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Chernobyl 10K Walk

by Claire Shaughnessy

On Thursday the 14th of November thousands of third level students will take to the streets for Ireland's biggest student charity event, the Student's 10k Walk. The event, which is supported by all 3rd level institutions, north and South of the border, generates much needed funding in aid of the Chernobyl Children's Project.

The Chernobyl Children's Project, an Irish registered Charity, was set up in 1991 in response to a desperate appeal from doctors in Belarus faxed to the Irish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament office in Cork.

The fax simply read "SOS Appeal. For God's sake help us get the children out".

The nuclear fallout from the 1986 catastrophe is believed to have directly affected over 4 million



UL Students at last years 10K Walk

children. The burden of crippling cancers and genetic deformities have left many abandoned or orphaned, destined to live an isolated life in the overcrowded and massively under funded squalor of a Belarus orphanage. The project has

since contributed over €25 million worth of humanitarian aid to the children of Belarus, the haunting victims of the world's worst nuclear disaster.

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UL Wins 35's Trophy

by Laura Greer

After a closely fought competition over eighteen sports UL narrowly managed to pip sister college DCU by a point to win the 35's colours trophy.

The trophy saw some 230 DCU students travel from Dublin to compete in a

range of sports from trampoleneing to swimming and golf to horse riding. Traditionally competition is held in 35 sports, hence the name, but due to last minute cancellations caused some upset to the schedule and left some UL teams minus competitors much to their disappointment.

continued on backpage



UL basketballers in action at the 35's

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President - Eoin Ó Broin

In Loving Memory of Pádraic Ó Broin

of Clondalkin, Co. Dublin

who passed away on 1st November 2002

May he Rest In Peace

On behalf of the ULSU.

"Those who have died have gone no further from us than God and God is very near".



Welfare/Deputy President - Gráinne Heffron

Last week was a sad and tragic one for the University of Limerick. The sudden death of Dr. John O'Gorman came as a shock to many of his students. The tragic death of Pádraic O Broin, brother of Eoin took place on Friday and two UL graduates died in accidents during the week. It is hard to know what to say at a time of such grief but I do know that kind words and just being there does help a little. May they rest in Peace.

At the weekend I attended Pink Training, which is Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual awareness training, organised by USI (Union of Students' in Ireland). A recent awareness campaign launched by USI stated that 1 in 10 people are lesbian, gay or bisexual. The training took place in Belfast and was definitely a worthwhile and eye opening experience. 5 members of the LGB Society on campus and Paddy McHugh our Equality Officer made the long trek. There were a number of different workshops including Labels & Stereotypes, LGB & The Law, Sexual Health. The most interesting and enlightening one for me was Coming Out. This workshop has been closed in the past to non-LGB due to the sensitive nature of some of the stories. This year it was

open to everyone. It was amazing to hear that people are living in essence double lives, open about their sexuality in college and hiding it when they go home at the weekend. It was admitted that society has come a long way but there is a lot of homophobia still out there, not least in UL. After this weekend I intend to work on the issue of LGB awareness in UL and to help those who are confused and worried about their sexual identity.

This Thursday UL students will be taking part in the nationwide 10K Walk. We will join with Mary I, The Art College, & LIT in the biggest annual student fundraiser. This year I am asking every student to donate €1 to the cause. Even 70 cents can make a difference to the Children of Chernobyl. You have probably seen and been distressed and disgusted by the terrible pictures from Chernobyl but the reality is much worse. During the summer a delegation of students from all over Ireland went to Chernobyl on a fact-finding mission to see how the money that has been raised in the last few years has been spent. Áine McGrath, the Deputy President in Mary I was one of the students who travelled. She says that although the



situation is desperate there is some hope. They visited orphanages where money raised has made a real difference. But they also visited another orphanage where kids just lie in their cots all day with no stimulation. This year it is hoped that more money than ever will be raised, which means that more children can be helped. So if you do nothing else this year then collect a sponsorship

form in the Students' Union, come Walking on Thursday or just make a donation. Every little helps. Make a difference.

See you Thursday

Slán

Gráinne

Education - Margaret Ryan

Hi Everybody

I only just realised that I had to write this, so please excuse me if it's a little incoherent. (Well, more incoherent than normal anyway.) This past two weeks has been the definition of manic, between this, that and the other. As I write this, I am also thinking about the officer's briefing that I am going to have to give to the Students Union Annual General Meeting which is on at six. (It's now 5.20)

The main thing that I'm going to talk about is the proposed Students Union Quality Review, which is going to try to ask as many students in the college as possible what they think of the Students Union and what it is that we're doing. In the recent Student Satisfaction survey, only 1 in 3 of you said that you were happy with what the Students Union is doing. What we want to know is what do you want us

to be doing? We're not telepathic, we can't read your minds. What we're mostly doing is what was on our manifestoes. (Remember those? Way back in April?) We're attending meetings on your behalf. We're looking at the Student Union and trying to figure out how to make that work for you.


What have I been doing for the past two weeks? Well, pretty much the same stuff that I'd been doing the previous two weeks. The Stables and Scholars Licence cases are going to be heard on Friday so by the time you read this; they may have been decided already.

In the past two weeks I have also had to attend two very sad funerals, one being that of Pádraig Ó Broin, brother of Eoin Ó Broin, the president of the Students Union. Pádraig was only 21, and while I didn't know him at all, the turnout at the funeral convinced me



that we were burying a very special person. My sincere sympathies go out to the Ó Broin family on their tragic loss.

The second funeral I attended was the funeral of Dr John O'Gorman, a lecturer in the CSIS department, whose lectures I attended for a year and a half while he explained the



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TUES DJ John Kelly
Champs League F/ball
Murphys Comedy Club

WED DJ Eric Fitz
Champs League F/ball

FRI DJ Keith Piggott
Happy Hour 5 - 7
+ Comp Finger Food

WEEK 9

MON DJ Eric Fitz
Salsa Dancing in the Function Room

TUES DJ John Kelly
Murphys Comedy Club

WED DJ Eric Fitz
"7 Even Words"

THURS International Student Night

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finer points of Operating Systems to my class. Johnno, as he was affectionately known, will be very sadly missed by all who knew him.

The other thing that I am doing at the moment is attending the Céifin conference at the West County hotel in Ennis. Céifin is the international

Institute for Values-led change, and there is a very diverse group of speakers at the event. Normally I'm as cynical as all the rest of you, and was fairly suspicious of attending something that seems to be organised by a crowd of dreamers with no connection to reality, never mind a fairly tenuous one. But with

one day down and another to go, I'm thoroughly enjoying it, and have completely changed my mind. I think this is an organisation that is going to go places, and I'll give the full report in the next edition of An Focal.

Talk to you then

Margaret

Communications - Paddy Buckley

Hi everyone,

Its been a pretty rough two weeks in UL, with a lot of tragic deaths of friends and colleagues. I won't dwell on it too much as both Grainne and Margaret have mentioned the poeple involved, other then to offer my deepest sympathies to anyone who was touched by these tragedies.

As most people know at this stage Wired FM is no longer broadcasting on campus. I, and the rest of the SU believe that only real way to get a viable radio station on campus in UL is to develop our own radio station out here. I've started working with a few of the lads in the Radio Society to start looking at in house alternatives, so hopefully I'll be able to get back you on that in a while.

On other fronts, there continues to be a lot of problems with the residents in the estates. On Thursday, Grainne, Marie-Claire and I attended a meeting with Roger Downer, John O Brien and a number of residents. The upshot of this is that the University is going to start taking anti-social

behaviour in the estates very seriously. Among other things, they are considering introducing into the Code of Conduct rules which could lead to the expulsion of students from college if they are found guilty of anti-social behaviour in the estates.

All this might sound a bit severe, but the reality of the situation is very clear. A lot of people have been taking a lot of liberties in their behaviour in the estates in the last few weeks, and the college is now being forced to take notice of it. And what that means is very simple. Somebody, some night is going to get caught acting the mick, and they are going to get the book thrown at them. The college wants to make an example of someone, its as simple as that, so if you are coming home late, take it easy on the messing or you could be the unfortuante that gets caught.

As usual, this is the last piece of the paper to get written, and its pretty late at this stage, so I'm going to wrap up on that.

Paddy



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Your Letter(s)

On Halloween

Halloween is often rated as the second most popular holiday of the year, after Christmas, but can it possibly be the worst? Let's examine the facts.

Christmas for most of us equals dodgy turkey, lumpy gravy and overbearing relatives, whose first blindbid at striking conversation with the average college student is a dismal "Well how's the love life?". Do you run for cover beneath all the woolly jumpers and socks you got for Christmas presents? Or dare you reply? The "well Aunt Mary no real love life as such, but I went to the Lodge all week, ended up with dozens of fellas and shagged 8 of them senseless, possibly due to the several pints of smirnoff ice mixed with double sambucas, the countless pints of guinness I stole, the naggin of Jameson I brought in with me" is hardly the most appropriate answer however tempting.

You get the picture - it gets progressively worse as the day drags on and by this stage you're not even into the main course.

So how can Halloween top this for overall cringe-shaking embarrassment?

Lying in my bed Wednesday night of Week 6, dying from the flu, surrounded by empty bottles of Exputex, half smoked B&H's and the aforementioned naggin of Jameson (purely for medicinal purposes you understand) I contemplated this in my half-comatose, half-unconscious like state. Fr. Jack after the dreamy sleepy nighty snoozy snooze wouldn't have been a patch on me!

I thought things couldn't have gotten worse, but never say never they say and this was Halloween after all. It seems that out of all the colleges in the country UL is the winner when it comes to throwing up ghosts from the past. What with co-op and erasmus you might be forgiven for thinking you

are safe from bumping into that oh-so Trevor Morgan "Trick or Treat Mo darlin'" character for at least 6 months. Not so.

Halloween seems to enter crazy thoughts into peoples heads, particularly those lads from Science Ed., who've just graduated in September and decide to take a trip down memory lane for the heck of it.

Sittin' in The Scholars Thursday night, I ventured out in search of a quiet pint and with a bare hope in mind to raise my nicotine intake back to pre-flu levels. Is this too much for a girl to ask? Apparently so.

Looking around I happened to glance upon a man with strangely erratic, yet very familiar hand movements. As I moved close he appeared to have an accent that can only be described as sounding like someone chewing a brick. Must be Northern, I thought. As I am known to have a particular aversion to Northern men I was initially interested, then apprehensive. Yet it was only when I glanced further north, when I saw the "Scream" style mask that I began to get slightly edgy. Those hand movements, that voice, those long elongated features, yes it could only mean one thing, it had to be him. It was him.

In my typical style I grabbed my pint and forgot the jacket (what can I say except I'm a girl with priorities), and off I went across the courtyard, in search of quite solitude towards The Stables.

Halloween. God save us all from those extra-inebriated and embarrassing moments with fanciable male housemates, from scary masks and even scarier ex-boyfriends. Halloween - RIP, at least for another year. In the meantime there's Christmas to look forward to.

Anne Sheridan

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In Loving Memory

of Mike Hawkshaw

of Mullingar, Co. Westmeath and UL Graduate.
who passed away on 4th November 2002.

May he Rest In Peace

On behalf of the ULSU and his many friends.

Footprints on our Hearts

"Some people come into our lives, leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never the same".

Chernobyl 10K Walk (contd)

continued from frontpage

In the couple of years that the project has evolved, from a USI charity event to an all-inclusive student fundraising event, the walk has been a major contributor to the charity, improving the quality of life and living for thousands of affected children.

Last year 21 representatives from each of the various third level institutions involved in the event, travelled to Belarus to experience the conditions of the orphanages and hospitals. The group also had the opportunity to witness how the charity money was being used to benefit health services and living conditions for the children.

Another smaller group travelled the 3,000km by road to deliver two fully

equipped ambulances, purchased from proceeds of last years walk, to Belarus.

The 10k walk is your chance to make a difference!!! In a country where the average monthly income is only \$30 every "cent" counts... 70 cent, the price of a can of coke here in Ireland, will buy a 60 day supply of Thyroxin, a necessary drug in the treatment of Thyroid cancer... €7, the price of entry to the lodge, buys a six month supply of multivitamins to boost the immune system and €25, a night out, will feed an abandoned baby for two months!

So get out there and raise some cash, even if you can't make the walk, fill a card and make a difference!



UL Students on the 10K walk last year

New Boathouse For UL

by Eamonn O'Flynn

It has recently emerged that a proposal for a new Boathouse facility put forward by the UL rowing club has received the approval of University authorities. This comes off the back of five years of campaigning and negotiation on the part of the UL rowing club committee and Students' Union officials. There are three proposed locations for the Boathouse facility, which are currently being reviewed to determine which is the most suitable. Once this is decided the application for planning permission will be submitted to the local authority.

The Boathouse facility will represent a major improvement for the rowing club in a number of areas. As it stands UL rowers must travel to Castleconnell in order to train. This usually involves getting up at around 6am, cycling to Castleconnell, then training and finally getting back to UL for lectures. The reason this is necessary is that UL currently lacks the storage facilities to keep rowing boats and equipment on campus. This also represents a financial problem for the rowing club, as they must pay high rental costs for storage space in Castleconnell. There has also been instances in the past of equipment being lost as a result of vandalism, one instance alone cost the club €25,000, with boats costing

in the region of €20,000 - €35,000 its easy to see how this can occur. The boathouse facility will make training much more accessible and relieve the recurring financial burden on the club.

Former women's club captain Marie O'Neill said "this represents a big lift to the future development of the club, with these facilities on campus it will be much easier both to attract and retain members, it will allow us to concentrate a lot more on training as we won't be overburdened with the administration problems of the club". Former ULSU president Mick Phelan was also obviously delighted at the news stating "it's great to see projects like this getting the green light, there have been so many developments and improvements on campus in UL, but this is special as it sends out the message that students' like those in the rowing club who represent this University excellently should be provided with the facilities they need, it also directly acknowledges and rewards these student's for their outstanding efforts over the years, and provides the means for their future development."

The University is ideally located on the river Shannon. A member of the International Rowing Federation assessed the stretch of river directly adjacent to the University in order to determine its suitability for rowing. In



One proposed site, near the old Plassey Mill

his report he described the two and a half kilometres stretch as being ideally suited for rowing, the river was described as calm with a slow moving current which is unaffected by tide.

ULSU Clubs and Societies development officer Paul Lee said, "this is a big step forward, there are still one or two issues that need to be ironed out but all that remains is to attain planning permission from the local authority, I would be delighted if come this spring work had commenced on the Boathouse. I think you'd have great difficulty finding a more deserving group of students on campus, with people like

Rose Healy, Des Powell, Darragh Cronin and Ronan Ivors I have no doubt they will put this facility to its best use." In the past number of months ULSU officials have consulted with the County Planning Officer about the project and at this point in time it would appear that no major obstacles exist to the initial proposals put forward. Now that the Buildings and Estates department and other relevant University authorities have endorsed the project, it would appear the prayers of UL rowers have finally been answered.

University to get tough on vandalism in estates

by Marie-Claire Butler

"It was noted that students are a good bunch in general..." A quote taken from the last Residents Forum attended by the SU. Although, at times, people see it as a 'them versus us' situation, many residents have good things to say about students. However, the same people that have this opinion also have another one: there are still students that cause trouble and ruin it for everyone else. Some people that are less open-minded see all students in a bad light. This is because there is a very small minority still out there that are still doing stuff that give us this label. As I stressed in the last article, this label is not helping us, but is hindering us. It puts things like Kollege Week in jeopardy, among other events. Not only that, but it is serious for those who are caught. So try to establish a good relationship with your resident neighbours and keep it, it not only benefits you, but it benefits us all as a whole.

Vandalism:

Although this is not a major problem, there still have been reported incidents of vandalism to resident property since the last article. Again, this is detrimental to the reputations of students. To those that are doing this, not only should you stop and think about what you are doing, but even think about the consequences of your actions if you get caught. This was something that was discussed in a recent meeting with a member of the University Discipline Board. It was felt that students should be aware that there is a Code of Conduct within the University to deal with such matters. The University is liable to punish apprehended offenders through firstly an Assessment Committee, then a Disciplinary Committee. This is because, although the incidents may not actually happen on campus, they are deemed to be "conduct likely to bring the University into disrepute".

Assessment / Discipline Committee:

So how does this process work??

a) The Assessment Committee:

This falls under Section 2 of the Code of Conduct. It consists of a nominee of the Vice President Academic, UL, and a nominee of ULSU. It basically decides whether an offence is a minor or a major one. It normally hears all offences that are deemed as minor. It sends a written copy of its findings to the Chairperson of the Discipline Committee in relation to all cases dealt with and of any penalty imposed.

b) The Discipline Committee Falls under Section 3 of the Code of Conduct. It hears complaints that are considered major offences, or in the



The fence in Elm Park which was kicked down on Tuesday night of Week 7

case that the person charged does not admit responsibility to the Assessment Committee, or if the person(s) charged does not consent the complaint being dealt with by the Assessment Committee or if the Assessment Committee is of the opinion that it is not appropriate for them to hear the case. It consists of a Nominee of the President of the University, one academic staff member of the University (nominated be the Academic Council), the President of ULSU (or his/her nominee) and a nominee of the SU.

It conducts all hearings with respect to the principles of natural justice and fair procedures. A person charged is fully entitled to be accompanied by a representative(s) of his/her choice. The person charged may question any witness, and call any witness of their own that he/she considers necessary to the case. Decisions of the Discipline/Assessment Committee may be appealed, given the necessary grounds.

Penalties imposed can be anything from a money fine, to community service. In a recent turn of events, the penalties in the Code of Conduct are being reviewed to include expulsion for a convicted major offence. The University are about to get really tough on offenders, as they are extremely angry with the students that are blackening the name of the

college.

Clean up:

Due to a lot of complaints received by the SU in relation to litter, especially in Elm Park, and of course in the interests of the environment; we are organising a clean up for Saturday, November 23rd in Elm Park. We are inviting all students who are able and willing, to meet at the green in Elm Park at 3 o'clock. All necessary equipment will be provided. At this clean up, we hope to involve the local press and residents. Also, we intend to donate a rubbish bin to the residents of Elm Park to replace the one which was removed in an act of vandalism. So bring your friends, enemies, lecturers, housemates and who ever else you desire. The more the better!!!

So you're having a party then??

A wonderful element of student life that encourages all kinds of 'social interaction' between students in a fixed house location. However, these gatherings can often cause trouble for students and residents alike. A couple of suggestions have been made on how to throw a house party that will go smoothly in respect of keeping the annoying factor down for your resident neighbours, and the possible repercussions you will suffer if it gets out of hand. Firstly, tell them in advance of the party actually happening. Believe me, they will

appreciate you telling them, and probably will not be pissed off on the night, provided the party doesn't get too out of hand. In the event that it gets a little out of hand, call round the next day (when you've finally dragged your sorry hung over self out of the leaba or where ever location in your house you found yourself sleeping.....) with a box of chocolates ("say it with roses") and/or a bunch of flowers and say that you are sorry about the getting out of hand part of the previous night. They will more than likely NOT bite the sorry head off you nor complain to the necessary powers that be, they will actually really appreciate the gesture. And this is not a hypothesis; this remedy was actually tried, tested and proven to work!

Student Liaison Officers:

I am looking for Student Liaison Officers. These are students from each estate hired by the SU to be a sort of rep in their respective estate. The job really entails not a whole lot; basically they are there to be a medium for residents to contact the SU. SLO's phone numbers will not be given to residents, only their address. Any complaint they get is passed on to the SU, where it is dealt with by the Community Officer and/or one of the Sabbats. These are paid positions. If you are interested, there will be application forms in the SU reception this week.

Message from the Equality Officer

by Patrick McHugh

Hello, my name is Patrick Mc Hugh and I am the newly elected equality officer to the student's union. The election occurred during Greek week and was a good experience for both myself and the opposing candidate Jennifer Aherne. I would like to thank Jennifer for a very positive campaign and her real support in establishing the equality committee, also her campaign manager and team were very fair in the manner in which they conducted themselves. The unfortunate nature of elections is that not every one feels fully informed but in light of this an awareness campaign by myself and the equality committee on the real equality issues will be undertaken. Events to help develop equality on the college campus will start with a World Aids Day campaign in conjunction with the

Welfare officer, which will occur near the 1st of December, World Aids Day. Also we will undertake to raise awareness as to the needs of students with disabilities as international day for disabilities is on in December, so keep an eye out for posters on events happening on these in the college. I would like to take this time to say a real big thanks to my campaign manager, John O'Grady and all who helped me in my campaign for the equality election. The year ahead promises to be both different and difficult but the job of equality officer will not go undone, the establishment of the equality committee will allow many voices on the issues affecting the very varied student body be better represented and fairly addressed. Looking forward to meeting with you and helping to raise the standards for all the student body here in U.L.



ULSU Equality Officer Patrick McHugh

Time to off Saddam?

by Micheal Deering

Think back to those first weeks of January 1991. For 16 days, the US and Iraq played diplomatic cat-and-mouse as Saddam Hussein tested what he would have to concede to forestall military attack. The American President exhausted every diplomatic option before unleashing the allied assault. Saddam's ultimate objective was to hold on to a prize he deemed essential to his power. Then it was Kuwait. Now in 2002, the stakes are weapons of mass destruction, but the game is distinctly the same. And the question is whether the result will be the same: vast destruction in Iraq but the continued reign of Saddam.

To alter that outcome, congressional Republicans and Democrats have been advising President George W. Bush to get rid of Saddam once and for all. Despose him, capture him, kill him if necessary. That's the only sure way to terminate the eleven-year-old practice of "cheat and retreat" that has let Iraq squirrel away warheads capable of carrying biological, chemical weapons - in theory.

Reality is different. The U.S. must make its choices from risky, less conclusive options. As the diplomatic game is played out with Europe in search of a nonviolent end to this standoff, Bush and the American public need to think hard about what can and cannot be done, realistically.

Saddam even more than his suspected arsenal menaces his neighbourhood. He has, in a galling way, been able to fashion a kind of victory out of defeat: the embargo blockading his country has enabled



British fighter prepare to patrol the no-fly zones over Iraq

the Iraqi leader to blame the U.S. for his country's problems (I know people who believe this too). He continues to frustrate U.N. resolutions designed to neuter his military might.

The bombing campaign the Bush Administration has in mind, critics contend, would neither bring compliance with the U.N. nor remove Saddam. The bombs would demolish all hope of more inspections but would not stop Saddam from rebuilding his germ factories, and that would just provoke another military confrontation later.

'A diplomatic compromise would at best postpone such a reckoning. Yet when the dust of an attack cleared, the outcome might feel unsatisfying'

Even the most ardent Saddam hunters have to admit that taking him out would entail a huge, high-risk military operation: months of preparation to deploy thousands of ground troops to

fight their way to the Iraqi capital while courting substantial casualties, then arrest or kill him. The U.S. would be into an open-ended occupation and saddled with rescuing a devastated economy.

And then what? Advocates suggest there is a palatable alternative to Saddam just waiting to step in. In fact, all efforts to organize an effective Iraqi opposition have failed. There is a good chance Saddam

would be replaced by Saddam II, another Baathist general ready to continue military dictatorship.

A short-term bombing campaign that simply punishes Saddam may be the worst the U.S. can do. If the attack comes, the U.S. will unleash an intense, compressed air war - 24 hours a day for nearly a week. First, fighters would knock out Iraq's command centers, communications facilities and air-defence network. Follow-on waves would target the sites where Saddam is suspected of hiding missiles and biochem material and equipment to manufacture them; planners want to destroy as much of Iraq's weapons capability as they can find. Other assault teams would batter Saddam's Republican Guard and elite security forces.

A diplomatic compromise would at best postpone such a reckoning. Yet when the dust of an attack cleared, the outcome might feel unsatisfying. The US would be lucky if it could destroy some of Iraq's lethal weaponry while keeping the international coalition signed on to continued sanctions. But Saddam and all the problems Iraq raises would still be with us. The US cannot end its confrontation with Saddam by force, nor can it withdraw, nor can it ignore the threat. As long as he endures, the US is in the Gulf to stay.

McCarthy resigns with 'no regrets'

by Anthony Kirpatrick

The long, enjoyable, winding road, of a six and a half year adventure came to a conclusion Tuesday night of last, as Mick McCarthy resigned as Irish manager. The former defender leaves the post with his 'head held high', 'chest out', and most certainly, with 'no regrets'.

And why shouldn't he? Just look back to the remarkable memories and achievements our squad has acquired throughout the last six and a half years. Remember the Jason McAteer strike that conquered the mighty Dutch at Lansdowne road? Or the tears from Shay Given that heart-breaking night in Brussels? How about the joyous celebrations in Tehran when we finally overcame our playoff jinx to reach the world cup finals in the Far East? And who could forget the late Robbie Keane strike against the Germans, which sent us all into an emphatic dreamland of wonder.

We are left with wonderful memories thanks to McCarthy, and he leaves the Irish set-up at a time when mounting media pressure drove him quite simply to the limit. These people seem to have forgotten how much McCarthy has transformed the national side since 1996. He was left with an ageing side courtesy of Jack Charlton back then, but still had the courage and ability to nurture the special young talents that came his way: such as the likes of

Robbie Keane and Damien Duff to name but a few. He also transformed us into a great passing side that certainly made us an enjoyable team to watch. But his critics would never forget the events in Saipan before the beginning of the world cup: Especially when Roy Keane was quoted as saying 'You were a crap player, you are a crap manager'.

Now the only two matters being speculated at the present moment in time are, first of all, a possible successor to McCarthy, and second of all, will Roy Keane return to captain the Irish side for the away trip to Georgia next spring.

The media speculation surrounding a possible replacement as manager is throwing up all sorts of people. Joe Kinnear, John Aldridge, Brian Kerr, and John Toshac, have all been associated with the vacant post at Merrion Square. David O' Leary, who I had hoped would enter the equation, has ruled himself out of the running, mainly due to the fact that he would prefer to be a day-to-day manager of an English club, for the present at least.

The name Roy Keane was also most certainly going to be mentioned the very second McCarthy left the Irish set-up. As of now, he remains quiet on the issue of him ever stepping out to play for his country again, but I cannot see that lasting for much longer. Ireland needs Roy Keane, Roy Keane needs Ireland (at least we hope he does), and if he were to return, maybe the



Mick McCarthy

F.A.I would listen to his views, and thus manage our resources that little bit better. So we can only hope that at the Georgia game next spring, the infamous number 6 will appear from the tunnel to lead our team on a recovery mission for qualification to the European championships in Portugal, in 2004.

Now some might think t h a t

attempting to retrieve Keane to the squad should be an easy process, but it won't. Keane has made many enemies on the Irish team as a result of the events in Saipan. This was self-explanatory when Manchester United played Sunderland at the stadium of light at the start of the season. This turned out to be the bitter clash most expected, especially with Sunderland containing so many Irish lads on the first team. Throughout the match, Keane and Jason McAteer pounded into one

another, and during the second half; Keane was dismissed for a second bookable offence, courtesy of an elbow to the head on McAteer. What made matters worse, was Niall Quinn's handshake gesture to Keane as he made his way from the field, which in turn outraged Sir Alex Ferguson. This was all evidence of the divide between the Irish players and Keane.

A lot has happened since that game. And Jason McAteer has stated recently that he holds nothing against Keane, and would be willing to settle their differences if the two were to become teammates yet again.

So now the ball is in Roy Keane's court. But it could be quite sometime before we hear anything from the cork man: with an injury that might need yet another operation, and the whole Alfie Haaland saga still being appealed, Keane has enough on his plate at the present moment in time, but I remain confident we can have him return. As for the vacant managerial spot? My opinion is that Brian Kerr should get it. But I wouldn't hold my breath in waiting for a decision from the F.A.I in the foreseeable future; this process could evolve into weeks and even months.

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If you will the end, its only honest to will the means

by Stephen Harrington

Saddam Hussein is the dictator and undisputed leader of Iraq. Relatively speaking it is a technologically advanced country, blessed with natural resources and with large and advanced industries, particularly in the areas of engineering, chemical engineering and refining. Iraq has a large population. In many respects, Iraq has been blessed with many benefits, and under more benevolent leadership could offer its citizens a high standard of living.

However, under Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi people have been subjected to one of the more brutal regimes in modern history, Saddam Hussein maintains power through fear. The police and state security forces have no compulsions about subjecting their fellow citizens to torture and death in the interests of maintaining the regime. Ethnic minorities within the country are subjugated to brutal oppression, mostly noticeably the Kurdish minority in the North, who have been subjugated to what amounts to genocide. They have been tortured, maimed, killed and attacked with poison gas.

Under Saddam Husseins leadership, Iraq has launched two wars of aggression. The first was with Iran in the 1980's. This bloody conflict witnessed the use of poison gas by both sides, and after World War 1 and 2 had the highest casualty total of any war in the 20th century. After 10 years of increasingly bitter bloodshed it ground into a bloody stalemate and eventual ceasefire in the late 80's. The second war was prompted by Saddam's ill fated decision in 1990 to invade Kuwait and reclaim Iraq's "19th province". This war led to an international coalition which forced Saddam out of Kuwait. However, in the aftermath of this conflict a number of decisions were made which are still affecting the politics of the region to this day. The most important and far reaching was that no attempt was made to invade Iraq proper or overthrow Saddam Hussein.

Under Saddam Husseins leadership, another crime which Iraq has been guilty of has been attempts to acquire weapons of mass destruction. Iraq has large scale programs aimed at developing biological, chemical and nuclear weapons. After the Gulf War in 1991, Iraq was prohibited from attempting to develop such weapons. As part of the peace settlement, Iraq was required to allow international inspectors from the UN into the country to verify the destruction of these weapons. However, since the inception of this program, the inspectors efforts were impeded at every step, culminating with the ejection of all the international inspectors in 1998. At the time, the head of UNISCOM reported that he

was not satisfied that Iraq has complied with the UN resolutions, or that Iraqs weapons programs had been destroyed.

The existence of these programs present two major dangers. The first major danger is that Iraq itself gains access to these weapons. Saddam Hussein has not had any moral problems with deploying weapons of mass destruction, against other countries (Iran) or his own people (the Kurds). The second major danger is that these weapons will find they're way into the hands of terrorist groups such as Al Qaeda via Iraq. While



Saddam Hussein

the principle of deterrence may prevent Saddam Hussein from employing such weapons against civilian populations, such arguments hold little or no sway over such groups. Given the means and the opportunity, fundamentalist Islamic groups will attack the West and most particularly the United States with these weapons. September 11th graphically illustrates this.

All this goes to prove one thing. In a world full of dangerous men and warlords, Saddam Hussein has fair claim to being both the most evil and the most dangerous. And that is why the Americans feel he must be removed. He represents a threat to his own people, to his neighbours and to the West.

Saddam's power within his own country is untouchable. Years of systematic oppression means that any possible source of opposition to him within the borders of Iraq has been destroyed beyond all possible hope. So, if Saddam Hussein is to be removed, then it must be done by the international community. In this situation, there are three broad alternatives.

The first is that the international community do nothing. There is a name for this approach to foreign policy. It's called appeasement and has been spectacularly unsuccessful every time it has been employed. Given that we have indisputable evidence of Saddams intentions, this

is patently unacceptable.

The second major option to impose sanctions. However, this approach has a number of problems. Sanctions invariably hurt the people who are not responsible for the policies of a country, while the rich elite skim of any incoming aid for their own purposes. In the 10 years that the sanctions have been imposed on Iraq, we have seen no proof that Iraq capacity to deploy weapons of mass destruction has been destroyed. We have seen the UN "Oil for food" program openly flaunted and manipulated by Saddam Hussein to provide funding for his armed forces and the security forces that keep him in power. And we have seen the effect of sanctions on the Iraq people (which is caused by Husseins manipulation of them) being used time and again as a propaganda weapon. Fundamentally, sanctions have never, ever in the history of the world changed the foreign policy of an entrenched governments, and nothing suggests that this precedent will be broken here.

Another alternative is to re-introduce weapons inspectors, as has been proposed by the most recent UN Security Council resolution. The problem with weapons inspectors it that in a country the size of Iraq, and especially in the face of an intransigent ruler, weapons inspectors can never be a sure solution. Furthermore, while weapons inspectors may hypothetically be able to destroy all of Iraqs weapons of mass destruction, some day they will leave, presumably leaving Saddam in power to restart his W M D programs. And, weapons inspectors

do absolutely nothing to lift the yoke of tyranny that Iraqi citizens live under.

And so, we are left with the last major alternative. Direct military action to impose a regime change on Iraq from without.

Many objections have been raised to this alternative. The first, and most common objection raised in the Western world is characterised by the woolly moral objection that "war is always wrong". The problem with this argument is that while it is fine as a high sounded principle, it's wrong. If France and Britian had stood up to Hitler in 1936 in the Rhineland or 1938 in Czechoslovakia, the world might never have witnessed the horror of the Holocaust. If you are threatened by an aggressor, then you are entitled to defend yourself.

The second argument that is often raised is that there is no ready made alternative to Saddam Husseins leadership in Iraq. This may be true (because of Saddams ruthless suppression of any opposition), but avoids the fact that its really a logical



The UN Security Council

dead end. As long as Saddam Hussein rules Iraq, no opposition will ever be allowed to exist. The Afghanistan model has already proven that interim power sharing governments between a wide variety of disparate groups can in fact work. It would be difficult, and require intertational support, but if it worked in Afghanistan, it can work in Iraq.

Another arguement that is commonly used is the generic "America is always wrong" argument, which is deployed by just about everyone who has any problem with the modern world. There are a couple of problems with this arguement. Firstly, it is usually applied in the following way - "The Americans did bad things before, therefore they must be doing bad things now". This is obviously a gross simplification. The fact that America has done things for the wrong reasons in the past should not will not evaluate their actions on a case by case basis.

Even more to the point since the end of the Cold War, American foreign policy has become far more based on building multinational coalitions which support their actions. Iraq in 1991, Rwanda and Kosovo were all examples of this. Despite some of the media friendly soundbites issued from the White House in this specific case, America has made a point of using old fashioned diplomacy to gain a UN Security Council resolution which received unanimous approval, even from Syria, traditionally an enemy of America and a friend of Iraq.

Saddam Hussein has been shown to be time and time again to be an unrepentant transgressor of international laws and rules. He has brutally terrorized his people for decades. He has launched wars of aggression against his neighbours. He has attempted to gain access to weapons of mass destruction and would surely show no compulsions against using them against his own people, his neighbours and the West. It is hard to formulate any argument that Iraq and world would not be better off without him. And if you wish the end, it is only honest to wish the means.

'.....using them against his own people, his neighbours and the West. It is hard to formulate any argument that Iraq and world would not be better off without him.'

Why we shouldn't bomb Iraq

by *Fiachra O'Luain*

The first question we should ask is, who are 'we'? Presuming that we are the Irish people we need to ask ourselves what has even put the notion of bombing Iraq into our minds. Let's just have a quick overview of the recent Irish psyche. On Easter Monday 1949 John Costello brought the Irish Republic out of the British controlled Commonwealth and proclaimed it a fully independent Republic. This was the first time in many years that not all of Ireland was directly subject to foreign imperial rule.

So from there we can see how the identity that we all had in the 26 counties until 19th of October 2002 began. Soon after we began having formal diplomatic relations with other countries as an Independent sovereign nation free to decide our own policies. There was by no means freedom though. We were controlled very much by a rotting religious establishment which has since decayed away. For the next fifty years we were an independent 26

counties with an enormous headache. An Garda Síochána, alcohol, the political parties and RTÉ became our aspirin. Our blood became thin enough to start focusing on our economy. We began to move away from our gory history and focus on our lives and how to fulfill them. We were tired of war. The war of Independence was followed by the Civil war. The war from which the current political establishment grew out of. We were traumatised. That is why we switched off from what was happening in the six-counties, so much so that any mention of the struggles became a taboo. Simultaneously a lot of our people who were actively being discriminated against and killed by the army of our nearest neighbour felt abandoned by us in the 26 counties.

Our economic development was helped by our membership in the European Economic Community but more so by the many thousands of emigrants and 'Navvies' or seasonal migrants who travelled to Britain and North America largely in search of work to sustain their families at home. These men built the canals, railways and roads of our neighbours and have brought more money into this country than the E.U. or Foreign Direct Investment ever has. So it is true enough to say that 'we' are not solely the people on this island but every person who left home to work to sustain our identity.

To return back to the initial question, 'Why we shouldn't bomb Iraq?' Lets have a look at Iraq's recent political history. The following are extracts and concerns the period of time when Iraq was at war with Iran.

"President Ronald Reagan

dispatched his Middle East envoy, a former secretary of defense, to Baghdad with a hand-written letter to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and a message that Washington was willing at any moment to resume diplomatic relations.

That envoy was Donald Rumsfeld.

Rumsfeld's December 19-20, 1983 visit to Baghdad made him the highest-ranking US official to visit Iraq in 6 years. He met Saddam and the two discussed "topics of mutual interest," according to the Iraqi Foreign Ministry. "[Saddam] made it clear that Iraq was not interested in making mischief in the world," Rumsfeld later told The New York Times. "It struck us as useful to have a relationship, given that we were interested in solving the Mideast problems." In May 1984, Donald Rumsfeld resigned. In November of that year, full diplomatic relations between Iraq and the US were fully restored. Two years later, in an article about Rumsfeld's aspirations to run for the 1988 Republican Presidential nomination, the Chicago Tribune Magazine listed among Rumsfeld's

'Dáil Éireann was never consulted about the opening of our airports in a war against Afghanistan.'

achievements helping to "reopen U.S. relations with Iraq." The Tribune failed to mention that this help came at a time when, according to the US State Department, Iraq was actively using chemical weapons."

Why we shouldn't bomb Iraq?

I was down at Shannon airport this Spring. I found out from the bar-man that just hours before Donald Rumsfeld had left the pub in the main airport along with hundreds of U.S. Troops. On their way to Afghanistan. This is in direct contravention of Article 28 of our constitution which clearly states that,

'War shall not be declared and the State shall not participate in any war save with the assent of Dáil Éireann'.

Dáil Éireann was never consulted about the opening of our airports in a war against Afghanistan. Still every day bombers, refuelling tankers and troops come through Shannon with weapons of War. Three weeks ago someone sighted a B2 Stealth Bomber at the 'West Air' hangar at Shannon. The airport monitors don't register them. Yet when Irish citizens do they are threatened with arrest. Two weeks ago when 800 people from all over this island and further afield arrive down at Shannon to protest for hours about the States complicity in mass murder. The days events get one article in the Irish Times.

Don't despair though, do you know what our elected leader receives for every military landing? \$500. That's is precisely how much the Taoiseach valued our Neutrality.

These landings have intensified in the recent couple of months that Iraq



Donald Rumsfeld

has been threatened.

Last month British and American troops bombed strategical targets in Baghdad. There is evidence to suggest that the Bush Administration bombers were refuelled from Shannon.

I would like at this stage to propose a change in the motion.

'Why we should stop bombing Iraq?'

Now study once again who 'we' are.

We all stand shoulder to shoulder in the struggle for justice. Having democracy denied to you by the ruling class is one of the most distressing but uniting experiences possible. We have seen that here too, when the decision of the Irish people by referendum in June 8th of 2001 was rejected by our Taoiseach. We have seen that in Florida 2000 when the majority of people who voted did not see the man they voted for become President of the United States. We saw this last week when the Iraqi people went to the election booths to find only one name on the casting paper. We saw this last month when an orchestrated police raid of politicians' offices killed the Northern Executive and brought six counties of this island under direct-rule from Westminster. This greatly aided David

'The people who would ultimately suffer are all of us. All of our lives have been put at risk by a very small circle of people.'

Trimble retain power. This particular man is former Vanguard leader, the group who destroyed the Sunningdale Agreement of 1973. The Vanguard movement became the U.D.A.

It's a shitty history but we still have the legacy of the hope that reigned up until very recently. We have to fix it. They are only as strong as we allow them to be. That is why we should peacefully and creatively demonstrate our disgust what is being done in our name and from our soil until we stop the bombing and killing of any peoples.

On October the 19th we witnessed the birth of an illegal empire, set up to

be a military rival to any other superpower in the world. We were told that this was in the interests of 'European Integration'. We were told this by the same Taoiseach who's government effectively illegalised the ancient culture of the Travelling people of Ireland, a people who have their own languages and histories. The trespassing legislation is making relations between Travellers and Settled people more tense than ever. We are also told that we are in a University that is a shining example of the E.U. in Ireland, the same university which is blatantly building on an 'An Taisce' designated 'Special Area of Conservation' and in doing so breaking European Law by building across the river Shannon into Co. Clare.

We are no longer in control of our foreign policy and if the Nice treaty is fully implemented you will very soon see a European police force patrolling our boreens, telling the Gardai what to do. This Europol will be immune from prosecution and will be controlled from Brussels. Isn't that Nice? When I think of Europe I think of trains. An infrastructure of trains instead of deceit would be of enormous benefit to all people on this island but instead those in charge have taken away the authority of the Irish people to govern themselves. This needs to be pointed out.

For further details please read; <http://www.euobserver.com/index.php?ml?aid=8053>

Why we should stop bombing Iraq.

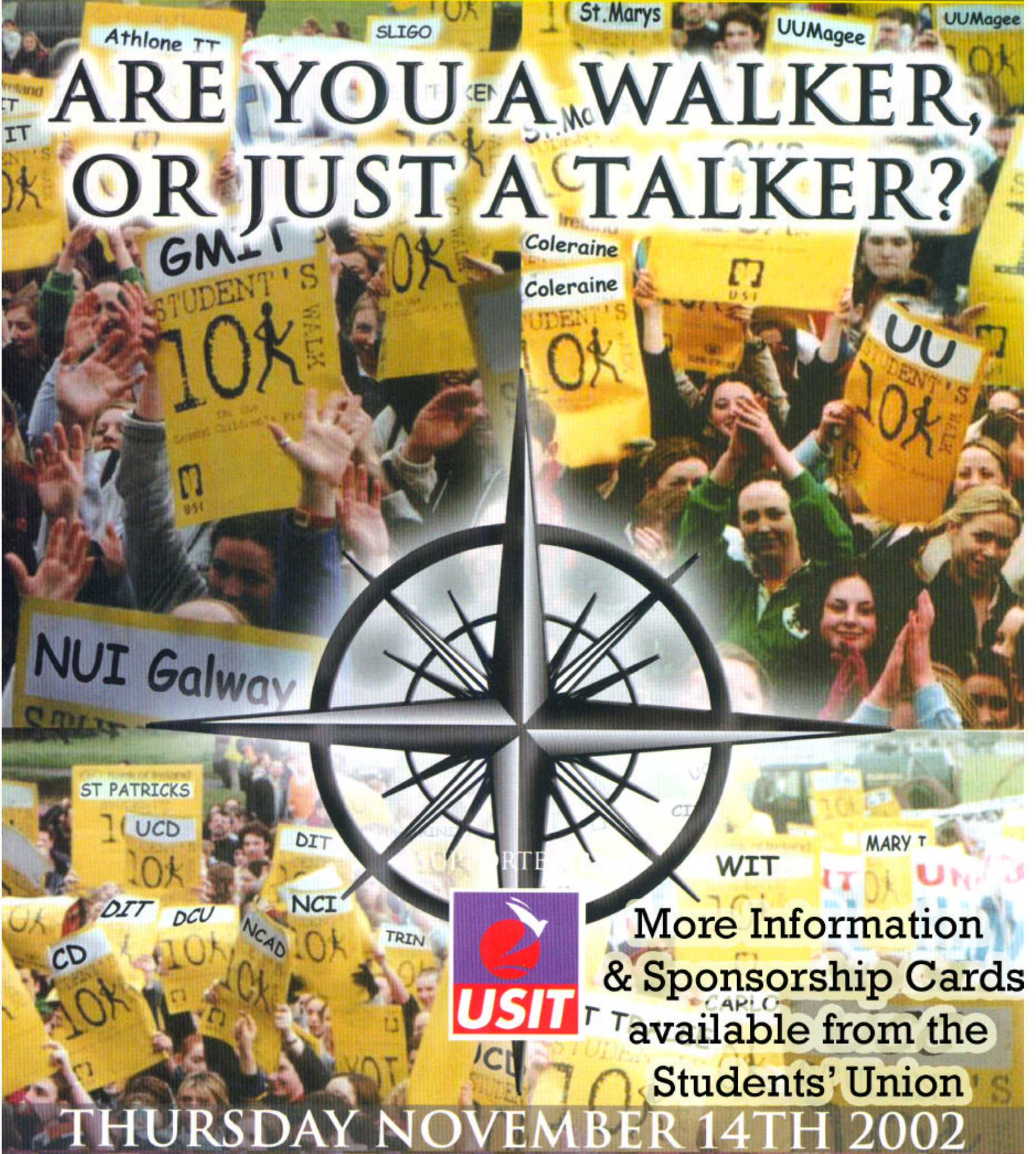
The people bombing Iraq are not the Irish people, they are not the people of the U.S.A., they are not the people of Britain. Those who are bombing Iraq are the administration who illegally cheated the success of Albert Gore in the 2000 U.S. Presidential elections. Those responsible for bombing Iraq are a handful of people, namely George Bush 1 and 2, Jeb Bush, Dick Cheney, Colin Powell, Michael Powell (Colin's son who is in charge of CNN and other media organisations), Tony Blair, Dr. John Reid, Bertie Ahern, Saddam Hussein and Donald Rumsfeld. Now let us

understand precisely, that no-one except these people and their immediate administrations are responsible for the bombing of Iraq. You are not, I am not, no student on our campus is, neither are the U.S., Iraqi or British people.

The people who would ultimately suffer are all of us. All of our lives have been put at risk by a very small circle of people. These people should not be in office and should not be allowed to hold their weapon cartels to our heads. We must defend ourselves from them by not allowing them to bully us or play on our fears. To stop the tears dropping, stop the bombs dropping. It's our decision.

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Week 6 & Week 7



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Tuesday
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Wednesday
BAND: TBC

Thursday
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Treading the Boards with Drama Society

by Ella Daly

Week eight marks an approximate half way mark in what has been a spectacularly successful semester for UL Drama Society, so I thought we would take a look back at events so far. Week one saw drama soc make a spectacle of them selves in the canteen alongside the other clubs and societies signing over a hundred members some old some new and all enthusiastic. And the first of our bi-weekly workshops saw some fifty of our new recruits troupe up to "The Swift" for fun and frolics 2 hours and some dubious improve later it became clear that this was to be no ordinary year in Drama Soc history that for the first time we had the missing ingredient in abundance TALENT!

We have been meeting every Monday and Wednesday since then some times we laugh, sometimes we cry, sometimes we just chat but we always have a good time. We have had two sets of Auditions for in house productions "Regency Romance" and "Insignificance" and as always UL Drama Soc members were eager to push themselves forward providing the shows directors with a broad spectrum of acting skills to choose from. The first of this years shows "Regency Romance" written by G.L Horton and Directed by Ella Daly which first had its Limerick premier in May as part of Limerick youth theatres showcase "Swings and Roundabouts" took place in Week 5 as a Greek week event and the 30 minute three hander brought the house down, with many of the 70+ audience members missing the beginning of the food fair to be there (now that's sacrifice!). The show featured Diana Diamond 2nd year Kevin 1st year and Aimee Kerrigan



The spectacular set of "Regency Romance, in the Jonthon Swift

study abroad student and guest starred Jade Murphy 5 year old in the role of Chuckie (special thanks to Jades mum for letting her stay up late) and is the story of 2 women obsessed with romance novels and how sometimes everybody just hopes for "a little romance".

"Insignificance" auditions were held in week 4 and the show is planned for week 10. Written by Terry Johnson and directed by Adrian Crowe, it is a challenging production with a talented cast it features Mike 1st year Dave Corley 2nd year James Fitzgerald 2nd year Rory Deegan 1st year and Aimee Kerrigan Study Abroad student. The less said about the plot better its best left as a surprise and defiantly not to be missed I would brush up on your astro-physics before hand though.

We have also had the pleasure of having Elaine Enright and Carida Tobin in as guest workshop leaders Elaine taught us dance in preparation for Greek weeks Fire dancing (more about that later) and Cairda gave us an introduction to the actor and the voice. Future workshops are to include script Writing with Mike Finn (tbc) Stage makeup and Lighting Design. In second semester we plan to have a trip to the Belltable Arts Centre to check out some lighting techniques a Costume Design workshop and a short film workshop.

Other events this semester have seen drama soc venture in to the dark and mysterious worlds of street theatre, TV and Opera. Greek Week saw drama soc construct torches and set them alight for Fire dancing, though our main performance in the SU courtyard had to be cancelled we were happy to move the performance to Docs for the Welfare Ball with Drama Socs Adrian Crowe strut his Kendoing stuff along side fire juggler and Ka poi experts to the rhythmic beats of Jannick and Vitchek on the djembe's while Elaine Niamh Aimee and I entertained/confused revellers in the courtyard warming up.

Week 4 saw a visit from Stirling Productions who were auditioning actors for a program planned for next Season on RTE "Cracking Crimes" it seems Drama Soc had the right sort of hooligans and thugs as 3 of our members were cast congratulations to Sean Flanagan, Kevin O Leary and Ben Dromey. The filming has unfortunately been postponed pending an appeal by the accused but Stirling hope that it will go ahead in January.

Week7 also requested our talents as extras with 17 members strutting their stuff as assorted slaves and soldiers on the University Concert Hall stage. The opportunity to work along side an internationally renowned company was greatly appreciated and afforded us the chance to take a look at an often inaccessible form of theatre. The Show was amazing and the company was both friendly and accommodating and the critics assure me that our extras gave small but memorable performances (by critics I of course refer to my mum). Thanks to The Chinsau Opera Company and Henri Murphy in the concert hall. Extras included Mhici, Maria O'Callaghan, Alexandra Worschech, Katja Eggers, Ruth Bagnell, Emma, Aimee Kerrigan Joan Enright, Aideen O'Dochertaigh, Ella Daly, Rory Deegan, Sean Fitzgerald, Ben, Karl, Donal O'Driscoll, Ruairi O'Mahony, and Adrian Crowe.



"Romance" in action

All in all an action packed 8 weeks and that's saying nothing of the hours of rehearsal committee meetings sponsorship proposals and evenings spent cleaning The Swift. Don't forget to get your entries to the logo competition in there are lots of tickets to the concert hall up for grabs (thanks Aileen!!!) and the jury is still out on the new slogan its either Drama soc "you don't have to be a star to be in our show" or drama Soc "we break legs" all thoughts to dramasoc@csn.ul.ie

For more information on any of these events or upcoming plans see www.uldramasoc.com Or email me at 9925961@student.ul.ie



The cast members of "Regency Romance"

The Chinsau Opera Company in

The Chastitute - Review

by Peter Burrows

According to the programme notes a chastitute is somebody who has lived their entire life enduring enforced celibacy, in other words never knowing the virtues of sex. In the depths of Kerry in the 1950's we find John Bosco McClean (Mick Lally) a tormented 50 year old virgin. Despite his best efforts John Bosco has never "put the ball in the oppositions net" as he describes it himself and it is this quest that forms the plays central plot.

Prompted by the intervention of his aunt John decides to both enlist the services of a matchmaker Micky Molly and a house keeper (because the house needs the touch of a woman around the place). Micky with the help of the local stud set about trying to find John a mate. The ineptitude of the central character around women provides the play with much of its comic moments. Indeed it is from the relatively safe guise of comedy that Keane is at his most socially subversive. While John's efforts to win the heart of the fairer sex are comical the underlying social

condition is horrific. It is perhaps apt that the best social commentary comes from the parish priest. Aware of John's plight from the confessional, he recognises the dangers of enforced celibacy stifling the natural urges of the human being. His voice of reason is in stark contrast with the vision of missionaries pounding the pulpit and damning all fornicators to hell.

John's luck with women is best summed up by himself, never getting anywhere because "when I should have been going slow I was going fast and when I should have been going fast I was going too slow".

In an effort to boost John's confidence Micky and Sylvie set about finding John a few loose women. It is no surprise then that they end up in Cork. While here John gets closest to completing the deed, however much to John's dismay the girl collapses in a vodka induced stupor.

In terms of performance "The Chastitute" delivers a goods nights entertainment. The cast obviously have a wealth of experience on the stage with many of the faces

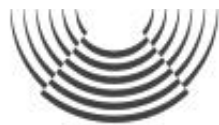


Mick Lally as the Chastitute

recognisable from Irish dramas and soaps such as Fair City and Glenroe. Indeed two leading roles, John and the housekeeper are played by Mick Lally and Mary McEvoy, a duo more familiar as Glenroe's Biddy and Miley. On a critical note I felt Mick Lally overacted at times, his copious use of hand gestures did little to aid the believability of what was an already slightly incredible character,

and often distracted from the comedy of the situation. Derry Power's matchmaker stole the show though delivering predictably the best lines especially in liking his clients to mares.

One of the major aspects of the play which struck me was the crudeness displayed by the characters when dealing with sex. Even the shy John Bosco was willing to give it a fling even if he never fulfills his promise. Sylvie and Micky are even more crude dealing with animal passions as just that and behaving accordingly. It is interesting to realise that even the rose tinted "back in my day" speeches had a seedier side. In all while I found the wit and plot of "The Chastitute" slightly contrived and lacking in the shadow of Keane's other masterpieces such as "The Field" it was a thought provoking evenings entertainment and provided enough memorable moments to be worthy of a viewing.



UNIVERSITY
CONCERT HALL

Tom Jones & The Eagles ... well almost, University Concert Hall are delighted to present two fantastic tribute shows for all music lovers this November. The Musical Biography of Tom Jones will take place on Saturday 9th and Talon are back with their Best of the Eagles on Thursday 14th for two unforgettable evenings of music, song and dance.

Glen Leon has been stunning audiences around the world with his incredible voice for over the last decade and he will perform his explosive two-hour Tom Jones show in Limerick for one night only.

Glen is one of those rare gifted singers who has an amazing vocal range, which enables him to cover a vast array of material. From Sinatra to Lionel Richie, Tom Jones to Barry White, Glen delivers with such passion power and sheer raw energy, that he always leaves his audience

spellbound. Legendary Black Soul singer Mel Day will join Glen during this fantastic performance.

From What's new Pussycat, to Delilah, Kiss to It's not Unusual Glen Leon & The Explosive Reload Orchestra promise to have you clapping and dancing in the aisles. According to Tony Blackburn, Sky TV Glen Leon is "the closest voice you will ever hear to Tom Jones" - don't miss this show and remember ladies you can leave your hats on but the rest is up to you!

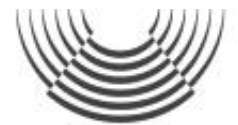
Do you remember the hot summer of '76 and the cool sounds of Hotel California playing down the radio? If that brings back pleasant memories you should not miss Talon present the Best of the Eagles in UCH on Thursday 14th November @ 8 p.m.

The legendary sounds of the Eagles are

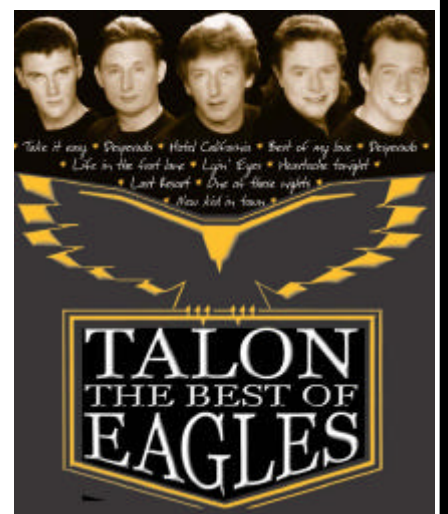
faithfully and brilliantly recreated by five of the most respected and talented men in the music industry today collectively known as Talon. Reproducing the rich vocal harmonies and timeless melodies and the greatest guitar solos in the world they are without doubt the Best of Eagles.

Talon are back in University Concert Hall for the fourth year due to public demand. Featuring such great everlasting hits of the Eagles including Take it Easy, Lyin'Eyes, Desperado, Hotel California, Heartache Tonight, New Kid in Town, Take it to the Limit, and so many more this is a show not to be missed.

The guitar playing, particularly on Hotel California, is so true to the original that to listen with closed eyes one could be forgiven for thinking you were back in the seventies in the presence of Glen Frey et al on a warm Californian evening.



UNIVERSITY
CONCERT HALL



Tickets for the Tom Jones & The Eagles tribute shows are available from the UCH Box Office on 061 331549. Further details on both shows are available on www.uch.ie. You have been warned!

Aida - Review

by Peter Burrows

I know that the vaulted halls of the opera house rarely grace this fair publication but I decided in the interest of fairness and a great sense of curiosity to pay a visit to Aida at the University Concert Hall on Tuesday evening last. I must admit that this is not the first time I have ventured to an opera, last years production of Carmen in the same venue also saw me visiting. You can take it from me that the storylines of most operas won't win any publishing prizes and would struggle to fill the plot of even the worst television movie. First commissioned by the Khedive of Egypt for the new opera house in Cairo "Aida" was collaboration worthy of motion picture status today. Under the patronage of the Khedive, esteemed Egyptologist Auguste Mariette and librettist Camille Du Locle were brought in on the project. It was through this route that the master Verdi was to be contacted about the work. Liking what he saw Verdi eventually agreed to work on the opera, which he set during most of the year 1870.

As a basic plotline "Aida" is the story of the love of the great Egyptian hero

Radames and the Ethiopian slave Aida. Unfortunately for the lovers Egypt and Ethiopia are at war and Radames is sent to command the Egyptian troops against the enemy. To compound her problems, Amneris the daughter of the Pharaoh is a rival for Radames affections.

Returning triumphantly from the battle Radames is promised the hand of the princess as reward for his deeds. Distaught Aida fears their love is impossible but tries to persuade him to flee with her, Radames is unaware the Aida is actually the daughter of the King of Ethiopia and has been convinced by her father to acquire the Egyptian battle plan from Radames. Radames betrays his secret and when Amonasro revels himself as king, he realises his has betrayed his country. As a man of honor he surrenders to the Egyptian priests and refused to defend himself. Consequently he is sentenced to death by being buried alive. As the final stone is laid into place Radames hears a noise in the tomb, unwilling to be without her love Aida has secretly crept into the tomb to die with Radames. The opera ends with the lover's final breath as they embrace each other.



Aida

I doubt if the writers of "The West Wing" will be scrambling to borrow ideas from Aida but to view a night at the opera as just a story is to miss the point completely. While emotions on stage may be of a melodramatic nature the beauty and subtlety of the story is conveyed in the music. Aida was meant to be Verdi's last opera and as such he draws on all the musical techniques at his disposal. Many would recognise "The Triumphal March" which has almost

become almost a nation anthem for Egypt. The 30 plus musicians that made up the orchestra did wonderful justice to Verdi's score and I found myself being transported by melody alone on a number of occasions during the performance.

As a casual operagoer I must qualify my next remarks as my humble opinion and I will be the first to admit that I am not qualified to criticise the wonderful cast of singers in the production. As Aida Mariana Colpos did a wonderful job and I was mightily impressed with both Teimuraz Gugushvili as Radames and Boris Materinco as Amonasro. The chorus of the Chisinau National Opera were certainly put through their paces from the lightness and vigour of Radames triumphant return to the baseness and darkness of his trial I could not find fault. If however I was to criticise I did feel that the final two acts were slightly emotionally bereft, this may explain why the cast failed to get a standing ovation from the audience. As a student who enjoys music, I am certain that I will rarely witness such professionalism as that Tuesday performance and as an alternative to a night in front of a video I would certainly recommend it.

UIL ARTS OFFICE AUTUMN FILM FESTIVAL

presents

MONDAY 18 November



CHICKEN

Director :Audrey O'Reilly

THE PRINCESS AND THE WARRIOR

Director: Tom Tyker / Germany / 2000 / 132 mins

Billed a thriller love story, the plot centres on the unlikely encounter of a young female psychiatric hospital worker and the heroic thief who unexpectedly saves her life. Slowing the pace after Run Lola Run, director Tom Tyker and his muse Franka Potente offer reflections on redemption and extremist romance Taking its cue from "Cinderella" but customising it for the modern world (the female is the active one who has to find the army jacket with the missing button), "The Princess and the Warrior" is about two lost souls who, grappling with their introspection and retreat from society, come across one another in a fairly startling circumstance. Having stolen food from a petrol station, Bodo is running from two employees and, nipping down alleys, into a shop and out the back door, he finally eludes them by hiding under a truck which has just run over a girl, Sissi. And that's how they meet. Once she has tracked him down, they realise that they're both troubled oddballs and are thus united by their emptiness and sadness. Each has a face which is all but expressionless, blank even, and the challenge - to which Franka Potente and Benno Fürmann expertly rise - is to suggest insecurity, angst, and off-kilter thoughts while barely moving a facial muscle. They are, in other words, good enough actors to light up the screen with a stare. As with director Tom Tyker's previous picture, "Run Lola Run", there is no flab on this film. Powered by meaty scenes, whether they are built on surging drama or small observation, the picture also sports attractive, luminous photography which conveys the look of a dream. Quite right too, because the events themselves and their progress (the couple emerging from the city into a beautifully green wood, for example) are the very stuff of dreams. The eerie, tinkling music bolsters the effect. A highly imaginative effort which is grounded in the reality of being disturbed. "The Princess and the Warrior" also reveals its originality, and the director's railway enthusiasm, by photographing Wuppertal's unique overhead railway from all angles. Sadly the trains were running too quickly for me to write down their numbers. Reviewed by Michael Thomson / bbc.online /26th June 2001

YOU AND ME TIDE

Director : Conor Morrissey

PANDAEMONIUM

Director : Julien Temple / Germany/US / 2000 / 124 mins

Pleasantly recalling the best of Ken Russell's idiosyncratic bio-pics of classical composers, this wonderfully upfront and unstuffy study of two of England's most revered, yet revolutionary poets is a matter of feisty polemic rather than arty embalming. Imagining and embossing the developing and decaying relationship of Samuel Taylor Coleridge and William Wordsworth, this is a picture that restores inspirational images and imagery to literary expression and eventually argues firmly in favour of the visionary over the merely picturesque Having already exhumed the true story of The Sex Pistols, in his powerful rockumentary The Filth And The Fury, Julien Temple here turns his hand to that other breeding ground for drug abuse and soul destruction: the world of 19th century poetry. And, just as with his depiction of Messrs Lydon and Vicious, Temple very much wears his heart on his flouncy sleeve as he focuses on the relationship between William Wordsworth (Hannah) and Samuel Coleridge (Roache). Frank Cottrell Boyce's screenplay depicts the former as little more than a simpering hanger-on, riding Coleridge's creative coattails as the pair collaborate on Lyrical Ballads, the book which would later make both their names. Temple's direction similarly mirrors this supposed talent deficit, with Wordsworth's wanderings shot in static, colourless hues, and those of Coleridge with a terrifically manic, opiate-induced quality that takes the audience on its own hallucinogenic trip. Unashamedly biased then, but a visually barnstorming biopic, packed with universally convincing performances all the same.

EMPIRE Review by Mark Dinning

MONDAY 25 November



Clubs & Societies Events: Week8

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT/SUN
<p>Games Society Role-Playing Games 19:45, EG006 including Dungeons & Dragons</p> <p>Drama Society Workshops 7:30, B1023</p>	<p>Debating Union Weekly Debate 7:00, Scholars Function Room</p>	<p>Tennis Club Coaching, Tennis Courts 2-3 Beginners 3-4 Improved 4-5 Advanced Training 11-12:30 All Welcome</p> <p>Games Society Role-Playing Games 19:00, EG006 including Apocalypse</p> <p>Chess Club Chess In The Canteen 7 - 9, Main Canteen</p> <p>Aeronautical Society Aviation Displays Books/Models/Posters Room 4 SU Center 3 - 6</p> <p>10 Forward Film "Evongelion - Death & Rebirth" PSA Centre, 7:30</p> <p>Drama Society Workshops 7:30, B1023</p> <p>Softball Club Training Astroturf, 2:00</p>	<p>Games Society Computer Gaming (LAN) 19:00, Sufers Counter Strike/Quake</p> <p>Role-Playing Games 18:00, EG006 including Vampire</p> <p>Dance Society Irish Dancing Classes 6 - 7 Dromroe Village</p> <p>10 Forward Film "Death to Smoochy" Room 5 SU Center 7:30</p>	<p>Softball Club Training Pitch 1, 2:00</p>	<p>Soccer Club vs Waterford United Eircom U21 League Bowl, 2:00</p> <p>Tennis Club Training/Practies All Levels Saturday 11-12:30</p> <p>Softball Club Training Pitch 1, 2:00</p>

Clubs & Societies Events: Week9

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT/SUN
<p>Games Society Role-Playing Games 19:45, EG006 including Dungeons & Dragons</p> <p>Drama Society Workshops 7:30, B1023</p>	<p>Debating Union Weekly Debate 7:00, Scholars Function Room</p> <p>Games Society Role-Playing Games 19:00, EG006 including Whitewolf</p> <p>Games Society Role-Playing Games 19:00, EG002 2nd Ed D&D</p>	<p>Games Society Role-Playing Games 19:00, EG006 including Whitewolf</p> <p>Chess Club Chess In The Canteen 7 - 9, Main Canteen</p> <p>10 Forward <i>We watch the entire series "24" over 24 hours to raise money for the Irish Cancer Society</i></p> <p><i>Starts Midnight on Wednesday in the SU</i></p> <p>Drama Society Workshops 7:30, B1023</p>	<p>Dance Society Irish Dancing Classes 6 - 7 Dromroe Village</p> <p>Games Society Computer Gaming (LAN) 19:00, Sufers Counter Strike/Quake</p> <p>Role-Playing Games 18:00, EG006 including Vampire</p> <p>10 Forward Film "Spiderman" Room 5 SU Center 7:30</p>		<p>Tennis Club Training/Practies All Levels Saturday 11-12:30</p> <p>Softball Club Training Pitch 1, 2:00</p> <p>Games Society Paintballing 9am outside Stables</p> <p>Aeronautical Society Paintballing 9am outside Stables</p> <p>Equestrian Club Dressage Trip All interested email ulequest@yahoo.co.uk Sat & Sun, Cavan Equestrian Center</p>

UL Wins 35's Trophy. Again.

by Anthony Kirpatrick

The competitive edge of our aspiring young athletes here on campus was so ever apparent last Wednesday, as various teams from DCU endured the long trek down to Limerick, so as to participate in this years '35s Trophy'.

For those of you not familiar with the event, the 35s trophy involves the majority of the teams in the university playing for intervarsity pride against their Dublin counterparts.

Every sporting appetite was catered for in this particular sporting gathering: from the usual suspects such as soccer and rugby, to archery, camogie, and water polo.

My first visit of the day was to the main sports arena to view both the senior and fresher' men's basketball matches. First up was the ever-intimidating senior team. Armed with lightning pace and a massive height advantage, the U.L lads proved to be far too much for DCU to handle, and ran out easy winners by approximately thirty points. Next up were the freshers, who were, to put it mildly, absolutely creamed by their opponents!! Half of the U.L team were sidelined from half time due to 'mess-acting', and so therefore had to pay the price!! This decision disgruntled the many fans that showed up to view the game (I counted about 6 people), and led to us all making a pact to throw

strawberry jam at the coach every Tuesday from now on!!

While at the sports arena, I learned that the female hockey match scheduled for the day in question had in fact been cancelled. My source, which would like to remain confidential (I forgot to ask for her name), told me that the DCU team had chickened out of the fixture, mainly due to the threatening pictures sent by our ladies team one week ago!! These inexcusable photographs portray battered hockey sticks being kicked and tortured, and the message 'this is what'll happen if you dare set foot on our turf. Kindest regards, The Westside girls' also appear on the pictures!! This certainly showed me all I needed to know with regards the shady underground Tony Soprano dealings of the ladies hockey team!! All I can say is keep it real me homies, aiite!!

So one jam-bombardment, and gangster war later, I arrived at the trampoline centre in the old sports complex. The moment I appeared through the door, the eagerness of the U.L squad thoroughly impressed me. While the DCU team sat in a corner eating cheese and relaxing, the U.L trampoline team captain was getting her compatriots into battle mode: with deafening chants such as 'let's wipe the floor with these b*****s!!' and 'you couldn't jump on a trampoline, even if your mama was a cross between Michael Jordan and...some other good jumper I can't



The Ladies Hockey team trainer (apparently)

think of right now!!' As you can imagine, I didn't fancy waiting around to see who won this match-up!! And if DCU did manage an upset in this particular event, I doubt they got out of the county alive!!

My final port of call on the day in question was once again in the old sports complex, this time to see how the rock climbing team were fairing.

This setting was a little more at ease than the trampoline room, where painful screams could still be heard from down the corridor!! As I watched closely while the various climbers attempted to gain points for their respective Universities, I couldn't help but notice how sportsmanlike each of them were to one another.

That is until I was about to leave!! "I can't hold on any longer," screamed a worried looking DCU climber from the very top of the wall. Then the poor chap hit the mat with an enormous thud. "It's ok, " said a sympathetic U.L climber, as she gave the guy a consoling pat on the back. At this point I remember thinking how nice a gesture this was. But I spoke to soon. No sooner had she given him a pat on the back, but she had also given him the king of wedgies: Proper U.L style!! That guy has an enjoyable bus journey back to the capital to look forward to: with his jocks practically stretched over his head!! Good work the climbing team!!

Other results included a victory for the U.L female rugby team; a loss for the men's rugby, and also the kayak water polo team managed a 3-3 draw in their game last Wednesday.

But one thing bothered me while watching these events, and this was the incredibly low turnout of spectators to each of the matches occurring on the day. The U.L sides together won the 35's trophy, which was presented to them at the stables Wednesday night. This is a great feat for the University as a whole, but it will go unnoticed within the main student population. So I would like to appeal to all of you, to get out there and acknowledge our great sporting traditions, and support our teams in their numerous competitions throughout the year: I'm sure it would be much appreciated by all of them.

CompSoc: Venturing where no CompSoc student has gone before - Outside.

by Chris O'Brien

Once again, this year, the Retro Gaming competition was held during Greek Week and was organised by The Computer Society (Skynet) under the leadership of Grainne "Wrinkles" Daly. Last years event turned out to be a huge success with the last minute battle to claim the prize, a PSONe.

This year, amidst the typical Irish weather, the Stables Courtyard once again hosted the competition. Kindly sponsored by In-Touch, Cruises Street, who provided €100 in vouchers and a web cam as prizes.

This year the prizes were divided into 3 categories: 1st Prize, 2nd Prize and the Web Cam, which was given to the winner of the Super Mario Bros. competition. The games ranged from the popular, such as Super Mario Kart, Super Return of the Jedi, Super Bomberman to the obscure such as The Avengers, Altered Beast and Michael Jackson's Moonwalker (purely for comedy).

Alas there can only be one winner, or in this event 3 prize winners.

1st Prize: Jonathan Ryan (jbravo)
2nd Prize: Jim Foley (cheese)
Web Cam: Simon P. Murray (pach)

Dave O'Connor (doc) also received an excellent postcard set that was left over. Who says we don't do anything nice?

We hope that all who participated in the competition had a great day and enjoyed themselves.

With the Retro Gaming competition done and dusted, at least for this year, we turn our attentions to other avenues. One such avenue is a trip to Doolin. On Friday 15th November, a group from the Computer Society will spend the weekend in Doolin at a Linux Workshop Weekend. The premise of this is to help people become familiar with the UNIX operating system, a system used by the majority of CSIS students and the Computer Society, itself. Experienced UNIX programmers, who will use their vast experience with this system



to help those learning to use it, will attend the event. Hopefully, it will be an educational, and fun, experience for all attendees. The hostel where we will be residing costs €11.50 per night, and currently we have at least 10 people going down to it. For further information, contact compsoc@skynet.ie

That's it for this weeks update. Once again, I'd like to thank all those who helped, and participated, in the Retro Games competition and wish all those who attend the Linux Workshop a safe, enjoyable time.

Ten Forward

by *The Mighty Cron*

Now that the biggest sci-fi events of the semester are behind us, it's the perfect time for a wee retrospective article like this.

First of all, the trip to Octocon. Unlike my less civically-minded colleagues, I stayed at home on Friday, the night Octocon started, so that I could cast my vote on Saturday morning. The others found suitable lodgings for Friday night, all except for our beloved Barry Cotter, who decided not to "give in" to the evils of B&Bing (don't ask me), and elected to spend the night in front of a computer in a 24-hour internet café instead.

Saturday turned out to be more literary-minded, with advice and workshops on writing and such things. Being the bunch of illiterate troglodytes that they are, however, my fellow TenForwarders can only talk about the "wine club" we visited that night-where they were charged like wounded bulls to sip Chateau Nuf de Ponce, cheek to hairy jowel with Trinity yuppies. This was unfortunately the case for most of the bars we went into.

Sunday was a lot more productive. The authors Kim Newman(Anno Dracula) and China Miéville(Perdido

Street Station) made appearances and talked to us about topics as diverse as alternate histories and how to build an evil empire, accompanied by Colin Smythe, Dave Stewart and Eugene Byrne. Let's just say that there are a million and one ways history could have progressed if the Cuban Missile Crisis turned out differently... After that, a contingent of us went to a talk about ghost stories, which unfortunately turned out to be something of a let-down. Following that was the Evil Empire game, which was a lot of fun. There now exists a country called Freedonia, where everyone is happy all the time or else, the leader is a glorious one-legged god-emperor called Rolly, and the national anthem is "F*ck Like a Beast". At that point, unfortunately, we had to leg it, missing out on the rest of Sunday's fun and games to ensure we got our train home. Will we do it all again next year? Oh, yes. Most definitely. The other major event for us was the Film Festival during Greek Week, which proved very successful.

David Fincher night was beset with technical difficulties to begin with-Se7en had to be cancelled, but rest assured it will be shown during the year. Fight Club went off without a hitch, after we discovered what the problem was.

Tuesday turned out to be phenomenally successful-you guys certainly like Baz Luhrmann's work, judging by the amount of new members we received after screening Romeo and Juliet and Moulin Rouge!

Coen Brothers Night went well also. The only difficulty we experienced during the night was the late arrival of the Ents security crew. The Big Lebowski and O Brother, Where Art Thou? went down a storm with the audience.

Thursday was our George Lucas night, where we showed the original Star Wars trilogy in its entirety. This time, the Ents lads were an hour and ten minutes late, but we accepted their mumbled apologies gracefully. The majority of Friday's crowd arrived to see Full Metal Jacket, which was another huge success. We seem to be appealing to a particular kind of viewer... one who likes to watch Baz Luhrmann's bombastic imagery and lose themselves in the musical numbers and choreography, and then follow that up with two hours of people being shot to pieces in south-east-Asian jungles. Just the sort we want for our society!

Saturday, Steven Spielberg Day, was definitely the weirdest of the festival,

numbers-wise... One person showed up for the first film (Duel), Two for the second (Raiders of the Lost Ark), Three for the third (Close Encounters of the Third Kind), six for Jurassic Park, a whopping thirty-five for Saving Private Ryan, and then back to ten for Jaws. Due to the bank holiday weekend, the Scholars was closed that night. The solution? We ordered pizza for everyone! Who says we're out of touch with the wants of the public, hah??? Go on Tony, stick on the oul' Riverdance album!

The final day of the festival was Tim Burton Day, and the turnout was something of a disappointment to us. I mean, there was an audience of ONE PERSON for The Nightmare Before Christmas and Beetlejuice!!! Grumblegrumblegrumbleunculturedtr oglodytesgrumble...

Luckily for youse all, there was a great turnout for Sleepy Hollow. If there hadn't been, we would have had to administer flying headbutts to the general student population.

Well, there ye go, that's the Long Overdue TenForward Article. Now, please, send help... they keep me in a cage and force me to write these things... they give me a handful of muesli every week to live on... Somebody hel-

Further success for UL Kickboxers

by *Debra Donovan*

Three members of UL's newest club travelled to Germany on the weekend of the 2nd of November to compete in the WKA Kickboxing World Cup. Debra Donovan, Tim Murphy and Katrin Kahler formed part of a forty-two-person team.

Ms. Donovan won a Gold medal in the event last year so she had high expectations and once again did not disappoint. Unfortunately, she had to settle for second place. Halfway through the final, a punch to her face caused her contact lense to fall out. Neither herself nor the officials were able to locate it so she was left fight the remainder of the contest at a severe disadvantage. She bravely fought on but was not able to secure the win. Fellow Instructor Mr. Murphy commented.

"It was one of the most courageous performances I have ever seen at a competition. Anyone who knows Debra knows the problems she has with her eye sight, and for her to continue the way she did was truly remarkable."

Mr. Murphy, a Gold medallist in this years World Championships, decided to move up a weight division for this competition, to the welterweight category. The higher weight division however took some adjusting to but Mr. Murphy got to the final impressing the crowd along the way with his amazing ability and remarkable technique. This time however he had to settle for silver, he said, "Obviously it is very disappointing to lose in a final but it was my first time competing at that weight so I am reasonably happy."

This was the first international competition for Ms. Kahler, who was narrowly defeated in the second round. Mr. Murphy commented, "This was her first international and she performed remarkably well. She is definitely one of the stars of the future; I have no doubt but that she has a successful competitive career ahead of her. She has all the attributes of a future champion; skill, a willingness to put in the hard training and a great attitude."

Earlier in the year, club instructors Debra Donovan and Tim Murphy took



Some of UL's successful kickboxers

part in the WKA World Championships in Massa Carrara, Italy. Mr. Murphy secured gold while Ms. Donovan brought home a bronze medal.

Kickboxing classes are now taking place every Tuesday and Thursday at 9.00 to 10.00 in the Old Sports building. This class has something to offer to everyone, not just those interested in competition. Whether

you want to get fit, learn some self-defence or simply just want to try out something new, this club has something for you. Further success for UL Kickboxers!

UL Soccer Match Report

by Martin Hayes

UL 7 - UCC 0

UL men's senior soccer team continued their good run of form in the Irish Universities League with an exceptional 7-0 demolition of reigning Collingwood champions UCC in a game that was played on Wednesday of Week 6. UL dominated from start to finish and were 3-0 up at half time. Tom Cooper (2nd Electronic Engineering) was most impressive for the home side with four goals. Conor Molan (4th Computer Systems), Grant Murtagh (3rd Business) and Oran Weldrick (4th Business) also chipped in with one each. The UL lineup for this game was (3-5-2) Spicer, Meskall (Normoyle 60), Brady, Murtagh, Molan, Poil, Holland (Weldrick 60), O'Brien, Cooper, McCarthy (Donnellan 75)

UL 2 - NUIG 1

UL men's senior soccer team qualified for the semi-finals of the Irish Universities League with a hardfought 2-1 victory over Galway at a windswept Plassey on Wednesday of week 7. Played on a heavy pitch that had already cut up badly due to an earlier 35 trophy freshers match, UL found it hard to get into their stride in the opening half. An own goal by the Galway centre half and a Colin McCarthy (1st Law & Accounting) penalty made it 2-0 to UL at the break. Turning into the elements this didn't look like a big lead and so it proved as Galway put us under severe pressure during the second half. Excellent performances from Ben Spicer (1st Business) in goal and Scott Brady (Business Postgrad) and John Meskall (4th Law and



UL Soccer club in action

Accounting) at the back limited the visitors to just one goal. UL now look forward to playing either Queens or Trinity in the semifinal.

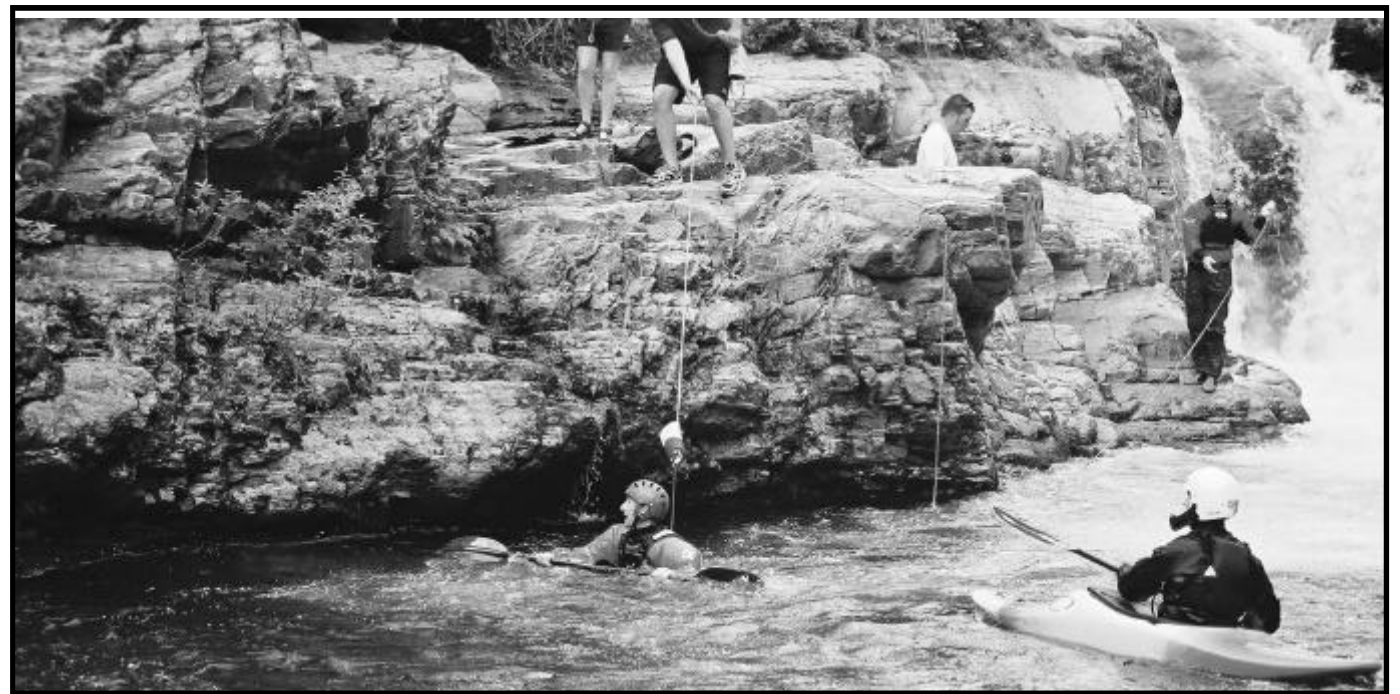
The UL lineup for this game was (3-5-2) Spicer, Meskall, Brady, Murtagh, Molan(Connolly 80), Poil, Holland (Normoyle 60), O'Brien, McCarthy (Cooper 75), Donnellan

UL Kayakers vs DCU

by Angela Rehill

As you all know or didn't know, UL were proud hosts and winners of the 35's trophy last Wednesday of week 7. For all of you unfamiliar with the 35's trophy, it is an annual competition between UL and DCU, and is held in each college every second year. This year the kayak club's events included long distance, relay race and polo, which was played on our very impressive 50m pool. Once DCU arrived, the ball was rolling and the bus was on it's way to Annacotty to drop the two teams to the start of the long distance. A paddle of about twenty minutes roughly from Annacotty to the jetty out the back behind the old sports building was the course outline for our two eager teams. It was a tight race all the way with a close finish but DCU managed to cross the line just a boat's length ahead of Paul Garrahy. Well done to Brian Flynn, and Ed Enright who also took part. Cheers to Emmett Curran and Mike Sweeney for sweeping and rescue.

With one down and two to go, next stop was the beach for the relay race. Instead of the usual, conventional bank to bank race, we added some alterations to make for a more interesting and amusing race. Basically this is how it went down-one paddler paddled across to the opposite bank with a second paddler sitting on the back of the boat. They were then dropped to an awaiting boat on the bank. The two would then paddle back to pick up another paddler each and bring them to their



UL Kayakers in action in the 35's

boats waiting on the opposite bank. The four team members would then paddle back to the beach. This little alternative race made for some great entertainment to their supporters who were nice and dry and of course warm! It being the middle of winter and all, the water was not the warmest. This race ironically thought up by DCU was won by a very strong UL team-well done lads!

After body temperatures had returned to a some way normal level of our brilliant team, it was off to the arena for some hot showers, and the final and deciding event-polo. Each college with one win each were raring to go to decide the overall winners. UL put in a fantastic performance with excellent play from

Emmett and Pauline. With an extremely evenly matched two teams, DCU took the lead scoring the first goal. This was quickly followed by a fifteen yard shot from Emmett, making the score one all. Each team defending and attacking with fantastic enthusiasm was matched by the jubilant supporters cheering in the spectators area. UL gained the lead with a difficult shot superbly scored by Pauline. As the second half got under way, DCU scored to level the game for a second time. Tension increased as DCU regained the lead but not for long as Pauline swept in, to once again level the score, which now stood at three all. The closing minutes were packed with nail-biting on the edge play as both teams battled for the win. Relief

and jubilation swept through the pool and the spectator area as the whistle blew ending a fantastic game from the two teams resulting in a three all draw. Congratulations to our team for their superb performance, made up of-Emmett, Jimmy 'Captain' Evans, Pauline, Paul, Aidan 'Homer' Holmes and Felix Mathivet. Well done to all who took part in the 35's trophy and cheers for all the support!

Don't forget the pool sessions have been revamped with teaching going on Tuesday night, general session Wednesday night and polo on a Thursday night-21.50-23.00. Good luck to all those going to Killarney this weekend-safe paddling guys.

Debating Union - The Drag Debate

by Yvonne Deane

Greek Week (so the posters tell us) seeks to promote alternatives to the usual beer soaked revelries, healthy mind/healthy body, a kind of rag week for the culture vulture. On the ball as ever, Marie-Claire, secretary of the debating union decided to interpret this as "Lets force the lads to dress as girls and speak in public". The motion was decided; This house would embrace its funky divas amidst worryingly half hearted protestations the lads were chosen. Paddy Buckley, Eamon O Flynn, Timmy Hennessy, Shane Moloney and Eoin Gubbins were all going to embrace their inner girl with Keith Piggott promising to take a break from his whirlwind tour of the UL comedy circuit to help out, participate and generally laugh at the lads. With all the interpersonal skills he could muster (When sober anyway) Timmy manages to wrangle a guest appearance from Miss Alternative Limerick, a dame whos reputation precedes her for her dive persona and diva style tantrums as we were to find out. She would raise the standard of the draggery (Is that a word?) and separate the men from the boys so to speak.

So the scene was set. This promised to be a bad assed debate at seven o'clock in the scholars function room on an otherwise normal Tuesday night, Limerick premiere drag queen and national D-list celebrity would lead six of UL arguably hairiest men into a Big - Girlie-Bitchfight-War-Of-Words type thing. Did I mention Paddy Buckley would be wearing a dress? Classic! All day Tuesday the big pink posters strewn around campus must have

been a harsh reminder to the brave contestants that within mere hours they would have to produce a sound argument whilst pretending to be a girl! So with maternal sensitivity or perhaps a perverse desire to shame the poor bastards, a female was assigned to each male to guide his



UL debaters in drag

trembling hand into the hell anthropologists term "female homo sapien big night out preparation". That evening in a small hidden function room in a far of wing of the Students' Union building the lads busied themselves in figuring out bras. It was strange really. EOF seemed amazingly adept with the old clasp whilst SM actually put his on upside down.

'The peoples names have been abbreviated to their initials to protect their identity.' Paddy Buckley seemed to have gone AWOL presumably in his office clutching his laptop for comfort. A sequin-corsetted Timmy Hennessy (with what can only be described as projectile mummies) informed the writer that true to form

Alternative Miss Limerick had exercised a ladies change of mind prerogative, tottering off to TV3 and dropping out of the debate at a minutes notice. PANIC! In so little time who could find that would fill the void, provide the kinky je-ne-sais-quoi, with long legs, curly eye lashes

and only a passing aversion to transexuality.

BOGSY

Phew!! Paddy was found in no time at all with his black wig, purple suit and penciled eyebrows ready to take on all his rivals under a new persona: Miss Graine Sioga. Eamonn O'Flynn chose a racy little red number, Eoin Gubbins relied on the foolproof hot little cheerleader look, Shane Moloney complemented his Oompa Lompa fake tan with a sazzly skirt and a flirty straw hat. Stephen Bogs threw caution to the wind, abandoning all subtlety for a so low you can see what I ate for dinner so high you can see how I reacted to it black dress. These boys had style. Us female

assistants wept with pride, took photos and wished them luck. It was time to let them go. The ugly ducklings had been magically transformed into cross dressing ugly ducklings. Off they went. But where was Keith Piggott? A small but blood thirsty crowd had gathered in the Scholars function room. The crowd murmured "Which is worse, someone who looks OK in drag or someone whos too brutishly male to carry it off?" Keith Piggott, dressed as Keith Piggott introduced the motion explaining to seething contestants he was dressed as a butch lesbian. Cheater! A well hung one at that. His interpretation of the motion as being this house would embrace stalking was largely ignored. The lads had more pressing matters to discuss. Paddy Buckleys theory that having a baby is like squeezing an orange through the tip of your penis has, no doubt, rocked the gynaecological world. Eamonn O'Flynn's heart rendering empathy with all menstruating women surely compensates all msygenistic deeds. Eoin's mysterious white stain, Shanes lapdance when all oration failed and Bogsy's argument that slugging women is great craic, were great craic. It was a killer debate. Perhaps the queen of the night who deserves the most mention is Timmy Hennessy. He dealt with the strain of the debate in the only way he knew how: By drinking serious amounts of Bacardi and by slowly crossing and uncrossing his fuck-me-booted legs to unnerve the proposition. Genius! His display of cunning was rewarded with a flully tiara and a standing ovation, while the others couldn't get their clothes off fast enough Eamonn carried on in drag, nobly raising money for charity.

International Food Fair

I think that it was a wonderful experience for both cooker and taster. When the food fair began in the main canteen kitchen there was a fabulous atmosphere, imagine something like 18 different nationalities, cultures and languages communicating and cooking in a very confined area. To know if someone is speaking to you, you just have to filter in the ambient noise of your mother language. What was really interesting was the fraternity between countries for example the Moroccan food was supplied by the Irish, the potatoes were cut by the French, the kitchen utensils were provided by the Swedish and the Rumanians, and all that managed by our favourite American girl Mariah. Every country was really interested by the others countries' food. I think that the most asked question was 'What is the recipe please?' So after the cooking finished every one knows the success that followed in the main canteen that memorable



night. To finish I would like to say ' what a wonderful experience ' I am hungry for the international food fair ;-)



Young Fine Gael Sleepout

The University of Limerick Branch of Young Fine Gael is planning to hold a sleepout in Limerick City in the coming weeks, to highlight the growing problem of homelessness in Ireland.

Despite our recent prosperity, the numbers of people living on the streets of our major towns and cities has been growing steadily throughout the 90's. With the Government cutting expenditure in all areas, we fear that this is a situation that can only get worse. We hope to raise awareness among the general public and students of UL about this problem, and hopefully raise money for one of the worthy causes working with the homeless in Limerick.

A provisional date has been set as the 12th of December, and plans are ongoing. Anyone who has any ideas or would like to get involved in any way can contact any YFG member, or contact us at ulyfg@hotmail.com

Environmental Society

by Edel Fitzgerald

UL Environmental Society is one of the best-known societies on campus—mainly because we're always in mad colours taking part in equally mad happenings around the college- and the world!

In first year I literally joined virtually every club and society, in an effort to gain free lollipops and sweets, and anything else they could win me over with! I tried everything once but it was the Envirosoc that really inspired me.

Envirosoc is a tireless, ever-changing society, with the most diverse crowd I've ever met— from the student who's been a veggie all his life, to the student who gets sick at the sight of a carrot, from the student who wears only fair trade to the student who was never particularly dreadlock-inclined, this society's got just about anybody! The one thing we've all got in common? We give a damn about the ever-increasing destruction of the environment, and we're not prepared to sit down and wait for it to go get worse, and worse and worse...

We're known for our energy and by god have we shown it recently! During the summer, we were privileged to be a part of Ecotopia— a gathering of environmentalists from around the globe who come together for two weeks to basically live completely environmentally friendly. It's been held all over the world, and this year it was Co. Clare, Ireland's turn! Many envirosoc members went out to Killaloe to take part and soak up the sunshine, and the mud for



UL Environmental Society

some unlucky few (ha! ha!). It was certainly an eye-opener!

This semester has already been filled with green events. Already, members have met up with environmental heads from other colleges in a gathering in Queens in Belfast, which was pretty cool. We've had a gig in An Phluis where we entertained ye during your lunch! The Green Fair was probably our biggest event to date—you couldn't miss us in the Stables courtyard. We gave locals a chance to sell their environmentally sound products and had a few info stands on different organisations and events. It was top-class this year— we invited local schools in an effort to influence the younger generation to

think green. Students from an organic farming, Dromcollegher, also came and had a look around. We also helped out the International Society with a veggie stand at the Food Fair.

We expect the next few weeks to be even crazier!! We're going to Sligo soon to meet up with environmental groups from colleges all around Ireland. We'll probably be discussing plans for another protest in Sellafeld—we've already been there three times so we think another one is due soon 'cos we'll be getting withdrawal symptoms otherwise! The next trip is predicted to be bigger and better than ever, with plans to go to London first to meet up with groups there. It's

definitely a weekend way to think twice about.....

We're also planning a major campaign in the next few weeks in conjunction with St. Vincent de Paul and The Irish Peace Society called 'Food Not Bombs'. We want to promote the obvious— that money should be spent on SAVING peoples' lives, not ENDING them. This will be leading up to a huge anti-war demonstration which is to be held in Dublin. As if that's not enough, we're going to take part in a demo in Shannon airport. Right now something illegal is occurring— Shannon airport is being used by the American airforce as a stopover point. This activity actually breaks the Irish Constitution as it undermines our Constitutional right to live in a neutral country. Obviously, this has become one of our most important issues at present because it's so local.

Okay, there's loads of other stuff happening so if you wanna know why it's so important to get up off your arse to turn off the lights downstairs and why you should stop eating Milky Bars, then e-mail environ@csn.ul.ie or just turn up at our weekly meetings in the Student's Union—Mondays at 7.

"The world is too round to sit quietly in the corner".

The Environmental Society would like to take this opportunity to show our sympathy to one of our greatest members, Eoin O Broin, at the tragic loss of his younger brother, Pauric. Our thoughts are with you.

UL Tennis Club trip to the National Open Championships

by Turlough Flood

In a time of scandal, adultery, confessions and riveting exposures wrongfully taking up the front pages of the tabloids, I thought I'd add to it all ever so slightly, although it is no less shocking. And you think you know a person that is until you go on a trip with them.

It doesn't have to be the cozy confines of a celebrity party or the diary of a footballer's mistress that these stories unfold. Terrifyingly enough, right here in a group of twelve that not just traveled to Galway but also ventured into the hidden, god forsaken depths of their fantasies, in-acting them where no one knows your name.

I don't want to be exposing their "dirty laundry" as they say but it's so dirty that no indoor appliance could attempt to clean it and the sheer force of it would send any man into delirium that tried to clean it within an enclosed space. This monster needs to be released.

Am I exaggerating? Of course I am?. But it was funny nonetheless.

Friday 25th October

We climbed unknowingly onto the bus that would start this journey for us. "Big Momma's House" was

shown on board. It's comedy soon to be tragically outshone by the weekend's events.

The B&B lady, whose name can never be revealed, tried unsuccessfully to squeeze six fellas sardine-esque into two rooms. It proved difficult for her to realize that we needed beds to sleep upon and unlike her other "guests", we couldn't hand upside down from the roof by our feet. She did offer her friend's house to us, which was situated in a dark forest and was made entirely out of ginger bread. But the menu of boiled children put us off that. Ok she wasn't a witch but did give out to us at one point.

In the tennis club close by, the first mind to be vividly exposed was that of Neil Donovan. He'd spotted his competition and chose the method of brutal injury as the best way of progressing to the finals. He stood up to begin a game of pool and lined up the cue. With a vicious jerk of his wrist he launched the white into a crowd, quietly socializing too close by. What followed was chaos. The ball shaded an elderly woman's face, removing her lipstick with its speed and colliding into an auld man's leg. If he hadn't troubles with his joints before, he had now. Gasps and uncontrollable crying could be heard throughout the clubhouse. "Cut his

bloody head off" could be heard loudest. Neil then headed for the dartboard, the room cleared.

Saturday 26th October

The day began early for some and not at all for me. Matches began in the tournament at various times that were irrelevant in my case. Why? Because I got a by to the second round. Hurrah. So I enjoyed the company of Mrs. Cat Deeley and the ever-glowing Mrs. Mumba on CD-UK in the comfort of my bed. Two o'clock came rather too quickly and I needed to meet at the courts for my doubles match, planned for 3pm. My unfortunate partner for this was Jeff Richardson. To say Jeff tried hard to carry me through the match is an understatement. He heaved, hauled and dragged me as well as he could but my inability to put two shots together proved I was too heavy and he had to drop me. We went out in the first round to auld Dublin men. Jeff played some great tennis and I got a shot or two in but we had to concentrate on the singles now and we knew where to find plenty of singles, the clubhouse bar.

Turlough Flood, the ever-present coach, was only too glad to be introduced to the President of the NUIG Tennis Club. I have a sneaky

feeling he desires to be in a position with her, I mean like her. The omnipotence of a president's role, in a club as successful as Galway's appealed to him. Penetrating that set up may be his plan and he has mentioned he'll infiltrate from the top. A young, old woman was in the bar that night. She did appear to be quite young but on Neil's closer inspection of her legs, he informed us that she indeed could pass for a million years old. His obvious distaste for the lady didn't prevent her from making her wishes known. She wished for Neil and he dismissed her pursuit for a ?bit of young meat? as comical. His cruelly ignoring her didn't appear to work and she pursued all the harder. She remained alone every night of the trip. I don't know if she even plays tennis or is just a hunter. Hunting those that may be hypnotized by the swirling veins covering her legs. This is the fashion police lady, step away from the skirt.

Sunday 27th October

This morning unfortunately I had to be up early, is that how you say it? Eearlily, sorry I just can't say it. I played my second round match against a man who was precisely 103 years old. But alas even with trying to run the legs off him and hopefully

cause him to collapse, I lost. He had every spin; trick and wee dinky shot down to a fine art and could even hit them from his hyperventilating position laid across the court. Jeff too was playing the singles, better than he then tried to play them that night in club Cuba. He relied on the ever elegant and composed Roisin Kennedy for assistance. Once Jeff had his target, Roisin sprung into action, grappling with the target, throwing her into a confused fear and launching her into the seat available next to Jeff. From here Jeff let his charm do the rest, with his new lady friend being tied to the seat by Roisin. Roisin of course remembers none of this. Tuesday morning, after our return, she had to be told she'd been on a trip. The first drink is always the worst. That night Grainne Flannery acquired, mafia style, free tickets for some of the tennis club members for the club. We went to Club Cuba that night and proceeded to bond. This bonding session was taken a step further by Anne and Shane. I'll leave their second names out for their own sake. Games can be played but when someone loses an eye, that's where the fun ends. No one lost an eye, so their fun continued. I stumbled aimlessly into a game of spin the bottle but soon retreated due to the ferocity of the game, Lena and Marie being the most aggressive and with any passer by. The bottle became an irrelevant

part of the game at times and all in the club were possible prey. At other times anyone caught even in the vicinity was chased, pined down and got a bottle into the face and then lovingly kissed. Clearly to any boyfriend out there of these girls, I am lying completely. I was casually enjoying the club when Neil (be careful he's gonna hurt you) Donovan appeared with something black in a shot glass. Questions are a wonderful thing and more of them may have extended my night. The black thing near killed me, and others. We weren't competing against Neil in the competition but he obviously found it necessary to take us out. He almost succeeded. We left the club and headed home. Some in taxis and others walked. Now I don't know how far it is from Galway city to wherever we were going, somewhere the other side of Salthill, but John Gleeson walked it. I received a phone call from him about 4am thinking he was checking we got home ok and not realizing he was only, absolutely petrified and needed to keep in contact with someone. He felt safer that way. He said later he ran faster every time someone walked towards him. Soon his running was so fast it was merely a whisper in the night and matching the sound of the rolling waves of the sea on the Salthill coast. Fear could have gotten him around the court faster and going on his performances he

didn't seem too afraid of losing. I'm lying of course. John was playing his part in getting himself and Turlough into the final of the B Grade Men's Doubles competition. At about this time two young men, Fiachra Lennon and Steve Taylor were being stalked by the crazed, depraved and completely relentless onslaught. Meanwhile later that night, while I lay in bed waiting for the sweet dreams to ensue, pandemonium broke out. The door of my room burst open with Anne and Shane the cause. Shane chased Anne panther like around the room, resulting in Anne landing in and crawling under the sheets of an empty bed. Screaming, howling, screeching and complete noise followed. Shane proceeded to drown the bed and Anne in whatever substance he had in his hand. He then retreated and she stayed. Leaving the place in a silence that caused me to wonder if anything at all did happen. I'm sure it did, I was dripping wet. The rest of the girls retreated to their palace pardon B&B. Alison remained focused on her upcoming matches and Conor Casey.

Monday 28th October

The day after the night before and all appears well. It appears well. Insanity comes easy to these ones and was accepted with praise for each other's antics. Someone could have

lost an eye I tell you but they didn't, so all is well. Turlough Flood and John Gleeson won their final in the B grade men's doubles and Turlough won his final in the Men's Singles D grade final. Congratulations to them. Neil Donovan and Anne Kelly got to the final of the runners up plate and Alison, Lena, Marie, Grainne and Roisin all got to various stages of their respective competitions. Shane, Jeff, John and myself also proceeded to different stages, none too dizzy but all respectable. Well done and many congratulations to everyone who took part.

Now that's the story, not as shocking as I may have led you to believe but I had to arouse interest. Just a wee note on the 35's tournament that went ahead last Thursday. Dublin won. We did have victories from Eoghan Sullivan and Alison Grehan, the rest of them played valiantly but alas DCU just played the better tennis. I have to commend those that did play for braving the cold and rain. All added to the tournament and I appreciate all their individual contributions. Thank You to David Meeres, Mikael, Sean Fitz, Eoghan Sullivan, Alison Grehan, Marie Bowler (who should have won), Deirdre O Brian, Noirin, Jane Ryan and Anne Kelly. Also well done to Neasa and the rest of the arena staff for the excellent organization of an event of this magnitude.

St Vincent De Paul Society

by Brendan Gleeson

The St Vincent De Paul society had the best weekend of fun, craic and a little work a few weekends back. We were fully equipped for the weekend away with one carton of orange juice (tesco brand), a bag of chocolate and one slice pan.

Like all family holidays, the journey to Trabolgan was a fun experience in itself. The unexpected unfortunates on the local 302 into Limerick City could well have been forgiven for thinking that we were the Waltons reincarnated, and no doubt some had wished that they had taken the 308 instead, as they listened to one SVP member talk about her preferred type of kissing. This is where our supplies came into action as we offered our chocolate around the bus, and as weird as people thought we were they still couldn't resist.

We got to the train station where we met up with a member of SVP from Sligo, and surprisingly enough he left us after five minutes "to get a coffee!". After a train journey, with other passengers being amazed by our great sense of humor, we arrived in Cork and our first stop was a pub house 'The Handlebars', where we met with colleges from around Ireland and headed for Trabolgan.

A Friday night in Trabolgan is just like a Friday night anywhere, and it was time to make the other unsuspecting residents aware that the SVP of UL had arrived. It was Karaoke night and the group leader of our SVP gave his version of 'You Sexy Thing', as he lashed it out and gave it all on stage, although the other contestants

knew they were safe from any possibility of being beaten, I'm sure 'Hot Chocolate' were worried that their song would be transformed or rather deformed for ever.

We went back to our houses and retired to our beds early, early the next morning that is. One or two of our members thought it would be so much fun to have a little water fight, things always seem funny at that time of the morning, but when it started to get bright it was time to sleep.

As College students know, the way of life is late nights followed by early mornings, and that didn't change here. The SVP conferences from each College, which were distinguished by personalised badges including us but we lost ours, although we found them when it was time to leave, joined together to swap

conference ideas. This again was fun and I'm sure the members from other colleges wanted to be an SVP from UL.

As evening came we retired to get a typical meal at the centre of every stable students diet, pizza, and there's nothing better after a feed of pizza than a nice fun swim. A blue floating cube kept us entertained for a while in the pool until we discovered 'the slide'. The orderly one at a time fashion was soon discarded and it was a case of "catch us if you can" for the lifeguards as we bundled down together. From here it was time to hit the Jacuzzi and the occupants already in it didn't know whether to laugh or cry as we held 'the hairy leg contests', (girls and fellas). For one poor resident it was all too much and a nice friendly comment about his Speedo's was enough to scare him off, possibly

forever. Next stop was the Sauna, which was again occupied, well for at least about thirty seconds with wholesome innocent residents. From there it was the fun 'wet swim hat slapping contest', but when we realised we had lost our locker keys it had to stop. All in all Trabolgan pool will never be the same again. O yea, our hairy leg contest was won by a female member of our club by the way.

After our swimming pool antics it was time to relax and enjoy our special prepared dinner, which each of us enjoyed immensely followed by a lashing of dessert. And what a better way to wash down a big dinner than with a trip to the playground, to see how much of the merry go round we could handle before we could see our dinner in front of us once more, and I must say "the beef looked a lot nicer on the way in". To wrap up our wonderful day we retired to the local pub, which soon transformed into a club that would make Docs and the smelly Market look like empty bingo halls.

On Sunday morning each member was treated by our group leader to a massive Irish Breakfast with Cheerios. The Weekend was brought to a close with a small sermon given by Fr. Mike, who is possibly the best moonwalker I have ever seen and that includes Michael Jackson. The SVP Society has loads of plans for the future and the members can't wait to carry out their voluntary work, and enjoy possibly an even better Christmas Party.

And for those who don't know. "Who are we? The SVP." See ye all soon.



The St Vincent De Paul Society

Campus News

by Valerie Gunning

SUPERDINE REFUSES TO SERVE SOBER CUSTOMER

Attempts by fourth year Irish-Italian student Stefan Malachy Daverno, to satisfy his late night hunger pangs by purchasing from the Superdine Eating Establishment were foiled when he was refused service due to his sobriety. Staff manning the fast-food venue threatened to have Mr. Daverno forcibly removed from the premises after his non-alcohol fuelled purchase request.

"I'd spent hours working on my FYP when I thought I could take a break to get some nutritious grub from Superdine", explained Mr. Daverno. "My fascinating FYP gave me plenty of food for thought but I figured only a garlic and cheese chip could satisfy my physical need for food" added the studious computer engineering student, who then proceeded to make his way to the establishment in a direct and soberly manner.

On reaching the eatery Mr. Daverno confidently approached the counter. On declaring his desire to purchase a "large garlic and cheese chip with extra garlic and garlic mushrooms" suspicious staff immediately queried his actions commenting "are you sure you've had enough?" "I was suspicious straight away," explained quick thinking server Molly O' Flynn. All the telltale signs of sobriety were there: a coherent request for food, the upright and unsupported stance at the counter, with the complete lack of a smell of alcohol on the breath," she said. "This man had clearly not been drinking."

Mr. Daverno was subsequently told that it was not in the interests of someone "in his state" to be served. "It's for your own good," staff reportedly told him. "Just go home and sleep it off. You're in no fit state to be eating here." Despite quiet and reasonable assurances by Mr. Daverno that he knew when he hadn't had enough and could eat what he wanted, the servers remained unconvinced. After listening to the coherent and reasonable arguments put forward by Mr. Daverno he was asked to leave "in a loud and uncooperative manner", although witnesses state that he merely walked out quietly without a fuss.

Business then continued as usual with the next customer ordering "three chicken burgers and a curry chit" before sliding into an undignified heap on the floor.

ROOM OPTIMISTICALLY TIDIED IN ANTICIPATION OF ONE-NIGHT STAND

Vaguely hopeful of a night of "hot lovin' action", first year, Tony Gibbon, left nothing to chance by devoting an entire afternoon to tidying his bedroom. Anticipating the later arrival of an as yet unknown female guest Mr. Gibbon went to great lengths to make his abode presentable to 'random' visitors.

"I'm heading out later on so who knows, I might get lucky," observed the business student as he placed a pile of old free Irish Examiners into the bin. "If I do get some hot bird back to my room then I know that it's nearly in the bag," he continued, "but I also know that if the place is a tip then she may back out straight away and then everything will be lost".

Mr. Gibbon went to nearly unprecedented lengths of meticulousness in rendering his room clean, fresh and tidy. "The way I see it," he analysed, "any woman with the good taste to go for a bit of Tony is going to be just as admirably selective in her choice of rooms."

Housemates of Mr. Gibbon do not all share his optimism regarding impending sexual activities. "I see he's at it again," noted one housemate as he spotted a mound of assorted crisp packets appearing outside Mr. Gibbon's door. "We get this every time he's going out drinking and to be fair it never seems to work," he said with a look of pity on his face. "To be honest," he added, "if any girl did make it back here she'd probably be overpowered by the Mr. Sheen fumes."

Reports suggest that the evening's drunken exploits ended with Mr. Gibbon weaving his way back to his house alone and then vomiting wildly all over his immaculate room.

2ND YEARS ACCIDENTLY DISCOVER LIBRARY

Two second years were reportedly "amazed" upon discovering "a large building full of books" above the Plaza Café on Wednesday lunchtime.

"It was incredible," said Mary Moore, one of the dumbfounded duo. "As I was in the process of finishing my coffee I glanced in through the window and there they were-I can't believe I never noticed those books before."

The intrepid pair wasted no time in investigating their finding. They raced up the glass stairs and were "quite literally gobsmacked" to find that above the Plaza Café was in fact the University library.

"It was mentioned in the prospectus," commented John Johnson, "but I thought it was just a myth, I didn't take it very seriously. To finally be in the presence of this fabled building made my knees quiver."

"I always thought people were taking the pi** when they said they were going to the library. I never actually thought such a place existed", exclaimed Mr. Johnson, before rushing off to the Stables to inform his friends of his miraculous discovery.

Your Stars

by Mystic Meg

Aries: (March 21—April 19)

Studies show that Limerick has the highest murder rate of any place in Ireland, except the place where you'll be standing at noon tomorrow.

Taurus: (April. 20—May 20)

The only thing that keeps you from realizing your potential is the depressing awareness that it probably wouldn't take much time or effort.

Gemini: (May 21—June 21)

Though you're so fat, you should have your own zip code, you continue to use that of Fatsoville, your city of residence.

Cancer: (June 22—July 22)

You will soon be unwillingly forced into a flurry of activity when you are chosen to host the 2014 Winter Olympiad.

Leo: (July 23—Aug. 22)

You like to think you can be relied on to do the right thing in a crisis. Well, enjoy your last few days of believing that, pants-wetting panic bunny.

Virgo: (Aug. 23—Sept. 22)

You're excited to get what you've always deserved until you realize it amounts to 4.27 in pizza coupons.

Libra: (Sept. 23—Oct. 23)

You've never considered yourself a genius, which helps you avoid damaging blows to your self-image this Sunday.

Scorpio: (Oct. 24—Nov. 21)

You have always rejected the doctrine of reincarnation as superstitious nonsense, which comes as a great relief to Hindu couples expecting children early next month.

Sagittarius: (Nov. 22—Dec. 21)

Your natural abilities will be put to good use when you are chosen by leaders of 12 countries to head the U.N. insecurity Council.

Capricorn: (Dec. 22—Jan. 19)

In spite of your complaints about how undignified it was and your repeated professions of shame, you still kind of enjoyed sleeping with the fat girl.

Aquarius: (Jan. 20—Feb. 18)

A soon-to-be-released university study will show that you are less likely to refuse offers of drugs than anyone in the known universe.

Pisces: (Feb. 19—March 20)

The judge will declare a mistrial in your capital-murder case, not for any legal reason but out of a desire to listen to Lou Reed's Mistrial.

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Upon arrival DCU were brought to the arena for packed lunches organised by the Stables before travelling to various venues to compete. Richard Murphy from UL Sailing Club travelled with two teams to the UL activity centre. "We had a great day, despite cold conditions we got off a number of races and had some very energetic sailing. It was also good practice for our other Intersarsity events this year," said Murphy.

Each sport ran individually and the one point was allocated for a win in the event. At the end of the day the points were totted up and as the points were sent in the lead changed several times which added to the rivalry and excitement of the event.

The Tennis Club ran a successful eight matches and the points went to DCU. UL Tennis player, Barry Mc Mackin said however that it was a great day and despite the rain it was a great competition.



UL climbers in action



Trampolining at the 35's Trophy

Organiser of the 35's Neasa O'Donnell said she was extremely pleased with how the day went. She said that UL's high-class facilities and dedication by the clubs involved contributed greatly to the smooth running of the event. She also commented that she was glad everyone got home safely and remembered windsurfer Jason Hackett, a UL student who tragically drowned at the last UL hosted 35's trophy.

After the sports were over the teams had dinner provided by the Paddocks before a night of festivities with

entertainment provided by DJ Ber Anglan. Galway band Voodoo kept the tunes coming for the night and a presentation was held at nine o'clock in the Stables to announce UL overall winners.

After the day's fun, DCU were herded onto the numerous awaiting buses and began the long trek back to Dublin. UL remained in the Stables celebrating and plotting how to hold onto the trophy next year. Come on UL!

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