



AN FOCAL



THE UL STUDENT NEWSPAPER

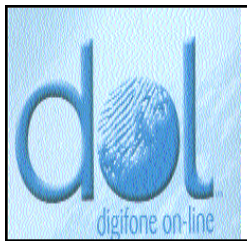
e-mail union.communication@student.ul.ie

www.ulsu.ul.ie

TERM 1 WEEK 2



State of the Nation
Page 7



Out & About
pg 15



Clubs & Socs Pages
Pg 22

Inside this week

NewsStories Cont. Pg. 4

Fear for the Future Pg. 6

Marion's Voyeur Column Pg. 9

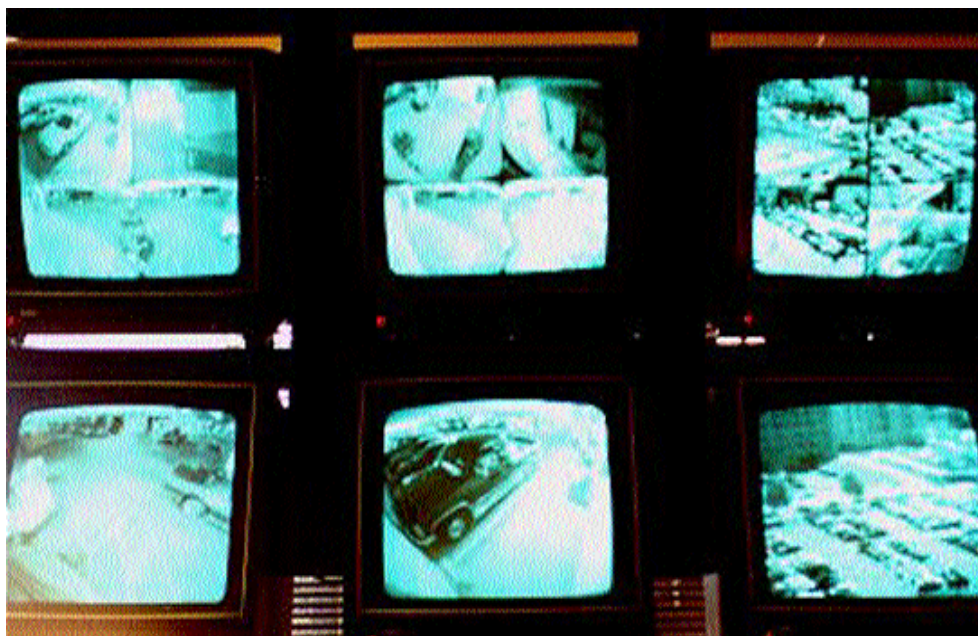
Culinary Grace Pg 12

Focal Ealaine Pg. 18

Stars & Things Pg. 27

Life throu' a Lens Pg. 28

CCTV Set to Protect Students in Castletroy



The ongoing saga of the proposed use of CCTV around Castletroy and in particular in proximity to the campus continued this week .

On September 2nd plans were unveiled in the local press to set up eight high definition cameras in Elm

Park, Milford Grange , Dun An Oir and Oak Lawns. The plans have so far been welcomed by Plassey Residents Association where Chairperson Eddie Storan speaking to An Focal stated that the cameras were being put in place for the protection and safety of all residents in the PLassey area including students

and not as had been quoted in the local press to 'Spy on Students' . Mr Storan was adamant that the cameras would not be targetting students but rather were in place to help prevent any attacks on students and residents alike or vandalism towards their property whether these were committed by students or not .

AN Focal was also in contact with a spokesperson for the gardai who would be involved in all stages of establishing the proposed closed-circuit television surveillance in Castletroy. Speaking from Henry St. Garda station the Garda spokesperson again reiterated that the cameras were a preventative measure that would aid investigation into vandalism and criminal damage cases that may occur .

The tape of such an incident could be used as evidence, as could the 'stills' recieved from Henry St. garda station .

Continued on Pg 4

Meeting to discuss An Focal's progress to date

we're looking for opinions, comments, ideas etc

Tuesday Wk 3
5.00pm

new student centre, SU - 0123
all are welcome

End to Free Parking for Students

by JENNIFER O'BRIEN

For those of you returning from COOP, Erasmus and even those of you who live in Plassey and College Court and rarely venture further south then the entrance to The Stables, a new sight awaits you.

where once great trees stood tall and proud, where once the view was green and leafy, where once nature reared its

bounteous and pleasant head there lies an expanse of concrete, grey, cold, unyielding which in the eyes of the powers that be, is the answer to the car parking problems UL has experienced of late. Yes, a new car park has been built directly across from The Scholars. There isn't a car owner who travels the length and breadth of UL who will disagree with the need for extra parking on campus.

Student car ownership has increased over the past number of years, whilst staff car ownership levels have not risen as dramatically. Yet the number of spaces provided for staff are proportionally greater than the spaces provided for students. One must be amazed at the fact that when there were fewer spaces,

Continued on pg 4.

Just To Let You Know.....

A word from the Sabats.

Each issue, we'll give you a quick dose of what we're up to.



Welcome back after the long summer break. Hope ye all had a good one.

Well after my first three months in the job and a disgraceful haircut I'm getting the hang of things. I took over the job from Pat McCarthy on the first of July along with Tom, Siobhan and Fergal. The summer was quiet without all of ye on campus but we were busy getting through files, organising the Clubs & Societies Village and the Ent's for the year. Week 1 was the start of the meetings for the coming year, and what a way to start with Governing Authority. Governing Authority is the policy making body within the University, which consists of senior officers in UL, Professors, Staff, Student Reps, and nominees from various outside bodies. Also over the summer I was working on the ULSU web page, so if you have any

ideas on what else should be on the page or have any queries, don't hesitate to email me at "union.president@student.ul.ie".

Finally I would like to thank the union staff who made the transition into the job much smoother (They are the best bunch of people to work with!), and for all their hard work with the Grad Ball, the Clubs & Societies village, and the entertainments for the last 2 weeks, hope ye all had a great time! Thanks to Becky, Ashling, Louise (Good luck in Sligo & don't forget to visit now and again), Caroline, Patricia (welcome to the job, hope you enjoy it) Stan, Dermot, Tony (BIG 40), Paul, Paddy and Eamonn and all of the Clubs & Socs lads & lasses for their help and especially Keith for all the entertainments. Great job. - OK Davoh, I didn't forget you either, thanks a million!

Later
Mick

Hi everybody and welcome back to UL for another year, and to all you first years hope you are all enjoying yourselves so far.

The last two weeks have been hectic to say least, between my graduation ball, orientation week and last week, I'm exhausted. However, I still have this paper to finish so I stop to say much to you, only that I've big plans for this paper so expect a lot of changes over the few editions. I will also have this edition on the web by Monday week 3; hopefully will include some follow on stories for this week's news.

For those of you were away, and missed all of the last semester, and living under a rock, a lot has happen, including the splitting of the CEO positions into two separate posts, Tom is the Education Officer and I'm the Communications & Campaigns Officer.

Now that you know who I am, I'll tell you what I've planed for the paper of yours. Firstly, I plan to split the paper into 6 sections, News, Features, Out & About, The Arts, Competitions & Horoscopes, and Clubs & Societies. These sections will develop over the next few weeks. The news, features and clubs & Societies sections will be more of the same as last year, so I won't bore with them but we'll have a few new faces writing for me. The out & about section will be the colour cen-

tre -pages, with pictures of guess what? You lot out & about, doing what ever you get up to when you're out & about.

The competition pages will have more than just a crossword but hopefully we can give you free tickets to gigs & films, books, and maybe free beer your lucky. The Arts pages are a totally new section to be title Focal Elaine.

This section is a joint venture between An Focal and the newly appointed Arts Officer in the college. The section will include the usual Book, film and music reviews but will also include Theatre reviews, Art reviews, and other Arts related pages.

An Focal will also include feature articles Os Gaeilge and hopefully soon in French, German, Spanish, Italian and other languages being taught in this great university of ours.

See Ya
Fergal F.



Someone asked a question of the candidates during the elections last semester, he or she wanted to know if the Students' Union was just a clique and if so why should anyone bother with it?

The reply given by one of the candidates, (one who wasn't subsequently elected), to that question was probably the best answer I have ever herd to that particular complaint, (a complaint anyone involved in the SU is quite familiar with). It went something like this, "YES! there is a clique; and its made up of people who give a damn; people who take time out to do things for others because they want to make a difference! They want to make student life and time in this University better and easier."

On reading this back to myself, even though I've just written it, I am inclined to think the average student in UL will scoff at what I've just said (I'd

have scoffed myself a year ago!). I can imagine the talk in the Stables or the Scholars (if this is ever even discussed there) "here we go again another Sabatt spouting a load of rubbish at us; trying to justify his cushy number for the year, trying to make himself feel important etc."

Well, to let you all know what we have been doing so far, we have been here over the summer dealing with the issues that have come up and trying to get a line on what is going to be important for the rest of the year. In the case of Education, we have been mostly looking at individual problems concerning individual students with a wide variety of different things going on. 'I' grades, repeats, rechecks and things like that. We have had a few class problems as well but I expect to have a lot more of them now that we have started back.

What has struck me most, so far, in relation to these problems is how unnecessary most of them are. Not because they are not important issues, they are ... they are extremely important issues, but because there are procedures and rules governing most of them. Rules and procedures that are not being adhered to by one side or the other. In many cases simple things which could easily have been resolved at an earlier stage if the right action had been taken, but now, are so far down the road that it has become a bigger problem and more difficult to deal with. In some cases trying to discover with whom the responsibility it is to deal with it can be a job in

itself. I have had students in to see me, students who thought a certain department was not doing their job, when in fact the problem lay somewhere else and they were directing all their anger to the wrong people. Trying to deal with a system as large and as complicated as any institution the size of UL is a full time job.

You don't have time for that. Your fulltime job is getting your degree. In the modern education environment getting that degree, getting any degree, is a fulltime job! That is probably more the case here in UL than, in any of the other Irish universities because of the nature of our system.

This then brings us to the crux of my argument. If UL is a complex bureaucracy, that needs time and attention to follow its rules, regulations, and procedures and you are a student endeavouring to attain your degree, which in of itself is a full-time job, then do we not have an impasse? More importantly how are you the student to resolve this dilemma?

My answer to those two questions is simple, that's what the Students' Union is here for! You have elected us, well some of you have, and you are paying us, yes all of you are, so now utilise us to make things easier for you.

Tom



Hi, welcome back..its great to have people around again...you can't even begin to imagine how dead this place gets over the summer. So I have to say, I'm glad you're back.

I'm the Student Welfare Officer - so what do I do? Well, Financial Aid, Legal Aid, Accommodation Issues, health worries or safety concerns are all part of my job. Then I'm there too if people need

to talk about anything else worrying or bothering them. They can range from just a falling out with a friend, to an unplanned pregnancy.

Whatever the issue, that's what I am there for. Then on the Deputy President side of things; I'm off to all the meetings with Mick, trying to push issues that affect us students and can make student life even better! So that's about it, in a nutshell anyway.

Have a read through this Welfare page now - and any suggestions you have for next weeks one would be welcome. (I'm new to all this so be patient!)

Have a great week...see you around! P.S...I know the photo is horrible - so try not to laugh...

The Outreach Society



Helping Caring.....Come On – Reach Out!

The Outreach Society is a new society that got off the ground last year. The aim of this society is to get involved in local community voluntary projects. Last year, one main project was undertaken – and it was very rewarding to all parties involved. But there is potential for so much more from a society like this here in UL. This year, there will be numerous projects undertaken, and any of your ideas or initiatives would be so welcome. If you have any interests or talents or hobbies – think about how much you enjoy them...and now you have a chance to give someone with less opportunities than us some of that enjoyment too. So if you want to do your bit to help others for an hour or so a week...please come along to the first meeting. It will be held on Monday Week 3, Meeting Room 5 of the Students Union (that's upstairs – the room beside the pool room). Hopefully we'll see you there.

The Word No

Remember that horrible feeling when the summer was drawing to an end when you were in school? The last few days of the summer, of freedom, quickly passing by, and there's nothing, nothing at all you can do to slow them down. to make them stop. Counting the days left doesn't work to slow them down, they just fly on by, and before you know it, it is that Sunday night before you go back... oh god, the feeling is horrible, a feeling that is in the bottom of your stomach, and won't go away....

Going back to college doesn't seem to fester up the same feelings...mixed feelings definitely, but not that universal one spoken of above. But whether you're glad, sad, delighted, excited, or just indifferent about being back, you'll usually find yourself down in the pub, and soon will be caught up in the excitement and buzz about the

place. And something else that everyone seems to get caught up in here, more than anywhere else, is the shifting...here we go...we're all back...lets go hunting! You can actually see it in the Lodge. Everyone off doing the rounds...and that's why I've picked for my first Welfare article - the word NO.

No. Come on. No. What's wrong? Nothing. Then come on. No. Please. No. It'll be great.

No. I know you want to. No I don't. Yes, you do.

No. Well, I do. I don't. Why not? I

Just don't want to. Come on. I said no. But I walked you home. No. I brought you drinks all night, didn't I? Please stop. And chips and a chicken burger in Zacs. No. Come on, just this once. No. Please. No. But I need it. Don't. I know you need it too. Don't. What's wrong?

Nothing. Then come on. No. It'll be great. Please stop. Come on. No. But I'm so crazy about you. Stop. I've never met anyone like you before. I don't want to. Why? I just don't. Are you frigid? No. You gotta loosen up. Don't. It'll be good. No it won't. Please. Don't. Just a little bit - just for a few seconds, that's all - I promise. No. Don't say that. No. Come on. No. You can't go around teasing people like this. Stop. Everyone does this; it's normal...what's wrong with you? Stop. No, you stop. No. Shut up and do it. Now..

It happens. The freedom of being away from home is one thing. But you could end up doing something that will have consequences that will affect the rest of your entire life. So know what you want, and how far you want to go. If someone does not respect your limits, then they don't respect you. Be very certain of that. Before you go anywhere, with anyone, know that much at least.

Welfare Notices

Everyone deserves to feel safe....

There are services here to allow everyone to feel safe – use them.

-The Nitelink is there, so you don't have to walk alone at night.

-Campus Watch is an organisation based on the concept of Neighbourhood Watch...know it is here, and that it is here for you....Campus Watch can only work if we have your co-operation, so remember no incident is too small to report. If you leave something unreported it may happen to someone else who could be unable to deal with it. Report anything suspicious.... if it turns out to be nothing, no harm done. On the other-hand, you could be saving someone else for a nightmare experience. You can report confidentially and without commitment to the Gardai, to me here in the Welfare Office, to the Student Councillors...we are all here for you.

-There are Personal Alarms readily available in the Students Union Shop -They are small and handy to carry, and cost only £2.50 - a small price to pay for peace of mind! You could also borrow a personal Alarm from us here at the Student Union Reception if the shop is closed – you simply ask for one at reception, and leave your ID card. Collect your card then in the morning as you drop back in the alarm!



The Nitelink is a free bus service provided for your safety. There are two routes...

Route A leaves on the hour, from 7.00 to 11.00, and covers:

- Kilmurry Village
- Elm Park Green
- Oaklawns
- The Orchards
- Brierfield
- The Fairways
- The Hurlers

Route B leaves every half hour, from 7.30 to 11.30, covering

- Kilmurry Village
- Back Gate
- Plassey
- College Court
- Milford Grange
- Spar Shop
- Kilbane
- Curragh Birin

It leaves from the Stables, so no one has an excuse to be walking anywhere on their own at night.

CCTV Set to Protect Students in Castletroy

Continued from Pg 1

He spoke of the success of such cameras in Tralee and mentioned that if the plans were to go ahead in Castletroy, it would also be considered for use in Limerick city centre. It was also revealed to An Focal that the cameras to be placed in Castletroy would have no sound recording and so would be useless to detect civil disorder or noise related problems in the area, these being the main complaints against students in the Plassey area.

From a legal point of view the cameras would aid the prosecution process with regard to vandalism and the destruction of property around the Castletroy area, also they may serve to prevent crimes

such as attacks on students or burglaries to student accommodation.

In the past it was an unwritten agreement with the college governors that should a student be arrested or summoned for disorder or another minor breach they would rather than face the full force of the law would be dealt with by a college disciplinary committee. From now on this action will be taken in addition to the full prosecution by the Gardai.

Local resident and Senator Mary Jackman also spoke to An Focal after being misquoted in the local press she was adamant to point out that she herself though in favour of the proposed cameras would only be so if they were for the good of the students in castletroy.

Ms Jackman was misquoted as saying that the cameras would be installed to identify 'student problems' in the area and could stop students 'doing what they like' but told An Focal that these comments printed in September were not a genuine reflection of her feelings. Senator Jackman said she felt the cameras were a good idea and would help to prevent some of the vandalism in Castletroy and also clear up the aura of blame that was placed on students whether they were guilty of the crime or not. She said the cameras in Castletroy and were not a 'Big brother' style attempt to watch or spy on the students here at the University of Limerick as has been touted in some

of the local press.

When asked about the cost of the sophisticated new system Senator Jackman stated that the running costs of the cameras and in particular of the control station on Milford grange would be covered by Limerick County council. The initial costs would be met partially by residents in the Plassey area, some private donations and also in some part by the University itself. An Focal investigating this revelation was told by Mr John O'Conner Head of Finance here at University of Limerick that the University did donate an undisclosed amount to the project as a result of the outcome to the EGM which was held two years ago.

End to Free Parking for Students

Continued from page 1.

more congestion, hassle and general commotion the inadequate number of parking spaces were free.

Now that the problem is being addressed, over 380 of these new spaces are available only on the procurement by the already cash starved student of a shiny pound coin. Already abused, exploited and overcharged by the insurance companies of the country, it is more than unfortunate to see our own University join in, making you, the student, pay for parking.

One must ask why we, the students of UL, the people through whom the very lifeblood of this institution runs be punished because we need to use cars? It is hardly the fault of an innocent third year Euro Stud that this country does not have an effective and efficient transport system, so why should we have to pay? As anyone who has attempted to catch a bus into town lately will know, your chances of the 4.20 showing up at 4.20 (or even 4.30, 4.40 or 4.50) are somewhere out there with Elvis playing the rag ball and a 100% attendance rate at 9am tutorials on Friday morning. Even for those of us driving in, traffic congestion and delays are features that could be eradicated if the transport system was a worthy one. Of course it would be more environmentally sound to be able to take the bus, but preparing yourself to catch a bus two hours before you are due anywhere in the vague hope you will get there on time is impractical and improbable.


A pound may not initially appear to be a king's ransom to pay for parking. But consider the fact that you will be paying it everyday.


That's a fiver a week, £20 a month, £75 for the 15 weeks of the semester and £150 for the year. And if you dare to come and park

at weekends or over the vacation period your costs will rise. £150 is a ridiculous amount of money to expect students to pay out every year. These car parks were not built as an extravagant luxury for the university but as a necessary response to a problem that existed. With over 380 spaces worth £150 per academic semester, the princely sum of £57,000 stands to be amassed each academic year. This figure will be greatly enhanced by parking over the summer months and also with the number of conferences held at weekends in the University.

There are, of course two car parks where students may park free of charge. Unfortunately, these are situated at the very outer reaches of the campus; the UL equivalents of Bray and Drogheda becoming ideal free car parks for Dublin City. Students may abandon their vehicles in an orderly fashion at the car park by the East Gate and also at the very back of the car park by the Foundation Building. These are so far from the hub of UL life as to negate their worth as car parks and also the supposed convenience that being able to drive into UL should be.

The University needs car parks and students need car parks. We are a country without an effective transport system and all need to use cars at some stage. It is unfair to ask students and visitors to this institute to pay for parking. UL is a university first and foremost, not a business. If UL starts to charge students for parking, where will they go next? One hopes that this matter is quickly revised, not only for the sake of our pockets, but also for the integrity and ideals of an educational institute of UL's standing. Universities need to make money, but it should not be at the expense of their students.

student banking Bank of Ireland 




no
bank
offers
more

to students of all ages

- PASS/ISIC Card in one • Free Siemens M35 WAP phone
- £100 off unison TV internet box
- £1,000 worth of discounts • London clubbing trip for £99 (+ tax)*
- Free Travelsave stamp worth £8*
- The chance to live rent-free for a year • Interest free and discounted loans**
- No service or transaction charges
- Freephone access to Banking 365 • On-line banking

For more information drop into Bank of Ireland, University College Limerick and speak to Grainne Shanahan, Student Officer (email: grainneshanahan@tinet.ie) or Gavin Russell (email: gavinrussell@tinet.ie) or phone 061 330600 today.

*Applies to 18 years only. **Lending criteria, terms and conditions apply.

we go to extremes so you can too 

Library Theft Causes Major Inconvenience over Summer Months

By Patrick Kennedy

As most of the students of the University of Limerick were away from the Limerick area for the summer months, the robbery that occurred at the Library will have gone mostly unnoticed.

On Sunday the 13th of August at 4.00pm a group of thieves smashed the windows at the garden level of the Gluckmans building. Within a mere five minutes they managed to access the main computer room and made off with a number of very expensive server boxes. These included the main OPAC server, the server box for security card system for doors, the box that handles the CD-ROM databases and one of the main SRAS server boxes.

According to Mr Gordon Young, Manager of the ITD Department, this type of robbery is common within the British Isles. It seems as if the items were almost 'stolen to order' as it were. This would indeed seem to be the case, as the perpetrators seemed to ignore similar items that were

newer and instead made for particular targets. It would seem that some of the computer servers that contained Library and student information will eventually be sold on the Black market in Eastern Europe.

All of the information stored has been retained, however, as the University keeps copies of the records in storage both on campus and at an external location. Regarding the information that was stored on the stolen items were the library records and the SRAS system contained details of student's home addresses. Mr Young stated however that there is no need to concern ourselves with the facts that these details were obtained as they would almost certainly have been wiped by the criminals before delivery to the final location.

Garda investigations are currently underway and we await detail of any arrests. Meanwhile the ITD department has successfully replaced the missing data and college security has relocated the movement detectors from the corridors sur-

rounding the ITD hub into the rooms where the servers are stored. Hopefully to will prevent any such theft reoccurring.

STOPPRESS:

Just something that I felt should be mentioned, I am actually writing this story from my home in Duncannon Co. Wexford. Since I began the awful news regarding the Kilkenny family has been uncovered. Search Helicopters and speeding Garda cars have transformed this normally sleepy village into a hive of activity. My next door neighbour found her usual morning walk to be interrupted dreadfully when she discovered the first body on the beach.

The village was just last night looking forward to one the biggest games in the local GAA clubs history. Sadly now everything has really been thrown back into perspective as everyone's thoughts and sympathy lie with the relations of the Kilkenny family.

LIMERICK 

FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC

27 Mallow St., Limerick
Tel: 061 312 026
Fax: 061 311664

*We don't give any lectures,
but we do give good advice on
all methods of contraception.*

Smear Testing & Breast Examination
Medical Clinics by appointment
On the spot pregnancy testing
Non-directive pregnancy counselling

Opening Hours:
Mon-Fri 9.00am-8.00pm
Sat 9.30am-5.30pm

Naughtons

OIL 

Annacotty, Castletroy, Limerick.

**Students
Special Offer**

**2p Off per Litre
on every Oil Order**

Student Discount Always Available
Same-Day Delivery
CALL
061-331122

The Fear for the Future - Guns in Schools

by
Nicholas O' Brien

Everybody wants to save the planet, but nobody can organise humanity in an army to protect it.

And the time comes when we all have to shout out against some thing so abysmal that it causes vehement sickness, but we cannot, because we are already certain nobody will listen... This is the pessimism of the modern world in perfect light, and this intellectual feeling of superiority that prevails is the racism of the 21st century, but there is no Martin Luther King or Nelson Mandela to lead us to any promised land.

We have all heard names of modern massacres, Columbine, and we blame them on American society, or lack of gun control, because that is just the way things are done in America. But nobody is asking if it will happen here, it is an Americanised problem, and we can ignore it. Nobody is campaigning for safety, in schools or demanding piece of mind, for children, for parents, for schools and for lives. There is juvenile violence incidents happening in this country every day, but we have to stop this invading our schools. And we cannot fob any violence off

on the media, on Heavy Metal music, or Horror films, because, when you were the ages of the Columbine killers, you had the brainpower to not be influenced by a movie, correct? So did they. They were influenced by hate, by their own ostracism, by society shunning them. And that problem exists here as well.

But there is time, as yet, to prevent any massacre here, in Ireland, time to plan to save lives, and to find answers to questions that, thankfully nobody has cause to ask yet. But how many times have we asked, when faced with disasters in the past, "Why, why didn't they stop this, why weren't we aware of these problems?" I can promise you right now, I guarantee that murder will spill over to Irish schools, and soon.

We cannot wait for tragedies to happen before we take steps to prevent them. When will we look, and understand, and say "That's wrong," or "We need to change this." How many voiceless people have to speak out before this becomes an issue for us.

I could frighten parents with statistics from America, or other countries all around the world, but people wouldn't listen. This will happen here, if we don't change, innocents will be massacred, because nobody

listened, or because life was too difficult, or because our educational system now is identity-less and heartless, preaching the need to be a follower and not a leader.

We can attack any problem numerous different ways, but initially, we must understand what is at the heart of the problem. Violence, stabbings, shootings are extremely prevalent throughout our society. Generations of children are being bred into a world that accepts it. Frustration is at its highest, as teens ask to be considered young adults, but receive only threats, the stick and never the carrot, demands to conform, to be voiceless and without questions, no rights, constant stereotypes, teachers who demand work, the pressure of a new clique, teaching subjects without a soul and without instilling any love for the pursuit of knowledge into students, identity-less exam numbers and points-pressure that breeds only depression and suicide, segregated from the opposite gender in single-sex schools, with nowhere to congregate, without a counterfeit ID

When did we start viewing school as an alternative to having kids on the streets, vandalising and thieving? Isn't it time to change that?

The questions we must ask are, will this happen here? Yes, it will. Can we stop it? Yes, we can. How? We have to fix a problem that the majority of people refuse to accept that it exists.

Athbhliain Faoi Mhaise Duit!!

by SEANAN O'COISTIN

Ní mac léann céad bliain mé a thuille. Ochón! Ochón! Ach is fás is forbairt é seo i mo shaoil anseo san ollscoil. Tá rudaí á aistriú timpeall na h-áite seo. Tá Aontas nua aginn - cá bhfuil Pat, Dee Dee agus Dayvoh imithe? (Caithfidh mé ráibh gur chonaic mé Dayvoh sa "Scholars" roinnt lá ó shin). Cé h-íad na daoine nua seo sna seomraí gnó in Áras na Lucht Léinn? Agus anois tá ceathrar feidhmeannaigh ann seachas trúir.

Tá dáth nua sa "Paddocks". Tá sé go deas agus tá pictúirí nua aisteach ar na ballaí comh maith. Tá na roth adhmaid is na deilbh capaill imithe. Is é seo an nós nua don mílaois don "Paddocks" - amach leis an bialann cosúil le saloon i gainamhlann in iarthar Meiriceá agus seo chugainn bialann ó lár Teampall an Barra. (B'fhéidir). Is féidir leat é sin a fáil amach duit féin.

Ionas nach mac léann céad

bliain méanois tá sé an greanmhar ag breathniú ar na lucht léinn sa céad bliain - go h-áirithe na mná. Is feidir iad a fheiceáil go h-an soiléir mar tá siad go léir gléasta go h-álainn. á siad ag iarraidh chuir ina luí dúinn gur mná álainn, gnéasúil is cáirdúil iad. Tá siad gléasta ins na éadaí galánta leis na lipéadúil cáilúil agus a dhaigheanna clúdatha le smideadh. Cathain bhfuil an iompar seo chun críochniú? Nár inis aon duine dóibh nach bhfuil gá leis an iompar seo in O.L.? Níl muid comh bréaga le sin. Bain díobh bhur éadaí is smideadh is bígí i bhur gnáth iompar. Fán go bhfeicidh sibh a chairde beidh na lucht léinn sa céad bliain cosúil linn go léie sna bliainta eile i míosa nó dhó nuair a tuigeann siad nach bhfuil gá leis an iompar seo.

Tá a fhios agat gur tús na bliaina é comh maith nuair a bíonn scuaine mór fáda taobh amuigh den "Lodge". Bhíos ann an Luain seo chaite le mo chairde. Bhí

orainn fanacht ar feadh 20 nóiméad taobh amuigh chun dul isteach. Ní tárlíonn sé seo aon am eile sa bliain fiú amháin nuair a bhíonn na mná ó Muire Gan Smál ann! Agus ansin nuair a fuair mé isteach san áit bhí sé plódaithe. Bhí an áit dubh le daoine. I mí deirhinn ní beidh fiú ceathrú den méad sin ann.

Tá foirgneamh nua a tógáil acu in aice an áras lúchleasíochta agus Áras Kathleen Lonsdale. B'fhéidir gur rud maith é ach ní rud maith anois leis an claí adhmaid sin ag gearra an clós gluaisteáin faoi dó.

Anois ní féidir leat súil trasna an droichead go dtí an Schrodinger. Caithfidh tú súil timpeall an clós gluaisteáin agus an AIB chun dul go dtí an Schrodinger. Ní rud maith é sin nuair atá tú déanach do léacht sa Schrodinger agus tógann sé 5 nóiméad breise duit dul go dtí do léacht. Cén fáth nach smaoiníonn na tógáil ar na rudaí seo roimh dóibh tosniú?

Is mé ag scríobh an alt seo feicim, ní hea bolaim, nach bhfuil a lán rudaí aistrithe san áit seo. Is mé ag scríobh é seo sa leabharlann tá duine éigean tar éis siúl thart is broim rúnda déistíneach a

scaoileadh. In anim Dé cád ar ith tú??

Is é sin bealach cinnte chun suíocháin is síocháin a fháil sa leabharlann nuair atá an áit plódaithe roimh na scrúidí. Níl aon duine chun suí in aice leat!! Lucht léinn an céad bliain - an bhfuil sibh ag léamh an comhairle sin? Bain feidhm ás am éigean.

Is é seo bliain nua san áit ar a dtugtar O.L. Na seandaoine is na daoine nua san áit. An aimsir fuar ag teacht go luath. A lán oíche sna "Stables" agus na "Scholars". Tinneas chinn, tuirseacht, gnéas, aistí, cláranna ama, scrúidí, 7rl, 7rl. Cén fáth bhfuil sé seo á déanamh againn - MAR IS LUCHT LEURÉINN MUID!!! Gan amhras!! Seo é tús na bliaina scoile seo - bain taitneamh ás. Athbhliain faoi mhaise duit.

State Of The Nation

the opinion of David Fleming

Have you ever wondered how it is that whatever you say can be turned, twisted and manipulated in such a way that you either look stupid or intelligent or both. This has happened more than once in the world of political stabbing and rhetoric. When a politician says something stupid we term it a political 'gaffe'. Literally a gaffe is 'a clumsy social error; a faux pas; a blatant mistake or misjudgement'. So when George W. Bush, Republican presidential nominee for America's top job in November, called Mr. Adam Clymer, a reporter for the New York Times, "a major league ass-hole", in front of reporters. It reverberated throughout the media and managed to spur me into writing this First State of the Nation for all ye new 'freshers' and the old hacks that have returned for yet another eventful year in UL.

The thing about it is that not many in the United States like the media too much and so it might not be as bad as people think it will be. But it immediately got the Democrats and Bill Clinton going by saying, "We like all of you", as the latter addressed reporters in the White House. A spokesman for Bill was asked if he had ever used an expletive to describe a reporter, which was answered: "Not in front of an open mike." So clearly the battle of words is made to make the gaffer look totally dim-witted and stupid, which is not far from the truth when one

refers to Mr. George 'wimpy' Bush. Having spent the summer in the country where capitalism is served fresh daily, I have gotten a little taste of the US presidential campaign, and so I shall share my wisdom. Most ordinary middle class people on the east coast and some in the south-west (the states which allowed me in [some states thought I was in the country to stand for the election myself]) say that if Bush is elected in November the country will nose-dive into an economic downturn and all achievements to date will be wasted. I do not know if Bush is all that stupid, but he seems to be popular – a factor that is key to any election.

Al 'the prince' Gore is leading in the polls at the moment after a successful Democratic convention. He is viewed, even by his supporters, as 'teacher's pet', a 'swat' type person, and the person that was good at everything and most likely to succeed. For all of this he is very intelligent (a rarity in politicians), and has focused on environmental and reform issues as vice-president to Big Bill for the past eight years. But will he be elected? Well nobody likes a 'prick' that knows everything and pisses people off by using foreign phrases when talking over a pint (first years take note). I personally think that he might just scrape in, but it is hard to know. There is quite a bit of campaigning to do between now and November



6th. The issues are basically Medicare (pensions and health), economic policy and education. Whether voters will determine their votes by such issues is questionable, as many do not get a chance to listen to what is being said, amid a torrent of attacks and propaganda through media commercials.

Another factor in the forthcoming election is that few Americans actually vote, especially the ethnic minorities – people from Latin America in particular. Of a population of over 196 million people eligible to vote, about 49% actually did. Although efforts have been made to attract more Latin American voters (the largest growing ethnic minority in the US today) by both candidates, it is questionable how many of them actually give a damn about the election.

So the race is on to fill the post. Ireland will not be much concerned as to the outcome as both candidates will not play too prominent a role, as Clinton did, with the Northern Peace Process. But it is interesting to know who is running the world and has the power to blow us all to hell. And if Mr. Bush is angry with reporters he might just press that little red button ... with the final words ... ye are all ass-holes?

The Gimps Column

60% of Male UL Students Potential Sheep Shaggers

In a detailed survey undertaken by the gimps column this worrying statistic has arisen. A test group of 30 male students were surveyed. Each member of the test group was individually asked two questions. Firstly the Gimps column posed the question –

"If you were stranded on a desert island for life with no other living soul but a sheep, would you shag it?"

To this question 18 students out of the thirty surveyed responded yes. This is quite a worrying statistic. What is more worrying perhaps is some of the responses given by the guys who said they wouldn't shag our fluffy friend. One test case said, "no way, not if I still had my hands". Others were more practical "I'd kick it in the head and then cook it and eat it" and "I'd milk it" (we didn't query him any further). One of our more sensitive responses was "no way, uhh imagine a sheep giving you a blow job, the black head on him".

We then asked a second question

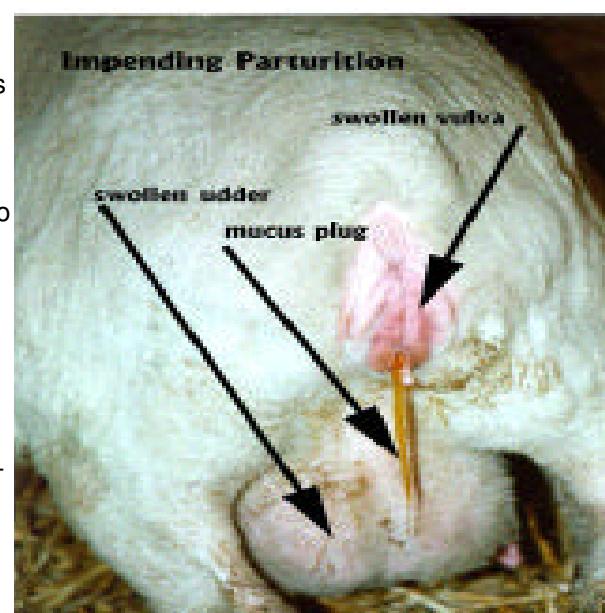
"If you were to shag the sheep how would you go about tracking it down and doing the deed?"

For the benefit of our Kerry and Mayo readers we divulge the five funniest answers –

1. I'd whip my lad out so the sheep would then smell other sheep and come to me.
2. I'd shove his back legs into my wellies.
3. I'd bring him to the edge of a cliff then he'd be faced with the dilemma of either dying or edging back to me.
4. I'd kick him in the head, kill him, and then shag him.
5. I'd use Velcro gloves.

Before the survey we were of the opinion that sheep were loveable creatures, harmless fluffy mammals. Obviously not, over half the group surveyed insisted that they would kick the sheep in the head before doing anything else to him. When we told a friend the statistic that 60% of the guys would shag a sheep in those circumstances he said "yeah and 40% are liars".

You can contact the gimps with ideas, articles or comments at I_like_to_roger@ireland.com



Diary of A First Year

Nicholas O'Brien shows us that men write diaries as well as the girls can!!!!!!

????????????????
His Identity is a secret until I get a damn picture from him

There are three mainstays, which stand out in the tiny mind of a first year student after the first fortnight in UL And two of them are not drink and sex either. One is ignorance, one is societies, and one is the Jean Monnet lecture Hall.

Now that is not to say I will regale you with longwinded anecdotes about student lifestyles, but we can deal with the first problem, ignorance, in an obvious way, the abolition of the following. "DG016, FG042, etc." What language do you people speak? I think maybethis is an unfortunate side effect of the impromptu Chemotherapy received by over-use of mobile phones, that all students from 2nd year and up are incapable of babbling more than 5

digits at once. So my little student world has not been expanded by the experience of those inthe know, as those in the know are clearly not literate in English...

I'll admit, from the beginning, U.L was not what I expected. I had this beautifully romanticised view of a pseudo-intellectual group of youths drinking cappuccino, listening to Jazz in coffee houses, and reciting Beat poetry to each other... All those guys, it seems, went to Mary I.

Again skipping the boring stuff (And I will tell you why in a minute), I will give you the brief highlights...

Telling the Sinn Fein society guy I was a Mormon, Telling the Christian society guy I was a Satanist, asking the socialist society if they were national socialists, being text-mesaged Sonya O' Sullivan's result in the middle of a workshop andshouting curses at my keyboard, to the shock of 3 attendants and 60 students... Opening 3 bank accounts and closing two of them, (Oxygen.ie, for all your SMS needs) Starting a band called the Copulation submachine guns with two sober friends (Nick Nasty, Lee Vicious and Dave Mothertucker. An amalgamation of Punk and Folk we

callF**K rock or Poof rock. Your choice, the first gig starts after the last pint is finished.

But when faced with such ignorance, and the shock of having to choose my own clothes, we all develop coping mechanisms. So what I do is, I make the lecture hall sound like a pub... So the Jean Monnet Lecture hall becomes Johnny Monnit's (Phonetically), and so on.

But if Johnny Monnit's is a pub, there is definitely no happy hour. A strange feat of design means it has more "No Smoking" signs than windows, hence I assume the stale air dulled my brain and left me with but a handful of coherent thoughts. These are:

1. The seats to the far-left are in shade and perfect for sleeping on.(Don't tell your lecturer.)
 2. Phonetically is spelt with a "Ph."
 3. Vibrating phones are dangerous in the wrong hands, or pockets.
 4. CD ROM's do not accommodate playstation games.
 5. This University's main-entrance is marked by two of the largest Phallic symbols in the world.(Result clearly of an optimistic architect.)
- And finally,
6. Lecturers have NO interest in

Sonya O' Sullivan.

The strangest part of this little expedition was definitely my attempts to write for this paper. I sent the editor an E-mail asking him where his office was. "SU-012" says he. OK, Mr. Editor, and where is that? "Main entrance, left, past the stairs, right at the reception, past more stairs, to the left down near the stairs." I think he had been drinking. So, against all odds, I found the room where we were all waiting to receive our assignments, but after a half-hour wait, the editor had not shown up. "Excellent" I thought, maybe for my first article, I could utilise a witticism about him "missing a deadline." But no, this short moment of pride was lost, when someone informed us all to "F**k off down to the editor's office, we need this room."

Fair enough, on I want, more determined than ever, and found the office with the rest of the troop. And he told us our position. "Write whatever you want, I don't care, everything gets in." And there is this gerbil in a cage on the desk in his office, I think maybe the gerbil is the proof-reader for the paper. He asked if anybody wanted to write "A first-year's diary." I put up my hand, and he asked what course I was doing. "Computer Systems" says I, proud that I remembered. The reply was "That's too boring, just make something up." So I did.

Class Rep Reform

The Students' Union is very aware of the problems with the Class Rep. system. On the whole we are very unhappy with the way it is working and therefore, have undertaken to initiate reform this year. Many students have complained that Class Reps. is used as a vehicle for organising social events only and thus fails in its primary objective, which is the representation of the individual classes within the University and Students' Union systems.

Currently there is supposed to be a Class Rep for every class in the University and two for any class with over twenty-five students. That would mean there should be approximately three hundred sitting on Class Rep Council, last year there was about eighty. That of course does not mean that there were only eighty Class Reps elected last year but that many were not taking their responsibility seriously enough. This has not been the fault of individual Class Reps but rather of the circumvention of Class Rep Council and its members by both the University and the Students' Union.

There have been a number of proposals already submitted to this office since Education became

a dedicated portfolio of the SU, including a comprehensive report on Class Rep Reform. Some of the suggestions included in that report and other proposals are as follows:

- The introduction of a new level to the Class Rep structure.
- This new level would be made up of one member of Class Reps from each College within the University, elected by the Class Reps from his/her own College. The candidate elected would then be a College Rep.
- These College Reps, it is proposed, could sit on Faculty Boards as one of the two Student Seats in those meetings. It is felt that with the introduction of the College Rep tier to the Class Rep system that College meetings could help focus problems specific to that individual college at the Faculty Board level in the University.
- It is also proposed that when the Quality Steering Committee is conducting a review of a particular College or Department that the College Reps would be the students that would be approached for student participation in that process.
- The introduction of standing committees at Class Rep Council.
- This would curtail the amount of time spent in

Council debating issues, as they would now be debated at committee level with only interested parties attending. Recommendations would be passed to Council by these committees in much the same way as the University operates its own Academic Council and committee structure.

- As it is proposed that there would be at least six standing committees there would now be scope for more students to have a hands on participation in the workings of Students' Union and University Academic administration. The proposed committees are in the areas of Education, Welfare, Communications, Ents, Finance and some sort of General Affairs Committee to deal with issues outside the remit of the others.

These are just some of the areas to be addressed at Class Rep Council. If you like what your seeing already and want to get involved. Watch these pages for more information and don't forget the Class Rep nomination forms are available at the Students' Union reception – Go get yours now!!!

Marion's Voyeur Column

- A fortnightly look at what's hot or not in the world

It's Only a Game Show!!!!!!

You always know the summer is on the way when they start showing repeats of Fawlty Towers on T.V. Granted, it is one of the best British comedies ever, but there's only so many times you can watch Basil struggle to "not mention the war" before feeling the familiar tinge of boredom. It wouldn't be too bad if we lived in a sunny country where we could spend our evenings lounging around our gardens working on a tan. But Irish weather dictates that on the (very rare) occasions that we have a free night in our summer social calendar we must endure the torture that is the summer television schedule.

This summer's saving grace T.V. wise was Channel 4's Big Brother. When it started first I was one of those who asked questions like "what kind of pleasure can anyone get out of watching other people cope with boredom". I mean, who would have thought that a game show where 10 people get locked in a house and sit around doing nothing all day would catch on in this part of the world. Versions of the show have been done in the US, the Netherlands, Spain and Germany but I never thought that it would turn into the phenomenon that it did in Britain and even in Ireland. I even got hooked towards the end and I'm the most cynical person in the world about anything that gets hyped by the British Tabloids.

To begin with I thought the "docusoap" was just an

excuse for people to exercise their voyeuristic tendencies, and for the tabloids to have something to sensationalise. By week 5 I was hooked and my view of the docusoap totally changed. It is possibly the most refreshing television genre for years. (It's a woman's prerogative to change her mind). The docusoap makes us all feel a bit better about our lives. When you watch real people cope with that kind of environment our own lives don't seem half as mundane. A summer without resorting to watching soap operas about people with more exciting lives than me was a welcome change from the norm.

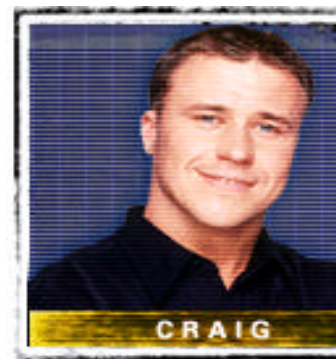
There were those who saw it purely as a social experiment to see how the housemates would deal with the 24-hour camera surveillance, and how they would interact with each other and the unseen Big Brother. I've seen videos of the first week and the housemates seemed very conscious of the cameras, they even tried to confuse the crew by freezing in front of the cameras so that they would think there was a technical fault. As the weeks went on they almost forgot about them, they were able to be themselves around the camera. Nobody can be on guard 24 hours a day.

The relationship with Big Brother was pretty much the same; at the beginning they were less willing to open up to the voice in the Diary Room but when they realised that this was to be their only contact with the outside world for 9 weeks they started to trust Big Brother and they were more inclined to be hon-



est and open with him/her/it. As the weeks went on, with less and less people in the house, talking to Big Brother was their only outlet for their thoughts and feelings.

The most interesting thing about how the housemates interacted with each other over the nine weeks was in the last few weeks as we watched them begin to get desperate for contact with the outside world. One example is Anna's plea for the crew to come to the party Craig,



Darren and herself were having on the last night in the house. It just proves that it doesn't matter how well you get on with someone, you can't spend all your time with them without one or all of you going crazy.

For the contestants in Big Brother the main thing they all achieved was fame. They'll get a lot more out of the experience than the £70,000 prize that Craig got. Most of them have started already between endorsements, and record contracts and negotia-

tions about T.V. careers. Interestingly Craig, Anna, Mel and Nick are all represented by the same management company, John Noel Artist Management. Even Claire, who was evicted at the first possible opportunity has already done an add for, surprise surprise Playtex. Darren who was, to put it mildly dim, might be doing a Chicken Tonight add, I don't think Darren's favourite chicken Marjorie would be impressed.

There are plans for an Irish version of the programme that will probably be produced by Magma Films an independent Galway based company. Its success is debatable, mainly because Channel 4 may do a second series of Big Brother and Irish fans might just be sick of the whole Big Brother thing, and besides that, let's just say RTE's history doesn't exactly inspire confidence.

For any one who liked Big Brother, the student orientated website Oxygen is starting something similar (even though they say it's totally different) within the next few weeks – check 'House 54' out @ www.oxygen.ie.

Gary Holland's Dubbies Guide to World-Wide Web



Whassuppp...There, I've said it! (That stupid catch phrase will be on every e-mail next week if it isn't already!) I apologise for that earlier outburst and guarantee that it won't happen again until at least the next issue!

For those of you who haven't yet experienced the addictive power of free Internet access on-campus (and judging by the queues in the Library this week, there ain't much of you), this article is NOT for you. The fact is, much as it pains me to admit it, you're better off! Nevertheless, for the vast majority of the student population who have already succumbed to the temptation of the Web, I'm going to try to help you rid yourself of this terrible affliction. OK, I'm not going to do THAT, but I am going to help cure you all of that habit of blandly mouse-clicking through hours of HTML, achieving nothing at the end of it all (except maybe some minor exercise of the index finger and a sore chin), and leaving you to wonder, what DID happen with that QCA thing anyway?

If you haven't yet heard of Gaz, or the Webcrawler, well done, you're among about 9,000 other students! My (new) job is to spend hours on the Internet "so you don't have to"(but you probably will continue to anyway), and bring you the "Best of the Web" (corny, ain't it?).

Since nobody else seems interested in getting on-line sooner, I've decided to do my bit from outside the SU. I've given up some free time slouched in front of the TV in favour of some time half-comatose in front of a flickering monitor, idly clicking in some state of indolence in order to save the students of UL from the impending doom of forgetting about that dreaded QCA (what's that supposed to be?). Obviously this is not going to be a comprehensive guide to EVERY website that exists, since at least 1,000 are created each day. I'd rather stick to the ones worth visiting, and that's all you'll find mentioned here.

The plan is to take a particular topic for each issue, see what information there is available, ignore the stupid and amateur URLs, and print the crème-de-la-crème of what's left. The idea is to introduce you to sites you never even thought of, never considered visiting, or just didn't think you'd be interested in. And all from the comfort of NOT being neurally dependent on a computer! If you're interested in getting the best selection in A/V nonsense, find out which is the best media player (and more importantly where to download it!) the best jokes (and the worst!), info on some themed sites, or maybe just some links to multi-purpose sites, I'll have them all in upcoming issues!

OK enough preaching down to business!

As this is the start of the college year, and invariably the amount of e-mail being sent is about to skyrocket compared to levels during the summer, I decided to do a bit of research on the best places to get a decent e-mail account. Since the volume of choice is as wide and varied as those who use the Internet, I narrowed down the options to focus primarily on:



1. accessibility/interesting domain names
2. Services available and most importantly memory size (for all those massive attachments you get that are too big to keep but too fun to delete). I also found a few extras to add to outgoing e-mail, so there's something for everyone! (hopefully)

As for user-defined domain names, (such as "@kegparty.com"), which you can make up yourself, the choice isn't as extensive as it could be, especially since there are as many combinations as there are active brain cells in the typical net-surfer. However from those that I managed to uncover, the best e-mail providers offering this extra appear to be these:

- Another.co.uk, where you can select from over 2000 options, but they all end in co.uk rather than .com
- myownemail.com, where the choice is more in hundreds, but at least they all end in .com, and a curious one is
- nameplanet.com, where their gimmick is first-name@lastname.com, which might SEEM like a clever idea, but it will tire after a while and lacks any flair or sense of humour. Nevertheless, if you can't build your own website, at least it gets your name on the Internet!

If you're interested in declaring your support for your country, visit netaddress.com, where the domain name is the home country you fill in. There is also Celtic.com, for all the Gaelic-spirited among you, and if you speak gaeilge fluently, try muintir.com, where even the addresses are in Irish! As for all you Braveheart fans, you have the freedom of two choices, netaddress.com, and also Scotland.com. Personally, the latter seems a "best bet", as you'll get lots of other information there too (especially on Celtic's inevitable slaughter of Rangers)

Next to services. Here, I opted for a few basics, such as signatures, attachment capability, filters to stop people sending junk e-mail (or Spam) to your account, and POP accessibility and POP retrievability (which are NOT the same, and some sites only offered one). Amazingly, the number of sites offering only text-based e-mail was surprisingly large, i.e. you can't send any files with e-mails from these sites-so I won't bore you with their URLs.

I'll manage the more popular ones in passing, since they're too hyped up already.

- Yahoo.com, also known more dreadfully as yahoo.co.uk and the less common yahoo.ie. This has ALMOST everything. As well as the basics mentioned above, it has its own internal website which can be customised by the user, called My Yahoo. You can select a different topic for each page, e.g. News, Sport, Finance etc, and country-specific options are offered. It also has a link to geocities.com, a website-building site for those who are HTML-ignorant (and will hopefully be covered in a later article) but the difference by accessing it through Yahoo is that the URL for your new website is in fact your ID, and not some extra URL that your friends have to remember.
- Hotmail.com, aka passport.com. The success of this over-hyped 2MB account is based on 1 its connection to Microsoft and 2 the ability to subscribe to online magazines. However, what's the point of ADDING to the junk e-mail you'll receive by signing up to it? (with the exception of "The Case-Solve It") Its only redeeming feature is that it has the largest storage space of any site that actually has both a spell checker AND a dictionary (dictionaries online are rare, so if you want one, be warned). As for attachments, since it can only support a 1Mb message, Hotmail isn't the best choice for large files. It

does have a McAfee virus scanner to scan incoming files, but then again, most computer terminals in UL and many home PCs have Norton Antivirus or some equivalent installed, so it's useful if there is no alternative.

- Other popular ones run by large search engines include: Mailcity, run by Lycos; MailExcite, run by excite.co.uk; rocketmail.com, whose acquisition by Yahoo proves that free choice may be a misnomer in modern e-business; and altavista, whose owner is self-explanatory. They don't have as many options as the big two, but all are worth a look, as they are easily navigable and user-friendly.
- As for the usual excuse that you have to endure pointless banners on every page in order to get free e-mail (i.e. these advertisers cover the cost), why is it that Care2.com not only features NO banners, (and thus less junk mail), but also has a choice of 4 domain names, especially geared



toward the Eco-warriors who wish to throw off the shackles of corporate corruption (hence no advertising) in favour of a more animal-friendly society. I'm not an avid environmentalist, but even I think it's a novel approach!

Now for the decent ones with the extras!

- Prontomail.com offers the homepage option of yahoo for those who have little or no experience with html.
 - Collegeclub.com, as the name suggests, includes the option to join clubs whose themes are related to college life. Although the site is generally American University based, there are clubs of general appeal, such as Scorpio (for anyone under that star-sign), Creative Writing Exchange and the inventively-titled Brain Farters Anonymous (don't ask!). There are also some good brainteasers posted on the message boards of some clubs. Collegeclub also allows HTML novices to build their own website in a click-and-drag fashion, and also incorporates some Java animation features to rival the best.
 - Angelfire.com features a nifty function for those of you who don't check e-mails EVERY day. Auto-reply automatically sends a pre-typed message sent to anyone who sent you e-mail and gets no reply within a specified timeframe.
 - Email.com, which is owned by Snap.com, is as easy to use as the domain name is to remember! They provide all the basics in an accessible manner, so you're not lost, but for those of you who want extras, it's not the best.
 - I guess I'd better plug ulstudent.com as well, since most of you probably never even heard of it! It holds 6MB, (better than hotmail), but since Yahoo and most other account providers have realised that customers want more memory, the design of the website isn't going to win ulstudent.com any favours. Still, though, for those of you who spend hours trawling through websites just so you can log on as Morpheus from the Matrix, or Keyser Soze, most of the best log-in names are still available!
- So how did our own native ISPs do in the survey? Of two of them, Ireland.com and eircom.net, I found the first unusually bland for an e-mail



account (even though it's apparently been revamped recently), and as for Eircom, no wonder the share price is down the tubes, considering how long it takes to SET UP the account! Prepare to fill out the WHOLE form again if you forget even ONE thing!

Remember all those e-mails featured in An Focal last year? For those of you who always get more attachments than you can read, and keep complaining about not being able to send any e-mail as a result, your prayers have been answered!

Here's where I get to shame all the aforementioned websites for being too small! The Olympic medals for memory size go to...

- BRONZE...MyRealbox.com weighing in at 10MB (but be warned, it's not the nicest on loading up on the screen!)

- SILVER...Ureach.com at a whopping 30MB!

- But the undefeated memory champion so far, claiming Gold is...(drum roll)...turbosport.com, which along with a choice of 3 domain names, makes available a staggering 40MB! It also claims to be able to support 50MB e-mail, but that seems dubious to me, one e-mail being bigger than the whole account!

Note however that such accounts are memory-based and are preferably for stashing all those suspiciously large attachments that you get from time to time. The best thing to do is to tell your friends to divert any unusually bulky deliveries to one of these, (sounds like some dodgy ansbacher deal) while keeping a separate one for correspondence. That way, you can still avail of facilities like spellcheckers on an easy-to-remember address, while keeping your account free of files which you can examine later! (Since some of the Zip Drives are off-line, these accounts may be useful as a

temporary cache for those who enjoy stockpiling music files etc.)

For those of you who STILL aren't happy, with the selection of facilities on offer, visit netfreebies.com. They offer handy add-ons like business cards (very useful to students!), and links to your own homepage as extras, so you can link it to your EXISTING e-mail account!

A second, and rather useful service is provided at findME-mail.com. For those who constantly change their e-mail addresses without telling anyone, this allows you to leave a forwarding address for others to find later. The site search procedure is rigged so that complete strangers cannot find your new e-mail address and use it to mail-bomb you, but unless your friend has also changed e-mail addresses at the same time you did, it would seem that the easiest thing is to just send on your new address!

Also submitted for your approval is Invisimail.com. This site in fact does NOT provide e-mail at all (or at least not extensively anyway). Its primary focus is a program that can be downloaded in various formats FOR FREE, and it encrypts your e-mail! Perfect for those who fear that "Big Brother is watching" them, or those who want to keep the contents of their numerous on-line offshore accounts confidential!

As for other ways to vary your e-mails, I plan to do a segment on signatures in a forthcoming issue of An Focal, so keep your eyes open!

Before I finish up, some handy tips

1. Most web-based e-mail providers can run from any Internet Service Provider (ISP), but a small minority don't. Therefore, if you intend to use the e-mail account from home (and thus from a different

ISP), you may be in trouble! It is, however, unlikely to prove any major difficulty, especially with any one claiming to be web-based.

2. Beware ISPs who offer free e-mail and then charge for customisable domain names ,e.g. youpy.com

3. If the provider claims to be accessible worldwide, check if there is a good selection of languages. After all, if you're abroad and still using your e-mail, you'll probably be sending some e-mail to friends you meet abroad, and it's no use if they can't understand it!

4. And most importantly, look for any notice about whether the e-mail provider is in the habit of selling the details of its account-holders as mailing lists to e-corporations. If so, you'll get even more junk mail than usual and the filters may not work!

So you no longer have any reason to complain about having a nonsensical ID number (which nobody else but you can remember) for an e-mail address, I've proven that there are other options, and I'm only scratching the surface! There's something for everyone on the web, and if you're now able to find it faster, then my work is done!



Have You Nothing Better To Do?

You know those headwrecking e-mails that you get from people with nothing better to do. Now and again though, a good one turns up. We're going to see if we can find one a fortnight. Tough task.

Is the Human Race doomed through stupidity?

Here are some actual label instructions on consumer

products that may tell us that we are:

1. On a blanket from Taiwan - NOT TO BE USED AS PROTECTION FROM A TORNADO.
2. On a helmet mounted mirror used by US cyclists - REMEMBER, OBJECTS IN THE MIRROR ARE ACTUALLY BEHIND YOU.
3. On a Taiwanese shampoo - USE REPEATEDLY FOR SEVERE DAMAGE.
4. On the bottle-top of a (UK) flavoured milk drink AFTER OPENING, KEEP UPRIGHT.
5. On a New Zealand insect spray - THIS PRODUCT NOT TESTED ON ANIMALS.
6. In a US guide to setting up a new computer - TO AVOID CONDENSATION FORMING, ALLOW THE BOXES TO WARM UP TO ROOM TEMPERATURE BEFORE OPENING. (Sensible, but the instruction was INSIDE the box.)

7. On a Japanese product used to relieve painful haemorrhoids

LIE DOWN ON BED AND INSERT POSCOOL SLOWLY UP TO THE PROJECTED PORTION LIKE A SWORD-GUARD INTO ANAL DUCT. WHILE INSERTING POSCOOL FOR APPROXIMATELY 5 MINUTES, KEEP QUIET.

8. In some countries, on the bottom of Coke bottles OPEN OTHER END.

9. On a packet of Sunmaid raisins WHY NOT TRY TOSSING OVER YOUR FAVOURITE BREAKFAST CEREAL?

10. On a Sears hairdryer - DO NOT USE WHILE SLEEPING.

11. On a bag of Fritos - YOU COULD BE A WINNER! NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. DETAILS INSIDE.

12. On a bar of Dial soap - DIRECTIONS - USE LIKE REGULAR SOAP.

13. On Tesco's Tiramisu dessert (printed on bottom of the box) - DO NOT TURN UPSIDE DOWN.

14. On Marks & Spencer Bread Pudding - PRODUCT WILL BE HOT AFTER HEATING.

15. On a Korean kitchen knife - WARNING KEEP OUT OF CHILDREN.

16. On a string of Chinese-made

Christmas lights -

FOR INDOOR OR OUTDOOR USE ONLY.

17. On a Japanese food processor - NOT TO BE USED FOR THE OTHER USE.

18. On Sainsbury's peanuts - WARNING - CONTAINS NUTS.

19. On an American Airlines packet of nuts INSTRUCTIONS - OPEN PACKET, EAT NUTS.

20. On a Swedish chainsaw - DO NOT ATTEMPT TO STOP CHAIN WITH YOUR HANDS OR GENITALS.

21. On a child's superman costume - WEARING OF THIS GARMENT DOES NOT ENABLE YOU TO FLY.

22. On some frozen dinners SERVING SUGGESTION DEFROST.

23. On a hotel provided shower cap in a box FITS ONE HEAD.

24. On packaging for a Rowenta iron DO NOT IRON CLOTHES ON BODY.

25. On Boot's "Children's" cough medicine DO NOT DRIVE CAR OR OPERATE MACHINERY.

26. On Nytol sleep aid WARNING MAY CAUSE DROWSINESS.

CULINARY GRACE -

a beginners guide to gourmet cooking

A very warm welcome to the incoming first years and welcome back to those of you who've been here, done that bought the T-shirt etc. to my cookery column.

Right! Don't go oh No! Fear not; the aim of this section is to help those of you among us who "Can't cook, Won't cook" to shock your mates with your delectable culinary delights. I also aim to provide you with cheap, cheerful and easy to cook recipes for four people, all for under a fiver. How many times have you come out of the university's eateries and thought I could have got two days of food for that amount of money. The idea is to use whatever you would have generally in your cupboards at home and stuff that is easy to get in the local shops and create something a little more interesting than pasta and a stir in sauce. So, here's a chance for all you budding naked Chef's out there to ready, Steady Cook!

Hearty Shepherd's Pie - Serves 4

11/2 pound of mince meat	£2.00
3 Tblsp of Bisto	£0.10
2 Tblsp of cooking oil	£0.05
1 Tblsp of Mixed Herbs	£0.05

3 Tblsp of Salt	£0.02
2 Tblsp of Pepper	£0.03
1 Large Carrot	£0.15
1 Small Onion	£0.15
1 Beef Stock Cube	£0.10
1.5 kg of Potatoes	£1.50
10 Tblsp of Milk	£0.15
4 Knobs of butter	£0.10
Total Cost	£4.40

Total preparation time 1 1/2 hours

Cooking Instructions

Peel onions and dice. Wash & Clean Carrot and then chop. Fry until golden brown. Remove from pan. Fry off meat until brown and re-add vegetables etc. Make sauce by mixing bisto + 1/2 pint of water and add to pan. Add stock cube to boiling water, stir and add to pan. Boil the sauce for 15 minutes and reduce heat to simmer for 45 minutes. Meanwhile boil potatoes, when potatoes are cooked remove water, add in milk, butter, salt & pepper to flavour and mash. Remove mince from pan and place in large baking dish. Spread the mash onto the top. Place in an oven until brown on top, approx 15-20 mins at 250C

or gas mark 6. When entertaining, corn on the cob makes an ideal starter, as it is easy to prepare and cook. They are currently on special offer in the Parkway at 32p each. You can boil then until tender or for an even tastier starter you can smear them with butter, then sprinkle them with a little chilli powder, then wrap in foil and bake in oven until tender.



Advice to All First Years -

from the Queen of Diaries

Imagine my shock when I saw the final Diary Of A first Year in the Special Edition of "An Focal" for Orientation Week!

It's weird to think that I'm no longer one of those lost little First Years trying to figure out UL's haphazard systems. Now there is a whole new batch of UL newcomers parading the campus, and I'm not included! I just have one thing to say to them

WELCOME!!!!

Lads, ye're in for a good one! I couldn't begin to tell ye how good the first year is gonna be. It's all so new and exciting! Enjoy it! Coz it'll go faster

than you'll realise!

If there's one (more) thing I say to ye, its try not to get caught up in the whole "But, I'm only a little first year!" thing! Believe me, it doesn't work! You'll get no pity whatsoever! You are now an adult - no more bells ringing to tell you to go to Maths Class - it's just yourself from now on!

There's no one to tell you what to do or how to do it! Sort out your timetables in Week 1 - don't leave it 'til Week 8! Find out where Student Services are - just beware of the queues! Visit the library every week! Know that projects and essays will be due in the first few weeks.

Go to your lectures, tutorials, labs, etc.!!! Even if it means having to drag yourself out of bed after a rough night!

But most importantly, make friends. Talk to people you've never met before. Don't be shy. Leave that unwanted streak behind you in Secondary. College is all about self-development and growth. (Nothing at all to do with getting an education, of course!!!!) Write for the paper. Be mature - don't wait for others to make the initiative - be assertive. Join clubs and societies - there's one there for everyone!

But it has to be said that the main thing is that you enjoy yourself! Go out and be

sociable (but don't go overboard!!!!) Get to know the Scholars and the Stables - appreciate them - they are your friends!!! But be careful with your money - it's not easy to come by - just like good friends!

Still, don't be afraid to ask for help - that's where the Students' Union come in. They're your representatives - they're to help you! Above all - remember that we were all Freshers at some stage - some more than once - but we won't go there!

Now - go forth - to infinity and beyond! - And enjoy your time in UL!

Just in Case You Missed the last two weeks of Partying here's what happened

Orientation Week 2000

If you're a first year you never had it so good. A great big tent and a great big week of entertainment to fill it. Sticking to a formula that proved overwhelmingly successful during Kollege week, the Scholar's provided the frosty beverages whilst the rest of us jumped around to whatever was on offer...

TUESDAY

Jaff had the difficult job of kicking off Orientation 2000 in what was an empty Marquee. The five-piece covers band did their best to entertain mostly one drunk second year whilst our cautious novices remained in the cosy couches of the Scholar's and the ever-heaving Stables. This very capable band proficiently traversed a tight rope from David Gray to Santana and certainly was a worthwhile opener.

Subsequently it was that mysterious DJ Jody that manned the decks and warmed them with his usual universal mix of all that's smooth and smoother. As he played, a steady build-up of curious onlookers was enclosing the open marquee.

It took the hooded Aidan Kelly however, to take command of the crowd. The Soul Clinic resident is no stranger to Limerick and after a most impressive set at the Witness festival we expected more of the same. Within a few minutes Kelly was doing what he loves to do: taking the pace low enough before releasing some crashing sounds and sending the crowd into a frenzy. Although the atmosphere at the front of the Marquee was filled with the sweet smell of admiration and energy, behind stood a somewhat vigilant and apathetic gathering. These more indifferent first years soon forgot the worries of figuring out what the hell "M" stands for between level "G" and "O"! Instead, they broke loose as the Soul Clinic maestro let the first thump of "Smack my bitch up" shakes the quite suburbs of Castletroy screaming "Hey, this is UL calling and we're back!"

WEDNESDAY

With trendy visuals and a cool air the mood was set for K-Klass. Subtitled the "Freshers ball" the Liverpool dance cliché presented a welcome alternative from the canteen. A giant foam cannon set firmly in position lorded over the floor, which had enticed a more loyal crowd the previous night. As a Da Hool classic brought familiarity to all present the night seemed promising.

Then it happened! Like God sneezing or your mother overdosing your favourite Barney cup in Fairy liquid, suddenly the centre of my lovely Marquee was a white bubbling mass of hysteria. Some had to be rescued from beneath the snow-like foam while others walked about like cold drunks, cold and er, drunk! Even so, the cannon resulted in half the gathering playing like little school children in snow and seemingly having the best fun of their lives.

Meanwhile, closer to the perimeter and stage K-Klass with Paul and followed by Russ were efficiently mixing some of the more commercial sounds with all that's funky and evocative. As our own Keith called over the Speakers asking the crowd to show their appreciation Russ treated us to almost a further 20 minutes. Even the normally very busy Crew (ahem!) managed to squeeze a minute or two to line the stage and give it loads!

THURSDAY

If Aidan Kelly was a little too energetic for you or perhaps K-Klass adorned in foam wasn't your thing then Kila promised to at least be different.

A very varied and diverse assembly featuring perhaps the most Erasmus students ever seen together since

that free Tin Whistle offer. However, although the night witnessed smaller numbers those present were treated to a remarkable performance.

The seven traditionalists together on stage created a most mysterious and romantic sound. Refreshingly, Kila manage to include influences from all styles and yet never ventured beyond the respectful threshold of traditional Irish music. With a myriad of musical instruments ranging from the drums to the saxophone and clarinet, Kila featured many of the tracks from their current album "Lemonade and buns" album (reviewed in next issue) I'm not normally an avid traditional music fan but one can certainly sense a kind of contemporary class about this group. Finishing the night with "The fields of Athenry" a most impressed audience remained and many more queued to purchase CD's. Certainly different, certainly a success and certainly not like any other Freshers week.

Week 1

We all returned home from our first week back at college and Mammy asked, "How was your first week back son?" and like that add on telly a collection of action filled images flashes through your mind. You pause and answer, "Maths looks difficult this year and you wouldn't believe the price of books". Liar! Most found it surprising the amount that was happening during their first week. With Club's and Soc's doing their bit before being pushed aside as four nights of gigs, the Marquee was certainly been utilised.

Monday

A large Red, Yellow and Black flag provided the backdrop to "Catch a Fire"; the closest most of us will ever get to any Bob Marley experience. Opening the night with "Jamming" and sticking firmly to a hits only formula, the five piece opened the week in a most chilled and reggae rich style.

What "Catch a fire" lacked in presentation they more than made up with musical ability. As they amused the intimate gathering with "Get up Stand up" and "Could you be loved" our Marley man shook and danced as if we were indeed witnessing the revolutionary himself. "I Shot the Sheriff" resulted in most people finding their dancing feet without breaking a leg, sweat or neighbours back! The whole event was to a degree a little relaxed but recalled on stage for an encore, Catch a fire finished with "One love" and unlike many of the best nights, the Marley tribute was something that would be difficult to forget.

Tuesday

The Classic Beatles (Formally the Qurraymen) have been on a magical mystery tours of tributes for over ten years now and are recognised as one of the three best of so many Beatles Tribute bands. After an appearance during Kollege week in which they received an astounding reception, it was obvious that UL still has a very strong Beatles fan base.

Opening their set with "A hard day's night" each and every lyric from then onwards was echoed by a large audience. For over 40 minutes the Fab Four managed to resound the early years of original music. Leaving the stage for a few minutes they returned dressed in the psychedelic Sgt. Pepper's attire. It all seemed very impressive but a technical hitch through the opening "lonely hearts club band" causing the band to cease before continuing with the remainder of the set was a little disappointing.

"Strawberry Fields forever", "Lucy in the sky with Diamonds" and "Back in the USSR" were among the highlights performed from one of the greatest catalogues of all time. The band finished with a one-song

encore of "Twist and shout".

Our own Niall Merrigan provided the post Beatle party with a healthy mix of the latest and greatest can't-go-wrong's for almost 2 hours. Although the most enjoyable of any of the nights, the Classic Beatles were to a certain extent disappointing. Perhaps I'm slightly biased after seeing the Classic Beatles on more than three occasions performing near perfect crowd-pleasing sets. With a substitute drummer they appeared slightly indifferent and rather than encapsulating the overwhelming loyal audience that had congregated, they seemed rather to sit back and relax knowing that all the hard work was finished over 30 years earlier!

Wednesday

Foam, foam everywhere. Sundissential and that bloody cannon were once again on tour for the penultimate night. DJ Dobbin provided the early sounds to a slow building night. However, both the music and the crowd soon complemented each other as Dobbin stood like a dark force illuminated from behind by the many lights. Playing it reasonably safe he never really pushed the limits yet in doing so a quality night developed.

As the first burst of foam was fired across the floor and everyone got nice and messy, Fergie took hold of the turntables and increased the tempo. Not afraid to use whatever was at his disposal to electrify the crowd Fergie's set sounded very impressive. It was in some way unfortunate then that the foam, unlike the previous week, was present far and wide and in the cold September night became less enjoyable and more of a hindrance.

Aside from that, the night kept a firm pace and there was enough variety in some of the hard-hitting house to keep even the most novice interested.

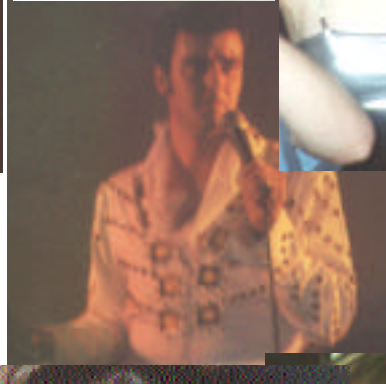
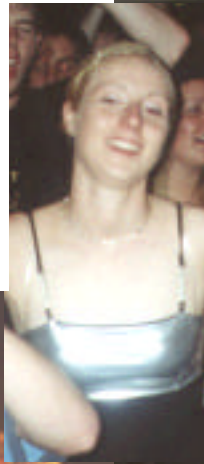
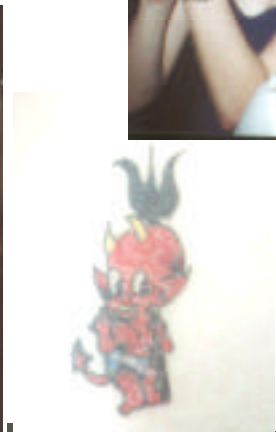
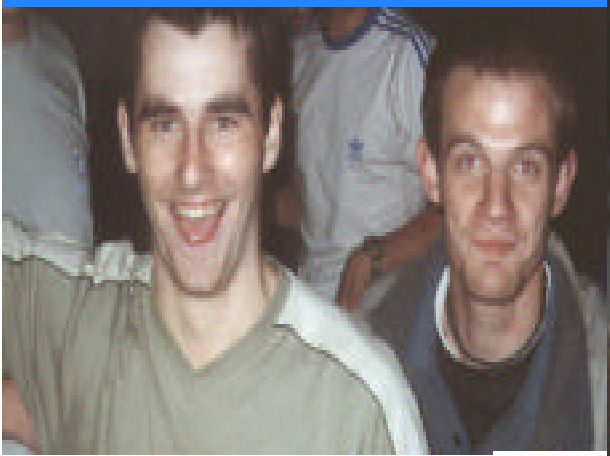
Thursday

The fucking foam cannon remains. To be fair though, a lesson was learned from the previous night and the extent of foam was limited to a more enjoyable level once again. Dean Wilson was on decks representing Cream, which now has a residency in Limerick. Although Wilson played some of the best funky house, trance and mainstream dance music, there was a definite deficiency in energy.

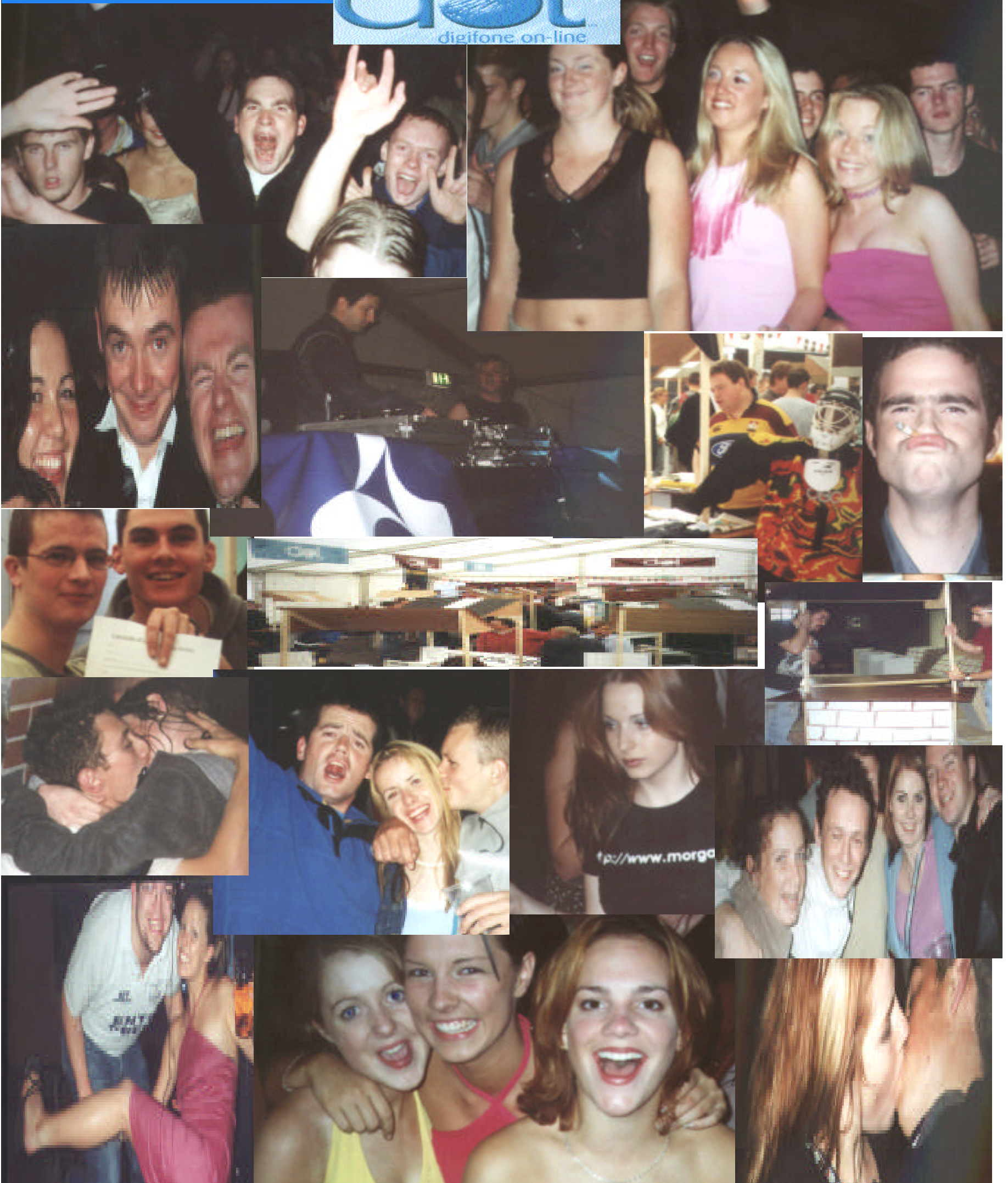
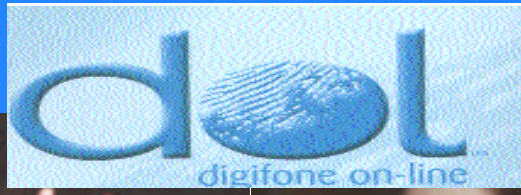
After such a long week (and two weeks if you were here earlier) Wilson had to deal with a tired but still enthusiastic audience. Highlights included a welcome alternative mix of "Why does my heart feel so bad" as well as a few minutes of some genuinely musical house music.

Visuals provided by a projector were a little limited to say the least but this was less than important. As "Silence" brought the night to a finale the enthusiastic clubbers chanted in vain for more. Reflecting as I sit burning the midnight oil in the Venus Lab, the only real disappointment of the week was the lightning that sizzled my poor little modem at home. Donations are welcome...

Out & About during the Grad Ball, Orientation Week & Week 1



Just in Case you can't Remember!!!!



University of Limerick Students Union

wishes to Thank

Digifone on-line

for their Kind Sponsorship of the Marquee
during Orientation Week & Week 1



Also thanks to

Guinness

for Sponsorship of the Entertainments
and

Willamette Europe

for sponsoring the
Clubs & Societies Village

The Queen of Diaries

- What's Another Year

Well, there you have it - the first deadline of the year and I have to rush this coz the New Editor might not appreciate tardiness! Second Year! What does it all mean?! Well, for starters, I passed my xams eventually - although Summer Studying is not to be recommended! Lads, try to pass your exams the first time round!!!

I missed my "Castletroy Bubble" so much! But this year has been different so far. I came back to Limerick two weeks before college started back - why?! - basically, coz I wanted my independence and freedom again! But most importantly - of course - I wanted to start writing for the paper again! Now here's what I've been up

to. Orientation Week this year was fabulous, darling! It was weird not being one of those Freshers trying to figure out where everything is! Instead, I worked for Ents Crew and got a lot of hassle in the meantime. I even had my very own "admirer" in the Marquee one night! Still think the Commitments singer guy was cuter though!!!!

The Grad Ball was a pain in the arse. Lads - sorry about the buses thing - wasn't our fault - we didn't exactly enjoy waiting for six hours in the cold either!!

Aidan Kelly rocked the Marquee on Tuesday night of Freshers Week. Even got to speak to the legend after the gig! Such a thrill.

Thursday night played host to the Cream DJs from England. There was not one foot that wasn't tapping that night! Havoc arose when an unnamed individual invaded the stage at one point! there was no way I was taking you down from the stage - you were enjoying it way too much!!!!

Week 1 started with a bang - literally!!! The Classic Beatles played a fab show on Tuesday night - apparently! I can't seem to remember that one, for some reason?!?!?! My first night off - let's just leave it at that!!! Wednesday night was a bit of a blur after the night before!!! Thursday night was Cream again. Now I DO remember that one! Surprise, surprise! Had some

laughs with DJ Dean Wilson afterwards! Something about Billy Connelly, was it?!?!?!!

The Weekend was spent in recovery, a place that is usually known as bed!!! Sleep wasn't of the utmost importance for the past two weeks!!!! But all that is to change. And to add to it all - having no lectures on Mondays means extra long weekends!!! Wooooo-hooooo!!!! Oh - the joys of Second Year! Here's hoping for another fab year in UL - it's the place to be!! seen ya - I'm off to the pub before closing time!!!

Students' Union SECRETARIAT

4 VACANCIES AVAILABLE

The Students' Union Secretariat is group of people who administer and work within the administrative branches of the SU. Its function is to provide an efficient and professional service to members of the Class Representative Council, the SU Executive and Clubs and Societies at their weekly/forth-nightly meetings

The Secretariat is looking for individuals with good interpersonal skills who can co-ordinate and be a part of this Secretariat. Duties include:

- Liaison with delegates/members,
- drafting reports and other official documentation,
- Producing detailed records and other material,
- Arranging meetings, assemblies and seminars
- Taking minutes and ensuring follow-up action.

This position leads to valuable experience for those who are considering a career in a similar line of duty. It is equally worthwhile for those people who want to

If you have experience or think you would like to gain valuable experience, then please contact us. A familiarity with computers and knowledge of the structures of the Union would be beneficial, but not necessary.

Individuals will be employed for one and/or both semesters with the possibility of advancing in the following year and will receive £4.40 per hour (usual SU hourly wage).

Please write to:

Mr. David Fleming,
Senior Clerk, Students' Union Secretariat,
Students' Centre.

Or email:

9724028@student.ul.ie

Deadline: Friday, 6 October (Week 2)

The all-new Arts Section of Focal - Focal EALAÍNE

This section of AN FOCAL is dedicated to bringing you news and reviews of arts related events on and around the campus & Limerick City.

This section will include reviews of films, books, music & Theatre, and also we hope to bring you details of activities that you might otherwise not hear of but in order to do this we need your help. If you know of any events that are taking place that we should know about please send details to Room S1 - 22 , Schuman Building, ext 2130 before Friday Oct 13 (!).

If you are interested in reviewing any musical, visual, dramatic or literary events or if you have any ideas for columns or subjects that could be covered please send details with your name and contact number to S1 - 22

This section will also include listings of upcoming exhibitions, concerts, society meetings etc - we want to know so let us know.....

" PROFILES - The 2000 Additions to



the National Self - Portrait Collection of Ireland "

The National Self - Portrait Collection of Ireland currently consists of 320 self-portraits by leading Irish artists. An artist donating a self-portrait on invitation receives an honorarium and where necessary the cost of materials is covered.

A prestigious Committee oversees the affairs of the Collection and if a work by an artist thought to be important to the Collection becomes available they have the discretion to purchase. Recently an exhibition entitled " Artists' Century " was organised with the Royal Hibernian Academy in Dublin to celebrate 100 years of Irish art. The selected artists were represented by their self portrait and one masterwork, mainly lent by private collectors. This popular exhibition also travelled to the Ormeau Baths in Belfast. The Bourn Vincent Gallery on the First Floor of the Foundation Building recently held the exhibition "Profiles - the 2000 Additions to the National Self Portrait Collection of Ireland. The works of 18 artists were shown: ceramic sculpture (Cormac Boydell), drawing (Gene Lambert RHA and Carolyn Mulholland RHA), print (Sara Horgan), photography (Martin Parr, Fergus Martin), sculpture (Janet Mullarney) were among the disciplines featured. The sheer variety of media is a good indicator of the breadth of work included in the Collection.

A catalogue with text by Kieran Cashel of the Humanities Post Grad Research Centre accompanied the exhibition - this and the Artists'Century catalogue and the first Collection catalogue (1979 - 1989) are available in the Library. The University is also home to the Watercolour Society of Ireland Collection and works from both are generally on view in the Foundation Building and other locations throughout the campus.

Bourn Vincent Gallery Opening Hours :
Mon - Fri 10.00 am - 5.00 pm

NEW APPOINTMENTS IN THE ARTS

Mary C. Sheehan was recently appointed Visual Arts Administrator and has responsibility for the art collections in the College. She also hopes to develop a programme of visual arts events in the Bourn Vincent and other locations in the University.

Patricia Moriarty is the new Arts Officer for the University and is currently developing projects to complement the various arts related activities on campus.

She may be contacted at Room S1 - 22, Schuman Building, ext 2130

Monica Spencer was appointed Executive Director of Daghdha Dance Company and Yoshiko Chuma was made Artistic Director.

DAGHDHA DANCE COMPANY

Daghdha Dance Company was originally founded by Mary Nunan over 12 years ago and is currently housed in the Sports Building. Mary is now Programme



Director of the MA in Dance Performance in the Irish World Music Centre (Foundation Building).

Daghdha are a professional contemporary dance company whose primary focus is the creation and production of original choreographic works. They also produce a programme specifically designed to introduce younger audiences to contemporary dance performance. Grant aided by the Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon Daghdha is one of a number of performance companies who now receive three year rather than annual funding. This financial security means that amongst other things the company will be in a position to appoint 3 - 5 core dancers.

In May of this year the Japanese choreographer Yoshiko Chuma was appointed Artistic Director. One of the forerunners of post modern dance she has been

based in New York for over 20 years. Founder and artistic director of the School of Hard Knocks she has produced over 50 original works and collaborated with over 1000 international artists. Her first association with Ireland dates back to 1986 and in October 1999 she created the new work **Reverse Psychology : One for Daghdha**

The craft takes off
Turbulence near
Cocktails of decadence collide
Emotional twist, mixed fear
Three pronged attack
Concise, accelerate, clear
Momentum gathers
Rebound shatters
I'm just beginning.....
.....I'm here

Reverse Psychology : In Gear is part of the series Reverse Psychology : Ten Thousand Steps a 3 year dance piece which will be performed in Japan, US, Ireland and Estonia, culminating in a major production in 2002. In Gear was part of THE EVENT at the Project Arts Centre in the recent Dublin Theatre Festival. "... brilliantly performed..." it began in the foyer of the theatre "...where preoccupations of time and space are introduced, with dancers bearing clocks and metronomes dancing in doorways and up the stairs..." Devised by Yoshiko as a site specific piece the dancers "... develop this theme in the black box space, with athletic movement in, through and around a white cube..." * This piece will be reprised in the Belltable Arts Centre in November.

Daghdha will tour Sioscarnach , a production comprised of three distinct commissioned choreographic works in the Autumn. They will also give workshops and masterclasses in Creative Choreography from Oct 16 - 28 under the banner title of White Space. Details of both these programmes will appear in the next issue of FOCAL EALAÍNE.

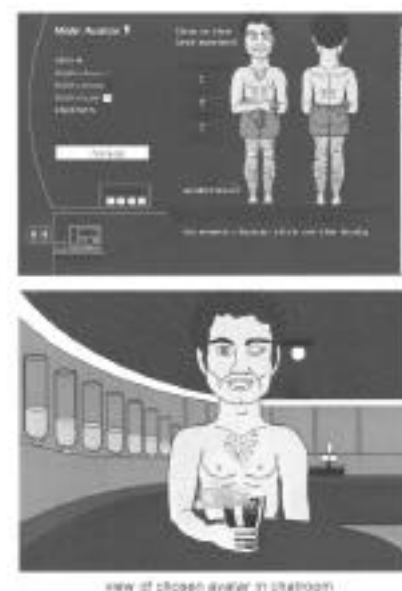
This year Daghdha have introduced a PAY WHAT YOU CAN scheme for certain performances. Check FOCAL EALAÍNE for details.

(* Carolyn Swift review, Irish Times, Sept 28, 2000)

MASTERS IN INTERACTIVE MEDIA

A curriculum for a Masters Degree in Interactive Media was developed in the University of Limerick between 1996 and 1999 and the Schuman Building hosted an exhibition of the projects of the programme's first graduates. The initiative for this course sprang from several different streams, such as human- computer interaction, computer supported co-operative work, music technology and the need for more intelligent and richer interaction mechanisms. The goal of the course was to produce graduates with a deeper understanding of the core issues involved in Interactive Media who will be able to direct and manage interactive multimedia development projects with a fuller understanding of all the issues involved. The entry requirements were a second class honours primary degree and work that displayed an interest in digital media. Elective modules from other postgraduate programmes such as Music Technology and Business formed part of the course and this year the students taking the Business elective won a major Bank and local development company award.

The exhibition was opened on Sept 25 by John Hunt, curator and critic. He believed that the exhibition was "... a celebration of what has been achieved and a celebratory look to the future..." The 12 projects and accompanying theses would he believed in 10 years time have contributed to the situation that we will then find ourselves in. Although he thought it unfair to single out any particular projects he was personally struck by Enda O'Donoghue's "Telling Lies " with R Fides Playing Games with Existence and Truth - a confession - box with speaker independent voice recognition, Rose McGrath's ATTICA' A Children's Story making Interactive Support System - an interactive website designed to motivate and stimulate children to actively participate in creative writing . Gabriella Eviston's WEARING SENSES was showcased in the Performing Arts Centre (located on the lower ground floor)The project is concerned with "... the application of interactive media to an art/dance/biology synthesising performance..."



FOCAIL EALAÍNE had some favourites : **Interface** by Amanda Dunsmore is an interactive video presentation created for touch screens which attempts to measure the current effect (if any) that the Internet has on a cross section of Limerick society. title? by Íde Moloney included products that you could cut out and make like a traffic bollard Christmas tree and the cigarette butt dropped by one of the Three Wise men as evidence of loitering! **Avatarcadia** by Caroline Kehoe - avatars are objects onscreen that graphically represent the user in an interactive environment and Caroline explores issues related to morality, role-playing, escapism, imagination and the ability to cheat on line .

The exhibition concluded on Sept 28 but FOCAIL EALAÍNE will keep you posted on upcoming Interactive Media events from this and other programmes

(With thanks to the end of programme publication by the Masters in Interactive Media, core course team : Computer Science and Information Systems Department, in association with the College of Humanities and the College of Business)

BLIAIN le BAISTEACH was premiered in the University Concert Hall on Sept 21 and was performed in association with the Irish Chamber Orchestra. This piece of music, created by Mikael Fernström, lecturer in Music Technology and Interactive Media, is made from rainfall data - a full year of information in a few minutes of music. As Mikael says "...It is all there, all the rain of Ireland, down to the very last note..." Bliain le

Baisteach is a multimedia work using both images and music to show what is going on in the environment through sound and images. It has also played at the Irish Pavilion at Expo 2000 in Hanover and is available on CD. For further information : <http://www.soft-day.ie/mikael.htm>.

BELLTABLE ARTS CENTRE

Infusion / Fix 2000 was the title of an exhibition held in the Belltable Arts Centre (where) from Sept 29 - Oct 1. Curated and presented by the Real Art Project with Catalyst Arts this exhibition of live art, video, sound, multimedia and performance art will travel onto to Catalyst's home Belfast. The Real Art Project is the group that grew out of the original Belltable project that provided a forum for young artists to present their work.

Harvest Day - Bunratty Castle and Folk Park

On Oct 1 Bunratty Castle hosted a family event with a range of activities from demonstrations of threshing by vintage machinery, traditional Irish music and dancing by Straw or Wren Boys, Seanacháí, a harp and Violin Recital by Ardcroney Church and an exhibition of traditional crafts. Any information on equivalent events in the future would be greatly appreciated.

LÁ na h AMHRÁN/Tráth na gCos - Oct 19

Ionad na nAmhrán and the Irish World Music Centre present a celebration of the music and dance of the Scottish tradition. This year combines dance and song in a mini Scotfest celebrating the diverse and unique richness of Scotland. Similar to the dance and song of Ireland in many ways, they yet have their own particular styles and stamp. You'll hear Gaelic songs about lost love, treachery and murder from as far back as the 17th century and the big ballads for which the Scots are justly famous. All this combined with energising and electrifying footwork from some of Scotland's premier researchers and performers of traditional step dance. Some of the great names of Scottish traditional performing arts, as well as some new talent, in what promises to be a fitting millennium tribute to our sister country's traditional culture. Singers participating include Alison

Mc Morland, Ellen Mitchell, Bob Blair, Mairi Nic a Ghobhainn and Kathleen Nic Aonghais and dancers include Mats Melin and Sandra Robertson.

This day long event will include morning and afternoon workshops, culminating in a very special concert in the Limerick City Gallery of Art, Pery Square at 8 pm. Further details from Ellen Byrne 2917

Focal Eile

Events in The Scholars and the Stables are well publicised in the Student Centre. FOCAL EILE aims to bring you details of events both on and off campus which you may not otherwise hear of. Any information on events is welcome - the next issue is published on October 19 so send details to FOCAL EILE, Room S1 - 22, Schuman Building by OCT 11. We are particularly interested in the activities of Societies.

UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK CHOIR

rehearse every Weds from 6 - 8 pm in the Music Rooms of Block C. All are welcome and the Membership fee is only £1.00. They regularly perform in venues on and off campus and this year participated in the Cork Choral Festival. The student/staff choir is directed by the Catalan conductor Albert Llussà Torra. At time of writing they particularly need Altos and Basses.

Contact : <http://www.il.ie/~ulchoir/>

UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK TRIBAL SPIRIT DRUMMING CLASSES

With John Bowker

An exploration of the techniques and disciplines of hand drumming and the relevance of traditional rhythms as tools for healing, enjoyable spiritual practice and celebration. Rooted in the heart beats of African percussion and song the classes will work towards an understanding of indigenous methods of community bonding and healthy ecological interdependence.

Absolute beginners absolutely welcome
Lots of drums provided

Students Union/Regular classes Weds 7 - 10

£5 or less (Student rate £3 or less)

LOTS OF FUN - LOTS OF NOISE

FOLK GROUP - singers, dancers, guitarists, musicians welcome -
Milford Hostel, Thurs, 8 pm

IRISH WORLD MUSIC CENTRE

On Tues and Thurs the Irish World Music Centre present Lunchtime Concerts which are absolutely FREE . These take place in the Performing Arts Centre on the lower ground floor of the Foundation Building from 1.15 - 1.50 pm

OCT 5 Una Hunt (piano)

OCT 10 Niall Ó Callanáin (bouzouki)

OCT 12 Jerry Creedon (classical guitar)

OCT 17 artist to be confirmed

OCT 19 Sonny Condell

The Centre also organises FREE seminars every Weds from 2.30 - 5 pm in Music Room B on the Lower Ground Floor of the Foundation Building.

OCT 11 The Arts and Spirituality - this seminar will include a combination of papers and musical performance.

OCT 18 CONTEMPORARY DANCE - Improvisation and Performance: Tugging at Assumptions - Speakers: Steve Paxton and Lisa Nelson, Chair Mary Nunan This seminar is supported by The White Space Project

UNIVERSITY CONCERT HALL

Oct 7 Charlie Landsborough

OCT 11 American Wrestling - The Great American Bash : tribute featuring The Rock, Kane, DX, The Undertaker Tickets £12 adults, £9 children, 7.30 pm

OCT 12 - 15 Des and Rosie Ride Again - Revue with Des Keogh and Rosaleen Linehan Tickets £16.50/£15.50, 8 pm

OCT 17 AIDA by Verdi- The Chisinau National Opera with international soloists and a 200 strong orchestra **SOLD OUT**

OCT 18 TOSCA by Puccini The Chisinau National Opera with interna-

tional soloists and a 200 strong orchestra
Sung in Italian with English subtitles
Tickets £27/£22, 8 pm

OCT 21 THE MORRISSEYS with special guests
Tickets £12/£10 8 pm

HUNT MUSEUM (Rutland Street)-
Hunt Collection is an internationally important collection of some 2000 original works of art and antiquity. It was originally formed by John and Gertrude Hunt and the objects range from the Stone Age to the 20th century.
Admission £3.20 Mon - Sat 10 - 5, Sun 2 - 5
The exhibition Church Silver 1425 - 1820 runs to OCT 8

OCT 13 all day seminar LIVING WITH COLOUR with Judith Miller, Christopher Moore and Orla Kelly. £35 admission includes lunch

OCT 16 - 23 LUNDBECK ART INITIA-

TIVE - an exhibition of outsider art.
Free

The Hunt Museum has a restaurant on the premises and a shop with an extensive range of cards, glassware, books and reproductions of jewellery items in the collection.

LIMERICK CITY ART GALLERY PERY SQUARE

OCT 6 - 28
Alfred Loos 1870 - 1933 - Documentary exhibition of his life's work
JEANETTE DOYLE - The practice of 17th century Dutch painting brought into the context of contemporary ideas and media
SARAH DURCAN - New work - paintings, works on paper - EV+A 99 Solo Award exhibition
RICHARD GORMAN Made in Japan - recent works on Japanese washi paper
The new South Gallery is exhibiting a sculpture installation called Quarry by Richard Powell until OCT 12
The East Gallery hosts Kingdom of

Heaven selections from the permanent collection which change every 3 - 4 weeks

Admission Free Mon - Fri 10 - 6, Thurs 10 - 7, Sat 10 - 1

BELLTABLE ARTS CENTRE (69 O'Connell Street)

OCT 5 - 28 Graduate 2000 award selection of Fine Art Degree graduates from the Limerick School of Art and Design - 20 current graduates were invited to submit, 9 were selected to exhibit

Admission Free Mon - Sat 9 - 6
OCT 5 Patsy Cline - Music and Memories - musical tribute with Sandy Kelly and George Hamilton Tickets £10/ concessions £8, 8 pm
OCT 19 An evening with Phil Jupitus (Never Mind the Buzzcocks)
Special guest Richard Martin "... brilliantly spontaneous, exceptionally funny, comedy heavyweights..." Tickets £10 /£8, 8 pm

Freshers for Freshair

-16th November 2000

10km Walk in aid of the Chernobyl Children's Project

Sponsorship card available in SU Reception

(Organiser Needed to plan & Run Event)





Heineken Clubs and Societies pages

Over the next few pages is reports and previews of what's happened or is happening with Heineken Clubs + Societies on campus. Take a good look at 'em, and if there's anything you think you'd be interested in, then give Paul Lee a shout in the Heineken Clubs and Societies Office in the new Student Center, and he'll point you in the right direction as to who to contact to get involved.

The Clubs & Societies Village is Hailed as a Major Success



The University of Limerick Students Union came together with Digifone-online to create a Clubs & Societies village, which was the first of its kind in this country.

The village was the brainchild of Student Union President Michael Phelan and was an attempt at making the Clubs and Societies more approachable to the First Years, many of who are living away from home for the first time. The idea behind the village, says Mick Phelan, ULSU President, was to create a hassle free environment, where people can stroll through at the own leisure. This was not possible in the canteen, as it was a place where students walked

through to either go to class or eat, and this was found to very annoying to some students looking at the stands.

The ULSU Clubs and Societies village is a brand new departure in the promotion of recreation and leisure activities on campus and is the first of its kind ever created on a campus in Ireland. Clubs and Societies are an integral part of college life and are often a means of making the transition from home to college a whole lot easier.

The village was situated in the marquee between the Scholars and the Stables, for three days in Orientation Week and two days in Week1.

The Colour and excitement of the Village is a major talking point for all who are

partaking in Freshers week and is a template for the future promotion of sport and recreation in Universities throughout Ireland.

This major new departure underpins the entrepreneurial nature that permeates through all walks of working life in UL and has again set UL apart from the rest in leading the way through innovation

The majority of the 70+ clubs & Societies that had stands in the village were very happy with the interest generated for their activities and also with the amount of new recruits gained during the two weeks. One Club is quoted as saying "we only signed up 35 members today, which is slow compared to yesterday, but this time last year we would have been happy with that

number in the entire week in the canteen".

There were also a number of stands during the two weeks, which were hired by commercial entities, whose services were geared towards students. These stands not only benefited the students by providing them with access to services such as Cable TV, J1-Visas, etc, but also by bringing in vital money for the underfunded Clubs & Societies.

The village will now become an integral part in the recruitment of new members in years to come, but will also be used to create extra funding by hiring out the village to companies who want use the village as a tool to reaching the student population.

The New Clubs & Societies Executive Were Elected at the Administration Weekend



The clubs & Societies council elected this year's executive last weekend out in the Limerick.

Attendance at the administration weekend is compulsory for all of the 70+ Clubs & Societies, as requirement to be given a budget from the Students' Union. The purpose of the weekend is to give each Club & Society the knowledge they need to run themselves within the guidelines set out the Clubs & Societies Council. The workshops included on the day were, Event Management, Keith Piggott, PR & Marketing, Garvan Barry, C&S Council Procedures, David Fleming, and Finances. The most important being the

Finances workshop, which was conducted by Muiris O' Sullivan. This workshop outlined the new procedures on budget allocation and the new scoring systems which was devised by the Finance Committee, initiated by the Clubs & Societies Council last year, to remove subjectivity from the budget & Appeals procedures.

Once all the workshops were over, the convening of the first Clubs & societies Council of the year to change a rule which prevented a member of executive holding a position on their own Club or Society. This rule was felt by members of the council to be a hindrance to the development of the executive so is changed without opposition.

Once council was adjourned the new executive was elected, following the hustling for the 8 positions, Clubs Officer, Societies Officer, 3 Clubs Executives & 3 Societies Executives; the follow people were elected:
 Stephen Driver - **Clubs Officer**
 Ella Daly - **Societies Officer**

Paul Ruddy, Sailing -**Clubs Exec**
 Robert Hickey, Softball
 Mark Breen, Lifesaving
 Fiona Earls, -**Societies Exec**
 Christen Anderson, Aisec
 Eimer Griffen, Radio Soc.

Also for the first time, an appeals committee was elected, whose sole purpose is to hear the appeals of Clubs & Societies who are not have with their budget allocation.

Those Elected were:

Clubs	Societies
Declan Burke	Karen O' Sullivan
Owen Calacky	Cian Davis
Keith Piggott	Tadgh O Shea
Alex Brennan	Paidraig Dennesy
Peter Enwright	Ivan Fleming
Olivia Donnelly	Dara Kennedy

The budget documents have to be submitted by Friday 6th October.

Class Representatives

Nomination Forms will be available from Wed 4th of Oct., Week 2, in the SU Reception in the Students Union Building

Closing Date for nominations is Friday 6th Oct., Week 2.

Elections if Required will be held Thurs 12th

Students Union Executive Board, Non-Sabbatical Postions

There 3 positions which are available:
Equality Officer
Communitiy Officer
Student Teachers Officer (*only open to education students*)

Nomination Forms will be available from Wed 4th of Oct., Week 2, in the SU Reception in the Students Union Building

Closing Date for nominations is Friday 6th Oct., Week 2.

Elections if Required will be held Thurs 12th October, Week 3.

<h3>LANGUAGE OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAMME</h3> <p>Do you want to learn a new language in 2000/2001? Or perhaps to improve your existing foreign language skills? The Language Opportunities Programme could be for you!</p> <p>Following the success of the pilot programme, the Language Opportunities Programme is being offered again in the academic year 2000/2001. This programme is aimed at students who wish to learn languages in addition to their normal University learning commitments.</p>	<h3>LANGUAGES</h3> <p>. English as Foreign Language . French . Gaeilge . German . Italian . Japanese . Spanish</p> <p>40 hours class contact over 20 weeks. Programme starts Week 3</p> <p>. Course fee : £100</p> <p>Why not find out more? Leaflets available from:</p> <p>The Language Centre (AM050)</p> <p>The Language Resource Area (A1077)</p> <p>Dominique Le Meur (B3046)</p>
--	--



A Few Announcements

Mature Students Society

Meeting

Thursday Oct 5th - 5pm

Conference Room, Students Union

Alcoholics Anonymous

Meeting of
Alcoholics Anonymous
every Thursday
in room E0019
at 6.30p.m

If you want to drink that's your
business, if you want to stop
that's ours.

The An Focal team

editor

Fergal F.

news collectors/gossipers

Jennier, Paddy,
Michelle, Ella

Focal Ealiane

Patrica Moriarty

features

Mystic, Sinead,
Nicholas, Grace,
Seanan, Marion,
Dave Flem

show me the money

Becky

c + s (m+s, s+m, b+h etc.)

Paul & CO.

phancy photo's

Fergal F. & Photo Soc.

gig goers

tommy f.

Has your life been affected by
Alcoholism
Violence
Gambling
Or
Any other addiction or dysfunctional behav-
iour.

If so
You are welcome to meetings of Adult
Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional
Families.

When: every Friday Night

Where: Bishops Place,
Nicholas Street, Limerick.

Time: 8.30p.m

American Football Training

Rugby Pitches

Every Thursday 6pm

Bring Boots/Cleats if you have them

www.ulvikings.com

e-mail: info@ulvikings.com

UL Kayak Club Summer Report

ULKC never looked back after the exams last summer. Some of our members (Paul, Jimmy, Mick, Edel, Matt and Kevin) stayed in Limerick for June to teach canoeing to primary school kids at a summer camp in the university.

During a day there would have been about 130 kids passing through their supervision. As well as canoeing they put them on a raft and scarred them senseless. During this period they got to know all the other guides doing the summer camp from parties and barbeques, which they hosted. The guides were a bit scared of them at first as they thought they where a bit mad and also they had a tendency to throw them into the river a lot. During this month they never took any rest, during the week the lads would all work and then on the weekends they would travel to do some surfing. They ventured out to Lahinch on numerous occasions and scared the locals, especially with they're unique dancing moves (you and me baby). If they got the chance they would venture out to the Clare glens, which is a kick ass river when it's up. There where a few romances, mupiting and a lot of missions during the month. It was a brilliant experience, which is recommended to any one. There where Two of our members, Jimmy Evans and Paul Garahy, who competed for Ireland this summer in the Home internationals kayak surfing comp which Ireland hosted up in Sligo along with a lot OFB's(x members). A lot of people went up to support the team and do some surfing themselves. The other competing teams where Whales, Scotland, England, Jersey and Northern Ireland. It was an excellent week with a typical day being getting up at 8am then eating and going surfing about 9am. Then they would finish up surfing around 6pm. After wards they would eat and then go on the piss till around 4 or 5am. Then up at 8am again to go surfing and wash away the hang over. This pace didn't last long so there was a break in the surfing comp on Wednesday. This meant that Tuesday night was going to be a big night and it didn't disappoint with excellent crack at the pub and then a party back at the student house. There where four Irish lads armed with green white and gold spray cans attacking everyone so by the end of the night it looked as if everyone was a member of the Irish team. The rest of the week just carried on like that. Ireland did extremely well leading the competition into the final day. However they lost on the last day to



Jersey who had the same amount of points as the Irish team but had more victories so they won with Ireland second.

A lot of members traveled abroad this summer to do some real white water. For those of you who are unfamiliar with Irish rivers there aren't a lot of white water rivers in Ireland and there are usually very little rivers to do during the summer as for the lack of rain. Our x-captain Liz set out for the Zambezi River, which is one, the most challenging rivers in the world. Liz is now world renowned for doing the Zambezi in a 007 with the "corps" struggling behind. We're lucky she is still around after that experience.

Decie traveled to Italy early in the year and during the summer some of the lads traveled out to sample the Italian rivers and women. They did some very challenging rivers, which had a lot of play spots on them. Decie however got mugged just before he met the lads so he was bumming off them for the week and he wore the same smelly clothes the whole time.

Jimmy and Brian went to Colorado for the summer where they became cowboys. They where able to go and do some of the rivers, which the area had to offer, some of which where grade 4 and 5 easily. They also got to paddle with some of the worlds best one day, which must have been a bit intimidating for them.

Our polo team kept the flag flying during the summer attending the competitions in Carraick on Shannon and twice in Kilcock. The first was in Carraick where they moved up from division 3 to division 2. The lads coped extremely well and finished third

which was excellent. During the weekend there was a lot drinking and a good time was had by all especially in rocky robins night club. But for some reason the lads could not remember some of their inventive chat up lines and also insults as in Micks case he was unable to remember the well proportioned women he talked to and his swarve maneuvers. In Kilcock the first time around the lads did not do so well but they more than made up for it in the next meet by coming 2nd in division 3 losing out in the final to UCD. A big thanks to the lads organizing the trips over the summer(Seanie and JP).

Other members made many trips to go surfing and do some rivers with everyone enjoying themselves and taking as many risks as possible.

Scandal:

The alias Muppet furthered his muppitous antics by sleeping with passed out people and scaring the shit out of them when they awake.

JP got more friendly with his friends.

Sinead has jumped the Jimmy boat and landed on Ian.

Matt improved foreign relations with France. Mick and Sarah up a tree you know the rest....

Jimmy and Elaine soiled the couch at a BBQ.

Kev destroyed a BBQ in a house at a 21st and slept in a bin liner.

Deccie has gone very European say no more.....

Ella's Really Thin Gossip Column

So its time we all got back to work and put our heads down and studied concientiously for our end of semester exams.....yeah right. Its been allmost a yera now since I started writing this column and it seems that some people still havent learned. Muris O'Sullivan every ones favorite fennian what were you Thinking? Announcing to an entire room in the Limerick inn that you would be "going to Garvans room as soon "as you could Muris really and Dee only down the hall its a disgrace! But that wast the only scandal at the ULSU clubs and societies admin weekend there was more so much more Lets see where do we start.

There were some very suspicious goings on a convieniantly burst water main, a lack of biscuits and Aiden O'GORMAN STAING HED BE WILLING TO "TAKE ANYTHING" to print in Scaoil amach eh so much for ensuring quality content Aiden. the afters in the round hoise proved just as enlightening as my beloved Dave Fleming started a passionate and sensual affair with a lamp post, Deccy Bourke declaring me the only woman hed ever been afraid of and the comps to the Globe flying left right and center. So of to the globe with us and THATS WHEN IT REALLY HOTTED UP. DID YOU KNOW THAT OUR ESTEEMED pRESIDENT has lied to his Father for twenty five years about smoking or that the new editor of this fine publication sleeps with a teddy he calls unkempt (geddit shaggy and unkempt? oh never mind!)

The brand new exec didt escape in this festival of sins of the flesh with the night ending early for the President of Drama soc seen exiting the building with the newly elected Societies officer in tow more on that next week

Thats all for now its been a slow first week but never fera if its happening under the cover of darknews or even inthe courtyard in brad day light Ill let you know and if youev got some goss you know wher to find me Ella

UL Badminton Club

Just a quick word to let you all know that the Badminton training times are as follows:

Tuesday @ 7.30 pm until 9.00pm
Thursday @ 9.00 pm until 11.00pm

These times will remain in place until the opening of the new sports building. When the new sports building opens (mid-October hopefully) the training times will move to:

Monday @ 9.00 pm until 11.00pm
Wednesday @ 9.00 pm until 11.00pm

The club AGM will take place at 8.00pm on Thursday of WK2 in the Sports building. As you might know this year we will definitely be entering two and possibly three league teams into the Limerick League at different levels (a senior, intermediate/Junior and hopefully a beginner team). The entry of these teams will depend on the level of interest shown. Anybody wishing to be considered for these teams must put their name forward at this meeting and the trials for the teams will take place on the following Tuesday and Thursday training sessions. Anybody wishing to become involved in the running of the club and the intervarsity event which will take place from the 9-11th of March is also required to attend.

If you're a serious player or just someone who wants to try a new sport for the fun why not call down to the sports building to any of our training times and give Badminton a try

TANG SOO DO

Tang Soo Do is a martial art that combines aspects of Chinese, Japanese and Korean martial arts to provide a strong karate style that can be traced back over 2000 years. The World Moo Duk Kwan Tang Soo Do Federation Inc is run by Grand Master Jae Joon Kim (10th Dan Black Belt), instructor to 7 times World Karate Champion and famous actor Chuck Norris.

The chief Irish Representative of the Federation is Master Dan Gilligan (4th Dan Black Belt) who was silver medal winner in the 1997 World Championship for sparring and patterns. Master Gilligan also came 4th overall in the 1999 competition and in the same year was presented with a special trophy by

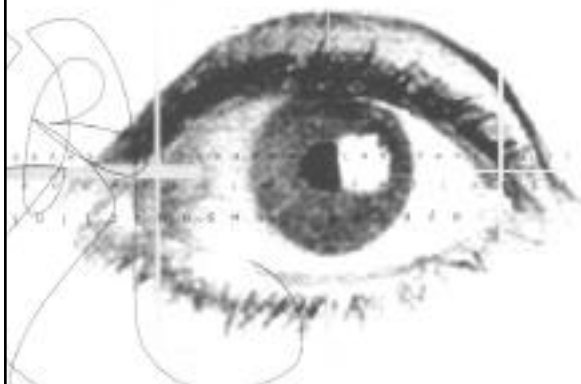
Grand Master Kim recognizing his superior martial arts spirit. Tang Soo Do has had a presence in Ireland for almost 10 years with a number successful clubs established with large membership including over 15 Black Belt members. All classes are given by BLACK BELT INSTRUCTORS with regular grading under Master Gilligan.

We will soon be starting a club in the University of Limerick, instructor Pat Forde (1st Dan Black Belt), and would like all those interested in starting classes to call to

MEETING ROOM 4, STUDENT CENTRE, on THURSDAY WEEK 2 BETWEEN 5.00PM & 7.00PM.

SEPT.14 MR RAY WITH SKINNY BOY JAZZ
SEPT.21 ARAN MACMAHON WITH JODY
SEPT.28 STEVIE G WITH EGGZ
OCT.05 NOEL PHELAN WITH SKINNY BOY JAZZ
OCT.12 ARVEENE WITH DAVE O'DONOVAN
OCT.19 AIDAN KELLY WITH SKINNY BOY JAZZ

soul clinic limerick
DOLAN'S WAREHOUSE. DOORS 12PM-3AM. ADMISSION £5
soulcliniclimerick@hotmail.com

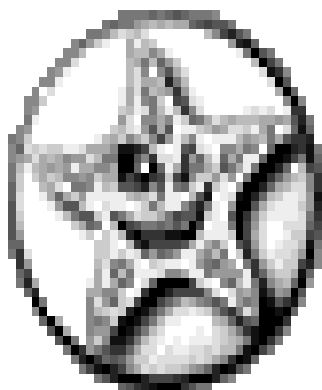


urban, the scholars club + heineken
presents
the breakfast club
every sunday 12pm-3pm
ease yourself into/out of the week
with
breakfast, comfy couches, sunday papers,
candles, visuals and laid back tunes

It's in the Stars

so it must be true

Mystic Moriarty tells you what you're in for



Virgo 22 August - 21 September

Pure and innocent - I think not! Your angelic streak is set to alter this week as changes are made to your social life and surroundings. Just try not to be too bold!

Libra 22 September - 22 October

Friends are hard to come by. Don't lose contact with them. This may seem unimportant now but who knows what the future may hold.

Scorpio 23 October - 21 November

A recent flush of freedom seems attractive to others, but to you it's daunting. There's no need for this feeling - with freedom comes fun and enjoyment.

Sagittarius 22 November - 20 December

A new relationship proves exciting and fun-filled. Enjoy the good times with the bad. You deserve it after a past torment.

Capricorn 21 December - 19 January

Constant partying can be a strain, but you are well able for it. You're determined to enjoy yourself, whether others do or not.

Aquarius 20 January - 18 February

You're on the look-out for some new and fresh company. Be sure to choose carefully and beware of the feelings of others.

Pisces 19 February - 19 March

The academic side of your life is to take a turn for the better. A new environment proves promising and full of new opportunities.

Aries 20 March - 18 April

Your family life is going through a rough patch at the moment. But remember, blood is thicker than water. All will resolve itself in time.

Taurus 19 April - 19 May

A friend is making life tough for you, and solace will come from an unexpected source. Don't despair - support is at hand.

Gemini 20 May - 20 June

You are experiencing a fresh approach to life. Past upsets and troubles have taught you to be independent and self-reliant. Good on ya!

Cancer 21 June - 21 July

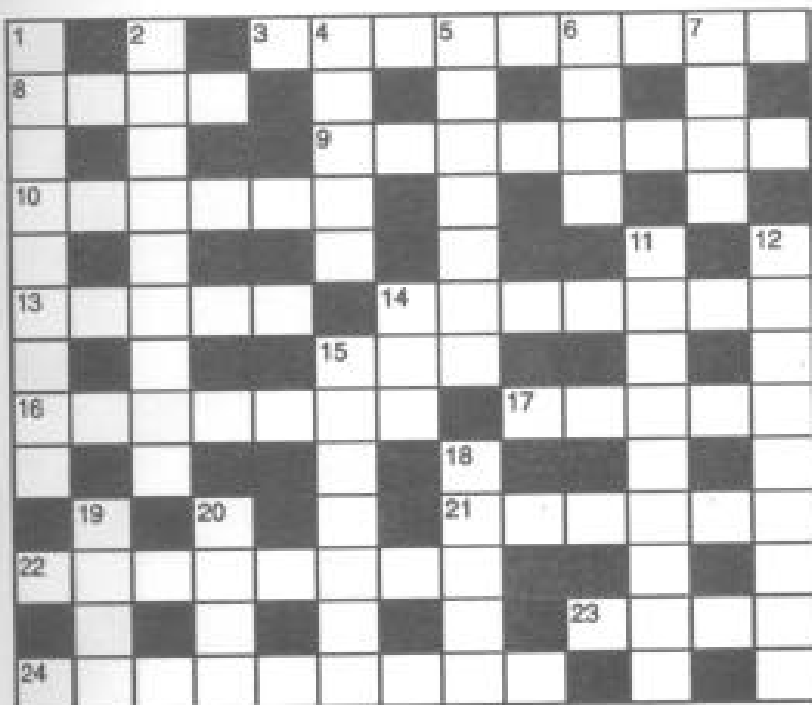
Remember to keep your old friends as well as making new ones. The longer you know people, the better. There's less chance of getting hurt.

Leo 22 July - 21 August

Your partner seems to be a bit jealous of time spent with others. You need to be free and independent, although you like the warmth at night! The most important thing is that you are happy!

Seen as we have no letters this week -

There is £15 pounds going for first person with the solution to this week Crossword



ACROSS

- 3. Prudent (9)
- 8. Water plant (4)
- 9. Historian (8)
- 10. Line showing air pressure (6)
- 13. Called name over tannoy (5)
- 14. Lottery (7)
- 15. "Number —", PM's house (3)
- 16. Mail sack (7)
- 17. Precious oyster product (5)
- 21. Give as a task (6)
- 22. 3-D laser picture (8)
- 23. Legal successor (4)
- 24. Representation (9)

DOWN

- 1. Water-channel down side of building (9)
- 2. Unblock (9)
- 4. Resupply with weapons (5)
- 5. Flesh of the deer (7)
- 6. Idiot (4)
- 7. Proboscis (4)
- 11. Philanderer (9)
- 12. Bravery (9)
- 14. Two-year old sheep (3)
- 15. Greek guest-house (7)
- 18. Poisonous snake (5)
- 19. Unaccompanied performance (4)
- 20. Port-drinkers' disease (4)

le scribble box

Life through a Lens

- Sinead's view of Life

Have you ever woken up in the morning to the sound of that interminably infuriating "Bart get your butt out of bed" alarm clock, then turned off said alarm clock and fallen back to sleep – even though you intended only to doze for a few brief seconds – then woken up with three minutes to get to that lecture thing that is SO IMPORTANT? Have you ever discovered that all your clothes are out on the roof 'cause your roommate is really very funny inside his own head, and of course as we are Limerick the divine bodies are flushing all the lavatories in heaven directly overhead so the surrounding landscape looks exactly as it might have when Noah sailed over? If the answer to one of these unnecessarily elongated questions is yes, Fáilte romhat árais! Isn't it just great to be back at UL? Amid the sea of change (sorry for the cliché) it's nice to know that one can rely on the following:

- (i) Precipitous Irish weather ie it rains in Limerick all the time.
 - (ii) The more alcohol you drink the more you think you need.
 - (iii) It is next to impossible to get a seat in the Stables or the Scholars
- These points, while wonderfully reassuring to one who has still a grasp on a bit of thread from the apron string, are the fundamental blights on our burgeoning scholastic careers. Uimhreacha (i)

and (ii) I accept. We, being mere students and therefore mortal (or a genus of sub-mortal to some) cannot change the weather. So we'll just weather the storm (really bad pun). Alcohol is a drug. It reduces the ability to think rationally. Nuff said. But why, oh why can I never get a seat in the pub?

I, in my naivety, believed that being a university student would have an automatic entitlement to a seat in the student bars. But No! Shock Horror! There are nights when you can't even get in the gate, never mind the door. And those who are fortunate enough to get inside the holy ground need to be in the whole of their health to get anywhere near the bar. In praise of the patrons there is generally very little jostling or loss of limbs, which is nice, but one wouldn't expect anything less from such pillars of academia as we.

But alas our wonderful chivalry around the drink dispensing areas does nothing to ease the insatiable craving. [Dear Reader, it might be worthwhile to establish that I am not an alcoholic. I just like to drink, and preferably to have it on tap ie a ready supply not draft.]

So powers that be, if you are reading PLEASE give us bigger bars and more

seating. This seating thing is a big issue. Don't you realise that if we are all cosy and comfy, we will drink longer, as our legs won't give the warning wobble. Don't you hear the cash register? Can't you see the pound signs? Facilitate our socialising and you shall be rewarded a thousand fold. I pledge that we shall not rest, no we shall sit constantly, glass in hand, elbow on new tables, and pinky in air until every bottle is empty and every keg is dry. Let us enjoy one of those mutually beneficial relationships that the biology teacher so quaintly termed symbiotic. In short: give us more seats 'cause I hate standing while drinking. Alternatively we could just bar all Mary I people forever.

Now lest I have offended someone, may I now cite that I love the student bars and that if they were men I'd want to marry one of them. XXX

Libel action deftly averted, I'll move swiftly along and temper this piece with a little summer-social anecdote: One night during the holidays a person, who shall remain nameless for the present, inadvertently visited a licensed premises, which shall definitely remain nameless – this is not a free ads paper – but we'll call it the Last Refuge of Satan's Spawn. Without realising that

this was not the sort of establishment she would normally grace, she went to the bar to order a 7up with ice, no lemon. After ordering she felt fetid breath on the back of her neck, and horror of horrors a groping hand in the nether regions. On turning around to confront her assailant she met a lecherous, tweed-capped, octogenarian bachelor complete with tobacco-stained teeth, cattle-greened fingers and a bailing twine belt. Her eyes widened in horror as he wheezed "Jaysus didn't you turn into the fine lump of a cutty" before peeing down his trouser leg and splashing her new just out of the box sandals.

Note: "Cutty" is a centuries old colloquialism meaning girl.

She paid for her 7up – ice no lemon - and left, never to return again to the LRSS.

Okay so that's not exactly what happened. It's called poetic licence, but you get the idea. The moral of this story is that drinking (even 7up) can seriously damage your health. I suppose it also follows that I should be grateful for our wonderful student inns, as they are free from urinating ancients. Did I mention that I really love the Stables...

For Telecommunications careers to get excited about

Career Opportunities at Tellabs:

- Software Engineers
- Systems Engineers
- Software Integration Engineers
- Validation Engineers
- SCM Engineers
- Product Support Engineers
- ASIC Engineers
- Hardware Design Engineers
- Test Development Engineers



The Company

Tellabs' Adaptive Network Solutions (ANS) Division in Shannon operates at the cutting edge of next generation switching technology. The company is pioneering convergent technologies that enable telecommunications operators worldwide to deliver traditional telephony services over a broadband infrastructure. Tellabs' SALIX 7000 family of next-generation switching solutions is designed to enable telecommunications carriers to cost-effectively migrate telephony services from today's TDM world to future, packet or cell-based networks with defined quality of service capabilities. Our 130,000 sq ft state-of-the-art facility houses one of the largest research and development centres in Ireland, as well as marketing, manufacturing and customer service. It is located in the midwest region of Ireland near Ennis, Co. Clare and Limerick.

The Environment

We encourage and reward both individual and team efforts and we provide opportunities to learn new things, assume leadership roles and put ideas into practice.

We are looking to recruit in the following areas:

- Software Engineers
- Systems Engineers
- Software Integration Engineers
- Validation Engineers
- SCM Engineers
- Product Support Engineers
- ASIC Engineers
- Hardware Design Engineers
- Test Development Engineers

These opportunities are available immediately, please forward CV in strict confidence to:

HR Department, Tellabs Ltd,
Shannon Industrial Estate, Co. Clare.
Tel: 061 703000. Fax: 061 703333
Email: hrdept@tellabs.ie
Visit our website at www.tellabs.com



CLEAR IDEAS