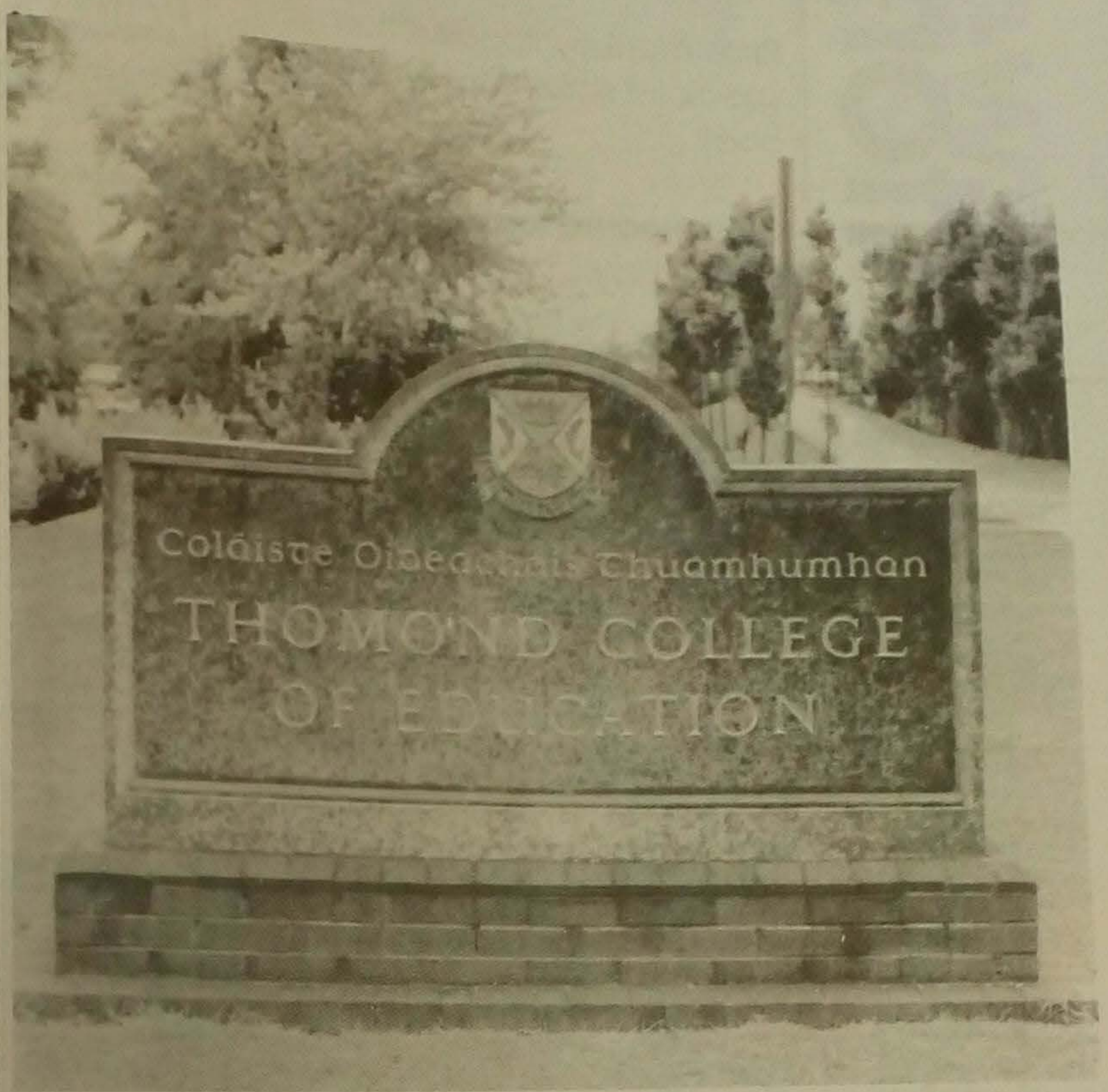


Our Focus



Where have you gone to lately?

University of Limerick
Students' Union Newspaper

Hilary 1 1991 Thursday 3rd October

Inside:

News and letters
Ents term planner
Orientation Week Review
+ Lots More

Editorial

Alien sand dune befriends bike!

Nine-in-a bed teenage porno pig death horror!

Prize monkey lipposuction specialist stapled to runaway boat!

Croff elected for second term of presidency!

Ah, the chaos of the tabloid embryo, the pre-dead-line fuss, the multiple stab wounds, the angst and the acne - all past.

All so that now and every fortnight will mean An Focal. In a word, The Word. Quality reading produced from within...or...something to wrap your chips in. An exciting new narrative on happenings within and without the campus gates. A challenge to all with modular mentality in that it is a piece of text you need not memorise. Just add morning coffee and have a pleasant half hour.

Please react to this newspaper. The quality of further issues depends on your comments and more importantly, your contributions. We need more sub-editors i.e. people who will "take charge" of copy for specific sections - art, sport, current affairs etc.

We are grateful for the zealous bunch who attended our first editorial meeting - their speedy submissions of copy greatly reduced the possibility of ulcers coinciding with the launch.

We are hopeful that their efforts will not only be rewarded as they see themselves in black and white, but also as they become members of a larger and larger editorial team. So examine yourself for journalistic fibres and report to our weekly meetings - 1.00 Wednesday, Deputy President's office.

The world according to you.

Letters



Path of least resistance

Just another day at the University. Rise early in the morning, enjoy a five minute breakfast and trudge off to the college for the first lecture of the day. A day in college is a day in college and a night in the Stables. Trudge home, a late night snack, clean the shoes for the morning and off to bed. What's wrong with this scenario?

Well all this trudging around could be done without, and cleaning shoes every night before bed is quite a nightmare. Yet for us humble students living in College Court this is indeed the daily routine. Why? Why must we trudge and clean?

Leading from the housing estate of College court to the University is a short, ill-lit, rough and dangerous path. The major obstacle standing between the students residing in College Court and our education. This path is a masterfully crafted army training course, but none of us applied for it. The path is strewn with stones, rocks, conglomerated tarmac-adam and pot-holes, some of which are cleverly

camouflaged with grass and other indigenous vegetation. But the real talking point, and would any obstacle course be complete without it, is the mud. Yes, the many and varied species of mud residing along the path, all of them having the common properties of destroying footwear and that wet slipperiness generally associated with this substance.

I suppose really we should be thankful. No, not that we have a path, but that nobody has been injured by it yet (as of Thursday evening, 26 September 1991). However it is surely only a matter of time. Where is Limerick County Council when the welfare of students is at stake? Students, the bearers of much in wealth to the county and city of Limerick. Students, without whom there could be no University of Limerick. Yet we are left to wallow in the mud on a dark path. Who is responsible? What is to be done by the council? How may have to injure themselves first? How long must I nightly clean my shoes?

Gerry

an Focal



an Focal



We are looking for a serious editorial team for a new student newspaper. We need to fill 16 tabloid pages every fortnight. We will need sub-editors and contributors in the following areas:

- Music & Entertainment
- Arts & Crafts, Creative writing
- Sport
- Education, Health & Welfare
- Features Section (Travel, Cookery Corner, Photo Stories, etc.)
- News/Current Affairs
- Students' Union News
- Also required: Graphic Artist and Photographic Editor

This paper will be produced every fortnight. If you are interested in "Editorship" of any of the above sections, please come along to our weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 1.00pm in the Deputy President's Office. All individuals, classes, Clubs & Societies, who are interested in contributing to the first edition of the paper should submit their copy to the Students' Union Office.

Remember this paper is your paper.. It's up to each and every one of you to make sure it works!

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Matters modular matter not.

Here at U.L. learning is expected to work by osmosis. In modular form, course material is available as an expendable product - You buy learning, collect it in Week 9, dispose of it in Week 11.

Four years in college should round the individual- not process him/her. Any work done early in the term is rendered irrelevant when course outlines are cut by lectur-

ers appreciative of obvious study difficulties as exams approach. Course material is truncated so as to make any commitment by the student a risk of wasted time.

Three terms a year encourages us all to grow into little human photocopiers that come on when the pressure is on.

Sir Atom Spank

**Letters for next
issue in by Friday,
Week 3 please.**

Editorial

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Education Students Furious at Merger Fiasco

NEWS

Second, third and fourth year students in the College of Education are furious at the response of their college management to the merger of Thomond College of Education and the University. Many of them emerged from a meeting on Wednesday of week 1 enraged at the lack of information available on the implications of the merger.

The meeting was attended by Mr Hugh O'Donnell, Associate Dean in the College of Education, Dr John O'Brien, Assistant Dean Academic Affairs, Mr Jim Gleeson, Head of the newly formed Department of Second Level Education, and Mr Frank McGourty, Senior Lecturer in Rural Science, among others. None of the student members of the Faculty Board of the College of Education were informed of the meeting. Billy Kirwan, Students' Union Transition Officer said "This is a disgrace. The College of Education held their first Faculty Board meeting during the summer with out notifying the student members. They then held this meeting with students in the College without properly notifying me

or either of the other two officers in the SU."

Students who attended the meeting said that the faculty's standard response to questions from the student body was 'the finer details have yet to be worked out'. They did not have the detailed information available about such issues as when or how a student would repeat teaching practice, or how the QCA system will be introduced.

The most contentious issue raised was the changes decided in teaching practice (TP) - changes which have been made without consultation with the students who will be affected. Prior to this each student was required to complete four periods of TP of five

weeks duration - one period in each academic year. The University authorities have decided that teaching practice will now constitute two periods of ten weeks duration - a system that fits the administrative procedures of the university more effectively. The faculty members who attended the meeting were unsure about the academic structure this period of TP would have. They suggested that it might be split into two periods of six and four weeks respectively, with the second part serving

as a 'repeat' period for those who had failed the first six weeks - but they were not sure.

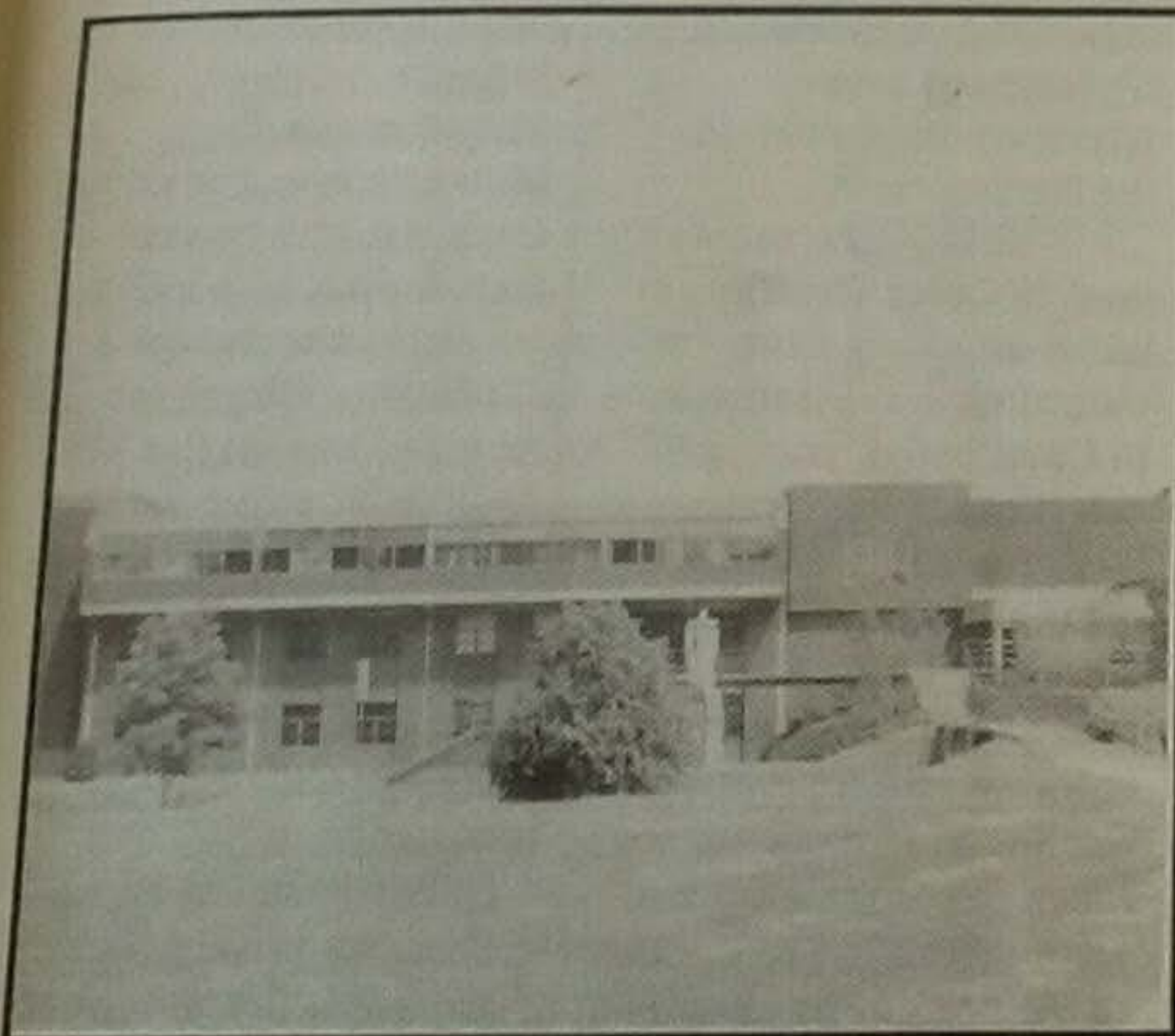
Other members of the faculty have privately expressed doubts about the change, saying that it has no pedagogical basis. Students have pointed out that a ten week TP period would be disruptive within the school system, and that the University has not established that schools are willing to operate the system. They also point out that the lengthy TP period will be more stressful on student teachers than the previous five week system. None of the faculty who attended the meeting were able to answer a question from the floor if - or when - there will be a preparation period for those going out on TP.

The second issue of contention is the introduction of the QCA system based on existing exam results. Up to now graduates were awarded Honours degrees on the basis of their final year exam and course work results combined with the results from their third and fourth year TP periods. To get the honour a student needed to obtain an honour in either of their last two TP periods. The faculty

members present were unable to say whether or not the current fourth years would have their third year results converted to QCA scores in determining their final standing for graduation purposes.

One student described the lack of specific information as a farce. Billy Kirwan, SU Transition Officer has been inundated with complaints from College of Education students. "I wish the university authorities would get their act together", he said. "We were merged under the impression that we were joining an organisation dedicated to excellence and relevance. The mess of the last week shows that the excellence is far from a reality."

Mr Kirwan has asked the College of Education to hold a further meeting with students to clear up the outstanding matters.



Two Students Suspended

by An Focal reporter

Two first year students were suspended for one academic year in two unrelated cases heard over the summer. Both cases were appealed to the Discipline Appeals Committee which upheld the suspensions. In the first case the student was charged with offences related to 'hacking' on the computer system 'TD1'. The student had been found guilty of attempting to access files and run certain processes despite being warned not to do so. Aspects of the case had been widely discussed by both staff and student computer users before the hearing on a computer 'newsgroup' called ul.university-forum. The Discipline Appeals Committee modified the sentence of the original

hearing so as to allow the student concerned to sit examinations at the end of the Trinity term next year.

In the second case the charge was of academic cheating. The cheating occurred during an examination at the end of the Trinity term and was noticed by the lecturer while correcting papers. The student admitted that he had copied large parts of his paper from another student in his class, but appealed the decision to suspend him for a year on the basis that it was too harsh a sentence. The Discipline Committee and Appeals Committee decided that the full penalty of a years suspension should apply. They noted that the among the instructions

on the cover of exam answer books is a warning that academic cheating carries a suspension of one year.

The Deputy President of the Students' Union, Mr Donal Walde described the suspensions as 'adequate' and went on to say "The Code of Conduct must be adhered to. Students who are charged with an offence should contact the SU for help, as the students involved in these cases did. Unfortunately when you come to college you can not have your own laws. What has happened serves as an warning to us all."

In both cases there were student representatives on both the original Discipline Committee and the Discipline Appeals Committee.

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FOR TABLE BOOKINGS

News

Your Union

You are now in your second week in college and if you have not yet been down to the courtyard you may still be unfamiliar with the Students Union offices and the work-crazed people who spend their waking hours there, (well, either in the office or in the Stables nearby!!)

To get you up-to-date with the goings-on in the vicinity of the Students Union and with what the Students Union can do for you this term, this page gives a brief run-down on the Officers who are working to represent you, and also of the other activities which will be happening in and around the S.U. offices in the next few weeks.

I suppose we should start with location, almost all of you have, by now, been down to the Stables for the pint of

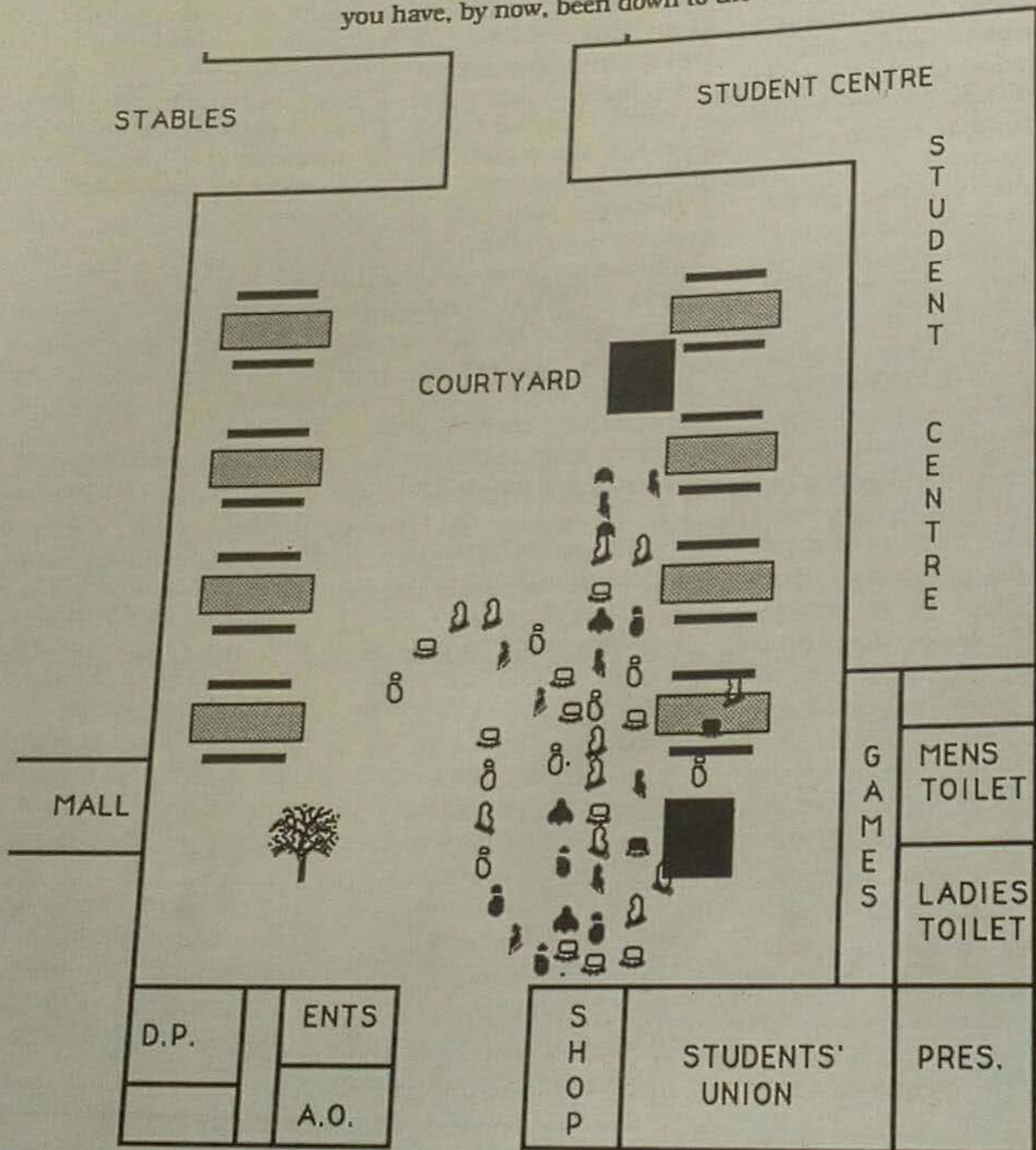
porter, if you still have not found the Students' Union office, take a right at the door of the Stables and there we are at the other side of the courtyard, you see, we cater to your every need, even to the point of providing you with a drink as you wait to see us in the S.U.!!!

Deputy President find themselves doing find is also Education and Services Officer, so if you are being evicted, harassed, or merely want a little advice on something, private or personal, Waide is your only man, he'll soon fit you with a 'four be four' to solve you problem! Found on the right day, Donal will begin giving you his problems, almost always about his Long Distance relationship with the Ex-Sec of the S.U. but if you listen patiently, you are guaranteed a little help and a pint afterwards!!!

The officers in the Students' Union, President, Deputy Pres, and Transitional Officer, are voted in by the students in third term of the academic year. The current Officers are three Irish males, hailing from Ballinasloe, Waterford and Cork!! Almost all the important counties represented there!! Whatever happened to the Kerry men ??

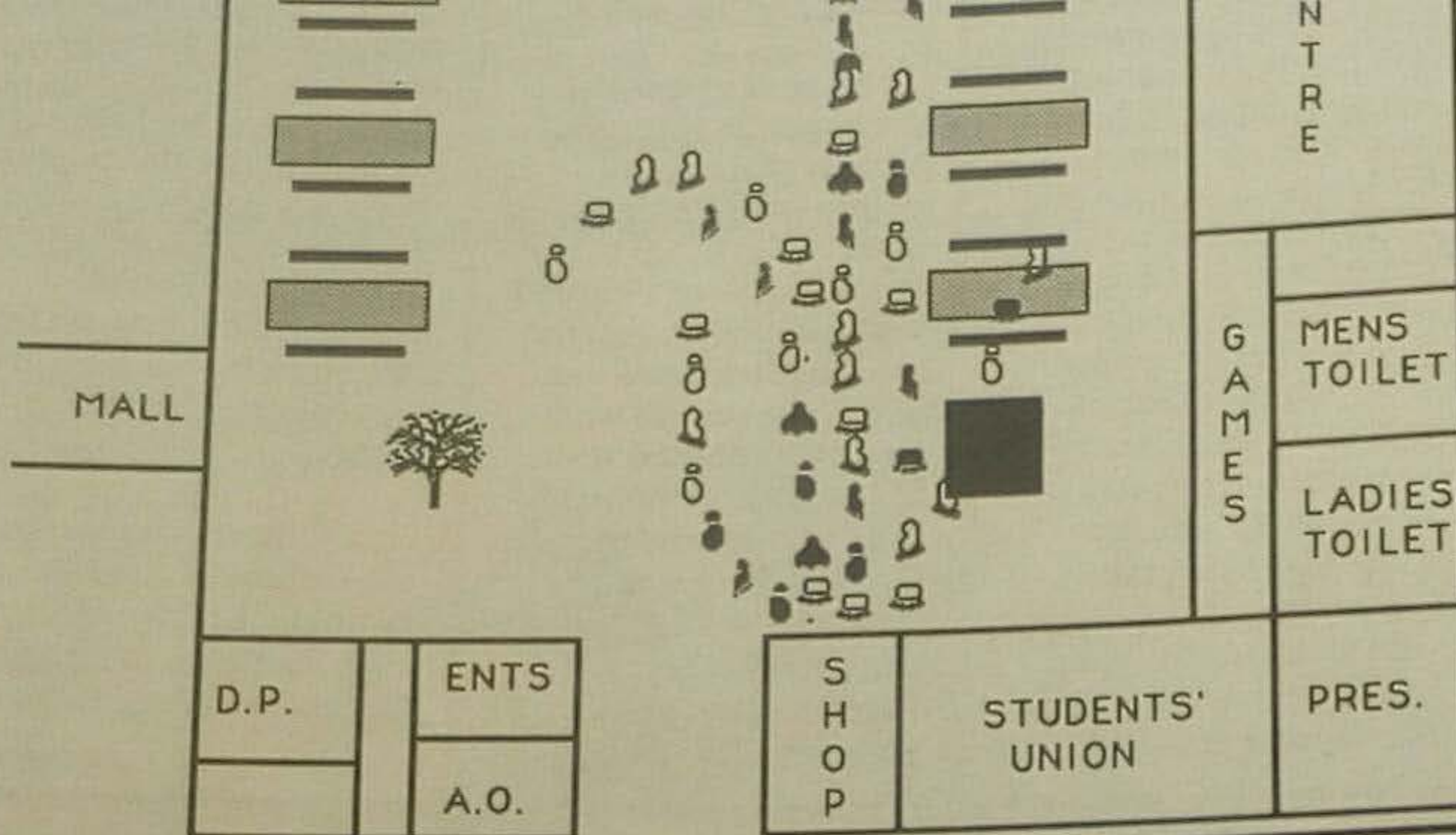
This year's president is **Colm Croffy**, (alias anything from Grandad, Mr. Fireman, to Crotchedy), you can ask himself for the background of all those names!! Colm's claim to fame for this year is the fact that he has been voted in as President for the second year running, hows that for doing a good job eh? Colm has the perhaps unenviable job of having total, *und alles*, control and responsibility for Union affairs, both good and bad and co-ordinates

The newest post among the S.U. Sabbatical Officers is that of Transition Officer, **Mr. Billy Kirwan**, from Montenotte in the city of Cork. He still has not found what he's looking for, whether that be a Girlie or a Clique, we still wonder in vain but all will be revealed in time!! Billy's post, that of Transition Officer was set up this year after the merger of Thomond College with the University of Limerick and as Billy himself says, he is there to protect the interests of the former T.C.E. students who may find themselves under-represented in the midst of this merger.



Students' Union Library Success

An emergency fund of £100,000 has been allocated to government cutbacks



Students' Union Library Success

An emergency fund of £100,000 has been allocated to the Library as result of a Students' Union led campaign earlier in the year protesting over the critical shortage of books in the library.

"A major victory for the little people on campus" was how the President of the S.U. Colm Croffy described the success, he went on to say that the way the University authorities had to succumb to pressure at Governing Body was a testament to student power.

"We brought the Library, which has been a long forgotten relic back into centre stage again by our timely 'White House Sit In' and in constantly lobbying the Governors into realising that there are major problems with the Library" he said.

The Students' Union campaign to highlight the

plight of the Library shelves and users began last March when over 600 hundred students took an hour off during week 8 and invaded the White House during lunchtime.

There then followed a number of meetings between Dr. Walsh and the S.U. President where it was agreed that the method of allocating the book purchasing funds to the colleges would be reviewed.

Reporting to the Governors Dr. Walsh conceded that the library did indeed suffer from a chronic lack of capital stocks due chiefly

to government cutbacks around the mid eighties.

However the S.U. Governors did not feel that the issue should rest there and continually lobbied Governors into accepting a proposal that £100,000 be made available from the Breakages/ Damages fund.

The University accountants refused point blank to utilise the funds as they were a Capital Fund - i.e. not for current expenditure but unexpectedly Dr. Walsh informed the last meeting of the Governing Body that £100,000 is being "bled" from recurrent funding.

The monies will be used to bolster stocks in a number of critical areas with the assistance of the respective Faculty Librarians.

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Deputy President for 1991/92 is the man with the red eyes from Waterford, **Mr. Donal Waide**, the guy who fell in love last year!! Among the general tasks that

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But do not despair all you students who have not been fortunate enough to be past T.C.E. students, you too can be taken care of by our very own Blonde Blue Eyed Boy from Cork. Although the many stories going around at present are, according to the lad himself, Pure Fiction, we have yet to catch our new Transition Officer "in the act"!! You might still be in with a chance however, as Billy has also the role of Entertainments Officer, lending great help to Be in the organising and the production side of gigs, etc. You can find him at Tin City, The Rave and at most other S.U. gigs. Failing that, he has an office in the P.E. building of T.C.E. if you want to see the blonde beauty face to face (or even if you are looking for some advice)

From the Triangle

Posters

by Cathal Kelly

"Rikki don't lose that number", goes the song, "it's the only one you want" It is a catchy tune. You will still hear it played on evening and night-time radio, when the DJs have moved from the strict "Chart Only" regime of prime time listening. For some people the words mean a bit more.

There are a number of students who saw the telephone number of the Limerick Gay Switchboard, Lesbian Line or UL Lesbian and Gay Society, and who are walking around with it carefully tucked away in their head. It is not necessarily the case that they have used the number or call it regularly, though they may have. The people I am thinking of have just got as far as noting the number and are dwelling on the possibility of dialling it some time. It is an experience lesbian and gay switchboards are familiar with. They report that many callers who are 'coming out' have been aware of the existence of a switchboard for some time before they ring. The experience of the Lesbian and Gay Society reflects these findings. Membership increased during the last academic year - which is against the trend; most clubs and societies experience a fall-off in membership as the year progresses.

This steady increase occurred because lesbian and gay students postponed joining until well into the year. In addition many of them - and some other lesbian and gay people on campus who were not in the society - have said that they had spotted the posters about how to contact the society, about its meetings, and about the Gay Switchboard and Lesbian Line within a very short time of them going up on the noticeboards. The reaction can be compared to a common experience of Irish

you tell them - by letter, or at the end of a row while drunk, or calmly, rationally in the style of "Mam, there's something I want to tell you"? What age were you when you first came out to anybody? How many people at college know you are gay? How many "back home" where you grew up? Do your friends and classmates know or is it just a small number of gay acquaintances? Have your parents told you not to mention this again? Have any of your friends stopped being friendly? How did you feel when your brother said you were still his sister and he loved you just the same?

Discussing coming out in this way is relevant, but it doesn't explain why I felt the society should have a high visibility.

Up until the moment a gay person tells somebody that they are gay, they are essentially alone. It is a curious type of 'aloneness' - it would take an isolated person not to notice at least some of the media discussion on gay issues. However, media coverage mainly focuses on the public issues. Discussions on 'outing' British MPs or on Irish law reform are a stage beyond the concerns of a gay person in the closet. They certainly give gay people a profile and raise awareness that is often helpful. Of course, a raised profile may not necessarily be encouraging. I know one gay student who had been building up to telling his parents he is gay until one day David Norris appeared on radio to talk about James Joyce. All plans of coming out the following weekend were

Opinion

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One way of gaining a better understanding of why the Lesbian and Gay Society regularly advertises both the society and the switchboards is to listen to young gay people, including some members of the society, talk about their experiences. The phrase used in this context is 'coming out'. Discussions about coming out usually centre around four things: to whom one is out, when one came out, how one came out, and what the reaction was. Naturally the answers to these questions vary widely. It would be easy to sit a group of gay people down and extract this information: do your parents know you are gay; if so did you tell them or did they find out by accident; how did

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A pedant could claim that the simple reason I gave above for high visibility is correct. It reminds people that the society and the switchboards exist. And it could be argued that this is no more than what, for example, the Soccer Club or An Cumann Gaelach do with their publicity - remind people that they exist. The difference is that with An Cumann Gaelach or the Soccer Club the decision to be made is "do I have time and interest to join", with the Lesbian and Gay Society it is often a case of finding the courage to overcome fear.

[Oh, by the way, in case you haven't spotted the number it's 310101. The Lesbian and Gay Society can be contacted at that number on Tuesday evenings from 7.00 to 8.30pm]

From the Triangle

And now to talk of the Summer just past. While hordes of us braved foreign borders in a quest for enlightenment, dodgy employment and a loss of chastity, there were others who tolerated Ireland's daily downpour in the happy knowledge that there was a Feile approaching.....

THE TRIP

Side of the road, middle of God-knows-where, Thurles sign in hand, 10.15 exactly and not a lift in sight. Then as if sent by Van himself - a cement lorry stops. God, the climb into the cab was high, hauling tent ruck sacks, selves + signs inside.

Myself and my fellow voyager discussed our morning journey - one frozen food lorry, a jeep full of calf nuts and now a cement lorry, which because of its load tilted greatly to one side. Twenty minutes later we were deposited in Thurles town. The journey had ended. The Trip began!!

This usual sleepy backwater had been transformed by the invasion. Now overtaken by noise, crowds, empty bottles and cans. The official camp-site, beforehand a field of wheat and sugar beet, now became home for a sea of tents and an ocean of people (mind you by Sunday the area around the Porto loo's was well emptied as smells, queues and shrieking, shocked campers, fleeing the sight, caused a major and constant interruption to the enjoyment of the weekend).

The week-end wore on, sleeping two and then four in a two man tent, clothing being reduced to a crumpled mass providing day-wear, night-wear and pillow comfort. (Multi-functional eh!)

On to Semple, the epicentre of the whole expedition, the fun began with neither a hurley nor a football in sight. It continued unhampered by rain, wind or raging bouts of hangovers, exhaustion, cold or sunburn (T'was a fun packed weekend alright).

Our base, designated in front of the V.I.P. stand became home for the 3 days, rushing between this

spot and the mixing stand we danced, sang, screamed and booted the time away. When it rained, it rained hard and some bright sparks (about 2,000 of them) raised the pitch covering to provide an adequate protection against the down pour. The canopy, redundant once the rain had subsided, was then torn into strips (by mass tugs of war) to provide makeshift trampolines which relieved the boredom during Nancy Griffith's performance. The human pyramids also helped to provide distraction when artists were either unknown, disliked or simply boring. As the weekend progressed these became very ambitious, reaching six or so bodies high, which under the strain resulted in sudden collapse and mass pile-ups (not a pretty sight).

Sunday afternoon, the trip almost completed, a surprise return of the Saw Doctors with the Feile Anthem. The rest of the evening became a blur, as anyone who had stayed the course collapsed and died round about mid-afternoon, those left standing were obviously "day-trippers" (the relatively clean-pressed clothes were a dead give away).

Our resurrection came with the Pogues. "Fairy Tale of New York" not only evoked life among the wilting throngs, but a massive ceilí warming the blood and awakening us for our last night in the camp site.

The fire works lit up the sky in brilliant colour providing an apt ending for a weekend where I have never eaten, slept or washed less. The Trip was an experience not to be missed, my fellow voyagers, so pack your tent, make a sign, save your pennies and you'll be set for The Trip in '92. See you there.

Les Aventures des Etudiants Erasmus

Hi,

Enfin a Limerick apres de longues annees d'etudes harassantes. Nous sommes les "very late Erasmus". Nous avons pourtant fait au plus vite (certains on quand-meme passe plus de 30 heures dans un bateau en plein tempete. Sick!)

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Anyway, meme en retard c'est le pled d'etre ici et l'accueil Irlandais y est pour quelque chose (Merci particulier a certaines personnes qui se reconnaissent, je l'espere) Cet accueil Irlandais n'etait donc pas une legende. (Par contre, les tetes rousses et les Patrick O' Quelque Chose se font rares. O' Deception).

Autre chose: Je prie instamment les personnes inconscientes qui se sont permises d'enlever les panneaux de Elm park de remettre ceux-ci tout de suite a leur place!

Essayez d'imaginer la galere pour s'y retrouver dans un quartier fait de maisons numerotees au petit bonheur la chance et de mes anonymes. Bref, si vous cherchez un logement dans Elm Park, faites appel a un guide. Enfin, je me permets de donner un conseil a certaines personnes (et ceci sans remettre en cause le cours IS 211 Irish Society): Vous trouverez ailleurs un lieu plein de richesses et d'informations sur la societe Irlandaise, je parle bien evidemment du pub.

Je finirai donc en vous repétant cette phrase que j'ai tant entendue depuis mon arrivee:

Guinness is good for you!

This usual sleepy backwater had been transformed by the invasion. Now overtaken by noise, crowds, empty bottles and cans. The official camp-site, beforehand a field of wheat and sugar beet, now became home for a sea of tents and an ocean of people (mind you by Sunday the area around the Porto loo's was well emptied as smells, queues and shrieking, shocked campers, fleeing the sight, caused a major and constant interruption to the enjoyment of the weekend).

The week-end wore on, sleeping two and then four in a two man tent, clothing being reduced to a crumpled mass providing day-wear, night-wear and pillow comfort. (Multi-functional eh!)

On to Semple, the epicentre of the whole expedition, the fun began with neither a hurley nor a football in sight. It continued unhampered by rain, wind or raging bouts of hangovers, exhaustion, cold or sunburn (I was a fun packed weekend alright).

Our base, designated in front of the V.I.P. stand became home for the 3 days, rushing between this

with the Fede Anthem. The rest of the evening became a blurr, as anyone who had stayed the course collapsed and died (most were obviously "day-trippers" (the relatively clean-pressed clothes were a dead give away)).

Our resurrection came with the Pogues, "Fairy Tale of New York" not only evoked life among the witing throngs, but a massive cell warming the blood and awakening us for our last night in the camp site.

The fire works lit up the sky in brilliant colour providing an apt ending for a week-end where I have never eaten, slept or washed less. The Trip was an experience not to be missed, my fellow voyagers, so pack your tent, make a sign, save your pennies and you'll be set for The Trip in '92. See you there.

Orientation week... with a welcome session when four college humanitaries blabbed and waffled about how they strove for relevance and excellence. (blah, blah, blah etc).

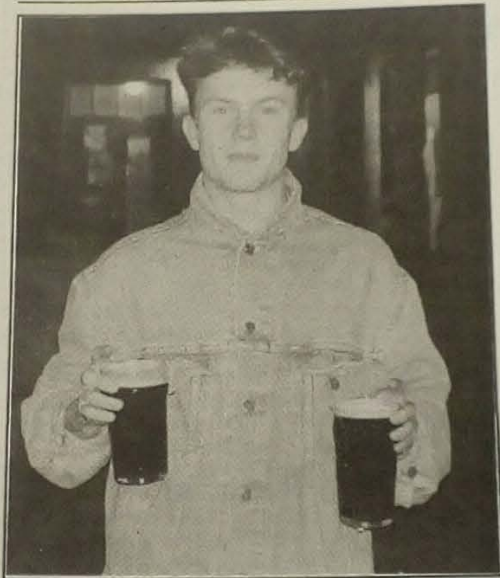
We then met our Peer Counsellor who was paid IR25 a day to show us how to find our way around the college but she only managed to get lost herself. After finding one of those "You are here" signs, we stumbled back to Jean Monnet for a meeting with the Students' Union.

The Students' Union told us what a great bunch of lads they were and amidst much back-slapping at their achievements, most people left the hall concluding they were a great bunch of guys. Strange I was always told "Self praise was no....". However I.

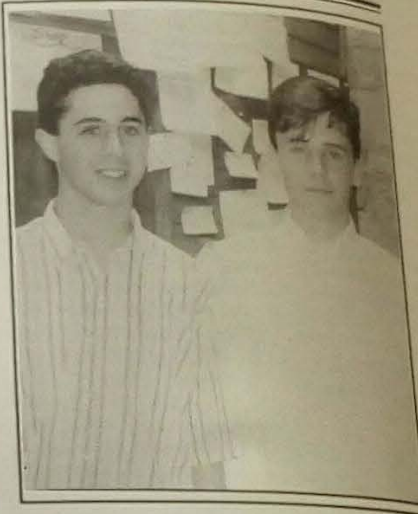
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attention is the profusion of floating around campus. When anything to do with the fact that given away for free, well I'll be to decide.

More importantly though a craze on the campus, i.e. Regularly while attempting bar, I have been interrupted mutter "A small meal, 6 le tower, 7 letters". I usually negative fashion at this p speak up behind some of victim and start all over effect this will have on t addicts QCA's and soci been ascertained. The aimlessly in search of are filled with an all ce plug those blanks. E the wayside in their l



Charlie Brown - Applied Maths. -
"Too many stairs."



Man Tech - Padraig &
Trevor - Mech Engineering -
"No first impression"



Aileen - 1st Business -
Question: Was Orientation
Week Useful? - "No,
it was childish!"

Orientation

Week

By Simon Snodgrass

SICKENED OPINION

The rain fell suddenly that evening and with great force. Silence descended upon the Stables Club, and its inhabitants stopped to stare at the rain lashing against the glass panelling of the doors.

Two seconds later, they said, "what the heck", and got on with the serious business of getting pissed and having some crack. That is all except Simon who began to think back on the week that was. This particular Simon, by the way, was by no means "Simple".

Orientation week began on a Wednesday with a welcome session when four college luminaries blahed, balked and waffled about how they strove for relevance and excellence. (blah, blah, blah etc).

We then met our Peer Counsellor who was paid IR25 a day to show us how to find our way around the college but she only managed to get lost herself. After finding one of those "You are here" signs, we stumbled back to Jean Monnet for a meeting with the Students' Union.

The Students' Union told us what a great bunch of lads they were and amidst much back-slapping at their achievements, most people left the hall concluding they were a great bunch of guys. Strange I was always told "Self praise was no.....". However!

The following day was spent looking through the haze I acquired the previous night at the Stables. Interrupted only by a

lecture from the Buildings Manager who told us to keep our feet off the furniture. This was followed by one of the most boring videos I'd seen in years on library services.

On Monday college life really started in earnest. Already I could pick out the European Studies students (I use the term "students" loosely). The girls wear chunky old woollen cardigans complete with large holes where moths have feasted, they also wear a lot of shawl-type-clothing, probably dating back to Famine times. The male contingent of this faculty look like Art College dropouts. But enough of this. European Studies Students aren't worth devoting columns to.

Another thing that doesn't escape my attention is the profusion of "Irish Times" floating around campus. Whether this has anything to do with the fact they're being given away for free, well I'll leave the reader to decide.

More importantly though, it has spawned a craze on the campus, i.e. crosswords. Regularly while attempting to order at the bar, I have been interrupted by persons who mutter "A small meal, 6 letters" or "A church tower, 7 letters". I usually nod my head in negative fashion at this point and they speak up behind some other unsuspecting victim and start all over again. Quite what effect this will have on these crossword addicts QCA's and social lives has not yet been ascertained. They roam around aimlessly in search of mission words. They are filled with an all consuming passion to plug those blanks. Everything else falls by the wayside in their lonely quest for words.



And then Simon's reveries are interrupted as his friend returns from the bar with two frothing pints of larger in his hands. He looks around the Stables as if for the first time. Joe, an Arts student at UCD, plants the drinks on the table and sits down beside him. Now Joe is something of a Philosopher in his spare time. He reckons he's got College life sussed out. He repeated his Leaving once and is just about to go back and repeat First Arts in Dublin because he failed to get his exams. He hopes to graduate at 60, by that time the retirement age should have been reduced. So he should be able to continue his life of wanton wastage unabated and get paid for it, at that. Now theres an idea!

Features



Man Tech - Padraig & Trevor - Mech Engineering - "No first impression"

ntation

The following... through the haze I acquired the previous night at the Stables. Interrupted only by a

plug those blanks. Everything else falls by the wayside in their lonely quest for words.

unabated and get paid for it, there's an idea!



Carol - 1st Business - "Academic side - impressive Socially - Not impressive"

Aileen - 1st Business - Question: Was Orientation Week Useful? - "No, it was childish!"



"It was better than no orientation week.!"

Week

"THERE'S NO RESISTING 'THE COMMITMENTS'
 ...A FILM WITH A SOUND SO POTENT IT COULD PROBABLY LIBERATE THE WORLD."
 KENNETH TURAN LOS ANGELES

"AN EXTRAORDINARY FILM! A BAWDY MUSICAL ADVENTURE FULL OF HEART AND A LOT OF SOUL!"
 BILL DIEHL ABC RADIO NETWORK

"ROUSING ENTERTAINMENT. JUST A GREAT TIME AT THE MOVIES."
 RICHARD CORLISS TIME MAGASINE

"ONE OF THE BEST FILMS
 UNIVERSITY STUDENTS WILL
 SEE IN A LONG, LONG TIME.
 BE THERE!!!!!!!"

S.U.



AN ALAN PARKER FILM

THE COMMITMENTS 15's

BEACON presents a FIRST FILM COMPANY/DIRTY HANDS production an ALAN PARKER film
 THE COMMITMENTS music supervisor G. MARK ROSWELL edited by GERRY HAMBLING, A.C.E. production designer BRIAN MORRIS director of photography GALE TATTERSALL
 producers DICK CLEMENT & IAN LA FREN AIS and MARC ABRAHAM line producer DAVID WIMBURY executive producers ARMYAN BERNSTEIN, TOM ROSENBERG and SOUTER HARRIS
 screenplay by DICK CLEMENT & IAN LA FREN AIS and RODDY DOYLE from the novel by RODDY DOYLE produced by ROGER RANDALL-CUTLER & LYNDA MYLES
 directed by ALAN PARKER released by TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

MONDAY
 OCT. 7TH

SAVOY

BUSES FROM STABLES
 10.15PM SHARP

Tickets available in union shop ..£3 From Friday 4th Oct.

THE CRANBERRY'S

By the time you read this it should be Thursday 3rd of October. The Cranberry's are a young band from Limerick, who recently received rave reviews and write ups in influential U.K. music press, N.M.E., Melody Maker and trendy mag The Face. They recently signed an interesting deal with Island Records, and completed two tours with "The House of Love", and with "Moose". They have been compared to the "Sundays" and Sinead O'Connor. They have strong vocal variety and style. They play tonight in the Parkway, the first in a series of high profile shows in Irish college. There will also be a disco



and there will be a second disco in the Carlton Room. Tickets at Door £4.

Preview

Based on the novel by Roddy Doyle

"THE COMMITMENTS"

The most talked about film made by Alan Parker in Dublin, it tells the story of a young Dublin band who plays Soul. The band in the film is excellent, featuring young Andrew Strong (playing for us on November 14th). The film is both witty and serious and is doing strong business in America at the moment.

The Film Society and S.U. Ents. will be presenting a special showing of this film on Monday 7th of October in the Savoy Cinema. The film starts at 11pm and the film buses leave the Stables at 10.15pm. Tickets for this film (must be bought in advance) Cost £3 (incl. Bus) and can be bought from the Union Shop (in U.L.) from Friday 4th October.

UPDATES ON THE PREVIEW

Slovedrive unfortunately cancelled their Irish tour (because they're getting bigger in the U.K.) so on the night they were advertised (Mon 14th October) they will be replaced by a Disco.

C i n e m a C o r n e r

Terminator 2

by John McDonnell

It's bigger, noisier and infinitely more expensive than its predecessor - Terminator 2 has exploded its way onto our cinema screens. Arnold Schwarzenegger is back as is the delectable and seriously muscled Linda Hamilton. This time Arnie plays a good guy, a terminator reprogrammed to protect the 10-year old John Connors (who will one day be a leader in the war against the machines) from the murderous intentions of a second more advanced terminator. The new terminator can assume any appearance it touches, giving ample opportunities for a

series of extraordinary special effects and stunts. The movie powers along at a breathtaking pace, keeping one's attention rivetted to the screen. Certainly it is the best action movie of the year, possibly one of the best ever.

And, if you want it, there's depth there too. Sure, on the surface it's a chase thriller unburdened by intellectual considerations, but underneath.....see the anti-nuclear stance, the concern for humanity's future, "It's your nature to destroy yourselves", the consideration of sadness "Why do humans cry?" and the belief in our ability to change. The above lines are Arnie's and he delivers them impeccably in a

great performance. No! Please don't laugh. Admittedly, it's sometimes hard to give a credible performance when one towers two metres over everyone else, but still I hate Arnie-bashers. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. You take what you wish from life. Is the Terminator a mindless machine with an appetite for destruction? Or perhaps a symbol of the technological future swinging out of control? Is Arnie a greedy ham actor demanding \$20 million for a few grunts? Or perhaps a symbol of faith in the American dream, an immigrant who against all odds became a star? Is the glass half empty or half full? No fate but what you make?...

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But all is not lost, we have secured Silver Fish (top U.K. Inde. Act) for a later date in the term. Unfortunately we still haven't secured a main line act for the Hollowe'en Ball, but we will let you know as soon as we know.

An additional gig added is the excellent "Forget Me Nots" on Wed. 30th October in Arthurs Warehouse.

THURSDAY NIGHTS IN THE GLENTWORTH!!

For those who don't like very big crowds (i.e. Education faculty/ Thomond Students) we have put on additional discos in the Glentworth. As usual there will be buses allocated for these Discos. Adm at the door £3 on Thurs 3rd, 17th, 24th and 31st Oct.

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The Silence of the Lambs

by Lisa

This thriller, directed by Johnathan Demme and based on the novel by Thomas Harris, makes for spine-tingling cinema. Permeated with a chilling sense of menace, it achieves what no other film of late achieves, the personification of fear, agony and suspense.

This film gives us an insight into the gruesome and diabolical underworld of the United States (as portrayed in Blue Velvet and River's Edge.)

Jodie Foster stars as the central character, Clarice Starling who is a young FBI agent tracking down a serial killer named Buffalo Bill. She is aided by the brilliant but homicidal psychiatrist Hannibal (otherwise known as Hannibal the Cannibal) who uses his vast knowledge of the criminal mind to track down the guilty criminal.

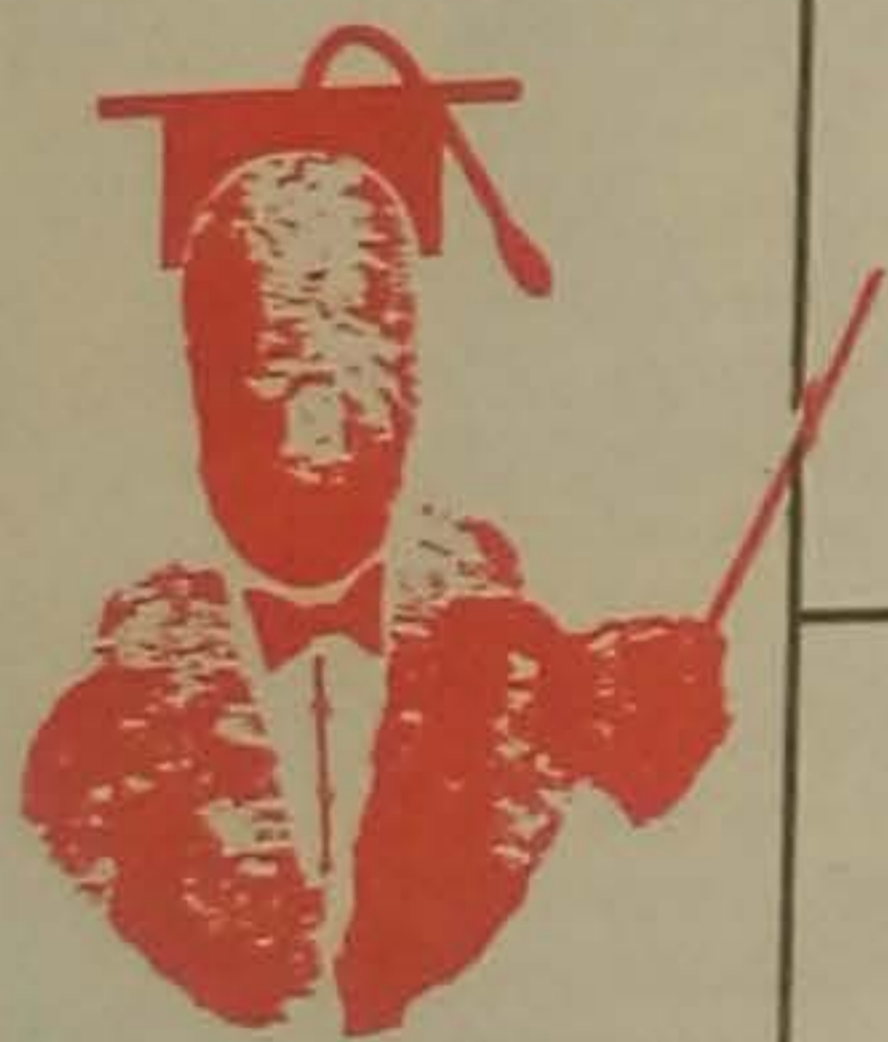
This film is witness to the re-emergence of FBI agents in American cinema

and Jodie Foster could well be contrasted and compared to the old Dale Cooper image. It has all the ingredients of a good thriller with still a little of the traditional touch with good conquering evil.

The opening scene shows Clarice (Jodie) on an assault course with her colleagues and this sets the eerie tone for the remainder of the film. Everything from the setting to the acquired accents of the central characters are all well chosen and in good taste, in keeping with the ideology of the film. The virtuosity of Demme's direction coupled with the power of central performance make it a film worth viewing.

The Silence of the Lambs gives us a glimpse of the tragic reality of life in America and of the people from both sides of the law who inhabit it.

Ents Term Planner



WEEK 3		WEEK 4		WEEK 5		WEEK 6	
OCTOBER		OCTOBER		OCTOBER		OCTOBER	
MONDAY 7th FILM Commitments Savoy buses 10.30pm 1st Business Class Disco Arthurs Warehouse		MONDAY 14th FILM T.B.C. Savoy buses 10.30pm Disco....Savoy		MONDAY 21st Barry Sinclair 8.00pm Jonathan Swift FILM T.B.C. Savoy buses 10.30pm Education Faculty Disco Savoy		MONDAY 28th Class Disco Savoy	
TUESDAY 8th Stables Ilanga Hurlers Noel McLoughlin Waterpolo Club Disco Cheers!		TUESDAY 15th Stables Therapy Hurlers Noel McLoughlin 7.15pm Bus to 'STUDS' Belltable + Games Society Disco In Cheers!		TUESDAY 22nd Stables 'The Wishing Stones' Hurlers Noel McLoughlin Basketball Club Disco Cheers!		TUESDAY 29th Hurlers Noel McLoughlin Campus TV Disco Cheers!	
WEDNESDAY 9th Hurlers Talent Competition 1st Humanities Class Party Savoy		WEDNESDAY 16th Hurlers Talent Competition 'The O' Malleys' Japanese Society at Arthurs		WEDNESDAY 23rd Hurlers Talent Competition 3rd Humanities Class Party Savoy		WEDNESDAY 30th Hurlers Talent Competition 'FORGET ME KNOTS' Arthurs Warehouse	
THURSDAY 10th MEGA DISCO Parkway Rampant Rave Arthurs Warehouse		THURSDAY 17th <u>BAD MANNERS</u> + 2 Discos Parkway Rampant Rave Arthurs Warehouse Glenthworth Disco		THURSDAY 24th <u>TPAU</u> + Disco Parkway Rampant Rave Arthurs Warehouse Glenthworth Disco		THURSDAY 31st HALLOWE'EN BALL 4 Areas of the Parkway Rampant Rave Arthurs Warehouse Glenthworth Disco	
FRIDAY 11th Tin City The Club Arthurs Warehouse		FRIDAY 18th Tin City The Club Arthurs Warehouse		FRIDAY 25th Tin City The Club Arthurs Warehouse		FRIDAY 1st Tin City The Club Arthurs Warehouse	
SATURDAY 12th		SATURDAY 19th		SATURDAY 26th <u>That Petrol Emotion</u> + Disco Parkway		SATURDAY 2nd	
SUNDAY 13th		SUNDAY 20th		SUNDAY 27th		SUNDAY 3rd	

WEEK 7	WEEK 8	WEEK 9	WEEK 10	WEEK 11
NOVEMBER	NOVEMBER	NOVEMBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
MONDAY 4th 1st Eng. Faculty Disco 2 Areas Savoy	MONDAY 11th <u>THE FAT LADY SINGS</u> Parkway all Areas	MONDAY 18th	MONDAY 25th	MONDAY 4th
TUESDAY 5th Stables 'Zrazy' Hurlers Noel McLoughlin Chem. Blo. Soc. Disco	TUESDAY 12th Stables Ocean Colour Scene Hurlers Noel McLoughlin Volley Ball Disco	TUESDAY 19th Hurlers Noel McLoughlin Soft Ball Disco	TUESDAY 26th Hurlers Noel McLoughlin	TUESDAY 5th
WEDNESDAY 6th Hurlers Talent Final 'SILVERFISH' Arthurs warehouse	WEDNESDAY 13th	WEDNESDAY 20th	WEDNESDAY 27th	WEDNESDAY 6th Disco Savoy
THURSDAY 7th Windsurfing Club Disco Park way	THURSDAY 14th Something Wierd!!! Parkway	THURSDAY 21st DISCO Glenthworth Hotel	THURSDAY 28th Thanksgiving Day	THURSDAY 7th END OF TERM Ruthless Rap Assans + Discos Parkway
FRIDAY 8th Tin City The Club Arthurs Warehouse	FRIDAY 15th Tin City The Club Arthurs Warehouse	FRIDAY 22nd Tin City The Club Arthurs Warehouse	FRIDAY 29th Tin City The Club Arthurs Warehouse <u>THE FARM</u> Tralee (TBC)	FRIDAY 8th
SATURDAY 9th	SATURDAY 16th	SATURDAY 23rd	SATURDAY 30th	SATURDAY 9th
SUNDAY 10th	SUNDAY 17th	SUNDAY 24th	SUNDAY 1st Dec.	SUNDAY 10th Disco Enjoy your Christmas from all in the Students' Union

TIME IS RUNNING OUT AND SPEEDY IS DOWN...

I CAN'T MAKE IT. I CAN'T!

DESPERATE AND FEARLESS, KEVO TURNS AND CALLS FOR THE CROSS...

THE PASSION MACHINE

OH, GOD, NO!

I MIGHT BE USELESS HOPPER, BUT I'M FREE!

THIS WASN'T THE PLAN BUT HOPPER TAKES A CHANCE...

DON'T COCK-UP THIS TIME PAL, OR YOU'RE DEAD!

PRESENTS

STUDS

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY

PAUL MERCIER

PRODUCED BY

JOHN SUTTON

DESIGNED BY

ANNE GATELY

MUSIC BY

JOHN DUNNE

LIGHTING BY

TONY WAKEFIELD

WITH

MICK LALLY

GERARD BYRNE

LIAM CARNEY

ANDREW CONNOLLY

LIAM CUNNINGHAM

STEPHEN DUNNE

ERIK MADSEN

DAVID NOLAN

MICK NOLAN

PAUL NOLAN

ENDA OATES

ARTHUR RIORDAN

THE BALL LANDS AT KEVO'S FEET...

JUST WATCH ME.

THE MANAGER CAN'T BELIEVE HIS EYES...

HERE, WHAT IS THIS?

AS TOSH THE SUPREMO PLOUGHS DOWN CENTRE FIELD, HE ROARS TO HIS RIGHT FLANK...

DON'T WASTE IT KEY. I WANT IT NOW!

GOOD JAYSUS!

JUST SECONDS LEFT AND THE ASSAULT IS ON...

THE MANAGER IS ON THE FIELD...

KEVO RIPS THE DEFENCE WIDE OPEN...

JUST SEND ME THAT SHAGGIN'...

... AND TOSH UPS AND DIVES LIKE A BOMBER...

WHO GAVE YOU ORDERS TO...?

THE BALL SWOONS INTO PENALTY BOX...

JUST THIS ONCE, JUST BLEEDIN' GIFT!

SLAM!

of discovery and expression that seems to have escaped all

U.L. ARTS AGENDA

Visual Arts:

HOME GROUND monoprints by David Lilburn - a University of Limerick production, Main Gallery (overlooking main reception Area). Show ends Friday, October 4th.

Music:

The Limerick Music Association presents Piotr Anderszewski (piano) on Sunday, October 6th, Jean Monnet Theatre, 8 p.m.
Season ticket: £45, Student £9;
Single Ticket £5, Student £2.

Theatre Arts:

The University of Limerick's production of William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream, scheduled for January 19th to 25th 1992, held auditions this week. The production will rehearse between Weeks 3 and 8 and post-Christmas. Directed by John Hargaden.

Arts

derszweski (p... Jean Monnet
Theatre, 8 p.m.
Season ticket: £45, Student £9;
Single Ticket £5, Student £2.

Book Review

DESOLATION ANGELS

JACK KEROUAC.

By John MacGuire

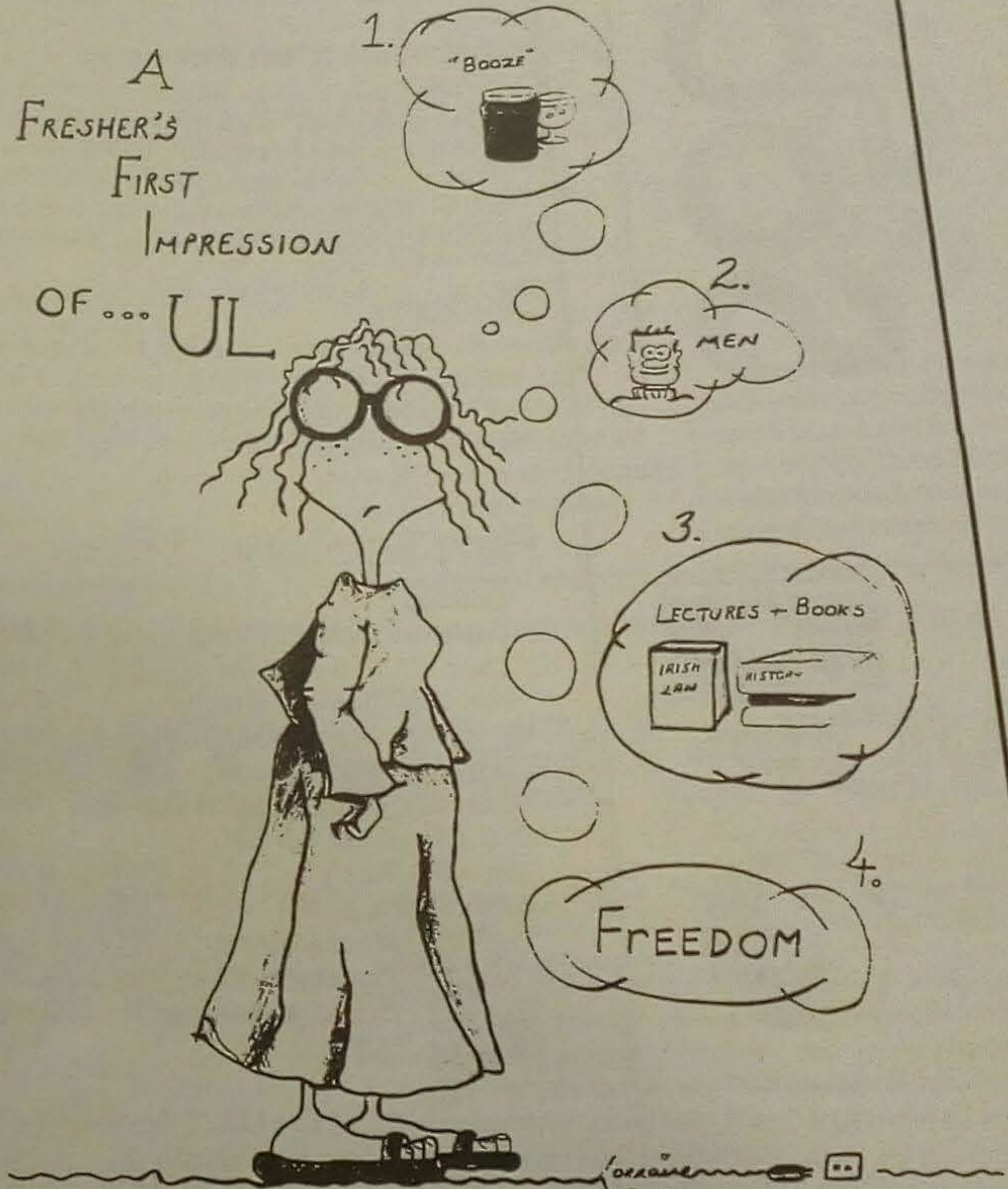
"Getting tired of looking at all the angels of my lookout, as for instance, looking at my sleeping bag in the morning from the point of view of opening it again at night, or at my stove with high supper head of mid-afternoon from the point of view of midnight when the mouse'll be scratching in it cold, I turn my thoughts to Frisco and I see it like a movie what'll be there when I get there".

Desolation Angels begins on a mountaintop with Kerouac's diary of a lonely summer spent firewatching. It explodes with his dreams of the future, when he will descend to Frisco, and his friends. It is a morbid meditation - a joyous reminiscence - an angry proclamation. It's everything.

Kerouac single-handedly created the 50's Beat Generation. The idea that you can cut your hair, travel the country, be real, be what you want. In this book there's a description of how he'll travel, light, with my jacket (new) and my grey chinos. With my hip-flask and my back-pack I'll eat the road". *Desolation Angels* is a list of his philosophy - his ideals - the life he wants to lead. There is nothing false or phoney about

searching for a alternatives. *Desolation Angels* and *On the Road*

"On the Road", Kerouac described his



Kerouac single-handedly created the 50's Beat Generation. The idea that you can cut your hair, travel the country, be real, be what you want. In this book there's a description of how he'll travel, light, with my jacket (new) and my grey chinos. With my hip-flask and my back-pack I'll eat the road". Desolation Angels is a list of his philosophy - his ideals - the life he wants to lead. There is nothing false or phoney about Kerouac. He was interested in everything - art, religion, music. Kerouac and his Beat-Friends left their mark on American Literature because they wrote as they heard. They explored their lives as they wished. They evolved their own community of authors - a constellation of stars where each hinged on earth. Kerouac found his life to have become a movie, where he was an extra, and everything else became a star, and he wanted it that way. Kerouac wrote because he experienced. "Sit in fool, and be fool. That's all".

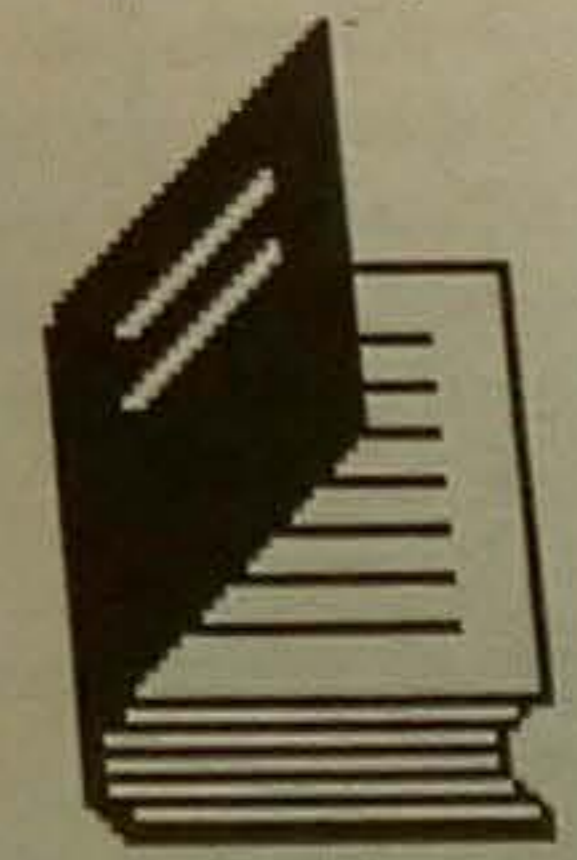
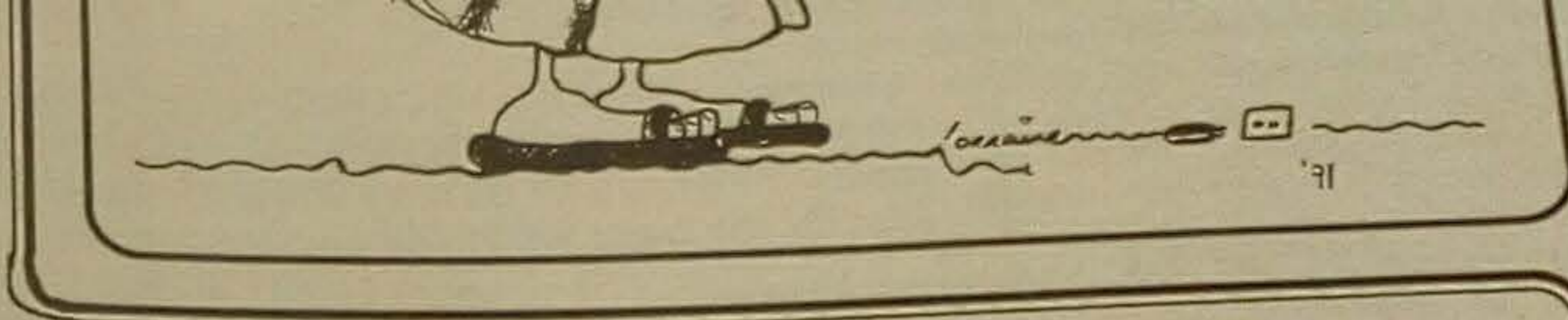
Kerouac was a revolutionary - The first revolt was against the cerebral assault that closed him out of literary existence. The second was to dance on the genitals of the Forbidden. Declare the anti-rational - become true rebels. They (Kerouac and his contemporaries) decided to act out every bastard dream, every taboo reference, they wanted to steamroll their way into Mid-Twentieth Century American Literature. They succeeded. Kerouac became the Image and the catalyst of the Freedom Movement - The Motorcycle Beat Generation Rebels without a dime. Kerouac was

searching for a alternatives. Desolation Angels, and On the Road, were his alternatives.

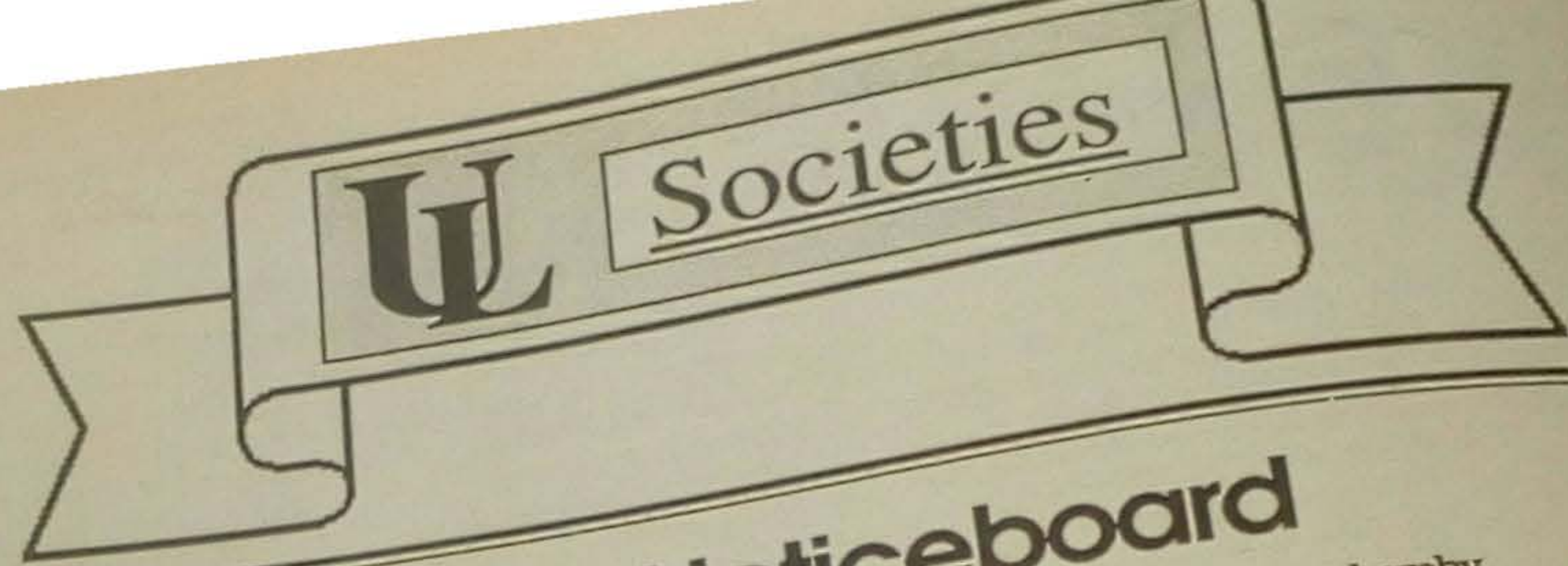
Kerouac grew up in the America of Coke and drive-ins-blue jeans and consumer goods. His childhood and his adolescence gave him his work. He found his own voice through the garbage of a junk culture. He found his answer in a nomadic-hedonistic throwaway lifestyle where art was work, and all his work was art. He lived and worked on the fringes of society. Desolation Angel - set on a mountaintop, and the slums of San Francisco show us the true image of an underworld. Through this grimy surreal landscape Kerouac created pictures of Zen, of existential science, of an artist using his brain as well as his feelings. Kerouac found his originality in the reporting of the Beat Soul, of the breakway. He wrote everyting down - haiku, humour, recording the contemporary laughter and irreverence of his friends.

No one in American prose before Kerouac, not even Hemmingway, wrote so authentically about an entirely new packet of sensibility and attitude within the broad overcoat of society. Kerovac described the All New Hall of Fame, with himself as king of the Beats, the Joyce of a new generation. For

"On the Road", Kerouac described his work as "compromising one vast book like Proust's, except of rememberances were written on the run instead of afterwards on a sick bed". Kerouac, no matter how "eccentric" you may think of him as a writer, is really the Big Daddy of Universal - hip - jokebox - on the run-life in a dead America. The book on hand is the overwhelming leitmotiv of a "sorrowful peace". He's going through the void of this world to find the golden eternity of another. On the other side of mortality. "Angels" gives us a champagne cork and fizz of action life - a hero's existence and concurrently a need for reflection and retreat. He gets us drunk on Christian Brothers port, high on Buddha and Christ and finds a two-way communication with himself. If you only ever read one book in your entire college life read this one. You'll wake up inside a stranger.



Societies



S.U. Noticeboard

Attention everyone! A contribution per society per issue of An Focal is hereby demanded of you by your Students' Union. Those of you who fail to deliver on information flow will see your budgets bitten!

Administration Weekend

The Club/Society Administration Weekend will take place on 11th and 12th October, weekend of Week 3. Minimum attendance per Society is three delegate members (the maximum being five). We would encourage you to include a first year as a delegate so as to immunise your administrative ranks from the Co-op purges! Registration Forms will be available from the S.U. £5 per delegate member payable at enrolment on the Friday of the Weekend.

Budgets

Budget Submissions will be presented by Society officers in alphabetical order beginning Wed. 16th Oct.. to Wed. 23rd of Oct.
Final draft of all approved budgets will be posted up after ratification by Students' Union Council on Wed 23rd Oct.

Film Society

- | | | |
|----------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| October | | |
| Tue 8 | La Dolce Vita | (Frederico Fellini, Italy, 1959) |
| Thur 10 | Sea of Love | (Harold Becker, U.S.A., 1989) |
| Tue 15 | State of Grace | (Phil Joanou, U.S.A., 1990) |
| Thur 17 | Comfort of Strangers | (P.Schrader, U.S.A. 1990) |
| Tue 22 | Wild at Heart | (David Lynch, U.S.A., 1990) |
| Thur 24 | This is Spinal Tap | (Rob Reiner, U.S.A. 1983) |
| Tue 29 | C'est La Vie | (Diane Kurys, France, 1990) |
| Thur 31 | Alien | (Didley Scott, GB, 1979) |
| November | | |
| Tue 5 | Miami Blues | (George Armitage, U.S.A, 1990) |
| Thur 7 | The Big Picture | (Christopher Guest, U.S.A., 1990) |
| | ... Truth | (Hal Hartley, U.S.A., 1991) |

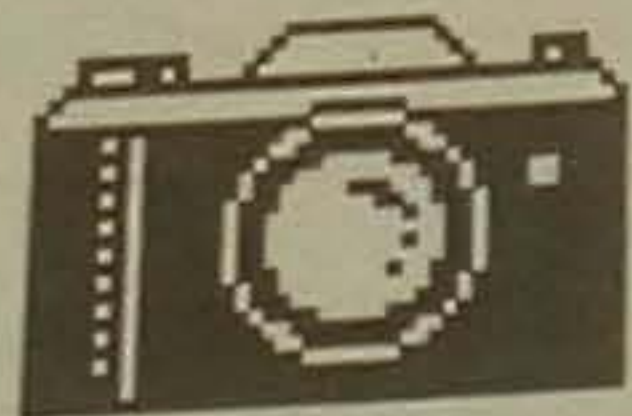
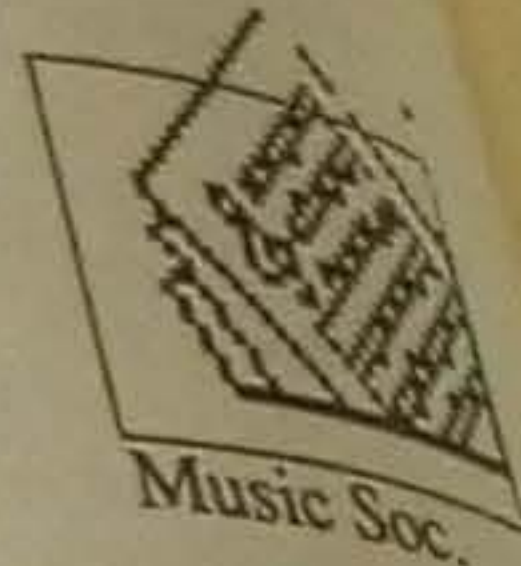
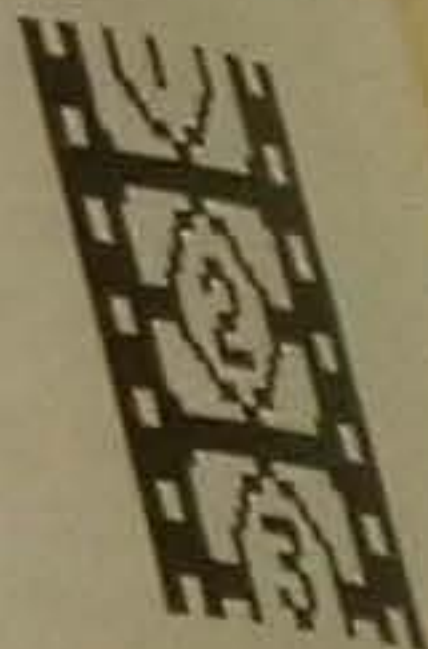


Photo Soc.



Music Soc.



Film Soc.



Drama Soc.

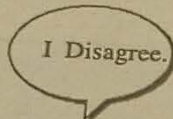




Photo Soc.



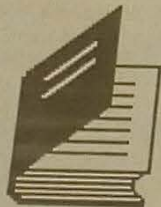
Anti-Apartheid Soc.



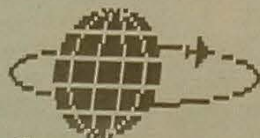
Literary & Philosophical Soc.



Games Soc.



Literary Soc.



Overseas Soc.

Film Society

October
 Tue 8 La Dolce Vita
 Thur 10 Sea of Love
 Tue 15 State of Grace
 Thur 17 Comfort of Strangers
 Tue 22 Wild at Heart
 Thur 24 This is Spinal Tap
 Tue 29 C'est La Vie
 Thur 31 Alien
 November
 Tue 5 Miami Blues
 Thur 7 The Big Picture
 Tue 12 The Unbelievable Truth
 Thur 14 Lolita

(Frederico Fellini, Italy, 1959)
 (Harold Becker, U.S.A., 1989)
 (Phil Joanou, U.S.A., 1990)
 (P. Schrader, U.S.A. 1990)
 (David Lynch, U.S.A., 1990)
 (Rob Reiner, U.S.A., 1983)
 (Diane Kurys, France, 1990)
 (Didley Scott, GB, 1979)

(George Armitage, U.S.A. 1990)
 (Christopher Guest, U.S.A., 1990)
 (Hal Hartley, U.S.A., 1991)
 (Stanley Kubrick, GB, 1961)

Membership of the U.L. Film Society costs £7.00 for one term, £12.00 for two terms, £16.00 for three terms. Films are shown in the Johnathan Swift lecture theatre (B1023) at 7.30 p.m. on the dates specified. Non-members may gain admission for the night for £1.50.

Membership of the Society is available at the same rates to non-students. The University can be reached by Bus 2 or 8 (departing every half hour from Boyds). Further details are available to interested parties at 333644 ext. 2370, ask for Declan or Eddie.

Lesbian and Gay Society

Firstly, the small stock of books we donated to the library are currently being processed by the library staff. Five titles are already available on the shelves, including John Hart's "So You Think You Are Attracted to the Same Sex" at shelf mark 306.766.

The library has acknowledged the donation of these books by inserting a bookplate inside the cover of each of the donated books which names the society as the donor.

Secondly, the committee reviewed the procedures used last year to enable lesbian and gay students to make contact with the Society. We have been given the use of the premises of the Gay Switchboard, Limerick & the Lesbian Line, Limerick to enable students to contact us. We can be contacted on Tuesdays from 7.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. at 310101. It is important to note that we will not be providing a counselling service - that function will still be provided by the Switchboard & Line. The purpose of the extra contact method is to allow students to talk to us or arrange meetings without going through the Students' Union.

Membership of the Society is open to all members of the campus community, whether or not they are gay. Our first open meeting is planned for Week 6 or 7.



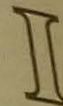
Drama Soc.



Environmental Soc.



Lesbian & Gay Soc.



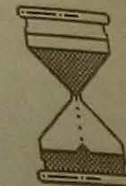
I Soc.



Computer Soc.



Postgrad. Students Association.



Chembio Soc.



Cumann Gaelach



Amnesty International



Business Soc.



Campus TV

The world according to you.

More Letters

Unequal Rights

Dear Editor

In this day and age equality or rather "equality" of the sexes is very predominant in even the most dormant of minds and while all and sundry or at least the majority accept the idea of this "equality" not all are prepared to enact it so.

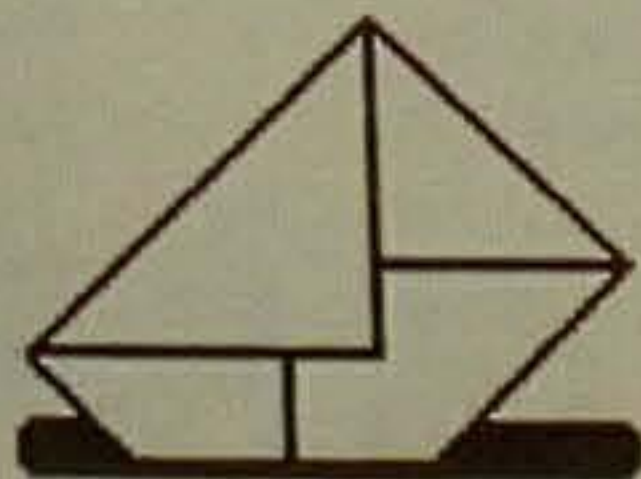
Thursday night last the 26th September the Year of Our Lord 1991 I, as well as many other hopeful, energetic and slightly merry on the "Start of Term" air persons, moved towards the one and only Parkway where the "crack" was reported to be. Afterwards the one striking feature which stands out seems to have been the unending droves

of males present and, upon noticing some, I decided to exercise my new constitutional rights as an equal during the second slower part of the disco. My offer was accepted and my little heart leapt for joy. I was so happy my life had suddenly become complete. Those long dreary days of waiting were no more, now I found a new strength, a new light. But, as I found out shortly after this exhilarating moment, equality is not what it seems. Because I had done what so many before had wished to do, but never did, because I had stood up against the age old customary way and shattered it, because I had asked a simple question and it shook the ancient ways that instead of a person expressing an attraction for another (or just as the case may be) I

became a very worthy candidate for a position on the dock road - or so it seemed from certain remarks and actions expressed by my dancing partner.

To finish up I was in the least shocked. For so long all one hears is how women should step across the line and all will be granted equality. Well, let my story be a lesson to all - I was given a lot less than equality. To hell with chivalry, Victorian times and Kim Basinger please could somebody, somewhere begin to express true equality.

A. Lingington
1st Humanities



Kerry Plague?

Dear Sir,

I feel it necessary to comment on the role of Kerryment in our college as it is a deep and meaningful in my eyes.

Firstly when they arrive to the "Big city" little do they know what layeth ahead of them. They have never used city buses and prefer to leg it from the railway station to the college whereupon they find it necessary to disrupt innocent bystanders.

Secondly, the rubbish they generate and leave behind them 'ere they go is amazing. To observe such an act while not a rare thing is often quite disturbing therefore it is highly recommended not to do so on your own.

Thirdly, and finally Kerryment are like a creed on their own. Their unique dress and culture holding them aloof from all the rest, their native tongue bring the most obvious isolating factor.

Archives

So, when one meets a Kerryman on campus do show your more humane side and try to be tolerable - Remember God loves us all no matter how diverse!!!

Rave From The Grave

AND I THOUGHT IT WAS A BLACKHEAD !!

THE SAD TALE OF THE BLACKHEADS WHO CAME TO LIFE.

I was getting into bed one night a few weeks ago when I stopped to observe my belly. "Oh Lord" I thought, "this thing is getting too big. I just have to go on a diet." My navel, which once used to protrude from my slim figure is now lost in folds of fatty tissue.

I sat down on the bedside, and noticed a small blackhead or scab on the skin in my navel. "Huh?", I said to myself, "I'm not that dirty. I take a shower every other day. . . . and I don't remember getting a scratch there."

I picked at the scab and it came away on my nail. It looked unusual, so I held it up to my bedside lamp.

It waved it's legs. "Oh sweet jaysus", I muttered, "the fucking thing is alive". I put it down on my bedside locker and had a closer look. It got worse. I had seen pictures of this creature before. I can't remember whether it was in this year's SU handbook, last year's, the one from the year before or one my sister brought home a few years ago when she started college. ("You mean they GAVE you that filth for free", my dad had exploded when he saw the sections on contraception and homosexuality, thus ensuring that everybody in our house made sure to read it.) The creature on my bedside locker had had it's mug shot on the section on sexually transmitted

diseases. He's commonly known as the crab, or pubic lice. And he was living on me. Ugh. Shiver. Discovery of the sod sent me scurrying back to my navel and the area around my scrotum. There were loads of the frigging things, in various sizes. Yeuch. Now, lads, I know that good health practice includes regular self-examination for testicular can-

idea if the editor of this great journal asked the University medical director to write a pair of articles on those topics so that I could know how to do the job properly. And at the rate I'm putting fat on at the moment I might possibly a use for the article intended for our sisters as well. But I digress.)

Early next morning I went to see the doctor. I brought a few of the creatures wrapped up in cling-film. He confirmed my diagnosis and told me to get a special shampoo and fluid to kill off the livestock and eggs. He explained that they can be transmitted by sexual or close body contact. I think I picked mine up from a one-night-stand in early January.

I took myself into a pharmacy to buy the stuff, picking a shop where I'm not known. The pharmacist was the chatty homely sort. Was I a student at the university, she wanted to know, when she saw the slip of paper the doctor had given me. Did I play sport, she asked. They were unpleasant things to have, she told me, and you'd be surprised at the range of people who came in to get the fluid. Her son, she went on to tell me, had picked them up playing rugby. My mind boggled. Did this mean "Rugger Bugger" was more than just a rhyme? "Really?"

LIVE BLACKHEADS LIVING IN NAVELS !!! DOES YOUR AFTERSHAVE LIFT YOU INTO ORBIT?

cer, but sitting naked on your bedside bent double with your nose in your pubic region looking for livestock pushes even my idea of narcissism too far. (And speaking of those delightful organs reminds me: I know we are supposed to fondle them regularly in a search for lumps that might indicate testicular cancer, just as our sisters are supposed to give themselves a thorough grope every now and then in a search designed to detect lumps in the breast, but I must admit I know more about breast self examination than I do testicular self examination. Maybe it would be a good

I said in polite surprise. "Yes", she said, "most of the team caught it at the same time." My eyes widened. Just WHAT do these rugby players do when they get together?? "It's so easy," the pharmacist went on in her cheery tone, "they leap from head to head in a scrum." Enlightenment dawned. The sweet lady thought I had head lice. I was not about to correct misapprehension. "But this stuff kills them off, and the eggs too, though you have to use a fine comb to remove the dead eggs. An ordinary comb won't do." Grimace. A fine comb. Through my pubic hair. Oh agony.

I was, however, to be surprised. The fine comb was not to be the worst part of converting myself from "unclean, unclean". The first stage was to take a bath and use the shampoo. This proved to be quite harmless. After the bath, I was to dry myself thoroughly, and then apply the fluid to my body. The creatures had been discovered in a region from my navel as far as my ankles, so this meant the full works. This proved to be interesting. How was I to apply this stuff to my entire body? Splash a bit to my hand and apply it like after-shave? Except I'm not used to applying after-shave to my anus and between my legs. Nonetheless this was the approach I adopted, and, after a few splashes succeeded.

When I applied the fluid to my stomach I felt a mild stinging sensation. That was nothing

LIVING CREATURES FROM MY NAVEL TO MY ANKLES

to the sensation I felt when I applied it to the region between my scrotum and my leg, or between my scrotum and my anus: - you know the bit: full of nerves that give a pleasurable sensation when gently fondled and stroked during sex. Yeah, well the same bloody nerves screambled murder when this fluid is applied. Oh sweet mother, I thought I was going to lift off into orbit. Fortunately the desire to step outside skin lasted only a few minutes, and I was able to resume to the rest of the programme.

The rest of the programme is rather mundane: wash out the bed clothes, and clothes I was wearing. This is because eggs can survive for some time there. These creatures need body heat to survive, so I left my mattress down to the garage for two nights to freeze them to death while I slept on the floor. And two nights later I took another bath with the shampoo used as an all body shampoo. Since then I've inspected myself from time to time, but there's nup sign of them.

Now that I've been through the experience, what are my thoughts??? Well, I've had sex with two people, and the second one left a reminder I didn't want. I'm thankful it was something relatively harmless like crabs, but I will take care in future. I don't want to catch anything nastier. And I'm sure you will excuse me if I don't append my name to this article.

ANON.

Ents

A UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK STUDENTS' UNION AND THE MUSIC SOC. PRESENTS

Talent Competition

For Music, Theatre, Comedy, Etc.

Open to all full time Students and Staff

Sponsored by
FOSTER'S
The Australian
for Lager

**Wednesday
Week 3**

ENTRY FORM

NAME OF ACT

MUSIC

THEATRE

COMEDY

OTHER
NAME

CLASS / DEPT

I.D.

In The Hurlers

Running For 5 Weeks

£200 First Prize

£100 Second Prize

Closing Date:

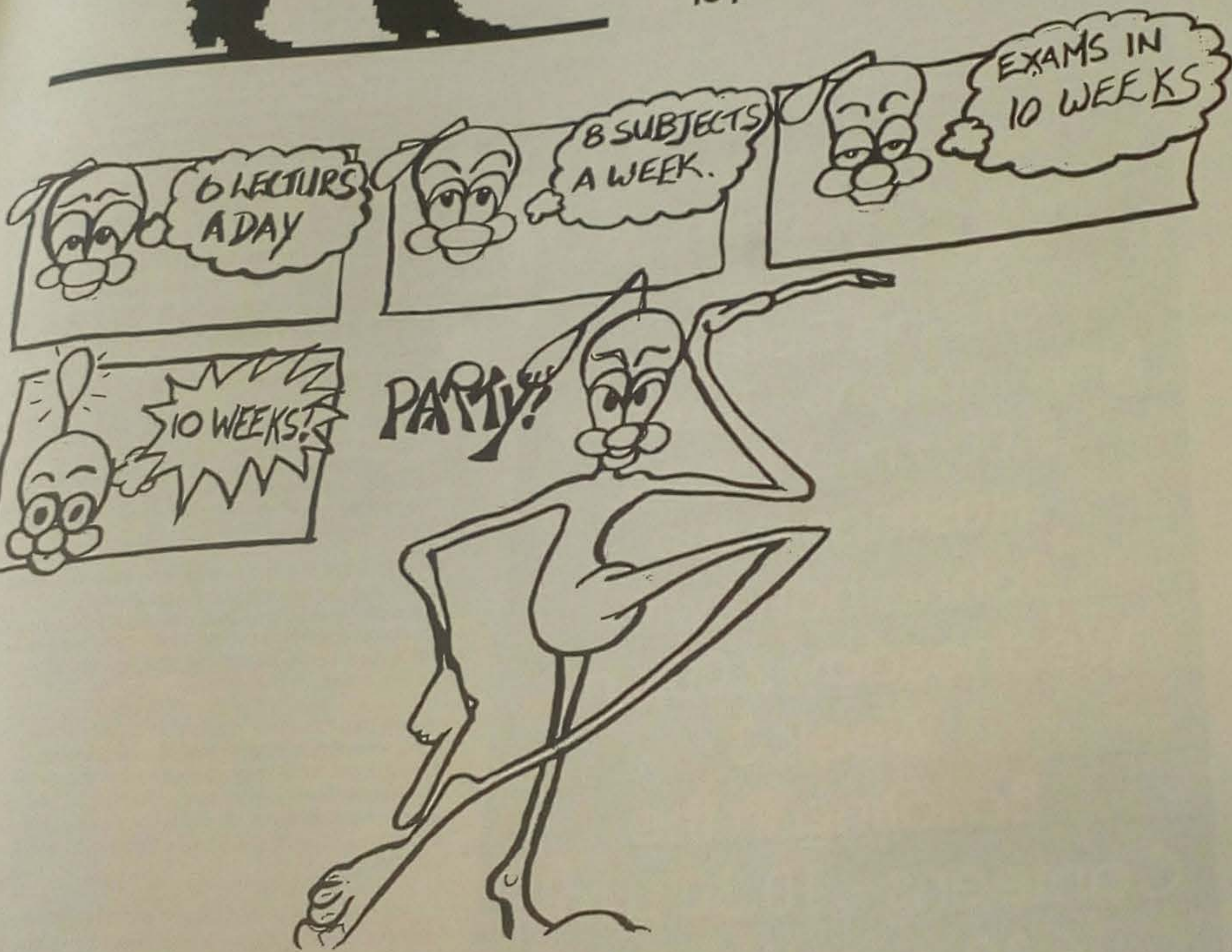
Monday 7th October



ONLY 6 ENTRIES ALLOWED PER GROUP
FORM TO BE COMPLETED BY MON. WEEK 3
ALL ENTRIES MUST ATTEND A MEETING IN
THE HURLERS BAR AT 8pm MON. 7th OCT.

Sport

This page has been set aside for sports clubs; unfortunately no copy was received on sports before we had to go to press.



Elections

STUDENTS' UNION EXECUTIVE

During the year, those in the Students' Union have to face lots of decisions, some minor and easily made, others major decisions which take some debating and haggling over. No matter what the decision, big or small, affecting one student or two thousand, the Union cannot make those decisions alone, without first consulting the student body in general, after all, the Students' Union is there to represent and reflect the opinions of its members, the students.

In order to have a feedback from students as to the wishes, whims and opinions of students on various matters, the Union has a council, and also a Union Executive, which also helps the Sabbatical Officers to make decisions and act on those decisions. The Union Executive consists of the three Sabbatical Officers, President, Deputy President and Transition Officer and also seven others, students who are elected and who work on a part-time basis on Executive. These seven posts are as follows:

Secretary:

The Secretary is responsible for the taking and publishing of minutes of all Union meetings, for posting of notices relating to all Union Meetings and for all official correspondence of the Students Union.

Treasurer:

Treasurer oversees the keeping of accounts and budgeting and she/he shall present final reports, either termly or annually.

Welfare Officer:

As the name suggests the welfare officer looks after the members of the Union (the students) in matters relating to their welfare. This is a very important, responsible and above all, a very sensitive position on executive and will usually have to hold clinic days as well as training seminars.

Clubs Officer & Societies Officer:

The title of both these posts almost describe themselves, the Clubs and Societies Officers liaise with the Clubs and Societies on Campus, ensuring their smooth running, offering help and advice when needed and also being there for those who may seek help or run into difficulty. These are not voted by general franchise but are elected at the Clubs & Socs Administration Weekend.

Equal Rights Officer:

This post is very important, especially in our modern world of equality for all people!! It needs no explanation only to emphasise the importance of having someone at Union meetings with thoughts of equality in mind!!

Information Officer:

With information and communication being the key to good organisation, the role of information officer in the Union Executive is an important one. This person will liaise and work with the Transition Officer in developing the Unions Communications Portfolio.



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 developing the

Union Council

The Union Council is made up of all class reps and is there to inform you, the class, of all that is happening in the union and throughout the college. Council also, and more importantly, informs the Students' Union of YOUR opinions, so that the Students' Union reflects the opinions of the student body as a whole.

It is up to every one of you to ensure that firstly, a representative from your class is put forward for class rep. elections, and secondly, that the person you vote in to council as your class rep is a person who will represent your class' views on matters which will arise throughout the year.

Your class rep is there to represent you and to have your best interests in mind when he/she attends a council meeting, or makes a decision at a council meeting. Class Reps, when elected, must attend a weekend seminar which is organised by the Students' Union to ensure that all new reps know exactly how they can best represent their class.

Class Rep Elections are taking place Thursday Week 3 (Oct. 10th) so make sure that you vote for the person who will best represent you and your opinions over the coming academic year. All Class Reps who wish to go forward for election or even just accept the post must fill out a nomination form available in the S.U. main office. Closing date for nominations in Tuesday Week 3 at 5.00 p.m.

All Class Reps will be expected to attend the Training Course which will be a residential weekend off campus.

First Year Class Rep Elections Will Take place Thursday Week 4.

**Nomination Forms
 Now Available From
 S.U. President
 Closing Date for
 Nominations - Tuesday
 5.00p.m. Week 3
 Hustings in the
 Johnathan Swift
 Wednesday 2.00p.m.
 Week 3**

**Balloting in the
 Canteens - 10.30 p.m. -
 6.30 p.m. Week 3**

**You Must Have Your I.D.
 Card TO Vote**

Credits

Editorial Team: Kevin B, Croff, Waide, Billy K
 Design and Layout: Kevin M. and Cathal P
 Thanks for Contributions From Everyone who
 Helped Out

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