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 Semester



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DOTCOMedy

Clubs and Societies

(Clubs and Socs)
 (Socks and Jocks)

Crosswords

Angry Words

in other words.....

Concerns regarding the fate of the on campus clubs, the Stables and the Scholars, were finally laid to rest at a recent sitting of Limerick District Court when Judge Tom O' Donnell granted a renewal of licences to the two clubs.

It was feared that objections made by a local residents association, against the running of the clubs under The Registration of Clubs Act 1904, would be upheld in court resulting in the closure of the club bars. These objections stated the failure of management to run the venues under club regulations was not in accordance with legal legislation. The objections also highlighted alleged incidents of underage drinking in the clubs.

Welcoming the conclusion of the case, bar manager of The Scholars, Brian Loughnane told An Focal "I'm very happy with the outcome" adding that he believed the association were "within their rights to object". President of ULSU and member of the board of management for both clubs Mick Phelan reiterated the sentiment "we have sympathy for the residents" but believes that a court case could have been averted by greater dialogue between all concerned parties earlier in the process.



It is believed that a document of demands issued by the residents group has been a primary factor in the withdrawal of their objections, clearing the way on January 26th for the court to grant permission for the licences. However it has since emerged that the University's submission to the

association on demands, deemed irrelevant to the objections made in court, has caused a bitter disagreement between university officials and the Students Union.

Prominent Members of the SU who have been partaking in dialogue with the association over the last three semesters have criticised the universities handling of the situation.

Speaking with An Focal Mick Phelan commented "the University weren't entering into talks with the residents... they used the clubs as pawns"



While the legal team succeeded in retaining the licences for the clubs Phelan criticised their approach. "We realised the rules were being

broken and each of the internal various dramatic tion and to with the la

In response Mick Phelan clubs. It by the ass should be However document what chea university efforts of had been

cards. The was to p membersh legally the

UL receives dismal levels of Research Funding

-Judy Roche

On January 22 the U.L. Governing Authority met to assess the damages incurred as a result of the recent allocation of the Higher Education Authority in the third cycle of its Programme for Research in Third Level Institutions (PRTLII). The Minister for Education and Science, Dr. Michael Woods, T.D., announced on 20th December that over twenty third-level institutions would share 320m Euro in the largest ever single investment in research and development in higher education. The Minister was keen to empha-

size the impressive 605m Euro figure as the total funding provided by the Government under the scheme since it began in 1999. U.L., however, managed to secure a mere 1.3m Euro of the total amount for investment in a programme of research in Materials and Surface Science. Major benefactors of the scheme in this cycle included a joint RCSI/TCD/UCD proposal to establish a Programme for Human Genomics, which attracted 44.8m Euro, and the devel

cont. on page 2

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 US

Club Licences Saved

(contd. from Page 1)

Id would be sufficient for this purpose since the membership of UL students is automatically paid to the clubs by the Student's Union. But since the card does not show date of birth (due to security reasons) it appeared necessary to produce a card inclusive of UL student status which also stated date of birth in an effort to eliminate underage drinking in the clubs. With the immediate costs of producing the cards at about £20,000 the project was deemed unviable due



to a lack of funding. Therefore An Focal can reveal that the club Id cards will not be issued, instead a new system of colour coded U L Identification

cards will be issued to students in September. Students under 18 years of age will have a different coloured Id card to those who are over the required age. Once a person turns 18 they will be issued a new card free of charge.

Non-students eligible for membership includes anyone working in the Plassey Campus, i.e. Alumni, UL staff and staff of the Plassey Technological Park, this does not include students studying at Mary Immaculate College. Prospective members, who do not hold UL identification cards must be at least 18 years old and will have to apply for membership of the clubs.

While all potential icebergs have been averted for the moment it is clear that management of the clubs will now be under continuous scrutiny. It is imperative to the survival of the clubs that legislation will be aptly applied to the running of the clubs by management to avoid future licensing complications. It is also imperative that students learn to appreciate



our nightlife on Limerick. With es relative safe haven UL to socialise an to respect the fact ilies living here might say that the a weapon against terous students, a on both sides we respect residents expect them to res

Dismal levels of Research Funds received

(contd)

opment of the Conway Institute at UCD, which received 34.5m Euro. The result has come as a major disappointment for the University, but has sparked a positive reaction from the Universities leading representatives and it's staff.

According to Dr. Miriam Hederman O'Brien, Chancellor of the University, the Governing Authority noted that immediate measures were being taken by the University Executive to identify the causes and rectify the disappointing situation. President of the University, Mr. Roger Downer, emphasised the importance of UL's adopting a structured and carefully considered response to the setback, and to use the experience to increase the Universities determination and ability to succeed in the future. Mr. Downer also announced the resignation of Professor Stuart Hampshire from the position of Associate Vice-President Research & Graduate Studies.

It is noted that this resignation is not linked to the PRTLTI results. Mr. Downer reported that Professor David Whan has agreed to undertake the review of the procedures followed by U.L. in the preparation of submissions for funding under the PRTLTI. Mr. Downer pointed out that Professor Whan has chaired several of the quality reviews at U.L. and, therefore, has a good understanding of the University. Professor Whan remarked that the funding awarded to

the University by call for proposals f tations, and that research profile of importance. The r

President of the University, Mr. Roger Downer, emphasised the importance of UL's adopting a structured and carefully considered response to the setback

Receive Funding for your University

Student Assistance/Access Fund

The Student Assistance/Access Fund is funded by the European Social Fund. It is intended to tackle educational disadvantage by providing financial support to disadvantaged students who require additional financial support to enable them to fully benefit from their third-level education.

All registered students (both undergraduate and postgraduate) for the 2001/2002 academic year are eligible to apply, but resources will be targeted at those disadvantaged students most in need. Eligibility for other sources of means-tested funding

are generally a good indicator that you may be eligible for this fund.

You must complete an application form and provide documentation to support your application, information about this documentation is available on the application forms. Further information and applications forms are available from either Tara Curley, Welfare Officer, Students Union, 202324, or Paula Fitzell, Access Officer, Plassey House, paula.fitzell@ul.ie.

Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholars Trust

Now in it's third year of applications the Bank of Ireland Millennium Trust, has in the past offered scholarships to a wide range of individuals including mature students, single parents, disadvantaged students and students with disabilities. All the recipients share a burning ambition to realise their full educational potential, and in many cases have overcome major obstacles before embarking on their journey to third-level education.

Remember the Bank of Ireland Millennium Scholars Trust is about rewarding academic achievement is primarily about recognising ability and potential in individuals who face serious obstacles to fulfil their potential through education. The types of obstacles are diverse ranging from disadvantaged backgrounds adverse life circumstances and include serious disabilities.

Application forms Ireland or the Access Closing date for Bank of Ireland is 1st M



Academic Calendar 2002-2008 Decided. Verdict

The rumours and speculation surrounding changes to the academic calendar were settled on the 23rd of January last when the academic council held their most recent meeting. At that meeting the academic calendar for 2002 to 2008 was decided and the outcome was little change. For example the graduation dates for both summer and winter remain the same, the 10th – 13th of September and the 16th-17th of December respectively. The same is true of the repeat dates. The exams will be held from the 2nd-5th of September.

The lack of change is surprising as for a few years now rumours of a radical change for the calendar have been brewing. A sub committee of the academic council, the academic calendar planning and implementation committee have been meeting on the subject. This council is made up of representatives of the six colleges of UL, Mary Immaculate, the student union and student services. A proposal to change the calendar so that the first semester is completed

before Christmas and that the second semester

As it stands scheduling limitations meant that many students faced multiple exams in a single day and often locations were either cramped or spread out.

would be completed in early May caused a split between the colleges. After much debate two of the colleges were in favour of this change but as the other four colleges roundly rejected it the proposal was defeated.

It was agreed however that there was a problem with exam scheduling. As it stands scheduling limitations meant that many students faced multiple exams in a single day and often locations were either cramped or spread out. To alleviate these scheduling problems there will now be twelve full exam days as opposed to the current allocation of nine. According to Tom O' Donovan, the SU Education Officer, these three



extra days will not eat into allocated reading time, which has remained the same. It is hoped that with twelve days for exams will allow for more space and time in the allocation of

exam slots to

be held at the level as always. extra days in respective batches the issue of cost in the water and time in the fu

Ranganna Aonad na Gaeilge, Earrach 2002 / Irish classes

Cuirfear tús le cúrsaí Aonad na Gaeilge, seachtain 3. Is é táille na gcúrsaí ná €19 (8 seachtaine). Tá cur síos ar na leibhéil éagsúla thíos. Clárú roimh Déardaoin seachtain 2.

Tuilleadh sonraí agus foirmeacha iarratais ó Stiúirthóir na Gaeilge, C1074, fo-líne 3463 nó deirdre.niloingsigh@ul.ie

The Aonad na Gaeilge spring classes begin week 3. Course fee for students is €19 (8 weeks). See description of levels in both Irish and English below. Registration before Thursday week 2. Further information and application forms from Stiúirthóir na Gaeilge, C1074, ext. 3463 or deirdre.niloingsigh@ul.ie

Bun Rang / Elementary

Oireann an léibhéal seo do dhaoine a d'fhreastail ar rang do thosaitheoirí cheana féin, rang Ab Initio Aonad na Gaeilge san áireamh. Cuirfear an bhéim ar scileanna labhartha agus éisteachta. Múinfear an ghramadach de réir mar is gá. Beidh dul siar ar ghnéithe bunúsacha den teanga i gceist sa chéad cúpla rang. Úsáidfean an cur chuig cumarsáideach. Beidh deis ag na rannpháirtithe struchtúir a chleachtadh i ngrúpaí agus in obair bheirte. Is ar thoipicí a bhaineann le saol laethúil na rannpháirtithe a bheidh ábhar an chúrsa bunaithe. Eagrófar ócáidí sóisialta i rith an téarma sa chaoi is go bhfaighidh rannpháirtithe deis an Ghaeilge a úsáid lasmuigh den seomra ranga. Beidh turas Gaeltachta i gceist chomh maith.

This level is intended for those who have an elementary knowledge of the language from previous study, those who attended a course for beginners / Ab Initio for example. Emphasis will be placed on developing oral and listening skills but grammar will be taught throughout the course as the need arises. Instruction will begin with a revision of key basic elements of the language usually taught at beginners' level. A communicative approach to teaching will be used. Students will be given opportunities to practise what they have learnt through the use of a wide variety of activities in groups

and pairs. Course content will concentrate mainly on topics which are related to the participants' lives. Regular social events will be organised to give participants an opportunity to use their Irish outside of the classroom. A trip to An Ghaeltacht will also be planned during the semester.

Sceideal / schedule

Option 1: Dé Luain / Monday 18.00-19.30

Option 2: Dé Máirt / Tuesday 12.00-13.30

Option 3: Dé Céadaoin / Wednesday 08.00-9.30

Option 4: Déardaoin / Thursday 18.00-19.30

Meán Rang 2 / Upper Intermediate

Beidh an rang seo feiliúnach dóibh siúd a bhfuil Gaeilge líofa go leor acu agus a bhfuil cúpla cúrsa déanta acu cheana féin, b'fhéidir. Cé go gcuirfear an bhéim ar scileanna labhartha agus éisteachta, bainfean úsáid as téascanna agus as cleachtaí scríbhneoireachta a chuirfear in oiriúint do rannpháirtithe an ranga. Múinfear an ghramadach i gcomhthéacs, de réir mar is gá. Eagrófar ócáidí sóisialta i rith an téarma sa chaoi is go bhfaighidh rannpháirtithe deis an Ghaeilge a úsáid lasmuigh den seomra ranga. Beidh turas Gaeltachta i gceist chomh maith.

This level is aimed at those who are reasonably fluent in Irish and who use it socially from time to time. It is also suitable for those who attended the Lower Intermediate class in the first semester. Participants will have the opportunity to extend their vocabulary and to learn more about Irish grammar. The range of topics covered will be more extensive than those covered in the Lower Intermediate class. Regular social events will be organised to give participants an opportunity to use their Irish outside of the classroom. A trip to An Ghaeltacht will also be planned during the semester.

Sceideal/ schedule

Option 1: Dé Luain / Monday 18.00-19.30

Option 2: Dé Máirt / Tuesday 12.00-13.30

Option 3: Déardaoin / Thursday 18.00-19.30

Gaeilge do thús

Beidh an cúrsa ag an mbunleibhéal (Ghaelach) nó dhíreofar ar an Gaeilge bhunúsach na léachtaí ar fáil phléifear beidh

· Gnéithe Aibreán)

· Naíon samplach (4 M

· An Gh

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· An Gh níomhaíochtaí

The course will be held at the primary school (or school) or those who have completed other courses or who are not suitable for the course. It is not suitable for those who do not have competency in the language. It is necessary though that the course be held at the medium or high level covered over the

· Basic

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· Naíon (4 March / 11

· Irish readers, teachi

· Use of (22 April / 29

Sceideal: Dé L

Hello from your Sabbatical Officers

Mick Phelan
- ULSU President

Tara Curley-
ULSU Welfare Office
Deputy President

Patrick Kennedy-
ULSU Communications
and Campaigns Officer



Tom O'Donovan-
ULSU Education
Officer

Hi everyone and welcome back to UL. Hopefully the exam results/co-op/ERASMUS (or whatever you were at) went well for you and you're ready to tackle this semester with a rejuvenated energy like you've never felt before. If not give yourself a bit of a shake and before you realise it we'll be in Kollege week.

It's been a while since the last An Focal. In between I had the pleasure of taking a weeks holidays, and travelled to Bosnia with the Irish Peace Society. The tour was absolutely excellent and proved to be a real eye-opener for me, having study politics. Credit must go to Bernadette Sexton and her group of organisers for ensuring that the week ended without any problems (excluding the drama caused by the Ryanair pilot when we were landing at Stansted on the way back!).

So what have I been up to other than spending money that I don't have in foreign lands? At the moment I'm organising a major push to get as many people as possible registered to vote in the next general election in the Limerick East Constituency. Week 4 will be Voter Registration Week. Everyone will be receiving an e-mail form during that week. Upon filling it out and returning it to us via e-mail we will be forwarding it to the local register centre (Limerick Co. Council). So why should you do it you may ask. Everyone should avail of their right to a vote and with most elections and referenda bring held at

Mid-week times its make sense for you to change your vote to a location where you will be able to get to on polling day. The next edition of An Focal will carry a lot more information regarding this.

Last issue saw the story regarding the lack of Wired FM around Castletroy. The most recent news is that Wired FM should be returning to the 106.8 FM frequency in the next week or two. For those of you interested in partaking in broadcasting on Wired FM next Tuesday is a big date. The board of Wired FM will be considering returning to broadcasting from the studio in the Student Centre Building. Also on Wired FM, a facilitation day was conducted on the 31st of January in Hanrattys Hotel. It was attended by member of the UL, Mary I and LIT radio societies, representatives of the three student's unions and various other students. The aim of the day was to form a new mission statement for Wired FM and look at the internal structures of Wired FM. While the mission statement was formulated the group issued a number of recommendations for the Radio Board of Wired FM to consider so that the internal structure of Wired FM may function, as a campus community radio station should. There should be lots of results and updates to report by next issue

Take care

Patrick

Welcome back one and all after the three weeks off. I hope you all took it handy and are all rested and recuperated after the end of last term. I hope you all did well in your exams and that you're looking forward to this semester. To those of you new to the campus welcome to UL. I hope your time with us will be enjoyable as well as productive.

For those of you who are not entirely happy with your exam results the deadline for you to initiate an appeal is Friday. The first step in any exam appeal is a grade recheck. Unfortunately even if the grade itself isn't the problem you still need to do that before the situation can be looked at. To get your grade rechecked you need to fill out a grade recheck form and submit it along with €19 to Student Services. You will get your money back if your grade is upped. Just remember a recheck can cause you to go down as well as up.

By the time you get to read this you will most certainly have had your first lecture in each of your modules and in most cases you will have had two or even three so you should have received your module outline. Your module outline is the most important document you will receive academically for each module you are taking. It outlines what you will be covering, how you will be examined on that material and when those will happen. It will tell you what each assessment vehicle is worth to your over

Get outta Town

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J1 Summer Work & Travel Programme 2002.
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Teaching English In Korea

Teaching English in Korea is a highly rewarding and satisfying experience. If you are seeking travel and adventure, then why not consider this truly unforgettable experience? You'll receive a salary of \$1000 per month, a return air ticket and paid accommodation. Can't be bad???

Enquiries to: programmes@sayit.ie

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The International Practical Trainee Programme

This programme is a challenging experience offering college and university students the opportunity to train for up to 18 months in an American company. You get to experience first hand what it is to be part of an American company while learning about your chosen career. Enquiries to: siobhan.r@sayit.ie

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More from Mick

Code of Conduct

The UL code of Conduct has been revised and will be presented to Academic Council at the 6th March meeting for approval. The only major change is in relation to the prosecution of Discipline cases, that the registrars office will not act as prosecutor, there will be a person appointed by the Vice President Academic who will have the overall responsibility for this area. It will also be an offence to abuse the use of alcohol on campus.

Discipline Committee

In an article before Christmas, I wrote about the consequences of being caught cheating. Unfortunately some people tried to cheat during the exams and in March there will be 8 cases in front of the UL Discipline Committee.

Alcohol Policy

There is currently a working group involved in developing an Alcohol Policy for the University. A large amount of credit should go to the Deputy Registrar, Fionnuala Sheehan who has put a huge amount of work into this document. The proposed document will be presented to the Clubs & Societies Council in Week 3 and to the Class Reps Council in week 4. Hopefully we will be able to get a copy of it on the web or in An Focal for you all to look at if you are interested. The proposed document is intended to high-

light and promote to the campus community of staff and students, that a responsible attitude to alcohol on campus is required. If the University Executive supports the document, there are huge opportunities for the non – alcohol related side of socialising in the University, i.e. Clubs & Societies to be encouraged and promoted for the benefit of all involved.

Landlord Problem


During the exams I encountered a problem with a landlord in College Court. Due to possible legal implications, I will not comment too much at the moment. But I would encourage all students renting houses that the importance of having a rent book and a contract between the Landlord and the Tennant is vital, in some cases it is the only come back for the students, if they have been wronged or treated unjustly.

Residents Forum

This is a recent development in an attempt to improve community relations between the local residents, the Students and the University. Dr. John O'Brien, Associate Vice President, Academic Services set up the group of which the Students Union, the Gardai, the Plassey Residents Association and the College Court Residents Association are also members. I must say that I am encouraged by the initial meeting that we can build a firm foundation to improving the relations between the various groups, which

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ULSU Exec Training
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Week 9



design: gazzones@indigo.ie

Thursdays
Dolans Warehouse
Doors Midnight
soul drenched house & house drenched soul

Feb07 **Noel Phelan & Skinnyboy Jaz**
Feb14 **Stevie G & Ben Philpott**
Feb21 **Mr Ray & Jody**
Feb28 **Clinic's 2nd Birthday: Aran MacMahon & Shane Slattery**

ULSU

Graphics dep

**Get your FYP/
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Equality
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Caroline Walters,
Equality Officer

is available for ques-
tions and queries in the
Welfare Office at:

Every Monday evening
from 6pm-9pm

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Letters, rants and raves

Evil promoting of Chocolate?

Dear Sir,

It started on Wednesday, the first battle commenced. The cause? No, not land, money or principles, something far more important – chocolate. Yes I took the plunge and in a meager effort to endure the hardship of others I decided to give up chocolate for lent. Thus began the onslaught, ad after ad portraying the creamy goodness, the sensuousness, the sheer pleasure of my chosen weakness. Could I resist? Friday 2:00pm two days gone, 38 to go, so far so good I was wandering innocently through the courtyard then it happened, right in front of me a giant Cadbury's Dairy Milk was grappling with a another enormous piece of chocolate. Had insanity crept up on me this quickly? Was it time to book myself into the asylum? No just another damn promotion to tempt, tease and torment me. The war continues....

Is mise,

Peader De Bru

The following was recieved by the An Focal office

Sitting normally in a pub New Years day with friends. Someone asked how was Christmas.

It struck me viciously emotionally.

How was my Christmas? How was watching him continuously drink for Christmas week? How was answering my seven-year-old sister who asked where daddy was for Christmas dinner? How was the look on my mothers face when she heard the question? How was it to see his Christmas presents unopened New Years day? How was it to answer the door Christmas night to my neighbour's words that he had fallen on the road? How was it to carry him like a piece of furniture Christmas night to bed? How was it to scold him like a child and tell him to stay where he was and do what he was told? How was it to see your father dieing in front of you and watch your family fall apart because of alcohol?

It had awoken forgotten thoughts. Tears welled. Looked away. Forced smile. Reply, 'ok.' Tried to ignore it but it remains with you. The emptiness, despair, isolation. The thought that you can do nothing about it. The fear. Everyday. The distraction, the other, the rage, the tears, the hopelessness, attempting normality, misguided pity, tired apologies, confused loyalty, forgotten promises.

Brothers, sisters, mother, friends, relations, work colleges....the tentacles of alcoholism.

But who cares? Murphy dot comedy club? Heineken clubs and socs offices? Guinness Kollodge week? Thursday night promos? I don't think so.

Anon

Fr. M

Hi Patrick

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All criticism, comments, opinions, rants and raves are welcomed by the An Focal Team. Simply email patrick.kennedy@ul.ie to air your what

Make that Grade! • New series of revision

Make that Grade is the **first** and **only** revision series written by Irish Lecturers for Irish third level students. Each title includes theory of the individual subjects, provides practical Irish examples, gives definitions of key terms, uses cross-referencing between chapters, while still being presented in a user-friendly format.

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Irish Tort Law (New 2002)— Suitable for those studying Irish Tort Law in 3rd level

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Diplomas)

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These titles are essential for third level students throughout the country who are determined to maximise their potential & making exam success easier.

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Marketing:	€10.50
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Tort Law/Land Law:	€16.99

For further information

Regina Barre

To order your copy,

E-MAIL US AT

POSTGRADUATE STUDY FAIR

You might be considering postgraduate study for a variety of reasons:

- To improve your job prospects by acquiring new skills
- To become more specialised in a particular subject
- To prepare for an academic career in a university

Whatever your interest is in considering further study, now's the time to find out what's really involved. Postgraduate Study is a very popular option with UL graduates and it is very important that you are fully aware of the various options available to you. To help you explore the various possibilities, the Cooperative Education & Careers Division is organising a Postgraduate Study Fair on Wednesday, 20th February. The fair will take place in EGO 10 (the Examination Hall) in the main building. Opening hours will be from 1.00 p.m. until 4.00 p.m. This event will be open to all students and graduates who are interested in finding out about postgraduate study opportunities in Ireland.

What's it all about?

The Postgraduate Study Fair will be similar to the Careers Fair which was held in October. The objective is to provide students with relevant and up to date information and advice on the range of postgraduate study opportunities available in Ireland. As one in four graduates continues on into some form of postgraduate study, this Fair will provide an ideal opportunity to research all the options. Specialist staff from all the Irish Universities, a number of the Institutes of Technology, Research Centres and other institutions will be available to answer questions on a range of issues including: selection procedures, applica-

- 20 February, 2002

tion process, financial support, course content, employment prospects, etc. It will be a very informal atmosphere with plenty of opportunities for individual consultation with the experts. Last year's fair was attended by almost 600 students and feedback was extremely positive. Over 80% of those surveyed indicated that their expectations were met on the day and that they valued the opportunity to discuss their interests with representatives on the stands.

What colleges will attend?

We expect to have about 25 exhibition stands covering the main postgraduate study and research opportunities in Ireland. UL will be very well represented as each College will have an individual stand with information on research and taught postgraduate study options. The Admissions Office will also be represented. A Guide to the event will be available on the day.

How to prepare for the Fair

Call in to the Careers Resource Area in the Coop & Careers Office and check out the many sources of information on postgraduate study in Ireland and abroad. Some of these booklets are available in multiple copies to take away. Also, check the Postgraduate Study section of the Careers website here: <http://www.ul.ie/careers/postgrad.html>. If you have any queries on the day, call to the Cooperative Education & Careers stand at the fair and somebody will be available to advise you.

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Attention Mature Students!

Hello to all mature students. My name is Noreen Coveney O'Beirne and I am your support person at the Mature Student Office.

The University of Limerick recognises that, as mature students, you have specific needs in returning to College, and has endeavoured to create a supportive environment for you. For example, during the last term the Mature Student Office, in collaboration with others, hosted a series of key skills seminars and tutorials. This Semester the Cooperative Extension and Careers Division invites you to register for a Career Development Module. This new module (CA 4003) has been designed specifically to help you to plan your career development in a structured way. Further information from the Mature Student Office, or from Mary Sweeney (Head of Careers), room DM 036, Tel. 202114, email address: <mailto:mary.sweeney@ul.ie>.

I'm interested in getting the names and ID's of all mature students on campus so that I can contact you concerning

events/activities of interest. If you haven't already done so, drop by the office and say hello. I'm located in room E1-007 on the 1st floor of the Main Building. If you haven't got the time contact me by telephone on (061) 213481 or by email, <mailto:Noreen.Coveney-O'Beirne@ul.ie>

Don't forget to pick up a copy of the new Mature Student Handbook.

Please note the new 'drop-in'times-

Monday –Friday	11h00 –13h00
Tuesday, Wednesday	17h00 -19h00
2nd Saturday of the Month	12h00 –14h00

Check out the Mature Student Office Website at www.ul.ie.mso for up to date information, and to access key learning skills sites. Alternatively, see the Mature Student Office Noticeboard located in the foyer area beside the Restaurant (Block E, Level M, in the Main Building).

OPEN EVENI

Date: M
Venue: A

Tell your friends w
come along, visit sta
faculty and staff. Th
with support person

Looking forward to
Best wishes,

I Am Jack's Secret A

That got yer attention, didn't it?

Yes, folks, Valentine's has been and gone once again. The time of year that divides a happy, gregarious student population into different camps and warring factions-- those who think it sucks arse, and those who enjoy it for the sugary-sweet Hallmark holiday that it is. I, personally, don't really hold any strong opinion on it. To me, it's merely another example of how we as human beings can attach non-sensical significance to a day which would otherwise be like any other, but I can't deny I love getting a card now and then. Strangely enough, most of the Valentine's cards I get feature polar animals of various stripes-- two years ago, they were polar bears, last year they were penguins (before that they were multicoloured dinosaurs, but I think I've grown out of them by now). Is that traditional? This year, I'm hoping for a snow leopard or snow hare. Or maybe something exotic like a woolly mammoth.

But anyway, chances are that a fair share of you out there reading this have a significant other, and doubtlessly you had plans for a romantic evening. Candlelight, roses, chocolates, wine, maybe a meal at a fine restaurant... or maybe you rented out a romantic movie. Now, while you probably forked out three euro for that inane waste of celluloid where Leonardo goes down on a ship, consider my top five Most Romantic Films Of All Time.

1. An American Werewolf in London. This clocks in in first place because it has everything you could possibly want from a love story, and it does something interesting with the formula. It's got the shy, exotic rogue from foreign climes who's looking for the right girl to make an honest man out of him. The girl is independent, sensible, wise and virtuous. They are madly in love, and they are the perfect couple. The story has a tragic ending, an excuse for the pair of you to cuddle extra hard on the couch and guzzle chocolate by the pound. Plus, it's funny, exciting and scary-- another excuse for extra-strong cuddling. It's got satanic rural villages, ghosts, zombies, fur, bark and plenty of bite. Who says love stories have to be boring?

2. Natural Born Killers. Micky and Mallory.

Lovers. Free spirits. Media gods. Shotgun-toting psychopaths on a mission where "love conquers the demon." Their love for each other is palpable, and the worst thing that the authorities can inflict on them is to separate them. They are clearly made for each other, and share a romantic bond that cannot be broken by the cynical world of media whoring.

3. The Frighteners. It was a close tie between this and NBK for second place. This film comes third by virtue of the fact that Micky and Mallory were both a live. Here, we have a similar pairing-- shotgun-toting murderer and his young lover. Johnny Bartlett was caught and executed, but that did not stop him from visiting his beloved from beyond. A love stronger than the grave. Can anything be more romantic? Forget Ghost. This film is a much more interesting examination of the same thing.

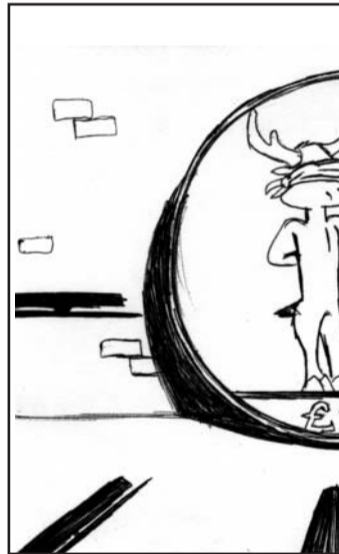
4. Beauty and the Beast. A tender love story between a mutated nobleman and a girl who's just the slightest bit odd. The story has been seen in many different forms-- the Disney version with the singing, dancing antiques, the French live-action version with the ironic ending, Mel Gibson as the Man Without a Face, and the "Beauty and King Dork" sequence from the brilliant cartoon series The Critic. This story is flawed, however, by the Beast's transformation into a socially-acceptable handsome young man at the end. Let's face it girls, who would you prefer-- the Beast, or the bland prince that the Beast turns into? Guys, this sugary-sweet ending also sends a message out to us-- if you want to find someone and win their heart, you have to look like a Calvin Klein male model with zero personality.



Other than these films top marks.

5. King Kong. What can that have already said? An grown ape (quite literally) for Fay Wray her femininity charms. She's only woman Kong has eaten, and in close-ups there's nothing but p final line is t beast."

This article Horror Shack-



4th year Mech Eng Exhibition of St

On February 13 in AM061, the 4th year Mechanical Engineering class held a display of projects submitted as part of their course work. These projects were Computer Aided Design renderings of some of the most extraordinary machines I have ever seen or imagined. They ranged from low-cost, self-build cars to Lunar probes, walking Lego-men to flame-throwing dune- buggies, with everything in between.

The Kettering 7 is a model of the Lotus 7, but without the astronomical cost. This is a low-cost, self build kit car, with styling reminiscent of Formula1 cars of the forties and fifties.



RALF is a walking Lego man, designed by one of the teams with a little help from the sports department. After borrowing a video of a person walking from the Sports Dept, in order to analyse the motion and ensure the correct

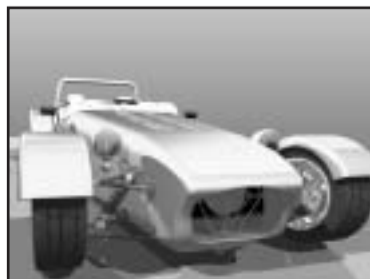


angles of the limbs, this team designed a Legoman around it. He is built from typical Lego-Technic parts including little hydraulic pumps.

Nomad is UL's very own design for a Mars Probe. Ever seen Armageddon? Well, think something along the lines of the infamous Armadillo, only with a multi-point linkage steering system. It's a remote control probe designed to scan the surface of a planet and collect rock-samples. The team found diagrams on the internet, and from these, estimated the dimensions of every part of this machine. When they got in contact with NASA for some inside information, they discovered that overall they were only 50mm off. Quite an achievement!

The last item that I discovered was a Dune Buggy, which was described as "Mad Max meets Pro-Desktop" Pro-Desktop is the software package that

was used for all these renderings. It is a normal enough Dune Buggy, until you realise that there is a hydrogen-powered stripped-down jet-engine, with an optional Snow Plough. However,



this wasn't my this was the Pro-tors "worth in moments in life



After attending never think of e

Bob and Bill CELEBRITY DEATH-M

Welcome to what has become the ultimate celebrity bitch fight in Irish pop history. One was chosen...one was not...but both were number six...it is now time once and for all to see who is the ultimate Pop star. We are of course talking about the duel to the death between the underage Nadine and the rejected Sarah...who will come out alive?

Vital Statistics:

Popstar 1 in the red corner, sponsored by pampers
Name: Nadine "the Derry-Cherry" Coyle
Year of Birth: (yet to be established, but is believe to be sometime between 1983 and '87)
Category: Super flyweight

Popstar 2 in the white corner sponsored by daz
Name: Sarah "Pearl drops" Keating
Year of Birth: 1980
Category: flyweight

Bob and Bill's Pre-match analysis:

Sarah should definitely come out as the stronger of the two girls in this crunch fight to the death. She is

'With a quick kick to the head from Nadine, Sarah falls to the canvas...'

idealized as a pearly white figure within the newly formed group, and a statue of power and glowing health. Her 'robust' figure should have no problem fighting off the advances of the obviously less mature Nadine, and less face it, she could always get that little dog of hers to have a go. Sarah has spent the last few weeks in training for this event, and it shows tonight her make-up is immaculate and her complexion perfect. In contrast, Nadine is looking a



little patchy tonight Bill...it's obvious she has not been able to afford that regular trip to the sun bed now that her quest for stardom has failed. Nadine has also shown recently that under extreme circumstances the defenses come down quicker than the twin towers...and she stands alone as a solitary voice of youth and innocence...those memory lapses could possibly be hiding a serious problems, when you can't remember your age there



must be something wrong. Nadine has already thrown all her cards into the ring, Sarah should be anticipating every blow that is served up by this bronzed bimbo.

I disagree Bob...Nadine, the chosen champion of the people, and the best looking 16 year old I have ever seen, is the only person who will come out on top in this clash. She is idealized by all men as the scantily clad, bronzed babe from Derry, who did more for schoolgirls then Britney Spears Baby One More Time. Her recent experiences in the playground will have her well trained for the task ahead, and she'll always have the Derry crowd to support her. Sarah and her hoes are looking pure and chaste as always and no doubt there'll be a whole lotta loving going on here soon, sweet loving if I have my way, Bob. Nadine is as always wearing her trademark skirt up her ass and low cut top, lets hope those babies don't fall out. While Nadine has been hard at work training for this bout, Sarah has been signing no sex contracts and touring the country milking her minor celebrity status for all its worth. I'm calling it Nadine to knock Barbie out in Round 2.

Round 1

With a quick kick to the head from Nadine, Sarah falls to the canvas...but more worryingly than that a speck of blood had smeared across her pearly white top...Oh no...is she going to give in already!!!...But the popstars are in her corner singing United we Stand...she's going on...and heads Nadine off with a right hook to the left breast knocking it out of its cup...there was always suspicions about those little babies...now its obvious how old exactly Nadine is Bill...she's exposed for what she is.... and there's the bell

Round 2

The girls have come out fighting in this round and this is turning into a right ding-dong of a bitch fight...hair is flying in all directions and I think I saw the lipstick being uncorked just there...these girls mean war...Nadine's red lipstick is streaking the dazzling whites and Sarah has no defense...but wait here comes her little pooch...and its jumped up and bitten a bit of Nadine's ear off...I always knew she had a vicious little bitch Bob...but with one foul swoop of her leg she has sent that dog into the Derry crowd...let us take a moment to grieve for that courageous little pup...but I have to say Bill that was some of the best rhythm we've seen from Nadine in a long time...and there's' the bell again...but will Sarah overcoming the grief for her the one who thought her so much and was her partner for so long.

Round 3

With missiles flying form the Derry crowd...both

**'Sarah
with
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girls have come o round...Sarah is everywhere...can frontat...but wait singing Trolley- d with a chair in his he's knocked off N chair threw Sarah impressed...I was



Bill and Bob's Fir What an impressi one but two cel came out trumps have a liking for was rejected...Bill

**Next Week
Dumbledo
Lord of t**



Are young Irish people today away from organised religion?

It's almost 9 o'clock on Sunday morning. You're shivering from an all-enveloping cold that seems to have descended to enclose you personally. The radiators leak drips onto the cold green tiles as the rosary beads of the faithful sway back and forth in time to the rhythmic clamour of the Five Sorrowful Mysteries. Peeping around, you take in a few intermittent huddles of shawl-clad, blue-grey body waves or balding heads along with some disgruntled toddlers and older children wondering when mammy and daddy are going to get the car out to go home. The bells clang and the Parish Priest glides out onto the altar trailed by two yawning altar boys. It's time for mass.

In general speaking terms there are two types of people as far as religion is concerned...those who believe and those who don't. It is becoming more and more apparent in recent times that faith, although definitely bestowed on many young people of our generation, lies predominantly with the older members of our society. In a 1998 M.R.B.I. survey of Irish Catholics, the highest weekly mass attendance was to be found among the 50-64 age group at 83%. As a contrast, only 38% of the 18-24 age group go to weekly mass. In that case, a profound question must be posed...

Are young Irish people today turning away from organised religion??

Although that may remain a mystery to many of us ordinary souls, it seems that in 1988, Raphael Gallagher of Intercom Magazine had predicted a drastic decline in the number of people claiming to have a convinced faith. "People will move away. They will of course go back to the church for

cultural occasions, but it may not be much more than that."

Whenever the question of religion is posed, people typically give the stereotypical answers of clerical scandal within the church. People also claim that mass and religion are not geared towards young people and that religious services require a more upbeat approach inclusive of singing and dancing. While these responses hold certain truths, when one really considers the matter, would you attend weekly mass just because the parish priest was a one-man-band who danced on the pulpit, all the while proclaiming that he was as pure as the driven snow?? I'll let you answer that one for yourself.



The real truth is that Irish society is generally becoming less religious, particularly when compared to

The real truth is that Irish society is generally becoming less religious, particularly when compared to "Holy Ireland" of the

"Holy Ireland" of the '50's. Authority is constantly shifting away from the church and towards the lay people themselves. Improved travel facilities, the development of mass communications and a greater affluence which permits their exploitation now mean that Irish people are no longer adrift in the middle of the Atlantic, devoid of outside influences. Television has brought

has been legal... consenting... constitutional... removed, albeit... the narrowest of majorities... Maybe the old certainties are being questioned; the old ways of doing

are doing. Those who have a few. Religion is evidence of it... that young people... religion, rather... completely de... vive, clasping... presents too... Religion isn't... does mean so... opening lines... the rosary with... evangelism. A... not to listen.

If Ireland is to succeed as an inevitably multi-cultural society, differences must be recognised for what they are...simple differences...not dangers

images of other lifestyles and modes of thought into our homes whilst contributing towards breaking through an encroaching horizon, so that the sacred canopy, which had guarded a narrowly defined catholic way of life, is slowly shattering. The young Irish can finally see the woods in spite of the trees.

Greater pluralism is now demanded with the influx of a diverse spectrum of non-nationals into our country. If Ireland is to succeed as an inevitably multi-cultural society, differences must be recognised for what they are...simple differences...not dangers. It is principally the young people of Ireland who are being exposed to, and are hence more aware of other cultures. And for the most part, these young Irish have chosen to accept the changes with which they are growing up. This sense of being able to choose seems to have permeated their own lives and they now discriminate between the aspects of their religion, which they want to practise, and those which they would rather ignore. For instance, as already stated, the numbers of young people attending weekly mass are relatively low, yet the numbers of U.L. students who flocked to the services at Milford Church this Ash Wednesday, the 13th of Feb. were astonishing. Perhaps we have removed Article 44 of the constitution. This article had acknowledged the Catholic Church as the church of the majority in Ireland. Maybe contraception



by M

Murphys DOTCOM

Murphys DOT COMedy Club returns on Monday Week 3 and its back with bang, a real treat for UL's comedy fraternity (that's you) its Scottish legend Phil Kay read on -

'More spontaneous than combustion, more inventive than Edison.' The List

Phil's comedy is a unique blend of energy, improvisation and leaps of imagination that take his audience on a joyride they'll never forget. Even Phil has no idea what might happen when he unleashes his crazy brand of improvised comedy mayhem. He possesses the rare gift of creating a space where audiences feel like they are kids again, all taking part in a practical joke. To be at one of Phil's shows and expect stand-up would be a big mistake- anything can happen and invariably does!

Phil launched his stand-up comedy career with a bang by winning So you Think You're Funny? in 1989. Since then other plaudits he has collected include: a nomination for the prestigious Perrier Award, the Scotland On Sunday Critics Award For Comedy, The Scotland On Sunday Paper Boat Award for Comedy and in 1994 the coveted Best Live Stand-up Comedian of the Year at the British Comedy Awards. In 1997, the British Comedy Awards nominated Phil for the Best Television Comedy Newcomer Award for his Channel 4 Television series 'Phil Kay Feels'. Other television credits include: his UK Play Show 'Next Stop Phil Kay', Edinburgh Nights - BBC1, Montreal Festival of Fun - Paramount/Channel 5, Halfway to Paradise - Channel 4, Stand-up - Grampian, Packet of three - Channel 4, McCoist and

McAulay BBC Scotland, The Funny Farm - STV, Talking Loud - Grampian, The Advocates - STV and The Auld Alliance - BBC2.

Phil's first love remains live stage work, he tours Britain constantly and is a firm favourite at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, where he performs yearly to sell-out crowds and critical acclaim. Over the years he has completed several highly successful tours of Australia, performing at the Adelaide and Melbourne Festivals. Since then, he has travelled the length and breadth of the globe administering his special blend of comedy genius.

Phil has worked as a warm-up man on television shows including: Jonathan Ross's Saturday Show, Channel 4's Viva Cabaret, The Smell of Reeves and Mortimer, Sean's Show and Harry Hill's Pilot Show.

'...procrastination has never been so funny.' The Guardian

'Exhilarating and disgustingly funny.' Irish Times
'Laugh yourself to a standstill' The Herald
One of the funniest things on the planet...inspired hysterical rubbish....a comedy monarch' Metro

See Him Live and in the Flesh (Maybe literally) on Monday Week 3 , Scholars Function Room 9pm. €8 includes a pint of Murphys



Fógra

Obair pháirtaimseartha do mhic léinn le Gaeilge

Fuair Aonad na Gaeilge, Ollscoil Luimnigh maoiniú ón Údarás Um Ard Oideachais (HEA) le déanaí. Toisc sin beidh deiseanna oibre pháirtaimseartha ar fáil san Aonad i Seimeastar an Earraigh 2002. Dhá uair sa tseachtain (uaireanta solúbtha) a bheidh i gceist ag an ráta €8 san uair.

Ar na réimsí oibre beidh;

Riarachán

Fógraíocht do ranganna Aonad na Gaeilge

Aistriúchán

Dearadh ceistneoirí

Dearadh phacáiste eolais ar an nGaeltacht

Dearadh phacáiste eolais ar Leabharlann na hOllscoile don Orientation

Beifear ag súil le caighdeán ard sa Ghaeilge scríofa agus labhartha agus scileanna ríomhaireachta don ról seo in Aonad na Gaeilge.

CV chuig Deirdre Ní Loingsigh, roimh 22 Feabhra 2002 (Dé hAoine Seachtain 2).

Tuilleadh eolais:

Deirdre Ní Loingsigh

Stiúrthóir na Gaeilge, C1074

Guthán: 061-213463

r-phost: deirdre.niloingsigh@ul.ie

Spraoidí

Cumann na Gaeilge

Bhuel a bhuachaillí agus a chailíní,

tá fáilte róimh ar ais don céad téarma eile. Tá súil agam gur bhain sibh go léir taitneamh as na laethanta saoire. Tá an-obair le déanamh ag an gcumann roimh Seachtain a cúig, mar beidh Seachtain na Gaeilge ar siúl an tseachtain sin. Táimid ag lorg tacaíocht ó éinne le suim sa Ghaeilge. Tá a lán smaointí ar intinn againne chun Seachtain iontach a phleanáil agus bheimid fíor bhuíoch de aon chabhair a fháil.

Bunófar coiste ag an gcéad chruinniú, Déardaoin, Seachtain a haon agus déanfar sár-iarracht i ndiaidh sin..



Baileomid le chéile chuile Máirt ag a sé, seomra a ceathair Aontas na Mac Léinn agus pléitear Seachtain na Gaeilge, turasanna go dtí an Ghaeltacht agus an tslí inar féidir linn sult agus craic a bhaint as an dteanga. Is é ár sprioc ná i a chur chun cinn sa choláiste mar theanga bheo.

Ná deanaigí dearmad ar an duais 380 EUR a bhfuil ann. Tá an iarracht is fearr an Ghaeilge a úsáid chomhaireann a bhaint as an ma!!

Cabhraigí linn le bhur dtoil chun é sin a fháil. Táimid ag labhairt, bhí an fórmhór daoibhse ag labhairt na Gaeilge cúig bliana d'aois. Is í ár dteanga í an Ghaeilge.

Tuilleadh Eolais
regina21ie@yahoo.com
walterscaroline@yahoo.com



S5 – WK 5

Cumann na Gaeilge – Spraoideanna

Meetings back on

Bualadh le chéile arís

Room 4 in the Student's Centre

Seomra a ceathair Aontas na Mac Léinn

Tuesdays at 6

Máirt ag a sé

Support needed for Seachtain na Gaeilge

Tacaíocht ag taistáil don tseachtain

Hope for a big showcase of the Irish language on campus

Ag súil le caomhnú agus dul chun cinn don

Event suggestions/

Smaointí ar imeachtaí to walterscaroline@yahoo.com

regina21ie@yahoo.com

ulsu entertainments pro

The Heineken Rollercoaster Tour was launched on Tuesday the 29th of January in the Temple Bar Music Centre, Dublin. It's been gathering speed around Ireland for nine years and this year again features great bands, great DJ and great MC. Last year in Dolan's Warehouse, Relish, Bell X1 and the brilliant Wilt played to a full house, and in between bands we had 2FM's Dave Fanning keeping things running smoothly. Previous bands on the Tour include The Frames (1995), Watercriss (1997), Revelino (1998), and Picture House (2000).

This year sees not only a different set of bands but also a new DJ and a new MC. The bands playing this year are The Hothouse Flowers, The Revs, and Sonora.

The Hothouse Flowers (in case you didn't know!) are:

- Liam
- Peter
- Fiachna

The Hothouse Flowers formed in 1985. Playing regularly at the Magic Carpet, the Chicken Club in The Pembroke Inn and various other late night bars, clubs and restaurants they commanded the attention of Dublin's music audience and nocturnal partiers. Busking on the streets as the Incomparable Benzini Brothers they achieved great notoriety in the local and national press winning the highly coveted "Street Entertainer of the year" award in 1986. Media exposure and nationwide touring followed, attracting attention from various record companies from the UK. After a one off single with U2's Mother Records they signed a deal with London Records and went on to record their first album "People". From this came the song "Don't Go"

which went on to be a successful record worldwide. Since then they have toured the world over releasing the albums "Home" and "Songs from the Rain" to critical and commercial acclaim. While touring Australia they had a number one record with "Home". In 1988 they packed out Dublin's RDS show jumping arena with guests including Tracey Chapman and Aswad. They went on to tour all over America, Europe, South Africa and Japan as well as all the major festivals including Glastonbury, Reading, Roskilde, Pink Pop, Féile and London's Fleadh. After a break for a number of years, they recorded an album at a studio in Peter's house - the resulting record was called "Born" and was released by London Records in 1997. Internal problems in the company meant the record didn't get the commitment it needed, and this saw the end of the relationship with London Records. However their return to the live circuit was triumphant

playing sell out shows at home and abroad as well as opening for the Rolling Stones on their Bridges to Babylon tour. They toured all over the States and the UK in 2001 and have a new collection of songs to be released in mid 2002.

The Revs are:



The Hothouse Flowers

in the Irish Top 20, received massive airplay from all the major stations, and was on the most wanted list on 2fm for three months! "Alone For You", the bands second single also had chart success, again spending a few weeks in the top twenty. It received nationwide extensive airplay and was play listed on most regional and major stations as was the very cheeky B-side "Louis Walsh (says rock and roll is dead)" also getting massive airplay. That song is very topical and current in these days of "Pop Stars" and all things candy floss and "manufactured" in the music business, none of which of course applies to the artistically pure Revs. The Revs are releasing a radio single - "Tuning Japanese" which is a bonus track from "Sonic Tonce" (their debut album released on the 11th January this year) - this track is a cover of the Vapors hit single. The fact that Ireland qualified for the 2002 world cup and the choice of this song is maybe coincidental but probably not!

SONORA are

- PATRICK QUIGLEY: Vocals and Guitars
- STEPHEN SHERIDAN: Guitars
- SID ALCOCK: Bass Guitar
- SHANE POWER: Drums and Percussion

Sonora are a four piece band with a penchant for guitars and strong melodies. The band spent most of 2000 playing in Dublin honing their live set and building up a loyal fanbase. Following a Dublin showcase gig last year with Mercury Music Prize nominee, Tom McCrae, the band caught the eye of BMG International. The BMG label wasted no time in offering a development deal, in turn leading to a veritable who's who of international A&R in attendance at recent gigs. In July 2001, at Dublin's Vicar St., Sonora beat off stiff competition to claim the title of "Unsigned Band of the Year" in the Digifone/Warner Music New Band Competition. Sonora are now "A List"



- RORY GAL- L A G H E R : Guitar/Vocals
- JOHN MCINTYRE: Bass/Vocals
- MICKY O'DON- NELL: Keyboards

The Revs are a crazy three-piece power pop/rock band from Donegal, who have been described as a hybrid between The Police, Sting and Gordon Sumner, with a live performance reminiscent of early Blink 182 meeting Sum 41. Their debut single "Wired on the Moon" spent 4 weeks

members of Phantom received several a station, Phantom h amount of requests band is astonishing their demo on their played support to th Mescaleros at the band received a g audience. Much the did with The Frank 2001. The venue another storming s stated the Sonora unsigned acts' and secret for long.'

DJ for the evening is Stuart Clarke - who has been the resident DJ in Whelan's for the last six years. He has been a journalist for Hot Press interviewing many bands, and one of the more recent high tion to Cuba with t historic gig in front Fanning this year, b cool DJ Tom Dunne who Tom Dunne is on Today FM an Something Happen port for Irish bands the Year 2002 by er

Adr



So

The Hives make me itch . . . really itch . . . to listen to

The Hives "Your New Favourite Band" (Poptones 2001)

Let's start with the story behind these five Swedish guys who are so confident that they name this CD "Your New Favourite Band". The group of teens formed in 1993 in a small industrial town called Fagersta in Sweden. In 1995 were signed by a record company executive, Peter Ahlqvist. Ahlqvist had apprehensions about the capability of the band however, and subsequently formed a side-label on which to sign them in order to limit potential damage to his own label. After the release and unexpected success of the mini-CD "Oh Lord! When? How?" they were brought onto the main Burning Heart label. Their debut album "Barely Legal" was followed by the 1998 "A.K.A. I-D-I-O-T" EP. As the Hives left their teenage years and grew so did their success. The two years following the release of their "Veni Vidi Vicious" album were spent touring the globe in the face of over 250 live shows.

Former Creation Records headman Alan McGee (most famous for his 1990s Oasis dealings) released this collection of 12 tracks from the Hives under his new label Poptones. The songs are taken from their two albums and one EP. It has achieved gold status in the UK since October last year. The Hives are receiving rave reviews from UK media and there's been much hype about them here in Ireland in recent times.

Hot Press awarded them the ultimate accolade by plastering them on the front cover of their first issue of 2002. Stuart Clark describes them as having a "swagger about them and their songs which is destined to have whiny post-rockers running to the hills with their underachieving tails between their legs...(they) are going to be so famous they won't know what to do with all the supermodels." (Hot Press 30th January 2002) Is Mr. Clark correct? Let's see....

The CD is playing in the background as I speak . . . To be honest, when I started listening to it two weeks ago I had to take it out of the stereo. (Come on, I bought the Strokes album the day before!!) So it was only fairly recently I actually started listening to it properly. My first impressions weren't great. At first I thought I was listening to the demo tape of the local teenage rock band who were trying to pretend they had talent. I really wanted to throw it into the bin! The music is really fast and short. Vocalist Howlin' Pelle Almqvist barely breathes between songs and seems to be shouting for the entire duration of the CD, which incidentally is a mere 28 minutes long. Vigilante Carlstroem and Nicolaus Arson, as the names suggest, are almost violent in their guitar playing. As I listen, I feel like my heart is running after a Monorail carriage. It's a never-ending roller coaster of screaming lyrics and banging guitars. Chris Dangerous bangs those drums like his life depends on it! All I say is take a chill pill loves – step out of the circle etc.! Maybe it's just as well that it only lasts 28 minutes . . . if it was any longer, I think my heart would go into over-drive! The lyrics from "Outsmarted" leap out at me now – "I'm sellin' you for scrap." I think I have been made a fool of – the singer shouts instead of singing, the songs are mediocre, the production sounds poor.

However with the obvious enthusiasm that the five Swedish rockers display, I cannot help but keep listening – despite its aggravating and head-wrecking tone, I'm still pressing play again! Why??!! Maybe it's the



few traces of talent seeping through from the guitar playing and singing. Tracks such as "Main Offender"

and "A.K.A." are worth listening to. Who knows – 2002! But I was expecting May

The Hives have a way to expose their mess. It's actually I'll get into it listening to the giving my breaths trying some real enterma ad for Kyli joy of witness on a mechanic horse-shite mu



Student Teachers Society

2002 Thoma

in

The South Cour
Thursday 28th Feb
30 Euro (IRL)

Spend a day at the Races with UL Racing

Wednesday February 20th marks the first College Race Day for the students and staff of the University of Limerick. This new initiative is being pioneered by the Racing Society and promises to be a huge success. Mary Immaculate College, Limerick Institute of Technology and the National College of Art & Design will also be in attendance. This has the potential to become an annual event for the students and staff of 3rd level Institutions in Limerick City and County if it proves successful this time around.

The College Race Day offers students the chance of experiencing the buzz of an exciting days Horse Racing at the fantastic new Limerick Racecourse. It represents the single biggest undertaking by the Racing Society since its formation exactly one year ago this week.

The project has received great assistance from Angus Houston and all his staff at the Racecourse, thanks also has to be extended to Live95FM for their promotion of the event, to Bus Eireann for their assistance and provision of transport to and from the Race Course and to Red Bull for their sponsorship and enthusiasm in the event.

The package on offer costs €10. This €10 will buy you a ticket, which entitles you to a bus out, admission, a race card, a burger and fries, a pint or bottle and the bus back!! Considering food and drink would normally cost over €10 it is a pretty damn good deal.

Our sister University, DCU will also be in attendance as well as their Dublin counterparts in UCD and Trinity. We hope to show them that Limerick is just as good a venue as any for a day's entertainment.

Hopefully this day will prove the Racing Society is one of the best in the country, providing entertainment to a broad audience.

Tickets are on sale in the Students Union Reception for €10. Any Queries or suggestions to be directed to Conor O'Brien @ 086 8420248 or 0023663@student.ul.ie

COLLEGE RACE

Wednesday 20th

PRICE

€10

INCLUDES:

- BUS
- ADMISSION
- RACECARD
- BURGER & FRIES

Featu

Mar

Bus f

UL's Tang Soo Do Korean Karate

After watching films like "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon" and "The Matrix" you may, as I was, have been impressed by the martial arts techniques performed. Did it get you thinking about taking martial arts up yourself or returning to them after an absence? If you are UL's Tang Soo Do Club has a lot to offer.



The origin and history of martial arts include signs of Martial Arts in Greek, Egyptian, African, Japanese, Chinese, Thai, as well as other cultures. There is however a clear trail leading from the Southern China-regions up to Korea, Okinawa and Japan. Tang Soo Do combines aspects of Chinese, Japanese and Korean martial arts that can be traced back over 2000 years.

There are lots of different martial arts styles and no doubt you may have never even heard of Tang Soo Do. Aspects of the art include very practical self-defense techniques, development of kicking technique as well as the more traditional characteristics of martial arts. It's methods of instruction are designed to help an individual develop character, integrity, self-confidence, and concentration.

The club is affiliated with The World Moo Duk Kwan Tang Soo Do Federation run by Grand Master Jae Joon Kim (10th Dan Black Belt). Grand Master Kim instructed 7 times World Karate Champion and famous actor Chuck Norris.

The chief Irish representative of the Federation is Limerick based Master Des Galligan (4th Dan Black Belt) who was silver medal winner in the 1997 World Championship for sparring & patterns. Master Galligan also came 4th overall in the 1999 competition and in the same year was presented with a special trophy by Grand Master Kim recognising his superior martial art spirit.

The instructor for the University of Limerick Tang Soo Do Club is Mr Pat Forde. Mr Forde was graded for his black belt by Grandmaster Kim and was one of the first Tang Soo Do black belts graded in Ireland.

Benefits to members of the UL Tang Soo Do Club include the opportunity to enter regular competitions and the chance to grade under Master Galligan. Classes will also be given by Master Galligan on a regular basis for members throughout the term. Taking part

in Tang Soo Do club your fitness and flexibility with safety a key area of interest why not contact us

Classes are on Tuesdays in the Sports Building.

Web: www.tangsoodo@skynet.ie



Water Polo Intervar prove a great suc

On behalf of all in the water polo club we would like to extend a warm welcome back to all our members. As a lot of you know we in the water polo club had a very eventful weekend, with our hosting of the Senior National Swimming and Water Polo Intervarsities in the new 50m pool in the Arena. Almost 300 competitors from all over Ireland came down to take part in the event and some just came down to have a laugh at the festivities.

Friday night was the start of the competition with the swimming being the start of the event. We had many Irish international swimmers participating in the event including Hugh O'Connor from WIT. Our own team performed exceedingly well with our very own Colin Hedderman giving Hugh O'Connor a run for his money in the final of the 100m back-stroke, guaranteeing Colin his place on the Celtic Nations Team. Colm Fitzgerald stormed into 2nd place in a very exciting 100m br/st. And in the gruelling 200IM (a first for this competition) also had to settle for being the bridesmaid. In the relays the men's team came a very reputable 3rd in the 4X50 Medley relay. On the girls side Helena Walsh went through the torture of a looonnnggg 100M butterfly. Two lengths in this pool is like driving that straight on the Nenagh by-pass; it never ends. But fair play to Helena she came in second.

Guinness served a well-deserved pint to the 300 competitors and officials in the Arena Sports Bar and Stables before going to Docs to dance the rest of the night away. How much energy do these people have????!!!!

After the swimming on Friday night came an early start on Saturday for the men's in the water polo competition. First we were in the water for a tough game against the Royal College of Surgeons at 9.30am. After four tough quarters UL edged it 6-5, although the score line didn't reflect UL's dominance. The ladies played UCC in their first round tie, romping to victory 11-6.

In the semis the men's team came up against our old adversaries UCG, the reigning champions. After last years battering, revenge was on the cards. However it wasn't to be. With little help from the referees UCG edged it 4-2. A very physical game, which was bravely fought by all until the bitter, bitter end.

In the girl's semi, UL faced UCD. Luck was not with our ladies. Crossbar and post saved UCD from the early onslaught by the girls, while they were stunned by lightening breaks by the UCD team. The girls trailed at half time, demoralised they headed out and eventually got the goal they richly deserved. The final score didn't do the girls justice for the effort they put in but no one could argue with the result: 6-1 to UCD.

Once again Queens met UCG in the men's final. But after the effort in their game over UL, UCG didn't have it in them to take the game to Queens with Queens winning in a very one-sided final. In the women's final UCD showed why they were the favourites with an easy win over Trinity. In the Plate competition DCU won the men's plate, with UCC winning the women's.

Then of course behaved merry lovely dinner sent to all t house, while P early hours. place. Colm r keeping up th

And well done end to the mil this would ne to all our spo back up our e Coca-Cola, B Guinness, the last but not thanks to the the facility, wh proud of and l

Now that we'r er while, to al new students else who is in new members you think. W Tuesdays and

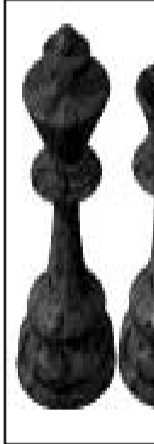
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UL Chess Club

Things are flying along in the chess club with the Munster league in full swing at this stage and also with some competitions fast approaching us. In the upcoming weeks the club will be taking part in Irelands premier chess Competition 'The Bunnratty Open' it has approximately 300 people taking part with people from high professional standards right down to the novices taking part in the many sections. Good luck to all from the club taking part.

The club has now built up some chess reading material and some chess engines for playing against which may be used by all members. These may be picked up at our weekly meetings on Wednesday nights at 7:00 in the canteen or by emailing any of the committee.

The club would also like to wish good luck to all our members going on co-op in Ireland and Abroad this semester.



UL FOLK GROUP

Would you like to be part of an international organisation with members from far away, foreign places such as Peru and West Cork? Are you interested in going on weekend trips to exotic locations like the Cliffs of Moher and Donegal? Do you have even the slightest interest in music sessions and craic? Are you completely out of your tree?

If the answer to any of these questions is yes then 'We've got to get a message to you': join the Folk Group. We're a mad bunch of people who like to sing really diverse songs, including "She Thinks my Tractor's Sexy" and Schubert's "Ave Maria." We always welcome new faces, original ideas, and strange songs. Ideas for "An Focal" articles are especially appreciated.

Twice each semester the Folk Group heads off to a location of peace and tranquillity in order to take inspiration from the landscape. Spanish Point and the Cliffs of Moher are typical settings for such endeavours, where we try to achieve even higher musical perfection than is commonly found in the chanting of Irish football supporters.

Regular Folk Group activities involve practice on Thursday

nights at 7:63pm sharp Irish time (8:00pm for all the Germans out there), and mass on Sunday evening at 7:30. Thursday night's practice is usually followed by a Session (which for you sarcastic individuals does not involve the rosary). The Group is not considered a religious society, so it does not discriminate on the basis of religious faith. People of diverse religious backgrounds may be included on the minibus to hell. Otherwise we are not politically correct.

Imagine a society that loves you beyond your wildest dreams, and we expect that some of you have some pretty wild dreams.....

'Imagine all the people living life in peace...
Imagine all the people sharing all the world...
You may say I'm a dreamer but I'm not the only one,
I hope some day you'll join us and we will sing as one.Åf

By Leslie Robinson and Tomas Flanagan



The Irish Peace Soc

Visit to the Former Yugo

“It will never end whether they have a ceasefire, peace-keeping troops or whatever. This is not a war, this is extermination.” (Misha Glenny, *The Fall of Yugoslavia*: p.125-126)

“Sometimes when you are writing you feel that you can’t find words monumental enough to describe an experience you have just had. This is one of these junctures. Between the 21st and 28th of January this year the Irish Peace Society travelled to the Former Yugoslavia. Flying into Trieste we took an overnight train to Zagreb where the group split in two; one heading to Vukovar, the other to Dobo. The following is an account of our shared experiences. For Group 1 Katherine Harford reports. Bernadette Sexton reports for Group 2.

Group 1

After a rushed and sleepy farewell to Group Two in Zagreb, we took a train in the early hours, before meeting Dr. Charles Tauber, who drove us to our first destination, Vukovar. Until 9pm that night Charles was our guide, and continuous source of information. This amazing person is the Coalition for Work With Psycho Trauma and Peace (CWWPP). A town under siege during the war, Vukovar was flattened, the Serb majority unique in Croatia) removed, and an 80% unemployment rate prevails. Neighbours no longer talk to one another, war criminals walk and opportunity is all but out of reach. Much of the international presence has left and Charles and his organisation battle on for funding to develop individual, group and community therapy.

Certain aspects of the conflict here stood out: The first being that of identity. As unrest was developing, children were coming home from school asking whether they were Serb or Croat. The other is because of the long-term necessity of the CWWPP project and abstract nature psycho trauma it is not an easy area to get funding within the competing realm of NGO work.

In visiting a mass grave, we came to understand that only Croat graves are being uncovered and only selectively. In turn this means that such work has become political with apprehension of stirring up more tensions. There stands a beautiful memorial peaked with a dove, blanketed in snow and surrounded by open flat and still land, it is hard to believe where we stood held such evil and hatred. As the week continued we realised



In Belgrade, we were met by Sonja Stojanovic and Evana who, with her parents had prepared a fantastic Serbian meal for our arrival. Later Sonya brought us on a walking tour of Belgrade. She enthusiastically pinpointed key places of protest and uprising, particularly that of students. She pointed to a balcony where every day a woman showered the protesters below with flowers. She subsequently became

a mascot to the people.

Ironically the people here were protesting against Milosevic governance as well as the NATO bombing targets in the city. This particular action deeply shocked the people of Belgrade, as Serbia had previously experienced a special relationship with France and as a result Serbians had always identified themselves with the West. From the moment of the first bomb the Serbs did not know who they were, they feel isolated and betrayed. The media in our countries reported the bombing of military targets in 1999 following the Kosovo conflict yet we fail to be told of the chemical factories also obliterated which have been the causes of countless cancers.

Of the Milosevic trial in The Hague it is felt that this is a symbolic gesture to show that the problems are being dealt with, that his conviction will solve many problems and show an effort to “sort things out.” However it does not address the issue of other war criminals who are still out of reach of a court of law.

We made our way to the Belgrade Open School, where university students come from many faculties to learn academic writing, civil studies and international relations for instance. Their lecturer Dr. Rory Keane, provoked discussion with regard to the bill passed in the Yugoslavian parliament to give autonomy to the region of Vojvodina. We rejoined the students in a less formal atmosphere, the pub. It became clear that the people we were talking to represented a very small section of society and are being educated to be the future movers and shakers of the country, yet their opinions differed greatly. Their position is really the best of a bad lot. The fact they were being educated at all, sets them immediately apart from others. However, they cannot travel easily and although studying to the same standards as us their opportunity to succeed is much reduced.

We then embarked on the 9-hour bus journey to Sarajevo. We passed through flat open plains, villages and towns reminiscent of rural Ireland seventy years ago. By this time exhaustion was setting in but most made it up for the 4am start to travel by train with Group Two to Mostar. It was fantastic meeting up again and sharing experiences. It was clear that there were certain benefits to being a part of both groups. Our experience definitely brought us closer to local people whereas the second group had much more experience with all the international organisations and international community.

Mostar was beautiful too although like everywhere else evidence of destruction vivid, it was easy to see why this place was a tourist destination. Cobble little streets and alleyways and stone tiled roofs marked the old town. The local white stone is used to build

impressively yet m was with the OSC the field officer wa the Dayton agreee democratisation in good government a was made apparent high, specifically b sent the peoples’ ne divided the commu have created the p longevity.

Our next meeting Hasanbegovic who Association “Wom 1994 when the war Mostar took the in pose was to develo



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The mission of the human rights, by p safe house; busin develop projects; a who are not able to hairdressers, cloth and drycleaners are in order to develop moment, Azra stres still friends now. “ nity while their m organisation is one being made steady

This trip due to th ered was in itself ta and information s opportunity for eve tiredness and emo behind such a spec



Group 2

On arrival at Doboj train station, we met our guide for the week – Willy. After checking in to the best hotel in town i.e. the only hotel, we had our first briefing with Kathy Thompson, the OSCE Human Right Officer and head of field mission for the regional centre at Doboj. Before the war its ethnic makeup was 40% Muslin who now prefer to be called Bosniac, 40% Serb and 20% Croat. It is now predominantly Serb. The main function of the regional centre at Doboj is implementing the Property Laws, which provides for the return of refugees to the homes they were forced to leave during the war.

The population return really began in 2000 once the main political party the SDS supported the initiative. Since it began about 16,000 people have been resettled. This is obviously an enormous task given the numbers involved and it also entails moving the people who have taken over these houses back to their own homes. Indeed some people do not wish to return given the trauma they experienced, while young people feel there are no job opportunities moving home. There is no economic development, and therefore no jobs to sustain people returning to their pre-war habitats. This is a major problem faced by the country and adds to the disillusionment of younger people who are queuing up to leave the country.

On Wednesday morning we met with Seppo Ruohen, Special Representative to the High Representative. The Office of the High Representative oversees the civilian aspects of the Dayton peace process, and in doing so he can dismiss any politician or civil servant who is hampering the path to democracy. All international organisations theoretically work in tandem with each other to prevent duplicity and waste of resources but throughout the week, it was obvious that this is not happening at the level it should occur and is a problem the UN and all other organisations need to address. A bottom-up holistic approach is needed for any kind of sustainable development to be obtained. This will not be found in the corridors of power in New York or Geneva. A long-term approach is the only way to prevent war from breaking out again.

That afternoon we met two representatives of the IPTF – International Police Task Force. Dave Wright a Manchester policeman is adviser to the Chief of Police in Doboj. The IPTF monitor the local police force, pushing for democratic policing. Due to the police state that was in operation in Tito's time and the level of corruption still abundant in today's police the task is enormous. Eugene Brennan an Ennisicorthy Garda works in S.T.O.P. (Special Trafficking Operations Program) within the IPTF. This was set up following an article in the Washington Post documenting the level of trafficking of

women for prostitution. Between 25 and 30 million Euro is annually made from this form of employment.

These two individuals commitment, dedication and hard work epitomised everything good about the international community. A major problem for IPTF work in the Doboj region is the location. On the border between the

unlike western side unambigu

Later that day members Simo Michelle Adhi Centre of NA



Republic and the Federation, when a S.T.O.P member is about to make a prosecution all the trafficker does is cross the bridge to the next entity, thereby hampering the process for months. Communication between both entities is extremely limited and therefore makes the work of an IPTF member on duty for 12 months very trying.

On the journey from Doboj to Sarajevo what strikes you about the country is the scenic beauty it possesses. However travelling is restricted to remaining on well traversed roads and lanes due to the danger of land mines littered everywhere across the landscape, blemishing and scarring this country for many years yet to come. At present 7% of all landmines have been cleared. It is estimated that it will take between 60-80



the different fo the area.

On Friday, we BiH has to offer. In every town



years before all landmines will be cleared. Sarajevo, a beautiful historic remarkable city stands out with its remnants of the Austro-Hungarian Empire as well as its elegant bazaars. Like most BiH towns, Sarajevo is situated in a valley surrounded by beautiful mountains. During the war however er beauty gave way to sheer barbarity when troops and tanks surrounded the city and shelled it constantly, allowing nobody in or out. Taking the tram down Snipers Alley (an area where snipers would attempt to pick off people who had ventured out of their homes) sends a shiver down your spine. Dotted throughout the city are a number of red paint spots where mortars landed killing innocent civilians. The most famous of these Red Roses was let off in the centre of a crowded market place where people queued for bread. Sixty-eight people were murdered.

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Neretva river b

On Saturday ba we met up with received a bri Section within I nate enough to S.T.O.P. and th impression alre S.T.O.P and loc above, and diff and social prob extremely tenu work done prov groups are goir mately it was t national commu ing them to the

Other members Banja Luka wa ed. An atmsp what happened Sarajevo and M ibly different to buildings. The s and there was and the establis than adequate r

Our first meeting in Sarajevo was with the EUMM. Greeted by the Head of Mission Antoin MacUnfraidh, we were lectured by several members of the Irish contingent who gave us an excellent briefing as to the situation in the entire Former Yugoslavia. The important thing that was stressed by people we met throughout the week was that the crisis was all about political power, which in turn linked to economic power. Religion was manipulated by politicians, easy to do so given the ethnic mix, of an area that was traditionally a melting pot where east met west met south, i.e. Islam, meets Catholicism, meets Orthodox. The other important thing to note is that

As is obvious fi a great deal to experienced. W an amazing ex fights, fantastic company, very above all an inc unbelievable pe go mad." Its tru life. Otherwise take time but yo you have?



I.H.S.A. Conference perm by U.L. History Socie

O.K. I know what you're thinking: a group of U.L. students heading off to Queen's University for the weekend to attend a history conference wouldn't be everyone's idea of a good time. But I implore you to read on, as there is a lot more than meets the eye than simply a group of history intellectuals spouting away about olden times. There was also an entertainment value to be gained which was certainly the case in readiness with this trip.

So on the Friday morning, five of the history society met in the beautiful metropolis known and loved by all as Busaras in our Fair City. It's fair to say that generally most of us were embarking on a trip into the unknown from more perspectives than the obvious. None of the participants could have claimed to experience the delights of Belfast city to any great extent previous to this excursion kindly hosted by the I.H.S.A. (Irish History Students Association) branch in Queen's University. To supplant the newness of the location, none of us had previously attended such a conference before, so anyone familiar with the mantra of soccer manager David O' Leary – the "my babies" stuff. That probably would have been applicable to us impressionable students with a transitory interest in history heading off to Belfast for a meeting of psyche with like-minded students throughout the country.

A wine and cheese reception followed by a book launch was our first port of call under the I.H.S.A. banner for the weekend's events. And the collective thought process at that point was – 'Are we in over our heads here!' because when truth be told none of us were hardly what you would call history academics who could pick a topic indiscriminately and debate its merits and vices for hours on end. However our notions were soon put to rest when the intermittent mingling process revealed that a significant majority of the participants were plainly on the same boat as us. The book launch was far from being the corporate extravaganza, which I personally thought, was going to come to pass. No; this book was the I.H.S.A.'s own collection of theses from history students throughout the land, and judging on the forthcoming presentations this book would be of benefit to any budding history enthusiast at various levels of interest.

In the advent of the aforementioned proceedings, Professor Sean Connolly of Queen's gave an interesting talk on the importance of tradition in Irish culture in the late 19th and early 20th century. For example, did you know that Gaelic football emanated from a form of soccer and rugby (as recently as the late 1800's) in an attempt to reduce these 'so-called' foreign sports influence on the national culture. Taking into account that this address took place at 8p.m. on a Friday night one had to be impressed with the entertainment value that this quasi-lecture set for the weekend. Afterwards, a trip was taken to a public house called 'Kelly's Cellars', where the 1798 Rebellion was supposedly planned (ever the one to accentuate the historical relevance you may well have noticed). A table quiz was held, which especially helped to break the ice and allowed the mingling process to continue into the early hours. It was at this point that it became patently clear that typical conversation was to become interspersed with historical and political overtures, which really became the zenith of the weekend's activities. While at the same time debates of centuries

past did not hold an obligatory pre-eminence that one might associate with such an occasion.

So back to the hostel, which served a functional purpose, but then again a group of students don't exactly expect the red carpet treatment. The following morning provided the forum for the whole purpose of the weekend with the sessions taking place from early(ish) morning to late afternoon. For those of you who keep



- An Examination of the politics behind the I. R. S. P.
- Alexandr Radishchev and the transmission of Enlightenment ideas to Russia in the later 18th century.
- The Colonization of Irish Historiography

Suffice to say that there was a wide ranging number of agendas set by the presenters of differing styles – some espousing the intellectual while others utilising primary evidence to give a more genuine picture. After canvassing the opinions of my peers, the seminar 'The Irish Constitution of 1937 - History and Reactions' given by Andreas Boldt from NUI Maynooth was generally viewed as one of the most entertaining, though it is imperative to note that the general standard was of the utmost quality. Isn't that just typical, the German guy debating our own national constitution and probably sounding more knowledgeable than most of the 'natives' present at the conference. And another thing Andreas himself was (what they call in the trade) a 'top bloke'; dispelling the misconstrued stereotype that aca-

ademic excellence and decadence do not go hand-in-hand.

I would like to take the opportunity at this point to congratulate U.L.'s very own Anne O' Riordan for her very professional and informative seminar: 'The Forgotten Heroes: The 3rd Tipperary Brigade In the War of Independence'. Being of South Tipp origins herself Anne provided insightful anecdotes on

events, as they transpired at Soloheadbeg, which acted as the precursor to the War of Independence in 1919 involving characters such as Sean Treacy and Dan Breen. Being our only representative of course carried it's own pressures to a certain extent. And to confound the situation her counterparts during the session were seasoned conference participants, which made her excellent performance all the more noteworthy. She noted to us before embarking on her presentation that it was her first time presenting in front of a gathering without using the Irish tongue. Bhuel Anne Nár lagáí Dia thú, Beidh fáilte romhat ar ais arís ag aon tam!

Our next port of call was the obligatory A.G.M. that takes place to surmise the I.H.S.A.'s events in 2001. Past-distinguished U.L. History Society member David Fleming who now resides in Oxford University (OOO I say!) kept proceedings going at an invigorating and rapid pace. But of course it took four years on campus

in U.L. to pick up David actually acted as the I.H.S.A. member who knew him on a first name basis. You'd say to some extent Fleming... your remark 'Oh Yeah that's what came next' hands on this edition a steady hand in time.

Saturday night was us heading to a restaurant for a 'Mojo's'. (Couldn't it be when you think of Austin Powers film 'alimentation' on the general consensus of Queens for laying out the menu and can't one knows that you for that Saturday night at the restaurant kept a mild Belfast night I.H.S.A.'s involvement.

While filling in time a crowd of us went on offer in Belfast. Now while in Dublin you would probably be cavorted around to places such as P a r n e l l Square or L e i n s t e r House. We had the Falls Road and the surrounding areas in Belfast and the great strides made. As you might imagine greatly leant towards Sunday afternoon.

So to conclude this would like to re-affirm Queens University laid on for the duration partners in crime for O'Faolain, Patrick would agree that this ing and soul-gratifying historical anecdote Roll on U.C.C. 2001. If anyone is interested in these events you can email.com Or simply attend these events. As you will high street presence.

Committee



Envirosoc and gluaiseacht t

What did the average U.L. student do over the break? Well the not so average envirosoc did amazing stuff. The sort of stuff that makes for exciting adventure books. Eoin and friends went to Barcelona for the EYFA winter meeting, which sounds like it merits an article itself. Students and non-students from all over Europe were giving workshops and teaching each other how to run effective campaigns etc.

Meanwhile Mea, Thomas and S_ile are finding their way to Turkey via London and Athens having to limit the laughter, as our sides were fit burst from it. The reason for going is something we are passionate about, Environmental education, as we believe that it will be the next generation that will make all the difference. The current one seems to think that it's all a myth that there is a climatic change occurring. If we look around us and took stock of our immediate environment we'd notice the change in growth patterns like common furze bush that normally flowers in the summer was flowering the week before Christmas. I know that some people enjoy the lack of rain and the mild weather overall this year, but in the overall scale of things global warming caused by CO2 and other greenhouse gasses is a very serious situation which will cause millions to be killed or may be homeless due to increased severity and frequency of freak weather.

Thomas will be known in Heathrow Airport as the man who started "trolleying" hours of waiting were filled with us going down the long slopes piled onto a trolley no brakes allowed. This was in anticipation of the skiing in Turkey, Mae and Thomas both proved themselves as competent

snowboarders whereas I couldn't manage it at all. I went back to my trusty skis and enjoyed the peaks.

The Blue Mosque and Aya Sofia are two of the most famous Monuments in Istanbul, a bustling city full of excitement and colour. We got a variety of answers when we asked what was the population of Istanbul, 14 to 16 million people so this is really a city that never sleeps. My favourite memories are the streets of the bazaars, which are full of arts and crafts, especially known for its carpets and their salesmen. Several cups of Turkish and apple teas we finally purchased after lots of traditional bargaining. We also bought Turkish drums, which we will be putting to practice on the Wednesday night drumming workshops (Rm 5 S.U. at 7pm).

Ok we did some work too, this was editing and compiling the Environmental Education Pack which is a guide for Trainers /Teacher who want to teach children about Basic Ecology, Biodiversity and Climate Change. This book will be distributed by YEE (Youth Environment and Education) to help spread the knowledge.

Ok what was our president doing while all us were across Europe/Turkey. Cearbh_íl and Ian were meeting with Coogie Indians who is doing research for her FYP in Wales, where they also planted 1000 trees. They then joined with the rest of envirosoc who went to Faslane and Sellafield to protest about the injustices of this world. Nuclear power and war-heads are not how the future should be, we have so many alternatives which we hope will be taken on board in the future by individuals, private

enterprise and g

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If anybody read
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Remember !



UL F1soc
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UCD and UL Renault Cup 2002, Wednesday 6 February



everybody had three sessions, which consisted of 10 laps each. There was then a runner up grand prix and the grand final. After which the prizes were presented, where Alun Owens from UCD was presented with the Renault Cup by Dave Ward, Auditor of UCD F1soc. We then made our way to the pub, Ollie's in Moneygall where food and drink was served, courtesy of UCD F1soc.

later in the ye

I want to take
Auditor of U
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Renault Cup
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excellent crai
day.

For more in
Society, F1so
www.f1soc.co

Thank you,

On behalf of the UL F1soc I welcome everybody back for the second semester of this year, and hope you all had an enjoyable mid-term break.

The UL F1soc had their first event on Wednesday 6 Feb, The Renault Cup intervarsity karting event, which was hosted by UCD at the Dunkerrin Karting Centre, Moneygall. UL F1soc had a team of five present at the event, Luke Curley, Michael Arnold, Eamonn Quinn, Thomas Newman, and Liam Woulfe.

The event was held in the fabulous karting centre based just outside Moneygall, Co. Offaly. The karts reached a top speed of 40 MPH and Michael clocked up the fastest lap time of 00:36:16 between the UL crew. The karting was very well organised and

perform. Luke was kept busy drinking tea and eating sandwiches. Liam was slow and steady, although he still didn't win the race, and Thomas provided entertainment to the UCD ladies in Ollie's afterwards. You legend Thomas!

Although we didn't bring the cup home with us to UL, we had a very memorable day with UCD and look forward to our next joint event. We have invited UCD F1soc down to Limerick for a similar event



Welcome back everyone, and I hope your all ready for another semester of sloth and general dossing around doing nothing. Just wait and see how all those resolutions you made about working harder this semester and not leaving everything to the last minute go up in flames by the end of week three. J

Well, while all of you were enjoying your well earned rest from the exam hell which is January, UL DebU were hard at work, with 3 teams sent to the Trinity Debating Intravarsity on the 22nd of January. Our first year team of Shane Mos.20r andEdoi Gubbionsdid particularly everf ALg rent iome andmuchd fseebeterwase hds by al. Evenebe fohethat(, UL)-38.58(DebU werd) TTT0.0094 Twino the orldsy Debatin Champtionhiup in

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UL Hurling Team U

By Barry Duggan

**University of Limerick 1-9
Garda College 0-7**

'An unbelievable feeling' was the description Ollie Moran gave to University of Limerick's victory over the Garda College in the first round of the Fitzgibbon Cup on Saturday. This was the first time in recent years UL have tasted victory over one of the big names in this prestigious hurling competition. Their manager was ecstatic after the match.

"It was a dogfight out there at times, but thankfully we pulled through in the end. Hopefully the experience gained today will stand to us in later rounds. NUI Galway await us in the quarter-finals, but hopefully we will have the beating of them" said Moran.

Indeed it was a dogfight at the University of Limerick, as both sides fought valiantly against the unsavoury conditions. Winter hurling is difficult at the best of times, but the turn of Spring offered little respite.

John Barron gave UL the lead with a fine point after 30 seconds. The Guards responded immediately and Owen Beehan levelled the scores, before Brian Begley gave the recruits from Templemore the lead with a great individual point after 5 minutes. After a fine catch and turn, Conor Fitzgerald put the sides back on a level pegging after 15 minutes.

Tempers began to flare and the tension reached boiling point as a scuffle broke out in the middle of the field. Referee Johnny MacDonnell booked Dermot Gleeson and Colm Forde (UL) and Darren Owens (Guards) before play resumed. UL seized the initiative before the break and efforts from Niall Moran and two from Fitzgerald saw the students lead by 3 points at half time.

The Guards came out with a newfound resolve at the resumption. Points from Brian Cuningham and Earl Touhy put the bare minimum between the teams. Fitzgerald (UL) and Cunningham (Guards) exchanged scores before the games only goal arrived. A high ball in from David Forde found Eoin Fitzgerald who in turn set up John Barron for a crashing drive to the back of the net to the delight of the Limerick students. UL were now firmly in the lead.

Conor Fitzgerald should have put the Shannonsiders out of reach after 57 minutes, but missed a gilt edged opportunity in front of goal after Willie Burke saved Forde's goal bound shot. The Guards tried in vain to rally a comeback, but minors from Beehan and Cunningham were cancelled out by points from Niall Moran and David Donoghue (2).

David Kennedy and Brain Cunningham performed admirably for the Guards, but commanding performances from Brian Mahony, Brian Geary and Eoin Fitzgerald secured the students passage to the last eight of the Fitzgibbon Cup.

UL: T Houlihan, B Mahony, J Devane, D Gleeson, C Forde, B Geary, C Forde, R Murray, J Barron (1-1), C

Fitzgerald (0-4), D Forde, D D Greene.

Garda College: Quirke, A M Kennedy, K Cunningham(0-2). Subs used Greaney.

By half time in ed the prelimin pionship at San the day. Univer weak challenge

UL mentors Oll too deeply into could be truly v than an early sp The final result ty of Trinity's c hurling compet tion's UL domi contest.

Within 2 minu efforts from D Forde. They co with more min excellent mark Kevin O' Cor Trinity goal on set up Donnach

Richie Murray Lundy responde 22 minutes. UL was immediate crashing drive t and Sheehan a their own.

In fairness to th and were rewar a Brian Cummi to 0-4 at the res

The Limerick s ers at this poin and Dunne at th the UL mentors Timmy Houliha sibly more of a

Further goals Donoghue exte Brian Geary, C admirably in de fessionally as p evance as oppo the form of the

UL: T Houliha Forde, B Geary Fitzgerald (0-6) Sheehan (0-1), used: P Horgan O'Reilly.

TCD: K O'Cor Lane, T McGr (0-1), D MacN Cummins (0-1) P Curtin, R Rea

Do you understand The Abortion Referendum?



Debate on Monday the 25th of Feb in Jean Monnet.

Special guest:

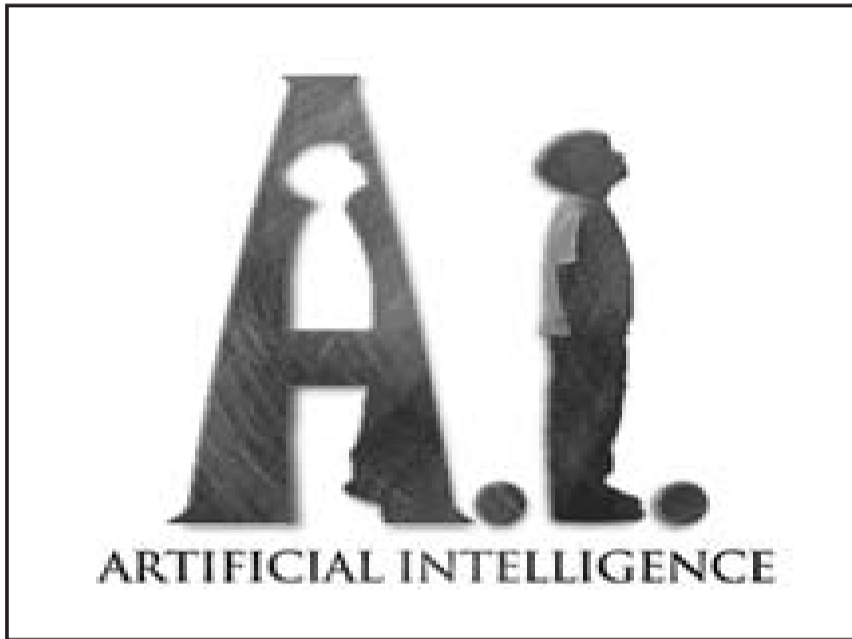
Willie O'Dea T.D (Government spokesperson on the referendum)

The Sci-Fi and Film Society Present:

Evolution will be on Tuesday 19th of February 7:00pm in the Postgraduate Centre (Stables Courtyard)

AI will be on Tuesday 26th of February 7.00pm in the Postgraduate Centre

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First off welcome back for another semester. We enjoyed your break and are happy with the semester. Thank you all for your support last semester and we will be doing again this semester along with many new things.

To finish up last semester we had a dance function room that was sponsored by many people. A special thanks to the following: Limerick. A special thanks to the following: with our events that help raise funds for the society further. These sponsors will be finished, they will include the following: Leavy's, Power Cut, The Hair Shop, A Castletroy Pharmacy, & Monaleen Hair. The party went well with Keith Pigott's support was given by all who attended for the semester to come. Also the many have been very helpful throughout this semester.

We are starting off the second semester with a Weekend in Westport with Afrimania. on Friday evening and wont be back ready to take on another semester of salsa. We include dance teachers from London and on our web page, www.salsa.ie, we would like to have a dance teacher for his great support last semester for the semester to come. Also the many have been very helpful throughout this semester.

The timetable for this semesters weekly classes is as follows:

CLASSES	TUESDAYS
SET DANCING	Dolans Warehouse Bus leaves @ 7.30pm -All Levels
SALSA	
FIGURE DANCING	

Then last but not least we will be taking part in a dance event which has been organized by Dr Catherine Dunne in the Postgraduate Centre. This will be an event not to be missed. The dancers who will make all of this possible are: Sean Nos dancer and will be held on Thursday morning of week 10. The event will be held in the foundation building 10am to 12. The event is run by Seofamh O'Neachtain, Sandy Silva, and Dunne whom I am sure you are all familiar with. The event will be held in the basement of the foundation building at 10am.

Not forgetting Wednesday there is a salsa event where dancers will speak about themselves and their experience. This will be held in room B in the basement of the foundation building from 2.30pm till 5pm. This is a brief outline of the events and there will be more information available on the website or you can contact Dr Catherine Dunne on 087-9520000.

These events will get us warmed up and ready for the dance crazy.

Don't hesitate to contact Annmarie at the following address: dance@csn.ucc.ie or on the web page on www.csn.ucc.ie. If you are interested in joining Annmarie who is the contact person for the dance society call 087-9520000.



Are you interested in writing for

An Focal

Reporters
Photographers
Proof- Readers
Poets
Story Tellers
Cartoonists
Codologists(Bulls****ers)
Butchers
Bakers
Candlestick Makers

Meeting this Thursday,
21 Febuary at 6pm in the
Student Centre
(room details to be post-
ed later in the week)

We are always looking for interest-
ed people to contribute to the
Newspaper, call in (preferably) or e-
mail me at patrick.kennedy@ul.ie

Remember An Focal is your Student
Newspaper and is only as good as
we all allow it to become!!!

The In Peace So

**Seminar on
trip to t
Former Yug**

**TUESDAY 19TH
AT 7PM IN RO
THE STUDENT**

.....coming in week 4,

Voter Registration

Be prepared to use your franchise

more details n



UL Windsurfing Club



How do I stand on my board???

By: Dave O' Riordan
Photos: Harald Niklaus



In this picture I am pulling my upper body too close to the boom therefore putting too much pressure down through my feet which is pressing the windward rail into the water. Also due to taking too much pressure on my arms I am not committing my weight to my harness and thus sheeting out.



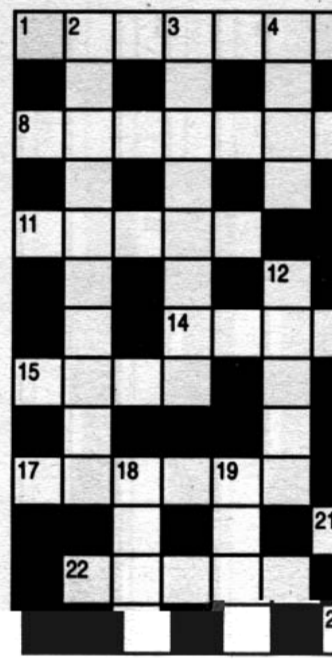
Push the boom away from your upper body, this allows you to take more weight through your harness and push the board forward instead of down with your feet.



Keep your arms straight and the rig away from your body at all times. Allow your ankles and knees to be flexible so that the board can ride over chop easily.



Submit Correct answers to the SU Reception for the Editor of An Focal. The correct answer will receive the CD. Courtesy of Limerick's LIVE 9



ACROSS

- 1. Misdemeanour (7)
- 7. Worked at a trade (7)
- 8. Dug out (7)
- 9. Woman's name (Whitbread) (6)
- 11. Pick at stringed instrument (5)
- 13. Sleeping berth (4)
- 14. Tinned fish (7)
- 15. Injure (4)
- 16. Enrich (5)
- 17. Paradise (6)
- 21. Devilish (7)
- 22. Detect (5)
- 23. Guided (7)

OPC Xmas trip to Doolin

Another legendary OPC trip, this time we invaded Doolin in the north of Clare. An unusually quiet bus up for once, no doubt due to an overdose of Christmas cheer the night before. After many pit stops along the way (to pick up people of course!), we eventually arrived at our 5 star lodgings. Two days of rock climbing, caving and a spot of walking were in store.

Day 1's excellent weather ensured a great days climbing where loads was learned by the newer members. Deep within the caves where climate does not matter we heard

stories of muck, dampness and a few singsongs. Nonetheless that evening everyone returned safely to base.

Chef Siobhan had cooked a beautiful Christmas dinner, which was enjoyed not only by the club members but also by the dirty hungry savages who were drawn out of their caves by the smell. Surprisingly after a bath and some elocution lessons, we discovered they were the OPC members who got lost while caving on last years trip! Later that night some vigilante youths overran the local public house and terrorized the locals while some OPC members were to be found holding a prayer group under a kishoo on the golf course. This event has yet to be explained and is currently under investigation by Mouldy and Scaley.

The next morning while most of us were enjoying our traditional irish breakfast (burnt fry) a few members decided to brave the elements in true outdoor pursuits form and went for a skinny Christmas dip! (Their psychiatric assess-

ment report is due a

More caving, rock climbing Day 2 of the trip. The sea made many for and they decided Hypothermia was a trusty hot water bo

No animals were except for maybe a successful trip!

Check out the next edition for the OPC's Scottish expedition report.

Got Problems? - Barry can help, (where's Karen?)

Dear Karen and Barry,

I'm cheating on my girlfriend with two saucy sisters who are on Erasmus. They are giving me regular and exciting threesomes and it's made me realise how dull my current relationship is. My girlfriend is a good person, but there's no spark between us. We met soon after my ex had dumped me. I turned to her and she was so kind and understanding. We grew pretty close and we ended up going out. But we have kind of drifted apart and we're not really having sex anymore either. I have a massive sex drive so I went down the pub to drown my sorrows and that's where I met the sisters.

One of them has a rep around campus for being easy, and she said she fancied me. I played up to her and pretty soon the other was coming on to me too. I thought they were only messing, but they were serious. I ended up back at their place where we had mind-blowing sex. I didn't go home that night I can tell you! I meet up with them often, sometimes one, sometimes both. I can't resist their sexual antics, they love to shag and have multiple orgasms, which make me feel good. I'd never get involved with them, as they're a bit rough. I know I'm using them as an escape from my boring relationship and things can't go on like this, they have to go back soon anyway. What should I do?

Steven

Barry: Did you write in with a problem or to boast that you are having sex with two sisters? I suggest that you dump your girlfriend unless you are willing to try to work at your relationship. You may as well stick with the Erasmus girls while they are here but don't bother looking for a relationship with anyone else; you're not mature enough to deal with it. One night stands or casual sex should suit you better until you grow up.

Dear Barry and Karen,

All the guys I'm with think one night of shagging = a relationship, but all I'm after is a bit of fun. Where can I meet men who just want sex?

Iron Maiden fan

Barry: Check Steven out, he should be single soon.

Dear Barry and.... that woman that hangs about with you

I have a problem. During a recent trip to a country that's been in the news recently, I met a wonderful woman. Our eyes met across a crowded public execution (to be truthful my eyes met the top of her body covering veil, what with her being a woman and all) and despite the objections and tanks of her peers, we spent a wonderful few days together, she would tell me enchanting tales, I would try to guess what she looked like.

But eventually fate, and an international taskforce of trigger happy Yanks forced me to return. I told her it was over, and that I'd never forget her, but she hasn't taken the hint, I keep getting letter and parcels. Last week I received a book entitled "So, you've bought a 35mm shotgun and want to know what's legal." Yesterday some shotgun shells arrived and a note saying she'd be seeing me soon. All her notes tell of cleansing Limerick of the unclean, which I think means taking the filth from my room.

I can't have that, a man's personal filth is sacred to him, but she doesn't seem to understand that I'm getting kinda freaked out here.... How do I get rid of her... and quickly!

Kerill Lewis

Barry: Don't worry, this is just a simple case of crossed wires. She doesn't want to get rid of the filth in your room (which is indeed sacred) but she just wants to cleanse Limerick of scumbags, and good luck to her! Anyway, it doesn't matter what she looks like, it's the person inside that counts. (Barry's views are not necessarily the views of the An Focal itself or of its illustrious editor, Patrick Kennedy. We believe that it doesn't matter what the person inside is like, as long as she's fit, it's all ok)

Dear Karen and Barry,

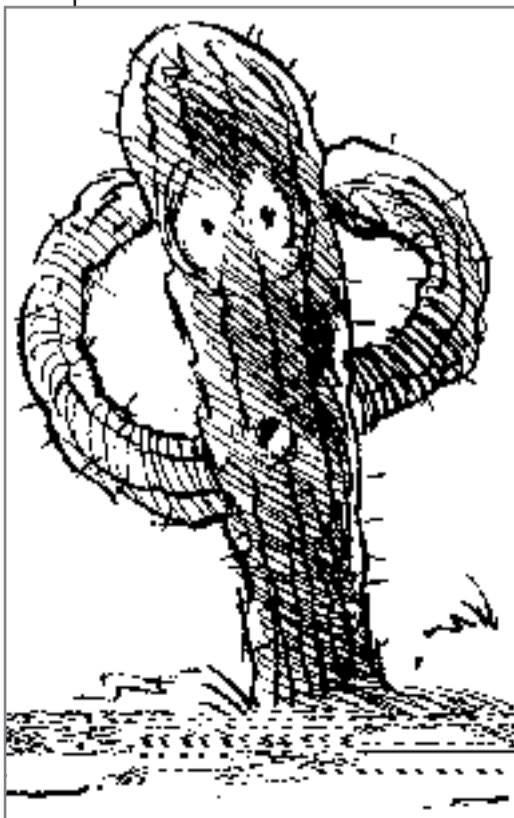
What's up with this advice page? It's obvious that all these problems are completely made up and bogus. I bet you won't even print this letter seeing as you don't deal with real people.

Gary

B a r r y : Gary, I am deeply hurt by these allegations and I'm sorry you feel this way. Now piss off and stop taking up space that could be

filled up with a real problem. I only had your letter printed to spite you, you little turd.

Hey ladies and gentlemen, it's Barry here. Some of you may remember an appeal I made last semester asking for the return of my cactus, Spikey Joe. I still haven't heard any word. It's been months and the joke is over. I won't do anything to the culprits if I get him back, I just want to see his spikey face again. If you have any info on his whereabouts or want to send us in a problem, the email address is adviceanfocal@hotmail.com. Thank you.



UL edge past NUI Galway in Fitzgi

By Barry Duggan

University of Limerick 1-15 NUI Galway 0-7

After years of torture and torment, University of Limerick (UL) are finally through to a Fitzgibbon weekend after overcoming the challenge of NUI Galway in the Quarterfinals in Templederry last Wednesday.

At the start of the year, UL manager Ollie Moran set out his goal – to get to the final weekend of this prestigious hurling competition. In his first year in charge he has achieved his aim aided greatly by the influential trainer Eamonn Meskill. At the final whistle the delight on the faces of the UL players and management was obvious to see. It was a powerful display by UL throughout the match.

The Galway side took the lead with a point after a 65-yard effort from Tony Regan. UL responded sharply and efforts from Niall Moran, Richie Murray and a free from Conor Fitzgerald saw the Limerick students take a 2-point lead, which they would never relinquish. David Donohue and Fitzgerald (UL) exchanged points with Tony Griffin and Tomás Donovan (Galway) as both sides battled with the blustery conditions.

Terence Grogan pulled off a fine save in the Galway

goal from a David Greene shot after 24 minutes. A further pointed free from Conor Fitzgerald and a fine individual point from Eoin Fitzgerald saw UL ahead by 4 points at the break.

David Tierney pulled a point back for Galway after 33 minutes, but UL remained defiant and steadfast. Eoin Fitzgerald doubled his personal tally after 33 minutes before the game's only goal arrived and in such a bizarre fashion.



Wining the ball inside his own 65, UL's Colm Forde's sent the sliotar skywards before it dropped onto the colds hands of Grogan on the goal line, who let it slip into his own net. UL now held the advantage and proceeded to build upon it.

6 points and 11 minutes later, UL were out of Galway's reach. Points from Conor Fitzgerald (3), David Donohue, Niall Moran and Donacha Sheehan

effectively finishing the match. The UL players were ruthless in their attack and had no reply. In the second half did not see Shane Donohue. Tierney added a point towards the end of the match with either UL or Galway.

Afterwards manager Ollie Moran was ecstatic, but the players were just yet. "We have a long way to go. I am very pleased with what we did except for them" said Moran.

UL: T Hoyle, P Gleeson, C Forde, R Murray, D Donohue (6), N Moran, D Sheehan (6). Subs used: P Gleeson, C Forde, R Murray, D Donohue (6), N Moran, D Sheehan (6).

NUI Galway: T Hoyle, P Gleeson, C Forde, R Murray, D Donohue (0-1), C Hynes, D Lynch.

Scholars CLUB

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

UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK
TEL: 061 330190
FAX: 061 330710
EMAIL: info@scholarsclub.ie
WEB: www.scholarsclub.ie

WEEK 2

TUES	DJ Eric Fitz
WED	Heineken Kollege Energy Live 'Definitely Blue'
THUR	Champions League Coverage Student Party Night DJ John Kelly Champions League Coverage
FRI	DJ Keith Piggott Complimentary Finger Food
SUN	Heineken Breakfast Club

WEEK 3

MON	Phil Kay Murphys Comedy Club Star of 'Phil Kay Feels'
TUES	DJ Eric Fitz
WED	Heineken Kollege Energy Live "Catcher in the Rye"
THUR	Champions League Coverage Student Party Night DJ John Kelly Champions League Coverage
FRI	DJ Keith Piggott Complimentary Finger Food
SAT	Ireland Vs. Scotland- Rugby
SUN	Heineken Breakfast Club

Did you know that you can book 'An Phluais' free of charge?

www.scholarsclub.ie

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