjects as diverse as geography, history, science, sport and TV theme tunes. Full credit to the team who thought that the "A-Team" theme tune was actually the "Thunderbirds", they won a spot prize of free drink on the night.

Tuesday-Day Two

Many braved the biting cold wind and threatening overcast sky to do something worthwhile for charity on Tuesday of Greek Week. Like lemmings they flocked in an orderly queue to be hoisted atop a crane and then leap to their impending doom. Well, not quite, some idiot tied a bungee cord to their feet first!

My attempt to make the world a better place by permanently ridding it of one Law and Accounting student was thus emphatically foiled, (and again, and again - if you count the recoil of the bungee cord) but at least I raised some money for the Greek Week charity fund. The bungee jump was organised by the Welfare Officer, who as president of the Outreach Society set up an Outreach Hour from 2 to 3pm, where charity jumps for one of the society's own causes took place, with the jumpers dressed up of course in all manner of costumes! Check out the society's website for more pictures, they're "super!"

As the appointed time to leap to oblivion got closer and closer, the previously fearless bungee jumpers who had boisterously proclaimed their indestructibility grew uncharacteristically quiet. The hairs on one's neck began to stiffen; was it really just the cold? The jumper's feet were shackled together; there was no escape now from the fate that was to befall them. (no pun intended) When it came time to ascend to the heavens, the cranking of the crane tolled an ominous portent for those so foolhardy to stare death in the face. One slight shuffle to the edge, a short glance down to the long drop below, a quick "nod to the gods" and then the freefall to earth. What a buzz!

In retrospect, I should have done it backwards; to feel yourself falling without seeing the ground accelerate toward you was apparently even better. Nevertheless, on a personal level, the jump itself was nothing like I expected, and yet it was so much better. I have the photos to prove it!

Wednesday-Day Three

Wednesday was the busiest day in terms of blood donations, and the record for total units of blood collected in any one place was well on the way to being emphatically smashed. In the Students' Union building the pool room was temporarily out of order, but it was all for the greater good. The queue of people willing to give the gift of life moved along fairly well, and few were kept waiting long.

The ever-dependable Margaret (Mags) Ryan was there every day with a smile, a cup of tea and maybe a chocolate biscuit or magazine for those patiently waiting their turn in the queue. She was also a friendly face for those who felt nervous about needles, but had still summoned the courage to overcome their fear in order to help a greater cause.

It certainly puts bungee jumping in context, doesn't it?

That evening for the meagre price of 75p, the delicacies of many foreign countries could be sampled at the International Food Fair, relocated this year from the Canteen to the Foundation Building, due to the quantity of countries participating. The event organised by the Erasmus Student Network (previously known as the International Society) seemed to be a success, but on trying to ask somebody for a quote, everyone seemed to have their mouths full!

Thursday-Day Four

The ULympics, a semantic variation of the ancient Greek sporting event, whose modern upgrade took place in the Sports Arena, were for many the main focal-point of much of the week's festivities, as sports events usually attract great crowds and everyone can participate in something. The event catered for both competitive athletes and those who were out for a bit of a laugh.

The ULympics concluded in a closing ceremony slash Mardi Gras, which wound its way around the campus at 4.30pm on Thursday, to publicise the event later on that night, the Carnival. The participants, from various clubs and societies in UL, were "suitably" attired in all manner of face-paints, hats, t-shirts, and very loud hooters (which I made sure to demonstrate). They made both themselves and their message known in both the Scholars and the Stables, much to the amusement of those on the stools, some of whom were a little uncertain whether they could believe the spectacle of colour that they were witnessing!

The procession, led by Eoin O'Broin beating a tribal drum, chanted their message to everyone in earshot "1-2-3-4, it's the Mardi Gras tonight, 5-6-7-8 everybody's got to salsa!" The improvised "salsa" by everyone in the group was the subject of many giggles and helped to keep the infectious morale high. All in all, the incident was highly embarrassing for some, great fun for all, and generally just a bit of a laugh in the spirit of Greek Week.

The carnival afterwards outside the Students' Centre included among other things; a candy floss machine, a bouncing castle, a coconut shy, and a literally record-breaking stall from the Radio Society, (which involved tossing CDs through a hoop). Despite it being the coldest night on record this year, the event amused everyone who passed by, and enjoyed by all who stayed to sample the festivities.

Mens sano in corpore sano -College is more than just about learning everything about a course, it's more about developing as a complete person.

-Gearoid Holland

Hello from your Sabbatical Officers



Mick Phelan- ULSU President

Hello again

Christmas is fast approaching and the projects are flying fast. I hope that all is well with you. Last week saw UL partake in the 10K walk for the Chernobyl Children's fund, thanks to all who did the walk and to the Outreach Society for their work in organising the event. The Clubs & Societies Minibus is now going to be delivered to us in middle to late January 2002; again I would like to thank the President, Dr. Roger Downer for his support and donating £20,000 to the project and also Eamonn Cregan. As I stated in the last edition, I have been assigned the task of investigating the issue of Student Support Services on cam-

pus. In the next week or so, I will be conducting a survey on campus asking for your input regarding these services and the level of satisfaction / dissatisfaction among students. I will also be conducting a similar survey in various secondary schools in the Munster region for what prospective students look for from a third level institution. I would really appreciate your support on this issue. Recently a Stables & Scholars Discipline committee had to be set up to deal with Club members who are out of hand. There is a more in-depth article in this edition, so please take the time to read it; already one student has had his membership revoked. Finally there is a memorial mass for UL students

and Alumni this Sunday at Milford Church; it would be nice to see a full house. All the best with the projects

Mick

Mick

Email: michael.phelan@ul.ie
Tel: 061 - 202326
Web: www.ulsu.ul.ie



Tara Curley- ULSU Welfare Officer

How do all!!

I can't believe its wk 10 already, the semester has just flown. Now is when I start gently reminding ye all to concentrate a bit more on the projects, exams etc or else your worst nightmare will happen when you realize its wk13 and its too late. End of lecture but it still had to be said.

Its been a busy week or two around here, and I really must apologise for my last article my only defense is sleep deprivation!!

Greek Week

Greek Week was born from an idea and grew to be an extremely successful week, I know for a while there everyone was a bit worried about us and thought we had completely lost the plot, but Greek Week was about you, and all students in general. College is the most amazing experience of your life, a time to try new things, meet new people etc, with Greek Week we wanted to show you that college life can be so much better. The clubs and societies and facilities on our campus are the best in the country (I'm not biased honest), and I genuinely believe you have not lived the college experience to the full with out joining at least one.

Overall Greek Week, saw bungee jumping, swimathons,

Patrick Kennedy- ULSU Communications and Campaigns Officer

Over the last two weeks I have been working on the following areas,

An Focal: I have just appointed three Assistant Editors to take up some of the editorial responsibility and allow me to spend more time on the campaigns aspect of the job.

Wired FM: The reason that Wired FM has not been broadcasting on the 106.8 FM is that the transmitter is in the process of being moved to the top of the water tower in Castletroy. This is due to the fact that there is building work going on on the main building where the transmitter

plays, comedy, carnivals, silences, Bobble Bobble, Olympics, parades, green fair, food from all over the world, but most importantly students doing good. There will be a lot of money going to charity (I'll have the totals for next week), and the most important an IRISH RECORD!!

I would sincerely like to thank every person who saved a life last week; our total for the week was 702!! This is absolutely brilliant, however last time I checked there was at least another couple of thousand on campus!! Where were the rest of ye????????? The Blood transfusion board will be back in Feb and I hope we will be able to break our own record again.

I don't think I can thank enough all the people who made Greek week the success it was, but there is a few would deserve a special mention (if for nothing else but putting up with me for the week) Paul, Paddy, Eamonn, Stephen, Laura, Ann Marie, Dayvoh, Mick, Tom, PK, all the crew, class reps and clubs & socs. I also must mention the Arena, the Arts Office, Scholars Club, Stables Club, Dr Roger Downer, VHI, Dot Comedy etc etc (if I have left anyone out I apologise)

10k Student walk

Once again a big thank you to all would left the comforts of the couches in the scholars and came out for a stroll!!! It was

used to be positioned in UL. This process has been delayed due to the fact that planning permission had to be sought. This has now been attained and at the present moment a legal contract is being drawn up between WiredFM and Limerick Corporation. Meanwhile there has been no broadcasting from the Studio in UL this year as there have been a number of political problems regarding the representation from UL Campus. As a result no contribution has been paid from UL for the running costs of Wired FM. This is a problem that I will be doing a lot of work on over the coming two weeks and will have more to report on at the next class reps meeting.

Campaigns: The Voter Registration Campaign is nearing completion. The registration forms were posted out last week. The deadline is 25th of November for forms to be at the Co. Council. Following this I will be concentrating on the supplement register, the

short notice, it was after Greek week and ye did yourselves proud, even risking missing the first 10mins of the match!!! The Chernobyl fund is such a good cause and now we will be making a very generous contribution to the overall fund!!! Thanks again to all of ye who responded to the cause and braved the cold, there is still money coming in but hopefully we will have in around £2,000.

That's pretty much it guys for this week, just a reminder that if anything is bothering you or you need information on anything just call in. (I even have a nice new comfy couch!!!) Financial Aid enquires and repayments can all be done on Mondays from 11.00 - 1.00, so if you are broke, starting and on the verge of being evicted just give me a shout.

Nitelink - There are new later times for the nitelink, so please please DON'T WALK HOME ALONE. The bus is now leaving from the library from 11pm, 11.30pm, 12am, and 12.30am. There are timetables posted around the college and available in the Students Union. And please remember if something does happen, it is essential to report it, you can stop it happening to someone else. Feel free to call into me, campus security any of the counsellors, and it will be kept in complete confidentiality.

Ok, I'm done for now, I'll talk to you all soon

Tara

Email: tara.curley@ul.ie
Tel: 061 - 202519
Web: www.ulsu.ul.ie

deadline for submission to this is in January. - 10k Walk with Tara I organised posters and addresses to classes last week to get people to participate. We had had approx. 100 people taking part, which was more than last year.

Patrick

Email: patrick.kennedy@ul.ie
Tel: 061 - 202363
Web: www.ulsu.ul.ie



Tom O'Donovan ULSU Education Officer

The weirdest thing happened me the day after I submitted my last piece to An Focal. I had been trying to express to you in my own way, how I felt that if individuals took responsibility for trying to affect change that they could. I was saying in my article that we as students and ultimately as members of society should take responsibility for the world, and in the specific case last edition, the University around us. I didn't say it as eloquently as The Hurler Off the Ditch (also to be found on these pages) is able to express his thoughts and ideas or as concisely as the commentators in our national daily's may have, but I have always been known to be a bit long winded anyway.

One of the reasons for this problem in expression is that the concept is only something I personally am beginning to vocalise. I have pretty much believed it for a long time but more as an abstract idea rather than something concrete or practical. Running for this position in the Students' Union two years ago was probably one of the first visible or tangible expressions of trying to live that belief that I have ever experienced. But even then I couldn't have vocalised my rational for doing so as I wasn't consciously aware myself.

Don't get me wrong I'm not saying that this was the only factor involved in that decision or that I'm some altruistic fanatic and that everyone should be going around the place clapping me on the back telling me well done. In short I suppose you could call me a dreamer or an idealist. As such you tend to be a bit, 'pie in the sky', not completely grounded in reality and, in a very practical world, very much on the fringes. The big problem for dreamers is that we always seem to be on our own and that we can never get the practical people to listen to us.

Well folks that's all changing. That's the funny thing that I was talking about earlier. I got a call on Tuesday Week 7 asking me to try and arrange for a couple of students to represent the UL student body at a conference that was to take place from Wednesday night to Friday evening of that that week. The conference was on in Ennis and the topic was 'Is The Future My Responsibility?'. I wasn't really sure what to expect when I got there but basically the whole thing was about trying to affect change through taking responsibility. I was in dreamer heaven and there were over six hundred other dreamers from all walks of life there with me.

The event was the third annual Céifin conference. Céifin, a group I had never heard anything about before, is about examining the nature of Irish society. Looking at its values and beliefs. Céifin believes that money, although important, is not the main motivating factor driving Irish society. It believes that ultimately happiness and a sense of self worth are what people are seeking. People basically want to contribute to leave a mark so to speak and to make the world a better place. The example given was that contrary to the objective of a public limited company (plc) whose objective is to make money for its investors the people working in those plc's through their work want to make life better for everyone by producing something of benefit to other people, their customers.

They launched a new national institute called the 'International Institute For Value-Led Change on the Friday of the conference. This will be an academic research institute examining through empirical study the different aspects of society and then advising relevant agencies such as the Government as to the results of this research and suggesting possible changes in policy to come in line with the values of



society. The support is there the thinking is there and now the structures to really affect change are being brought on line. To those of you who thought you were alone in your dream state and who couldn't see any way of achieving anything the network is building. Have the faith to follow your dreams, to get involved and most importantly to take action. Dreamers arise our time is now!

Tom

Email: Tom.O'Donovan@ulsu.ie
Tel: 061 - 203491
Web: www.ulsu.u.ie

ULSU would like to point out that Week 13 will be after Xmas despite the fact that it was stated otherwise in the ULSU Academic Planner (oops!)

**Casablanca
Hair Studio**

Castletroy
(off Castletroy Roundabout)

061-339855

Prop. Ena McGrath



'Begin a new college year by having your hair problems cared for by our welcoming and talented staff, at a student discount. Students- always welcome at Casablanca Hair Studio!'

Science Fair 2001- A Great Success!

Heading into college on Sunday morning was a rather strange experience. Instead of being met with the exhausted faces of my fellow students, I was greeted with excited and enthusiastic ones, who were actually willing to learn....what a change! UL had metamorphosed from being a stressed student community to one of youth, life and energy! There were children everywhere, plus some very patient parents trying in vain to control them!

The science fair was definitely well advertised. Travelling up on the bus from my hometown of Tralee, I observed eye-catching signs detailing the event. I also heard adverts on my local radio station. The shuttle buses from Limerick city centre to the university were free for the day and this seemed to have the wanted effect. A large hot air balloon could be seen all over the city promoting the event. These initiatives seemed to have worked as I gazed at the masses that took advantage of this free day out.

It was certainly enticing. Music from the 2FM Roadcaster, jazz bands and drummers could be heard as I made the long trek down the avenue of UL. My first impression when I eventually reached the fair was the vibrant colour. From the rainbow colours of balloons to the brightly painted faces of some very happy children, our university was completely transformed into one of creativity and imagination.

But it wasn't just creativity that was being promoted here-it was science. I initially wandered around the marquee, which was the location for various stands conveying the different forms of science. The event catered for all- from an "Industrial Diamonds" stand displaying precious stones to the "New Vista Healthcare" team who displayed their natural health products.

However it was the interactive stands that won over the crowd. There was a constant group of children waiting

impatiently to try out the interactive computer games and take part in the different experiments going on throughout the day.

Some stands were not as attractive, and needed more colour and interaction. A lack of colour could not be said in relation to "The Bet" stand. This was by far the most colourful of all the stands, with bright attractive posters, music and videos.

The science fair emphasised particularly the university courses dealing with science. For equine to environmental, all science courses were included. The Physics Society seemed to play a major role in the science fair with two stands, one in the marquee and one in the Foundation Building. The marquee stand was very popular, going under the title of "Lightening and Levitation". When one of the exhibitors, Robert Lynch, discovered I was writing this review, he preceded to give me a personal demonstration on the contraptions on display (Ah, the perks of writing for An Focal!). This was a very popular stand with the public, probably due to the excellence of the exhibitors, who explained their displays well (I wasn't paid to say that, I swear!).

The Environment and its role in science was heavily promoted. There were many stands dealing with this issue-The Environmental Protection Agency had a stand in the Foundation Building, for example. Outside I discovered an eco-car, entirely battery-run, and a walk-in van demonstrating the history and importance of trees. These were both educational and informative and created an interest amongst the public.

Besides all the educational stuff, there was a wide choice of other impressive activities-bouncing castles, face painting, competitions and raffles to name but a few. A big attraction among the male population was an authentic

army truck, which was brought in especially for the day. Fathers gleefully took photos of their children sitting inside, and seemed to be enjoying it more than the children themselves!

The highlight of my day was "The Exploding Custard" exhibition. It took place in the Jean Monet, a location used to the bellowing of a lecturer by day and the acoustics of Mundy-types at night. The theatre was filled to capacity (another big change!), with many standing at the doors, intrigued just by the title of the exhibition. The lecturer in question, Dr. Ian Russell, entertained the crowd with his scientific experiments, and could be compared to a magician entertaining his audience. He asked them questions and allowed some to participate in his experiments, obviously delighting the children. They laughed at his jokes and were mesmerised when he worked his magic. There was a resounding applause when he ended his show of wonders and children left, tired after a long day but content at the same time.

Overall, the science fair was a great day out, but there were some complaints. Some people had difficulty finding the different events (hey, I'm here nine weeks and I STILL get lost!). One woman commented that more guides could have been employed. Others criticised the poor choice of food available in the afternoon- the restaurant in the Foundation Building had only junk food left.

Otherwise, it was a big success. It was suggested that numbers were down since the last fair, although I personally was surprised at the amount of families that took over UL. I brought my brother, Gavin, to the event. At twelve years old, he isn't easily pleased, but even he couldn't find fault with the day. Well done to all involved-it paid off. I'm already waiting for the next one in 2003!

-Edel Fitzgerald

CLUB AND SOCIETIES LOTTO

The numbers of the latest Clubs and Society Lotto # 3 (Tuesday 20th November) draw are 9, 19, and 23 there was no winner of the £600. The jackpot now stands at £800 this will be the last draw of this Semester. Please support your fellow students in their fundraising endeavours as .70p of each ticket sold goes towards off-setting the costs of running their activities with the remaining .30p accruing towards prize money and the printing of tickets. The next draw will take place Tuesday 4th December of Week 11 in the Scholars @ 7.30pm.

The following were match 2 winners of the latest draw and will receive £20 each next week.

Lotto Draw # 3 Jackpot £600 No Winner

1. **James Quilty**
Tkt. No. 2768
2. **Rita O' Connor**
Tkt. No. 2485
3. **Gerry Mc Ginty**
Tkt. No. 2484

The following winners are asked to come forward to collect their cheques. Cheques available from clubs and Societies office upstairs in the SU Centre first door on the right.

Lotto Draw # 1 Jackpot £200 No Winner

1. **Donncha Daly** £20
Tkt No. 2750
2. **Dave Neiland** £20
Tkt No. 1714
3. **John O' Neill** £20
Tkt No. 4428

Fancy £800 pounds for Christmas?

Clubs & Society Lotto £1 per ticket

Tickets available from all participating Clubs and Societies

The 'Real Republican Party'

Those of you who tuned in to the Late Late Show Friday last, would have seen two of Ireland most outspoken politicians, Ruiri Quinn, leader of the Labour Party and Gerry Adams, president of Sinn Fein take part in a live one-to-one debate on National television. A rare occurrence in Irish politics today, but an event that showed the strong beliefs and convictions that each person holds. The point that puzzled me was that each man professed to be Socialist and Republican! But they're not the only people who call themselves socialists or republicans; I've heard many a Fianna Fail TD or leader at that matter, profess to be a Republican. To understand the nonsense that this makes of the terms socialist and republican, one has to realise where these terms came from and what they stand for. Both 'ism's' would you believe are not alien to this island and date further back in our political history than Nationalism or Blueshirtism. The modern idea of Republicanism dates back the 18th that followed the writings of Rousseau and Thomas Paine's 'Rights of Man', which in turn inspired the French Revolution and the Victory of French Republic. Theobald Wolfe Tone, founder of Irish republicanism, described Paine's book as the Koran of Belfast. He later went on organise the United Ireland Rising inspired by the events of 1789 in an attempt to unite Ireland 'Catholic, Protestant and Dissenter' under the Republican ideals of 'Liberty, Equality and Fraternity', an ideal which Adams, Quinn and Ahern claim today! Socialism, which many Irish falsely akin to Communism is quite distinctly Irish or Gaelic. Early Celtic society was based on solidarity and community. The works of little known Cork man William Thompson lead James Connolly

describe him as 'the first socialist, a forerunner to Marx'. Believe it or not Thompson formed one of worlds first co-operative communes in West cork in 1833, while the great land agitator Michael Davitt was one of the forerunners of radical socialism in Ireland. Two founders of the Irish Labour Party are the most synonymous figures of Irish Socialism, Jim Larkin, Union Leader and James Connolly, Trade Unionist and Irish Revolutionary. The four principles on which Socialism is based are Freedom, Equality, Community and Democracy. Just over fifty years ago we declared this country a Republic. From understanding the terms above Republicanism in this country is more synonymous with rhetoric than reality. The fact is that Sinn Fein may profess to be republican socialist and Fianna Fail republican, but neither are! Provisional Sinn Fein have supported a violent armed struggle which has killed 100's of innocent people and has divided the working class population of the North, a struggle based on the Nationalism and Sectarianism, not on Community and Solidarity doctrines of any Socialist or Republican. Remember Nationalism is a destructive force, one form Fascism; one only has to look at extremes forms in Nazi Germany and Milosevic's Yugoslavia to see it's real meaning! Secularism is one important ideals of Republicanism, but both Fianna Fail and Sinn Fein have and continue to be puppets for the Catholic Hierarchy, only through the modern secular approaches of the Labour Party have we the gained the rights to access contraception and divorce in Ireland.

"Republican Party" I say What kind of Republic is it that says to its people, as Noel Dempsey did recently, that you have to earn over twice the average industrial wage to be qualify for the mortgage required to buy a house. What kind of Republic is it that hasn't been willing to use its newfound wealth to make life easier for people with disabilities and their families? But what kind of Republic is it that can tolerate and promote a health system based on inequality of access, where treatment has primarily allocated on the basis of ability to pay not the need for care? But what kind of republic is it that provides little or no care to the dependent elderly in our society even though we know their numbers will grow hugely over the coming years? What kind of republic is it that revels in debates about the marginal taxation rates of households earning £100,000 a year, while pensioners and minimum wage earners remain paying tax. What kind of Republic is it when there are over 125,000 people are on a housing list, with over 1,000 children homeless on the streets of our cities? What kind of Republic advocates spending millions on an Elitist sports stadium when most schools and communities barely have a grass pitch or changing rooms? What kind of Republican Party would allow the gap between the rich and the poor increase, and maintain one of the highest levels of relative poverty in Western Europe? The truth is that too often this Republic has been merely a Republic in name only. It is time to make real the aspirations that led to the foundation of this state and to vindicate those like James Connolly who gave their lives for it.

To our current government lead by the so-called

Political parties on Campus

by Judy Roche

I have always believed that political oblivion was bliss. Who wants to be subjected to monotonous tribunal reports every other day? I for one have been quite happy sitting on the fence as it were, until I was given the initially rather dubious task of reporting on politics in UL, and the political parties in our midst. I knew little or nothing about these parties – until I contacted the prime movers behind them that is, and found that I was to be pleasantly surprised.

At present, there are four major political parties aactive on campus; Ogra (Young Fianna Fail), Young Fine Gael, the Labour Party and Sinn Fein. In recent years the PD's have disappeared off the face of the UL campus it seems, with the disbandment of the Socialists last year under curious circumstances.

Hypothetically speaking, asking the general student population what the political form of the word 'Labour' brings to mind, you'd probably hear the names Larkin, Connolly, and possibly a rather warped version of the 1913 Lockout. However it seems that this word in ULpolitics, reaches far beyond it's sisterhood with trade unions and the like. The Labour Party have been impressively active this semester with Michael T. Higgins launching their branch in anticipation of the October campaign "Justice Not War". This appeared to have generated significant student interest with proof lying in the 400 plus signatories attained in response to the war on Afghanistan, and the use of Irish airports by U.S. planes. The second of their campaigns concentrated on Labour policy regarding rented accommodation and student's accommodation rights.

Rather interestingly, was the presence of members at the first peace vigil organised by the Peace and Neutrality Alliance at Shannon Airport. Two members also attended the environmental group 'Gluaiseacht's' anti-nuclear protest in Scotland, rendezvousing with the British Labour

Party in their travels. Following this was their participation in the annual blockade of Nuclear Trident Submarine Base. The blockade yielded a massive turnout of approximately 1,500, including Cian O'Callaghan, recent Vice President of USI. Last weekend a three-person delegation attended Labour Youth's national conference in Galway, with one delegate succeeding in being nominated to General Council, and also to position of National Vice-Chairperson. Future proposals include the launch of a campaign on Union Membership, and the introduction of a speaker on Labour Party Policy. It seems the Labour Party are to make a drive towards recruitment, making their general policies available and accessible in the coming weeks. This could be an ideal opportunity for those political ignoramuses (e.g. me) who wish to become more aware of/involved in worthwhile projects such as those above.

Sinn Fein seemed to have launched a fresh face this year, with old faces being replaced by emerging enthusiasts. So far the cumann has emphasised relations with the wider organization and neighbouring cumainn. Subsequently, this cumainn is meeting that of Limerick city, and has participated in many Republican events on both local and national scales. A result of the regular meetings held, UL Sinn Fein organised a commemoration of the 1981 hunger strike, with guest speaker former POW Eoin McCormack, who spoke on the harsh realities faced by those who fought and died for their right to political status. Tony Loughran of UL Sinn Fein has noted the enthusiasm with which this political party antic-

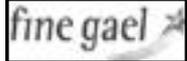
ipates the next semester, and hopes it brings similar successes.

Young Fine Gael's weekly meetings stress the importance of both the presence of the member and non-member, but also the political and non-political. With actual membership exceeding 140, this publicity formula is one that works. This party was to receive substantial recognition from the UL student body with the presence of guest speaker Michael Noonan, and an attendance rating of approximately 200. Almost immediately, this success was pursued by the popular 'Globalisation' debate. This time the guest speaker was Dep. Alan Dukes, who also received considerable support. Many UL

students noted the extensive advertising campaigns adopted by Young Fine Gael this semester, and paid particular attention to e-mails informing them about the suicide seminar. Last weekend saw the attendance of 54 members at the Y.F.G. national conference in Nenagh. This conference saw the successful election of David Garraghy to the National Executive. The party has also lengthened its arm dipping into the Mary Immaculate College electorate, with this branch officially launched on the 20th November. The next notable event of the Y.F.G. calendar is the 'Get registered to vote day'. It is hoped that this will promote much student interest, with last years tally resting at approximately 300. Future plans also include trips to Poland and Austria, with participation in various European activities.

So it seems that UL political parties are as proactive as ever. I cannot now claim political ignorance and sit on the (de)fence of political oblivion any longer! It seems it is to be as rewarding as ever to become politically involved on campus, with every sort and type of ignoramus catered for!

What do they do?



The People of UL

Throughout the year An Focal will be bringing you interviews with the people who live and work in the Univeristy Environment, giving everyone a bigger picture of what being around UL actually involves.

"Meeting people is easy", according to Thom Yorke (of Radiohead fame), and my first interviewee certainly put me at ease. As this was my first proper interview, I was obviously slightly apprehensive, but I felt instantly relaxed when I walked into her office. Kate Donnelly (of LRA fame) greeted me with a warm and friendly smile, even though I was late (as usual). Those language students who actually follow their lecturers' advice know her well - she's that pretty, smiley woman in the office who is permanently cheerful! She's the kind of person that makes you think you're a genius even though you've watched one French film in the entire year! Yeah me!

So here's a little background info. She was a former Euro Stud in UL, then went on to do a postgrad in Computer and Software Programming. Now she's working full-time in the Language Resource Area and is in charge of the Call Lab. Basically, she's gone far in her six years at UL.

Answering my first question comes immediately, without any hesitation. "I love it!", she replies in relation to her job. She has no complaints about STILL being in UL, and she's delighted she lasted this long! She doesn't have any ambition to do anything else, except she'd like to someday do

something worthwhile with her knowledge of computers.

She also finds the next question pretty easy. "If you were running UL, what would you change and why?", I enquire. After a quick ponder, she decides that more car parking for students would be her first priority. She has an obvious second - to construct another building dedicated solely to languages. Being fluent in French and Spanish, her passion for languages is clear.

Kate admits that she didn't utilise the LRA facilities "except around exam time". Taking into account her achievements, she makes all us language dudes and dudettes feel ok - there's hope for us all!

To her male admirers (and I heard there are a few), you'll find her in the Plaza at lunchtime and soaking up the Stables atmosphere in the evening. However, the bad news is she's got a boyfriend - sorry lads!

Throughout the interview she giggled constantly and she's got a wicked sense of humour. Kate was unbelievably busy though - she had to leave me constantly to do some handy DIY, fixing TVs or

videos - rather her than me!

Her answer to my final question sums her up. On being asked what she feels she's contributed to campus life she replied "I want people to feel at ease and let people know that they can always come to me". Since she's probably one of the most approachable people I've ever met, she has certainly achieved this!



The Human Spirit (and the search for Sugar Cane)

It happens, even in a country as beautiful as Ireland, even during Greek Week, where the festivities roll back to back and smiling, laughing students recklessly miss their lectures and labs to partake in the events. Even as I live the life of a jet-set Erasmus student, where my sole responsibility of the week is to find somewhere new and exciting to spend the weekend. And yes, even with the Scholars and the Stables to sustain and entertain me, I can get depressed.

The monotony of the joie de vie has caught up with me, and there it is, right before me, a sullen mood about to set in, clouding my view like the rain setting in on a Tuesday afternoon. And nothing, because I'm stubborn with my moods and demand to live out this gloominess, can evacuate me from this state of mind. Everyone is horrible, everything is awful, the food tastes weird and this classroom has a funky odour (as I look accusingly over to the boy sitting on my right in the computer lab).

It happens to the best of us, and when it does we have two options: we can either say 'Damn it, this is my life and I don't want to be horrible!', grab hold of your best friends and head on down to the pub, forcing yourself to cheer and laugh and live life to the power of Guinness.

Or sulk. Hide in the corners of the library, rapidly shift between your classes, avoiding conversation at all cost and go home to stare aimlessly into the television set (whether it is on or not is irrelevant). And sigh. Loudly, so that your flatmates know something's wrong, but act that everything is wonderful.



Brilliant. Lovely.

It's not the best way to spend my days, but on that cold day in November, the forces of nature knew that I was something to be reckoned with. Chocolate wasn't going to lift my mood, my friends and the Guinness weren't doing the trick and even the prospects of visiting the new SuperQuinn that opened up just down the street didn't lift my spirits. I was slowly falling into something maniacal, and it was going to take something phenomenal, something omniscient to help me see the light again.

What I hadn't anticipated on was that these so-called omnipresent beings, these forces of nature, were more than ready to call in the big guns, reel in every last fish, and pull another one from out of their sleeve. And what they had in store for me would be waiting by my front door when I came home that afternoon.

A package, larger than a breadbox... yea, a pretty big package it was, heavy, too. After a long day of shifting tables and chairs for the Green Fair, something special in the mail was a big surprise, especially since it was the first package I received since I've been in Ireland. I brought it down to the kitchen, noticing that it wasn't from someone back home. Rather, from Harrods, the big store in London, England. Uncertain at first, I opened up the package and my first thought was confirmed.

Sugar cane.

Now the significance of sugar cane may ride over your heads. My 'purpose', while in Europe, was to find sugar cane, something to keep myself entertained while roaming the streets of Dublin, Belfast and Kerry. Until you've actually looked for sugar cane, you wouldn't understand how difficult it is to acquire, or could ever imagine the more random streets and places that you'll venture down in search for it.

My search for sugar cane had actually led me to London, where I spent a good part of the day falling farther away from the streets designated for tourists. I was, for all purposes, mingling with the locals. The story really ends in Harrods, in the produce section, talking with one of the men who worked there. I told him how I was on this search for sugar cane, and while they had none in stock, he told me that they could get some the next day. I was very impressed and generally satisfied, because I knew then it was possible to find sugar

cane.

And knowing is half the battle.

While it was enough for me to know that it could be found, the man asked me for my address, saying that he would personally send me the sugar cane,

'A present from me to you,' he explained as I wrote my address down. I thought it was a nice offer, wrote down my address, not thinking much of the possibility of receiving any sugar cane in the mail. Yet a week later, I was standing in my kitchen, with sugar cane in my hand, and no note, no bill suggesting that this had been an economic transaction of some sort. Just the understanding that there was a person out there who understood what it meant to be in search for something, and to understand perhaps even the joy that could come from finding it.

This is where any doubts about the goodness in people, the innate love that individuals have for one another, transcends borders and reason. Even in those moments when you think you have to question the human spirit, something like this happens and you're left completely baffled. What kind a person sends another person, complete strangers by definition, across borders something as random as sugar cane?

A good person.

And now I have my sugar cane, and life is, once again, very sweet indeed.

Hi.

This is Jacqueline Drouin, the girl who was sent sugar cane. I just wanted to say thank you and apologise for not writing back sooner. This story perhaps can explain to you how important or significant the whole 'sugar cane' experience has been for me.

In case you were wondering, the boy that I travelled with has gone home, and I am left in Ireland to study for the next two months. My time in Europe has been fantastic, filled with lots of good memories and people. This story is one that I will continue to tell people (because it's just the best!).

If there's anything that I could ever do for you, please let me know.

From Jacqueline Drouin

Or better known as jacky star by all my friends

CAMPUS NEWS

Possessed kitchen appliance murders ULStudent*

The infamous legend of the "Possessed Food Processor of Elm Park" came to a sudden and disgusting end over the weekend. Jeremiah O'Toole, 20, of 5876 Elm Park, ascended to minor illustriousness after "An Focal" jumped at the chance to report on the interesting and highly remarkable story.

The food processor, which is rumoured to have been possessed by the spirit of Jim Morrison, brutally assaulted Mr. O'Toole while sleeping. Peculiar exclamations of "I want you, I NEED you, la,la,la,laah!" were described by witnesses returning home from The Hurlers.

Molly Hick, 21, a neighbour and dear friend of Mr. O'Toole, commented today, "It was uafásach, just uafásach. I mean, for crying out loud, the food processor's been grand up 'til now-fairly sound most of the time, unless it's got a hangover or something. I can't understand why it would just lash out at Jeremiah like that!"

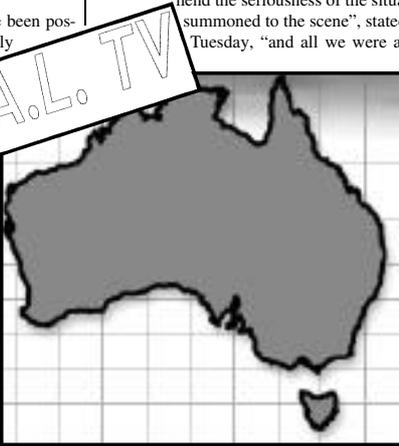
Substantial evidence is starting to materialize that appears to indicate that Mr. O'Toole was engaging in an illicit affair with his cappuccino/espresso maker, which was rumoured to be possessed by the spirit of Tommy Cooper.

The "Possessed Food Processor of Elm Park" story is one that has seized the interest of the world's media. Last week a television crew from the Norwegian rendering of wide-spread show "Strange But True" were recording a four-part nail-biter- they have resolved to abandon the story before airing as it was decided to be in "bad taste".

Australian television company V.A.L. are rumoured to be producing a "for one night only" "When Food Processors

Go Bad" exclusive to be broadcasted nationwide. A representative for the channel said "Dude, doncha just love it when a craazy story like this pops up?! There's nothing I dig more than a story about a guy violated by a blameless possessed inert appliance. Cowabunga man, it's maaad!"

The gashes to Mr. O'Toole's face and body were so brutal that the coroner that arrived on the scene did not comprehend the seriousness of the situation. "We were summoned to the scene", stated the coroner on Tuesday, "and all we were able to see were



pieces of flaky stuff everywhere-I mean I said to my bud Mick, it looks like someone's been eating a meat pie in here, didn't I eh?" to which Mick replied:

"Yeah, ya did"

The coroner recorded a verdict of death by mis-

adventure.

ULstudent and e-mail virus cause shenanigans.*

Frederick Mc Gillicuddy, a third year ULstudent is critically ill in Limerick Regional Hospital, after contracting a deadly e-mail virus from the Aran Islands. It is considered that he contracted the "Contract_Me virus" file, when he believed it seemed like a bafflingly thrilling file from a random stranger. "I so thought that I'd made a new friend,

who was sending me, I dunno, one of those cool questionnaires that everybody loves being sent to their college e-mail". Doctors are stunned at his symptoms, but are uncertain whether Frederick's lack of caution is as a consequence of the illness, or if he was this dense beforehand.

Before Frederick was captured and quarantined, he was witnessed approaching all the houses in Kilmurry Village, and trying to "spam" himself. The sight of a grown 21-year-old Aeronautical Systems student attempting to enter a house through a letterbox is common in certain areas but up until now was only a sight after "The Lodge" in most ULstudent accommodation.

Fellow students were traumatized and many went as far as to laugh at him. "He had grass stains on his trousers", guffawed one student harshly. The thoughtless ignorance of the fellow student is almost admirable, but little did the student know that Frederick was preparing to rob him and transform him into a pornography website.

Frederick was eventually captured when he was discovered scanning his cat for a website devoted to cat scans.

Scientists, philosophers and doctors are in agreement regarding the significance of this instance of e-mail virus. Albert Gitt, all-round expert, states seriously on the subject, "The world has entered a new age, where the e-mail virus rules. It's a contemporary type of danger that preceding generations have not had to worry their pretty little heads about."

However, the e-mail virus contains the power to brainwash you into spamming your own grandmothers for easy hits. Beware!

*Not necessarily true

VALERIE GUNNING

Diary of a First Year

I'm a good girl. Frankly...I've always been a good girl. My friends' mummies LOVE me!! But even good girls enjoy college. I'm one. I should know.

I'm a bit of a Little Red Riding Hood (to be totally honest) except my hood is Nope and I wear it with baggy jeans. My basket is a backpack, still full of food...not for Granny, for me ... and mammy didn't make it, the NICE people in Superquinn did! I'm also yet to meet the wolf, although some would argue the contrary!!

And so, like my kindred spirit Little Red Riding Hood, I set

'like my kindred spirit Little Red Riding Hood, I set out on my journey this semester and by now I'm well into the woods'

out on my journey this semester and by now I'm well into the woods. I've made many companions among my little animal friends, 7 in particular whom I happened upon in a particular lair in Milford Grange. It's a lovely location for animal/student (whichever) habitation and I remember well the first day that I descended into it. I recall what the sink used to look like when it was empty and before the moss took root! Ah me!! And I remember what the bin looked like before some gurrer of the hunter species swooped on it... presumably for trolley-racing on the Dublin Rd. Or perhaps it's being used for collecting nuts, berries, and roots etc. Goodfella's pizzas, in time for winter hibernation which incidentally is...exam time is around the corner...time to hit the burrows lads!!

But no really, I'm actually fascinated by the animals with which I am co-habiting. One of them (let's call him Michelle), I believe, should have a section of the science

faculty dedicated to him, under the title "Michelle Studies"! A bit of Biology, a bit of etiquette and a few homely girls thrown in for good measure... to mother the poor pet.

"SWEET", as he so eloquently puts it himself! Now, I won't start on the other lads. I'd probably be able to manage Michelle myself with a little help from Claire, but if Brad, Chad, Bo-Duke, Brett and Jake were to join in the punch-up, we'd just have to call in Edel (our friendly neighbour) and we

don't want to have to do that now do we? She's a Kerry woman, God bless her tartan cap!

But I'm gabbling again...so back to my journey in the woods. The real 1st year experience. I was told to join the Socs, did that. I was told to join the clubs, did that. Told by persons (who will remain anonymous) to go out, doing that!! Told by Michelle to "go bake a cake", did NOT do that, poured cold tea on his pizza instead. (One up for the girls)!! Go on Claire! Nearly had to call on Father the Woodcutter to axe him after that one.

College IS great though, if a tad daunting at first. I suppose it felt a bit like how Little Red Riding Hood must have felt when she was confronted by the wolf in Granny's bonnet.

"What a lot of lecturers you've got!"
"All the better to torture you with!!!"
"And what big buildings you've got!"
"All the more for you to get lost in!!"



But as I've said... I'm a good girl and I do appreciate this ULcampus and surrounding facilities...honestly I do. But it has to be said, I'd appreciate it an awful lot more if the furry animals' friends I live with would pitch in with the washing-up once in a while...except Claire of course, she's great! Then like Little Red Riding Hood, we could all live happily ever after!!

-Marianne Blackwell

The Lodge re-opens for one-off occasion

Friday 16th November saw the temporary return of the UL institution that is The Kilmurry Lodge. The grand come back took place amid countless rumours throughout the week that "it's not the full Lodge, it's only the function room upstairs" however those that ventured there on Friday and Saturday found out that it was indeed "the Full Lodge". Indeed those that went found that although the Lodge had been "away" for a while it hadn't changed very much, in fact it was exactly the same. Same staff, same smell, same music (DJ Derek came out of retirement for the occasion) by all accounts, it was even the same faces lurking in all the same dark corners.

The Lodge has been sorely missed by UL students during this semester and news of the albeit short-lived reopening spread like wild fire throughout the campus. The tickets had been available from members of the Equestrian Club all week and most people had their early to avoid the rush. Despite the withdrawal symptoms that most of the college had been experiencing (shaking, nausea, boredom, having to go home at closing time, having to go to the Globe etc.), the Lodge was not its usual packed to the door and f**c the consequences if there's a fire. However there was "a good crowd there" and one Lodge fan that had turned up for the big comeback on the night said "it was excellent, I can't

wait till it opens again for good". The new rumour that has begun is that the Lodge is reopening on a permanent basis in January, watch this space for more information.

The reason for this ostentatious event was the annual intervarsity Tetrathlon championships sponsored by Coca Cola, which was hosted this year by the ULEquestrian Club, this is the second time in the past four years that UL has hosted this event. The Tetrathlon was held here in 1998 also, the UL team won the competition that year, but this was only the start of their winning streak as they went on to win it in 1999 in Cork and also last year in Tralee.

It is a tough competition that requires the competitors to swim, run, shoot and complete a round of show jumping. All the competitions were held on campus bar the show jumping, which was hosted by Clare Equestrian Centre. The good news for the Equestrian club is that UL continued their good form by winning the competition again. The winning Team were Rob Downes, Paul Downes, Keira Eva Mooney and Siobhan Quain. For more information on the Tetrathlon see the Equestrian Club Article on the Clubs and Societies page.



Kilmurry Lodge- scene of many a students 'other' education re-opened for a brief period recently

Think you've got it bad- you could be living here!

Two things prompted me to write this article. The first was an article I read in An Focal about the quality of student housing with particular reference to the joys of living in Elm Park (admittedly, a joy I haven't experienced). And while student housing can be notoriously bad, Co-op housing is worse. Perhaps a lot of readers won't have been on co-op yet, but chances are your standard of housing will decrease. Say what you like about Castletroy, but it does have a large amount of housing close to the college, that is in pretty decent condition. You won't be as lucky on Co-op.

The second thing that prompted me to write this article is having watched the Paul Newman film "Fort Apache, The Bronx". Great scenery in this film, which reminded all the guys in my house of where we were living on Co-op. I spent my co-op in New York City. Three innocent Irish guys spent last January searching frantically around New York looking for accommodation. Now for anyone who knows New York, yes we did try Woodlawn, and I am glad to say we didn't have any luck. We found out later that Woodlawn is situated in a twilight zone where nothing non-irish can survive. A little village, just outside New York city, yet totally untouched by multi-culturalism, or indeed any culture other than muck-savagery. It is to quote a fellow cynic "The Village of the Damned".

Anyway our search continued and lead us to Ramon, a mexican estate agent/fixer. Ramon, garbled something in Spanish/english after hearing that we were from Ireland which included the year 1916. We laughed along until we eventually realised he was talking about our new address - 1916 Grand Concourse. Our new home was a two bedroom apartment on the fifth floor (no lift) with absolutely no furniture.

We got our couches and chairs off the street for the small

price of having to lug them up five flights of stairs. Everything we bought was from the local 99c store - even the shower curtain. Eventually the apartment started to look somewhat fit for human habitation. The area in which the apartment was situated was a little different from Castletroy. Tremont in the South Bronx is, what the PC amongst us would term, disadvantaged. It is no exaggeration to say were the only white guys in the area. The area was predominantly Hispanic. Puerto Rican and Dominican flags hung from all the apartment blocks. Our Super/Landlord hardly spoke a word of English, and shared his christian name with our next-door neighbour - Jesus. We were also introduced to real latino music - not that Ricky Martin shite - this is the

real hardcore stuff, and has to be played at deafening volume. Now don't get me wrong - I'm not a student complaining about how loud my neighbours play their music, it's just that it's absolutely crap music. The only thing that broke through the crap music was the car alarms. Also our whiteness kind of made us stand out. Whilst running across a

street, an irate motorist mistook me for a "punk-ass-white-muthafukha". A straight-forward "whitey" was also acceptable.

The real fun started when four Jlers arrived to live with us. Seven lads in a two bed apartment does not lend itself to hygienic conditions. The toilet decided to block itself and we had to evacuate to the roof for an afternoon because of the smell, before one of us heroically unblocked it. We also had to endure two weeks without a front door when it somehow got stuck on locked and would not open. Entry and exit to the apartment was through the fire escape - not very safe when you are pissed drunk and

climbing down the fire escape on the fifth floor. (Also my bed was the doormat).

Added to all this was the fact that we didn't have air conditioning and our growing mouse problem. The mouse problem was partly our fault as the huge amounts of leftover takeaways gave them an incentive to move in. The mice grew so familiar with the place that towards the end they stopped running when they saw us and Fred (we named one) was becoming obese. I don't think the pictures with this article will convey how filthy the apartment was as these photos were taken after one of the very rare clean-ups. Just to remind us that we were in the South Bronx, one of the locals went and got himself shot dead outside the front door - don't think it made the news though.

So maybe you are thinking that we hated the place - but I think from talking to all the people who lived there and those who only managed a few nights there - everyone loved it. It was close to the subway, dirt cheap and above all we got to see a different side of America. So if you are going off on Co-op and especially anyone lucky enough to be going to New York - expect terrible accommodation, but that's definitely no obstacle to having a great time.



I want to start.....a Society!

THE SOCIETIES THAT ARE NOT IN UL

Is the reason you are not a member of a society that there isn't one there that caters for your interest then have a look at the list below. If you want help in setting up any of these societies contact Eoin Ó Broin – Societies Officer and Paul Lee Clubs & Societies Development Officer. We have a wealth of experience with this kind of thing so can give you all the guidance you need. So take the plunge, take back your life – rekindle the interest of your youth, get out of the pub and get active in a society!

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

At the UCD rag week every year the Ag. Soc bring a ram and 3 sheep into the college. They tie up the ram and place the sheep in 3 different open pens. Then they take bets on which of the sheep the ram is going to "lie down with" once he is released. Have you an interest in returning to the land one day maybe after you've made that million. Are you interested in discussing the issues of the CAP, BSE, FMD, with others. Macra na Feirme the Irish young farmers association tried to set up in the college a few years ago to no avail.



ANARCHIST SOCIETY

Anarchism is a political theory, which aims to create anarchy, "the absence of a master, of a sovereign." In other words, anarchism is a political theory, which aims to create a society within which individuals freely co-operate together as equals. As such anarchism opposes all forms of hierarchical control - be that control by the state or capitalist - as harmful to the individual and their individuality as well as unnecessary. Anarchist societies seek to promote their ideas to others by promoting non-hierarchical methods of organising.

<http://www.anarchistfaq.org>

AMNESTY

Amnesty highlights human rights issues. They are best known for their work on prisoner's rights including calling for the abolition of the death penalty. They also highlight human rights records in different countries throughout the world such as Turkey and Burma while also highlighting the real victims of the arms and weapons of mass destruction that are developed and manufactured in rich Northern Countries and sold to poor "Southern" countries.

<http://www.amnesty.ie>

ARCHAEOLOGICAL

Knossos, Newgrange, The Lodge, Glendalough, The Céide Fields. These are some of the sites archaeological interest groups visit with their hammers and metal detectors. The practical side of history. The hands on experience of looking at the past.

<http://www.serve.com/archaeology/>



ASTRONOMY AND SPACE

Such a society could organise trips to see shooting stars, comets, the giant telescope in Birr, Co. Offaly, the hubble telescope in California while organising talks in the college.

<http://www.astronomy.com>



CARDS AND BRIDGE

45, 25, Dawn or its country equivalent Whist – is this the sport of OAP's or could interested people get together to play. Eventually run bridge classes for UL students?

<http://www.bridgeworld.com/>

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE SOCIETY

The society for Environmental Science students that are not allowed to join the Environmental Society.

ENGINEERING

The society for those who want to put their Engineering skills to practical use.

FORMULA 1/ RALLY RACING SOCIETY

Organise trips to Brands Hatch, Mondello, work on old cars!!!

FREE LEGAL ADVICE CENTRE

Use your legal skills to help those in need of it!

JAZZ

Add another dimension to UL's range of music!



JUGGLING

This society just has to start in UL. 3 balls, 3 clubs, 4 balls, 4 clubs, fire ticks, Diabolo's, fire chains, breathing fire whatever. Such craic!



KARTING

A mini version of a formula 1 society.

MATHS

Discuss Fermat's last theorem, the life of Galois and enter the maths olympics.

MEDITATION

Discover inner peace. Unclog your chakras! Learn to sit in the full lotus position – if you're male don't expect this to happen in a hurry!

MUSLIM STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Other MSA around the country campaign on such issues as the sanctions against IRAQ.

ONE WORLD

If there was a One World society in UL (there is in UCC, UCG, DCU, Trinity) issues such as "Ban Nestlé", Fair-trade & human right would be tackled by them.

POLITICS

Organise debates between the political parties. How often does this happen as it is?

PSYCHOLOGICAL

Debate the writings of Carl Jung and Irish writers such as Dr. Tony Humphries.

SOCIALIST PARTY

The main "left-wing" party in Ireland today who promote Trotsky's theories.

STUDENTS AGAINST RACISM

Promote multi culturalism, rub out racist graffiti, help "Doras Luimn" in promoting integration of the recent immigrants to Limerick.

THEOLOGICAL

Interpret the bible or organise talks from famous theologians on contemporary issues.

ARTS SOCIETY

Make puppets, kites, and other such make and do.

COMEDY SOCIETY

Write a UL comic or promote student comedians.

FOOD NOT BOMBS SOC

Collect food that is out of date but that nothing is wrong with it from Supermarkets and Shops around Limerick and organise free food corners with soup etc. for the homeless and anyone that wants.

STUDENTS FOR CHOICE

Campaign for a Woman's right to be in charge of her own body.

STUDENTS FOR LIFE

Campaign for the protection of the unborn.

TRADITIONAL MUSIC

Organise sessions on campus for undergrads. There are plenty of musicians around.



SIMON COMMUNITY

Help the homeless in Limerick City. Understand what leads people to homelessness. There are more of them than you think.

Eoin O'Broin
Societies Officer

Album Review

**“Today’s just like yesterday,
Tomorrow’s just more
of the same”**

– The Halogens, Element, 2001

The Halogens hail from Burlington, Vermont but have since relocated to Boston, Massachusetts. The four-piece began writing and rehearsing in the summer of 1998 and Element is their second album. Their website (www.thehalogens.com) describes their music as “craft guitar-pop with a strong European element” and that they are “playing rock music without dumbing down to mindless aggression.” Apparently this album is quite a change from their album *Gin And Nothing* which was released in late December 1999. It gained particular critical praise for the songs themselves. This followed their 1998 recording of the EP *This Is A Demo*, which gained regular radio play at the time with the “single” *More To You*.

The band comprises of Jason Dunn (lead singer), James Cadwell (drummer), Matt King (bassist) and Taylor Barefoot (guitarist). All members have been involved with other groups before joining the Halogens. The band say that Element is a “massive change from the earlier recordings.

So what’s the album like? Well, I had the pleasure of getting a bit more time with the album than is the norm. So I’ve spent the past ten days or so dwelling and contemplating the tracks. Were they any good? Hell yeah! The ten-track album, recorded at Vermont, provides some amount of entertainment, but was relaxing at the same time. Their sound is very much that of some British indie/rock bands – Charlatans, Bluetones, Supergrass, as well as slight hints of Stone Roses and Travis, They also seem to have been influ-

enced by their own breed too – Loudmouth has a very distinctive Green Day sound.

The opening track *Liberties* sets the scene for the album – the boys are calling on you to open and free your mind, prepare your ears for the array of music to follow. The lyrics seem almost triumphant in tone – “Set my demons free, let the consequences ride, let ‘em ride, let ‘em ride....” The next track is the first of many love-themed songs. “*Ship In A Bottle*” is a love song of gratitude, with such lyrics as “And for a while, we had it all for a while, ‘til we drank it all away.” So *Long Sucker* portrays the struggle and torment of break-up. All that’s left are broken dreams – “constant fight to design the better comeback line”, and she couldn’t care less – “she’s got better things to do”!

Mo Rocca is one of the weaker tracks on the album – it’s as if the words here are unimportant and that the sound of vocals and guitars take over. The *Way We Are* is about the struggle of the relationship – he is aware that there’s no hope, that he can’t give what’s wanted – “We’ve gone from happiness in simple things to way we are.” This song is written in two parts. Part one seems more fragile, sweet and sensitive than the second, where heavy guitars and drums dominate. Perhaps this is meant to signify the state of the relationship? “There’s nothing left for you but anger and fear, Two things I’d never use to try to keep you here.”

Loudmouth tells us to “never bottle up what means the most inside” – strong and powerful stuff! “I can’t hold it back my loudmouth, it’s all over town.” Jason’s voice here seems extremely macho and powerful – “My words will beat you down, kick you around, and I love the sound of my loudmouth.” Next comes a change in the tone with *Inevitable*. The cheeriness and sweetness of the soft vocals seem as if we are powerless to control what’s going to hap-

pen – but at the same time it’s predictable! *Lifeboats* seems to be about getting priorities straight and letting the hostility go – “for the sake of saving time I’ll just let it go” – because after all – “There’s just three days left ‘til the lifeboats are leaving, And just two shots left in the bottle we share, And just one more hole ‘til the ship starts a sinking.” It’s almost as if he couldn’t be bothered with it anymore. The melodies and vocals are heart rendering.

The lyrics to *Plinko* are unbelievably fast – the words run into each other, and are even printed without punctuation or spaces on the album sleeve – “It’s alright! m-indefensible! can’t defend myself.....” It’s as if the words are used to build a shield, but against what?! The final track is aptly titled *The Goodbye Waltz* and sounds unbelievably like the Bluetones. By the end of the fifty odd minutes of the *Halogens*, I get the impression that Jason Dunn has been messed around by his fair share of girls! “You can’t hurt me now, I let nobody in.” He hasn’t recovered either – “I never woke up from the dream we were living.” He’s proclaiming a grand farewell that touches the heart. As with the opening track there is a sense of triumph with the recurring vocals at the end.

I listened to the album for something like ten days – the only time it was taken out of the cd player was to blare *Aim* or the *Orb* when I was pissed off! I wanna keep it – can I?!! The powerful and intense writing and performance make for an overall effective collection of striking songs. It passes the test with an excellent 8/10.

by Mairead Moriarty



Christmas Daze



Wednesday Week 11

The Lollygaggers

5 Big studs in Santa Suits



Thursday Week 11

Escapade

Lim ericks finest playing seasonal favourites

**Roast Turkey+Ham, Potato and Croquette, Cranberry Sauce, Brussels Sprouts with mixed veg, Mashed potato, Mince Pie w/ Custard sauce, Glass of Egg Knog
= £4.95**

Open all Day

**£3 entry fee (free pint included) after 3pm
£2 Charity contribution taken from anyone in before 3
in exchange for a free pint -All proceeds to Meningitis**

One grand prize each day for the best dressed Santa or Mrs. Claus

Spot prizes for the little elves

the Music Review

The Frames – Jean Monnet 13th November

This is a tough job for two reasons: (1) what can I say about the Frames that hasn't already been said and (2) there are so many avid Frames fanatics around this place that I run the risk of getting lynched if I try and criticise the gig or if I get something wrong. People might even take it personally and now that my extremely happy photo is in the paper, I'm less likely to get away with it. So I'm going to put these people's minds at rest by relaying a funny little Frames anecdote a friend of mine Alan, told me: Hot Press are quoted as saying they believe the Frames are too big and too good for Ireland.. well why don't they make everyone happy and move to Luxembourg instead?! Now that I've firmly established myself as public enemy number one, I can continue!..

In case you've been in bed for the last two weeks and haven't heard, the Frames played to a sell out audience in the Jean Monnet two weeks ago and depending on who you talk to, the tickets were gone in 20 or 40 minutes. That's pretty impressive by anyone's standards and gives you an idea of their pulling power. The night started off with a kinda countryish/folky singer/songwriter called Josh Ritter who was promoting his latest release, golden Age of Radio. He was good and got an atmosphere going, he reminded me of Tom Petty at times. I hadn't heard of him before but there seemed to be plenty of people buying his records which were on sale outside the venue before the gig. Next up were Bell X1 (named after the first plane to fly faster than the speed of sound) and I feared I wouldn't like them – the main man's previous band Juniper did nothing for me. But they stepped up and did a very good job indeed and I'll certainly look on them in a different light from now on, I'd previously seen them in Dolans at the Heineken Rollercoaster tour and they weren't half as good then. They seemed to have quite a few fans in the audience this evening, there were a lot of whoops going up at the start of songs, and apart from their lead guitarist having to do a lot of fine tuning to his set-up on stage, their set went well and got a great reaction from the audience. Apparently, they're going into the studio soon to record some new music, I look forward to hearing it.

So I finally get to the Frames.. I wasn't a huge fan of theirs before the gig, sure I liked their hits but I never felt I wanted to go out and buy their CDs. I've seen them a couple of times, once in the old student centre about 4 years ago they did a kinda unplugged thing, and for me they're at their best when Mr Hansard takes a bit of a step back and gives

the songs and the other musicians in the band a bit of space. Having said that, I was impressed with him at the gig, he was completely at home with the crowd and vice versa. So don't get me wrong, he has a great voice, but there are other musicians in that band too, Dave Hingerty on the drums stood out especially, he was great for the whole gig. That night all the hits were there, and the Frames do have some fantastic songs like Seven Day Mile, Pavement Tune and Fitzcarraldo, showing off their musicianship, self control, and masterful ability to change volume mid-song. No doubt you'll hear lots of reports from people telling you what the best song(s) were, and for me it comes down to two. The first one was the brilliant rendition of Revelate by our very own Dave O'Donovan. There was more to this duet than meets the eye – he sang it perfectly but it's been his behind-the-scenes support for the Frames that has been a big factor in them having the following they now enjoy in Limerick. The other song that stood out to me was an acoustic one – having quietened down the mood somewhat already, Glen Hansard decided to take it down a bit further, and walked out in front of the crowd without any amplification whatsoever and sang ??????. It was incredible, to do something like that in a crowd this size and to have it work – you could clearly hear every note, every lyric because nobody made a single sound during the song. Everybody



knew that the slightest noise would have destroyed the atmosphere and nobody wanted that. He sang kinda quietly (like on Rent Day Blues) and its on these songs that his voice sounds best to me. To finish up the evening, each of the support acts got up again at the end and played a few more tunes, accompanied by a home video of the Frames and David Kitt. I've always found the hysteria that surrounds the Frames annoying, but if they were able to turn a non-believer like me into a fan who stood up like everyone else and applauded their performance at the end, then they're definitely doing something right! (and looking back the hysteria doesn't seem too out of place now, just as long as I don't have to listen to it!) So to finish, I applaud the Frames and to their hardcore fans I say, there are other bands out there.

Paddy Casey

– Dolan's Warehouse Mon 19th November.

This was a last minute/secret gig of sorts, and apparently Paddy Casey didn't think many people would turn up, how

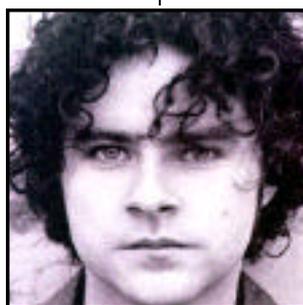
wrong he was! Dolans was completely packed (literally) to the rafters. Support came from a guy called Colin who got up and played a few songs with acoustic. He did well despite having a dodgy battery in his guitar and a crowd who were disinterested in listening to him and just made a lot of noise. Eventually they got what they were after when Paddy Casey appeared on stage. He seemed a little shocked at the huge crowd and the great reception they gave him, but he started into what was to be a very impressive set. I've liked him since I heard 'Whatever Gets You True' there's a brilliant riff just before the chorus, and he played it as a pretend final song, the place loved it. He came back and played more music, and tried a song he'd written for Ronan Keating, it wasn't bad but it was a bit bland so I'd say Ro & Co will love it. Rumour has it that Paddy Casey has been having a bit of hassle with his record company recently, I hope they get it sorted out and then we might have a new album to listen to; going by his live performance it would be well worth getting.

All Ages Gig

– Dolan's Warehouse Sat 17th November.

Edgefly, Seraphim, Calzino Fiasco, and Kamiko: four bands with some of the best talent going around Limerick these days played an afternoon gig in Dolans to another full audience. Apologies to the bands - I'll keep this short for a couple of reasons, the main one being its ten past eleven at night and I have the flu and as such should be in bed! I say this every week, there are some brilliant bands playing around Limerick these days, go in and see them. Edgefly are a kind of heavy Pearl Jam, Seraphim are a cool rock band with a Shirley Manson-ish singer, Calzino Fiasco heavy but catchy stuff, they played without a singer, and had one of the most powerful sets I've seen in ages. Kamiko finished up the night, if you like Weezer you'll love these guys, they haven't played in ages, but they were brilliant as usual. They started off their set with a Pixies-type instrumental, first time I'd heard it but it was cool. I really have to go now before I pass out at this PC, dribble on the keyboard and electrocute myself.. (and we wouldn't want that to happen now would we!?)

Adiós!



The Proclaimers play Dolans Warehouse

It might take 500 miles to get from the Musical Highlands of Scotland to here in Dolan's Warehouse, but from the warm, receiving reception that The Proclaimers got I'd say that it was worth it. With Dolan's Warehouse being the only Limerick venue for the November '01 leg of The Proclaimers on tour, people of all ages and kinds flocked to see them do what it is they do best: entertain. Their music seem to touch all types of people as even a Charlie Landsborough look-a-like was spotted at the gig.



There was a good start-off to the gig when the guitarist dropped his guitar, but it wasn't a preview for the rest of the gig as things went quite smoothly from there on. From the world "go" The Proclaimers were so energetic and their energy seemed to pass through their music from them to the crowd.

The opening song was "You're outta your mind", a great up-beat song that sent the crowd mad, and that was the atmosphere for the rest of the gig. They also played the song "I'm on my way" which featured in the animated comedy 'Shrek'. There were many fans at the gig also because they were singing the lyrics back to them, the Scots didn't leave down their side either because the Scottish flag was flying proudly from the balcony. But the band were very accommodating in the sense that they didn't just play their new stuff for the hardcore fans, but played the old favourites also. Most of us would recognise songs like "A letter from America" but when the familiar beat of "500 miles" was played the place was electric.

Late into the gig the band made it clear how proud they are of their Caledonian background. They told us a story about how an English record company wanted to take them on. The only problem was they couldn't understand their accent and they wanted them to change it. Obviously they were having none of that and look at them now, very successful in their field of music.

They came back at the end of the show to play for an encore as the crowd wanted more of the Scottish duo and 3 songs later they went out with a bang with a song called "I love her" (not your average song). But we can't forget to mention The Supernaturals who played support to The Proclaimers. They served their purposes quiet well and set the crowd up for a great night when they played their well-known hit "The day before yesterday". In all, the night went extremely well and everybody left on a high. The band played for an hour and twenty minutes and every second of it was packed with quality- filled music from the one and only... The Proclaimers.

Brid Coffey

Focal Calaine

-Patricia Moriarty

As part of its contribution to Greek Week the Arts Office brought the Spotlight Theatre Company production of Christian O'Reilly's play "It Just Came Out" to the Jonathan Swift Theatre. Greek Week coincided with the National Anti-Racism in the Workplace Awareness campaign, which gave an extra level of relevance to the performance, and on the opening night there was a lively and provocative post performance discussion. Chaired by the Labour representative for Limerick, Deputy Jan O'Sullivan, who is also the party's spokesperson on racism, there were stimulating contributions from Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin, Bishop Willie Walsh, Christian O'Reilly, the author, and the Congolese guy. The audience, which included representatives from the Environmental Society, Debating Union, Amnesty International, Doras, faculty mem-



bers and students, enjoyed strong performances from the cast and actively participated in the discussion. Although the audience numbers were somewhat disappointing those who attended found the play funny and thought provoking.

As part of its Film Season in association with the Students' Union the Arts Office presented a sneak preview of the new film SOUTH WEST9 (2001), written and directed by Richard Parry. This Abbey Films and Irish Screen presentation will not be released in Ireland until Nov 23 and there was a huge turnout notwithstanding the number of events on that evening.

Described as "...outstanding...brilliant and disturbing. A landmark film..." by Alexander Walker of the Evening Standard. Featuring music by Orbital, Roger Sanchez, Warp Bros, Utah Saints, Levellers "SW9" is set in Brixton. "... Nowhere else in Britain has such a diversity of culture or character - Notting Hill it ain't. Riots. Guns. Drugs. These are the ingredients of the old Brixton. Throw in yuppies, clubbers, scammers, Internet Anarchists and Britain's most 'kicking' clubs and this is the new Brixton. Europe's answer to the Bronx. 'SW9' is the first movie to take a roller-coaster ride through this extraordinary square mile. Five very different characters are thrown together in one weird, mashed up day.....It starts out just like any other, but 24 hours later everything has changed. The Film Season continues on Monday evenings in the Conference Room of the Students' Union @ 7.00 pm. ADMISSION IS FREE and forthcoming attractions are the Mike Nichols' cult film "Catch-22" on Nov 26 and the gender bending "Orlando" on Dec 3

The Irish World Music Centre will present the second of an annual series of Sacred World Music festivals which will be centred in St Mary's Cathedral Limerick from Dec 5 -

9. Directed by Dr Helen Phelan, this festival reflects the ethos of the MAin Chant and Ritual Song at the IWMC through its celebration of religious diversity and Ireland's growing multiculturalism. In this its second year, the theme of the festival will include English carols and religious folksong traditions as well as Christmas anthems from the Isle of Man. Last year's event led to the publication of Anáil Dé, a selection of papers given by guest speakers hosted by the Chant and Ritual Song programme, published by Veritas.

The programme of events is as follows

Sacred World Music Festival Programme of Events

Wednesday, December 5th

Opening Seminar

2.30-5pm, Music Room B, Foundation Building, University of Limerick

Dr. Nicholas Sandon: Performance and Interpretation in Western Chant
Seckou Keita: Sacred Music from Senegal
Representative from the Chester Beatty Library (TBC)

Thursday, December 6th

Workshops with Seckou Keita (Sacred Music from Senegal)

10am-12pm and 3-5pm, Music Room D, Foundation Building, University of Limerick

Friday, December 7th

Workshops with Graham and Eileen Pratt (Religious Songs from the English Folk Tradition)

10am-12pm and 3-5pm, Music Room D, Foundation Building, University of Limerick

Saturday, December 8th

Festival Concert

8.30pm, St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick City
Featuring Music from Hungary, Senegal, England, the Isle of Man, Irish traditional religious song and Plainchant. Special guests, Seckou Keita and Graham and Eileen Pratt.

Sunday, December 9th

Closing Inter-faith Liturgy

4pm, St. Mary's Cathedral, Limerick City

As part of the lead up to the festive season the Arts Office, in association with the Comedy Club will present "Hey Gringo: A Chile Christmas" written and performed by Peter Searles

Forming part of the highly acclaimed Hey Gringo! trilogy, "A Chile Christmas" describes Peter's extensive experiences and adventures whilst travelling through Pinochet's Chile in the mid eighties.

From the scorching wastes of the Atacama Desert in Northern Chile, we travel south; through shantytowns and smog laden cities to a world of forests, lakes and volcanoes. Accompanied by over-sexed train drivers, a beautiful young Chilean revolutionary, lots of out of work actors, Marxist priests, fascist police, Chilean Eco-warriors, and Pinochet's neighbours... it is a journey that turns into a quest for truth and meaning in a land torn apart by thirteen years of military dictatorship.

The show is highly entertaining and funny but also provides a wonderful insight into Chile, its people, culture and politics of the time. Peter's philosophy whilst travelling was to say 'yes' to whatever opportunities developed and in doing so his time in Chile took him right into the heart of the country and its people. He experienced the brutality of the military regime of the time and even found himself dining in the home of Pinochet's affluent neighbours before they realised that his more left wing, democratic approach to politics did not meet with their tastes. It ended with Peter (who is an active Greenpeace supporter) being recruited by Chilean Eco-warriors to assist them in their dangerous quest to expose illegal logging within the country.

As a trained actor, Peter performs the show with great wit and completely holds his audience from start to finish. His expert mimicry enables him to conjure up a colourful array of characters, providing the audience with a truly insightful picture of the country and its South American culture.

The show has been performed all over the UK, in Europe as well as the United States and comes to ULas part of a nationwide tour.



Irish World Music Centre

Ionad Cheol Cruinne Éireann

REVIEWS

The Beauty Queen of Leenane

The UCH was the host last Thursday night to a powerful performance of Martin McDonagh's *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*. Written by the Anglo-Irish McDonagh while still in his early twenties 'The Beauty Queen' is part of a trilogy, of which the remaining component parts are 'The Lonesome West' and 'ASKull in Connemara'. Originally presented in 1996 in a joint production by Druid Theatre Company and the Royal Court Theatre, by 1998 the play made its way to Broadway where it subsequently won four Tony awards.

Set in a kitchen high in the hills of Connemara around 1989 'The Beauty Queen' tells the story of a forty-year-old virginal Maureen Folan and her selfish, calculating mother Mags, both enslaved in a feeling of shared antipathy of the other. It is Mags' intrusion in the life of the lonely Maureen's only chance of a loving relationship, that sets in motion the trail of events that leads inevitably to the play's conclusion. In the process mother and daughter travel to savage depths to portray the infinite black humour of McDonagh's imposing narrative.

Mutual spite permeates continually throughout the play, which opens the plot perfectly, especially once the character of Pato Dooley enters the foray. The outright vulgarity at stages makes the audience cringe in their seats but the prose of McDonagh somehow manages to navigate perfectly to reveal the characters, their feelings and histories. The dishonesty, scheming, and above all the gross sexual overtones between mother and daughter has the audience

feeling seriously disturbed while simultaneously making ground for the darkest of humour.

McDonagh plays mother and daughter against each other, each competing for the audience's sympathy, but by the finale it's quite apparent that there will be only one solution. One gets the feeling that a cave in Afghanistan would be safer than a little house in the west of Ireland.

The isolation the wild of Connemara provides is an ideal setting for the play engaging the feeling of seclusion, weariness and inertia. The writing remains faithful to rural Ireland without succumbing to stage Irish Paddywackery. Complan, Kimberly biscuits and Mikado's are all interwoven skilfully into the script for comical purposes.

The performance at the UCH was produced by the Limerick based Quarry Players, a production that deserves critical acclaim. The acting of Barbara Clinton who played the part of Mags ruined by malice and ignorance, could easily have substituted the stage of Limerick for one on Broadway so invigorating was her performance. Jim Deery closely followed this with his portrayal of Pato Dooley as a construction worker who has returned to Galway for a visit from England. Admiring Maureen for twenty years, the relationship is doomed to failure before any chance of fruition.

Jean Fay cast as the zealous Maureen grew as the role progressed especially as delusion gained momentum spiralling

downwards. The remaining cast member, Mark Prendergast, plays the part of Ray Dooley, brother of Pato. His performance as an ineffective messenger boy between Maureen and Pato is adequately portrayed. However one can't help feeling that the Limerick accent was somewhat incompatible for a strong rural setting.

The Quarry Players production confirmed 'The Beauty Queen of Leenane' as a great modern Irish play. In doing so they provided the audience with an extremely impressive and highly entertaining two hours.

-Bernadette Sexton



THE ARTS OFFICE



PRESENTS

"HEY GRINGO:
A CHILE CHRISTMAS"

DECEMBER 11, 2001
8.00 pm

ADMISSION: £ 3.00

JONATHAN SWIFT THEATRE

Carmen at the UCH

Carmen, the first femme-fatale of the stage, was received with rapturous applause by patrons of the University Concert Hall this week, far removed from the harsh criticism it generated when Georges Bizet premiered it in the Opera-Comique, Paris in March 1875.

Carmen was my first true operatic experience. I have heard songs and arias on CD and on Sunday afternoon television (thanks to RTE's low programme budget) but I was never really prepared for what the live event would bring.

Carmen has some of the best known opera songs around, "L'amour est un oiseau rebelle", "Toreador" and others. Granted, they mean very little when written down, but I guarantee if the music could be heard, not one person could say they didn't recognise them. I can also guarantee that everyone left the concert hall with the melodies floating around in their heads.

Carmen was produced and performed by the Chinisau National Opera Company from Chinisau, Moldova. They are currently touring around Europe with productions of *Carmen* and *Turandot*. In a day and age where actors are false, and singers are fake, opera provides the cream of talent in these areas. It's amazing to think, when we are used to watching performers mime, that the voices of these singers can fill an entire concert hall, without using microphones! The sound, quality and emotion that are expressed in such a pure form show us why opera has survived so long and will continue to do so.

Carmen is set in Seville, yet sung completely in French. It tells the tale of

soldiers and gypsies, love and jealousy, with more than enough comic interludes. It really has something for everyone - and you don't have to speak French, because you are provided with translations throughout!

The star of the show for me was Michaela, a peasant girl from the hometown of Don Jose. Her soprano voice was so clear, her talent and acting ability - phenomenal. Don Jose himself was an amazing Tenor, convincing us that he really was the confident corporal seduced by *Carmen*, then transformed to a gypsy smuggler and finally to a man so consumed by jealousy that he kills his true love. *Carmen*, for her part, was excellent, but lacked some of the fire and passion that enraged Parisian audiences so long ago.

On the whole, *Carmen* was fantastic. The set, the score, the music, everything was perfect. As I said at the start, *Carmen* was my first venture into opera. And I can say now, unequivocally, it will not be my last!

- Maria O'Callaghan



Adams the Sophist

Anybody who saw the debate between Labour leader Ruairi Quinn and Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams, a debate chaired abysmally by Pat Kenny, will have to acknowledge that in the near future we are faced with the very real possibility of having a coalition government of which Sinn Féin will comprise a significant partner. The reason why one has to acknowledge this fact is due in no small part to the reaction of the audience who were eating out of the maestro's hand by the end of the debate. He was aided in all his aims by the dismal failure of Quinn to hammer home the question marks which loom largely over the heads of Sinn Féin – the small matter of an army on the sideline for whenever it may be needed, the infamous subject of Colombia, and justice for the killers of Garda Gerry McCabe just to mention a few.

The reason why the issue of Colombia wasn't brought up is beyond all comprehension. Here is the leader of a radical left-wing populist party, claiming to be a mainstream political party, and Ruairi Quinn fails to ask why was one of your members – Niall Connolly - arrested at Bogota airport with two other IRA members James Monaghan and Martin McCauley, and at present are being held for up to eight months without bail, while Colombian prosecutors prepare a case alleging they were training rebels in the use of explosives. Let's not forget about the tenuous connection James Monaghan has with Sinn Féin, believed by security sources to be 'head of engineering' of the Provisional IRA. He shared a platform with Mr. Adams at their 1989 Ard Fheis.

Also why, Mr Adams, did you claim on the 29th of August, "I can say with certainty they were not there representing Sinn Féin. I would have had to authorise such a project, and I do not do so"? This was the first comment from Adams since their arrest on August 11th. Sometimes silence can be deafening. It was the middle of October before Adams actually admitted that, yes indeed, Mr Niall



Connolly was in fact a Sinn Féin representative.

Adams spoke with passion about the drugs problem in the cities of Dublin, Limerick and Cork, the effects of which he had seen for himself. He claimed that this issue had to be tackled. He failed to mention how or what methods should be employed to confront this serious dilemma. Rough tactics? When Quinn, answering the same question, mentioned that a strategy had been formulated by the labour party and was outlined at their national conference the previous week and now could be accessed on the internet, Adams, as ever quick with the jibes, told the audience that the people who needed the help had no access to the internet.

Yet Adams' three amigos in Colombia failed to take Sinn Féin's strong opinions on drugs into account while on their sight-seeing mission in the malaria-ridden jungles of South America. Their involvement with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), a well-armed Marxist guerrilla group funded by drugs money, in an area where the US has committed \$1bn to the war on drugs seems contrary to everything Adams exclaimed on the Late Late Show. This paves the way to show the moral bankruptcy of Sinn Féin rhetoric not to mention the fact that Adams will play the part of Thrasymachus in his efforts to get into coalition.

Only last month an address by Gerry Adams at Conway Mill Belfast stated: "our approach has been to create a context in which politics work, in which institutions are stable, inclusive and sustained, and in which the process towards equality and justice is underpinned." However his party has failed to endorse the Northern Ireland Policing Service. When asked about this on the Late Late Show Mr. Adams asked would it be acceptable for any Garda in the South to serve under the British flag.

The hypocrisy of his answer was incredibly transparent. To apply this policy universally in Sinn Féin actions would

mean that no Sinn Fein deputy would take their place at Stormont. To quote the editorial of The Sunday



Independent, 'it is all right, it seems, for Sinn Féin to take their place in government at Stormont, but quite wrong for Catholics to join the PSNI, and to defend the Northern Ireland institutions that the party has come to accept. Once again Quinn failed to challenge Adams on this issue but instead got into a petty dispute over the involvement Sinn Féin had as architects of the Good Friday Agreement.

We live in historic times. September 11th has left many in the freedom fighter line on business looking to redefine their job description. This has led to the farcical situation of a Limerick Republican Sinn Fein member calling for a distinction between a terrorist and a legitimate Freedom Fighter. Pot, kettle and black. Sorry for my ignorance but I always thought that it ended with dead people and a breeding ground for fundamentalist thought encouraging hatred and distrust between communities. Of course, that could just be too simplistic a definition. Adams through his defence of the Colombian trio concurs with this definition.

One cannot deny that Adams is a good spin-doctor and has learned to optimise the benefits of a mass audience which television provides. Nonetheless it is necessary to go beyond the display of oratory, and more importantly beyond the fact that violence remains an acceptable method of encouraging change, be it punishment beatings or vigil-antism. Not until this occurs should the party be allowed enter government.

Bernadette Sexton

An Teanga Bheo

Bhuel, a chailíní agus a bhuaichailí,

ab ea é agus buaicphointe na seachtaine domsa.!

Cinnte, tá an Ghaeilge ar ais mar ábhar craic sa choláiste arís. Bhuail an 'Spraioi Soc' an cumann iontach nua bríomhar le chéile don chéad uair cúpla seachtain ó shin agus is scéal maith anois é.

Maidir leis an gcluiche sacair idir Éireann agus an Iaráin an tseachtain seo caite, luaigh cara liom Helen Ní Leathlóbhair go raibh iontas uirthi nár canadh 'Amhrán na bhFiann' roimh an gcluiche. Mar sin, a chairde, seo chugaibh na focail chearta tógtha ó www.fai.ie don chéad chluiche eile. Canaigí amach iad go hardglórach!!:

Ta áthas an domhain orainn a rá go raibh slua mór daoine i láthair. As seo amach, (go dtí deireadh an téarma) beidh cruinníú 'Spraioi Soc' ar siúl i Seomra na n-Iarchéimithe (Postgraduate Centre) in aice clós (courtyard) na Stáblaí ag 6.00 gach Déardaoin. Táimid dóchasach go leanfar ar aghaidh leis an dara téarma chomh maith. Séard atá i gceist ann ná slua daoine ag caint gan aon bhrú acadúil. Bígí ann mar is fiú é le haghaidh glór na teanga Gaeilge a chloisteáil. Comhlúadar bríomhar iontach a bhíonn ann. Bíonn taic/caife le fáil saor in aisce ann freisin. Na bígí buartha faoi caighdeán do chuid Gaeilge. Is cuma cén leibhéal atá agat, an príomhrud ná cúpla focal a labhairt uair sa tseachtain agus craic chomh maith!! Ná bíodh eagla oraibh teacht agus tógaigí bhur gcairde libh.

Sinne Fianna Fáil atá faoi gheall ag Éireann Buíonn dár slua, thar toinn do ráinig chugainn Faoi mhóid bheith saor, seantír ár sinsear feasta Ni fhágfar faoin tiorán na faoin tráil Anochta a théann sa bhearna bhaoil, Le gean ar Ghaeil chun báis nó saoil, Le gunnaí scréach, faoi lámhach na bpiléar Seo libh canaig, Amhrán na bhFiann. (Tiobraid Árainn Abú!!)

Le Regina Ní Riain, 9723137

Ghlac an 'Spraioi Soc' páirt sa 'Food Fair' i Seachtain na Gréige i bhFoirgneamh na Fondúireachta.(Foundation Building). Bhí an bia, an ceol agus an t-atmaisféar thar barr. Bhain chuile dhuine taitneamh as an mbia Gaelach agus an ceol Gaelach ón ngrúpa iontach 'Cuisle' chomh maith. Bhí chuile shórt bia ann ó gach chearn den domhain. Oíche iontach

SCHOLARS CLUB

COMPETITION

NAME THE FUNCTION ROOM

The Scholars Club Function Room has been without an identity for nearly two years. We are running a competition to name the Function Room. The winning entry will see their winning name over the door of the Function Room in Gold Lettering. The winner will receive a Portable TV / Video courtesy of Guinness Ltd. Please fill in the entry form below and leave it in the Entry Box in the Scholars. The winning entry will be published in the first edition of an Focal after Christmas.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel. No.: _____

I.D. No.: _____

Year & Class: _____

The new name for the Scholars Club Function Room should be: _____

because: _____

Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone

Ladies and Gentlemen, the phenomenon has finally arrived. We can now sit down and experience what we have all been anticipating with bated breath. After all the hype, the marketing, the merchandise, the myths, the stories, the endless publicity, 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' has landed.

That's all very well and good, you say, but as a movie, does it meet expectations? Yes, it does! It's one of the best movies on release at the moment. But, I wish I could say wonderful, raving things about how Harry Potter broke the mould - how it finally proved that a movie could be better than the book that preceded it. But I can't, because that would be a downright lie. So yes, it's a case of the usual book-to-film story. The book was better. But it doesn't follow that the movie was bad! It's just that the book was so darn excellent!

For all you virgins to Harry Potter out there, let me run through the story as briefly as I can. Little boy orphaned in process of saving the world, little boy suffers miserable childhood, little boy discovers he is a wizard, little boy goes to a school for wizards, little boy saves the world. But of course, the little boy, aka Harry Potter, couldn't possibly have done all these wonderful things all on his wee little lonesome, and so he's helped along the way by an amicable hairy giant called Hagrid (played fantastically by Robbie Coltrane) and his two school friends, Hermione (Emma Watson) and Ron (Rupert Grint).



The movie has all the ingredients for success - an impressive cast with the likes of Maggie Smith, Richard Harris and Alan Rickman making part of the crew, an already globally successfully plotline (although the word "philosopher's" must have been a bit too complicated for the Americans and they chose to call it the "sorcerer's stone". Four syllables in one word would be too much over there...), the backing of Warner Bros. Studios, and plenty of children who know how to sulk until they get to see the movie. Perfect! But this movie isn't all hype and shallowness, I'm glad to say. Directed by Chris Columbus, and with a British cast, the movie manages somehow to avoid many of the Hollywood clichés. In other words, this is a movie that is a faithful rendition of the book. Fans of the book series will be delighted when they see that there are no unusual twists or sudden endings. The plotline sticks loyally to the gospel according to J.K. Rowling. So we can all breathe a sigh of relief!



Unfortunately there didn't seem to have been time in the movie to capture all the little extra characters that are in the book. For example, there is a sad lack of Nearly Headless Nick, who adds so much to the book. He, played by John Cleese, only makes one cameo appearance in the movie.

Chris Columbus also seems to have hit on a winner when he chose his main stars. Daniel Radcliffe, who plays Harry

Potter, has much talent and he doesn't irritate the audience in the way that some child actors can. However, I have to say that I thought his two sidekicks surpassed him when it came to acting ability. Emma Watson and Rupert Grint were simply superb as Hermione and Ron. They played their roles perfectly. There wasn't a single moment in the whole movie (all two and a half hours of it) where I flinched when it came to the acting. I really can't fault them. But with the support of such excellent actors as Robbie Coltrane and Co., maybe it's not such a surprise, really.

It was also a relief to see that Chris Columbus used computer graphics in only the most subtle of ways. And for once the graphics helped enhance the plot, and not replace it. Two scenes come to mind in particular when I mention this. One - the Quidditch game (basketball crossed with rugby crossed with hurling crossed with hide-and-go-seek on broomsticks), which is so well done, I'm not sure I was breathing while I was watching it, and, two - a giant game of wizard chess. (Think of the chess pieces as life-size killing machines). Maybe Mr. George Lucas could take a few notes from Chris Columbus' book.

In all honesty, lads, if you haven't seen this movie yet, you should be ashamed of yourselves. It's fun, it's charming, it's enchanting, it's engrossing and it's lots of other great things too. And for once, it's a movie that lives up to its expectations. Now I'm simply looking forward to the next instalment in the story of Harry Potter.

Claire Roche Kelly

Lights Camera Reaction

'The Post Toy Story World'

In this week's Lights Camera Reaction I find myself having to succumb to the wishes of our 'wise and wonderful editor' and review 'Shrek', which is available to rent or buy on video and DVD this month. Well it was that or Harry Potter and frankly there are too many experts on 'Young Potter' for me to put my head on the chopping block, hence I contracted one of the UL's vast number of 'Potterites' to complain about how the 'film is good but not as good as the book' (hey maybe I've spared some of ye from reading that review... Don't mention it, I aim to please!). So as I said, under duress I'm reviewing Shrek this time out, it could have been Jet Li kicking ass in 'Kiss of the Dragon' but Shrek had some powerful friends in the Students Union...Nuff said

One of the summer's more successful movies Shrek has hit the shelves just in time for Christmas, and although we will have all seen it an average of five times before Santa drops down the chimney, I guarantee many of ye will be watching our green friend on Christmas Day, owing to the fact that some member of the family, be they young or old are going to find it among the loot 'St Nic' has left. But what's all the fuss about? Is it really that good? After seeing it at least 6 times in it's entirety this week alone, I'm going to say it's good, but for God's sake don't believe the hype. I've already heard from some pretty delusional people that it's 'the best movie ever', it certainly is not, and the people in question have been given the name of a good therapist!

I know 99% of the people reading this review will have already seen Shrek, but for the sake of trying to pass this article off as a review I feel obliged to give a brief summary of the plot. Shrek is an ogre. He lives alone in the swamp, which is the way he likes it. He knows he scares



people, being big, green and ugly, and rather than suffer the humiliation of social rejection, prefers to distance himself from everybody.

The local wannabe dictator Lord Farquaad owns everything for miles around. His palace is not unlike Saddam Hussein's in style, vast and ostentatious. In a rather psychotic way Farquaad likes to have a place for everything and everything in it's place, and thus orders his comical inept soldiers to round up fairy-tale creatures that inhabit the kingdom and dump them in Shrek's swamp, out of the way of everyone decent, much to the ogre's annoyance. Why would he want the seven dwarves, a legless gingerbread man, the three little pigs, Pinocchio, a talking donkey and the rest of the nursery rhyme favourites squatting on his front yard?

Farquaad needs to marry a princess to become king. There are three on offer - Cinderella, The Sleeping Beauty and Fiona. He decides on Fiona, who is prisoner in a castle on a rock, surrounded by molten lava and guarded by a fierce dragon. Shrek persuades the lord to let him rescue her, in exchange for land rites to his swamp. Reluctantly, he takes the donkey along, basically because the ass can't stop talking and, rather than listen to another word, Shrek agrees, to humour him in exchange for his silence.

Fiona turns out to be a feisty heroine, hiding a strange secret. Her years of captivity have done nothing to undermine her spirit. Shrek is smitten. As for the donkey, well, it finds romance in an unexpected quarter. As with all good stories, excitement is never far away and the characters, which include a Gallic Robin Hood, are immensely enjoyable. The Beauty & The Beast under-plot is in danger of

going all preachy about it's-not-what-you-look-like-but-who-you-are-that-matters, which is compensated by sharp non-PC cracks at Farquaad's size -the man is a dwarf.

So again what's so good about it? Sure computers have changed the face of animation, and the star vocals are excellent from Mike Myer's Shrek to Cameron Diaz's Princess Fiona, with particular praise due to Eddie Murphy's hip and fast-talking Donkey. The story is good and your going to laugh, but in my opinion it's not on the same level as Toy Story or it's sequel.

Shrek is a bit too uncouth in its preoccupation with bodily functions and sexual suggestiveness to have the universal appeal of Disney's offerings and while I would ordinarily be the first to

heartily embrace the shattering of decades-old animation taboos with respect to subject matter and character behavior it just seems tired after the 90minutes.

In saying this I'm confident that on the whole, fans and detractors alike should both find much to admire in "Shrek's" skillful thematic balancing act as it manages to poke fun at a genre while exploiting that genre's conventions for its own purposes. In the end, "Shrek" is attempting to be as warm and fuzzy as any of the Disney films that it mocks, playing both sides of the fence without necessarily tearing the fence down.

In the world of CGI animated feature length movies, we can come up by simply saying, Antz good, Shrek, better, Toy Story simply great. And as we say in the movie business that's a wrap folks, please God I'll be back reviewing something with a bit of frontal nudity, some car chases, or a least a fairly high body count next issue. Maybe then I can once again do justice to this column...

Until next time out, veg out and watch a movie.

Alan Byrne



The Frames



10K Walk

in aid of the Chernobyl Childrens Project



STUDENT'S 10K WALK for the



GREEK WEEK 2001

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Paul Lees Bit of Wisdom and Words



Hello,

Just want to provide an update as to the clubs and societies activities over the past few weeks. My apologies that it has taken until now to write this article but the last few weeks have been dominated by proceedings leading up to the distribution of budgets to "recognised" Clubs and Societies. This was then followed by Greek Week so all in all it has been pretty hectic from the administrative side of clubs and societies

With regard to the distribution of Clubs and Societies funding this tends to dominate the first 5 weeks of term. It takes five weeks from the time a day long seminar is held in Week 1 in the South Court Hotel for information purposes, to the distribution of pre-printed budget forms, interviews and assessment based on a set criterion, appeals and finally the distribution of actual funds. This proves to be a very difficult time consuming process and not without its problems due to the complex nature of individual clubs and societies and their inherent differences between both entities. My thanks to the Clubs and Societies Executive (student representatives that aid in the budget process and general administration of clubs and societies throughout the year) and Appeals Committee for seeing this through for another year. This is not an easy task by any stretch of the imagination as we are compelled by very basic financial constraints **WE DO NOT HAVE ALL THE NECESSARY FUNDING TO MEET THE EVER INCREASING DEMAND ON LIMITED RESOURCES.** This tends to explain why people get agitated at this time of year every year.

Despite these difficulties this has still been the best year to date in terms of the quantity of money on offer to Clubs and Societies. This is due in no small part to the SU President (Michael Phelan) and his persistence with the promotion of clubs and societies to the college authorities in seeking extra funding. The reward for Mick's persistence after a presentation to the Universities Finance Committee resulted in an award of an extra £40,000 to the SU of which 50% went straight into the Clubs and Society coffers. Our sincere thanks on behalf of all student clubs and societies to the members of the Universities Finance Committee for recognising the importance of Clubs and Societies and the development of extra curricular activities on campus.

The situation has further improved in the last month with the announcement that an additional £20,000 has been made available by Dr. Roger Downer for the provision of the long awaited mini-bus to offset the spiralling costs of private bus hire for clubs and societies. The Students Union Shop has also agreed to sponsorship of the £10,000 shortfall to make the purchase of the mini-bus viable. The issue of the mini bus is in no small part attributed to the "blinder" being played by Mick Phelan and the Students Union in their persistence of a 3 year plan endorsed by all Clubs and Societies. On this issue our sincere thanks on behalf of all involved in clubs and societies must be extended once more to Dr. Roger Downer (President of UL) and Mr. Eamonn Cregan (Director of Corporate Affairs for the University of Limerick) for their support of the Universities Clubs and Societies.

The issue of administering the mini-bus will be an item for discussion at the next Clubs and Society meeting on Tuesday of week 11 at 6.00pm in the SU Centre. Any stu-

dent over 25 who possesses the necessary driving qualifications (D or D1) without endorsements that would be interested in part-time work as a mini-bus driver in the new year is urged to contact Paul.Lee@ul.ie. Any thought comments or queries on this issue would be greatly appreciated if possible before Tuesday 4th December.

Apologies if I am slow to respond to the many email queries but all emails will be answered in due course. Finally not to understate our gratitude to the Finance Committee of the University, Dr. Downer and Mr Cregan, the Students Union Shop and the Students Union "go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir".

Greek Week

Congratulations to all who took part in Greek Week and there are too many to mention but particular mention must go to the stalwarts, Tara Curley, Patricia Moriarty, Stephen Driver, Eamonn O' Flynn and Paddy Buckley. I believe that there is a lot of merit regarding the future of this event as was evidenced in the events that were run throughout the week.

To my mind this was especially evident at the Erasmus Student Network Societies foodfair which once again exceeded all expectations with an evening of quality food and entertainment, congratulations to all involved and especially our foreign visitors for their excellent cuisine. For an event with such humble origins of 300 people to have expanded in three years to a 1000 plus event complete with band in the Foundation Building is indeed an example to all student clubs and societies of what can be achieved through organisation and perseverance.

The Greek Week theme was participation though, no matter how big or small your club or society was and those epic events such as the Multi Cultural Foodfair were not the pre requisite. On that note congratulations to one of our smaller societies for their regular fun events. Anyone who saw the numerous posters on "Pixies" around the college, coupled with one member walking around the campus with a poster on his back saying he was the "pixie" whilst wearing a multi-coloured jesters hat complete with bells will know who I am on about! The fun loving game society, fair play...I think you're all mad but fair play nonetheless. Not to go through each event specifically though, (because I am sure to leave clubs and societies out) but thanks to the history society, computer society and the environmental society for their excellent events in the courtyard I think anyone who endured the arctic conditions in the courtyard deserves a mention and also those who participated in the carnival....Brave people indeed. Our thanks to the Lord Mayor, Mr. Dick Sadleir, for addressing the remnants of the Green Fair. I suspect that after he took his coat off he understood why people had moved indoors but still it was very much appreciated that a person of his stature could take time out of his day to endorse the students activities. Our thanks also to those clubs who took part in such an event as Greek Week for the first time, namely the chess and tennis club, the Camogie and ladies football clubs who played their own unique version of combined rules and of course our first ever ULDescent hosted by the Kayak club which promises to be a regular feature in UL from now on. Many clubs helped out (thanks to the Rowers) this too was greatly appreciated.

Many other events such as blood drives and charity bungee jumps took place, the play "It Just came Out" courtesy of our Arts officer, comedians, bands but I'll leave that side of Greek Week for their reviews. I would like to conclude by thanking Her Excellency Ms. Mary Mc Aleese, An Taoiseach Mr. Bertie Ahern and the Greek Ambassador Mr. Visilis Pispinis for their endorsements and closer to home our own President Dr. Roger Downer and Michael Phelan the Students Union President. Thanks also to Declan and Brendan of the Stables and Brian of the Scholars Clubs respectively. I believe that we have done justice to the Greek traditions and as the saying goes in Ireland "Is tús

maith leath na h-oibre" (a good start is half the work) and as such I believe next years Greek Week will be bigger and better.

Once again congratulations for all those who emphasised that the importance of a healthy body and mind "Mens Sana in Corpore Sano".

Yours sincerely,

Paul Lee

Clubs & Societies Development Officer
Clubs & Societies Lotto



University of Limerick Sci-Fi Convention

Friday 30th of November to Saturday
2nd of December

Japanese Animation giants Manga Entertainment
Never before seen Buffy the Vampire Slayer and Star Trek: Enterprise
 Win a Dreamcast and games in the Dreamcast gaming tournament
Classic Sci-Fi Films
Sci-Fi and Fantasy Role play
Science Fiction Weakest Link
Star Trek Customisable Card Game
Retro Computer Gaming
LAN Party Contact Cian at damocles@skynet.ie
 Tickets are £5
For more information, email ultron@hotmail.com, **check out our website**
at <http://tricon.csn.ul.ie> **or call** Barry Cronin on 086 3544233

"Fort Fragg" also has a night out
 scheduled for the Saturday night in the
 Scholars Function Room. "Fort
 Fragg/Afgan-lan" will take place an all
 3 days in meeting room 5 and the game
 room in the Student Union.

Role Playing events
 have been allocated rooms
 Ego-01,02,03, and 06 for
 all 3 days.

Tricon Timetable

Friday the 30th of November.

Time	Event	Location
18:00 to 20:00	Ghostbusters	Jean Monnet
20:00 to 21:00	Enterprise (1st episode)	Jean Monnet
21:00 to 22:00	Chill out	Scholars Function Room

Saturday the 1st of December

Time	Event	Location
10:00 to 12:00	Buffy Episodes (1st and 2nd)	Jean Monnet
12:00 to 14:00	ADVision showing - "Samurai X"	Jean Monnet
13:00 to 15:00	"Doctor Strangelove" showing	John Holland
14:00 to 16:00	Manga Showing - "End of Evangelion"	Jean Monnet
14:00 to 17:00	Dreamcast Tournament	Ego-10
16:00 to 17:00	Enterprise TV episode showing (2nd)	Jean Monnet
17:30 to 19:30	Enterprise TV episodes showing (3rd and 4th)	Jean Monnet
20:00 to 22:00	"Forbidden Planet" showing	John Holland
20:00 to 22:00	Manga Showing- Blood The Last Vampire	Jean Monnet
22:00 +	Night out	Off campus

Sunday 2nd of December

Time	Event	Location
10:00 to 12:00	Family Guy showings	John Holland
12:00 to 2:00	Star Trek CCG	Ego-10
12:00 to 14:00	ADVision Showing - Dragon Half	Jean Monnet
12:00 to 14:00	Buffy Showings	John Holland
14:00 to 16:00	Manga Showing - Akira	Jean Monnet



“Black Vs. White” –UL Chess Club

“Black Vs. White”, our Greek Week event, was a success, as could be seen by the 60 or so schoolchildren that filled what had been a deserted Stable’s Courtyard. The theme was life-size chess. It was the epitome of the Gods enjoying a lively chess game, as Tom Cooper delivered Checkmate after thirty or so moves, not just on a regular chessboard, but on a giant board where the children of Milford National School played the Chess Pieces. There are a lot of people to thank for making it happen- above all Mrs. Flynn and the Chess Class of Milford N.S., the Stables Club (for letting us transform their courtyard). Thanks too to Jamie Barry (who manned the microphone), the Lollipop Lady (who was actually caught on camera digging into her bag of lollipops), Miguel Nicolau (who gave up his chalk and taught us how to draw), G-Soc (who skillfully helped us put 270 A4 sheets into those little plastic covers) the Ents crowd who let us use their microphone . . . if I had time I would embarrass everyone, but I’ll leave it there.

U.L. Games Society went head to head with the Chess Club in the aftermath of “Black VS. White”. In Stables Courtyard, four members from each of the two groups sat down at two tables. Before each team lay two pints of

water and two pints of milk. Tom Cooper got instantly confused, and after a careful explanation the objective became clear to him. It was a good old-fashioned healthy drinking contest as part of Greek Week. (Who comes up with this stuff?) Some-one screamed start and within seconds the Games Society had had their ass kicked in what was a mighty contest.

From the Limerick Inn a few weeks ago, the Chess Club made tracks back to town where they caught the bus out to the University. Three members, including Diarmuid Mulvey and Declan Fish, left this year’s Limerick Open with Grading Prizes as best ungraded players, and Sean Molloy was carrying a white envelope containing £100 after his 5.5/6 victory in the Star’s Barred section. All involved had a good weekend, wrapping things up at Tom’s house Monday night with numerous large pizzas.

We had one win and one draw against Limerick City Chess Club in the first game of the Munster League at Shannon Rowing Club. It should be nearly time for our next game vs. Milford soon, after which I believe we will play a number of games in Cork.

Meetings as normal are in the Canteen, Wednesdays at 7pm. The photos from Greek Week will also be put up on the website soon so watch out for those. Ye’d better get practicing for the Kilkenny Open now, which is on the end of November.

Good start to season for UL Badminton Club

The Badminton season is now very much under way. By the time you’ll have read this article the four Limerick league teams will have played their opening game. Also the annual 35-cup game took place against DCU, in which the club continued its winning streak to now make it 6 years unbeaten. At the moment UL have won three of their opening four games. The only UL defeat came when the UL A team beat the ULB team in the Division 1 & 2 league.

Division 5

The Division five league kicked off on Thursday 15th. Our first assignment was a difficult away tie to an experienced Effin team. After a few scares we arrived at the sports hall. These were mainly due to the combination of Angela’s driving capabilities, combined with her car’s lack of most basic automotive capabilities.

Debra was first on court in the ladies singles, but the low roof was proving as much an obstacle as her opponent. In the end she lost in two sets, so the next on court was Albert in the men’s singles. His Effin counterpart proved a very strong competitor, and again Albert went down in two sets.

Things weren’t looking too good at this stage, and Elaine was even spotted saying a prayer to the Holy Mary statue in the viewing gallery. Her incantations must have worked, as Enda and Cormac came out with all guns blazing in the men’s doubles. After an extremely close game, the UL pair won on a score of 17-15, 15-13. Next up were Angela and Elaine, and after getting over a fit of laughing in the first set, the girls showed their class in coming out on top.

With three mixed doubles remaining, it was even on 2 games apiece. Debra and Joey played some inspired badminton in the first set, but were unlucky to go down in a tiebreak, and eventually also lost the second set. Enda and Angela looked set for a similar fate at 11-2 down in the last set. They say that behind every good man there is a better woman, but in this case she was on front, playing at the net. With some tremendous play, Angela pulled the UL pair back into the set, and they eventually ran out winners.

At 3 games each, the deciding game fell to Albert and Elaine. After winning the first set, things looked over in the second, as they fell 14-7 behind. However it seemed to be a night for comebacks, and this pair definitely saved the

best until last. With Elaine dominating the net, Albert seemed to float around the court like a butterfly, and they came out on top by a score of 17-15.

It was a great start for UL in their first year in this division. After a delicious feed, we made our way back to Castletroy, with a graciously uneventful journey.

Division 1 & 2

The first game of the year for both UL Division 1 & 2 teams took place on Monday the 19th when the UL A team came up against the ULB team. The UL A team consists solely of students, while the UL B team has a number of non-students as well as students. This game was also the 1st chance for the Intersvarsity captains to get a good luck at the seven new 1st that have entered the reckoning for senior team places.

The UL B team were dealt a blow just before the commencement of the game when Irish International Ruth Kilkenny was forced to withdraw, UL A were missing Aoife Purcell due to sickness and Conor O’Brien could not play singles due to a minor injury.

As the game began UL A shot into a 2-0 lead by winning both doubles comfortably, however the B team were giving a great account of themselves in the singles. Paul Cormaci narrowly lost to Shane O’Sullivan in the men’s singles to give the A team a 3-0 lead, however Amy O’Shea brought ULB back into contention by winning ladies to leave UL A 3-1 up going into the three mixed games. UL A made sure of victory by winning the 1st and 2nd mixed comfortably. In the final mixed a battle royal was taking place, UL B eventually came out on top as Paul and Andria Beazley narrowly over came Shane and Michelle 15-13 in the final set.

The 5-2 result was satisfactory for both teams, ULB did not collapse despite the loss of their best players while UL A got off to a decent winning start. This result will be of benefit to both teams in what is sure to be a long a competitive league over the next few months.

35 Club

On the 14th of November, the UL badminton team for the 35’s cup jumped on the buses at 8am on a typical but numbing Limerick morning. On arrival at DCU, we were straight onto the court and playing. While the team fielded was not the best possible, it was certainly representative of almost all levels of the Badminton club, with members

from 3 of our 4 teams taking part, many for the first time.

The first men’s doubles was the first to get going, with veteran Shane O’Sullivan and young whippersnapper Derek Mitchell quickly putting an end to any ideas the DCU pair had of winning, although the resistance was much stronger than expected. The game finished at two sets to nil. The first ladies teaming of fellow Cork players Amy O’Shea and Michelle Hayes stormed to victory in two sets against two quality Dublin players, indicating a very bright future for the club if we keep getting first years like this.

The next to step up to the plate was Aidan Walsh and Aoife Purcils in third mixed, which they finished off in no time at all, followed quickly by Shane and Amy in first mixed. Now, with four out of the eight games already in our pocket, a win was almost assured, but the loss of the women’s second doubles (Aoife Purcils and Leona Dreenan) and fourth mixed (Gerald Fitzpatrick and Leona) gave us a little scare.

Still, Derek and Michelle put on a masterful display to take second mixed, and Gerald and Aidan fought an epic battle to take second men’s doubles, so UL ended up winning 6-2.

The night that followed remains a complete blur, but through the fog of, um, tiredness, I can remember that we all headed into St. Stephens Green to some Aussie bar, then off some other nightclub to party the night away. Although little from that point on is clear, what is obvious is that if a team with six first years can go to Dublin and stroll so easily to victory, the UL Badminton club is only going from strength to strength.

All-Ireland Club Competition

On the 1st and 2nd of December the University of Limerick will hopefully confirm it’s status as one of Munster and Irelands leading clubs when three UL teams compete in the All-Ireland clubs which are taking place in Gormanstown, Co.Meath. The UL teams will take part at the following levels: Division 1, Division 4 & Division 5. We’d like to wish all 30 players taking part the best of luck in what should be an interesting experience against the cream of Irish Badminton.

ENVIRO ADVENTURES SO FAR AND WHAT'S COMING UP...

Critical Mass

Members of the Environmental Society took part in a "Critical Mass" in Limerick on Saturday 10th November. Critical mass takes place on the last Friday of every month in cities all over the World. The last Critical mass in Dublin saw 300 people out together on their bikes. Critical Mass is about cyclists stating that they have the same rights as motorists. It is essentially a colourful celebration of the bicycle calling for cycling lanes to be introduced. People participate on bikes, roller blades and scooters. People from age 13 to 60! This critical mass was held on a Saturday afternoon due to the falling amount of light in the evenings.

Contact: limerickcriticalmass@ireland.com - NEXSTONE: DEC. 22ND 2PM , PENNEY'S XMAS THEME!

AGM

A new Constitution was ratified at the AGM held last week, Nov. 12th The big changes were moves towards a non-hierarchical methods of organising. This method of consensus based decision making is becoming ever more popular in Green and activist circles. Comments on last years budgets were to try and obtain the same amount of non ULSU funding which made up £6000 of the £8000 the Envirosoc spent last year. The following committee positions were elected by consensus. No president this year - but if someone was, per say, asked to meet Mary Mc Alessie, Roger Dower, the Dali Lama or Paul Lee we can say for certain it would be Cearbhui!

Our new Committee:

Meeting Facilitators -	Cearbhui Ní Fhionnghusa & Shadowed by Marie Kennedy
Treasurer -	Eoin Ó Broin Shadowed by Shelia Ellis
Secretary -	Mae Pagett Shadowed by Delia Ho and Jen Buser
Public Relations Officer -	Xavier O'Brien Shadowed by Sean O'Donoghue and Jackie Drovín
First Year Representative -	Denise Ryan - Followed by her shadow
Clubs and Societies Reps -	Shelia Ellis Shadowed by Fiachra Ó Luain

The Science Fair – Nov. 18th '01

The Environmental Society was the only student society at The UL Science Fair. Science IS Fun, and we were there to say environmentalists aren't automatically against technology. I can't say we'd be pals with all the companies that were represented there but science is not the culprit; we just push for science with a conscience and ethical backbones!

The whole fair was very well organised, with lots of interactive displays for kids and adults. The Enviro. Soc. did a colourful Climate Change stand, and we focused on The Bet, a schools project we're initiating around Limerick, and around Ireland with Gluaiseacht. It's all about showing kids what climate change is for us and everyone around the globe and how to take every-day action at school and at home to stop it, like turning off lights, saving on heating, using less plastic and more lunchboxes, and saving water. We had videos showing, info. leaflets for composting, setting up The Bet in a school, but what went down the best was The BET Climate Change quiz where people could win energy save light bulbs, battery rechargers and bike dynamos. It was a hit, and made people look for the answers somewhere on display on our stand!

Contact: sheliaellis@hotmail.com for more info on THE BET+ if you wanna help calling out to schools, secondary and primary

Developmental education workshop – Nov. 17/18th

A couple of people from Enviro. Soc. went to a weekend seminar in Limerick about developmental education organised by Comhlámh. For those who don't know, develop-

ment education involves teaching social, economic and environmental factors which affect peoples' lives around the globe, by becoming aware, and understanding the complex relationship between sustainable development within the confines of a particular country. Therefore the means to achieving sustainable living becomes clearer and within the capacity of the individual. Creating a sense of moral responsibility to participate in world development, be it socially, environmentally or economically is a fundamental teaching of Development Education.

A great weekend was had by all, new friends were made, craic go leor, and lot's of new ideas went around. The Enviro. Soc. hopes to tie this into its school's projects, and also making developmental education an issue for 3rd level students and staff.

Contact: marieshanahan@hotmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Climate Change Talk – It's happening faster than you think Nov. 27th Tues. 8pm- C1 corridor
Br. Anthony Keane who has just been in Marrakesh at the latest round of the Climate Conference will be reporting back on the latest in trying to save our planet.

USI Environmental Conference

7th/8th December in Athlone.
Workshops on Forestry in Ireland, Climate Change, Fair Trade, Sustainable Dwellings, Waste situation in Ireland, no incinerators, no motorways, water fluoridation, WTO, people from all over Ireland, All welcome! Last year's conference in Galway was brilliant...it's a good chance to get informed and meet loads of cool people!
Contact: environment@usi.ie

Future forest eco village trip

14th-16th December.
3 days of working at a craft fair, living at an eco village, coppicing hazelwood, permaculture – back to THE LAND!
Beidh sé go h-iontach ar fad ar fad!
Contact: cearbhuil@usitmail.com
Books/Mags
The Envirosoc have plenty of books and Magazines
See: <http://www.csn.ul.ie/~environ/books.htm>

NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTALNEWS

Grassroots gathering

DUBLIN NOV. 24/25

Two days of workshops on the what, why and how of non-hierarchical organising. Promoters of non-hierarchical organising say that we can't solve the problems of the present using the solutions of the past. They haven't worked and the reason given is that hierarchical power structures lead to the dis-empowerment of those without direct influence and control over their own lives. Examples of this are most committee based organisations where one has to be elected to a committee which then makes all the decisions. The alternative they offer is for ALL organisations to divide into small groups to discuss the issues that directly effect them and then to send a recallable delegate to discuss issues with other delegates who then report back to their group who must then discuss issues again in light of new information gained from other groups. Slow but everybody gets a say. Another issue is that decisions are made by consensus. This means that issues are thrashed out repeatedly until practically everyone agrees with the course of action. Voting is very rare - usually only used to gauge opinion. Again everybody has a chance to voice his or her opinion. They say that the reason for pursuing these methods is to lead to the empowerment of all and freedom from all types of oppression. Check out:
<http://grassrootsgathering.freesevers.com>

Sellafield + MOX

By the time you read this we will have participated in an

action at Sellafield with Gluaiseacht and hopefully this will have been the precursor to bigger protests and actions from ordinary Irish people on the issue.

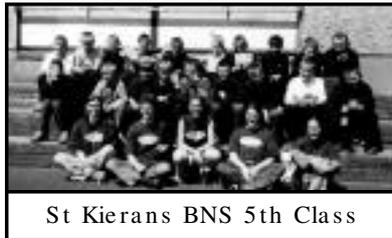
The facts about Sellafield are that there are 11,000 people working there. The vast majority of locals are quite in favour of Sellafield because of its contribution to the local economy. The current controversy stems from the authorisation of the UK government for BNFL to open a new MOX facility in Sellafield. The facility is designed to reprocess spent nuclear fuel, containing a mixture of plutonium dioxide and uranium dioxide, into a new fuel which is known as mixed oxide fuel, or MOX. The Irish Government is concerned that the operation of the plant will contribute to the pollution of the Irish Sea and underlines the potential risks involved in the transportation of radioactive material to and from the plant. Greenpeace & Friends of the Earth argue that there is no economic reason for the opening of the MOX facility. One way or the other Sellafield is now one of the two most Radioactive sites on Europe along with its sister reprocessing plant "Cap de la Hague" in France. Anyone who has visited Chernobyl or met the children from there who visit Ireland know the dangers associated with Nuclear Power. As for the 11,000 jobs one has to ask the long term question of "If not now then when?"

BUSKING for Sellafield...7 of us made £400 between 12am and 4am on Limericks O'Connell St. last Saturday night, got stacks of signatures on a petition and even a few people saying they would go to Sellafield with us. I wonder did they remember next morning!

Brussels for the EU summit protest

The presidency of the European Union will be held by Belgium from July to December 2001. European leaders want to begin a debate on the future of the European Union, notably at the Laeken Summit. Defis 2001 (D14) has brought together a number of associations and organisations who oppose the current construction of Europe. They consider that it is being forged by capitalist and not social interests, that it is not democratic but repressive and is not peaceful but rather, threatens world peace.

While the different European institutions appear very distant from the average citizen, they in fact exercise a far more important role. According to UNICE (European Employers' Association): "In European countries, 60% of new laws are introduced at a European Union level and 70% of these measures (regulations, directives, decisions and recommendations) are concerned with the economic domain". The European Union is working for whom? More see: <http://www.d14.be/>



St Kierans BNS 5th Class

Two members of the ULEnvironmental Society attended a 2 day seminar on Development Education held by Comhlámh. It focused on issues such as explanation and analysis of social and economic development and related issues such as debt, trade, aid, globalisation, etc; peace, justice, and human rights; a focus on particular groups or categories of people (such as women, refugees, Travellers, etc); anti-racism and interculturalism; environmental and health issues; solidarity with specific countries, media portrayals of the developing world, and so on. A fun and educational weekend was had by all, thanks to Comhlámh.

The Rowing Business!

ULRC in association with



Many of you out there on campus are probably wondering how did the Rowing Club manage to get the one of the biggest budget from the SU this year and how do they justify it?

ULRC have managed to establish themselves into literally a small business project at this stage. We as a club have been doing a lot of work to develop and promote what is still a relatively new club within the college. It is a very high maintenance sport and a lot of capital is required to get it off the ground. We have to fund all our resources. Nobody is providing us with equipment or storage facilities for free. It has taken a lot of work both on and off the water by some hard working club members to establish this successful club. Our workload is hardened by the fact that we have not yet been able to establish a training base on campus through the allocation of a boathouse and have to go through the inconvenient hassle of organizing training 7 miles down the road the Dublin road in wild county Limerick. Believe me it is not easy trying to convince first years that it is worth the wet, cold, dark, cycle out to Castleconnell for the love and joy of the sport.



in conjunction with UCC Rowing Club this weekend past. The idea behind this event is to provide a weekend away in preparation for the madness of competition that is second semester. Things can be a bit scattered in the beginning with new members in the club until we actually start competing and this helps new crew teams to get to know each other and their club, in a relaxed atmosphere. It is also good practice for the military operation that is bringing our boats to competitions later on in the year.

Our new members first competition will be held on home water next weekend in O'Brien's Bridge on the River Shannon. St. Michael's Head of the River is always a great competition to introduce our new crews to the world of competitive rowing. Everybody who has been in a boat already with us will be getting a chance to compete at this race all sporting our new specially designed T-shirts with

Tecnomen's logo.

The women's Novice 4+ who won at Galway Head are out to prove themselves as a formidable crew at this competition and boast their threat to other Irish women's crews for the year ahead where weekend after weekend they will be facing each other across the water. We also have a very strong crew of Intermediate Men to battle it out with the other crews. Our new novices will be able to test the water for the first time and see what other new crews are up against them for the year ahead.

The Rowing Club isn't all about big lads and ladies in skintight clothing battling it out on ergs up in the gym. We are also desperately in need of some small loud people to help roar and shout at these lean, mean, rowing machines as they race down the river. The work of a Coxswain is essential to the success of a crew at competition. They have the responsibility of steering the boat down the course and keeping an eye on the blade and

timing of the crew. It is a highly satisfying job and brings with it a lot of responsibility not to mention the fact that you have four or eight people completely under your control and order, which is especially interesting if they are a crew of the opposite sex!

So if you are interested in joining a sports club but you don't like all the physical training involved, consider this option. You don't have to do the land training during the week if you don't want to. We just need you to be around to hop in the front of the boat with your microphone and shout your way down the river! Come along to one of our training sessions and approach one of us or else contact our Club Secretary, Marie O'Neill.

Land Training for the club this semester:

Monday: Long Slow Distance Run, meet 6pm at entrance to arena, short stretch followed by 45 – 55 min slow run.
Tuesday: CALS. Aerobics room second floor of Arena. 6pm to 7:30pm. 5 min warm up run on indoor track followed by 10 min stretch. Great workout and great atmosphere, find out about upcoming club events here.
Thursday: Weights session in Elite weights room of Arena. 7 – 8pm.

New members are always welcome in ULRC. If you are interested in joining our club, come along to one of our training sessions and see what we get up to. Our land training

is great for the body; our personalities great for the mind and the women crew are great in bed, (especially all together!). So give the water spins a

try, see if you like it and become a world-class rower, we have many!!!

John Normoyle PRO

The current committee have developed full time jobs out of their responsibilities and as anyone on the committee of a busy sports club will know, it takes a lot of work to see tasks through effectively in what we deem a professional manner, especially in respect to the generous financial help from the SU and our sponsors, Tecnomen.

Next semester we intend to create some new roles within the administration of the club to help ease the workload and help keep us operate our new 'company'. New positions opening include, for example, a competitions secretary with responsibilities for accommodation and transport to our different events. A Press Officer and a Webmaster will also be brought on to help out in PRO responsibilities. I urge any members, old and new, or anyone in the college with an idea of rowing who is interested in joining our administration crew and working in this successful club to please get in contact with our secretary. We intend to establish these new roles for next semester by week 13.

A 'training' and 'get to know the club' weekend was held

Handballers defeated in 35's

Our day started at 7:30 am on Wednesday morning last in the East Gate car park. A group of nine Handballers from UL, very cold and shook looking, boarded the ULbus No.3 to DCU. It was to be a long journey to Dublin, but thanks to the bus driver, from Superdine to Kildare town we got to watch 'Courage Under Fire', would that set the tone for the rest of the day?

Our team of Pat Nolan, Michael Purcell, John Dempsey, Sharon Daly, Chris McCallion, Martin Cronin, Damian Egan, Paul Brennan and Thomas McIntyre arrived in DCU at 11:30 a.m. After eating our very filling packed lunches that were provided by DCU, we shaped up to our rival team. The formats for the matches were, twenty minutes for a singles match and thirty minutes for a doubles match. The games begin and the first UL star on court was Michael Purcell as he took on Brian Kennedy. He played very well but was unlucky to loose 20-9 against a formidable opponent. Next up were Paul Brennan and Thomas McIntyre who played Sean Morgan and Gareth Delaney. This was a very exciting match, but the DCU team showed their superior fitness towards the end! They ended up winning by 38-31. At last UL registered their first win of the day, thanks to Chris McCallion. What a hero! He defeated Danny Healy by 30-11.

Things were beginning to hot up as the matches were evening out. Next on Court were John Dempsey and Martin Cronin. Could they do the business? Unfortunately the answer was no. They by a very good pairing of Conor Kennedy and Paul Foley, two experienced players on the College scene, the score was 39-20. Now was the turn of the captain. Could he lead by example with some help from Sharon Daly against Derek Henry and Eugene O'Reilly. This turned out to be a very good contest. The UL teammates found themselves eleven points down with five minutes left, but they battled back to win by 34-27. UL were now trailing by 3 games to 2. Could Damian Egan level the score against Eoin Murphy. He gave a defiant yes, with his game having to be stopped at 42 points. He won by 42-9.

With both sides level on matches won 3-3, it was beginning to get exciting. Next up was Martin Cronin in a singles match against Colm Devine. This was an excellent match with both players swapping the lead on numerous occasions. At one stage it looked like as if our man Martin was going to put UL ahead for the first time, but a wonderful comeback from Colm denied UL. The final score ended up as 29-19 to Colm. It was all down to Thomas McIntyre to keep UL in the Hunt with two games left. He had it hard as he was to play a neighbour of his from Belcarra, Co. Mayo,

Liam Tuffy. This match was a lot closer than the final score suggests, but Liam used his previous knowledge of playing Tom to good effect.

So that was it UL were beaten by DCU in Handball for the first time in two years. It was a sore one but I think it's fair to say that all the UL team had a brilliant time and made a lot of new friends in DCU. We would like to thank everyone that helped organize the 35's Trophy this year, especially Neasa O'Donnell. It was brilliant and roll on November 2002, when we have them on our own turf. If anyone is interested in playing Handball or Racquetball, if you're a brilliant player or just someone who has never played before, you can contact me Pat on 9926704@student.ul.ie, we'd be delighted to look after you.

MBUL Report

Corrin Report: Derek O'Donoghue, Club PRO.

Saturday, 9am at the east gate car park. I arrive to find David and Alex waiting there before me. There's a slight mist falling, but nothing too worrying. Before long the others arrive and work, roll calls taken and, earlier than it was supposed to, the bus arrived. Darragh went with the bus driver to collect our trailer from plassey somewhere, where it was hiding from "clamp security." When it arrived the business of trying to fit 12 bikes into it got underway. Handlebars twisted and front wheels removed, it was packed. Everyone into the bus and we were off. It was only about 10 o'clock. The trip down was a fairly quiet one, too early in the morning for noise, although I think there were some early rumblings of slipknot from the back seat, more about that later. We arrived outside our hostel, "Fuchsia house" in the small town of Kilworth, (four pubs, a shop a church and a hostel, you know the type) at 11, and said goodbye to our bus driver while putting our bikes back together and checking for any damage that might have been incurred on the way down.

We were kitted out and ready to go without much delay. On arrival at the car park at the bottom of Corrin woods, there was a definite air of excitement. Only two people in the group had been there before and the rest of us had heard the stories of what lied hidden behind the trees of this forest, including an NPS Downhill course. Before we could attempt any of these descents, we first had to make it to the top of the hill. After stopping to play a bit on a steep rooty uphill/downhill, we continued uphill. Corrin woods are on a hill, which has a fireroad to the top. All along this road are the Stations of the Cross leading up to a stone cross at the top of the hill. These would have been good indicators of how much was left to climb, but before long someone in front of me, I think it was Gavin, took a left down a trail, which led to a t-junction. We had to go up; on looking up the trail we saw what the locals call the kamikaze, rocky, loose, steep, mmmmmmmmm. Pity we had to climb it! But climb it we did and made a mental note that this was the way we were going to exit the forest on our way home. Before too long we had reached the top of the hill. While most of us were eager to find a trail, some setup camp at the top. Those of us who were eager however headed off down the most obvious one from the top. It was short but sweet, a great warm up and preview of what was to come. It was a tricky enough descent with rocks and the odd vertical drop of about a foot or so. Gavin went first with myself following. When we got to the bottom, Gavin realized that once again he had the honour of claiming first blood, a bear trap to the Achilles heel by the looks of it. With myself and Gavin at the bottom, Michael began to come down. Michael had been here before, and he knew the trails, but with a shout of first blood from Gavin, and myself saying something to the effect of come on, its dead easy, a smooth transition or something we managed to scare him into chickening out.

Reverse psychology at its best. Before too long those who were going to attempt this descent had done so. This was Deirdre's first ever trail and it must be said she made it down the first, most difficult, rocky bit. It was however



time to move on. Back up at the cross and shouts of "NPS" where heard just before everyone raced down to the beginning of the course. The first section was lovely, not too steep with a tight twisty bit over roots, followed by a slight vertical drop. After I had cleared this section I noticed everyone in front of me had stopped to look at another line down hill. Not wanting to stop to look I shouted something to the effect of "coming through"

and hit what was about a 10ft drop of 60 degrees-ish without looking at the runout, which happened to be blocked by a tree. Barely stopping in time for this I warned the next people down about it. Then Gavin, David and I set about lifting the tree out of the way, great fun it must be said.

Just after we had accomplished this feat of manliness, Cormac decides to tell us that it was the wrong trail any-

how and that we had missed a turn. After a short climb back to this turn the descent began again. This section was once again beautiful, twisty, with berms, followed by a rooty final section to the finish. I got spat out of one of these berms at high speed, and finished up sliding down the hillside still clipped in, one of many such incidents for the day. Next up was a short singletrack blast, which was nice! Off this single track was a 180 degrees hairpin followed by a 7-foot drop, excellent. Cormac informed us that only James the local had ever made this before. It looked pretty rideable to me, but not wanting to make an arse of myself I stayed pretty quiet, until Gavin spoke up and said he'd have a go. Off he went to fail, front wheel washing out on the mossy, rooty surface. Time to have a go I thought, better to try and fall than not try at all. It was cleared first time with relative ease, just a little crotch to saddle contact. Now Gavin HAD to do it, but he too made it, almost taking out the vast majority of our external members at the same time! From here the trail continued downwards, steeply. I managed to take the first corner on my front wheel, sweet. Further on down this section I caught up with Darragh who then hit a tree, I couldn't stop in time and ran straight into him before flying off my bike. Crash of the day also happened on this bit of trail. It is awarded to the rookie of the group, Deirdre. Admittedly, I didn't actually see it myself. I was further on down, but eyewitness accounts claim she managed to go over the handlebars, roll down the hill and hit a tree.



A few more small incidents later we had reached the bottom of this trail, and it was time to climb again as this was the bottom of the forest. On the way up we had to take a detour to see the local jumpspot. The trail down to this jumpspot was tricky to say the least, very rooty and slippery. My front tyre washed out on one of the roots and I managed to fall on my right hand while my elbow was straight. It hurt like hell, but apart from the occasional moan I fought on. The jump in Corrin is mad.

A proper double to say the least, 4ft take off, 3ft landing ramp and a 3-4ft gap. Michael was the only one to try it, and he did clear it but he crashed on the landing. The rest of us mumbled our excuses before heading back to the top of the hill. For the final descent, the kamikaz, which led us on our way home as it was also getting dark. This downhill is madness! Loose rocks everywhere, and gorse bushes at the sides to claim you if you go an inch off line. Back at the hostel, and everyone began doing there own thing, cooking, showering, telling stories of the days happenings. Bikes were then packed away in the trailer, or locked up outside. The next few hours were spent eating, drinking and chatting in the dining room.

The next morning I remember was someone, Darragh I think, waking me up claiming it was 10 o'clock and sausages were cooked. In truth it was closer to 9, and the sausages were nowhere near cooked yet, but it got everyone out of bed, and we had left the house by about 10. Shop stop in Fermoy on the way to the woods. Cormac, Darragh and Gavin went to James house to try to find him, while the rest of us climbed up to forest, where we would meet again. As it turned out James wasn't at his house but up in the woods already, and luckily we met him on our climb to the top. James is a local of Corrin woods, and knew the trails like the back of his hand, having done some of them at 11 o'clock at night with no lights! After posing for some photos at the top we set off to conquer "the rainforest", the steepest trail we did the whole weekend, and it also contained a series of vertical drops ranging in height from 2-7 feet.

Gavin got the honour of calling first blood yet again. On the very first drop he managed to get a briar wrapped around his arm before falling over the bars, leaving much skin behind on the vegetation. First drop dispensed with myself and Michael headed off to the next. Michael fell at this one. He fell head first into a tree, smashing his helmet and causing quite a bit of concern among the group as he had a bad headache. But a little rest did a lot of good, and we were off again. The next drop was the steepest, and highest. Only Cormac, James and Michael cleared it first time, my front wheel washed out on a root on my first run up, although I got it the second time round, scary stuff. We continued on down the steep slope. Now the trail headed

towards the same 180 degrees hairpin bend that we had tackled the previous day. Once again I cleared it first time, but behind me all hell broke loose. One by one the lemmings came down and fell. Gavin claimed crash of the day here. After getting around the corner he stalled before the drop off, and losing his balance fell over side-



ways and off the 7 ft drop, holding onto a gorse bush on the way down and narrowly missing James who was waiting below to take a photo. Dave followed shortly after Gavin, pulling a similar move, though not with as much style. On to the next section, which had also been done the previous day. This passed without much incident, although Gus did go over the handlebars and somersault down the first section. From the bottom of this we had to climb again. The plan was to go

straight to the top, but this was scrapped when downhill bikes were spotted heading at speed towards the jump spot. One of these was the Irish under 14 downhill champion. This little kid was class. He showed us all up on the double, pulling tailwhips, one handers and a tabletop. We decided to move off and proceed to the top of the hill to try the NPS, and more importantly the trail we had cleared the tree from the previous day. This trail was excellent. It was fast, with roots and rocks and the odd vertical drop. This became the play spot for the rest of the day. The other group of downhillers also decided to play on this section for the rest of the day and great fun was had by all. Gus went over the handlebars two more times as far as I can remember. The first time he narrowly escaped getting his bars stuck in his chest, the second time he body surfed past one of the downhillers, who it must be said had quite a worried look on his face. Worried at the state of Gus's sanity methinks.

Too soon it was time to leave the woods and return to the hostel to pack. Gus, Gavin and I took an alternative route to the top, and after meeting with the others at the top joined with Michael and Deirdre to take the fireroad out of the forest, while the others took the kamikaze again. The road cycle back was a nice cool down after the long day, with a 10 minute shop stop thrown in the middle to get some food for dinner. On arrival back at the hostel Gavin went into shouting mode, as he gave orders to everyone. The hostel had to be cleaned, bikes packed into the trailer, bags packed, showers taken and dinner cooked/eaten in the two hours or so before the bus was scheduled to arrive. Shockingly all the necessary jobs were completed in plenty of time, and after a bit of trouble with the hitch, we had the trailer attached to the bus and were ready to go. On arrival back at the east gate in U.L., the trailer was unpacked and good-byes said, before we all went our separate ways

Facts and Figures

- Numbers: 12
- First blood: Gavin both days
- Mechanicals: Michael's chain device followed by his chain.
- Deirdre rear wheel.
- Simon's brake pads (steel on steel aint good)
- Shop stops: Short but frequent.
- Best crashes: Saturday: Deirdre's meeting with a tree
- Sunday: Gavin's 7-foot plummet
- Strange: Cormac fell, more than once too
- Quotes: 'There's no such thing as a good uphill.'
- Alex
- 'Trust me' -James, incessantly.
- Insane cackling as people approached the drop-offs (Gus, Cormac, some other people)
- 'There will be a steep learning curve, if you'll excuse the pun.' Gavin explaining to Deirdre about learning to ride off-road

History Society Update

On 31 October, eight members of the History Society took three hours out of their day to ramble around the Hunt Museum on Limericks Rutland Street. After wandering around aimlessly for some time, it was decided to enlist the help of a tour guide who gladly showed the group the beautiful collection of art and antiquities displayed within the confines of the 18th Century Custom House. This collection includes pieces from the Greek, Roman and Egyptian ages, alongside work from the hands of Yeats, Renoir and da Vinci. In some very good company, many members of the described the afternoon as calming and de-stressing – just what they needed in the face of mounting coursework.

The main focus of the Societies attention for many weeks was their Greek Week event, 'The University of Limericks'. This was an attempt by the Society to seize the world record for the greatest number of limericks in one place at one time, which cumulated in a display in the Stables courtyard on November 6th. Along with those received beforehand, some passers-by were glad to try their hand at limerick writing and further added to the collection. During the course of the day, the 'Limerick Leader' also dropped by to take some pictures and get the low-down on what was going on. As the application to the Guinness Book of Records is being meticulously processed, the Society would like to extend a sincere word of thanks to everyone who contributed to the event. All entries were scrutinised and examined and there were winners in a number of categories. Each of these is being contacted and the prizes distributed accordingly. The winning entries are as follows:

There was a guy called Dave
Who dug up a whore from the grave
She was missing a tit
But he didn't give a shit
Think of the money he'd save
Patricia Cahill

Said Freud, "I've discovered the Id.
Of all your repressions be rid.
It won't ease the gravity
Of all the depravity,
But you'll know why you did what you did"
Eugene Gath

There once was a man called Herbert
Who loved to eat orange sherbet
He'd climb up a tree
To see what he'd see
Cause he was the neighbourhood pervert
David Hughes

Those students in Limerick I hear
Are up to some mischief its clear
They're counting five lines
Of nonsensical rhymes
And then heading off for the beer
Rose Rath

The critics denounced as obscene
The World Cup chances of our football team
But with dashings of luck
And a Dutch team that suck
Hail all to the mighty Roy Keane
Shane Kirwan

As a welcome to the University, the History Society invited the faculty's newest member, Dr. Alistair Malcolm, to give a lecture. This lecture, entitled 'Louis XIV and the Spanish Succession', took place in meeting room 4 of the Students Union Building on Thursday 15 November at 7.00 pm. Unfortunately, it clashed with the Ireland v Iran match and so, as you can imagine, this led to a 'slightly' diminished crowd. Thankfully, enough people showed up to make it viable and Dr. Malcolm continued to deliver a highly enlightening and informative lecture regarding the reigns of Louis XIV of France, Charles II of Spain and Philip V of Spain (who happened to be Louis's grandson). Afterwards Dr. Malcolm proceeded to take some questions from the floor. These he answered to the best of his ability – which between you and I is pretty bloody good!! The Society wishes to express continuing thanks to Dr. Malcolm and hopes he enjoys his time here in UL...how ever long that may be!

Regarding the future, look out for the Societies Christmas Charity Fundraiser, along with a few other ideas that are in the pipeline. To see out the remainder of this semester, the Society is organising a video series for all its members. New members are always welcome to come along to the meetings which take place in the Students Union Building at 6.00 pm, every Thursday evening.

ULKC – UL Descent A Great Success

ULdescent was a great success for the club, there was a good turn out on the day. The race was delayed by a half a hour and this gave anyone with a sleepy head a chance to wake-up and get psyched up for the race. The long start went underway, with two international paddlers taking part; they went on to win 1st and 2nd in the K2 class. Also Brian did a great job as sweep on the long distance.

The short start saw a good turn out. It was great to see new members taking part as well as the old. There was a great battle between the men and women in this race. The final results were Eamon Coyle 1st (not beaten by a girl), Jimmy Evans 2nd (what happened Jimmy), Edel Quinn 1st and Georgina Quaine in the ladies race. Great prizes were supplied by River Deep, Mountain High and we would like to thank them immensely for these great prizes. After the race it was back to the warm surrounding of the sports bar, where we had a big feast (thanks) and prizes were awarded. This is a positive start to a new race held by ULKC, and we hope to have an even bigger turn out next year as it has qualified as a ranking race. Thanks to everyone who took part and also thanks to the rescuers, who did a great job on Saturday.

ULKC news; our trailer has been sick for a little while, but we hope to have it up and running shortly, so larger river trips can go ahead. ULKC are planning a weekend away week 12 to lasky Co. Sligo. This plans to be a great trip, both for kayak surfing and river trips, so keep an eye on the notice board for more details.

Well done to everyone who took part in the 35's trophy in Dublin last week. The first years drew 4-4 in the kayak polo game, but lost the salaam, as our new members have no real experience in salaam, they did excellent for beginners. It was a great day out for the club, and hopefully next year we will win back to trophy.

Notes;

Tuesday -pool session 9.45 – 11.15

Wednesday- river trip see notice board.

Thursday -pool session; 6.45- 8.15.

C U there

ULKC

Karate Club Night Out

The Globe

Thursday Wk 10

Tickets £5

(ON SALE IN THE
CANTEEN THURSDAY 29th 17:00)



Irish Peace Society

Thursday of Week 7 saw the Irish Peace Society continue with its activities this semester holding a debate on the war in Afghanistan. This was organised to coincide with Greek Week. The speakers on the night were John Gormley of the Green Party, Mary Jackman of Fine Gael and Col. Michael Shannon Chairman of the Irish Peace Institute. Bernadette Sexton Auditor of the Irish Peace Society chaired the event.

The quality of the speakers encouraged a high turnout for the debate and a lively discussion prevailed throughout the evening. The debate was enlivened by very good contributions from the large attendance, which varied from Realist views, through the idealist contributions of peace promoters, to the more doctrinaire views of Neo-Marxists. Some parties such as Fianna Fail, the Progressive Democrats, and Labour Party, were notable by their absence, as they were unwilling, or unable to produce panel members for this important debate. Young Labour did have a representative in the audience however. The level of interest in this debate was highlighted by the fact that discussions went on until 10pm and

even then the chair had to stop questions. The Scholars provided the ideal forum for a resumption of discussion later on.

Thanks must be offered to Young Fine Gael for their help in contacting the Senator and the Green Party for getting in contact with the TD who had to travel from Dublin for the occasion. For those interested in getting involved the Irish Peace Society holds meetings every Tuesday at 5.30pm in Room 2 of the Students Union Building. Talks are held bi-weekly. Upcoming talks this semester and next will include the activities of the United Nations, Irish Neutrality, and peace in Northern Ireland just to mention a few.

UL Mens Rugby News Latest

U.L. 35-32 C.I.T.

The University of Limerick played Cork I.T. in the first round of the Irish Permanent Cup at the U.L. grounds on Wednesday the 14th of November. U.L. got off to a flying start with an unconverted try after 2 mins.(Ronan Likely). C.I.T. responded well with a penalty and then three unconverted tries in a fifteen minute spell as U.L. overcomplicated matters and conceded far too much possession to a slick, fast and well drilled Cork backline.(scorers unknown) The interval saw a major change in fortunes with U.L. making four substitutions and turning an 18-5 deficit into a 30-18 lead with a penalty (Brian Lonergan), three tries (Les Hogan, Ian Madden and Cathal Garvey) two converted (Brian Lonergan) and a drop goal (Philip Treacy). Again U.L. relaxed as C.I.T. countered with an unconverted try and a penalty try, to take a 32-30 lead into injury time. From the kick-off U.L. applied pressure which yielded a scrum 30 metres out from which they scored the match winning try (Keith Matthews) with the last play of the game to snatch a 35 -32 victory.

Outreach News

First of all we'd like to thank everyone who attended the Soul Clinic gig in the function room of the Scholars on Monday 19th. A great night was had by all and the proceeds made at the door all go towards the Ronan O'Keeffe fund, which is coming along nicely. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who sponsored the three members of Ronan's class who did the bungee jump during Greek week. Ronan's Environmental Science class deserves huge thanks. The whole group have come together over the last few weeks and devoted their time to raising money for him. All the class showed up on the day of the bungee to watch their fellow classmates scream for Ireland. It just shows what you can achieve when you come together as a group and work towards a common goal. Thanks also to all the lecturers who gave generously to this fund. The Scholars and Stables also donated generous sums of money so a special thanks to you too. The CES department is also thanked for their generosity. As usual the Outreach society has another stream of events planned for the coming month of December, one of which being the Christmas Party. Members of our society are planning to travel to South hill Community School some afternoon during to December to throw a Christmas party for the kids in the national school. Naturally Santa Claus and loads of goodies will

accompany us. It will prove very rewarding just to see the smiles on those kid's faces, as they will enjoy a day of Christmas carols, sweets, presents and a chat with Santa Claus. These kids come from disadvantaged areas and we thought it would be a lovely idea to give them some books for Christmas so anybody who has loads of children's books lying idle around the house please drop them into the Students Union. It's all in aid of a worthy cause so any books will be greatly appreciated. That's all for now.

Talk to ya later.

The Ladies Rugby Club

Being one of the most successful clubs in the university we have already begun another rewarding year. Last year we were the proud winners of the Ladies Intervarsity and the Ladies All Ireland league. Following these successes the team attended an International seven a side competition in Paris. Here we managed to gain a place in the final but were sadly beaten. This year our aim is to succeed. So far the season has been a more than just a success. We began by playing a friendly match against Athlone IT. Here great performances were had by all. The score stood at 58-0 to UL when the match had to be stopped due to injury. Following this we began our all Ireland colleges league with our first step in retaining our title. This match took in Maynooth on the 12th November against NUI Maynooth. Our new players outdid themselves and we were proud to have them as part of our team. Tries were scored by almost everyone, with the final score being 88-0.

Things are looking optimistic for the rest of the season. Many matches have been planned, and we have also just heard that University of Wren who beat us in the seven a side competition are touring and wish to play us. We are already looking forward to seeing them again. New members are always welcome so please come along to training on Wednesday at four o'clock on Maguire's pitches if you are interested.

Outdoor Pursuits: Halloween Night on Keeper Hill

On Wednesday evening of Week 6 a group of brave and daring OPC members gathered outside the Stables dressed in best Halloween attire - the destination: Keeper Hill. The purpose of the trip was to familiarise club members with navigation skills with the added challenge of zero visibility in the darkness.

Reassuringly guided by light of the full moon we headed up along the tracks led by a few festively dressed goblins into the eerie forests. The hike to the top took about two hours winding trails - during which we were entertained by rebel songs and a strange ghost in full-length long johns and not much besides (!!)

The entire hike covered 10-12 km and took roughly four hours. From the top there was a fantastic view of the lights of Limerick city and Tipp town and the odd fireworks display.

Back at the bottom of the hill, a short wait for the bus ensued during which we scared away the local trick-or-treaters, huddled in a big pink kishoo by the side of the road. The festivities continued back at University Court where a great night was had by all.

URL On the Web!!!

UL Radio Society is back in action! The all new, all improved student station "UrL" – University radio Limerick provides an unconventional radio experience that can be accessed via the web by people all over the world!

Catering for a diverse range of interests UrL promises something for everyone, including sports programmes, current affairs, comedy and much more, while also promoting what airwaves are really made for... quality music and lots of it!

The station which is being run in conjunction with Skynet, the Computer Society in UL, has undergone a highly successful period of testing with the ITD, Information Technology Department to ensure that high demand won't stress the university computer networks. And since everything is in order we are all set to proceed with the official launch date, WEEK 10! So you can all long on, tune in and freak out at <http://url.csn.ul.ie>!

The radio society would like to express their gratitude to everyone involved in getting UrL up and running with a special thanks to Patricia Moriarty, Patrick Kennedy, the Computer Society and all in the ITD.

In other news the recent Greek Week events provided a great opportunity for the public to quieten some of the most

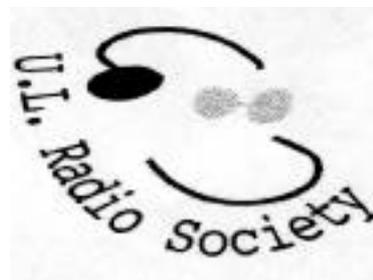
active gabs in the radio society. A sponsored 12 hour silence raised a massive £793 for the society as well as local charities.

The DJ workshop being run over the past few weeks has also generated much interest. Aiming to provide a forum for up-and-coming UL DJ's to practice, perform and perfect their acts we will be hosting a showcase night every Friday night in Doc's nightclub from the end of November. So come along, enjoy the tunes and show your support... you never know the next Pete Tong could be in our midst!

If you are interested in getting involved in the workshops check out the notice boards for more info, from novice to pro all are welcome!

A final word of thanks to Peter Burrows who has contributed so much to UL Radio Society in his time as President of the society. As he stands down from his position we would all like to thank him for the immense amount of work in organising the society and station during his involvement.

Bye 4 now, don't forget to tune in! If you can't get to a computer, tune in your ears, the station will be piped all over the college. Today UL... Week 10 the world!!!



-Claire Shaughnessy

UL Emerge Victors in Home Inter-Varsities

The October Bank holiday weekend saw ULSC host the 2001 Western Inter-varsities. ULSC also managed to take home all the prizes with a great victory in extremely difficult conditions.

The weekend was dogged by ridiculously light winds, however the standard of sailing was still very very high. On Saturday morning, UL 1 was pitched against the mighty Trinity College, in their first race. Some fantastic and exciting racing going up the first beat saw ULreach the windward mark in a winning combination, after this some first class boat speed from Richard who was comfortably in first and some excellent tactical team racing from Fergal and Paul, saw ULfinish a long way ahead.

Up next were Royal College of Surgeons, by the first mark Paul and Richard were a long way ahead and in complete control of the race and with Fergal doing an amazing job at slowing the Surgeons boats down and then getting ahead of

them to secure first second and third for UL.

After this we had to postpone racing until the following day due to light airs. Unfortunately on Sunday morning there was dense fog and no wind whatsoever, so we had to abandon the event. The event had then to be decided on the 15 races that had been completed and this saw ULemerge on top.

A great weekend was had by all and we would like to thank our OD Rory Fitzgerald our assistant OD Anthony Smyth, the Jurors Martin Darrer, Dave Maher, Ciaran Fitzgerald and Dave O'Neil, and Mr. Cavanagh for the loan of his boat. Without their help we could not have run the event.



And Finally a big shout out to the Victorious team

Paul Ruddy
Owen Clarkin
Richard Murphy
Clodagh Cavanagh
Fergal Dodd
Eoghan Moriarty

UL Soccer Club

National Universities Cup Results

Maynooth 3-4 UL

Goalscorers :Scott Brady, Bryan Donnellan, Ross Dunphy and Gordon McCann.

Team : Brendan McDermott, Mark Reidy, Grant Murtagh, Paul Crowley, Eoin Poill, Martin McGurty, Scott Brady (Capt.), Pat Dobe, Kevin Murphy, Gordon McCann, Bryan Donnellan.

Subs : Paul Mulvihill, Ross Dunphy, Padraig Blake, Kevin Donnelly.

St. Marys 0-3 UL Goalscorers :

Grant Murtagh, Eoin Killackey, Ian Holland.

Team : Darragh McMahon, Paul Mulvihill, Kevin Murphy, Grant Murtagh, Padraic Brody, Mark Reidy, Paul Crowley, Scott Brady, Martin McGourty, Eoin Killackey, Ian Holland.

Subs : Brendan McDermott, Ruairi Spillane.

Next Match: Cup Semi Final Away to DCU.

Junior 2ALeague Results

UL2-1 Weston Villa Goal scorers: Paul Mulvihill, Eoin Killackey.

UL2-1 Hyde Goal scorers: Eoin Killackey, Joe "Turkish".

Regional 3-1 UL Goal scorer: Brendan Lynch

Ladies Soccer News

Results to date

CIT0-2 UL

Goal scorers: Julie Kirwan, Louise Henchy

DCU 1-1 UL

Goal scorer: Donna Fitzgerald

UL 1-0 Tralee IT

Goal scorer: Donna Fitzgerald

Following our unbeaten start to the season, UL now sit joint top of the Women's Premier League. There have been many impressive performances thus far, highlighted by the additions of Patrice Dennehy and Donna Fitzgerald. Louise Henchy governs a very solid Defence, which has only leaked one goal in 3 games. Louise is joined by Jane Kennedy, Emma O'Halloran, and the very impressive pair of Rosie Lohan and Fiona Hayes.

Julie Kirwan uses all her experience of club football with Shamrock Rovers, to dictate the Midfield. She is complemented by hard working wingers Patrice Dennehy and Neasa O'Halloran, and has had a different Central Midfield partner in each of the 3 games so far.

Donna Fitzgerald has proven to be one of our finds of the season, and her coolness in front of goal is always due reward for the hard work of all her team-mates. Normally paired with Catherine Burke, the two should prove to be a

tough strike force to contend with for any defence.

Senior Squad : Paula O'Connor, Emma O'Halloran, Louise Henchy, Jane Kennedy, Rosie Lohan, Julie Kirwan, Pratrice Dennehy, Neasa O'Halloran, Valery Mulcahy, Adrienne McCarthy(C), Eimear Enright, Donna Fitzgerald, Catherine Burke, Ailbhe Bhreathnach, Siobhan Stenson, Rosin Aspell, Roisin Neville and Karen Dolphin.

Training continues on Monday and Wednesday at 5pm on the Astro and at 6pm under the Floodlights of Maguires. UL are hosting the Freshers Interschools on the weekend of Week 9. UL hope to have 2 teams competing in the tournament. That is followed by Senior Premier League matches away to UCD and then at home to Sligo IT on the following Sunday.

Junior B Match Reports

Caherdavin (C) 0UL(B) 2

UL took all the points in a close game at the country club ground on Sunday. The game was very tight throughout, and until the 85th minute Caherdavin looked like they were going to snatch a share of the spoils. Both sides struggled early on to create any decent chances. With both Jason Begley and Tony Connolly working very hard, UL gradually began to take control in midfield. Great interplay between Damien Treacy and Aidan Cunningham started to unsettle the Caherdavin defence. The breakthrough came midway through the first half. The Caherdavin keeper could only parry a great 25-yard drive by Ricky Cosgrove, and Cormac Foley pounced on the loose ball to put UL ahead. Caherdavin came charging back into the game. They could have leveled but for sound goalkeeping by Robbie Downes, and solid defensive work by Jack Anderson and John Clifford.

There were very few decent chances in the second half. Caherdavin pushed more men forward, and they almost equalised when a great 25-yard drive hit the crossbar. Ronan Kelly and Fabian Healy both showed great composure in dealing with a number of attacks down the wings. UL nearly added a second when a great individual run by Cormac Foley resulted in the ball going inches wide. Liam Noonan did well to tighten up midfield when he came on midway through the second half. UL added a second goal when they hit Caherdavin on the break in the 85th minute. Aidan Cunningham received the ball 40 yards out, took it by the last defender and then coolly slotted it past the oncoming Caherdavin keeper. Finbar O'Regan and Cyril Connolly both worked hard for UL in the closing stages to ensure a fine UL victory.

UL(B) Team: Robbie Downes, Fabian Healy, Jack Anderson, John Clifford, Ronan Kelly, Damien Treacy, Jason Begley, Tony Connolly, Ricky Cosgrove, Aidan Cunningham, Cormac Foley; Subs: Liam Noonan, Finbar O'Regan, Sebastien Fantini, Cyril Connolly.

Granville 4 UL(B) 3

Granville snatched victory in extra time during this highly entertaining Eamon Quinlan cup game. Tony Connolly and Damien Treacy both competed well for UL in midfield early on. However it was Granville who went ahead with the goal of the game, when they scored with an unstoppable drive from outside the area. They doubled their lead minutes later with another long-range shot. To their credit, UL did not give up, with the back four playing particularly well. Joe Ginar and Aidan Cunningham worked hard upfront, but the Granville defence was well organised and they remained two ahead at the break.

Cormac Foley started the second half and proved to be a constant threat to the Granville defence. UL scored early in the second half when Cyril Connolly drove home a free from 35 yards. UL's celebrations were short lived as Granville added a third minutes later. With only fifteen minutes left, UL were still two goals down, but they never gave up and they continued to press forward. Granville could have extended their lead on the counter attack, but for great defending by Ronan Kelly and Jack Anderson. Ricky Cosgrove brought UL back into the game when he finished of UL's best move of the game. With time running out, UL threw everyone forward, and they were awarded a penalty when Cormac Foley was taken down in the box. Ricky Cosgrove converted the penalty and the game went into extra time. Both sides pushed forward looking for the

winning side. Granville scored their fourth goal on the stroke of the first half of extra time with a crisp finish from close range. UL worked tirelessly in the closing minutes, but try as they might they could not break through a stubborn Granville defence.

UL(b) Team: Robbie Downes, Finbar O'Regan, Jack Anderson, John Clifford, Ronan Kelly, Damien Treacy, Cyril Connolly, Tony Connolly, Ricky Cosgrove, Aidan Cunningham, Joe Ginar; Subs: Cormac Foley, Sebastien Fantini.

National U21 League Match Reports

UL Advance in Eircom FAI U21 cup.

UL5 Salthill Devon 2

UL advanced to the last 16 of the Eircom FAI U21 cup with an impressive victory over Salthill Devon at Plassey last Sunday. After drawing 0-0 in Galway the previous Sunday a close encounter was expected in this replay. However UL, playing some fine attacking football, dominated from start to finish this time round ensuring that victory was obtained with plenty to spare.

UL were in front after 10 minutes when a fine move down the right flank was coolly finished to the bottom left hand corner by Wayne Gartland. Gartland turned creator 10 minutes later when he played a superb 40 yard ball to right wing back Padraig Blake. Blake then sent in a powerful cross from the byline which was finished emphatically to the net by Jason Hannam.

To their credit Salthill battled back and on 35 minutes a through ball caught a square looking UL defence napping. In the resulting one on one UL keeper Darragh McMahon took the Salthill striker down. Sean Reid scored the resulting penalty; McMahon was unlucky here after guessing the right way but was just unable to keep the well struck shot out. UL restored their two-goal cushion just before the break. Good work on the left by Kevin Murphy resulted in a good quality cross into Hannam who with plenty still to do finished well with a crisp drive low to the left hand corner.

The second half was a more ragged affair. UL got their fourth on 60 minutes to effectively seal the tie. Hannam was played in on the left by ex-Aisling Annacotty midfielder Martin McGourty. The resulting cross was finished well to the net by a diving Ian Holland. Salthill obtained a consolation goal from the penalty spot on 75 minutes when ex Shamrock Rovers star Ricky O'Flaherty was taken down by Kevin Murphy in the box. A quickly taken freekick by Eoin Killackey set Jason Hannam free and he completed the scoring and his hat-trick and UL's fifth goal on 85 minutes.

UL (3-5-2). McMahon, Crowley, Murtagh, Stapleton (Dunn 55), Blake, Murphy, McGourty (Mulvihill 88), Gartland (Killackey 65), M Holland, Hannam, I Holland.

ULFC are kindly sponsored this year by Kostal Ireland based in Abbeyfeale.

UL 1 Waterford Utd 2

UL entertained high-flying Waterford Utd at the UL grounds on Sunday. When these two sides met in the opening game of the season Waterford ended up easy winners so UL were determined to do themselves justice. The game began at a high tempo with the Blues having the better of the early exchanges. Despite some good attacking football by both sides clear chances were at a premium. UL were putting the flanks to good use and were unlucky not to take the lead when good work by Padraig Blake and Wayne Gartland led to a chance for Jason Hannam who saw his shot well saved by the visitor's keeper. Waterford came into the ascendancy for a 10 minute spell and should have taken the lead but a combination of good defending and good goalkeeping kept them at bay. With half time approaching UL enjoy a period of possession and created a couple of chances to suggest a possible upset on the cards.

The second half began with Waterford taking control and they began to pile on the pressure on the home defence. UL defenders Grant Murtagh, Paul Crowley and Mark Reidy were dealing adequately with whatever the Blues could throw at them and when they were breached Keeper

McMahon was there to help out. On 65 minutes Waterford had their best chance of the game when good work down the right flank led to the ball being squared for Joey Watson who saw his shoe expertly saved by the UL Keeper. Shortly afterwards UL were not so lucky when a good diagonal ball was headed into the path of Watson who in turn unleashed an unstoppable shot to the corner of the net. This goal seemed to spur UL into action and the likes of Mark Holland and Padraig Blake began to run at the Blues defence causing plenty of problems. Jason Hannam up front for UL was a constant threat and was unlucky not to equalize when shooting narrowly wide after good work by Martin McGourty. Waterford got their second on 80 minutes when the talented Watson turned inside the box and hit a shot that fairly bulged the net, much to delight of the traveling team. UL pushed everything forward in an attempt to get something out of the game as Waterford barely touched the ball for the remainder of the game.

Chances fell the way of McGourty and Murphy but both were unable to capitalize. With just 2 minutes remaining the excellent Jason Hannam coolly slotted the ball to the back of the net after good work by Stapleton. It was a case of too little too late and Waterford held on for a deserved win.

UL (3-5-2) McMahon (Capt), Blake, M Holland (Dunn), Murtagh, Crowley, Reidy, Murphy, McGourty, Gartland (Stapleton), Hannam, I Holland (Brody)

Denis McCarthy – An Appreciation.

I first met Denis in 1993 when we were in DCU together. We jointly managed the 1994 DCU Fresher squad and the thing that immediately struck me about him was his can-do approach to everything. Whether it was sorting out gear, or making sure that half the team had a place to stay overnight in Maynooth he was always entirely unflappable. You were always confident with Denis that, once he said he'd do something, it would get done and that there would be no worries.

After playing in three Collingwood cups for DCU it was clear that a change of direction on the academic front was necessary. The best way to do this was to come to UL. He enrolled for the BSc in Computer Systems here, a big change of scenery for such a true Dub. The new course really seemed to suit him though and in September 2000 he would graduate with a good honours degree.

His determination to succeed on the playing fields translated well to UL also. He immediately became a central member of the soccer club here and would play in three more Collingwoods and one Crowley during his time in Limerick. In his first year he would travel back to Dublin to play for their weekend side, a major commitment that he typically made light of. Later on he would turn out for the UL weekend side and was at the heart of the defence that lifted the Limerick Regional Lipper Cup in May 2000.

Anyone who travelled to an interschool competition with Denis knew that a good time was in store simply because "Firestarter" was on the bus. His was the first voice you would always hear encouraging those around him however the game was going. And whenever a goal was scored he was always there in the heart of the celebrations, irrespective of whether he was actually playing or not.

His tragic death leaves a huge void for all those who knew him. There simply are no words. UL and DCU soccer clubs have got together to commission a perpetual cup that will commemorate his immense contribution to both college teams. Now, whenever both sides renew rivalry in Limerick or Dublin it will be for the Denis McCarthy Cup. The first of these matches will take place this Wednesday in Dublin when UL meets DCU for a place in the final of the Irish Universities League Cup.

How would he react to all this? I'm sure he'd have seen the funny side as always, as long as the winners would be sure and hammer UCD that is.

Martin Hayes,
Chairman ULFC

UL LGB attend USIPink Training days

Pink Training 2001, took place this year in Cluain Mhuire, which is part of GMTin Galway city. It is a regular event held once a year and organized by USI (Union of students in Ireland). It started Friday 9th November and finished on Sunday the 11th. It consisted of several workshops focusing on LGB (Lesbian Gay and Bisexual) issues. This year, there was a record attendance of approx. 100 people, all of whom are members of LGB Societies from all the different universities and colleges across Ireland. Last year, the event was held in Belfast with an attendance of about 30, which then seemed big, but this year's event was enormous and astounding in comparison. Firstly, all 100 of us stayed in the one hostel on Dyke Road (yes, really, Dyke Road, its true) in Galway. On Friday evening when we all had arrived, Diane Goldthorp (the LGB rights officer with USI), who was in charge of the event, began with an icebreakers session where we got to know lots of people from all over Ireland and forged long lasting friendships that would last a lifetime. The three principle goals of the workshops and the modules were to inform, empower and to network. At 10 o'clock on Saturday and Sunday morning without fail, Diane would knock on our bedroom doors to wake us up in order to get a privately hired bus from the hostel to Cluain Mhuire, where we had the workshops. The issues which were dealt with in the workshops were

Coming Out
Labeling/ stereotypes
LGB and the Law
Violence in relationships

Everyone in the room actively participated and everybody's opinion was respected. The atmosphere was charged and never in my life have I seen so many gays in one room discussing issues that directly affect gay people such as the right to same-sex marriage and adoption. ULLGB Society webpage address:

<http://ul-heaven.tripod.com>
student1_ul@yahoo.com

Email:

Here is some of the feedback we received from ULLGB Society members who went to Pink Training:

Pink Training to me was a chance to be myself and to learn more about myself. Most of the modules I had I could relate to, the first module was about Labels and how we



label one another, being straight, gay or bisexual, how does each one of us act and in what manner This made me think how different people can be, but at the same time it made me realize the beauty of being different. The next Module we had was about coming out, each one of us had a different story, some of us came out some didn't. Some of the stories were very touching and very emotional; I could feel the suffering of some of us. A few people were out to everyone they know, which was great.

The third Module was about violence in relationships, there were amazing stories in that module, it made me realize the similarities between any relationship, whether it's straight or not. In Pink Training I got to know more people from all around the country, which gave me support for myself knowing that I'm not the only one. It also made me feel special about myself and who I am. We got to learn about our rights and how to make use of them. The most successful thing to me about Pink Training is that it made me like being who I am and feel good about it, and act myself, also Pink Training gave me a push to come out to more people and since then I came out to three people and there reaction was great.

- Pink Training was educative, informative and very enlightening. It was great to see such a strong team of 96 LGBTpeople with such an array of ideas and views - unity and diversity combined. The modules themselves were thought provoking, and initiated a lot of 'looking inwards' at aspects of our sexuality that we never really paid attention to before. Feel a lot more in touch with myself since.

- Never have I had the pleasure of discussing life, love and social & personal conquests with so many intelligent, opinionated, like-minded people who weren't afraid to stand up and be heard. Every individual had a story to tell regarding their own experiences and through the modules in any critical issues were discussed. Issues that are so pivotal in our quest to be allowed to live as many others take for granted. I for one am sleeping more soundly knowing that these people are out there acting with such courage and conviction. They were an inspiration and since the weekend I am more focused on being all that I can be both academically and personally. The support and encouragement that I received has given me the drive to be more open and honest with those whom I care about and already we have much closer relationships. The friends I met during the weekend will forever be etched in my mind. Thanks a million to Diane & Co. for organizing the weekend and my friend for encouraging me to attend.

UL Labour Party

In the past 7 weeks we've run 2 very successful campaigns, been to 3 demos, a Labour youth Seminar and conference and organized a public debate. Our first event, hosting Michael D. Higgins T.D. was attended by over 70 people and was a great launch for the branch, as we got publicity in the college newspaper and on UL radio. Towards the end of October we ran our first campaign, 'Justice not War' we collected over 400 signatures and got positive support from the student body, in our response to the War in Afghanistan and the use of Irish Airports by US planes. Our second campaign focused on Labour policy regarding rented accommodation and students' rights as tenants. We ran it alongside the Students' Union's welfare week and with the support of Threshold. We are currently in the process of pressurizing the Union to take up our campaign as long-term project. Last month our members attended the first peace vigil organised by Peace and Neutrality Alliance at Shannon airport. Following this two members formed part of the Labour Youth Delegation with traveled with the environmental group 'Gluseacht's anti-nuclear protest to Scotland. They spend a day in Derry City and held a demonstration outside 'Raytheon' Arms manufacturing plant and latter took part in a peace vigil with locals in the Diamond.

On the way through Belfast they took time to stop in the

Ardoyne to show solidarity with the local 'right to education' group. In Scotland the delegation meet members of the British Labour Party, in our discussion we brought up the topics of Sellafield, the War, nuclear disarmament and 3rd level grants in the UK. Our final objective taking part in the Annual blockade at the of the Nuclear Trident Missile Submarine base, along with 1,500 socialists, trade unionists, and environmentalists including Irish MEP Patricia McKenna and our own Cian O'Callaghan, recent Vice-President of USI, was a huge success. On our return we headed to the Mansion House in Dublin to attend the Labour Youth Seminar on the 'Right to Choice', guest speakers included Liz McManus T.D., Meabh Ruane Irish Times journalist and Ivan Bacik Trinity Law Lecturer. Last weekend 3 delegate's attended Labour Youth's National conference in Galway. One of our members was nominated to General Council and to the position of National Vice Chairperson. Our motions on Travelers in Ireland, Poverty Elimination, Sellafield and Irish Neutrality were all adopted by conference.

Our Plans 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 centered 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 a 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. The cause of Labour is the cause of Ireland, the cause of Ireland is the cause of Labour" - James Connolly



UL DANCE SOCIETY

Remember what time classes are on every week? Well here is a reminder for you all:

MONDAYS	
JAZZ DANCE	6-7 Beginners Room 4 in Student Union 7-8 Advanced Room 4 in Student Union
SALSA	Buses leave outside arch next to Scholars at 6.45pm Classes begin at 7 pm and then there is music after until 11pm
WEDNESDAYS	
IRISH DANCING	6-7 Beginners Room 4 in Student Union 7-8 Advanced Room 4 in Student Union
SETDANCING	7-8.30 All Levels welcome in Scholars Function Room

WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING THIS SEMESTER

First and foremost well done to the committee of Dance Society for their hard work organising the year ahead for Dance Society and putting in hours of their own time to make Dance Society what it is today. And for the hours put in during orientation week working on the Dance Society stall. We have managed to win the Best Societies Stall for the week and won £200 for the society.

WELL DONE GIRLS!



WHERE HAVE MEMBERS OF DANCE SOCIETY BEEN?

BUNDORAN that's where two members of Dance Society who have caught the salsa fever travelled Saturday 3rd November and took part in the crack with salsa dancers from all over Ireland, what an experience. There was lessons to improve your style of dance and lots of new moves to be learnt, the weekend catered for all with classes for different levels and a great night that didn't finish until 6am Sunday morning. Now that's what I call dancing.

SALSA DANCE CLASSES IN DOC'S

Here we have a sneak preview on what's been happening at the salsa classes in Doc's every Monday night. There are 25 members who take part every week plus the few who make it when they can, along with the many people from Limerick. There are beginners and intermediate classes which have gone from strength to strength in the past four weeks. The only thing I have to say is well done to the men who take part and you all should be proud that you have done so well. And then the ladies well there wouldn't be salsa if we didn't have you encouraging all those men to come along!!!

GREEK WEEK

Dance Society were strutting their stuff on the Thursday night proudly wearing their new hoodies designed by our committee member Shelly Goldstien. Everyone took part in getting their faces painted for the Carnival and took part in the parade which was led by Owen O'Broin with a chant "1234 there's a Mardi-gras tonight 5678 everyone's going to salsa". That was the intention anyway, to get everyone in the spirit of the dancing scene, unfortunately the weather was bitter cold and not many people stayed for too long to strut their stuff. The Set Dancing class put on a great performance in the courtyard showing us the steps they have been practicing over the past few weeks at their classes, very impressive guys you've definitely got what it takes, and well done to those who turned up and showed their support. A few people got in the spirit of the salsa dancing and we even caught them on camera, Sean who was on a sponsored silence for Radio Soc picked up the basics very quickly even though he couldn't communicate weather he understood or not he seemed to enjoy it. Also Shane & Anmarie from Dance Society also got their practice in which helped to keep the blood circulating in the cold. A huge thank you to all the people in Dance Society who helped out over Greek Week you are brilliant and everything done was appreciated.

The Set Dancers strutting their stuff during Greek Week

SALSA

Salsa has only been running for four weeks and it has gone from strength to strength, and all members who attend are very dedicated which makes Monday nights what they are. There is a great teacher who travels from Dublin every week for the classes and it would not be possible for it all to take place without Dr Rumba so many thanks to him. Hope you all believe what you hear about this guy because it real and there is a copy of his personal profile here just for you to have an idea what he can do. The guy is a natural dancer/entertainer/whatever. He's magic and makes a Monday night a very enjoyable one at that for those who attend. It only takes one class before you get hooked. Ask anyone who goes they will tell you.

Tasia E. Joshua a.k.a. Dr. Rumba

Born in Nigeria Joshua Tasia a.k.a. Dr. Rumba, has danced for different dance groups. At the age of six he started dancing with family members and boy groups performing breakdance for parties.

As a teenager he joined African dance groups whilst still in school and has won different trophies and prizes, including Best Instrumental Group, Best Dance Show, Best Drama and Best Traditional Flute Player (oja). Joshua, stepped up his act by writing his own performances, Crossroads, Journey and many more. He produced some of his works as Dance-Drama for the stage. As a born entertainer, he choreographed, directed and even promoted some of his own works.

Past Events

Dr. Rumba has taught all kinds of groups ranging from Soca (from Trinidad) to Salsa (the Latin Music phenomena of the Millennium).

Watford Festival Groups, England - Soca Dance.

African Dance Workshops, Watford Council.

Harrow Arts Festival, 1996-1997, African Dance.

Nottingham Hill Carnival.

Glastonbury Dance Festival 1998.

African Heritage Week - Dance of Repentance.

Salsa Dance Workshops.

Salsa Clubs - Salsa Villa, Salsa Sufisticate and the Salsa Academy.

Whitefriar Youth Dance Group Thuder Academy, Dublin.

St. Patrick's Festival Parade.

Guiding Light Choir.

Liberties College of Performing Arts.

Germany in the Sax Bar Hamburg

Ateacher at the Dec 1998 Salsa Pontin's Festival

And Lots More.

Afrimania

Dr. Rumba, based on experience, focus and willingness to make an impact on anything he does and his love for Africa has produced one of the best entertainment groups of a new generation with a cross-cultural revolution and pure display of talent - "AFRIMANIA".

A simple love for Africa and the madness that goes with it, maniac, created the name "AFRIMANIA". Africa has influenced the world's culture and in turn has been translated to different cultural revolutions. If there was any good that came out of the slave trade or forgiveness for the slave trade, it has to be the influence of African culture on people's lives no matter on what side of the fence they stand.

Afrimania Idea

His dance-drama was described as "works of agape [selfless] love" which he believes awakens our origin of true and selfless love for each other.

As a dancer and instructor, love is more expressed through joy of dance. This is a fundamental principle of the Afrimania Ideas. Dance, Drama, Painting and most forms of Art sets you free, makes you happy and gives you a sense of self-worth. All this is perfectly shared in all Afrimania Events and Clubs. His dance style is very charismatic, stylish and great fun.

Media

Dr. Rumba has appeared on different programs and has had a lot of media coverage.

Evening Herald, Sunday Independent, Irish Independent, U Magazine, IT Magazine, The Star, Enter Magazine, In Dublin,

2 FM (Gerry Ryan Show), Anna Livia Radio, RTE, TV3

and numerous community radios and magazines.

Dr. Rumba Today

He is a unique blend of successful business man and one of the most tal-



ented cross-cultural dancers and teachers anywhere. He has become, as a national newspaper once wrote, the "legendary Dr. Rumba" in creating a great spark and hunger for Salsa Dance in Ireland as a whole. He is a household name associated with Salsa Dance in Ireland and is credited with bringing Salsa as we know it today to Ireland.

Open new doors and explore new heights. We have not seen or heard the last of this man, Dr. Rumba.

Dr. Rumba on himself

Well, I am a free-spirit, filled with happiness, and all I want is to share my good news and simply bring happiness to people.

Everything I have done or will ever do is and will be to the glory of God. And I thank God for my life and I hope you will find a reason to do the same.

One of the Seven Spiritual Laws of Success says,

"Access to your true essence will give you insight into The mirror of relationship because all relationships are a reflection of your relationship with yourself."

So, everyday I try to understand myself more because only then can I truly create an entertainment of true happiness and to me that is Success, entertainment of Joy.

JAZZ

To everyone who still hasn't tried Jazz Dance classes, it's not too late!!

If you're not quite sure what jazz dance is all about, it's mainly modern dance, ie, the type of stuff you see in "Moulin Rouge", "Save the Last Dance", dance routines like those seen on MTV and of course "Fame!!" Even though some of the steps initially look very tricky, you'll soon get the swing of it and they're fantastic if you like to strut your stuff on the dance floor.

Classes involve Body Conditioning and Stretching, so if you want to tone up and you're not a gym-lover, dance is definitely your best option.

Our teacher, Caitriona, is an Associate Member of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing and has trained professionally at the Gallagher Academy of Dance and the Dorothy Stevens School of Dance. It's her first year teaching in UL but she's definitely taken here in the future if the demand is still there. She doesn't mind if anyone makes a complete mess of the steps so long as we keep going, so you won't embarrass yourself at all, so no excuses to those of you who promised yourselves you'd take up something new and healthy this semester and haven't yet! This is your chance!!

Classes take place every Monday in the Students Union, Room 4, Beginners at 6pm and Advanced at 7pm.

IRISH DANCING

The Irish dancing classes have been held as usual on Wednesday evenings with Beginners class 6-7. There are still a number of dedicated Irish dancers out there who are willing to turn up!! In the class itself, the dance teacher has been teaching the easy real and for a bit of variation she teaches some figure dancing, such as the walls of Limerick. Everyone has a laugh taking part in the class.

The Advanced session is 7-8 on Wednesday evenings also. Unfortunately there are only a few dancers who continue to come every week. However, that doesn't make a difference, the people who do turn up get the full attention of Breda the dance teacher who has helped them perfect all their techniques. In this class, a higher level of dance is taught such as hard reels. The dance teacher is very patient and helps everyone in the best way that she can.

Irish Dancing is very enjoyable, and is an easy and fun way to spend Wednesday evenings. If you don't believe me why don't you come along and find out for yourself!!!

SETDANCING

The set dancing classes are held in the Scholars Function Room every Wednesday 7pm-8.30pm. The teacher Pat O'Connell is a great teacher who has the members who attend dedicated to their dancing class every week. There are a few however who know a lot of the steps and only join in on occasional evenings. The amount of fun that can be had with an evening of Set Dancing with a group of people is mighty. All people are welcome beginners and advanced dancers as fun can be had by all so hope that more of you will give it a go and hope to see you there next week!!!

WHAT'S STILL TO HAPPEN BEFORE WE FINISH THIS SEMESTER IN COLLEGE

Those who have been brave enough to stick at their dance lessons, have started to notice significant differences with what they have learned in the past 5 to 6 weeks. Well it all went go to waste since everyone didn't get to strut their stuff during Greek Week, the chance will be coming around on Thursday 13th December at the Dance Societies Christmas Party in the Scholars Function Room. There will be loads of spot prizes, all the dancers putting on a piece or showing you how real dancing is done! Then we will have a DJ to help us all dance the night away to the sound of music. Lets see who lasts the whole night long and if you're up for going to town afterwards.

Also we have tickets available to anyone that wants to go to the SALSA CHRISTMAS PARTY on the 4th December in the Temple Bar in Dublin. Buses for this event will be leaving from the arch beside the Scholars at 4.30pm and returning when we're all danced out so any of you up for a night out in Dublin get your tickets by contacting dance@csn.ul.ie or ask at dance classes, tickets costing £14 to members this includes bus and party from 8pm till 1.30am and £15 non members so remember anyone can come along, so get your tickets ASAP.

NEXT SEMESTER SPECIAL EVENT

We will have the opportunity to take part in another Salsa Weekend this time in Westport which will be next February 15th, 16th, & 17th a definite event not to be missed, the people who intend to go must have a deposit paid by next week so if you are interested and want to find out more contact Anmarie on: 087-9529230 or come to Salsa classes next Monday and make your arrangements.



I am Jacks ramblings regarding Television

Gather 'round, boys and girls, so I may tell you of a thing called "Hegemony". "Hegemony" is the fancy word for the culture, morals, values and behaviours that are forced upon us by the media. You rarely take heed of it, but it is everywhere, and rarely have any of us stopped to think about it. One of the areas it has infiltrated is the area of relations between men and women.

Switch on a television. Nearly every man is portrayed in a certain light-- he's either a Fred Flintstone, or an Al Bundy, or a Homer Simpson. Nearly every woman is either a Dumb, Sexy Blonde or a Wily, Sexy Manipulator, i.e. Britney Spears or Sarah Michelle Gellar. In this world, we're told that "men think about sex every eight seconds"(or whatever the hell it is this week-- the number of seconds varies depending on which supermarket tabloid you read). Oh, those crazy slave-to-their-nature men, ha ha ha. Whatever will we do with them?

Where did this come from? Who foisted Jerry Springer and "Saved by the Bell" and MTV on us? Did we ask for it? What is its purpose? What is it here for?

In my opinion, it can be traced. The sixties gave birth to the notion of pop bands, flower-power, airy-fairness and



happy little bunny rabbits, albeit with bongos and Charles Manson and noble concepts such as pacifism and demonstration included. The worst elements of this survived into the seventies, up to the birth of disco. Then, we get ABBA and the BeeGees, and it all comes back to bite us in the ass during the eighties, when pop became big business and music went straight out the window. Marching side-by-side with this musical degeneration were television shows like "The Brady Bunch", "Happy Days" and "The Partridge Family". Its purpose? To turn us all into obedient, sugary-sweet, dumb, unquestioning drones. I hope I'm not alone when I say, "f***that!

But, nevertheless, it's there., and attempting to forge a political stance for itself by pretending to be feminist in outlook. Ridiculous displays of "Grrr! Power" assault us from every angle-- take the Diet Coke ads on T.V. and radio. The boy-toy who appears in them is obviously so dumb that he'd take his shirt off in the pissing rain or driving snow (on another note: that beverage he's drinking is known to encourage testicle cancer. The diet stuff is especially lethal.) Even though the visual "joke" of the ad could not be appreciated on the radio, the song and the dialogue itself was enough to conjure up images of that bemused idiot downing his tools at 11:30 and treating himself to some diet coke. This progressed to a more original version, where a woman phoned the window-cleaning company and demanded that he be sent over, and that he pick up a six-pack of diet coke on his way. Do you think we'd get away with that on a beer ad? "Could yeh send that bird wi' the big hooters over, could yeh? And could yeh ask her to pick up a case a'bud on the way?" Let me

give you the short answer to that: NO! We'd be hung, drawn and quartered for it!

Of course, we are endlessly reminded by crowd-pleasing feminists that "if it weren't for women, youse lads wouldn't be here, so nyaahh!!" Excuse me, but does that mean that a woman created me by herself? I'm not anti-feminist, but that's just a little unfair, isn't it? Why all the unchallenged new stereotypes about men? The whole "Battle of the Sexes" is the newest media cash-cow, that's why. And it's more profitable to favour one side over the other.

The treatment of gays and lesbians by this media construction is utterly vile. Gay men in the media are treated in two ways: as disease-ridden, sado-masochistic sickos, or as the limp-wristed, lispng comic relief. There are very few exceptions to this, and gay men have lamented the rarity of non-annoying gay characters on T.V. Lesbians are depicted as either butch, leather-wearing body-builders or innocent bimbo sexpots, and exceptions to this rule are also few and far between. Bisexuals are largely ignored, because they're at least somewhat "normal". So, Mr. Smartarse, I hear you cry, how do we improve this state of affairs?

Well... the problem is that this state of affairs will take decades to improve. Too many people are buying into it, and it has become institutionalised. The only way the

hegemony will go away is if this new millennium brings another era of revolution and change, and then the media will be forced to change its approach to a lot of things. Trust me-- when this does happen, true equality between the sexes will begin.

-Jack Fennell



In Defence of war Part Two- Response to last weeks article

Mr. Tulk has taken issue with my article, on a number of points, some speculative (and wrong), some factual (and wrong) and some irrelevant (utterly). He has also neglected to provide an alternative, realistic or otherwise to the military action we've seen, or to give any credit to efforts made to spare innocent lives, and he is ignorant of how the freedoms and values he cherishes were established and defended.

Tulk's first point: On the basis of my opinions, Mr. Tulk suggests my knowledge of the world is limited to Sky News: in fact, as a current affairs addict I am a regular reader of several broadsheet newspapers, the BBC website, and a watcher of Channel 4's 7 o'clock news. I have also read two books on Afghanistan, one by Sandy Gall (a journalist who travelled the length and breadth of the country as a guest of the late Northern Alliance commander, Ahmed Shah Masood, later founding his own aid agency for the country), and one by Tom Carew, an SAS soldier who was on active duty there during the Russian occupation. I've also spent some time at www.rawa.org (website for the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan).

Secondly, I would like to point out that my article did not attempt to nominate the United States or the Northern Alliance or anyone else for sainthood. My article has nothing to do with Nicaragua or Saudi Arabia. I am fully aware of past mistakes by American administrations, and of the sorts of atrocities the Northern Alliance have committed. I know how Russian soldiers were skinned alive, and I know that both the Northern alliance and the Taliban have derived much of their funding for a drugs trade that has been fuelling war in their country for the last twenty years. All of this is completely irrelevant to my point: that the people of Afghanistan are better off without the Taliban, and that the world is better off without Al Qaeda, and that force is the only feasible means to accomplish these goals.

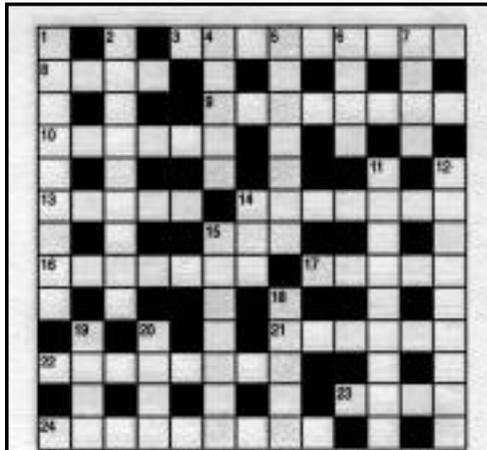
This brings me rather neatly to my third point: Mr. Tulk says that this war is starving ordinary Afghans. It is a fact that as early as the 8th of June this year, the UN anticipated the need to feed at least 5 million people in Afghanistan.

Why are all these people going hungry? Because the Taliban let them. They did nothing to help their own people, and they have deliberately obstructed the efforts of the UN and others. Only recently, as a direct result of Northern Alliance gains, have the UNHCR been able to supply food to this unfortunate country as quickly as it is needed - this war has ultimately facilitated their work, and will actually save a great many lives among the civilian population - maybe millions. Also good news is that women will no longer be barred from receiving healthcare by religious edicts, and female doctors can work again (once 40% of their doctors were female, and 90% of teachers).

Finally: Al Qaeda have suffered significant losses. The Taliban are headed for the history books. Aid is finally getting in. A long ground war is drawing to a close. Great efforts are being made by people from all over the globe to create a just and healing peace, a climate in which Afghanistan can be helped back to it's feet. All this in little over two months since the atrocity which sparked the action - I do not know how these things could have been achieved more quickly, or with less loss of life, and if Jason Tulk knows better I'm sure everyone would like to know about his magical bloodless fix for the problems of the world.

I live in the real world, and it can a brutal place. I do not need to remind my readers that there have been many times in the recent past when good people have had to fight and kill to defeat evil. I enjoy the freedoms of Europe, the value that our society places on life, and I know that this society would not exist if people much like ourselves had not bombed and shot their way across the continent. Nor would it exist had the west not built up great armies to keep the Soviets back. The free and peaceful society we have is was created through extreme violence, and military force (NATO) has been, and always will be, required to keep it free. It is precisely because we value life and freedom that we must be prepared to defend such things, and sometimes, in the ultimate irony, to kill for them. War is horrible: but it is sometimes necessary.

Edward Dixon



ACROSS

- 1. Without embarrassment (9)
- 8. Peak (4)
- 9. Metal found in light bulbs (8)
- 10. One forced to live elsewhere (6)
- 13. Overweight (5)
- 14. Unnecessary regulations (3,4)
- 15. Signify agreement (3)
- 16. Shellfish, etc. (7)
- 17. Joint of foot and leg (5)
- 21. Keen (6)
- 22. Morning alarm (8)
- 23. French kidney one? (4)
- 24. Adorned (9)

DOWN

- 1. Depository (9)
- 2. Of the Middle Ages (9)
- 4. Farcious (5)
- 5. -- about, spread (a rumour) (7)
- 6. Not particularly wonderful (2-5)
- 7. Large jug (4)
- 11. Spiteful self-tale (9)
- 12. Motor generating thrust (3,5)
- 14. Bar or stick (3)
- 15. Short fictional tale (7)
- 18. Diving bird (5)
- 19. Dole out (4)
- 20. None (4)

Submit Correct answers to the the SU Reception for the attention of the Editor of An Focal. The first correct answer out of the hat will receive the CD of The Week Courtesy of Limerick 95FM.

Due to an Editorial mistake in last weeks edition (Patrick made a boo-boo) some of the clues were withheld (yes left out. The situation has been rectified and I'm sure you'll agree that this is the best ever crossword in An Focal (well this years editions anyway!). Enjoy and send me some answers so I get to give away some CD's

An Focal

Meeting this Thursday at 6pm in the Student Centre (room detail will be publicised when I book the room!)

All New Contributors etc. Welcome

This meeting will also be the forum for everyone to come and air their views/gripes/complaints/p45's/long ignored opinions

Just a few words from the UL Hot Press Student Rep

Hey there! I'm sure you will be delighted to learn that ULnow has a Hot Press Student Rep on campus! Yes - it's me! Máiréad Moriarty, 2nd Year Languages & Cultural Studies Student! I spent last weekend receiving intensive training on the subject - and hopefully it will lead to an increase of sponsorship and promotion around the college. Friday last, I went to Temple Bar Music Centre in Dublin, where 15 other Students Reps from around the country, and I, met up with some of the lesser-known names from the legendary music magazine that is Hot Press. I had terrible difficulty in finding the venue - and the credit on the phone quickly evaporated trying to get directions from my bro in Donnybrook! Anyway - I arrived an hour early so I took my ease at the bar for a while. Eventually the hour passed and Ken Allen, Promotions Executive for the publication arrived into the side room where we were all waiting, carrying many white bags - one for each of us, with some freebies! The most unusual gift in the bag were two boxes of tic-tacs, as well as cds etc.! The rest of the evening was spent chatting and drinking (free) beer. Our photos were taken - watch out for the next issue!

As Student Rep, my main duty from the point of view of Hot Press is to promote the magazine around campus, increase the circulation ...sell sell sell! So you'll probably see me around the place every second Thursday or Friday, when it comes on sale, trying to put up the posters etc! (Please don't steal them from the notice boards - each one is fitted with a tracking device by Hot Press - basically to prevent me from hogging them all at home!)

Another one of my roles is to co-ordinate Hot

Press sponsorship and promotion of appropriate events in the college. I know that it is actually very late in the semester to be talking about that - but if there are any special events going on over the remainder of the semester, Hot Press may be in a position to provide some kind of sponsorship - perhaps in the form of cds, etc. for spot prizes. Hot Press will consider each proposal on its merits.

If there is something going on that you think we might be able to help with, contact me at the e-mail address below.

If you have any questions, either about gaining sponsorship from Hot Press, or gaining general information about the magazine - please do not hesitate to contact me. Plus - calling all new aspiring musicians - ever think of entering any competitions to help improve your chances of success? - well...the Bacardi Hot Press Plugged Band of the Year and the Song of the Year is now taking applications. The closing dates for are Nov 23rd and Dec 14th respectively. The application forms will be available at the Reception of the Students' Union. Or you can contact me at mysticmoriarty@hotmail.com. Please feel free to do so! I will certainly help in any way possible. Hope to hear from you soon.





Stables and Scholars Discipline Committee



The Stables & Scholars Discipline committee met last Monday, November 19th for the first time. The reasons for the committee are due to the fact that over the last number of months, students in the Clubs have been out of order and this cannot be allowed to continue.

The committee deals with misconduct of club members and can make recommendations to the Stables & Scholars Club management committees to revoke a member's membership (RULE 13 of the Club Rules) for a set period of time. If the misconduct of the member in question is of an extremely serious nature the committee will then forward the matter to the attention of the

University of Limerick Discipline Committee and / or the Gardai as well as the Club management committees. It is unfortunate that there is need for such a committee, but it is the attitude of a small number of members that has made this committee necessary.

Last Monday a third year student had his membership revoked because of his behaviour in the Stables Club on two particular nights. This student in question is now no longer a member of the Stables Club, Scholars Club and also the University Arena Club. His membership will be reinstated in September 2002 if there are no further incidents reported. He is also required to pay a £50 fine to any registered charity of his choice and also a

written apology to the Stables Club.

The committee will be meeting every Monday and will deal with any members who are out of line, so please have a good time without attracting attention to yourselves.

Stables & Scholars Club Rule 13

If the conduct of any member either in or out of the Club in the opinion of the Committee is or has been injurious to the character and interests of the Club or is or has been such as to render him/her unfit to continue as a member of the Club he/she shall be subject to expulsion on the decision of the Committee, provided that any such suspension shall be decided on by not less than four members of the Committee.

'It is unfortunate that there is need for such a committee, but it is the attitude of a small number of members that has made this committee necessary'

Obituary

In Memory Of Damien Coughlan

Damien Coughlan, 4th year industrial engineering passed away tragically in a motorcycle accident late on Thursday the 8th of November. Damien was a student of the college since first year and was looking forward to graduating next autumn. He will be greatly missed by his family, his wide circle of friends, and classmates in college. We all knew and loved Damien and will miss his lively outlook on life. He was the life of the class and always lived life to the full. His humour was second to none and is probably one of his many great characteristics that will be missed the most. Always cheerful even at exam time when the pressure is on, always there to assist in any way he could. We'll never forget him and know he will be with us in everything that we do in college and when we leave. We know he is gone to a better place. Long Live The Rock.

UNI VERSITY OF LI MERI CK
TEL: 061 330190
FAX: 061 330710
EM AI L: info@scholarsclub.ie
WEB: www.scholarsclub.ie

Breakfasts 9am to 11.30am
Lunches 12 noon to 4pm
Evening Meals 5pm to 7pm

WEEK 10

- MON** Smirnoff Ice Request Night
- John Frawley
- TUES** DJ Eric Fitz in the Bar
Murphys Comedy Club
Champions League
- WED** - The Revs
- THUR** Miller Promo
- FRI** Party Night - Comp Finger Food
- SUN** Happy Hour 5pm - 7pm
Heineken Breakfast Club

WEEK 11

- MON** Table Quiz in the Bar
Smirnoff Ice Request Night
- John Frawley
- TUES** DJ Eric Fitz in the Bar plus
Murphys Comedy Club with a
Christmas Theme
- WED** Christmas Daze
- The Lollygaggers
- THUR** Christmas Daze
- Escapade
- FRI** Party Night - Comp Finger
Food Happy Hour 5pm - 7pm
- SUN** Heineken Breakfast Club
Happy Hour 9pm- 10pm

Champions League Listings etc. on
www.scholarsclub.ie