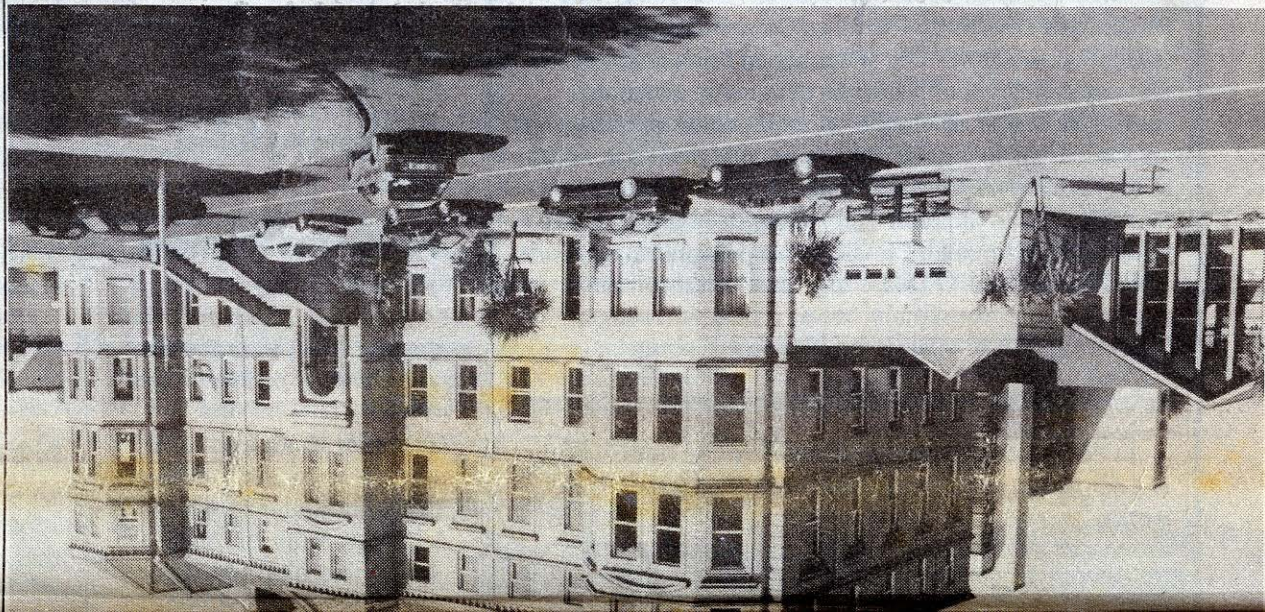


Winn Food



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University of Limerick
Students' Union
Newspaper

Will Mary-I be Turned Upside Down

Inside:

Full story on Mary-I
Ents Venue Situation
Clubs and Societies
+ Lots More

Michaelmas 3 1991 Monday 4th November

OPINIONS
of ENGLISH
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Problems Remain Despite Mary Immaculate Link Announcement

By Finola Bradley, with Cathal Kelly

The Minister for Education announced on Friday last, 1 November, that "agreement has been reached between the authorities of Mary Immaculate College, Limerick and the University of Limerick on new and dynamic linkages between the two institutions". The terms of the agreement are contained in a "Memorandum of Understanding".

An tOireachtas

Bhuaigh an tUas. Lillis Ó Laoire, Léachtóir i Roinn ne dTeangacha, Corn Uí Riada, bonn óir, trófaí de ghloine Bhaile Átha Cliath agus £500 ag Oireachtas 1991 an tseachtain seo caite. Seo príomhchomórtas an Oireachtas: amhránaíocht ar sean-nós dóibh siúd a bhuaigh craobh na bhfear nó craobh na mban bliain ar bith. Tá an tUas, Ó Laoire ag cur isteach ar comhórtas sean-nóis le cúpla bliain anuas agus bhí gach einne - muintir Chonamara san áireamh - an-sásta gur bhuaigh sé. Tá sé 30 bliain ó bhuaigh Conallach an príomhdhuais seo. Aithnítear an tUas Ó Laoire mar údar ar an sean-nós; reachtálann sé ceardlanna rialta i dTír Chonaill agus beidh sé ag dul go Meiriceá an bhliain seo chugain.

Lillis Ó Laoire (ar chlé) in éindí le Breandán Ó Loingsigh, Oifigeach Gaeilge Telecom Éireann.

The Minister announced that under the agreement all awards will be made by the University of Limerick. Up until now the BEd degrees conferred on graduates of MIC were awarded by the NUI through a link between MIC and University College Cork.

Problems Remain

An Focal has learnt that despite the announcement a number of problems still remain. This became apparent in an exclusive interview with the Registrar of Mary Immaculate College, Mr. Tony Bromell, which was held two days before the Minister an-

a reciprocal arrangement was agreed allowing for MIC representation during the University's selection procedures.

The declaration of autonomy may also be seen by some people in UL as a challenge to the Academic Council of the University which has the statutory function of designing and developing programmes of study and research. Details of a new BA(Arts) degree course which the Minister announced have not been presented to the Academic Council of the University, although the course is advertised in the current CAO handbook.

The course will have 200 students enrolled in 1992 and this figure will rise to 600 undergraduate students over the next few years.

No Co-op

Mr Bromell told An Focal that the new degree course will be only three years in

Ministerial Intervention

Mr Bromell told An Focal that the new arrangements arose after the Minister for Education "required" Mary Immaculate College "to open discussions with a view to forming a link between the two campuses". Another source, close to the Department of Education in Dublin, confirmed to An Focal that the Memorandum of Understanding has been agreed as the result of pressure from the Minister. The Minister's own statement said that the agreement is based on the recommendations of a Working Group set up at "the initiative of the Minister".

Commuting across Limerick

During the interview Mr. Bromell told An Focal that both staff and students will be required to commute across Limerick city between both campuses.

Chonadh sé 30 bliain ó bhuaigh Conallach an príomhdhuais seo. Aithnítear an tUas Ó Laoire mar údar ar an sean-nós; reachtálann sé ceardlanna rialta i dTír Chonaill agus beidh sé ag dul go Meiriceá an bhliain seo chugain.

Lillis Ó Laoire (ar chlé) in éindí le Breandán Ó Loingsigh, Oifigeach Gaeilge Thelecom Éireann.



Grainghráf: An Oireachtas, Conradh na Gaeilge

Call to end Sponsorship Rejected

The Students' Union has overwhelmingly rejected a motion calling for the immediate termination of undisclosed sponsorship deals the Stables Club have made with Guinness Group Sales and Beamish and Crawford. The motion was debated at a packed and stormy Union General Meeting Jean Monnet Theatre on Wednesday of week 5. The deals, estimated to be worth in

the region of £12,000 to the University were described as 'bribery' by Mr Andrew Hartnett who proposed the motion. This claim was rejected by Mr Colm Croffy, Students' Union President. When the final vote was called there were seven votes in favour of terminating the deals.

Earlier the meeting, at which all UL students have a right to vote, it was decided to spit the

Problems Remain

An *Focal* has learnt that despite the announcement a number of problems still remain. This became apparent in an exclusive interview with the Registrar of Mary Immaculate College, Mr. Tony Bromell, which was held two days before the Minister announced the agreement.

Autonomy an Issue

Mr Bromell told *An Focal* that despite the link "Mary Immaculate College will retain it's autonomy". This appears to differ from the Minister's statement which said that "joint representation on Faculty Boards and on the Academic Staff Selection Committee of Mary Immaculate College will further reinforce the links between the two colleges". There was no indication that

original motion in two parts, one calling for an explanation of the deals entered into, and one calling for an immediate termination of these deals.

The meeting also directed Colm Croffy, the SU President, to hand over the chairing of the meeting to Deputy President Donal Waide and to provide an explanation of the deals. In the course of the debate Mr Croffy said that the breweries were keen to get the student market,

The course will have 200 students enrolled in 1992 and this figure will rise to 600 undergraduate students over the next few years.

No Co-op

Mr Bromell told *An Focal* that the new degree course will be only three years in length and that in view of this he "doesn't think co-op is possible". This is a substantial deviation from the academic policy of the University which up to now has required that all bachelor degree courses offered contain a co-operative education component. It is also known that the Registrar of UL, Mr Leo Colgan, has in the past stated that UL degrees are Honours degrees of four years in duration. When contacted by *An Focal* on Thursday and Friday last, Mr Colgan was unavailable for comment.

and that he had exploited that by approaching them and asking for sponsorship for a wide range of activities. Guinness and Beamish and Crawford had agreed to inject cash into student activities in a number of ways, including sponsoring various clubs and society activities such as the Co-op Ball and the Engineering and Science Ball. "None of the money goes into Croffy's arse pocket", he declared.

Commuting across Limerick

During the interview Mr. Bromell told *An Focal* that both staff and students will be required to commute across Limerick city between both campuses.

Class representatives for second year European Studies, Pamela Spollen and Mary Ellen Greene, expressed concern about this issue. They do not want "the major hassles of transport, further expense and time wastage" that will be involved and feel that this will be a common worry among all Humanities students.

UL Staff Unhappy

The religious nature of Mary Immaculate College has also been an issue. One senior member of the academic staff at UL told *An Focal* that "the Roman Catholic ethos of Mary Immaculate College would act to exclude substantial numbers of potential students". He wondered if existing members of UL could in conscience be expected to teach or study in a denominational institution. At present entry to MIC is restricted to students who are Catholic.

Cork Society Angry at £1 Allocation.

NEWS

The newly formed Cork Society are angry at the decision of the Students' Union Council to allocate £1.00 to the society from SU funds for the coming academic year.

The decision by the council rejected an earlier recommendation from the SU Executive Committee to allocate the Society £200.00. Commenting on the decision the SU Deputy President, Donal Waide, said that "the SU Council has the power to reject executive decisions - and that's what they did. There is nothing the exec can do about it."

According to those at the meeting the proposal to reject the Executive recommendation was made by Mr

Barry Quill, class rep for 3rd year Economics and Finance, and former Students' Union treasurer. Billy Kirwan proposed that the motion be amended. He said that the Society's aims included political activities, and that this meant it was governed by article 10.2 of the SU Constitution. This article states that religious and political societies may only receive a maximum grant of £1 from the SU. However, An Focal has learnt that a number of class reps felt that this was a

technical ploy and was used only to prevent the society from obtaining funding. One class rep told An Focal that many of the members of the Students' Union Council do not regard the Cork Society as a serious society and were reluctant to approve funding for it for that reason.

The Statement of Artistic Policy submitted by the Society states that one of the aims of the society is "Introduction to the campus of Corkonian Society and Politics"

The Chairman of the Society, Mr Sean Dwyer, a graduate of UCC and currently a postgraduate in

the College of Business described the reason given as "only a proxy excuse used to downgrade the Cork Society". He went on to say that the intention behind the decision was that the "Cork Society will fall away to nothing".

Mr Dwyer told An Focal that he will appeal the decision. It is expected that some other clubs and societies will support appeal. Mr Dwyer has declared that "there will be a Cork Society at UL, whether or not it is funded through the Union."

Among the activities the society plans are lessons in cork slang and dialect and trips to Cork to use the newly-learnt slang.

Schuman Building Update

Following pressure from the Student body through the Deputy President the Schuman

University Response :

The University has reacted to students complaints about the problems that have arisen with the opening of the Schuman Building.

public telephones in the Schumann Building. Mr Waide wrote to the Buildings Manager, Mr Hand, in week 4 of this term outlining the problems, and An Focal

Heard any interesting news lately?

If you know anything about the Union, University, or the outside world, that you think other people ought to know

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lately?

Schuman Building Update

Following pressure from the Student body through the Deputy President the Schuman building is now accessible to students up to 10pm on week-nights and will be opening Saturday morning until 1pm.

These opening hours, extended from 7pm on weeknights and no opening on weekends, are seen by the students as a 'step in the right direction' and the Deputy President will be pursuing the case further. Students feel that they are being disadvantaged academically by the lack of hours to avail of the facilities offered in the Schuman. In response to requests for lockers, the matter is to be looked into by the appropriate authority within the college.

University Response :

The University has reacted to students complaints about the problems that have arisen with the opening of the Schuman Building.

The University's Buildings, Manager Mr Brian Hand, said he was "disappointed" with the complaints about the Schumann Building, especially in view of the fact that the building had been commissioned within the contracted deadlines. However, the response of the University shows that they accept that the student greivances were well founded.

The problems included the short opening hours that operated in the Schumann Building, and the drenching caused to students by the high-powered fountain outside the building. The opening hours have been extended to 10.00pm from Monday of last week, and the fountain has been switched off for the last week. Despite these changes, a staff member of the Academic Council has told *An Focal* that he feels the opening hours of the building are still inadequate.

The Students Union Deputy President, Mr Donal Waide, told a Union General Meeting on Wednesday of week 6 that commitments had also been received in relation to the provision of lockers, noticeboards and

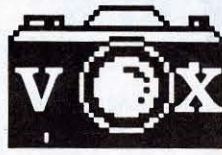
public telephones in the Schumann Building. Mr Waide wrote to the Buildings Manager, Mr Hand, in week 4 of this term outlining the problems, and *An Focal* has learnt that the issue was also raised at the Academic Council of the Unversity.

The problems were highlighted in the last issue of *An Focal* and also were also reported on by *The Limerick Post* last Thursday, Oct 31st



If you know anything about the Union, University, or the outside world, that you think other people ought to know about, then drop a line into Cathal Kelly, *an Focal*, Students' Union Office

Features



Class Reps Training Weekend

Over sixty class reps made the (what is hoped annual!) pilgrimmage to the Hydro Hotel, Lisdoonvarna for the Class Rep Training Weekend at the end of week 4.

Arrival on Friday night was heralded by checking in procedures, dinner introduction etc. and then there was just a tad of drunken debauchery before everyone retired for the night (some not too alone either !!!) .

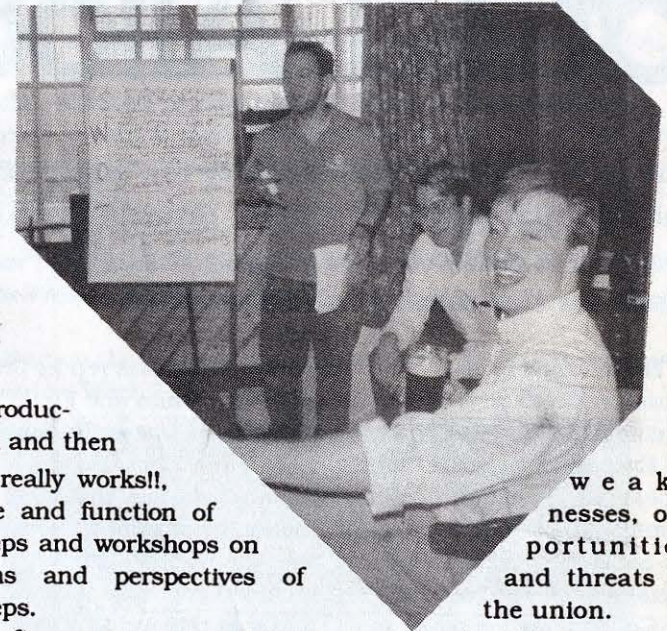
What a surprise it was to see everyone, including the sabbaticals up and bouncing about at breakfast at 9.a.m. the following morning ready for action.

Saturday was indeed the longest day and by all accounts the most productive, the morning was spent on how the University is supposed to work and then



how it really works!!, the role and function of class reps and workshops on problems and perspectives of Class reps.

The afternoon was spent immersing ourselves in the history and development of our Union so far, current Union systems and structures and most importantly of all S.W.O.T. where the class rep "Cadets" broke into workshops and discussed the strenghts,



weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the union.

Insights on our involvement in the Information service and Ents were also provided before we broke for dinner at about 7.30 p.m.

..... CENSORED

.....
The following Sunday morning saw the wrap up

Stables Club

For your convenience Stables Club menus are being displayed on the computerised advertising system in the canteen Monday to Friday. So if you're in the canteen and want to check out lunch or dinner in the Stables do the old Aer Lingus trick - Look Up!

Still on the subject of food, if you have any hints/suggestions for improvements or even a recipe you'd like us to try, pass it on to either Michele, Donal or Declan.

U.L Student wins Talent

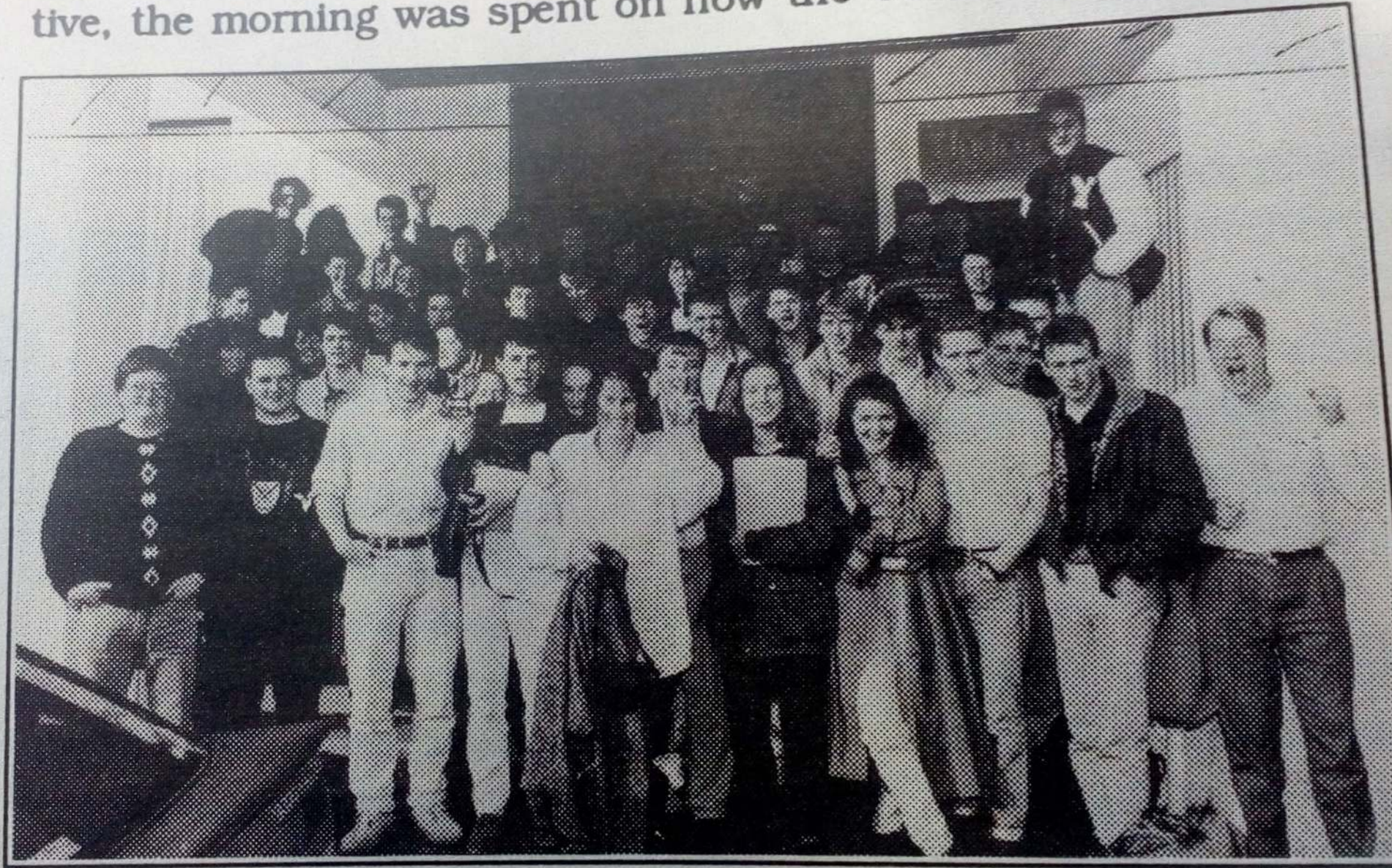
The first act of the night, Wednesday 16, was Jack Daniels and his Amazing Cocker Spanials. Their first song was original and had good rhythm but it took them a long time to get their act together as the lead singers vocals were obstructed by his play-

manage to produce one song of their own called "Yellow Taxi". The band's two female vocalists were very effective and the use of a bodhran added a touch of originality.

However their attitude towards the crowd left a lot to be desired as they practically told them to "shut up" or in less extreme terms to "be cool".

Wednesday the 24th saw the rising stars of first year. The First Act being the I.D.'s band,

tive, the morning was spent on how the University



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Still on the subject of food, if you have any hints/suggestions for improvements or even a recipe you'd like us to try, pass it on to either Michele, Donal or Declan.

The Stables Club Ents. plan for weeks 7 and 8 includes :-

Week 7.

- Mon. European Society Table Quiz
- Tues. Crazy
- Wed. Cork Society Evening
- Thurs. Nuttin yet

Week 8

- Mon. Dave of the illustrious Music Soc
- Thurs. Shantytown
- Fri. Race Night

Anybody who would like to organise parties etc. with the Stables can contact Michele O' Dwyer between 1-2 p.m. every Wed. and Friday.

Due to rising costs, the Stables Club has had to implement price increases on some food and drinks. We apologise for any inconvenience caused by such, but would like to remind patrons that the Stables operates a policy of maintaining prices as low as is economically feasible. Unfortunately after 412 years of static prices on some products (e.g. tea and coffee) spiralling expenses demand a slight price increase.

Stables Club management would like to remind members that no responsibility can be accepted for property lost or damaged while on the premises, be they in front of, or behind the bar.

Finally, we'd like to remind you that the Stables is your club, we're trying to keep it as a members only venue so please remember to bring your I.D. card with you. You may need to show it as you enter!

U.L Student wins Talent

The first act of the night, Wednesday 16, was Jack Daniels and his Amazing Cocker Spanials. Their first song was original and had good rhythm but it took them a long time to get their act together as the lead singers vocals were obstructed by his playing (he tended to look at his guitar too much).

The guitar playing was very catchy and got the crowd going but it went on too long. This song lacked a catchy chorus to captivate the audience fully.

The Band's second song had good lyrics but was played in the wrong key. Again this song had good rhythm and moved along well. Basically the band has a better acoustic guitar player than a singer-songwriter.

The second act was a soloist named Mike who proved himself to be a very talented and poetic songwriter. His first song had good rhythm even if his vocals did happen to be out of key a good deal of the time.

His second song again consisted of very well thought out lyrics with a little too much guitar. The emotion of the lyrics didn't really come across in the emotion of the music. His lyrics were honest and melodic and managed to capture the attention of the crowd.

His last song was as his others, original and rhythmical but despite the enjoyable lyrics, his music wasn't coming across the way he wanted it to. Overall, very poetic, but the music didn't do it justice.

The third and final act of the night and the winners were called "Grow a Beard". They were less original than the previous acts as they played mostly Mary Black's music. However they did

manage to produce one song of their own called "Yellow Taxi". The band's two female vocalists were very effective and the use of a bodhran added a touch of originality.

However their attitude towards the crowd left a lot to be desired as they practically told them to "shut up" or in less extreme terms to "be cool".

Wednesday the 24th saw the rising stars of first year. The First Act being the I.D.'s band, namely, "Mala Prata". It's three members, John, Philip and Neal wrote two out of their three songs which was to prove a beautiful factor.... On main vocals was An Focal's own, John Sweeney, who proved himself to be a very alternative singer with his first song "Beelzebub Blues" which was very subtle.

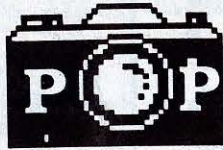
Their second song "The Chant" was original and rhythmical and they managed to sustain the crowd's attention throughout.

Their third and final song was The Troggs "Wild Thing". This really got the crowd going. Even this song which was not entirely their own was altered in rhythm and words and didn't resemble the original versions. Some might call the alterations distasteful, but it's a matter of opinion.

All in all, both the vocalist and the musicians were good and this balance plus their originality made them worth taking note of. They, in fact were the winners for that night. This was not what they expected. "We are only here for the laugh anyway", Neal said. (Apparently he spells his name that way.)

The second act of the night was a soloist named Padraig who failed miserably to capture the crowd's attention and despite the fact that the vocals were not the most riveting, the guitar playing was good.

His second song was "All I Can See" and the crowd basically chatted amongst themselves. It was a good time to order a pint.



By Andrea HeckleBerk.

Unemployed Fight Back

Stab city is fighting back. I witnessed this on my visit to the Limerick Centre for the Unemployed, second in the "Day in a Life" series.



"session", (Good choice of Everyone boarded discussions the bus bound for Castletroy and we arrived home tired (some of the sabbaticals really, really tired !!!!) but happy ready for the onerous task of being class reps

The Limerick Centre for the Unemployed has one full time member of staff, its director Joan Condon. It is staffed by workkrs from the S.E.S. (Social Employment Scheme) who are paid by Fas on a one year work contract.

The Centre provides a wide range of free classes for the Unemployed including computers advanced and basic, English Improvers, Adult Literacy, German, Book-keeping and Art & Photography. The creche facility which was established five years ago caters both for parents attending classes and the S.E.S. workers at a cost of £1 per day. It provides Social Welfare advice on everything form old age pensions to fuel allowances.

On entering the centre, I firstly noticed a large coal fire which I quickly warmed to. I was met by Joan Condon, who gave me a quick tour up winding stairs - I peered into an adult literacy course, the typing room and the busy canteen.

The Centre has been open since 1987 and is one of sixteen Centres in the country. On talking to a number of S.E.S. workers, I realised the Centre had achieved a common goal for all of

them in increasing both their self-esteem and confidence. Mary in Social Welfare talked of enjoying the variety of her work and learning from each enquiry. Caitriona who runs the creche had been unemployed for two years before working at the Centre. She enthused about the great services the Centre provides both in the classes and through advice.

Lastly, I talked to Adrienne Kean, the receptionist. She talked of the great variety of people who call in and the Centre's efforts to help anyone in any way except financially.

Cut-backs have hit hard. I saw this most graphically in the cold lino on the creche floor and the flaking paint work. Any finance for "Improvements" i.e. to update their computers must be raised by

fund raising; which in times of recession is particularly difficult.

In my hours spent in the Limerick Centre for the Unemployed, I saw that people with meagre resources can really make a difference for themselves and others in their community.

Features

Competition!

The routine was just a bit monotonous and went on too long, however it was a nice try but nevertheless - stick to the day job. The third act of the night was one of those spontaneous, spur of the moment decisions, when two first years, Brian O'Leary and John Montague decided to go on the

The Claretone

Competition!

The routine was just a bit monotonous and went on too long, however it was a nice try but nevertheless - stick to the day job. The third act of the night was one of those spontaneous, spur of the moment decisions, when two first years, Brian Quinn and John Montayne decided to go on the stage. (Their claim to fame).

The first song was "Feeling Groovy" and it was interesting to see how it turned out. With some good guitar playing from John it was quite harmonious. Their second song was Eric Clapton's "Wonderful Tonight" which added a subtle touch. It was perhaps too slow for the crowd but nonetheless, they got a round of applause.

The third and final song was "Rare Old Times" and got some of the crowd singing along. Obviously not out to win but added a change of scene to the competition.

The fourth and final act was one which some might consider by far the best. A soloist, Alan, sang "Whiter Shade of Pale" and was loud enough to captivate the crowd. He turned out to be a talented musician and singer, playing both the guitar and the harmonica. He got an excellent round of applause from the audience.

His second song was Suzanne Vega's "Luka". It was purely authentic. The third song sounded like the theme music from Tom Sawyer and was accompanied by excellent guitar playing.

His fourth song was Neil Young's "Heart of Gold" in which he again played both the guitar and harmonica. Vocals were extremely clear. Some of the crowd even called for an encore but that was the end.

What gave "Mala Pratai" the edge was that theirs was a much more original act than the last one - and this was so close that John Hardigan - judging - said "I want to be able to leave here with my knee caps intact".

Also a special thanks to Joe Dannaher of Fosters who kindly sponsored the competition.

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The Claytons

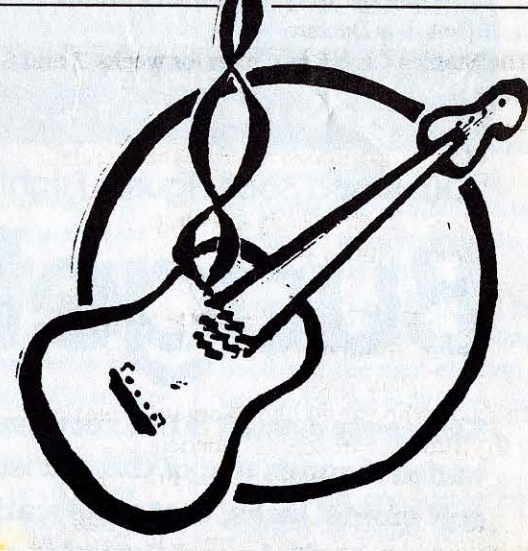
When we last met the great Clayton dynasty, their financial advisor had broken the soul wrenching news that their ever bountiful supply of wealth had come to an end. The loss of their income had differing effects on the family members.

Needless to say the HOUSE had to go, and the family now lives in a quaint semidetached in a not too favourable part of the city. Being the family that they were Gerard, in the name of respectability, was kept on as family butler. The loss affected Clay and Constance very badly they could no longer afford the major pastimes of drug and alcohol addiction, Constance had to take employment in a fast food joint, where her bridge chums would all rush in at once, all 50 of them, and order "2 burger an' chip love". Clay being the man of the family stayed at home and grew turnips in his allotment.

Kate and Geoff being of independant means, her divorce settlement from Clay, continued to live her care free country lady existence, with Geoff relieved not to have to visit the cousins anymore.

Adam Clayton cannot handle the poverty and insists on a national programme for the recovery of the Claytons wealth, with the result that he is carried off to the cheapest and most distant mental institution. Diamond, his younger sister, has had to grow up fast now that she is living on the streets. She takes to wearing

discount cosmetics and playing the lotto. Buck Clayton has not yet come home to his new home but reports have it that he is still alive and kicking under living the stairs of the HOUSE.



Hope Charity the woman who informed them of their impending poverty still works at the investment house and lives in her £350,000 house. She is no longer interested in Claytons except for Geoff whom she still hopes to entice into her bed chamber.

The Claytons are a family that triumphs in adversity only by the greatest of divine interventions so it remains to be seen will

Buck ever come home?

Can the family fortune be returned?

Will life on the street turn Diamond into a sensible girl?

**TUNE IN NEXT DAFT ISSUE
,SAME DAFT PLACE, FOR AN-
OTHER DAFT INSTALLMENT OF
"THE CLAYTONS", DAFT PEOPLE.**

Editorial

APOLOGY

The cleverclogs editorial team wish to apologise for an omission of detail in the last issue. In our ulcerous haste, we forgot to credit the photograph of the Daghdha Dance Company in the Arts Section to Tom Short. Sorry and we won't forget again.

Week 5. It was Thursday morning. I sauntered gaily across the quad. I had a song in my head. I had a Moro in my pocket. I had a smile on my face. You see, I missed the U.G.M. I missed the fracas. I missed the din.

I missed the meeting where a speaker who shall remain nameless seemed to have reached a most dubious theory: The Students' Union and the Stables had sponsorship deals agreed with Guinness and Beamish and Crawford but not with Heineken.

Why is that? Why is there a deal existing with two of the breweries and not the other. "Aha! - there must be some money buggery afoot! Surely this situation would not have arisen without bribes from the breweries lucky enough to have agreed these deals, who's sleeping with who etc.!"

It's childishly simple. Heineken did not respond to letters, phonecalls and visits from the Students' Union, all of which addressed the issue of sponsorship. Do not blame us for somebody else's inertia - q.e..d.

It was Friday morning. I skipped across the court-

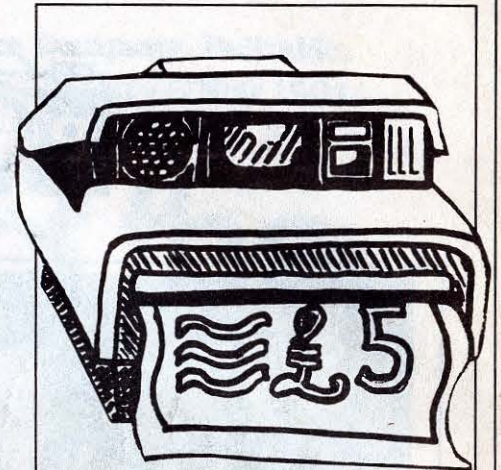
yard. I had smile on my face. I had salutes from my friends. I had one of those light hangovers you can enjoy (?) - You see, I hadn't heard of the Cork Society's budget allocation.

The previous night had seen the class reps decide that the Cork Society was a political society and therefore entitled to the princely sum of £1 according to the S.U. Constitution.

A curious rationale must have precluded the Donegal Society from the same fate. It would seem to me that the questions to be asked when granting a S.U. budget to a Society is: "Could this Society add to campus life?" - "Could the light relief we all seek in the I-Soc and at a sizeable proportion of the Lit & Phil debates also be sought in "Cork accent classes" and "Cork slang classes?". We await the appeal hearing.

Tog go bog e, everyone.

an Focal



SNAP UP A
FIVER! EVERY PHOTO.

We are looking to complete the editorial team for **an Focal**. We need to fill 20 tabloid pages every fortnight. We still need sub-editors in the following areas:

- * Sport and Societies
- * Student Union News

We also seek two news journalists for our news team.

Please come along to our weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 1.00pm in the Deputy President's Office. All individuals, classes, Clubs & Societies, who are interested in writing for **an Focal** should submit their copy to the Student Union Office.

An Focal sees its role as a medium for the dissemination of information and opinion, which readers may require and enjoy.

Inevitably, in spite of our best efforts, we will make mistakes but we wish to ensure that we correct such mistakes as promptly and as fully as possible. We therefore offer readers who feel they have been unfairly treated in the An Focail a right of reply, subject to reasonable length and the laws constraining press freedom. We also undertake to publish corrections, on being informed of errors.

Clubs and Socs Figures Fright

Budget Bull!

The newly elected S.U. Executive waded through one of their most difficult annual tasks, that of allocating the budgets to Clubs and Societies only to find they were almost 4,000 over budget.

As had been announced at the first meeting Clubs and Societies Council the bulk allocation to be given in grants was increased by \$20,000 - from 45,000 to 65,000. Given the number of funds that are to be withheld during the year for special needs as agreed by the Council, the exact figure that Exec. were allocating to the 55 individual budgets received was \$52,000.

After listening to each of the submissions presented orally, Exec. spent about 38 hours deliberating the exact allocations.

They finally arrived at a cumulative figure of \$56,000 - practically 4,000 over target ; to present to

Class Reps Council for ratification at their first meeting on Tuesday night of Week 6.

Clubs received over 9,000 extra in funding from 33,443 to 42,524 while Societies got an extra 3,515 - an increase from 10,202 to 13,717.

Overall the 23 Societies received 59% of what they asked for - on average they looked for 1,026 and got 613. Clubs on the other hand received on average about 54% of what they requested getting 1301 out of 2399.

Interestingly the total plea from Societies was down by 4059 from 26,640 of last year, perhaps indicating that they were being more realistic in their approach towards than budgeting than before.

The total Clubs plea increased by 16,093 from 63,674 to 79,167 representing quite frankly an inflationary rise in the standard fixed overheads and more importantly the dire need of expensive equipment for Clubs.

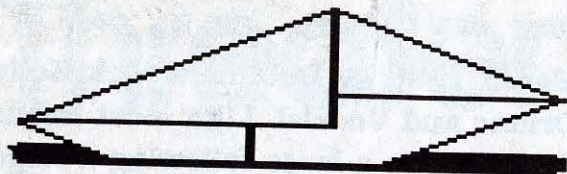
Commenting on the figures S.U. President Colm Croffy said " It was not a pleasant experience having to shave all the excellent budgets down to the bare minimum and still find ourselves overshooting the target figure. "

He went on to say that the University authorities would have to seriously consider assisting properly the capital needs of Clubs and Societies, as it is cheap P.R. for the Uni. at the moment and they are making no real financial commitments to their development unlike other Universities worldwide.

" I don't think that anyone in the White House really understands that even though the S.U. allocates 65,000 to Clubs and Societies, about 80,000 is paid out of students own pockets to help pay for their activities - in order to represent the university on the field and in other extra curricular activities".

At the time of going to press three Clubs (Soccer, GAA Hurling and Archery) and one Society (Cork) are appealing their budgets.

All opinions stated on this page are those of individual students and thus do not necessarily represent those of the Students' Union



The world according to you

Letters

Uproar over Development Disaster

Been down Thomondgate way recently? Well, unless you're either a tourist or a local you won't have had much reason to visit. But to most Limerick citizens, the King's Island is a very proud part of our heritage. But that's not the case anymore. The castle has been defaced by a grotesque steel and glass monstrosity.

The restoration of the castle was undertaken as part of the Treaty 300 festival and the castle itself has been restored to its original glory. But all this historical wonderment has

been marred by the construction of a new entrance to the castle.

The new building is mixture of glass and steel and remarkably resembles a prefab. The building in-

trudes into the lives of the people of King's Island. Gerard Buckley, a local of St. Mary's Parish, is one such example. Talking about the "eyesore", as he called it, he was quite angry. As he said himself, "I have to live with it".

The overall feeling of the people is one of outrage and anger. They feel as if their heritage is being destroyed. And, as a local Limericker myself, I can't say I blame them. What do you think?

Rachel Coleman

Dear Sirs,
Permit me to use the columns of this very new paper to make two observations on the matter of Semesterisation", which I gather from last weeks - recontinued (but would you believe it - inqorate!) U.G.M; is to be revisited by the University policy makers shortly.

Firstly when I was a first year here, the S.U. had it's referendum on the whole matter and in our wisdom decided that we would reject the system out right.

Why is our Union going to spend more time again in the coming months debating an issue that a) we have already spoken on and b) is a non starter anyway?

Basically - the notion of

SHEEP POLL

Dear Editor,
There are a number of points in the article "Political Awareness on Campus" in your last issue which need addressing.

While agreeing that student apathy is to the advantage of disinterested politicians, I'm amazed that the writer could say : " the student body does not need to be ideologically moti-

festival and the castle itself has been restored to its original glory. But all this historical wonderment has

The new building is mixture of glass and steel and remarkably resembles a prefab. The building in-

myself, I can't say I blame them. What do you think?

Rachel Coleman

CHARLIES ANGEL

Dear Editor,

I wish to object strongly to an article which appeared in the first issue of "An Focal" which dealt with "An Taoiseach" and the leader of the largest party in the country ie Charles J. Haughey, Charlie to his friends.

The article was misinformed, derogatory and completely bias in its nature and attempted in no way to give a fair account of politicians career. In short, it was a rape of journalistic principles and discipline and showed all too clearly the blinkered view which so many people have of the Irish Political Arena. It was a petty individual who should have signed the passage with "Member of Ogra Fine Gael.

Charles J. Haughey is not as bad as he is painted. Whatever the political pundits may have thought or said about him, he has looked after his constituents over the years with a concern that is almost paternal. He introduced free electricity and transport for old age pensioners, free petrol for disabled motorists and an allowance for deserted wives. He introduced measures to allow exemption from tax to writers and artists who could prove their works were creative. Haughey greatly increased the Arts Council Budget in 1968 and also provided free televisions and radios for old age pensioners. He has a genuine feeling for the underprivileged members of society and for the old and the sick and the handicapped. In private life too there is a warm side to him that surfaces

in acts of genuine charity. Among those who know him well his kindness in responding to genuine appeals is legendary, seeking no public attention in return.

He is also a full blooded sportsman, investing in the native industry of horse jumping. The hunting set regard him as a man who rode well and jumped his fences bravely without waiting for the other fellow to lead.

Many people point to the wealth of C.J. and his well known island paradise. However, during the construction Charlie used local labour and equipment as far as he could and he used a local contractor. The slates came from Valentia Island and he purchased most of his crockery from a local potter.

The man is entitled to wealth as any other businessman is, which he reinvests back into the Irish economy, thus creating jobs. Those who have accused him of using his political power to further his own interests have never proved any allegations of impropriety. I could go on listing economic figures and data which show C.J.'s success at managing the country's finances after they were wrecked by previous coalition governments, one of which quadrupled the National Debt.

I hope that I have in some small way corrected the journalistic sin of biased reporting which occurred in the first issue of this paper.

**Sincerely S.O' Reilly,
Public Admin. 1st yr.**

spend more time again in the coming months debating an issue that a) we have already spoken on and b) is a non starter anyway?

Basically - the notion of having two sets of exams a year instead of three was supported and pushed by the lecturers and student services - for their own means, chiefly to reduce their work load. Students and their workload or pressure were not what semesterisation is about to this University.

Finally it's a bit naive to suggest to students that we have the power to change this system, because we're too busy queuing or swatting to think about what we're at and more importantly, if a semester system is what this University really is crying out for; surely Ed. would have issued another "royal decree" years ago!

Exams, stress, queues, pressure three times a year is what makes U.L. so marketable and is why our doting parents send us down here !!

Messers Croffy, Waide and Kirwin should cop themselves on a bit and realise that they can't change the world let alone Dr. Ed.

Try getting the speed ramps, telephones and paths fixed first lads - it's the little things that count.

**Sincerely, Name &
Address with Editor.**

student apathy is to the advantage of disinterested politicians, I'm amazed that the writer could say: "the student body does not need to be ideologically motivated to be interested in politics". - That's like saying "you don't need to believe in God to go to church". Why interest yourself in politics if you don't have any ideas?

Furthermore, the idea of the Student's Union sponsoring "block voting for particular candidates in elections" is incredible. So, proposes the writer, U.L. students, like sheep, will go bleating down to the polling booths at the next election to vote for the politician our union tells us is the best "fixer".

Such non-ideological "politics" is music to the ears of Comerford, Smurfit and Desmond and the countless other suit-and-ties who are queuing up to line their pockets with other people's money. Politicians are responsible for this, and instead of telling us to vote for them, the Student's Union should encourage students to stand up for themselves and everybody else interested in creating a better world.

**Yours sincerely,
Liam Farrington,
1st Euro. Stud.**

The Fat Lady Sings

The idea of the fat lady sings was originally conceived in March 1986 by Dubliners Nick Kelly (Vocals, Acoustic, Guitar and Piano) and Robert Hamilton (Drums and Vocals). Like most bands starting out they spent the early days writing, gigging and building up a large following a large following in their native Ireland.

In November '86 the band shifted their base to London and released their first single, 'Fear and Favour'/'Wishing Well', on Terri Hooley's long dormant Good Vibrations label. It was Hooley's Belfast based label that launched the first releases of The Undertones way back then, and it was Hooley who resurrected the label for what he described as "a simply great song". Critics, both sides of the Irish Sea, were unanimous in their acclaim.

the fat lady sings established their present line up in 1987 with Dermot Lynch (Bass) and Tim Bradshaw (Guitars, Piano, Piano Accordion, Harmonica and Vocals) joining Nick and Robert. Their second release in March '88, "Be Still"/'King of Freedom", was received with yet further unbridled enthusiasm from the critics:

"Ireland's finest band"-NME

"Arclight" gave the band their first chart success, reaching the top twenty in Ireland and top forty in the British Independent chart. It was also voted No 1 International Single in the 1989 Hot Press Critics Poll while the band were voted 'Most Promising Band' in the Hot Press Irish Music Awards. In November the four Dubliners were filmed for a half an hour TV special at the SFX in Dudlin was greeted by an ecstatic home town audience. The show was screened as part of the 'Seven

Bands on the Up' series in Ireland and on the BBC TV in January 1990.

Following the release of their debut East West EP, "Man Scared" in October of last year, the fat lady sings (have they no homes to go to?) went back on the road for a lengthy headlining UK tour which saw them play to packed houses and increasingly larger audiences. Two further guest slots with The Hothouse Flowers in Scotland, which had the audience baying for encores, brought this hectic year to a close. Since Christmas the band have been enclosed in the studio putting the final touches on their eagerly awaited debut album, due for release in May of this year. The new single, released in April 1991, is a new version of "Arclight" which has already been designated 'Single of the Week' in one of the final issues of Sounds. the fat lady sings look set to confirm their status as one of the hottest tickets on the UK gig circuit, by undertaking their largest nationwide tour. The band kick off with a series of dates in Northern Ireland at the end of April and continue through to the end of May



UP DATE

Tues. 5th Nov. Stables Crazy

home town audience. The show-
was screened as part .
the 'Seven

UP DATE

**Tues. 5th Nov. Sta-
bles Crazy**

**Wed. 6th Nov. The
Final of Fosters Talent
Competition**

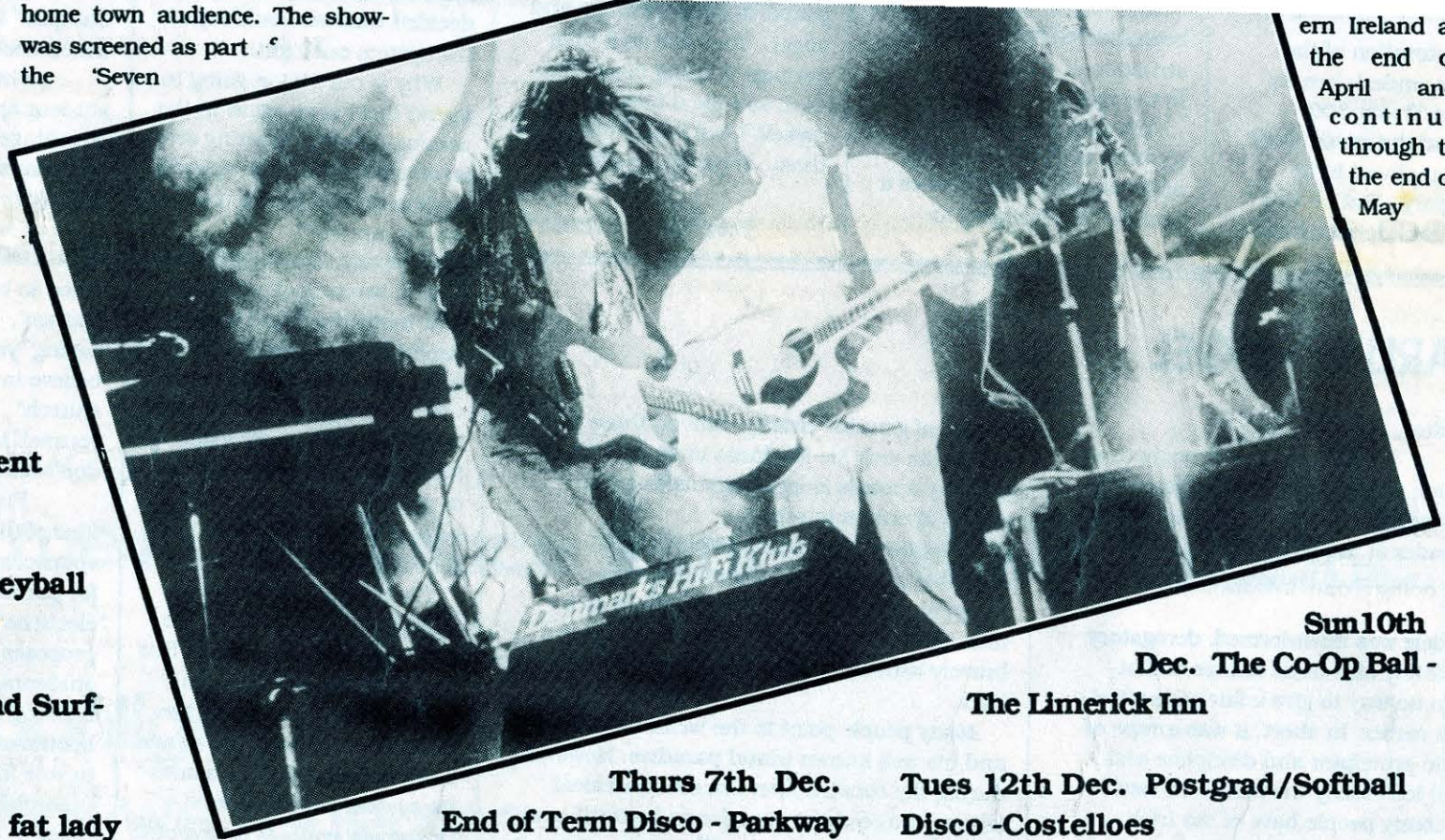
**Tues 12th Nov. Volleyball
Club Disco- Cheers**

**Thurs 7th Nov. Wind Surf-
ing Disco- Parkway**

**Mon 11th Nov. "the fat lady
sings" and discos - Parkway**

**Thurs 14th Nov. Disco and Ceili -
Parkway S.U. with Cumman Gaelach**

**Thurs 21st Nov. S.U. Disco - Glent-
worth**



ern Ireland at
the end of
April and
continue
through to
the end of
May

**Sun 10th
Dec. The Co-Op Ball -
The Limerick Inn**

**Thurs 7th Dec.
End of Term Disco - Parkway**

**Tues 12th Dec. Postgrad/Softball
Disco - Costelloes**

**Fri 8th Dec. End of Term Gig (act
T.B.C.)- Parkway**

**Thurs 14th Dec The Commitments
Fri and Sat 27/28th Dec Reunion
Parties - Costelloes**

**Sat 9th Dec. Slow Bongo Floyd
(Manchester inde/dance act) who
will be bringing a big light show**

**Thurs 9th Jan Start of Term disco -
Parkway**

SUPPORT YOUR OWN ENTS !!!

Licence Lark Threatens Ents Programme

All Ents gigs in certain City centre venues are in serious jeopardy due to the number of applications for late night licences turned down by Limerick District Court .

The venues that were refused original applications for renewal of late night licenses included the much famed Arthurs Warehouse, Cheers and also the Newtown Perry.

Two of the night Clubs appealed the decision and are operating under the temporary section of the licencing laws. Arthurs Warehouse it is believed are waiting for some independent evidence on soundproofing before making a fresh application shortly.

It was feared earlier on in the week that other major student gig venues such as the Parkway and Costelloes

would be hit by the rigid application of the laws.

In court where objections to students were heard, noise and unruliness were cited as the primary source of trouble to the objectors in a number of cases.

The S.U. issued a statement, arguing that it was not students that were the chief source of trouble in Limerick City late at night and that our Ents service have the best stewarding of gigs countrywide; through our Ents crew with the transportation of the crowds to and from the gigs.

The S.U. is very worried that the court capers may be part of a concerted campaign to alienate further students from the city.

" If students are denied access to late night entertainment in the city, it may very well give rise to them entertaining a lot more at home and thus further jeopardising our delicate relations with the local community ", warned Colm Croffy S.U. President .

Preview

That Petrol Emotion Cancelled.

As you may have heard the "That Petrol Emotion" tour has been cancelled at the last moment. The tour was put together by the Irish College Network, the other members of which are Joan Keating of DCU, Colm O'Dwyer TCD; Gerard Sheppard of the University of Ulster.; Vincent O'Brien UCC; Paudie Cronin Tralee RTC and a representative of UCD.

The decision of Tralee RTC at the last moment to pull out of the tour put the entire tour in jeopardy. This is because that band have not got record company support, and this tour was to have been a major production including a massive Laser show.

When the band heard about the above they became more determined to perform in Ireland, so they agreed to reschedule two Dublin dates and one in Belfast for December. Of course, these are unsuitable because they fall during exams, but there is still a possibility of them doing a date in January.



Barry Sinclair live in the Johnathan Swift Two Weeks Ago

The Christmas Reunions

It is now becoming a regular occurrence that different graduates come back to meet in different city pubs during the Christmas holidays. This year it is happening on the weekend of 27th and 28th December. We will be running special discos and parties on these nights in Costello's. Admission is only £2.50 (incl Party Food).

THE COMMITMENTS GIG

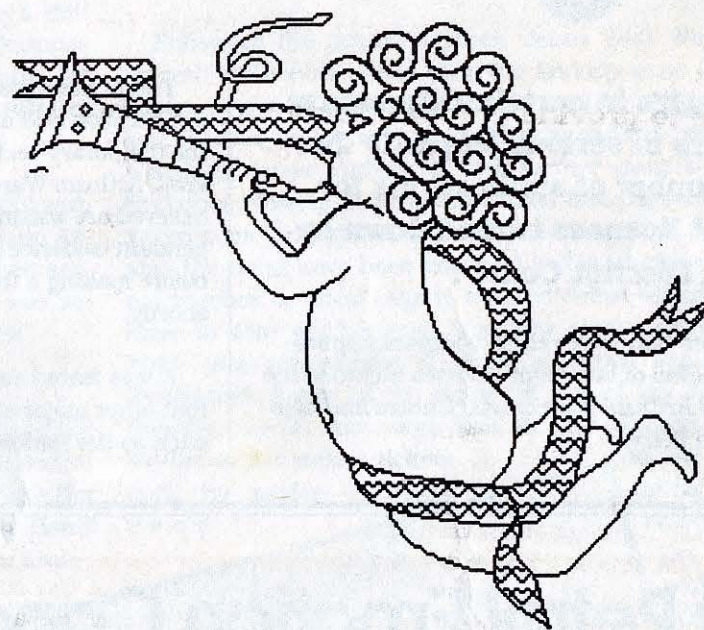
At this stage most of you must have seen the excellent Alan Parker film, the Commitments in our own special showings - some 800 students saw the film.

The film is the number 2 top grossing film in the U.S. and just opened in the U.K. packing full houses. The soundtrack of the film reached No. 1 in the U.S. Album charts and a single from the film has just hit the U.K. charts.

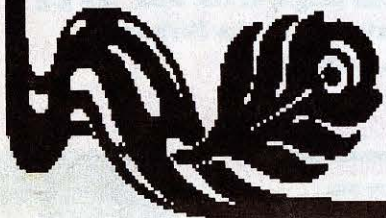
The gig on Thursday Week 12, the 12th of December (worth coming back for) is the warm-up for a major show in the Point. The band will feature all the songs from the film, one Andrew Strong (the band's amazingly powerful vocalist, the film's backing vocalists and the band will be made up of top session players.

So to relive the magic of the film, the gig should not be missed - at the Parkway, Thursday, 12th December.

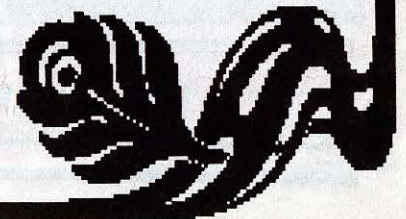
MIDSUM



**meet me in the palace wood, a mile without the
town,
by moonlight;
there will we rehearse,
for if we meet in the city we shall be dogged by
company,
and our devices known.....**



A Midsummer Night's Dream I.2.81



CO-OP FLOP

I am writing this piece principally because I feel the time has come for certain things to be said which should have been said a long time ago concerning co-op for second humanities. I can't speak for everybody on this, but although this is my personal view point, I feel sure it is shared by many in third humanities. Basically I am referring to the dismal failure of the co-op office to provide proper placements that fulfill the intended aims of the first co-op for humanities. Many European students got camp-site jobs which basically is a glorified cleaner-come-company representative which, although good fun, was a disaster language wise.

Some people got jobs in Ireland which is a complete farce as they are expected to have a standard of fluency in their chosen language comparable to someone who has spent six months amongst native speakers. This wouldn't be so bad except for the fact that lecturers have told to expect a level of fluency that frankly most third Euro students are not at. As language is a core subject for us, this could have disastrous consequences.

To add insult to injury, some of us didn't even get as much as a phone call, never mind a staff visit. One person told me they were informed that a member of the co-op staff was in their area and didn't come and visit them. That, to me is symptomatic of the round-em-up and ship-em-out attitude that seems to emanate from the co-op office.

It is non-sensical to assert that it is up to each individual to make the effort to learn the language. This is a cop-out by the co-op office. It is very difficult when surrounded by English speaking people and foreigners who are unwilling to mix or who want to mix in order to improve their English. When opportunities to speak the language presented them-

selves they were all too brief and infrequent to be of use.

What disgusts me most about this is the fact that we have to pay fees while not in the college. There were people, me included, who had to take out loans until our first pay-cheque. With travel and up to a month's food and accommodation to be taken into account, that could be quite a hefty sum. One wonders what these fees were used for with buildings springing up with strange names on them, (Who the hell is Schrodinger? I doubt 1% of the college know, Euro students included, let alone the man in the street). These are buildings we mightn't even use but you can bet Japanese business will.

Frankly I feel that humanities should have one co-op like everyone else. Due to the theoretical nature of our degrees, we simply don't have practical skills for the job market or as Jerry

Cronin, Humanities Co-op Manager, put it, "We don't have a very marketable range of skills". In that case, the pretence that the Co-op office is doing a good job should be dropped along with humanities first co-op placement.

NIHE in the old days, established a reputation for excellence. The Co-op office, as far as humanities goes, should stop clapping themselves on the back and review the situation. In an increasingly Euro-centred job market, I fear, listening to the linguistic ability of other Europeans, that we lag far behind the rest. The continuing abject failure of the Co-op office to carry out its function in a satisfying manner is doing little to change things.

Paul Williams
3rd European Studies
Law Option.



Opinion

THE UNDERBELLY OF IRISH RUGBY

It was National "Pull-Out-the-Cliches" Day after Ireland were defeated in the quarter finals of the rugby world cup. "So near and yet so far", George Hamilton moaned afterwards. "The better team lost", "Oh what might have been", "They showed so much commitment, it really broke my heart." Yes indeed, it really came in volumes. What struck me most in the hour or so after the match, is that in sport, and perhaps out of it also, we truly are a nation of noble losers! Words like "commitment" and "heart" came forth in torrents when describing Irish teams but seldom "successful" or "victorious" except "victorious in defeat" of course. I mean just look at the rugby team's performances against Scotland and particularly Australia or the soccer team's games against England and Poland.

I have always felt part of the reason for this, is that we are such a caring race. We look after the elderly, give them pensions, free transport and pick them for the Irish Rugby team! Take Donal Lenihan for example, he probably assisted in the formation of rugby's rules back in the

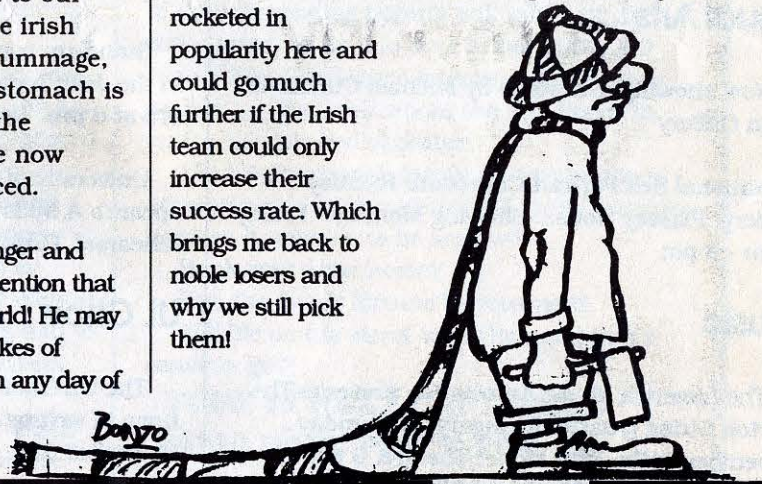
back in the 1880's. Or Des Fitzgerald (known also as Dessie Fitz, Fitzie, Fitzer etc etc - the list is endless, for sake of argument, let's stick to Dessie). Now I won't contend with the fact that Dessie and his magnificent moustache have contributed much to Irish rugby for generations, I also believe that that astonishing toupee on his upper lip must add extra weight to our scrum and that it has often stopped the Irish front row from popping up when in scrummage, but this is no longer enough. Dessie's stomach is now large enough to challenge that of the legendary Doyler's. He and Lenihan are now simply over the hill and must be replaced.

We need to pick Irish teams who are younger and hungrier. Take Nick Popplewell, it is my contention that he popples as well as anybody else in the world! He may be indeed be the key to keys of victory. The likes of Simon Geoghan who could outrun a cheetah any day of the week have done much to popularize rugby among the

masses where it belongs if we are ever to improve our team. The extent to which it had become popular became apparent to me when I heard the following being exchanged between two girls, - "What's grey haired, plays dirty, and looks like a gorilla?"

- That's obvious, Finley Calder!"

Okay, all right, I admit it, I made that one up myself. But there is no doubt but that the game has skyrocketed in popularity here and could go much further if the Irish team could only increase their success rate. Which brings me back to noble losers and why we still pick them!



by Manfred Karge. Translated by Tinch Minter and Anthony Vivis

Island Theatre Company, Belltable, Limerick, 22 Oct - 9 Nov 1991

The Conquest of the South Pole

Reviewed by Cathal Kelly.

Frequently all that a piece of theatre asks you to do is to sit back and be entertained. Occasionally you are asked stand back and consider some intellectual or political issues raised. This play does neither. From the very start it demands of you that you sit up and pay attention. Within the first few minutes we are presented with one of the characters about to commit suicide. 'Conquest' deals with the despair that leads to this attempt, and - more centrally- the attempt by the characters to tackle that despair, which they all share. If you are not prepared to allow your mind and heart to become involved with the characters then this play is wasted on you. This demand for commitment on the part of the audience is what makes this play challenging and, in the end, worthwhile.

The 'plot' (and inverted commas around that word are entirely appropriate) is easily stated: a group of young unemployed men re-enact Amundsens conquest of the South Pole. The re-enactment takes place in an attic. The power of the play is not in its 'plot', but in what we learn of the men, the wife of one of them, and their mentally retarded hanger-on. We see that each of them shares the despair

initially shown to us by Seiffert with a noose around his neck. We see them overcome the despair in their lives to taste success. Karge shows that the real despair comes not merely from being unemployed; he shows that despair is something that is within.

The power of this play is also presented in the poetry of the script - a poetry that forces us to concentrate. The most striking feature of that poetry is the use of repetition. Repetition in the text is the poetry's most striking feature. Its effect is to lift us above the mere action and bring us to share with the characters what they are living. A quibble with the script is that because it is a translation the characters names are unusual, and identifying the characters with their name can be distracting.

In this production, Island have taken a number of risks. Principal among these

direction of Mary Elizabeth Burke-Kennedy is like a breath of fresh air, and injects new life into the company. The set was 'a tad' more elaborate than minimalist, although the icon of the real Amundsen hovering over the action was somewhat distracting.

With this performance Island regulars John Anthony Murphy (as Braukman) and Mike Finn (as Slupianek) demonstrate once more their strength as actors. Three of the other main roles are played by newcomers to Island: Frank Laverty as Buscher, Regina Kilroy as La Braukman and Enda Kilroy as Frankieboy, the simple minded hanger-on. Frank Laverty's change in accent - from his native Donegal to a neutral one - was occasionally distracting.

Brian Thunder (as Seiffert), Cathy Belton (as Rosi) and George Belson (as Rudi) complete the cast. This





striking feature. Its effect is to lift us above the mere action and bring us to share with the characters what they are living. A quibble with the script is that because it is a translation the characters names are unusual, and identifying the characters with their name can be distracting.

In this production, Island have taken a number of risks. Principal among these was the decision to use a director other than their usual. It has paid off. The

newcomers to Island: Frank Laverty as Buscher, Regina Kilroy as La Braukman and Enda Kilroy as Frankieboy, the simple minded hanger-on. Frank Laverty's change in accent - from his native Donegal to a neutral one - was occasionally distracting.

Brian Thunder (as Seiffert), Cathy Belton (as Rosi) and George Belson (as Rudi) complete the cast. This production runs until Nov 9th. It is recommended that you see it.

Arts Parts

Visual Arts

Now showing: Drawings by Michael Cummins, Main Gallery

National Self Portrait Collection, Kneafsy Gallery, Plassey House. Showing Monday - Friday 9.am - 5 pm

Music

The Limerick Music Association presents The Bartok String Quartet (Hungary) on Sunday, November 24th, Jean Monet Theatre, 8 pm

Season Ticket £45, Students £9
Single ticket £5, students £2

further information: John Hargaden, Arts Adviser, Ext 2327/2349

Theatre Arts

Stand-up comedian Kevin McAleer will perform in the Jean Monnet Theatre on Saturday November 9th at 8 pm. Tickeys £6 from SU

University of Limerick production of Will Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night Dream currently in rehearsal. Performane dates: January 19th - 25th

UL Choir

The UL Choir seeks a choral Director. Applications in writing to Arts Adviser by 5pm, Wednesday November 6th.

UL Orchestra

It is proposed to evaluate the possibility of initiating a UL Orchestra of Chamber or Baroque proportions. Interested persons should tender their name, rank and serial number - specifying instrumentation - to John Hargaden as soon as possible.

Arts Days 1992

Plassey Arts Days 1992: January 20 - 24 Week 3 term 2. Faculty wishing to participate in any event let me know.

ULF Building

Foundation Building will have a 1000 set concert hall. Opening September 1993

Book review

IMAGICA

Clive Barker

reviewed by John Maguire

The risks taken by those who generate popular culture is that they will repeat themselves, spread themselves too thinly or drown in their own fantasies. These creators, Barker being one, are personalities and it is the richness of a personality that sustains the creators popular career. (At least that's what I think...)

Clive Barker is a playwright and a filmmaker, but his literary success came with the 'eighties "Books of Blood: volumes one to six" - stories that are a twisted bloodstained mix of Cyberpunk-Orgasm- Mutation. Tales handwritten in virtual reality. Barker's excellence in his field comes from the street-credibility inherent in his slice'n'dice mentality. Barker is quick with his blade, cutting clean, in total contrast to his mentor Stephen King ,who stretches his themes into variations of one emergent theme. King invades Fairy-tale with the impedimenta of terror, thus evading theme. Barker addresses his theme almost before we open the book. This casts his aside from the penny novel crowd. I can safely say that it is what makes Barker the leading light in Horror (and I use the term loosely) Fiction today. Another difference is that Barker uses the grotesque as scenery, where King tells us how we already live.

"Imagica" is Barker's descriptive exploration of the quest for the cure to the world's pain. It's the story of all fairy tales. Barker has discarded the perversity of his earlier work, and now he just wants to tell old stories better. This book is a comprehensively jaundiced view of existence, as seen through the eyes of decidedly fucked-up people. All throughout the book this reviewer was questioning Barker.... Is the quest a

and neighbours , does not happen very often. Some Book!

The weaknesses in this weighty tome, (844 pages) are Barker's common weaknesses. Where the man excels at scene building, he is less excellent at comprehension, and at times the book was almost lost to me. One key element to the book, the suggestion that there are 4 parallel worlds to our own, is frankly hazy, but still amazing. Barker's legion fanatics will find the characters and characterization stereotypical and soothingly usual, but the older tricks of "rescue one more time " will have become stale and vaguely dissapointing. A Barker fan will read this book with an unsettling sense of deja-vu, it's as if Barker has written it before.

Having said that , this book's tears are real, and you can almost smell the blood. Imagica is one fuck of a roller-coaster with plenty of puking. Put it up beside Weaveworld on your bookshelf.

only I am independant

ME.....can never be free.....

You can love me

My MOTHER named me

HE can blame me

THEY often hate me

YOU sometimes praise me

in fact YOU can say do & feel what you like about me

but I can always

be INDEPENDANT of

YOU



Arts

artsnotes

by John Maguire

Another dip into the cavalcade of whimsy and culture. Worthy of a mention this week is the play, "Find me", by Olwen Wymark, which is on tour with the AXIS youth theatre, based in Bolton. This company come equipped with rave previews of what promises to be an amazing performance. This young company (formed in 1990) will bring their particular brand of honest and thought-provoking thratre to Limerick on Sunday 10th November. The venue is the Youth resource centre in Henry St. and the show starts at 8 pm. This promises to be a good night at the theatre, with tickets at the very reasonable price of £1.50. The show will be preceded by three short films, "it could happen to you ." made by the Axis co. and produced by Ana Guimares. The films deal with the threat of AIDS to young people. This Editor will certainly be there.

Just a quick plug for Kevin Mc Aleer , who gives us his "Evening with ..." on saturday 9th Nov. at 8pm. Tickets are on sale now in the S.U. shop and the show is in the Monnet. Be there, because this is one hell of a way to spend a few hours. The man is a god of comedy.

The lectures I mentioned last week are still taking place every Wednesday, in the City Gallery, Pery Square. Free of charge.

Those of you that have seen the marvellous and witty works of Art on the Monnet Gallery, by Dublin artist Michael Cummings, will certainly want to save their shekels and pay up to £ 270 for one. If not, it's Free to look. My favourite must be

perversity of his earlier work, and now he just wants to tell old stories better. This book is a comprehensively jaundiced view of existence, as seen through the eyes of decidedly fucked-up people. All throughout the book this reviewer was questioning Barker.... Is the quest a gamble?.....does damnation beckon? That, friends



Pery Square. Free of charge.

Those of you that have seen the marvellous and witty works of Art on the Monnet Gallery, by Dublin artist Michael Cummings, will certainly want to save their shekels and pay up to £ 270 for one. If not, it's Free to look. My favourite must be "Christmas".

With : Uncle Jack Crochet.

It's not every day that a Limerick Rock'n'Roll group is taken over to London by a very, very reputable record label to record two E.P.'s with a possible album under contract and with a lot of support and enthusiasm with it.

The band in question are, of course, **They Do It With Mirrors**, well known to music lovers far and wide from their steadfast line of gigs and their own somewhat stubborn refusal to be categorised by the many tags and comparisons imposed on bands these days. Indeed our very own Kevin Brew - he of the S.U. office - is the vocalist of this quartet and he's looking forward to their debut E.P. some time in January. The Mirrors have previously been featured on the Reindeer Age compilation of Limerick bands with that well-received track "I'm as furious as an ox who has been refused a seat on the bus."

Here's hoping all goes well for the lads in the future

ALBUM OFFERS

MUSIC LANE at the Parkway Shopping Centre are

INTO THE MUSE

offering between 5% and 10% discount to U.L. students, depending on the album. In the bargain bin, it's worth checking out U2's "Rattle and Hum" at under £6.00 and "Ride" at a fiver. There are quite a few jazz, classical and dance offers in there too, so remember the early bird.....

COMPETITION TIME

Our good friends at MUSIC LANE are giving us Depeche Mode's compilation and Morrissey's "Kill Uncle" for this week's prizes. There will also be two prizes of double tickets for Thursday night at the Parkway (14th November). So

answer the following two questions as honestly as you can and drop them office before

noon on Wednesday.

Q.1. Name the artist who is an ex-Depeche Mode, ex-Yazoo member and who is currently in the charts ?

Q.2. Name the four members of Morrissey's former band The Smiths ?

Societies



amnesty international

IRISH SECTION

Sean MacBride House, 8 Shaw Street, Dublin 2, Ireland. Telephone: 01-776361. Telex: 90428-AIEI.

Founded in 1961, Amnesty International is an independent worldwide human rights movement. It works to ensure international protection and respect of fundamental rights as proclaimed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

A.I.'s work focuses on prisoners; it's main objectives are:

- 1 : The immediate and unconditional release of all "prisoners of conscious"**
- 2 : Fair and prompt trials for all political prisoners and on behalf of such people detained without charge or trial.**
- 3 : The abolition of torture and the death penalty.**

Through its International Secretariat in London it collects information about human rights violations from all over the world. This information is then sent to groups and individual members, who sent letters of appeal to the relevant Heads of State and Government members and publicize the cases.

Amnesty is currently campaigning for the

abolition of the Death penalty for juveniles in the USA.

For Anyone who is interested in finding out more about Amnesty or in becoming a member meetings are held on Thursdays at 7 p.m. in C1058 every fortnight. (The next meeting is in week 6). Or else simply call to the Amnesty Desk in the Canteen in week 7.

JOIN AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

CHEMBIO CONNECTION

Week 4 saw a horde of Chembios troop to Limerick Bowling Centre, Caherdavin. Despite numerous transportational hiccups, 50 members turned up to exhibit their exquisite bowling skills.

After an exhausting 2 rounds where balls were seen flying in all directions, the bowlers were "dragged" into the Davern Arms. Although Dr. Tim and Dr. Sheamie played well they weren't among the prize winners. The winning team were Ian "Uisce" Watters, Pamela Keating, Joe Kelly and Martin Jackson. Best individual players were Nifty Nially Byrne and Sarah Fitzgerald, and most unfortunate player Maureen Power. Highlight of the night was presentation of prizes from "The President" Paul Burke.

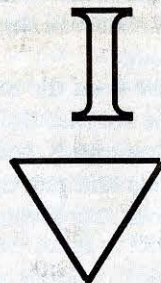
Next on the agenda for the Chembios is Disco in Cheers on Tuesday, Week 7 and a trip to Cork the following day.



Winning team: Pamela Keating, Joe Kelly, Martin Jackson, Ian Watters

Amnesty International is an independent worldwide movement working for the release of all prisoners of conscience, fair and prompt trials for political prisoners and an end to torture and executions. It is funded by donations from its members and supporters throughout the world.

Environmental



Lesbian & Gay Soc.

campaigning for the Canteen in week 7.

JOIN AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

All members receive *Nuacht* free.

MEMBERSHIP	Waged	Unwaged
Individual	£15	£5
Household	£20	£7

I/We enclose £ _____ Subscription
 £ _____ Donation
 £ _____ TOTAL

- I enclose a cheque/postal order
- I wish to pay by bankers order. Please send me a form.
- Please debit my Access/Visa

Card No. _____
 Expiry Date _____ Amount £ _____

Amnesty International is an independent worldwide movement working for the release of all prisoners of conscience, fair and prompt trials for political prisoners and an end to torture and executions. It is funded by donations from its members and supporters throughout the world.

- I wish to renew my existing membership (please state your membership number, if known, as per address label: _____)
 - I would like further information about Amnesty International.
- Name(s) _____
 Address _____

Giving the following information is optional but useful to AI:
 Tel: (h) _____ (w) _____
 Occupation(s): _____
 Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Send to: **Amnesty International**, FREEPOST, 8 Shaw Street, Dublin 2,
 or fax to (01) 776392 or phone (01) 776361 to pay by
 Access/Visa instantly.

PERSONAL ACCIDENT AND INSURANCE

ALL STUDENTS ARE NOW COVERED UNDER THIS POLICY

SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION:

1. Death..... £5,000
2. Permanent Total Loss of Sight of one or two eyes.....£25,000
3. Loss of one or two limbs..... £25,000
4. Permanent Total Disablement (other than loss of sight of one or both eyes or loss of limb from following any gainful occupation whatsoever..... £25,000
5. Medical Expenses (in respect of an accident covered under the P.A. Scheme.) £5,000
EXCESS UNDER THIS SECTION: £50,000
 All other Medical Expenses £500
EXCESS UNDER THIS SECTION: £50,000
6. University Fees £1,500
EXCESS OF ONE MONTH UNDER THIS SECTION.
APPLICATION FEES ARE EXCLUDED.

EXCLUSIONS:

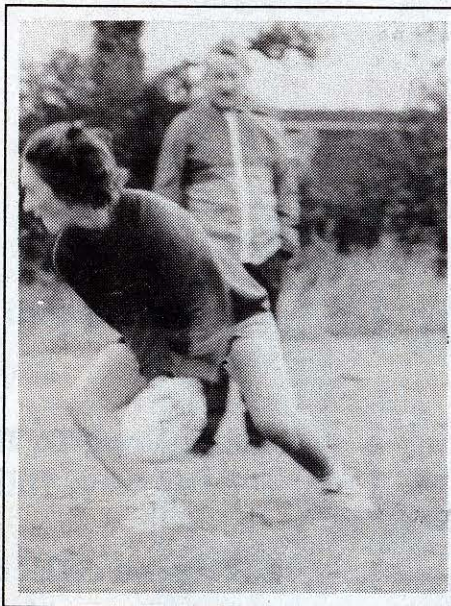
- (a) Whilst engaged or taking part in Military, Air Force or Naval Service or Operations (other than reserve or volunteer training).
- (b) Directly or indirectly caused by or contributed to by intentional self-injury, disease or natural causes, suicide or attempted suicide, provoked assault, fighting, except in bona fide self defence or sporting activities) or from Insured's own criminal act or otherwise engaged in civil commotions or riots of any kind.
- (c) Occasioned by or occurring while he is a state of insanity (temporary or otherwise).
- (d) Whilst engaged or taking part in aeronautics or aviation other than as a passenger.
- (e) Whilst driving in any kind of motorcycle race or rally or driving in any kind of horse race.
- (f) Whilst engaged or taking part in mountaineering or rock climbing (unless supervised by guides and experts in this particular field).
- (g) Consequent on war, invasion or civil war except whilst travelling outside the United Kingdom and Eire.

In Order to make a claim, contact the Students' Union office and pick up a form

Women's Rugby

With an enthusiastic group of adventurous women, Limerick's first ever Women's Rugby Club has already gotten off to a flying start. In week 8 of this term we will host a mini-tournament with U.C.D. and Trinity as well as play matches against the University of Edinburgh in terms 2 and 3. The Men's team has agreed to a mixed match which should make for some exciting scrums!

We have changed our training times for all the athletes who wanted to try out but had conflicting sports. Training will now be on Mondays 6pm. to 7pm. and on Wednesdays 3.30pm. to 4.30pm.. It's not too late to join and all are welcome!



Waterpolo Club in Belfast

The Waterpolo Club has been on the trot yet again. This time, both the men's and women's team made the long track to Belfast last weekend. Due to last year's performance, the women are now competing in Division one and the men in Division three of the National League.

The final scores of the Saturday matches were Limerick(women's) 3 to Cathal Brugha 3 and the Limerick(men's) 5 to Grange 7. In the Sunday matches, the Limerick women drew with Donegal women's team with a score of 4:4 while the Limerick men lost to Cathal Brugha with a score of 5:13. However, both teams played well

together and we are delighted to see some new players taking part in the sport.

This weekend the Limerick men's are taking part in another round of matches in Dublin while the Limerick Ladies will be playing their next match in Thomond on the 17th November.

As usual the weekend proved too much for Sally who has been trying to practice her English in pronouncing the word "hippopotamus" and 'Head the Ball Hickey' who managed to drown one and all with the pint she claimed "must have gone to her head". An "eventful" weekend as usual away.

Racing Club News

Five members of the racing club visited Cambridge last weekend to attend the Inter-varsity Racing Association inaugural meeting. It was hosted by Cambridge Turf Club, and among the Irish representatives were UL (of course), UCD, UCG and Trinity, so we can look forward to some interaction with Universities.

The main thrust of the weekend was the formation of the IVRA and it is hoped that an Inter-varsity will be hosted by a university each year, with Bristol looking the likely candidates for next year. Tips were given on how to run clubs and Inter-varsities, and guest speakers included John McCrerrick, John Francome, Julian Wilson, Graham Goode and Jim McGrath (all of BBC and Channel 4 fame).

On the entertainment side, trips to nearby stables were organised including Martin Stoute, John Gosden, Alec Steward etc. Races were attended at Newmarket Racecourse and money changed hands over the Three Chimneys Dewhurst Stakes, the Dubai Champion Stakes and the Tote Cesarawitch (most of it going in one direction!).

The social highlight of the weekend was a black-tie dinner and Tony, the Jimmy Hendrix lookalike, represented UL in the Discus event. Always a great man to improvise, plates were used as projectiles, and because there were no safety nets, he did manage to draw blood. Later the UL gang had to take the host home as he was slightly under the weather. Mind you, against all the odds, he did manage to hold himself together.

If you would like to represent UL in other Olympic events, your chance could come on a planned trip to **Thurles on Thursday, week 7**. Watch notice boards for details or contact

Sports

pairs for a beneficial warm-up. Then we proceed into drills of bruising, burning, tumbling and diving while coach shouts "rollin', rollin', keep the cattle rollin'!" Our abundant stores of energy are then released into attacking, defending and counter-attacking, all too soon the clock chimes 9 o'clock and it's "Hit the showers lads" as we reluctantly face another strenuous day.

Tournament!

The weekend of Week 7 will see an influx of country-wide volleyballers to this humble establishment. We hope to have our 4 teams competing in this tournament and we would therefore appreciate your support!

lost to Cathal Brugha with a score of 5:13. However, both teams played well

claimed "must have gone to her head". An "eventful" weekend as usual away.

other Olympic events, your chance could come on a planned trip to **Thurles on Thursday, week 7.** Watch notice boards for details or contact

Hugh O'Brien at E2004 (a postgrad). Non members are also welcome.

7:30 on a Tuesday morning marks the start of our week's invigorating, exuberating and exhilarating training!!! Everybody Arriving on time and rearing to go (back to bed). Greeted by our ever eager coaches ordering us into 'platonik'

hope to have our 1st team competing in this tournament and we would therefore appreciate your support!

Training times:
Team 1 Tues: 7:30 - 9:00
Wed: 2:00 - 4:00
Team 2 To be decided

General Training
Fri: 5:00 - 6:00
Sat and Sun varies

The Volleyball Club
"We hit balls the hardest".

Student Golf Club

The first outing of the year was held at Charleville Golf Club, with 24 students taking part. The scoring was quite good despite the conditions and the best score on the day was 37 points by Kevin Martin (8) closely followed by John Brett (4) and Rory Curran (14) with 35 points.

On Wednesday 9th October, the annual Dean's Cup match between the students and staff was held at Castletroy Golf Club. The students established an early lead of 4 matches to 2 and despite the staff's best efforts to narrow the gap, the students eventually won by a deserved margin of 7 - 4.

The second outing of the year was held recently at Shannon Golf Club under ideal conditions. Catherine McGulley (11) returned a superb 41 points followed by N. McNulty (10) and Bob Loftus (4) both with 39

points. Recent good performances by J. Brett and N. McNulty see them setting the early pace in the golfer of the year competition.

On Wednesday 6th November, the final outing for this term is being held at Castletroy Golf Club. The tee is booked between 11.45 - 12.45pm. The booking sheet is in CM072 and it costs £3 per person. There's a limit of 27 places available, so book early to avoid disappointment.

A course of golf lessons has been arranged at Castletroy golf club at a cost of £2 per lesson. Anybody interested should contact J. Brett (4th Applied Maths) or Kevin Martin via the notice board in Canteen or the golf club pigeon hole in the S.U. (Stable).

Gavin Burke
P.R.O. Golf Club



Judo

Judo, the gentle way (it can seem to be anything but gentle to the beginner) was developed from the lethal fighting art of ju - jitsu in Japan in the 1850's. Judo can be described as a style of wrestling or as a martial art that encourages a self discipline, respect for opponents and skillful use of your opponents strength as well as your own strength, to overcome them.

The aims of the University of Limerick Judo Club

are perhaps different from many others. While success at competition is important especially as a means of motivation this is not the principal purpose of the club, or indeed Judo. With the demands made of a student it is unrealistic, for all but the most dedicated, to make the commitment the sport requires to compete at the highest levels.

However this does not mean that Judo has little to offer. The chief purpose of

the club is to let as many people as possible try the sport and hopefully gain some of the benefits, mentally as well as physically, that Judo has to offer. Ultimately it would be hoped that people would continue practising Judo in the future and that the decision makers, which higher education aims to produce, will have an understanding of what Judo is.

Aisling Moran,
Club P.R.O.

U.L.S.U. Campus Safety Day

Attention Students !

Are you pissed off with

- 1) the lack of lighting on our campus
- 2) lack of speed control
- 3) lack of proper path maintenance
- 4) lack of traffic flow co - ordination
- 5) lack of fire evacuation drills

In short - lack of safety and above all else
lack of CONCERN !

Please support your Students Union campaign to reduce the needless risks and threats that we are constantly exposed to, by

a lack of concern from the campus authorities.

Come Along To The Safety Awareness Fair in the Cafeteria Thursday Week 7 .

We intend collection a petition from practically every student that uses the campus, to call on Dr. Walsh to get his act together on BASIC safety measures.

WE DO NOT WANT IT TO TAKE A DEATH ,
INJURY OR RAPE BEFORE WE GET MORE
LIGHTS, MORE SPEED RAMPS, PROPER PATHS
ETC. ETC.

Union Council Meeting

Tuesday Week 7

7.30 p.m. Students Centre

Clubs and Societies Council Meeting

Thursday Week 7

7.30 p.m. P.E. Building Main Lecture Hall .

Agenda

Meeting

Tuesday Week 7

7.30 p.m. Students Centre .

Agenda

- 1) Minutes
- 2) Budget Appeals
- 3) Blood Issue
- 4) Safety Day
- 5) Academic Affairs
- 6) Student Services
- 7) A.O.B

Thursday Week 7


7.30 p.m. P.E. Building Main Lecture Hall .

Agenda


- 1) Minutes
- 2) Committee Election
- 3) Review of Administration Weekend
- 4) Budgeting Review
- 5) Criterion for Special Funds
- 6) Publicity Fines
- 7) Non Attendance Fines

PRICES SLASHED FOR STUDENTS

Spiders Hair Centre
John's St. Limerick
Tel: 061 - 412271



WITH ID



SCOTUS

Credits

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one who Helped Out
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