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# FLOCAL

## LIMERICK STUDENTS' UNION

### SECOND QUORUM

History was made last Thursday night when the students' union achieved it's second quorum meeting in one semester. Patrick Kennedy was there to witness this unique event.

Last Thursday (19th Nov.) saw the second major gathering of the members of the students union, during the current semester. But on this occasion, proceedings ranged from the mundane to the theatrical to the annoying - and back again.

The meeting opened to some disappointment when the numbers in attendance were obviously not quite as high as the previous meeting. Anyway it was on with business, first of all the matters arising from the last meeting. These were, in brief: the license for the new bar, hopefully a club license will be obtained that will grant up to 13 bar extensions a year; Constitutional changes, these were made and the constitution is said to be now surviving peacefully without the burden of carrying extra unnecessary weight.

Next it was onto an extra agenda item; nothing too scandalous however, just the ratification of the executive council members that did not have to stand in any formal elections. All were passed unopposed and were the following; Pat McCarthy (Community Relations Officer), Roger Geoghan (Student Teacher Officer), Tim McAuliffe (Societies Officer), Jim Walsh (Clubs Officer). Well done lads.

On then to another very talked about

Clubs and Soc's budget. Why then are we only getting the same representation as the other two colleges. Ms.Day said that she thought it would be sad if a smaller institution had to make way for the bigger one, obviously the woman has heard nothing about proportional representation. The opportunity to make some more noise about the Wired discrepancies will surely be heard again.

Following the agenda it was next on to the issue of the medical centre. Again there are many contentious issues bothering a lot of people as we wait for the University to get its arse in gear and eventually up to speed. When asked if there was any chance of a separate building for the medical centre Tara said that this is most doubtful, a very long term objective but first we should try and sort out the problems with the existing farce.

Barry spoke next on the Teaching Practice expenses topic. So far the teaching students have set up their own society as a means of raising support and possibly a bit of cash. Also a contingency fund for students in the University budget has been discovered. Barry said that the chances of getting this for T.P. expenses are about 40% and also offered the Teachers society

At this stage she moved onto the success of the personal alarms and the nite-link bus. A voice from the floor stated this though these were good its hard to believe that the security on campus has deteriorated so much that we need these measures. At this another, now very popular, voice proposed that the Union should organise more affirmative action to highlight the need for improvements in security both on and off campus. A motion to strike was proposed and received overwhelming support from the floor, however before any decision could be made a quorum needed to be achieved. The count revealed a number just under the magic 200, so an adjournment in the meeting was called from the floor in order to find the twenty or so students necessary to make a binding decision.

Fair play to the the students though, word was sent to the Stables and in a amazing rush the Jean Monnet theatre was soon packed to the extent that there were people left standing. The motion was re-proposed and passed unanimously. At the time of writing, the final decision for the date still rests with the Students' Union and depends largely on the outcome of the EGM on Monday 23 November.

# AOB

UNIVERSITY of LIMERICK

STUDENTS' UNION



UNIVERSITY of LIMERICK

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On then to another very talked about topic on campus, Wired FM. The reason for the discussion regarding Wired was the bad vibe that has been going around campus in relation to the treatment that U.L. has been getting from the board despite the massive input it has (both in financial and manpower terms). Why for instance can it not be picked up in some parts of Castletroy? Mary I. lecturer and member of the Wired Executive Board, Rosemary Day was on hand to dismiss any misgivings that we had towards the running of the station.

We were given a brief history if Wired, how it is a community station and therefore cannot be run at a profit as all money made must go back into the running and development of the station. Also the fact that each of the three colleges in that partake in wired have two positions each on it's executive board, a S.U. rep, and a student rep. Other than this there are three co-op positions each semester, one for Mary I. and one for us. In the current training programme there are 85 students participating, 35 of whom are from UL

With the history lesson out of the way it was over to the rest of us to ask some questions. The major issue seemed to be the budget and our poor representation in the running of Wired. Basically the students of U.L pay £2 each out of the

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Next it was time for the reports of the Sabbatical officers on the progress that they have made towards fulfilling their manifesto. Barry was up first. Other than his already well publicised achievement he mentioned the problems with getting the library to enforce its copyright authority as the publishers only incur a £50 fine for failing to fulfil their obligation, and as some books cost well over this they have no problem in paying the fine. Also on library business there are now 60 computers in the library on the ground floor with full internet access.

Now the excitement began. Tara arose to make her report. She started by telling us about her attempts to get the security, mainly the lighting of the campus, improved dramatically. The need for this has also been heightened by a recent spate of attacks in the Castletroy area. Unfortunately the powers that be deem it more important to get the correct design for the light before anyone's life is saved, creating a considerable delay.

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With this historical move made it was on to the Student Union accounts which were presented by the SU auditors. Nobody seemed to have any problems with the numbers; although last year's executive did hijack the situation to launch a personal attack on last year's SU president, Bobby O'Connor. It transpires that Bobby had signed the accounts on their behalf without their consent - but this mere formality was exaggerated beyond proportion to the extent that the real issue (ie. the accounts) was neglected while the auditor looked on in stunned disbelief. The issue was further aggravated by people who were not even on last year's exec. but who felt obliged to champion the cause, apparently in an attempt to unsettle Bobby O'Connor. For example, when asked why he was getting involved, the PSA vice-president, Shane Morris, declared that he did so because, "I have a voice" - Good man, Shane.

Finally AOB dealt with a proposed constitutional change to the clubs and soc's budget for political and religious parties. This however was thwarted by Bobby O'Connor in what appeared to all present to be a sign of retaliation for the earlier debacle. The quorum count that he called came in under 200 and so no binding decision could be made.

## Hate mail

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in regards to a letter printed in last weeks edition of "an focal" (Re:Will they ever get it right?). I must state that I concur completely with those sentiments expressed by the author concerning the disorder and disorganisation at UL. He is also correct in stating that there are numerous other students that feel the same way. I am lucky; being an exchange student, I will only have to endure this chaos for one year. However, I feel quite sorry for the others, who have to complete their degree programmes here.

I have been told that the University of Limerick enjoys a reputation in Ireland for being innovative and academically excellent, second only to Trinity College. If this is so, then I really could not imagine what life must be like at those other universities. The university has some serious problems which must be addressed.

The largest problem at UL surely must be with the library. My own personal experience has let me extremely frustrated. I cannot believe the amount of problems that exist in a library that is barely six months old. Firstly, the architecture is of poor quality. Did the architects not realise that having an open middle is conducive to amplifying noise?. Having stairs made out of glass was a great idea as well. Kudos to the idiot that thought up that one!.

The work cubicles are of great concern, as well. I was wondering why I was having so much difficulty finding a place to work at the library. Then I asked an Irish friend of mine, who stated to me that many students come in at 8.30am or so, put down their books and coat, then scuttle off to class for the rest of the day. This is utterly ridiculous. Further, the cubicles are shoved together in busy areas. Most are not partitioned from each other in any manner, and so it happens that

## Who Cares???

I write this tonight after the Student Union A.G.M and I have to say that I am absolutely ashamed and disgusted to be a student at the University of Limerick. As part of a farcical and largely ignorant student body, I wonder what the point is anymore. Why does nobody care? Welfare week passed us by and no-one knew, no-one wanted to. SoUL week is upon us, yet how many people have gone to any of the events?. Last year we had Kolledge week, but there was a student spirit, the sense that something extraordinary was going on?. Does the co-op system - the breaking of continuity, ensure that as a student bloc we are a disunited and unorganised body of 9,000 and essentially passive and anti-radical? What the fuck is going on here?.

It was rather sad and embarrassing that the SU A.G.M had to be adjourned for ten minutes until the Stables clientele was transferred to the Jean Monnet. A total farce. However what was more farcical and pathetic was the hidden agenda of political vendetta which reared its ugly head throughout the meeting and ensured that three and a half hours later we were no better than we were before. students on strike seems rather ridiculous. We all know why we are striking but what are we striking from?. Lets all save a day of irrelevant exercise and shoot ourselves in the foot. It is a populist attempt to create an easy solution . Bobby, let history be kind to you and leave it there, Barry go do what you set out to do and ignore the pretenders trying to be puppeteer.

In discussion with the accountant after the AGM, he said that in relation to the accounts, its a great pity that students were focusing on silly, trivial things and not the things that mattered. He could not understand the constant unconscious suggestion that

Further, the cubicles are shoved together in busy areas. Most are not partitioned from each other in any manner, and so it happens that studying becomes an impossible task. I would like to know why they are not more study cubicles places elsewhere in the university!. I realise that there are other reading rooms on campus, but they are really not adequate.

I also find it strange that a university that spend millions of pounds on a new library cannot afford to spend perhaps a few more thousand on more of those 'dos' computers . They are the only means to look up books here, yet there are only around eight in the entire library. My home university has in excess of one hundred of these, plus the entire catalogue can also be accessed at home via the internet. I find myself queuing half an hour just to look up a book. Add to that half an hour to photocopy a document, half an hour to access an internet computer, and at least that amount to find a workplace and you have a recipe for a serious lack of productivity. Perhaps the Irish like to queue. If so I would like to apologise, but it is my feeling that this is not the case.

My final comment about the library concerns its disposal of paper. Printers and photocopiers use a lot of paper. The least that this university could do is ensure that it is disposed of in an appropriate fashion. This entails the use of this 'new' technology we like to call "recycling". maybe it is unheard of here, but I know of many other universities that currently practice it and are not referred to as being 'innovative' like UL.

Security also has to be addressed at this university. I realise that it is inevitable that the odd incident occurs on this campus, but simple precautions can be taken to lessen the likelihood. Last week, I needed to get from the 'C' block over to the sports building. I walked through the interior of the main building but was confronted by locked doors everywhere. I walked all the way back to the main reception area and then proceeded to take the trail behind Plassey House. To my dismay I saw that there was absolutely no lights on this path. This is a disgrace. other main paths are just as bad, including the main path to the university to Plassey Village and the path by the bus shelter.

The aforementioned just touches the surface of the problems that I have encountered here. I am not trying to criticise everything about this university, for it has much going for it. it's just that I am quiet frustrated at seeing a lack of common sense being used in the administration here. All of these problems are easily corrected, requiring neither great changes nor resources. Someone in a position of power surely must realise that there are some serious problems here. But perhaps they don't care as long as UL keeps reaping in the money and constructing new buildings.

Yours sincerely,  
Jarrett Graham Reckseidler  
House No. 58,  
Plassey Village.

in relation to the rest of the day. This is utterly ridiculous focusing on silly, trivial things. He could not understand the conspiracy against the student body. I say they were all part of a conspiracy to read this, there is a conspiracy to you, those who have bothered to read this, there is a conspiracy and it is one that has successfully in ensuring the terminal decline of the "student voice". It is the enemy within, the conspiracy of the student against the student. Perhaps the points race has ensiled this competitive ethic within us, perhaps its because we as a student body are selfish and all hold secret bias against one another. We hate ourselves. We are the most powerful part of this "Celtic Tiger". We supply the graduates that ensure it survives. Yet we allow the grant to go up by 67p a week, student accommodation to spiral and attacks on students as a normal occurrence. Our voice is a mere whisper with the current split among the SU of the country, which satisfies a lot of happy people. I urge you to commit suicide now and save someone else doing it. Not making any sense? There's none to make.

A pissed off  
PIPPY GOATS

## Kurrupts!!!

On Thursday 29th October 500 workers at the Krupps factory in Limerick were greeted with the news that the plant is to close. All the local politicians expressed their sadness and disappointment at the decision. Mary Harney, Minister for Enterprise and Employment, established an inter agency task force to try and find jobs for the 500 workers. She visited the factory the following Monday to express her sympathy to the workforce. She said it was unfortunate that some factories had to close, but that was how the system worked.

This is the crux of the matter. Why is the Krupps plant now closing? Krupps have been in Limerick for 34 years. Some time ago the Limerick plant was taken over by the Moulinex group. Moulinex has been in financial crisis for the past year or so. The economic crisis in Asia and more recently in Russia and Eastern Europe has created major difficulties and the company laid off over 2,500 workers worldwide earlier this year as part of a rationalisation programme. The Limerick plant is closing due to the over production of components for Moulinex products in a shrinking world market.

The response of the Trade Unions at the factory's closure has been to look for a meeting to discuss redundancy payments. With the growing world economic crisis the closure of the Krupps plant is an indication of what lies ahead for workers in Ireland. As multinational companies rationalise to try and ride out the recession.  
Rory Keane

## Campus Insecurity

Insecure adj. 1. Not secure or safe or dependable.  
2. Feeling a lack of security, constantly anxious.  
- Oxford Reference Dictionary, 1986.

Last Monday evening as I searched my way through the unlit parking lot beside The Stables I began to understand the nature of campus security at UL - bordering on criminally negligent. After pulling out my flashlight, something every UL student should consider carrying, I happened upon my car. I was fortunate to find it in the same condition that I left it, although I had probably taken quite a risk in leaving it unattended in a prominently located, yet dimly-lit parking lot. As I drove towards the East Gate, minding not to run over any of the students who had forgotten their flashlights at home, I found myself questioning the issue of security on campus. During the drive home I couldn't help but formulate a mental list of my campus security concerns. My concerns looked something like the following:

- 1) Why are almost half of the outdoor lights around the campus burnt out? Who replaces these? And, why do they only employ 40 watt bulbs?
- 2) There must be a good reason for locking the doors at only one end of the walkways between buildings - I just can't think of one. However, I can imagine the apprehension that many people must feel when they have to negotiate their way back down a long dark walkway situated two stories above the ground.
- 3) There is not one light on the well-trafficked path between Plassey House and our 'state of the art' Sports Complex. Why is this pathway unlit? (I write 'state of the art' in parenthesis as I use these facilities almost daily, but do not consider them to be state of the art. I think that the 'state of the art' facilities refers to those facilities that are locked behind closed doors in secret corners of the athletic complex, far out of the reach of the majority of UL stu-

## Welcome to the Building site, Roger.

This great University of ours is entering the age of humanism. Humanism is the discipline to confound and complicate, to limcrease and spontate all that has been achieved. As this creature that is UL continues to expand and expound in the most phidiogramical fashion, one begs to ask, did Roger realise? Yes, one has faced him socially and professionally, not for hours on end or days at the time but for moments true. In those moments, one, happily and joyously, received the welcoming impression that, yes, he is the idealist and visionary to carry on where the founding figure took off. But will our Roger continue the glorification of the beast that is threatening to destroy forever the one true gift that is brought to bear on all? - the gift of walking around the magnificence of campus and meeting a familiar face. Will there fast approach the insidious time, when that familiar figure will neither be friend nor foe but merely nod and grunt. In the endearing age of having more watering holes in which to Pontificate, where will all the faces go? The era of the faceless friend is nigh upon us. Aeronautical, Info Techs, Foundations and Libraries, Student centres and Sports buildings, to be welcomed, applauded, celebrated, admired and loved. Onwards, upwards, outwards, inwards, inside, outside the beast is ever-consuming. The beast that Ed created is fat devouring the vision that Roger hopes for. The age of Humanism is upon us. The age of humanism is an endangered species. Years ago in the heady days of democratic revolt that swept the globe, the human eyed monster peered through the crevices of those beloved brown bricks. Swept aside in an all-endeavouring crusade that made green-eyed monsters across the lands, the age of humanism went back to it's warm cocoon. So now Roger, lets not fight this beast but lets play with it, embrace it, ride along with it and overtake it before we endanger ourselves to the faceless, heartless, dehumanistic sculptures.

KAISER SOSA

# Bundle of joy!

...them to be state of the art. I think that the 'state of the art' facilities refers to those facilities that are locked behind closed doors in secret corners of the athletic complex, far out of the reach of the majority of UL students. Although the pool does seem to be somewhat cleaner these days - thank you.)

4) Impressive construction projects are scattered all over our campus. Surely a fraction of UL's construction expenditures could be allocated towards improving the state of campus security and we could all feel safer on campus.

These are just a couple of 'icons' of campus security that I have mentioned here, but I am sure that this week's letters to the editor will highlight others. At the end of the day, no one is seeking any miracle solutions. If even a few burnt out light bulbs are changed then this letter will not have been a complete waste of time. Feelings of insecurity and fear need not remain as permanent features of UL life, but action must be taken and soon. Let's not tempt fate.

I was in the postgraduate computer lab today and a lab advisor actually came into the room to verify that everyone occupying a computer terminal was in fact a postgraduate student. Well, I just wanted to thank whoever it was in ITD who undertook such stringent enforcement measures. Now, if ITD could concentrate its efforts on putting some of UL's technology into working order we would be getting somewhere. For example, the swipe-card mechanism on the door to the postgraduate computer lab might be repaired (or turned on). What about making operational all of the impressive telephone sockets at the desks throughout the library. Or, are we waiting for this technology to become obsolete before putting it to use.

P.S. Despite my grave security concerns and idle grumbling I am enjoying my time at UL, the people are fantastic and quality of education is of a high calibre.

## Bundle of joy !



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*Gibberish*

# Stressin'

I just decided that after all my years here I have never officially complained about anything.

People are usually praising our wonderful University and rightly so. But today I'm in a bad mood and am going to complain. This is my list of complaints about the University of Limerick. Fourth years (and other years) taking places in the Postgraduate reading room. Some even have little pictures of their loved ones stuck onto their desks.....so much for the fifteen minutes.

It's easier to have sex in the library than to get on the Internet and see others performing sex. It's always raining.

The bars are always crowded, unless you want to go drinking in the middle of the day, but then you stay on and eventually the bar gets crowded. You could go drinking in town, but then the buses are crowded.

People are always praising the University.  
Exams are after Christmas.  
Exams.

Exam results.  
People who throw soccer players off the pitch so they can have lectures....priorities people please.  
It never stops raining.  
The Schuman building.....Siberia.

An Focal Semester One, Week Nine, Page Four

# SPLEEN

Greetings imbeciles. Spleen has condescended to write to you once again. He is pleased that the bogmen of this achingly unadventurous institution are finally showing a little initiative. Yes, cretins I refer to the so-called strike our Leaders called for Tuesday. An improvement, my pets, an improvement. hopefully much mayhem will have been caused, without too much loss of life, with a complete and total victory (because I write anterior to events, I gaze into my ball of crystal). If those cold hearted brutes, who are the college authorities refuse to yield, children I urge you to lay down your lives. A principle is not a principle unless you are prepared to die for it.

We know how little you are valued, how Management save their paltry pounds in the knowledge that an acceptable level of violence is cost-effective. We also know dear-hearts that 10,000 people deserve the right never to ever, ever be attacked, or robbed, or injured in any way. In fact, Spleen urges you to petition your local representative, and push for a Bill which prohibits all forms of violence against Students, for we are the sons and heirs to a Nations dreams, holders of the hopes of the people, the favoured children of the European Empire. Yes, O little ones, from this great height I speak unto you, do not allow yourselves to be deterred in your search for Justice, swayed while on the path of Righteous outrage, discouraged by the weasel words of those who seek to suppress.

Spleen, who knows all and sees all, has listened to your concerns, he has cogitated and pondered. He has thought deep thoughts high in his eyrie above the College. He has admired the fair flower of our womenfolk as they demurely pass by and he has mused "if those Limerick yobbos ever dream so much as to touch her, by Jaysus but I'll burst them" Now is the time for leadership, my puppies, now is the time for decisive action, we need stronger measures to prevent more outrages. Spleen has considered gathering his faithful band of trusty followers and entering Hicksville with baseball bats, hurley sticks (for the yokels) and bicycle chains. We do not need better Library facilities, we do not need a UA students charter, we want to show those proles that we will not stand idly by and be intimidated. And so, as a poor alternative, he approves of our march - but it is not a permanent solution. Extermination of all proles might work but then, janitorial duties would devolve to the Students Union. We might also find that the perpetrators are some of our own, snakes in the grass who have gone Native - and then what?

Exams.

Exam results.

People who throw soccer players off the pitch so they can have lectures....priorities people please.

It never stops raining.

The Schuman building.....Siberia.

Q1 in the restaurant.

People like me writing gibberish.

The editor for publishing this gibberish.

Who took our canteen seats? and the lack of opposition. Lets form a "we want our canteen seats back" club.

Getting a computer and then having to leave when a lab starts.

The e-mail is down again.

How do you print something in this University.

It never ever stops raining.

What University....this is a building site.

Having to go to the Lodge at 10.00pm.

Not getting into the Lodge.

Some of the bouncers in the Lodge. (only messing....they're wonderful people)

These are all the things I thought of in the last ten minutes. I'm not going to complain anymore about this wonderful University, this bastion of learning on the outer borders of Europe, this prime architectural masterpiece. Oh yeah and one more....

Brown bricks.

KAISER SOSA

do not need a WA...  
idly by and be intimidated. And so, as  
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what?

However, all is not yet lost, Spleen is resourceful, he is cunning, he knows his  
people. While gazing at the bottom of an empty glass in the Stables, he had a revelation  
... A WAII. Yes Spleen, who always has the interests of his Fellows at heart, has  
arrived at a solution - A WAII which will permanently stand as a monument to WA  
and a tribute to the vision of Spleen. Those Chinks will gape abashed, Bertie Aher-  
will bring Clinton's successors here when they arrive and they will gaze in humbled awe.  
Renown will descend like a cloud from Paradise upon this student metropolis - WE  
WEHBE FAMOUS. For, my children WE WILL BUBBLE  
AROUND THE COLLEGE. No longer will our young girls tremble in fear and  
trepidation when they go to meet their lovesick swain. No longer will our young men  
feel the need to congregate in sweaty packs for self protection while blowing the froth off  
the clergyman's collar. We shall, behind our towering edifice, breathe in the sweet air of  
liberty once again.

We have the men, we have the technology, we have the finance too (some account-  
ing manoeuvres may be necessary, but these can be offset against security savings).  
For this is WAR my little ones. I have referred in previous columns about the pern-  
cious effects of mixing with the Natives, and thankfully, I see how you continue to take  
Spleens considered advice. But they grow restless, little ones, and no longer can we  
sleep safely in our beds. I say - consolidate our Empire!! what need we of sports  
buildings, of vast and airy rooms if the lectures are uninspired and turgid, if the panting  
and eager student is frustrated in her lust for knowledge, if we do not have a WAII to  
enclose our hungry minds and keep them safe. As a bastion of Imperialism we shall  
stand Tall and Erect in the land of the slave and the free, and keep the Natives in their  
place - as is our duty.

My cretinous friends, I ask no more of you,

Do not be deflected in your Sacred Cause

SPLEEN



TM Roger Gimp Inc.

As they continue to examine the ridiculous in great detail, The Gimps this week give a cultural review, air some fan mail and seek the answer to the question that has plagued mankind since the dawn of time.

### A CRITICAL LOOK AT THE CENTRE OF CULTURE, PARIS

This week we go foreign, our roving (quite extensively) reporter in UCD basically slates the Parisian Race.

Only visitors to France, namely Paris will empathise with me now with my present grievance ...to be exact, Parisians, the dirty feckers.

Internationally known as a bunch of arrogant, self-centred, egotistical tossers, they have, more or less, invented culture, well, as far the doe-eyed and vir-

ginal Twentieth Century know it. They have furnished humanity with a greater comprehension of the world in which we live in and lavished us with whole new perspectives on art, literature, philosophy, spiritualism, economics and various other fields of thought and research. Still though, aren't they the greatest bunch of poncey, Dell-boy-type gits you've ever met? (and if you haven't met them, then imagine really hard, a great, big, freshly-laid Navan poo on a sticky summers day, personify it, and you'll get the basic idea.) All I say is that any nation who still haven't disowned the wearing of white socks as haute couture are in need of an urgent visit from the fashion police. Personally it's still quite 'en vogue', but dem, damn pesky Parisians, that's a whole different story ...ah, but hey, what's really important is the fact that we all know it is gospel ...HOHOHO ...green giant signing off at the Isla de Enchanta, duckypoo.

### NEWEST DRUG ON CAMPUS - THE DINGLEBERRY

Must be read with a naive American accent

Dear Gimps,

Hi my name is Bill. I'm an American Erasmus student. I am currently a sophomore in Columbia University studying languages. First of all I'd like to say how much I love all you Irish guys, especially my housemates Conor, Jiggidy, Kenny Everret and Hugh Boy.

I am writing to you because of my special field of studies, colloquialisms and also because the guys in my house say I'm a purebred gimp.

Being of the gimp breed I'll share a tale with you. Having seen that dingleberries were mentioned last week I'll stick to that topic. Three weeks ago the guys in my house sent me to the liquor store for three slabs of Dutch Gold and a packet of Dingleberries.

I returned home dingleberrieless and was greeted by rapturous laughter when I told the guys that the girl in the store looked at me like I was some kind of CLINGON from outer space on asking for the dingleberries. As I had been the butt of the joke the guys said not to

### No Comment.

Waiting at a Castletroy busstop is not usually a microcosm of men's baser primeval urges. The sight however, of three nosepickers in action in the space of twenty minutes was rather eye opening.

The culprets : young, male drivers who obviously don't realise that glass is transparent. The only difference between the young and the older generation is that older men use a cloth handkerchief in deference to society. I imagine that it must be quite difficult to drive while apparently searching for the nasal equivant of the Rock of Cashel.

Is there perhaps some deep psychological need to become better aquainted with the olfactory gland??? Some things are definately better off left alone!!

The only solution to the disgusting habit of nose picking as far as I can see is to present the ignoramus with a nasal hair plucker - guarenteed to deter even the most ardent nose picker.

Aisling Davis.

*Hello Mr. Politician*

*Hello Mr. Politician, now that you win the election,*

*What about education and people suffering in starvation,*

*I notice your bank books, keep rising in millions and millions,*

*While poor people in stressed, left in this poor condition.*

*No home for the homeless, no food for the beggar,*

*Yet you be sifting at your poolside sipping expensive liquor.*

*Your nanny be dumping, left over foods in the garbage,*

*While poor people be trodding, all day, in their hungry pas- sage.*

*(With words so big, make you choose here the educt...*

## NEWEST DRUG ON CAMPUS - THE DINGLEBERRY

Must be read with a naive American accent

Dear Gimps,

Hi my name is Bill. I'm an American Erasmus student. I am currently a sophomore in Columbia University studying languages. First of all I'd like to say how much I love all you Irish guys, especially my housemates Conor, Jiggidy, Kenny Everret and Hugh Boy.

I am writing to you because of my special field of studies, colloquialisms and also because the guys in my house say I'm a purebred gimp.

Being of the gimp breed I'll share a tale with you. Having seen that dingleberries were mentioned last week I'll stick to that topic. Three weeks ago the guys in my house sent me to the liquor store for three slabs of Dutch Gold and a packet of Dingleberries.

I returned home dingleberrieless and was greeted by rapturous laughter when I told the guys that the girl in the store looked at me like I was some kind of CLINGON from outer space on asking for the dingleberries. As I had been the butt of the joke the guys said not to worry and presented me with a sizeable packet of dingleberries. They told me that they had got them from a seedy guy next door known as 'the Plumber'. Apparently he had come across them in a shady investigation into the local GAA club's communal shower blockage. Apparently this was good stuff 'freshly plucked', according to 'the Plumber'. Being a dabbler in narcotics I naturally was delighted to come upon some new shit, you're only young once is my motto!

The guys said to 'stick that in your pipe and smoke it'. Naturally I retired to my room and went straight for my bong. I'll tell you one thing, it's good shit man, I mean some of the dingleberries were still warm from the production line.

Yours in appreciation of the Irish narcotics world.

Will Knot

Ps (that is my new nickname which the guys gave me. Hey, I love all you guys!)

## WOULD YOU ROGER A ROGER?

The five funniest answers given to the question "Would you Roger a Roger?"

Most certainly, in fact I've rogered several Rogers. (Barry Fitz 2nd year Law and Euro)

That would depend on the size of his todger. (Keith Piggot, Ents Crew)

No, not since I lost my Rodgrinity (Shane Morris, Young Fine Gael)

For sure, I'd fucking Roger anything at the moment. (Michael Kelleher, 4th BioChemistry)

That would depend on two variables; Whether I could get it up at the time, & whether Roger's arse was well lubricated at the time. (Denis Duggan from Radio Soc, Fianna Fail and any other society that will take him)

VILE WORD OF THE WEEK : COPULATION

*What about education and people suffering in starvation,*

*I notice your bank books, keep rising in millions and millions,*

*While poor people in stressed, left in this poor condition.*

*No home for the homeless, no food for the beggar,*

*Yet you be sifting at your poolside sipping expensive liquor.*

*Your nanny be dumping, left over foods in the garbage,*

*While poor people be trodding, all day, in their hungry passage.*

*With words so big, make you always have the advantage,*

*Pressuring poor people, as if they got no knowledge*

*You keep holding them, in your devices of lies,*

*But to release the pressure, you only talk try.*

*I placed you in a blender, and called you mystery Babylon*

*Hitting you with words, turning people from frustration*

*That you left their state of mind in, looking like a zombie,*

*Letting them drinking each other's blood, the work of a vampire.*

*Hello Mr. Politician, now that you win the election,*

*What about education, and people suffering in starvation.*

*One Love .*

*Snotty*



## “Les Liasons Dangereuse” by Christopher Hampton UL Concert Hall Tuesday 17th October 1998

I approached *Les Liasons Dangereuses* cold, I hadn't read the book or seen the film. As I watched it something kept niggling at the back of my mind. Finally when The Marquise of Meteuil mentioned the end of the century, it came to me - Robbie Williams "Millennium" - fin de siecle decadence. Amoral, an exquisite delight in the dissection of passion by the two main protagonists, fueled by the contending opposites of selfless love and selfish revenge, the play still retains its potency. Watching it, the audience is able to simultaneously enjoy the deliciousness of vice while safely removed from the action - virtual reality at its most immediate. If you want the plot, read the book. If you are interested in the human condition, make sure you seek out the story somewhere. The play itself, a UL/Mary-I collaboration was excellently produced, using the Concert Hall stage to maximum effect, live link music in keeping with the period (178- something) plus ushers and players dressed in convincing Aristo outfits. Effective lighting showcased the three separate sets in which all the action took place, the plush Drawing Rooms of the Vicomte de Valmont's aunt (Madame de Rosemonde, capably played by Ita Richardson), The blue velvet rooms of the Marquise de Meteuil (manipulative, cunning, and scheming bitch that she is, in a sustained performance from Leah Wallace) and Le Vicomte de Valmont's bed (used to great effect by Fiona Clandillon as courtesan Emilie)

Le Comte, cynical, unscrupulous and corrupt, pollutes his one pure love and pays the price of his betrayal, is well captured by Matt Cannon. Playing his women like the whoremaster he is, he alternated from oily insinuations to severity, passion to self-abasement as the situation demanded. His secret? - the girls just couldn't say no. The one who could, cold and cruel, despises all men for what they had made her, and

society for its sham, is cursed with the truth and remains faithful to it, her only confidante is her most dangerous enemy, yet she emerges victorious from their struggle - a harder man than him. The price, wrecked lives, death, innocence perverted, all for revenge of a long ago humiliation. The female of the species is indeed deadlier than the male.

The sound it must be said was somewhat rough in patches and a little more patrician distain wouldn't have gone amiss. Yet delightful vignettes remain to savour, the scene where the empty



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The sound it must be said was somewhat rough in patches and a little more patrician disdain wouldn't have gone amiss. Yet delightful vignettes remain to savour, the scene where the empty headed and sexually curious Cecile (Nikki Warner) having conceded her virginity to a forceful Valmont and full of post-coital guilt is pulled up sharp by La Marquise's worldly and abrasive advice. Julianne Hogan as pure Madame de Torvel mesmerised by, and succumbing to the mongoose Valmont. Emilie's buttocks aiding in his literary onslaught before his conquest. The rapier fencing between Valmont and Merteuil as each tries to outwit the other...

George Carpendale convincingly plays the vapid and naive Le Chevalier Danceny, lover of Cecile and worshipper of La Marquise while the supporting cast of Azolan, Valmont's manservant (as debauched as his master) Robert Hutchinson, Des Powell et al capably fulfill their roles. After watching this immensely enjoyable cesspool of revenge and intrigue the French Revolution takes on the guise of Avenging Angel. Congratulations to Co-directors John Baird and Leah Wallace, and all concerned.

# M.T. POCKETS

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### CLASS REP'S TRAINING...CLASS.

Last weekend saw the revival of the ever popular class rep's training weekend. This year the union decided that as we were extra responsible we could actually go to a classy hotel (they learned!!!). Yours truly got attend as an officially elected class rep., yeah someone important for a change. Anyway off we set on Friday for an hour long bus journey to food and what we expected to be a hostel of some sort or another, we were mistaken! To say that the standard of the hotel that greeted us would be a gross understatement, it was like waking up and finding Cameron Diaz in the bed beside you. The Marine Hotel is the sister hotel of Kilmurry lodge, quite an outstanding set up, we were treated like royalty for the whole weekend (with the added bonus of a residents lounge, which

the serious business of socialising, via a karaoke machine. With much beer drunk, Carlsberg promo £1.50 a pint, the volunteers got more plentiful with everything ranging from Tina Turner to the Full Monty (no fingers shall be pointed and no questions shall be asked!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!). with the singing over it was onto a disco bar, back to the residents bar, singalong and off to bed at four.

The wake up call came at ten, a sound akin to the new personal alarms (especially after the night before). So began the actual training part of the weekend, a day of briefing that involved what we are supposed to do, what powers do we have, what does the union think of us, how to speak in front of your class and how to help your class get really pissed. Basically as far as normal students are concerned, your class rep is the person to annoy if you have any problem that you can't figure out for yourself, or if you want to go on your class party to Ibiza.

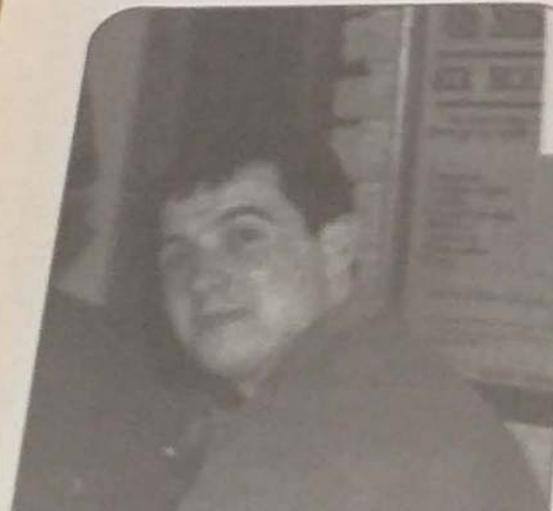
After dinner on Friday we got down to sight of everybody staring up at the T.V.

the occasion was the Simpsons ( who killed Mr. Burns), no one in the bar was allowed to speak for the next half our, and if they did by God we'd get Maggie after them!!!

So started the night of extra training, or to give it the technical name, hyper-socialising. Some people got on better than others these however, shall remain nameless for reasons of libel, I really don't want to get beaten up. Special mention must go to the people who didn't see their beds at all that night, including brand new twenty year old- Enda Stankard. Enda even managed to get himself rechristened (in more ways than one) on Kilkee strand at eight o' clock in the morning.

The next day came, or the night before never went I'm not sure which, and sore heads were everywhere to be seen. Luckily breakfast was served up until around two o' clock, just before the bus came. That left us with a very painful bus journey, no one was brave enough to fall asleep first. Eventually someone dropped off and got promptly decorated in Cover Girls latest collection. And with the banging of the boot at the stables so ended the duration test so abtly named " class reps training".

Patrick Kennedy.



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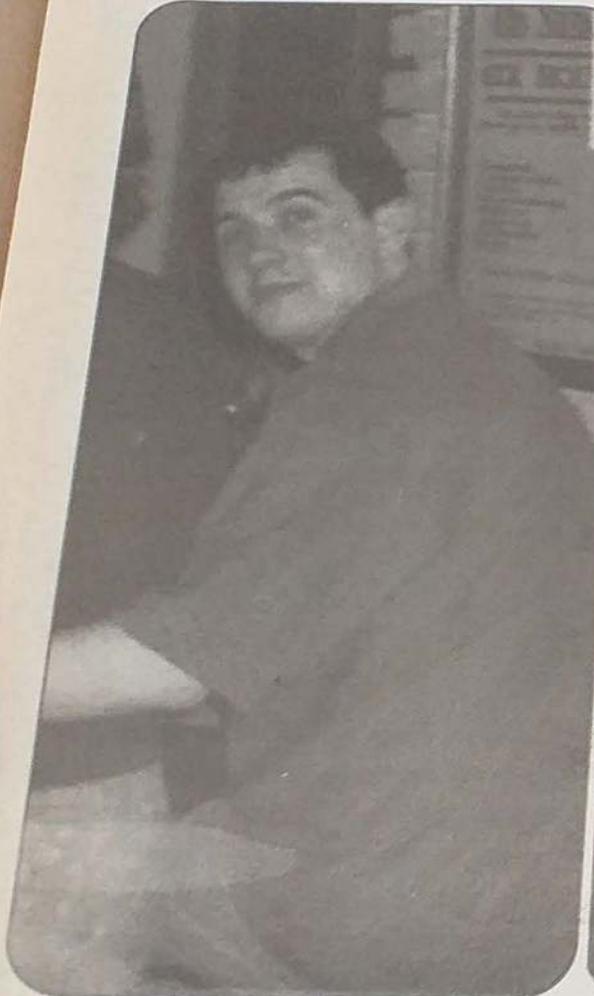
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With that out of the way it was off to bed for an hour or two of recovery. At about seven came one of the most memorable moments of the weekend. As I entered the bar I was greeted with the sight of everybody staring up at the T.V.

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Patrick Kennedy.



**Where've  
You  
Been,  
You Sexy  
Thing.**

# Wired To The Moon

Every week, An Focal interviews a Wired FM, U.L. DJ. This week, Duende talk to David O'Donovan, dedicated Framehead and presenter of Strange Cargo on Thursday nights, 8-9pm.  
Name: David O'Donovan  
A.K.A.: Dayvo H.



an Focal ; So what's the Dayvo H. about, where did that come from?

D.H. ; It's a bit sad really. It was only for a mess at the start, but it kinda stuck.

The Frames are me favourite band you see, and the lads in the house last year started calling me Dayvo Hansard after Glen, the singer in the Frames, and it just kinda stuck. Only with me and them though.

a.F. ; How long are you Djing?

D.H. ; Well, to be honest, it's not really Djing as such, y'know, I'm not mixing vinyl or whatever, but I definitely want to get into that. It's just really picking songs that I love and playing them with other songs that I think work together. I started on the radio last September with a chart show, 'cause that's all that I could get, but then I got the 'alternative' show, and that was great because I could play what I liked which was the whole idea in the first place.

a.F. ; So why did you get involved in radio?

D.H. ; It's just because I love music, and when I got the opportunity to play music on the radio, then I took it. I was always telling people that they should listen to this or that and now I had the opportunity to play it for them, not that they're listening anyway, bastards. I lost all my friends through harassing them into listening to this and that music and going to gigs.

a.F. ; Where'd the name Strange Cargo come from?

D.H. ; It's the name of a second hand clothes shop in Chicago. I was there two summers ago, and I bought loads of stuff there. The music I play isn't the normal fare, if you like, so I reckon it's a strange cargo y'know. No, well no-one else really gets it either, but there you go.

a.F. ; Where did your initial interest in music and radio come from?

D.H. ; I always liked music, but when I heard the Frames, that's when I started getting really into it, and when I started playing guitar. Then, I got really into No Disco when that started, and followed that 'till Donal Dineen left and then I just listened to his radio show all the time. I try to do what he does, and play whatever I think sounds good, even if it's a little bit different.

a.F. ; What's the music scene like in U.L. at the moment?

D.H. ; I'm not really up to date with the bands in the college, but there is a few things happening. We've a gig going on Monday nights where anyone who plays guitar can just come up and bang out a couple of songs. From that, one of me mates, John Snott, is putting together a U.L. C.D., where he's recording original songs from people in the college, and releasing it around Limerick for Rag Week. Then there's an intervarsities bands competition being held in U.L., with loads of bands from different colleges coming to play here, so I suppose

Due to the personal nature of the article that was meant for this space the Students' Union solicitor has advised that it be axed.

This decision was made at very short notice and we appoligise unreservedly for allowing this to happen.

Bringing It Back To Basics  
Every Wednesday Night.

7.00pm - 8.00pm

Wired 96.8fm

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a.F. ; *What about music in Limerick in general?*  
 D.H. ; Well last year, the dance 'scene' if you like, was really good in town and it's still great, with loads of name DJ's coming here. As far as bands, Dolan's Warehouse has made a big difference, and now at least bands have somewhere to play. It's a great place, great sound, and holds a good crowd, and gets all different types of bands in. David Gray is playing there on the 10th of December and everyone should get to that, he's amazing. We have an interview with him on the show aswell, probably on the night of the gig.

a.F. ; *Have you done any other interviews?*  
 D.H. ; Yeah, I've kinda been following the Frames around for the last six years and got to know them from going to gigs. So when I got the radio show, I asked Glen to come down and do an interview. He ended up bringing the whole band bar the drummer and they played an amazing gig in the Student Centre. There was about 200 people there in the little room, the place was packed. They came back about four weeks later, and played another amazing gig. We're in the middle of trying to get them down again, so hopefully, that'll be before Christmas. Anyway, that was brilliant, to interview them. They also played songs on the show for the first time, which was great. We also did an interview with the Mary Janes this year, which was great as well, and I really enjoyed an interview we did with Donal Dineen in the Gallery a few weeks ago. He was brilliant. I asked him about four questions and he talked for about 20 minutes. We've a couple of interviews coming up as well, one with Mundy on the 26th of November before his gig with the Devlins, and then the David Gray one I mentioned earlier.

a.F. ; *What's your outlook on life?*  
 D.H. ; Oh, very deep. Em, I don't know just have a good time I suppose, try not to worry about anything. I just have a laugh. That's what its all about really, especially in college. As I was told, we're here for a good time, for a long time.

id O'Donovan presents Strange Cargo on Thursday nights, 8-9pm, on Wired FM, 96.8 FM.

appo...  
 for allowing this to happen.

**Bringing It Back To Basics**  
**Every Wednesday Night,**  
**7.00pm - 8.00pm**  
**Wired 96.8fm**  
**"Beats & Rhymes"**





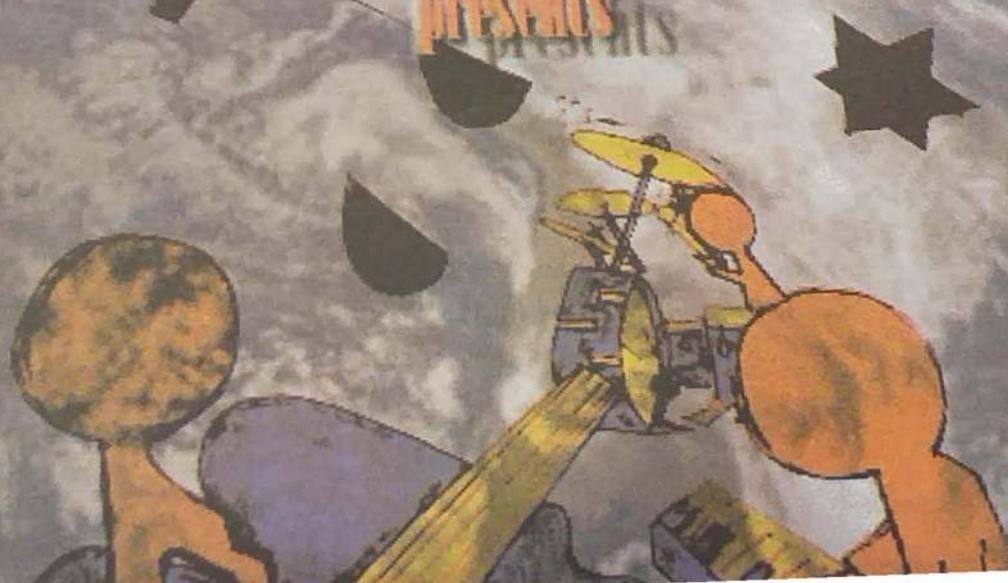
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# "The Great Gig in the Sky"

Wednesday 2nd of December  
Tickets £2/3 from Student Union

Poster concept and design : Clare Kelly & Peter Aherne



## POSTSCRIPT ~ IARSCRÍBHINN

The PSA Postgrad news page ~  
Leathnach nuachta, cumann na hIarchéimith

### GENESIS

Welcome to the first postgrad "Postscript" page, where all sorts of postgrad related stuff will be published. It is hoped that through "P.S." the PSA will be able to keep our members (over 1000 of ye!) informed ... for example the Christmas party etc. etc.

#### WHAT IS THE PSA ??

The purpose of the UL Postgraduate Students' Association is to:

- To represent postgraduate students (collectively and individually) in all matters relating to the postgraduate experience.
- To provide a means of communication between postgraduate students and the academic community, the University's administration, and other bodies concerned with postgraduate study.
- To promote the development of a postgraduate 'culture' and community at the University and in both national and international forums.
- To liaise with all relevant bodies.
- To elect or nominate postgraduate students to representative committees, both within the University and elsewhere, where provision has been made for UL PSA representatives.

#### Meeting with Professor

Downer

UL PSA President Niall Dunphy met with Prof. Downer on November 18th to highlight areas of concern for postgraduates. Many areas were covered with particular focus on demonstrator/tutor pay and on the possible pro-

#### Erotica night

Photographs of our most recent event, the erotica quiz and

### Membership

All Postgraduate students currently enrolled in the University shall be deemed ipso facto to be full members of the Association. In addition, the executive committee may bestow honorary membership on those they consider upholding the principles of the UL PSA.

#### CHRISTMAS PARTY

This years PSA Christmas Party will be held on December 2nd 1998 in Schooners. It will begin at 8.00 with a wine reception and continue with a bar extension ending probably sometime on the 5th. Stay tuned to our web page for more details.

### New Postgrad Society

The PSA would like to use the opportunity to send our congratulations to our colleagues in the postgraduate society.

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#### Postgrads attack the Globe

On November 4th last Postgrads together with a few strays carried out a major offensive on the Globe. Photographic evidence of the debauchery of the night can be found on our web site <http://www.ul.ie/~psa>

An

Cumann Gaelach

Guíonn Cumann na

nIarchéimithe gach rath agus ádh

le coiste nua an Cumann Gaelach.

I rith na bliana beidh ár coiste ag

deanamh iarracht an Gaeilge a chur

chun cinn inar gnó féin agus ta

súil againn go mbeidh muid

ábalta có-oibriú leis An

C.G.

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#### Erotica night

Photographs of our most recent event, the erotica quiz and disco in the Kilmurray lodge, shall be posted on the web asap. A great night was enjoyed by all especially those who did not take part in the party games. Much credit must go to Michelle McKeon & Vicky Kelly and other members of the exec who battled great odds and red tape to carry off the night. More on this night in the next issue.

#### New Postgrad Society

The PSA would like to use this opportunity to send our congratulations to our colleagues in NUL, Galway. The postgrads there have got together and set up a Postgrad society for the first time. UL PSA hopes to work closely with them throughout the year along with our friends in Trinity's Graduate Students' Union. Contact has also been made with Jordanstown's postgrad representatives and discussion with respect to a possible exchange are ongoing.

#### Funny Business

The PSA always on the lookout for new ideas, have been approached by a local hostelry with regards to setting up a comedy in Limerick. At present negotiations are at an advanced stage and it is hoped that the club will be up and running early in the new year. It is envisaged that the club will run every week. With Acts like Kevin McAleer and the Nualas already provisionally booked. So you have been warned, get your funny bones in working order and let the PSA entertain you.

#### New Links With Mary I !

The postgraduates in Mary I have joined the good ship PSA and we wish to extend a very hearty welcome to all of them. On November 11th last Niall Dunphy, PSA President met with postgraduate students in Mary Immaculate College and after preliminary discussions, the Mary I postgrads decided to take up their right to affiliate themselves with Cumann na hIarchéimithe, Ollscoil Luimnigh.

# UL Sports Report

## GUINNESS INTERVARSITY TETRATHLON 1998

The annual IntersVarsity Tetrathlon (Swimming, Running, Shooting and Riding) was proudly hosted by the University of Limerick Equestrian Club over the weekend of the 13th, 14th and 15th of November, and was this year, kindly sponsored by Guinness Breweries. There was an excellent turnout of almost one hundred competitors in the event, with up to 12 Universities and Colleges participating. The whole weekend was a great success and was much enjoyed by all, many claiming it was one of the best run IntersVarsity Tetrathlons. But this tetrathlon would not have been such a success if it were not for the hard and dedicated work of Keira-Eva Mooney, Robert Downes, Aisling O'Keefe, Ciara O'Leary, Nia O'Malley, Georgina Quain, Emma Murphy, Jeanne O'Dwyer, Louis Conlon, Stephen McAvenchy, Joe Moran and Conor Bangham who throughout the last few months put every minute of their time into getting this weekend on the road.

Many thanks must go to Mr. Pascal Duggan of Guinness Breweries for sponsoring the 1998 IntersVarsity Tetrathlon. And also to Mr. Dave Conway, Sports Administrator, University of Limerick, Mr. John Flood, Mr. Jerry Powers and Mr. Damien Martin for their much appreciated help in the organising and running of this very successful weekend. We are also very grateful to Clare Equestrian Centre, Newmarket-on-Fergus, who did an absolutely fabulous job in organising and running the Show-jumping phase. We would also like to thank the University of Limerick Sports Department for allowing us the use of their excellent facilities. The facilities were much envied by visiting colleges. Thanks also to the Stables Bar for their sponsorship, help and support. And to McElligotts Coaches who were great in transporting everyone around for the weekend.

The week-end began with a Stirrup Cup Reception at the Limerick Ryan Hotel who kindly took on accommodating the large number of competitors and supporters. Saturday morning the competition began with Swimming, followed closely by Cross-country running, and then on to the Shooting. The winners of each of these phases were: Damian Martin (DCU) with the best Shoot and Swim, and Robert Downes (UL) the best Run. For the women, Melanie Games (TCD) had the best Shoot, Georgina Quain (UL) had the best Swim, and Kiera-Eva Mooney (UL)

*An Focal Semester One, Week Nine. Page Eleven.*



**UL's winners of the Tetrathlon IntersVarsity, Georgina Quain, Kiera-Eva Mooney, Conor Bangham and Robert Downs.**

farewell and victory celebrations. After a strongly contested team competition, the UL "C" team, Robert Downes, Conor Bangham, Kiera-Eva Mooney and Georgina Quain, came out the winners. Team A from UCD, Charlie Fowler, Brian O'Connell, Laura Kennedy and Ginny Campbell took second place. TCD's A team, Peter Rowell, John O'Connell, Camilla Church and Wendy Harris, came third. Team B from UCD, Brian Bloomer, Barry Fingleton, Lisa Heersink and Ashling O'Sullivan, came fourth. Fifth place went to the B team from UL, Joseph Moran, Stephen McAvinchey, Emma Murphy and Mary Smith. And Sixth prize went to the team from RCSI, Ruaidhri McVeagh, Imran Mohammady, Kate Fitzgerald and Ursula Galway.

In the Men's Individual's, the line up was: 1st Robert Downes (UL), 2nd Damian Martin (DCU), 3rd Charlie Fowler (UCD), 4th Brian O'Connell (UCD), 5th John O'Connell (TCD), and 6th Brian Bloomer (UCD).

In the Ladies Individual's, the results were: 1st Kiera-Eva Mooney (UL), 2nd Lorraine Horgan (UCC), 3rd Georgina Quain (UL), 4th Melanie Games (TCD), 5th Wendy Harris (TCD), and 6th Gillian Hughes (TCD).

The whole week-end was a great success, and again many thanks to

Coaches who were great in training everyone around for the week-end.

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the team from RCSI, Ruaidhri McVeagh, Imran Mohammady, Kate Fitzgerald and Ursula Galway.

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The whole week-end was a great success, and again many thanks to all involved. This week-end did the University of Limerick proud with UL winning the team plus both the individual competitions.

We are all looking forward to the next Equestrian Intervarsities which will be hosted by Queens University Belfast in February. This is guaranteed to be a great competition, the disciplines being Dressage, Prix Caprilli and Show-jumping.

## UL RECORD SECOND WIN IN UNIVERSITIES' LEAGUE

UL soccer team continued their winning ways with 3-1 victory over St Patrick College, Dublin in Dublin on Wednesday last. This result follows their excellent victory over UCD two weeks previously and sets them up for a crunch meeting with NUI, Galway on Wednesday next (18 November) at UL bowl. Galway are the only other unbeaten side in the group and are the current league champions. Currently riding high in the Connacht Senior League and boasting six soccer scholarship players, Galway are probably the strongest team in University soccer in Ireland.

Last Wednesday's victory by UL was hard won. They fell behind to a St Pats goal after just two minutes due to some slack defending. However, to their credit UL took control of the game thereafter and controlled the first half. After intense pressure which saw numerous effort on goal, UL equalised after thirty five minutes. A fine move along the left wing initiated by Fairview's Barry Hefferan and Limerick youth player, Ciaran McElwaine, saw Gary Gorman deliver a fine cross from the left. Paddy McGovern's first effort was cleared but his resultant cross saw Pike player Dermot Phelan score with a fine near post header.

The second half saw UL continue to hold the initiative. They went ahead on

sixty five minutes when Paddy McGovern scored from a thirty yard free kick. After going ahead UL lost concentration a little and rode their luck when St Pats went close from two free kick attempts on the edge of the area. However, they finished the game off five minutes from time when the St Pats keeper parried attempts on goal from both Colm Heffernan and Gary Gorman but Dermot Phelan followed up to score his second goal.

A feature of this game was the excellent performances of Barry Heffernan and Dermot Phelan. The game also saw impressive displays from first year players Hugh O'Loughlin, currently playing in the Connacht Senior League with Salthill Devon, and Scott Brady, who plays with Athlone Town Reserves. These young players represent an important addition to the UL soccer squad and are likely to make a major impression over the next few years.

The UL team was as follows: Adrian Harrison; John Heraghty, Damian Mullins; Stephen Driver; Gary O'Donovan; Ciaran McElwaine; Paul Delaney; Paddy McGovern; Dermot Phelan; Barry Heffernan; Gary Gorman. Res: Colm Heffernan, Paul Hamill, Scott Brady, Hugh O'Loughlin; Denis McCarthy; Dara McMahon

## U.L Ladies Gaelic Football

The U.L Ladies Gaelic Football Club has had a hectic start to another year with senior, intermediate and fresher teams all on the go at present. Firstly a word of welcome to all new members and to the management team, Noreen, Rosie and Liam. The season started disappointingly for the Senior team when an understrength side was defeated by the impressive N.U.I Galway. This was the only outing the Seniors have had to date and a big improvement will be expected for next weeks game against W.I.T. The potential of our seniors is undoubtable but a huge commitment will be required if we are to make this year as successful as previous years.

The Intermediates however have had more promising beginnings with a good display and only a narrow defeat in Galway being followed by a richly deserved victory against our local opponents Limerick I.T. This is a very promising team that look like they can go far this year.

The next big event on the Ladies football calendar is the Fresher Intervarsities in Athlone. Two teams will represent the University at this event which we have enjoyed much success in previous years. Best of luck to all concerned.

## UL BADMINGTON CLUB

On Monday night of week 7 we held our first club tournament of the year. This gave the beginners and the more advanced players of the club a chance to show off their skills. A large turnout ensured some fierce competition and in the end the two best pairs of the night were Damien Gilmore and Sunil Kumer against Benjamin Dubois and David Hudson. After a closely contested final Damien and Sunil narrowly defeated their opposition 15-11.

The plate competition ensured that everyone had at least two games. The winners of this section were Mairead Regan and Martin Regan who defeated Alan Dineen and Vanessa Mosdzianowski by a score of 21-4.

In other news the senior squad's hard training is paying off with success over D.C.U. In a crushing defeat the team didn't lose a set, winning by a score of eight matches to nil. The team consisted of Darina Doyle, Anne-Marie Reid, Andria Beazley, Karen Cinnamond, Richard Lally, John Doyle, Alan Nelligan and Shane O'Sullivan. This team, with four new additions to the squad looks promising for the Intervarsities next semester.

## Rowing Update

First off I'd like to apologize to Eton Racing Boats, one of the key sponsors of the clubs recent Boston trip. An acknowledgment of their part in the event was omitted from the article in the last edition of An Focal.

Apologizes aside I'd now like to comment on the phenomenal turnout at land-training over the past two weeks. Cals on Thursday has seen capacity crowds in the dance studio of the sports building. This bodes well for the coming season as, I'm sure all the novices will be sick of hearing, it is essential that we get the winter training done now in order to bring fitness levels up to race standard before the regatta season starts. If the enthusiasm exhibited in the gym can be carried over to the water-work there is no reason why this years novice crews cannot surpass the excellent season had by the novice crews of '97. For those members that didn't get on the water over the past few weekends I would advise that you make the time on the weekends to get out to

Castleconnell for training as it is getting frustrating for trainers who have gone over the basic's several weeks ago to have to do it all over again with people that chose not to stick around on the week-ends for a paddle. Aside from this those not making time for a spin at the weekend are missing out on arguably one of the most scenic areas in the Limerick Region and one of the nicest stretches for rowing in Ireland.

In other club news, the planning of the clubs trip to Athlone for a rowing training camp are well under way. For further information bug any of your coaches or committee members until they tell you all. Also if you are going to Castleconnell this weekend keep an eye out for submerged double skulls and as ever Lash it Out !!!!!

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## Higher Education Senior Hurling League

University of Limerick 3-10

University College Cork 2-12

The university of Limerick may no longer light up the dark evenings with illuminous players but the spirit that lingers burns brightly. And so a dark November afternoon was lit up by the spirited display of a Limerick side of whom young South would have been proud. Trailing by eight points at the interval, UL were a dejected side. Cork had begun in devastating fashion with two Enright goals, none of which the Tulla goalie could prevent. Only Rory Gantley, one of the heroes of UL last visit to Cork was having any impact on the Cork defence, opening their scoring with two well taken points. Two Coogan frees quickly followed before Enright had the first of his five first half points for the UCC men. Coogan was causing all sorts of problems for the Limerick defence. In a bid to counter his threat UL replaced promising corner forward Kearney with Mark McManus, a stylish and classy defender. McManus had an effective afternoon on Enright but the damage had already been done. A dejected UL entered the half-time break on a score line of UL 0-4, UCC 2-5. In a second half reminiscent of Limerick's great surges against Tipperary, UL emerged a different team in the second half. Buoyed by the rock of John McElligott and the outlandishly outstanding Michael Kelly, UL closed up shop. With Gantley now in inspirational form, adding two pints before scoring a wonderful goal, UL were clearly singing. Brendan Coleman began to exert his influence around the half forward line and made the penalty which the rejuvenated Coogan "buried". Kelly who had replaced a out of sorts James Butler (probably due to his recent exertions against Tipp and Laois, where he held two corner

backs scoreless), scored the point of the game. His back to goal, surrounded by two defenders Kelly somehow got in the shot. UL now held the lead, but two Joe McGrath points for UCC leveled matters. 2-7 apiece, as things entered the final quarter, Cork again took over with two Sean Deane points and a gem from Engirt to leave Cork four points ahead. Now Gantley was really flying. Turning his man on the forty (who totally missed the bus), Gantley took on the defence and rifled home a goal. Two more Sean O'Brien minors for Cork gave them a slender lead entering the final minutes. With Gantley taxiing around the Cork rearguard one could sense that UL would continue the fight. Up popped McManus for a ninety yarder, Coleman with a beautiful struck line-ball and a Gantley special punted the UL boys into a one point lead. With Connolly now in epic form at the heart of the defence UL held on for a spirited win. This may prove a starting point for UL's year. The night on the beer with Quinn has certainly transformed Gantley into something special this year. Others to stand out for Limerick were Phelo, Stephen O'Hara, young Kelly, Mcmanus, Travers and the outstanding Connolly. For Cork Enright shone brightest.

UL Team and Scorers: Stephen O'Hara (Clare), Frank Connolly (Tipperary), Niall Fitzgerald (Cork), Michael Connolly (Waterford), Enda Flannery (Clare), Marty Phelan (Kilkenny), Conor Earley (Clare), Malachy Travers (Wexford), Brendan Breen (Wexford), Rory Gantley (Galway)(2-5), Brendan Coleman (Cork)(0-1), Sean Ryan (Clare), James Butler (Limerick), Jimmy Coogan (Kilkenny)(1-2), Seamus Kearney(Limerick)

Subs: Mark McManus(Kildare)(0-1) for Seamus Kearney (Limerick), John Mc Elligott (Limerick) for Connolly, Michael Kelly(Kerry)(0-1), James Butler.

### UI Student Teachers' Society.

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all staff and students of the University of Limerick For their patience and willingness in signing our petition.

We have successfully surpassed our goal of 5,000 signatures towards our plight.

We would also like to extend our thanks to those who actively participated in and helped out on the receipt of those signatures, the Shoot The Ball competition and the scavenger hunt.

The petition will now be handed over to the relevant bodies for their consideration, towards the support of the Student Teachers.

As a society we will continue to strive towards this goal with your support.

ULSTS.



Spot the woodwork student at last week's Shoot-The-Ball Competition.

# Trip to Northern Ireland

Ulster says....Welcome, to 160 foreign students for three days.

At 5.00am we started our long trek up north. Five hours later we crossed the border with the sound of 'Sunday Bloody Sunday' on the radio. We spent our first day in Belfast seeing the sights - City Hall and Queens University for etc. That night, most of the group decided to paint the town red. Meanwhile a small group of four ventured into a nationalist bar and had an 'interesting' chat with some of the locals.

The following day we headed for the Giant's Causeway (which was not man made as some nationalities thought). The weather was perfect so it made for a great day. After

a short 'conflict' over a stop in a small village we arrived back in Belfast. After a short walk around the city we (yes, you guessed it) headed out for the night again, and a good night was had by all. The following morning a small group woke at 7:00am to walk down the Falls Road and the Shankill Road. It was great, however as we had to leave for Limerick we bombed it back quickly through the Shankill. (Sorry)

On the way back we stopped in Armagh and saw the planetarium - The less said or written about that the better. The organisation, we admit was not exactly like a Swiss train timetable, but all in all, it was an enjoyable weekend.

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## Brannagans

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Out Of This World



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Party Nights

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Contact Gerry At 065-20211



Giant's Causeway as visited by over 160 students from the International Society

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- Open Daily for supplies and information on contraception.
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- Information, advice and testing for STD's.

On the spot pregnancy test.

Non directive counselling.



# If a picture paints a thousand words, then I don't need to

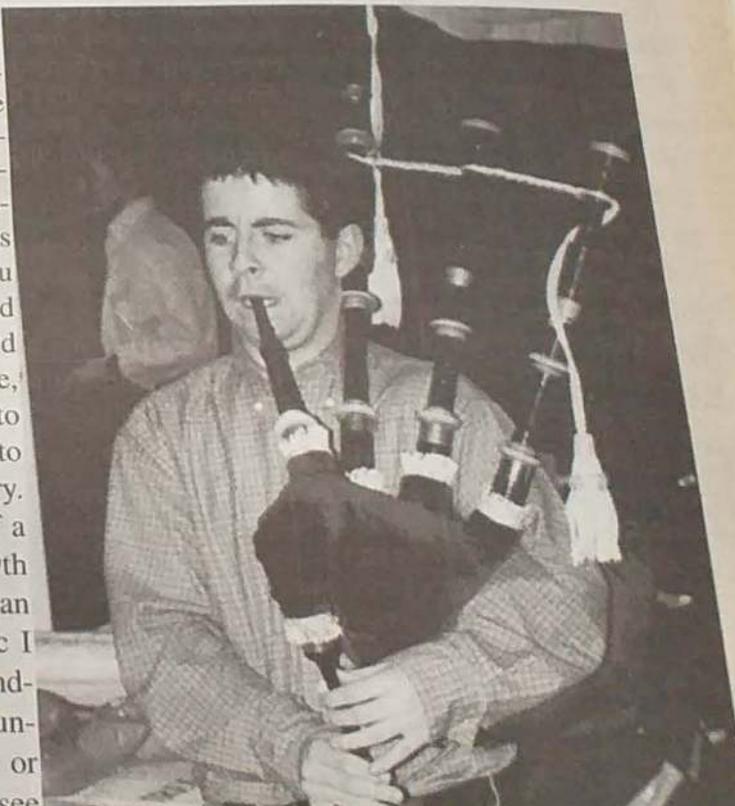
# say anything

# <<<SoUL Food '98

Photo's c/o William Lyons. Photo Soc.



What's a column about food doing in an Arts Page? Quite honestly, I don't give a sh\*\*\* what your pre-conceptions about Art is - food to me is one of the principle Artistic expressions humans have developed. The best part about it is the way it's so interactive - not only do you have the creative side (cooking) but the participation side (eating). the first is dependent on the second - what good is food if you can't eat it. So in one sense, both parties are involved in the totality of the experience - Creation and Destruction. A slap-up meal is a celebration of life, the company, the food, the occasion all combine to an aesthetic experience - if you can get her back to your place afterwards its even more of a memory. Anyone whose seen Babette's Feast - the story of a sumptuous meal in a repressed and dour 19th Century Denmark will appreciate the magic food can bring to even the dullest lives. Apart from Music I can't think of a better way of getting an understanding of what makes a country tick - the way to a country's psyche is through its noodles, (or fritters or sauerkraut...) Therefore it was a great pleasure to see



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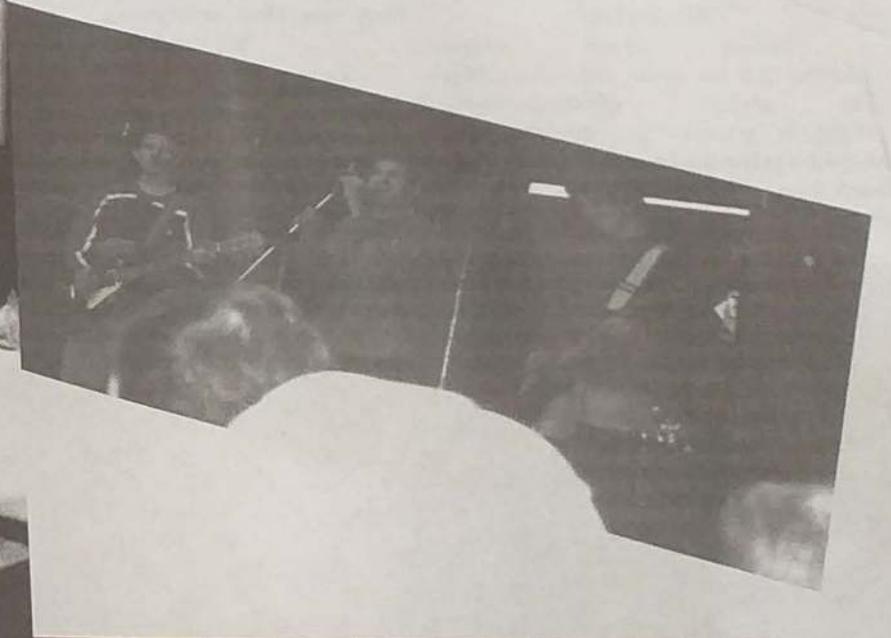
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reaching the parts that food couldn't reach. Uzbekistan, Germany, Sweden France, Morocco, Japan, China the list went on and on, each with their own unique culinary view of the world...leading to a severe case of flatulence and trapped wind for those who overindulged. - Still worth it in the cause of International Relations. The Spanish did what the Spanish do best - enjoyed themselves and supplied the entertainment and the castanettes. Even the Romulan Empire from the Crab Nebulae dropped in to visit the UL Spacers with their own blue elixir and competed with traditional Irish Mead at the History Stand (Personally I prefer the Pan-Galactic Gargle Blaster but you don't argue with those Romulans). Two criticisms however on a most successful event - one, no real Soul food (and not a single Black face in sight) and two, the full canteen should be used next year as the crowd was much to large for the space provided.







## **Aries**

You tend to be head strong and delebrate in your action. Basically you don't give a fuck about anyone. Most people hate you but you couldn't care less. Your the type of person who would masturbate at a wedding.

## **Taurus**

Warm and caring are your most endearing characteristics. You get on well with most people because you are bisexual. You hardly ever wear underwear and you constantly smell of piss.

## **Gemini**

Your star sign denotes a air of duality in your character. Simply, your a neurotic schizophrenic. A real fucking weirdo, the type of person who would kill

themselves to win a bet.

## **Cancer**

You have a business like attitude to life and a knack for making money. Your an unscrupulous bastard who would sell relatives limbs to buy a mobile phone. You are likely to be murdered.

## **Leo**

The adventurous type, always looking for trills and willing to try anything. In other words--stupid. You have the IQ of a garden snail and will never amount to anything. Most leos are living on the welfare.

## **Virgo**

You like the good things in life and you know how to enjoy them. But your prone to bullshit and your a cheap bastard. Virgo men are usu-

ally queers and the majority of virgo women are whores.

## **Libra**

You are the forgiving type and you don't bear grudges. This makes you an asshole. For your entire life people will make a complete prick out of you. Nobody will go to your funeral.

## **Scorpio**

You are sharp, a quick thinker and good at puzzles. However these are only good traits. You screw small animals and love picking your nose. You always have snot on your clothes.

## **Sagittarius**

You are the romantic type, softhearted and a lover of the arts. You are likely to import Dutch pornography and sex toys. You thrive on incest.

## **Capricorn**

You are deep and personal in your thoughts, the quiet type. A mean self-centred cunt and a closet homosexual. Your best friend is probably an altar boy.

## **Aquarius**

You are the academic type and will probably end up working in the legal system. This means you are an absolute pervert, at least a transvestite. Your ideal sexual partner is a labrador puppy in fishnet tights.

## **Pisces**

You are the eternal optimist, seeing the best of any situation. You have no grasp on reality and live in a dream world. Most people consider you to be the greatest living moron. You will continually fail. You are a prick.

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The Students' Union wishes to extend its most heartfelt congratulations to all the members of the portering staff who received their doctorited recently.