



AN FOCAL

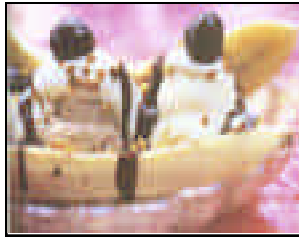


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THE UL STUDENT NEWSPAPER

www.ulsu.ul.ie

TERM 2 WEEK 13



Culinary Grace

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in
Black & White**

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Slane**

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Ten students prosecuted this month for breaches of the public order act

Eamonn O'Flynn
Community Officer

The courts along with the Gardai will be enforcing a policy of zero tolerance towards any Students found to be intoxicated in public, in breach of public order offenses or indulging in petty vandalism of any nature.

In recent weeks 10 students have already been in court receiving large fines and there are still a number of cases pending.

This is a stark change in attitude. In recent times any student found to be in breach of the aforementioned offenses would probably have been referred to the University disciplinary board. Here various actions could be taken, none of which would result in a criminal record. Not anymore. It now appears that the Gardai have received a

directive to refer such cases to the district court. Students can expect large fines and of course let's not forget that should one obtain a criminal record of any nature, one may never obtain a work visa for the USA including a J1, or a work visa for Australia. Which could have a serious impact on those students' future employment prospects.

It has emerged that the Gardai were not satisfied, that the prospect of appearing before the University disciplinary board, was a sufficient deterrent to students. The only option then available is to refer such cases to the district court. In the past number of weeks students have appeared before Judge O'Donnell, who at this point in time is less than impressed with the drunken antics of these students and



Act of Vandalism in Elm Park

has to date imposed heavy handed punishments. Speaking after one particular case, Judge O'Donnell was reported to have said: most people enjoy a drink and the entertainment available in Limerick, so why is it that such students are unable to do so without breaching the peace. The sentiment of Judge O'Donnell's last ruling was that students appearing

before his court for offenses relating to alcohol, will be treated as adults responsible for their own actions and as such will receive the maximum sentence at his disposal. It is my opinion that some students out there need to wise up.

It is obvious to date that they have been unable to motivate themselves to

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GRADUATES



Are you graduating this year with a BSc Degree in any of the following disciplines ?

- Computer Science
- Software Engineering/Development
- Electrical/Electronic Engineering
- Telecommunications

We have numerous Graduate vacancies throughout Ireland, so please forward a copy of your CV to contact: Julia Connelly, Graduate Consultant, Marlborough IT 6/7 Steamboat Quay, Limerick. Tel: 061 419 007 Email: jconnelly@marlborough.ie Web: www.marlborough.ie



MARLBOROUGH I.T.

Students - What the residents and their associations think about us

Nicola Cook

Castletroy, the community, and its relationship with the University of Limerick are quite unique from the situation of other universities. Owing to the fact that the University is in a suburb, UL students populate the highest proportion of houses in the majority of large estates within the area. Some of the other main universities in the country such as UCC, UCG and TCD are based in the city-centre and therefore the students are dispersed in relation to their accommodation. DCU and UCD are based outside Dublin but because a high proportion of those attending these institutions are

from Dublin, the fact rental prices in Dublin 4 are very steep, and owing to the huge amount of facilities the capital city centre offers, these student populations are also very widely dispersed. Castletroy in essence resembles one big student village and campus, and, as a suburb it's role is this way is quite exceptional compared to other areas of the country where students attend college.

But what it is very important for us to remember as students is that we are part of a community of residents, who, despite being in the minority, are entitled to a standard of living the same as those in non-student suburbs.

We are only passing through this college for four or five years, Castletroy is their home.

In the research of this article a number of residents were approached to air their views on the behaviour and attitudes of students in general. The first of these was a Dun an Oir resident, who wishes to remain anonymous. She is not a member of any Residents Association, but has lived in the area for 24 years. She admits that there have been a few problems over that period with students. "There has been a bit of damage, for example to the car. The aerial was broken and mirrors were

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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.



Mick's Two Cents Worth

It's a Friday evening and I have just left Fergal's office, after spending half an hour looking through old photos of the last 2 years. Some faces were familiar, most were not, and it dawned on me that I'm coming to the end of 5 years in UL. Over the last 5 years there have been a lot of changes to this campus and attitudes of its inhabitants. One of the changes that have occurred over the last few months is that of alcohol! The Minister for Health has launched an alcohol awareness campaign, which UL is a part of.

I am on a new working group that was set up on alcohol awareness. The working group has a lot of good competent people who are all willing to do a lot of work on the problem that is facing us with alcohol abuse. But my greatest fear is that the working group will not be given the financial support to tackle this problem. The University could be seen as almost taking a hypocritical tone on the whole issue of alcohol abuse on campus! The powers that be would like to think that by creating a policy on alcohol on our fair campus that the problem will go away or that they have done their best! But on the other hand in the Castletroy area, similar in its population to the town of Nenagh, we have two Clubs with a third on the way, a disco and another pub in the vicinity. There are no cinemas, late night coffee shops, in other words in the Castletroy area, the only option is to go for a pint!!!

If the University is serious about looking into the problem, why don't they build a cinema on campus, why don't they open the canteen are till 11pm or 12 am for coffee, tea etc..., because there is nothing more annoying than having to go to the Stables or Scholars at night for a coffee when you're in the middle of an FYP, and looking at everyone out enjoying themselves and you have to go back to the Library or the Lab for more hardship!

The reason that this is not done is simple: A one screen cinema, and late opening coffee shops are not as profitable as the Licensed premises which enclose the courtyard area! Another way of promoting non-alcohol related activities on campus is through Clubs & Societies that the Minister himself has com-

mented on, yet UL Clubs & Socs are falling behind all the other Universities when it comes to cash!

Then of course there is also the area of Counselling on campus. The Counsellors we have working for us are some of the best people you could ever possibly meet; yet the conditions they have to work under are appalling. The national recommendations with regards to counsellor numbers are 1 counsellor per 2000 students. Doing the maths in the case of UL with over 10,000 registered students, one would assume that we would have 5 counsellors! NO, this is not the case; we have 1 full time counsellor and 2 full time positions, which cannot be filled because the wages are so bad!

At this point I am going to stop because my blood pressure is rising at an alarming pace, but I will say this much, **YOU CANT HAVE YOUR CAKE & EAT IT!** If the University are serious about dealing with the problem of alcohol on their campus, I hope they do it right, because its an issue that effects the lives of our students, and you cant put a price on life!

On a much less contentious note, I would like to wish you all the best in the exams, and if I can be of any assistance please call in.

The Student Centre was officially opened on Friday of week 11 by the chairperson of the University of Limerick Foundation Chairman, Mr Frank Doyle. I would like to thank the University Foundation for donating some of their funding for the Student Centre, which is of benefit to all students. I would also like to thank all the previous sabbaticals who pushed the issue of a Student Centre and VP J.O'Connor with whom I may not always see eye to eye for his dedication in the project.

Finally I would like to thank all of the people, who made this year as smooth and as productive as it was, Tom, Siobhan, Fergal, Stan, Dermot *a.k.a. slick*, Caroline, Rebecca, Ashling, Patricia, Paul, PJ and all of the girls in the shop for all the hard and often thankless work they do. Thanks a million for everything, I look forward to a second year with ye.

A big thanks to all the Class Reps, SU Exec, Clubs & Socs Exec, Arts office, Sports Dept., the lads in the house, the campaign team and all those in the University who were a huge help all year and finally thanks to you the students for your support. I look forward to the next year when we'll get some more of that Storm Brewin!

A note of caution to all

Please **DO NOT** attempt to cheat in any of your exams and take it easy on a night out, as the Gardai are prosecuting the smallest offences, so be careful.

All the best and have a great Summer/ Future, and I'll see ye in September

Mick

Tom's Lesson

It's the last edition of *An Focal* for the year and my last personal message to the campus community this year. What am I going to say? First of all I want to thank a load of people for all that they have done over the year; some of you I can't mention by name as I might get you in trouble with the authorities. Therefore, the simplest thing to do is not mention anyone by name at all. Knowing me, I'd probably get half of them wrong anyway, and forget to mention the rest. I'll just end this thought by saying to the students of UL, that you have a lot more friends in the institution of UL than you probably think! (Even if it doesn't seem that way all the time.)

I've been surprised by the amount of people over the year who have approached me on something I've written on these pages, its meant a lot to me so I just want to acknowledge that. Thanks for your kind words and your support. I want to thank my

class, 4th HPSS, for keeping me in the picture, both literarily and in the sense that you've kept me involved even when I didn't have a lot of time. I want to thank my Department; Government and Society, for bearing with me and being so understanding about the second year. I am going to finish, don't worry!

Class Reps, you're a great bunch of people! I just hope your classes appreciate the work you do for them. I want to wish the fourth years and post-grads among you all the best with what ever you do in the future. What ever you decide to do I'm sure you'll do it well if this year was anything to go on. To the rest of you I hope to see you back again next year. We still have a lot of work to do and I know you lot are up to it. Lastly I want to thank Fergal and Siobhan, you've been great friends over the year and I really want to wish you the best for the future.

To the rest of you good luck with the exams, enjoy the summer and we will see you all bright eyed and bushy tailed back here in September.

Siobhan's Advice

Well, this is my last time writing my few words for *An Focal*. I can't believe it, but the year is coming to an end, and its time for me to say goodbye, and be on my way...I've been here for five years now, so it's about time to move on!

Well it's been a great year for me. Now, to be completely honest with you, I felt coming in that I would change everything, make UL such a better place to be in...not that I think its such a bad place to be, but we all see there's a lot that could be improved which would make a difference. Anyway, in I came last year thinking I could fix it all!! It was'nt long before I realised what an up-hill battle that I had just landed myself in. It takes months and months of 'fighting your case', pushing for what you feel is most important against all the other sides who are pushing just as hard for whatever they feel is more important...and so often feel like you are banging your head against a brick wall...But I can stand back after my year and know that I voiced and argued for anything that would effect us, the students, at every opportunity I had. I see that some steps towards change have been made, and good progress is in the pipelines...So while I can't say I achieved all I set out to do, I can leave knowing I did try my best.

This year saw the starting up and successful running of some great new initiatives within the Outreach Society. One in particular was the Enable Ireland Project which involved giving the opportunity for two young adults with cerebral palsy to undertake study here in UL. The members of Outreach made this not only possible but also really enjoyable too. You all have contributed so much to someone's dream come true, as in Derek Spaight's words... *"I am so glad that I had the opportunity to come and study here in UL. It is like a dream come true. I don't know if you can ever realise how much the experience has meant for me, and I really hope it will continue in the future and that other people can be given this chance too. Thanks so much to all who helped out - I could'nt have done this without you."* Many of the members also gave up much of their time in the Homework Clubs which ran every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. This involved helping children with their Maths and English homework in small groups. There was also many fundraising projects throughout the year...From the 10K walk (see page 17) to raise money for the Children of Chernobyl to the Fashion Show & Slave Auction and the numerous raffles and draws much money was raised for charity this year. Well done everyone. I hope it keeps on developing next year...hope the same people join, and more, with the same enthusiasm and great ideas for Tara. Thanks for everything.

A lot of my days went on the various queries people called in with or rang or e-mailed me with. Or when people found themselves stuck in a problem for one reason or another. I preferred that from being in meetings, because you can really feel and see the effect of you being there, I suppose this is because the results of all the committee meetings are more long-term, than immediate. So it was rewarding in itself that I was able to offer

the information or the advice that helped out when it was needed. So often people used to apologise loads for staying a bit longer or for 'bothering' me, but I want to take this chance to tell you there was never ever a need. It gave me great job satisfaction to be able to help. That's just something I wanted to say.

And here's where I finish up. But first, a few essential 'Thank-You's'.....Thanks to everyone who voted me in, I hope I did'nt let anyone down... Thanks to all the people who helped me out at the various stages throughout the year. I have to describe the year as one which was very different...no two days were ever the same. It has to be said that it was a challenge. It really was. Some days were really trying, and there was a few people there who were really great all through the year, but some days in particular, they really got me through. I know its not always recommended to list names, especially in this case where there were so many people who were great during the year. But there are a few who stand out that I'll give a quick mention to now. Firstly, and obviously, a very big one to Miriam and Redd - my assistant Welfare Officers! Also, a huge thanks to Stan, who was so much more than the General Manager - a friend and advisor - someone you know you can go to - another 'dad'! Thank you Stan. And then there's the girls - In Graphics - Aisling, (who is a super-model in her spare time...check her out on her holidays on the centre pages!) and of course Becky...who is secretly a princess. No-one is supposed to know, but some-things are just so hard to hide.. And Patricia, thank you for everything, and managing to be fun, even when we were all really busy. In Accounts, there's Caroline who is always so helpful and lovely, and I don't know how she is always smiling, since she has to put up with Dermot all day every day! Only messing, Dermot, thank you for a great year...thanks for being a good laugh, and especially the times when you sang lovely songs for us!..I meant it about the wedding! See you there!! And Tony, you deserve a huge thanks, not just for making us all laugh so much, but for putting up with me always losing my key and having to let me in to the office so much. Sorry, and thanks. Also a thanks to the boys, Tom, Mick and Fergal. Sometimes it's hard being part of a team when we are all so different in many ways. But we pulled together when it counted and we made it through to the end...its sad that's its over now, and we are going our separate ways. Goodluck Fergal in what you choose to do, and Tom & Mick...I admire you so much for being that dedicated to make sure the good work started gets finished. And I know that it will be, so in advance...well done. I know I am supposed to be keeping this short, but I just have to say thanks to the gang in Brierfield (Dave you're included here)...thanks for making it a great year - and helping me to 'relax' every evening after work! (Maybe I should mention the lodge in this list of Thank you's!!) Fergal is going to kill me if I keep writing cos it will mess up the whole columns etc..so I better stop. So thanks to everyone. I'm really really going to miss it here. Thank you, and (although I hate this word)...Good-Bye!

Siobhan

Fergal's News

It's been a busy year, but it's been worthwhile. I've loved the job and this paper, even at times when I could throw the computer out the window. I've made some great new friends, and thank you to all of ye especially to Mick, Tom & Siobhan who have kept me sane throughout the year and for letting me make you insane.

I'm not sure what I'm doing next year, but whatever you're doing good luck and thanks for letting me be your CCO for the year, hope I did a good job for you. Good Luck to Paddy K (he hates being called that by the way); if you need a hand you know where to look (in the scholars).

To everyone else that has helped me throughout the year, and to all the writers of An

Focal, and especially Michelle, I couldn't do it without you, this paper is dedicated to you all. Hopefully, I will be able to give you a bit of party next week, the writers that is.

Goodbye, one and all.

Cheers,

Fergal F

PS Grainne, thanks for sticking with me throughout the year, even if you didn't see much of me, which was probably a good thing for you.

To everyone else good luck in your exams, and see you all at Slane!

Ten students prosecuted this month for breaches of the public order act

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do so, it's a shame that the Gardai and the courts will be providing the motivation for them.

To the law abiding students out there, who can hold a drink, I feel it's our reputation that is suffering here. Where once a level of tolerance would have been afforded to us, it'll now be a case of 'watch your step'.

This could also have greater long-term consequences for every student, such cases jeopardise the renewal of the club licenses on campus. We've already experienced great difficulties in receiving bar extension licenses for Kollege week. In the eyes of the courts if the members of the two clubs [i.e. UL students] are deemed to be unruly after drinking in these clubs, then the licenses may not be

renewed in September. Now this is only speculation, but consider this, should the clubs be shut down due to student behaviour, I'd imagine that pubs in town will become less welcoming to students as they won't want their own licenses jeopardised.

This may all sound a bit over the top, but it's no joke. Judge O'Donnell has already referred to the upcoming renewal of the licenses on campus at a number of hearings this year, so don't be too surprised if you return to a UL minus two clubs next year.

So what happens now? I think that as students we need to take responsibility for our actions as individuals and as a group. There are individuals out there that simply need to grow up, when you leave home it can be liberating to be free of

parental supervision, but with independence comes responsibility and should you end up before Judge O'Donnell you'll have to learn this fact the hard way. As a group I think we should condemn such behaviour which reflects badly on us and could have a serious impact for all students and members of the campus community. The bar licenses are in the balance and it won't take much to tip them against our favour. The Students' Union will be highlighting the good that students in Castletroy have been doing in the local media, so as not to have a few idiots overshadow a lot of the worthy efforts many other students have put in throughout the year.

Students - What the residents and their associations think about us

broken, a few shrubs have also been pulled up". She believes that Thursday and Sunday nights are the worst, for students are coming back from the Lodge "jarred, and roaring and shouting". For the majority of the time however, she finds the students unproblematic. "Once or twice I complained to them about noise and loud music, but they acted on this and apologised profusely, and were quite polite and genuine. And only once in 24 years have I ever lifted the phone to the Union or the guards." What this Dun an Oir resident would like to see is more involvement of the students in the community, rather than a negative divide between them and residents. She would like them to be made more aware of the fact they are living in a community, and believes this should be included in the literature they receive. "This year's Students' Union are looking at it really seriously, recognising there is a problem and that it has to be addressed. The new initiative between the Guards, Residents and Students Union is the way to go, as more residents will understand the position of the students and vice versa."

Eddie Storan, Chairman of the Plassey Residents Association,

which encompasses Milford Grange, Plassey Grove, Elm Park and Oaklawns relates that the Association has no problem on the whole with the students. He believes that it is a small minority that is at the root of the problem. In an interview with An Focal he stated, "I have a bigger problem with absentee landlords who don't keep their houses and I feel very strongly about that. Students are humans and deserve proper accommodation that is not run down or lacking in basic facilities". He admits though that two cars belonging to his family have been damaged and that Rag Week is always a problem week. "This year there were lads sitting on chairs up on the flat roofs, drinking and making noise. This is totally unacceptable. The guards were called and the guys came down." People playing football at all hours in the morning also occurs quite a bit. Mr. Storan as Chairman, wanted to emphasise the fact that the CCTV cameras when they were introduced were done so "for the protection and safety of residents and students, they are not there to spy on anyone, and they certainly wouldn't be given to anybody just for the sake of viewing." The Chairman concludes by

saying that "99% of the students are spot on, there are only the few real troublemakers that cause damage. This isn't just because it's a student area. It's happening in other areas too".

However, the chairperson of the College Court residents Association, Ms. Ursula Stokes, strongly disagrees with Mr. Storan on this. She states "the Association, going back as far as 1997 has viewed the behaviour of students in College Court as absolutely scandalous and disgraceful, and the whole area of Castletroy has now been destroyed by students". In a strong attack on the ineptness of UL, she believes it is an institution "to set you up for drugs and alcohol and to become an alcoholic". Three of the main problems Ms. Stokes has with the University are its Code of Conduct, drinks promotions and the cult of drinking in the Stables and Scholars, and the Governing Authority. "There are first year students who are just out of control and other students who are just bringing your name down, they are scum. When was the last time somebody was expelled from your college for vandalism or bringing the college into disrepute?" she asks.

Having said this however, she admits to know-

ing some exemplary students, and others who are very, very nice people. She believes that the problem is with the upper management who she alleges are "arrogant and don't even listen to ye're problems, I mean ye've got enough problems of your own there. She describes the University as a "Mercedes without an engine" and "no better than a FAS scheme, lovely buildings and beautiful structures, but with no machinery to run it." The only solution that Ms. Stokes sees to the problem is the appointment of a permanent mediator between the University and the Students Union Executive, who most of the time changes on a yearly basis, making it difficult to establish progress, in her eyes. She finishes by saying, "we sound like we're bitchin', ye're gripin', we're all going around in circles and nobody's getting anywhere. We need someone in the middle to work through this with each Students Union, and the Governing Body and authority there, that needs to be addressed". As a sample, a few residents houses in College Court were approached to see if there was a correlation with these views, but all said, apart from a bit of noise or rowdiness every now and then, they have

no real problem with the students. The sample houses were also not involved in the College Court Residents Association. So there it is, the view on the ground from those who live next door or a few doors down from you, who are rearing a family, working nine to five, own their own cars, tend to their gardens etc. But what is important to remember is although they are different from you, they are also like you. They cook their dinner in their evenings, tune into Coronation Street, like to go out for a couple of drinks etc but they like to be first of all able to rest their weary heads without group renditions of the Fields of Athenry, or a replay of Munster's disallowed try against Stad France. They would also like to then arise in the morning to find their cars in the condition in which they left them, and wouldn't you expect the same thing if you were at home? Remember, they are. You are a part of a community that makes up their home, and this is the same place where you spend some of the best years of your life. Respect Castletroy for these reasons, if for nothing else.

Environmental Society report on the recent Nescafe Referendum

On April 11th this year, 1,975 UL students voted out Nescafe. A referendum was held with the question "Should Nescafe be banned from the SU shop?". A huge 87.5% majority said yes.

Many of you will have read the leaflets, seen the posters and laughed at our sets of 3 plastic breasts. Hopefully, most of you are informed of the issues: how 1.5 million babies die every year because they are not breastfed, how Nestle unethically and **unlawfully** market their breastmilk

substitutes in the 3rd world, how they print their labels in languages not understood in those countries, how they violate international code by offering free gifts to mothers and health workers in hospitals. And the list goes on....

Many of you will have met the Nestle rep who came down on the Tuesday before the referendum. He of course claimed that nestle don't do any of these things. Why wouldn't he? They've got a hell of a lot to lose.

However, if you go on Nestle's own website **today**, you can see how their advertising violates the code. If you go into a shop in Malawi, you are likely to find babymilk formula with the health warning printed only in English.

We're not making this up, and for those of you who think we're just looking for stuff to complain about, go to Trinity or UCD where all Nestle products are banned, not just the coffee. Why would we waste our time going after Nestle if they weren't doing anything wrong? Even us crusties have better things to do with our time.

I know lots of you like to slag off the tree-hugging hippies otherwise known as the Environmental Society but we took on a big company and won. They have a promotional budget of \$4.4 billion per year – we have the truth.

The reason that Nescafe is still in the shop is because they have to sell off what's left. After that's gone, there'll be no more Nescafe ever in the ULSU shop (unless another referendum overturns the decision). It's only one product but when 10,000 people say they don't want it, Nestle listen! Don't underestimate the power or consumer pressure.

Watch out Kit-Kat, we're coming to getcha!

Limerick Charities to lose out on £17000 due to the events leading up to Kollege Week

Nicola Cooke

As everybody is well aware Kollege Week 2001 differed to great degree than those of previous years. The curse of Foot and Mouth disease that has still not been eliminated as a threat to our economy four weeks later was a main cause for the huge drop in funds that were raised this year. Official figures now indicate that only a very modest £6,000 was raised in comparison to last year's £23,000, an almost 75% decrease. Because of Dept. of Agriculture regulations bungee jumping, fire walking and the Flag Day had to be cancelled. They were activities that last year netted around £3,400 each. Therefore Food and

Mouth resulted directly in a lost of £10,000 in charitable funds.

The second problem that arose and dampened the whole spirit and atmosphere of the week on campus was the loss of the Marquee. Due to unforeseen complications with licensing laws, and a court objection by the College Court Residents Association, erection of the Marquee as a main venue for events had to be abandoned. This resulted then in the necessity to hire clubs and venues in town for events, leading to an increase in ticket prices for events, and a reduction in the numbers, of about 500, eligible to attend events like Pimps and Prostitutes and the Frames. Buses

also had to be hired to transport people to and from the gigs and this again added to the cost of tickets and profit. As a result reduced numbers of students purchased tickets and so the charities made less money per ticket sold.

Sponsorship was also very much down on previous years. Main sponsorship from businesses was significantly decreased from previous years. The fact that Kollege Week was perhaps somewhat of a half-hearted effort as opposed to previous years perhaps didn't appeal to what are usually more generous sponsors. The fact that the Stables also was not granted a license for extensions meant that they closed earlier every

night than previous years, taking in less cash, and therefore their profits were also significantly down.

Last year 28 charities received sponsorship after Kollege Week, if this was to be repeated this year they would receive £200 each, hardly a very substantial amount. So realistically, to make a difference, the number of charities receiving donations will have to be reduced dramatically, to about ten or twelve. Hopefully next year, we will be rid of the scourge of Food & Mouth and there will be no court battles at the eleventh hour, so that the charities can be the real beneficiaries of Kollege Week once more.

USI Referendum deemed invalid due to the extremely low turnout

Michelle Daly
News Editor

On Thursday the 26th of April last a referendum was held on campus to decide if The Students of UL want to join USI, and increase their capitation by £3, to be reviewed annually by Class Representative Council. The referendum was held after a very strange week, Monday morning saw the huge USI referendum machine move onto campus to start sending out their message of the benefits of joining USI to students of UL.

The No campaign was somewhat late starting only really taking flight on the Wednesday of referendum week, the no campaign did not participate in the ULSU class representative council debate organised by the class representative council committee responsible for organising the referendum.

Julian De Spainn the President of USI spoke to a small enough crowd of interested parties about the advantages of joining USI to UL. The fact that the capitation required was less than £3 on the referendum but only £ 2.25 per full time student and £1.13 per part-time student and the remaining capitation money

would be used to allow our SU sabbatical students to go and participate in USI conventions and training sessions. The NO campaign was using the tactic don't vote but if you must vote, vote no. Their unusual campaign posters included such classic slogans as ' £30,000 pounds we might as well spend it on another statue for all the good it would do ', however it may have been a little too late to get people out to vote in the canteen on referendum polling day.

The total tally of votes when polling closed at 6.30pm on Thursday night was 757 votes as it was inquorate the votes were not officially counted. However the unofficial tally of votes by union officials after the announcement that the poll was inquorate had the result that it was a valid poll of 754 votes, these were 62% yes to join USI.

Unfortunately even if there had been enough votes there was a 66% yes vote required to make the constitutional changes necessary to join USI. However Julian De Spainn and John Ferrira did state that should they be asked again next year to come and fight for another referendum on the issue they

would. The USI representatives blamed the low turnout for the referendum on the fact that there is only one central polling station, the fact that it is in the middle of a building not on the ground floor and the late date of the referendum. Week 11 was a late time in the academic year to expect students to be interested in a referendum as it was one of the main times for project due dates, however the request for a referendum was received late in the year and that was the reason for the late date.

USI were unhappy with the turnout however the no side in the form of Daniel Nagle speaking to Sideview-Wired Fm news earlier this week stated that the low turnout was in effect a successful result for the no side. The lateness of the date for the referendum made it nearly impossible to get a no side together as most students were preoccupied with either projects or exams.

Another reason perhaps for the low overall pole on the referendum?

Tom's Education Tirade

As you all know this is the last edition of *An Focal* for this academic year so all that's left for me to say is good luck in the exams, enjoy your summer and we will see you back here in September. Take your time, plan your study and get your rest. This will be a lot more valuable to you in the run up to the exams than all-nighters cramming and overdoses of caffeine.

A warning before exams.

After every set of exams there are normally a few students brought before the Discipline Committee of the University on the charge of Academic Cheating. This is a serious offense and is treated as such by the committee. Make sure you have no writing on your hands or arms. No notes in your pencil case. No writing either. Make sure there are no notes in your dictionaries or any allowed material. Stashing books or notes in the bathrooms won't work either. In the end of the day what you might gain by trying to cheat is far outweighed by what it will cost you.

A summary of some of the activities for the year:

Reform of the Class Representative system.

We started off the year by trying to build up the profile of Class Reps and make the system work better. As it turned out, we discovered from the *Student Satisfaction Survey* conducted this time last year that it is one of the biggest problem areas for students. This year we managed to get more people involved and participating. We stressed that the class party was the least important function of the Rep. We brought the first ever *Class Representative Handbook*, a guideline for Reps, which will be expanded and developed over the summer. We have got recognition in the form of a University Letter for all those who stuck with it over the year and we are working on a more formal type of recognition to encourage more participation in the future. We changed the structure of Class Representative Council by introducing a com-

mittee system. These committees have done great work this year in different areas of student interest. They were largely responsible for the two education policies brought forward by this year.

Education Policies.

Because of worrying developments in the College of Business with regard to changing the status of their FYP it was decided that the Students' Union should challenge their proposals. It was felt that a definite course of action should be followed and that the best way to ensure that, was to bring out a SU policy on FYP's. This outlined specific actions to be taken and gave the Union a line to take in discussions on the matter. From this and after informal interview material was dismissed by the College of Business it was felt that a professional survey needed to be commissioned. This was done and a report is currently being drawn up by the Marketing Centre for Small Business who, incidentally, is also used by the College of Business for some of the work they do. This report is expected before the end of June.

One could be forgiven for thinking that once an issue was raised it might be addressed. This would be standard practice in the real world. You mightn't always see it resolved to your satisfaction but you would know at least it had been dealt with. Not so in the University of Limerick. Here you could be waiting for hell to freeze over before action can be expected. This can be seen right throughout the organisation at various different levels.

As students our difficulty with this system is that most of us are working to a much tighter time scale, usually based on a semester. This means when a student raises an issue it normally needs to be addressed almost immediately. There are students in this University waiting on resolutions to issues that were raised almost a full year ago. It was felt by Class Reps and the Students' Union that something needed to be done about the situation. Therefore the Education Committee of Class Representative came up with an Issue Resolution Policy.

This policy is going through its final draft and shall be ready for Class Representative Council at its

first sitting next semester. It will entail creating a paper trail thus making records, which can be used to make the University accountable on these issues. It should hopefully force speedier turn-arounds on outstanding issues. Procedures on how the system is to be operated are being drawn up and should be ready to go subject to ratification by Council at the beginning of semester one next year.

Library Student User's Group.

Any student on campus will tell you there are problems with the library and have been since it opened. Well this year a new group was set up at the behest of the library management. (They got to us before we could get to them). The Library Student Uses Group, made up of a number of students and members of the library staff, quickly identified areas that needed to be addressed and how best to do so.

Agreement was reached with Library Management and Staff on; longer opening hours, weekend openings, restructuring the layout of library collections, better use of the non-library reading rooms around campus, more copies of textbooks and journals, and wider range of textbooks and journals. Much of this is based on the library receiving additional funding in its next budget allocation. The submissions for that have gone in and we are now waiting for the response from finance on that. What we have got already is more computers available in the library and more study space available in the library. This can be compared to what was available this time last year to show the difference.

Some of our smaller achievements this year.

We have a change got in the regulation regarding publication of courses. Up to now the way this regulation was worded there were a number of ways by which a module outline could be passed on to students. This meant that very often it wasn't done at all. Now it must be in a handout in the first contact lecture. A small step but it cuts out much of the ambiguity surrounding what you should or shouldn't be doing in a module for a semester.

For the first time ever all your exam papers will be in

the one place at the same time for no cost except printing them off. Yes all the exam papers, except law which will be up this week, are now on the Students' Union website under 'services'. They will from now on be constantly updated after the summer and winter exams.

Some of the ongoing issues, which we will be continuing with next year.

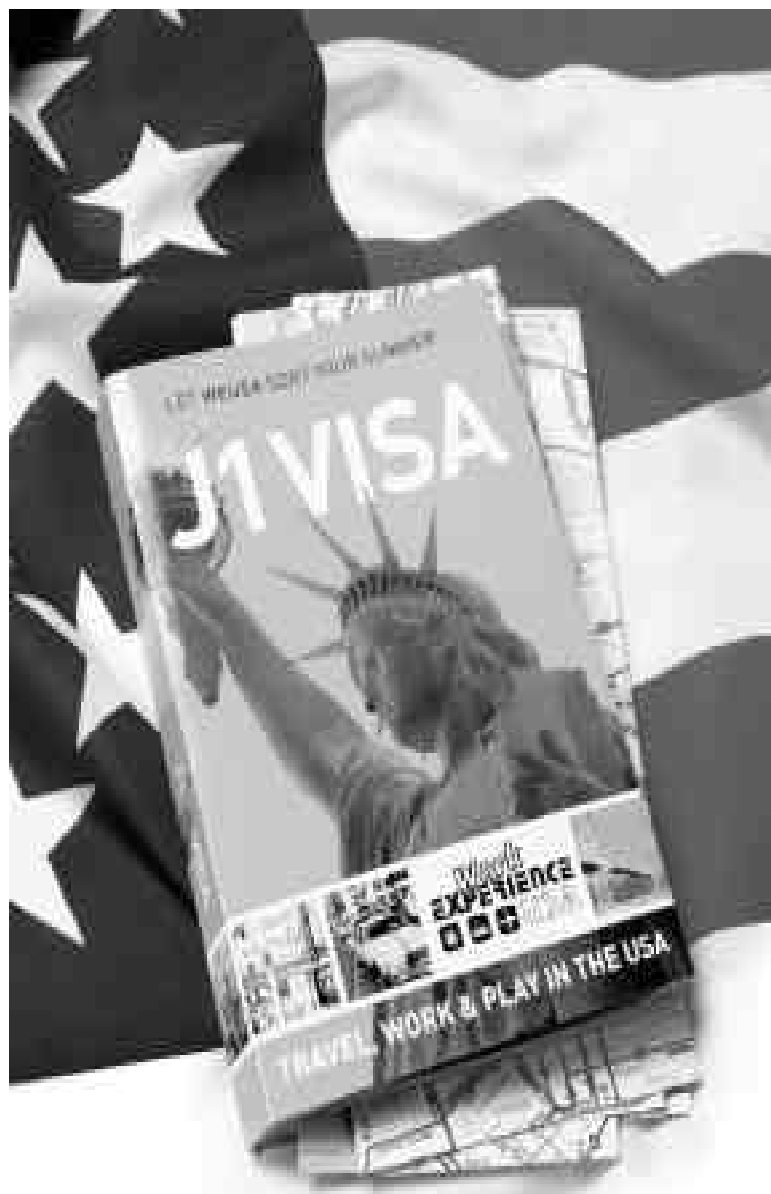
Resources for support departments, probably the most important issue facing the University at present. The institution has grown very quickly in the last ten years and some areas have been left behind in this expansion. This needs to be addressed before it all falls in on itself.

Surprisingly many students don't come to the Students' Union with their problems until last. Most probably don't come to us at all. This needs to change; the SU should be the obvious first port of call for a student with an issue. Even if it is only for advice on where to go next. We are your representative body and you might be surprised at what we can do for you.

We need to work towards allowing 'I' graded fourth year students, an opportunity to graduate with their class. These students through no fault of their own and for numerous reasons were unable to sit or finish their exams at the allocated time. They should at least be given the chance of graduating with their classmates if they so desire. They have spent four years together which makes it doubly difficult on them on what should be one of the best days of their academic life.

A student should have the right to Student Status Committee representation if they so desire. It happens in other institutions so why can't it happen here. The Student Status process can be quite daunting to a student who is nervous enough about what ever reason it is that they are in there for. It would be nice to know that at least one person in the room was openly on their side.

Co-op and Erasmus, there are large numbers of students dissatisfied with these areas of their programme. We need to address these problems with the relevant offices and see how best to resolve them.



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The Night you will never remember....or forget - A Date Rape Victim's Story

Interview by Joan O' Sullivan

"We didn't really have any intention of going out, we weren't especially dressed up," Therese says, "We were just going to go to the pub, have a last night out before exams. We met up with a friend of mine from home though and ended up going to the nightclub with them."

Therese and her friend Aine had gone out to the pub late, around ten o'clock. Both girls had boyfriends and were looking for a simple 'girlie' night out. They'd entered the nightclub around 11:30.

"We were drinking together and we both had exactly the same amount," Therese says. "It wouldn't have been anything near our usual limit; we both often drank a lot more. It was a night out- getting merry but not getting legless or anything. We were both completely aware of what was going on."

Completely aware up until one particular point though- beyond which neither can remember a thing.

"We both got a drink, left it down, decided to go dancing and

drank it. It was a shot. After that there's nothing until the following morning," Therese says.

Therese says the time then was 12:15. They had been out for just two hours at this stage. Neither of the girls had ever experienced such a black out before.

Aine was to wake up in her own bed the following morning, to be told her cousin had brought her home because she was too drunk to stand.

Therese wasn't as lucky. Aine's cousin didn't realise there had been someone else with her; he'd left Therese in the nightclub. She didn't wake up in her own room the following morning. She described the panic that engulfed her: "I didn't have a clue where I was, what I was doing or why I was there. All I knew was I was in a strange room with no clothes on, lying beside a stranger. I couldn't even feel sick, I couldn't feel anything I was just like- I can't believe I've done this, I can't believe I've done this"

"I got up practically. was about to run- fell down the ground fainting- I was really weak and everything afterwards and he was

like. he was like - 'Can you remember it' And I was like 'No, nothing.'

"There wasn't a doubt in my mind," she says, "I was just blaming myself at that stage. I couldn't even really tell you the extent of the conversation. He did say 'It wasn't like I dragged you here or anything, I was just looking after you.' He seemed normal"

"He even walked me to the nearest shop and started giving me money for the taxi home. I said 'No, I've got my own money.' So I went into the shop, phoned the taxi and left. I came home, had a shower and changed my clothes."

After comparing her experience with Aine's, Therese realised something was deeply wrong.

"We drank every drink together," Therese continues, "but we're not going to stop remembering exactly at the same time."

It wasn't until the following day though the reality of the situation hit Therese. She went to the college doctor to ask for the morning after pill.

"The doctor asked me what the story was, what was my reason for wanting the pill. I had no intention of telling him. I just went

in and said 'I'm getting it and I'm getting out of here.' But despite myself I ended up telling him."

"He said there was no doubt in his mind that my drink had been spiked. He said he'd only seen one other case but it was identical to mine. He wanted to phone the guards but I said 'No way.'

"What I was afraid of at the time was..I know it sounds stupid but I was only 17, just a first year in college my parents, I was afraid they'd have to be contacted and that would have been a big thing for me. I didn't want them knowing. As for the guards, they'd probably say that it was just another average college student going out for a one night stand."

Now a year later she says she still doesn't regret not doing anything about it.

"I mean it's an awful thing. He could be giving it to so many more people but I could never, it would all be back in my face again I still want to forget about it. I'll deal with it myself and forget about it."

She admits only time will tell how successful she will be.

A Letter Sent to the Editor from a student in UL telling her story.....

As I sit here at one of the computers in the library, I am finding it strange, and almost surreal that I am actually writing this article. I am a victim of sexual assault. I was raped. Those three words have been the most tumultuous and difficult words that I have ever had to say, or even express to anyone. Even now as I type the words, I am overcome with a multitude of nauseous feelings and emotions. Six months ago, I would have been classified as a 'typical' student. The word typical stirs up even more anger within me as I was robbed of that 'typical' status on that most horrific of horrific nights, the night that I was raped. I don't really want to get into all the inner finite details as to what happened or the circumstances surrounding my attack, as there are some people that would be even more hurt by my divulging of that information.

Rather I want to let people know despite the fact that this horrendous thing happened to me, I

have learnt to cope with this and I am no longer letting it get the better of me. You may wonder what 'it' is. It is the feeling of complete inner turmoil and disgust at the abuse your body had been subjected to. It is the feeling of anger, and pure rage at the abuser. I have always believed that hate is a very strong word, and an even stronger emotion, and one that should never be used without a thorough comprehension of what it is that you are actually saying. I still find it difficult to use the word, but I have to. I hate the person that raped me. That person abused my sense of goodwill and robbed me of my undeniable belief and trust in mankind. Even now, I still find it difficult to make a rapport with strangers, something that I was always able to do before.

I was raped about six months ago, and since then my life has been a myriad of readjustment and recovery. Yet, despite all the changes that have occurred, I am dealing with everything in my stride. I have dealt with

the vast array of emotions that have confronted me. It does take time to get over something so awful and I am still a long way off from feeling at ease again. But I am getting there. What happened to me was a horrible abuse of my body and exploitation of my spirit and inner being. And I am getting over it. You can take my word for it. My ordeal was and still is the most disgusting and horrific situation that I have ever been confronted with, but sometimes in life you get knocked down, and cliché, cliché you can either sink or swim. I chose to swim. I am feeling an awful lot better with myself now about the whole idea of being somebody that was raped. I don't look at it like a label, rather it is a piece of my emotional baggage that I have faced. But it is not getting the better of me. Rather I am getting the better of it.

My friends, my family and my councillor will never know just how much their love, support and never-ending encouragement has helped me in

dealing with this, and even in writing this article I am feeling a whole lot more at ease with the idea of rape and being a victim of abuse. I wrote this article to express what happened to me, and to give you the reader, the chance to understand what I have gone through. Not only that

I guess I want other victims out there to realise that there is help and support available, and that there is life after rape. I am living that life, and despite all that happened me, I am learning to enjoy my life again. I am swimming. I am most definitely not drowning!

The new student centre is formally opening by the Chair of the UL Foundation

The opening of the new student centre on campus was one of the headlining events on campus over the past few months .

Though postponed due to the recent foot and mouth outbreak. It was formally opened by chairman of the University of Limerick foundation on Friday the 27th of April, it was an occasion on which Dr. Roger Downer president of the University paid tribute to the huge contribution of Clubs and

Societies on campus and also to the entire university community . There was a re-presentation of clubs and societies awards on the day in question highlighting the efforts of the students who are housed in the building. As well as a large entourage of dignitaries there was a real student presence at the occasion and Student Union president Mr. Micheal Phelan also played a large part in the proceedings .

CULINARY GRACE -A beginners guide to gourmet cooking



Hello, this is final Culinary grace probably of all time, I hoped you have sampled and enjoyed some of the recipes. It is a pretty short column this week, the oul exams are cropping up and the pressure is on. Best of luck in the exams. Cheerio to one and all and bring on the post exam partying.

YUMMY BUTTERSCOTCH BANANA BOAT

The hot banana butterscotch topping makes this a truly memorable ice cream dessert

Ingredients	Cost
2 bananas	£0.60
3 tablespoons granulated sugar	£0.20
1 tablespoon seedless raisins	£0.15
1 orange	£0.30
2 oz. (50g) butter	£0.30
1 tablespoon seedless raisins	£0.08
small pack (11fl. oz.) vanilla ice cream	£2.00
a few seedless green grapes	<u>£0.50</u>
	£3.82

SERVES 2

Prep. Time:15

Cooking Time:0

Instructions

1. Grate the rind of the orange and squeeze the juice
2. Cut the grapes in half

3. Place the sugar in a small saucepan with 3 tablespoons of cold water
4. Heat gently until the sugar has dissolved, then increase the heat and boil rapidly for about 3 minutes or until a light golden colour
5. Remove from the heat
6. Beat in the butter, piece by piece and stir in the orange juice and rind as well as the raisins
If the sauce separates, heat for a few minutes
7. Peel the bananas and cut into slices, then add to the sauce with the grapes
8. Arrange slices of ice cream overlapping on a serving dish then pour over the sauce
9. Serve immediately

CHOCOLATE DELIGHT

Ingredients	Cost
150g plain Chocolate	£0.99
3 egg yolks	£0.45
65g unsalted butter	£0.86
1 tblsp Tia Maria	£1.76
4 egg whites	
3 tblsp castor sugar	<u>£0.15</u>
	£4.11

SERVES 4

Prep. Time: 5mins

Cooking Time: 15 mins

Instructions

1. Melt the chocolate. Remove from the heat and beat in the egg yolks, on at a time.

2. Stir in the butter and when the mixture is smooth, add the Tia Maria.
3. Whisk the egg whites until they are thick.
4. Add the sugar to the whites and continue to whisk until the whites form stiff peaks.
5. Using a large metal spoon, fold in one spoonful of the white into the chocolate mixture.
6. Fold in the remaining whites into the chocolate mix incorporating as much air as possible.
7. Spoon the mixture into wine glasses, cover with cling film and refrigerate until set (4hrs).
8. Decorate with a dollop of cream and grated chocolate.

CHOCOLATE MARS ROULADE

Ingredients	Cost
3 mars bars	£1.20
3 tbsp hot water	
5 eggs separated	£0.60
6oz castor sugar	£0.50
1/2 pint of cream (whipped)	<u>£0.94</u>
	£2.24

SERVES 4

Prep. Time: 10 mins

Cooking Time: 30 mins

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 360F/180C/gas mark 4.
2. Grease and line a 15 by 9 inch swiss roll tin.
3. Gently warm the mars bars and water together until melted. Alternatively, melt together gently in the microwave.
4. Whisk the egg yolks and add sugar together until thick and pale (for about 10mins) and then stir in the chocolate until evenly blended.
5. Whisk the egg whites until stiff and fold into the chocolate mixture. Spoon into prepared tin and bake in a preheated oven 180C for about 25-30 minutes or, until firm.
6. Cover with a sheet of greaseproof paper.
7. Remove the lining paper and spread with whipped cream. Roll carefully and eat!!!!

The End is the Beginning is the End

Patrick Kennedy

Editor Elect

September 1997 was a relatively quiet period in the history of most Irish teenagers. Kerry and Clare had just secured the All-Ireland titles for the year and Ireland were beginning to already look like not qualifying for the Euro 2000 finals. It can never be really understood what is going through the minds of most first years as they take on the adventure of Orientation week in the University of Limerick- or what expectations they may have for the upcoming four years. In my own case I suppose I was a complete nervous wreck, especially as most of my friends from home had opted for the sunnier, that is less rainy, climates of tropical Cork and Dublin. Now heading into the last three weeks of fourth year the same feeling of inevitability of an uncertain future are surfacing once more.

The last four years in the University of Limerick have definitely been the greatest learning experience most people will ever under-

go. Certain memories will forever abide within us, be it Abbaesque in the Plaza for Ed Walshe's going away party or the introduction of Soul Clinic onto the Limerick Club scene. Four years ago the Students Union was simply four offices and a photocopying room where there was insufficient room to turn around, the Stables was ten years old and showing it and the Library was roughly one-tenth the size of what we have today (though it probably had the same amount of books).

The University of Limerick is expanding at a tremendous rate and it is one of the most amazing things that we have been able to partake in its constant evolution. In my four years here it has never ceased to amaze me how this University is different to all others within our Fair Isle. For a start we make up practically ninety per cent of the surrounding housing estate, creating an atmosphere conducive to partying, group studying and spending a whole night going from one house to another when you've

no money to go to the pub. If you look at Dublin or even Cork, most students there are lucky to get to know a couple of people from their class, never mind get used to meeting the same people in the Stables. Even acknowledging the guy who lives three doors down from them on the left hand side will certainly be a complete stranger, not John who lives in house forty.

Four years in UL teaches you to watch what you are doing at all times because you're always going to get caught doing something that you shouldn't be. It allows you to understand what most students are thinking due to the fact that you are bound to know a large proportion of the people living next to you. It makes you realise that you can't take it for granted that the book you want will be in the library, so you have to get there and fight for it or your QCA is going to take a sharp decline. It makes you plan to go to town an hour before you actually want to leave as the bus will never ever come on time unless you're two minutes late. It makes you

obtain a very distinct ring tone for your mobile phone since so many people have the same model as you.

My four years in the University of Limerick have undoubtedly been the most unusual in my life. They allowed me an unique insight into the isolated world of Castletroy and it's student population, a wild, weird and wacky bunch of individuals, each with their own take on what the world is, was, will or should be. As a writer for An Focal over the last four years the opinions expressed across these pages have served to amuse and confuse me as to what the world of UL is really like. As this is my last article before I take up the job of Editing this paper I want to commend An Focal for giving it's audience a menu particular to the palette of the students of UL. These are the people who, whether they like it or not form the creation and reaction of these hallowed pages- and continue to take it for what it is. Summing up the experience of writing for An Focal for four years isn't easy but can probably be put best by simply saying 'Its all good'.

UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH TAUGHT POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMMES 2001/2002

Applications are invited from graduates and students expecting to graduate in 2001 for the following one-year, full-time taught postgraduate programmes, commencing in September 2001.

Masters Degrees

LLM in European and Comparative Law
MA in Chant and Ritual Song
MA in Classical String Performance
MA in Community Music
MA in Dance Performance(Irish Traditional Dance/ContemporaryDance)
MA in Ethnochoreology
MA in Ethnomusicology
MA In European Integration
MA in French*
MA in International Studies
MA in International Tourism*
MA in Irish Traditional Music Performance
MA in Peace and Development Studies
MA in Teaching English as a Foreign Language
MA Women's Studies
MBS in Human Resource Management*
MEng in Computer and Communications Systems*
MEng inVLSI Systems*
MSc in Biomedical Engineering
MSc/MA in Interactive Media
MSc/MA in Music Technology

Graduate Diploma/Masters Degrees

Grad Dip/MA in Technical Communication
Grad Dip/MBS in Entrepreneurship Management
Grad Dip/MSc in Industrial Physics

Grad Dip/MSc in Quality Management
Grad Dip/MSc in Software Localisation
Grad Dip/MTech in Computer Integrated Manufacturing
Grad Dip/MTech in Computer Aided Engineering Product Design
Grad Dip/MTech in Safety and Ergonomics*

Graduate Diplomas

Grad Dip in Business Administration
Grad Dip in Computing
Grad Dip in Education(Business)
Grad Dip in Chemical Engineering
Grad Dip in Computer Engineering
Grad Dip in Education(Music)

Bachelor of Laws - Graduate Entry

(two-year full-time)

*These courses are available also on a two-year, part-time basis.

HOW TO APPLY

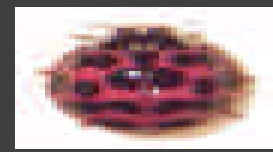
Details of each programme and application forms are available from:
Admissions Office Telephone 061-202015
University of Limerick Facsimile 061-334859
Email admission@ul.ie

The closing date for the receipt of completed applications is **Friday 8 June 2001.**

Some of the above courses were approved for funding under the New Graduate Skills Conversion Programme in 2000 and may therefore, also attract funding in 2001. In this event, EU students admitted to these programmes in 2001 will be eligible for significantly reduced fees.

Marian's Voyeur Column

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



What was HOT!!

1. Internal Transfers/ putting off second year for another year!!
2. Orientation Guides getting into
3. Orientation Week gigs for free!
4. Preying on "innocent first years"!!
5. The Gents bathroom outside the Scholars!!
6. The "Daily Pint" in the Scholars!!
7. Cream in the Gallery with Jeremy Healy (the words cross dressing come to mind don't they Caitriona and John????)
8. The Frames in the Jonathan Swift
9. Student Union Shop Rolls
10. ODB
11. The Law Dinner (The Very last time I ever Drank Tequila, thanks John!!)
12. Soul Clinic in the Scholars the Saturday we finished our exams last semester
13. The Clubs and Socs Ball (Going totally hyper is a requirement whenever Fiona is around)
14. "The Walls" in Dolans at the start of semester 1!!
15. The Heineken Roller Coaster tour (after the bouncer realised

that we weren't lying about being on the Guest List.)

16. Meeting Dave Fanning at the Roller Coaster Tour.
17. Loads of 21sts (especially Lorna, Paul and Breda)
18. Everything about Ragweek (except our Nigel impersonator and the lack of a Marquee)
19. BellX1 in Dolans during rag week!!!! Followed by Aiden Kelly (the word Legend comes to mind)
20. Tom and Mick getting to hang on to their offices for another year. (Talk about gluttons.....for punishment that is) What (or should that be who?) they'll actually do in them is any ones guess!!!
21. Coming out of Voodoo Rooms alive every time! (Although I remember a few close calls, don't you Lou???)

What was NOT!!

1. All the evil Bastard Men who broke our Hearts during the Year.
2. All the heinous bitches who steal the evil bastard men from the women who "miss their chances". (Revenge will be sweet Sara!!)
3. Resorting to The Lodge again after giving up for about 6 weeks (I blame you Kate and Leah for making me like the Hurlers)
4. The "Malicious RESIDENTS" who objected to our marquee and bar extensions for Rag week!!
5. Mary I night in the Lodge (have they no self control) the "Virgin Mega Store"?? Yeah Right!!!!
6. Walking into the Library in week and finding people you know studying!!
7. EXAMS interrupting our social lives
8. The college spending nearly £30,000 on a statue that everyone takes the piss out of.
9. People going on Erasmus/Co-op and leaving us behind (Hi Rosie, Valerie and Yvonne!!!!)
10. Week 12 and still having no notes!!!!
11. Deadlines for essays and pro-

jects

12. Walking into the Pub and having a choice of seats at 8 o'clock on a Thursday (when the library is bursting at the seams with people filling their heads with folders full of notes)
13. People who take three-day loan books and bring them back a month later and then get away with clearing their fine with £2 (Oh wait.... that would be me!!)
14. People who pat you on the head in a condescending manner (It's a Dundalk thing isn't it?)

Apologies to anyone who got lost in all the little notes to my friends in the column this week, then again they're probably the only ones who read this anyway. I give them an exam on the content every fortnight to make sure they actually read it.

Hope everyone has a good summer and Best of Luck in the exams

Maz

Diary of A First Year - RECLUSIVE ARMIES AND ANARCHISM

Nick O' Brien-
1st Comp Sys

Today's big news is the violent strike by the Evil Rusty Man on the Main Canteen in U.L. Many were injured and three killed when the inanimate Monobrowed super-Villain Launched himself right through the window into a crowd of Business students, using his famed Rusty Man Cannon. This device will soon be available in every good country. Except Cuba. He then made his getaway utilising the sacred powers of ... the "Van" a mystical device controlled by the mystical evil Overlord... the "Creator." Doctor Bollocko rushed to the scene just in time to lift some of those really sharp pieces of broken glass that everybody is scared to lift and he also killed a spider. A really Hairy spider. This is the latest violent attack in a string said to be funded by the Real SCOCAHA, a Breakaway group from the now peaceful SCOCAHA, Spontaneous Creation of Cartoon Action Heroes Army. They are claiming to have two more Rusty Man Cannons, and are threatening to use them unless their demands for a unified Toon Town under their own government are met. Multi-Millionaire Tycoon Roger Rabbit is said to be funding their activities but so far no proof of this has been found. The next step, said a spokesman from the SCOCAHA, was the usage of the fabled weapon of mass Destruction, the donkey foetus launcher, which can only mean more deaths, more killings and more large shards of glass for Dr. Bollocko to pick up. As a University quakes in fear and is grinded to a shuddering halt by Terrorism, its citizens ask "Can Doctor Bollocko save us?"

Copulation Sub Machine Gunz, too, have been threatened by a monobrowed enemy band, some bunch of morons called the "Sex Pistols" or something... I mean come on, Sex Pistols, Copulation Sub Machine Gunz, that is just name Copying. In the light of this threat to our record sales, and your music, we have decided to give away one free Donkey Foetus launcher with every CSMG C.D. you buy.

Aches and pains are still shooting through my body as we speak, from a trip I had to the local gym, to train for my Superhero sidekick exam coming up soon.

Lee decided to spot me with the weights, but he and Doctor Bollocko played a cruel practical joke, and tried to make me lift too much, so when I couldn't bench press Elm Park, and after a ruptured spleen, I beat Lee to death, with his own shoes. Incidentally, Dr. Bollocko was going to return Elm Park, but he dropped it at the Burger King Drive thru, so if anybody has seen Elm Park or wants it returned talk to him, not me.

Summer is coming up, and as students it is our goal to get sh**y jobs for sh**y pay. With this spirit in mind, I needed to find something original, something where I could utilise my entrepreneurial skills, and then it struck me, what does U.L. not have? What does it need desperately? That's right, an underground Porn business. Let's face it, it has to be legal, because Nestle don't make them. This is a chance for me to work my own hours and be my own boss, and not have to sell steak knives, or Nescafe. Of course will be very reasonably priced, and lest you are worried about your vision, I assure you that due to popular demand, I will not be in any of these porn movies, made locally, as Doctor Bollocko has kindly agreed to take part. If anybody else wants to be in Bollocko Porn, please write in with a picture. If you are a small business looking to advertise in any of these productions, call in and we will see who we can do for you.

The U.L. Referenda are over, and it tells us a lot about the sorry state of politicks in U.L. at the moment. I can understand that nobody cared if we joined U.S.I. or not, but that more people care about a stupid symbolic ban of Nescafe than a legitimate Union related vote is a joke. How more foolish can we make ourselves look to the world? I refuse to believe that the average student is a Three-Nippled breast-milk drinking left wing environmental segregationist with hippy hair and boring policies... That's Mary I. (nyaah nyaah we won on Challenging Times, Nyaah Nyaah)

At least we had an Anti-Capitalist march to watch yesterday, but let's face it, by four o' clock, I think the realisation was that it was only a bunch of Drunk/stoned students looking to punch some police, and maybe a handful of people with real Beliefs. We would have had a march here too, but those in Power at U.L. were busy trying to plant small incendiary

devices in the Food machines and trying to get a Nestle flag on the moon. In the spirit of the week though, I came across a copy of the "Anarchist's Cookbook" on the internet. I can see why they were so bitter, their Lasagne recipe is far too dry. What strikes me as strange is that they were all trying to reclaim the streets... the streets that wouldn't be there without Capitalism... In the light of the way they managed to turn a march into a game, lets chart the top 5 things heard on the streets of London on May day.

1. "Does my Anarchist haircut really go with my Communist jacket?"
2. "Are you sure it's 4 this march is at?" "That's what the website said..."
3. "Jail the bankers! Oh shit, I need more fags, where's the ATM lads?"
4. "Down with the pigs" "Shh, don't say pigs! It'll piss off the animal rights guys, and their hair is longer than ours."
5. "All this rain is ruining my dreadlocks. What kind of an anarchist am I supposed to be now? First My Manic Street Preachers Tee-shirt is too dirty to wear, and now, my hair is clean too..."

We haven't taken much from the past year in college though have we? Perhaps you have inhaled knowledge without realising it. For example those Vulgarly Workshops have proved tremendously useful, particularly the lecture about the dinnerparty usage of Baha men Anthems and who could forget "2000 ways to not get off with a girl." And we have all figured out how to steal lunch from the Alternative Bread Company van. A little knowledge is a dangerous thing...

Well, U.L. has been nice to us this year, it has given you a Punk folk Reggae Jungle Rock perspective, it has unmasked Doctor Bollocko for you. It has seen Guitar Rock replace Corporate pop in the charts, and it has made Fred Durst a sex symbol.... there's hope for us all now.

Just thank your God for a good year, be it Allah, Buddha, Money, and when it comes to the exams, DRINK BLEACH! Good luck till next semester and, as always, Keep on folking in the free world.

Education - The Murder Machine

Gerard.R.Gill
4th Year Public Adm.

We often hear talk of Ireland's 'educated' workforce. However indications are that no such things exist. For while it is true that Ireland has a 'well-trained' workforce, we shouldn't confuse trained and educated. The Irish education system, does not permit the emergence of educated graduates, nor do we as future graduates truly allow ourselves to be educated. To allow one to be truly educated, one must allow oneself to be open to all ideas, even those one is not agreement with. The Irish Education system, (as expressed in the Leaving Cert programme) with its emphasis on points and not personal development, does not facilitate the Athenian exchange of ideas.

The CAO Points system, destroys any chance of true education. Schools turn away from the idea of education and instead are forced to concentrate on grinding out results. The Leaving Cert. tests only one area of intelligence, which is an ability to remember and regurgitate facts.

There is no examination of one's ability to analyse or comprehend information. One is as like-

ly to achieve an 'A' in English, if they learn off and recycle Patrick Murray's poetry and drama notes for the examination, as they are for actually analysing a poem, play or novel or for actually thinking and working out the meaning of the dramatic composition by themselves. Some teachers even provide readymade discursive and narrative essays for students to learn off. Many students have achieved high grades in Honours English and they can't even compose a coherent letter or articulate themselves lucidly now. The emergence of full second-level cycle grind-schools is another regressive step for education. Children now enter these schools and are primed for the Points race, from their first day of secondary school. Only subjects that the students will take for examination are studied. Subjects like PE, Civics, Theology and Philosophy are not included as part of the curriculum. Many other schools are also becoming more and more points orientated, to the detriment of education and students. The accumulation of CAO points at the end of the second-level cycle, becomes the only objective for schools, parents and schools. The character-

building importance of extra-curricular activities is overlooked, as teachers fret that they take away from study time. Thus, as a result we have students who achieve high points in the Leaving Cert, but do not leave school fully educated or well rounded in all aspects of social interaction.

I was fortunate that I attended a school, which had a strong Platonic or Athenian educational influence, due to the Jesuitical ethos. There was a strong emphasis on extra-curricular activities (including sports and social awareness programmes), as well as a wide range of subjects studied. Most importantly in Religious Knowledge (which was more an exploration of ideas and philosophies, than a study of Catholic Doctrine) we were allowed freedom to think. We could challenge ideas and values. We could express opinions, that were contrary to the beliefs of our teacher and not be reprimanded. We told Jesuits, that they were wrong on certain Theological and Social issues, and they would then explain in a respectful and reasoned manner, where they believed our arguments were flawed. Every student was considered an individual free to express their beliefs, be they liberal, conservative or agnostic. I heard many students wonder why we 'wasted' time learning about philosophy and sociology in Leaving Cert year, or 'wasted' time on social placements in disadvantaged areas, like South Hill or Portadown, or why the school put so much emphasis on rugby and other sports. I believe it is only when, you examine the wasted opportunities provided by the Irish educational system, that the importance of such extra-curricular activities becomes clear. The high points needed for some courses, means that the idea of education in Ireland has become distorted. You can achieve 600 points in the Leaving and have an honours degree in Engineering or Business Studies and still not be 'educated'.

Unfortunately the

problem doesn't only exist at second level with the rat race, and memory marathon that is the Leaving Cert. Third Level institutions are also responsible for foisting an uneducated work force

upon society. A very real fear exists that if you contradict some lecturers' pet philosophy or opinion in an essay question, you will be punished, not because your point isn't valid but because a particular lecturer doesn't agree with you. This seems to be the case with some lecturers in some Universities in this country. The system of marking examinations on a curve is also fundamentally unfair and one can be penalised because a lecturer has to keep a grade quota. This leads to a cut throat atmosphere around College at exam time. In almost every class, there is some miscreant who hides reprinted articles and essential books coming up to Exam time.

We can't blame the system for all the faults then there is the problem, that students are unreceptive to challenging and debating different ideas. Freedom of thought, does not even find expression among Irish students. There are new 'sacred cows'-ideologies and belief systems- emerging in Irish student society. Should you dare to have the audacity to challenge their underlying beliefs, you leave yourself open to vicious verbal vitriol. There are the sacred cows of republicanism and liberalism, for example. Should you mention what you believe to be fallacious republican beliefs one runs the risk of being called an 'unionist f*** pig'. For example, I believe that the Hunger strikes commemorations smack of hypocrisy. As Kevin Myers points out, a large number of prison officers were murdered. One wage clerk (who was not in contact with the prisoners) was shot dead by the IRA at his sister's wedding, before the strikes



began. These murdered prison officers aren't mentioned, when Bobby Sand's sacrifice is mentioned by republicans, yet I was criticised for not mentioning the victims of British state violence in my earlier writings. The death of Bobby Sands, was a tragic waste of life. It was particularly tragic as it was unnecessary. As an elected member of parliament, he had an opportunity to fight peacefully against the perceived injustice of British rule, while respecting his life and the lives of others. Instead his death led to many more deaths.

Revolutionaries prefer martyrs than live heroes. If I point out this fact does that make me an Unionist or West Brit. Or what about the paradox that Sinn Fein operate in, their members claim that the support Sinn Fein have in certain parts of the North, is evidence that the nationalist people in the North support the IRA, yet they claim on the other hand that the IRA does not contest elections, that Sinn Fein and the IRA are separate organisations. If I question how can Sinn Fein support to give the IRA democratic legitimacy and still claim that the IRA and Sinn Fein are not linked, I am dubbed an Unionist. I have also being called a fascist, an arch conservative and a right wing reactionary, for views I expressed on the anti-globalisation protests. I believe that capitalism and free trade is the best system for increasing world wealth. A comparison of per capita wealth in Hong Kong (under British rule) and Shanghai in the period 1945 to 1998, will tend to support that view. I also believe that those protesters against capitalism who

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daubed a Hammer and Sickle on the cenotaph in London, last May Day and who caused 30 million pounds worth of damage this year, were not striking a blow a freedom. However because certain people disagree with me on those points, that makes me a fascist. I believe reason for such comments, is that people aren't secure in their belief system. As I explained before Fascism has nothing to do with capitalism. Many neo-nazis and neo-fascists believe that world governments are been controlled by a group of bankers and an economic elite, which is similar to the views of many anti-globalisation protestors. I am not an Unionist or a fascist. I respect the right of Sinn Fein and other societies to express their particular opinions, I do not have to agree with those ideas, to recognise their right to

express them. Whatever happened to the Helenistic exchange of ideas or Newman's idea of a University, where disparate and diverse views are challenged, but respected. For truly, we are not attending a University, if people aren't encouraged to express differing opinions, raise issues and challenge the status quo.

For those reasons listed above, I think, it would be a positive step if a society took the brave step of inviting the controversial and downright despicable historian David Irving to UL (or a similarly repugnant character from the far left). Irving believes that the Holocaust never happened. His views are disgusting, but in a pluralist society we must allow freedom of speech, even from those we despise. He was invited to

speak at UCC before, but the UCC Socialist party held a protest and prevented him from speaking. The UCC Socialist party's actions were wrong as they denied freedom of speech and denied the students who gathered to listen to Irving a chance to challenge him on his views, by banning somebody like that from speaking it makes him more dangerous. The UCC Socialist party made a decision that UCC students were not mature enough to listen to Irving and make up their own minds. The party acted as the thought police for UCC students.

Behaviour that denies people the right to form their own opinions or express those opinions is fascist in nature. It doesn't matter who Irving was, it shouldn't make a difference if it was some one who believed that no one died in

Stalin's gulags, but we should not be afraid to listen to new opinions and then challenge those beliefs if necessary. We do not have to like an opinion to accept the right of the person to hold it. As Voltaire said "I do not agree with your ideas, but I will die for your right to express them". That is a thought on how we could live our lives. An invitation to Irving, would prove we are not afraid of his beliefs, that we are secure enough in our own beliefs, not to feel uncomfortable by his beliefs. If we can encourage more and more political dialogue (and both Fergal and Michelle have attempted to facilitate this, this year) and discussion, we can attempt to prevent the idea of education from being distorted even further.

Krank's Korner - Sexual Politics

Darren Gilligan

When it comes to sexual politics I have to say I get mighty confused. One particular incident in the last while has me really depressed. I don't really even know how I feel about it; as per usual there so much fighting between how I should feel and what I am denying I feel, that the truth has been obliterated in the shelling. Here's what happened.

I was out one night at a nightclub in town. The girl I shifted the week before and still liked (we'll call her Siobhan) was doing a fantastic job of completely ignoring me and I, in turn, was doing a fantastic job of being a spineless coward afraid to talk to her. Next thing I know a girl (we'll call her Diana) pinches me arse and starts coming onto me- now this was a goddam rarity so I decided to go with the flow and see what happens. Even at this point things were complicated cos Diana was off her face drunk and I still wanted to be with someone else. Me hormones got the better of me and I decided there was no point holding out for the affections of Siobhan, and eventually Diana sobered up to coherency. Things seemed to be going fine and we were chatting away: yada-yada-yada. So we're coming to the end of the night and I made my move to shift her- she wasn't interested and cited something about her ex-boyfriend as her reason. I remember at the couch I opposite I saw Siobhan chatting closely with some guy and I smiled sadly at how ridiculous I am. I felt betrayed by Diana to be honest-used or something. But it's all part of the game so I decided to count my losses and bail out. Now I had heard rumours that there was a party afterwards and that Siobhan would be there- my plan was to dump Diana ASAP and get to the

party. Unfortunately Diana had lost her friend and needed to find her to get a taxi home. We looked around the nightclub- no sign; we waited 20 mins outside the nightclub- no sign. So Diana said she'd go home without her and asked me to walk her to the taxi rank. Grand. So we get there and I order the taxi and after a few mins it pulls up. Next thing Diana realised she'd no money. At this point I got pissed off. I told her that I certainly didn't have any money. The taxi was waiting and I felt like a right prick telling them we couldn't afford it. She then asked me to walk her home. I grimaced as I asked her where she lived. Castletroy. I gave an audible groan. I knew I couldn't let her go home on her own but it was miles away and I wanted to go to the party in town. I asked her to the party but she wanted to go home. Fine! I'd walk her home but I wasn't going to be civil. I accused her of being fully aware she hadn't enough money for the cab and was using me to try and pay for it; I think that upset her. I was just being a bastard.

After a while I decided to grow up: it wasn't her fault the way things had panned out. I apologised and made a genuine effort to be genial. She seemed to cheer a little- maybe. When we got to Diana's place the friend was sleeping in Diana's bed. I mumbled something about blankets so I could stay on the couch but Diana said her friend would sleep on the couch. Hmmm, what did this mean? I was going to sleep in the same bed as her so that meant sex was on the cards? Surely shifting? If not she'd have told me to sleep on the couch right? So we got into bed and she changed into her silky pjs. Fully clothed. Okay. So then she starts talking about how jealous her ex-boyfriend is. Great. If she wanted a shift she'd give me a sign. No

signs. Although I was randy I wasn't going to pressure her into doing anything she didn't want to do. Still I felt guilty- did she or didn't she? Here I was, lying beside her with a hard on wondering if I'd done the right thing or if I was just a loser.

In the morning we woke up and started chatting again. I had my arms around her but she didn't seem to respond to my affections. She always had her back to me. A few times I took my arms out from under her and waited to see if she'd turn around and curl up next to me. She didn't. Then we held hands. It was nice but odd. If only she'd turn her lips to mine. Nothing more happened and after a while I decided to go. She kissed me and thanked me for walking her home. I smiled, said not to worry about it, and went home feeling confused, swirling the night's events in my head and finally settling my mind on Siobhan.

In many ways the story is typical of a complete lack of communication and understanding between men and women. Was she was using me for a kind've huggy feely scenario while not taking responsibility for the sexuality of the situation? Was she being naïve or manipulative? Am I just entirely missing in the point or just interpreting it in terms of my own sexual hang-ups?

I told the lads what happened and they were disgusted at me. Their attitude was that there was something wrong with me cos I didn't ride her when she was gagging for it. They couldn't believe I didn't even shift her. Even my friend's girlfriend thought I shoulda shifted her. I felt really shit. You tell yourself that you're not affected by peer pressure and can't be pigeon holed- but here I was feeling gutted cos I had lost standing with the tribe. One of the girls told me that once she negotiated with her ex for 40 minutes one night about

sex. He eventually accepted her refusal. She says it happens a lot: a guy pressuring a girl to have sex- sometimes the girl agrees, sometimes she doesn't. I thought about the time when the paper published the answers to a survey about rape. I think it said that 1/3 of blokes and _ of the girls surveyed thought that forcing someone to have sex with you isn't rape. I started to freak out a little. I saw a film once about modern sexual relations. It ended in a court case with the bloke being accused of rape. Each told their story with different interpretations of events. The night in question ended up with the guy the girl knew sleeping on the girl's couch, then saying how cold he was and asking to sleep beside her in the bed; she said: "Okay, but don't try anything." So he gets in, talks to her for a few minutes and then pins her down and forces her to have sex with him. The film really bothered me at the time and still does. It really gave me the impression that this kind've thing happens a lot. Ironically, I spose it made me realise that real life ain't like tv: the world ain't in black and white it's in varying shades of grey. Okay, so I'm going to extremes and taking shit too seriously. The lads just thought I was too cowardly and awkward to even try and get anywhere. She did tell me "No" in the night club but maybe I shoulda cleared shit up in her gaff. So, does no mean no? Not always. Life is complicated. Feelings change during the course of a night. How trusting should a girl be with a guy? How much pressure should a guy apply before giving in? I often feel that girls don't take enough goddam responsibility for their flirting. Guys are too blind-randy to figure out, or give a shit about her feelings. I hope I can learn to communicate better, make up my fucking mind about my own feelings and relax a little when it comes to sex.

Hitch-Hikers Guide to the World-Wide-Web

Nothing new to report, the virtual war still wages on, hackers versus the establishment, renegade mp3 downloaders versus the ITD/University of Limerick firewall, and anyone with a PC versus Microsoft and copyright law in general by downloading pirated copies of MS Office suite. Steering clear of such confusion was not easy, but I've come out the other side, bearing aloft my offering to you the student population of UL. But do the fruits of my bounty pale in the light of reality? That's for you to decide! Basically this article is a round-up of the year, featuring some sites that don't really fit into any other category, or have been left out of former articles but still deserve some acclaim in their own right. It's also to give you some new ideas on where else you could go via an impassive click of the mouse; since the PC tends to drain people of any independent thought/creativity (which explains the lack of literary style of this article), here's some ideas on areas of interest you may not have considered, along with a few suggestions on where to start to get a flavour of what I'm on about!

I was going to recommend [rollingcamera.com](http://www.rollingcamera.com) for being pure class, but the law has beaten me to the punch and the site's been driven underground. Instead, I found an interactive cartoon on some hard drive in the Vax lab, and tracked it back to

<http://www.bitmagic.com/download/index.html?minimagic> For pure entertainment value, this site has it all! It's got all sorts of categories, from commercials to movies, all animated of course, but my favourite section in the archives is the BitClick section, where YOU get to decide what happens in each cartoon! The absolute best of these are the "Don't Do That" clips, be prepared to subject others to plenty of horrible habits! Also highly recommended are the "Expect the Unexpected" and the "Office" clips, where you can get revenge on all of those bosses who refused to give you a decent wage-perfect for Co-op students heading off this summer! And be sure to click the exit button instead of the X button, there's usually a funny ending too!

The site also has a spoof song section, but there's not much there. The movie section is much more promising, with a spoof of the Matrix to make anyone cringe, as well as some less conventional short films, I refer you to "Pain or Pleasure" and the epic tale of a valiant knight out on a quest on the "Path to Glory"

Hollywood stock exchange is an innovative idea, allowing you to buy and sell non-existent shares in famous Hollywood celebrities, directors and films. The music industry is also featured on the site, so you can finally have your very own part of Britney or Westlife, like you've always dreamed! Forget Forbes, marketguide or edgar, without a doubt you should get your info from www.hsx.com This is one of the few internet business websites that WON'T go bust, because it doesn't exist! They even offer you free shares in any movie star, or

singer free as an introductory bonus!

Actually, the site does allow you to assess how other people react to new releases, sort of like a survey critic of new films and actors, if it's good prices go up and vice versa. You don't even need to know anything about economics (as if anyone in UL would anyway!) basically, buy low, sell high! If it's a good film, buy/hold, if not sell and cut your losses. If you're an Eircom shareholder, you'll be familiar with the second part!

Oh, and by the way, because of the nature of the game, as a by-product, you'll find that their movie-news is one of the most up-to-date available on any website! (in order to prevent insider trading!)

If you think you can match the intellectual acumen and alertness for detail of a fat Belgian known as Hercule Poirot, or whether you're just another Clouseau, check out www.mysterynet.com Strangely enough, online mysteries do train you to think laterally, a very useful skill to most students, but especially to law students, who need to be able to see every possible way of weaselling out of a legal trap! (and it might give you some ideas on the perfect murder too, but I'm not liable for that!) Solutions are of course available, they relate to past mysteries, but every week, there is a competition with a proper mystery for you to try to solve and enter. You give your suspect, along with an explanation of what clues you're basing your suppositions and allegations on. It can get very challenging at times, and if you get nothing else out of it, it'll show you how to make more convincing arguments on why some other guy started the drunken brawl up in the Lodge, and why he should be turfed out instead of you! But then again, I doubt that you'll be in much of a state to do anything, never mind stitching together a cogent argument. However if you go to any Debating Union meetings, you might get to thinking that alcohol HELPS your oratorical and polemic faculties-but that's strictly off the record!

I have no intention whatsoever in suggesting the ultimate joke site, that would be an exercise in futility, (and therefore should have been a separate article in its own right) so instead, here's my favourite, and judging by some of the e-mails featured in An Focal last year, a number of you are already regulars! www.Humoroftheday.com has daily jokes, cartoons and funny pictures, including the "Eat more chicken" one; if you haven't got it already in e-mail, check it out here!

The site's main attraction, however HAS to be the sheer volume of humour contained in loads upon loads of definitive lists on everything from "22 things not to say to a guard" to "10 reasons" Politics to work, sex to drink, and of course the student element, all can be found here.

However, my attention in recent visits has been drawn to the "loose affiliates" section, where you'll find everything from a driving test

application form in L.A to a..... There's even a mathematics exam inspired by the rough parts of L.A (some questions also apply to parts of West Limerick), perfect for the Contingency Leaving Certificate if the nASTI teachers go ahead with more strikes!

As for sites to visit this summer, www.tombraidermovie.com is the site for anyone interested in the upcoming film based on the PlayStation game. The site not only has some great videoclips and previews for the film, but an excellent screensaver. No longer will you have to deal with that bland "inactive for fifteen minutes" garbage, install this baby and you're set! Nobody will come anywhere near the PC, thinking that it's still in use compiling a videogame!

Or you could download stills from the film to use as wallpapers for your desktop. As attractive as the green ITD screen is, somehow I prefer the Tomb Raider logo as a backdrop to my Desktop icons. Simply select the appropriate size, (the middle one should do for most computer monitors to avoid resizing), save the picture as a bitmap image in the Winnt folder, and when you right click on the desktop screen, under properties you'll find your new selection of wallpapers.

PS; the music for the promo is the same as the theme tune for Third Watch "Keep Hope Alive" by the Crystal Method, an essential track for any home-made dance compilation on CD. It appears on more movie trailers than you think!

Or if you'd like to get away from Irishness for the summer, instead of going on J-1 and leading yourself back into Irish culture, you could go on holiday and try something different! www.learningholidays.com is exactly the directory site you need, as well as providing links to holiday sites catering to both the needs of the package tour to the extreme sky-diver, covering all continents, it also offers information and details on what you should take, how to prepare, and of course picking the best holiday to suit you! My only other suggestion in this field is www.diveadventures.com/ as it not only covers some of the most beautiful stretches of water for scuba-diving but also gives comprehensive travel tips for each destination.

Finally, I'll leave you with a quick mention of www.odd-duck.com which offers an alternative illustration of life's lessons. I refer you to the genius of Aesop's generally misunderstood brother Aernold, whose fables provide unlimited guidance and wisdom to the budding survivor of society's minor cataclysms. As for those of you who just want a good laugh, just don't bother trying to understand the storyline, and maybe, just maybe, in a place such as a university, you might actually learn something useful! I'm off to do just that, learn something, apparently exams are coming up soon!

Welcome to the World of Wired FM 96.8 + 106.8 FM



Good Luck in exams from Wired FM!!!

We know everyone's swotting for exams or at least thinking about or even wondering why it's so hard to get a seat in the library at half eight in the morning so we'd really like to thank everyone who turned up to our table quiz last Thursday week in the Downstairs Bar of the Globe.

Report by Deirdre Flynn Who was there falling over every chair in sight and making sure the bar was well stocked with every drink!! Of course the LIT boys turned out in droves and strutted their stuff with their 9 tables against the 2 from UL (heh lads there is something outside UL-it's called the city), and the 7 Mary I tables. The

night though was a great success despite the invasion by the LIT CROWD!! Prizes, sponsored by RTV, Empire music, Funworld, Urtan TV to name a few. Quizmasters bitches were named best table name - mind you I thought our Table Name "I like c@&k" (which many people had problems saying!!) Despite all the LIT entries Mary I came out with the Top prizes - no it was not a fix!!!!!!!!!!!!!! The atmosphere was continued downstairs to the banging choons that came from the DJ box of John Kelly. Many a girl and fella practiced their Saturday night fever moves and tried their best to get auditions for the Lap Dancing Club that will shortly be finding its home Downstairs at the globe!!!

You should have been there lads! This ends Deirdre's Transmission. Over and out- enjoy the socks.

Aside from Dees rantings well done to Killian O Neachtain and his crew who won walkmans....

Training Weekend In Kilkee

Anyone interested in an all-expense paid trip to Kilkee-well we couldn't swing the alcohol but everything else is paid for-call up to the studio and leave your name and number or talk to Steve the man in Mary I on 061 315773-he'll sort u out. You must be involved in either the radio Society or Wired and be willing to train up the young wans next year. It starts on the 9 of June -from Friday evening till Sunday night. There will be volunteers from all over Ireland so you'll get to meet other like minded people-you can swap drinking techniques and scoring strategies to your hearts content!

Co-op Places in Wired Fm!

Wired Fm will be offering co-op positions beginning from September next until May. As a co-op student you will be fully trained in all aspects of radio

Broadcasting(and more if your being trained by one of the Kilkee posse!!) You will be given loads of responsibility-organising schedules, fundraising(always a vital skill for any student!),troubleshooting(!) and much more. Contact either Nessa or Steven in Mary I on 061 315773 or call up to the UL studios for more info. Alright?

Summer Scheme Places As Well!!!

Not only are Wired Fm offering Co-op places but Summer scheme positions as well. There's 10 places available and anyone interested pick up a form at the SU desk and call up to the studio to put your name down. Flexible hours, interesting work, cool tunes, nine other people to share the load-it's a darn sight better than weeding footballs fields or planting endless row upon row upon row of flowers!!!!

So don't forget to tune into Wired FM on 96.8 and 106.8 to preserve some semblance of sanity during study to or just to chillax and we'll talk to you all next issue and good luck in the exams...

20th Anniversary of Bobby Sands' Hunger Strike

During the summer of 1981, the vexed question of Irish affairs dominated every British Government cabinet meeting. The British Government's Irish policy was discussed every single day in Downing Street during the aforementioned period, that hadn't happened since the signing of the Treaty in 1921. According to the Sunday Times not only were there one hundred thousand people but also there were seven hundred journalists and photographers at the funeral of Bobby Sands, making it the most reported event to have occurred in Ireland since the foundation of the state. Last weekend marked the twenty anniversary of the death of Bobby Sands M.P.

Bobby Sands' Hunger Strike and death were the culmination of five years of protest conducted by Irish Republican prisoners against the British Government's attempt to tag them as common criminals. On March 1st 1976 running contrary to a British Army intelligence report, the British Government abolished political status for Irish Republican prisoners. In reality what this meant was that prior to March 1st 1976, IRA volunteers were viewed as political prisoners by the authorities after that date they were labelled as thugs involved in a criminal conspiracy. IRA volunteers found highly objectionable the notion that they were involved in the

struggle for their own material gain, spurred on by selfish motives. Like their ancestral forbears Terence Mac Sweeney and Thomas Ashe, Republican prisoners resisted criminalisation tooth and nail. Irish Republican prisoners began their protest by refusing to wear the prison uniform viewing it as

"I shall wear no Prison uniform nor meekly serve my time So Britain might call Ireland's fight Eight hundred years of crime"

After five years of protest which included an abortive Hunger Strike, Bobby Sands leader of the IRA Prisoners announced that he was going to fast until death unless he was accorded political prisoners status. The Hunger Strike was opposed by the external leadership of the IRA believing it to be a massive drain on finite resources and fearful that the prisons could become the soft underbelly of the Republican struggle. During the course of his Hunger Strike Bobby Sands was elected as a Member of Parliament for Fermanagh and South Tyrone with 30,492 votes. It was amongst the ten highest first preference votes in the 651 seat chamber. Margaret

Thatcher had not even 15,000 votes in her constituency. On foot of Sands' election the British government attempted to unseat him, but after vociferous protests from the international community they refrained and instead barred any IRA prisoner from contesting a future election.

Sands died after sixty-six days without food on May 5th 1981, the speaker of the British House of Commons announced his death and in doing so deliberately failed to extend condolences to the family, a grace traditionally offered on the death of a colleague. International interest in Ireland came back with a vengeance. Newsflashes interrupted Radio and Television programmes in Canada and the USA to announce Sands' passing. The New Jersey State Legislature passed a resolution "honouring his courage and commitment". 110,000 Dockers along the Atlantic coast in the U.S refused to handle British goods on the day of his funeral. The former U.S attorney general Ramsay Clark said "Sands as an Irish guerrilla had pursued a fight for human dignity". In India the Hindustan Times said, "Margaret Thatcher has allowed a member of parliament, a colleague in fact, to die of starvation. Never had such an incident occurred in a



civilised country". In Paris L'Humanites front-page headline screamed

The Hunger Strike went on until October 3rd 1981, by which time ten men had died, every single one of them was under thirty years of age. Within three days of the termination of the Hunger Strike the British Government announced concessions, which de jure amounted to political status and if implemented seven months earlier would have settled the whole issue. The British Government gave no official recognition of political status to the prisoners, but then the 30,492 who had voted for Sands delivered all the recognition that was so desired.

Politics on a Global Scale:

Response to "The Futility of Student Politics" by Gerard Gill (Wk12)

Mags Liddy

Where to begin? In your many articles you have raised so many issues and levelled so many accusations, that I don't know where to start refuting them. But here goes:

California power cuts has nothing to do with Kyoto and climate change treaties. Its because the electricity grid was privatised. The failure of privatised industries to cater and provide the needs of the people is a usual and common occurrence in developing nations, Bolivia for example has massive difficulties when the water supply was nationalised following World Bank advice. Finally it was revoked. And it looks like California is going to have to revoke the electricity privatisation. Reaganomics is finally being killed in its birthplace!

Political correctness is not about victim culture. It is about respect for difference and advocating equality. Its about liability and accountability. Its about naming and challenging. Black South African people have more than a right to jobs in their society, its

only necessary to redress past injustices. A white South African has better access to education and access to the labour force based on years of privilege because of their skin colour. In a meritocratic society, the white person is of course going to get the job. Positive discrimination is necessary to counteract this. When the day comes that all people regardless of skin colour or ethnicity can be treated equally in a truly meritocratic society, then positive discrimination can be abolished. But that day isn't here and its' looking pretty distant from where I stand. When Travellers are sitting in our Dail, then we can consider ending quotas and positive inclusion programmes.

As for Irish reactions to refugees- you ask how Irish people would get on in similar circumstances abroad? Have you ever heard the story of Irish people and their fleeing from their homeland? I certainly know the story. We were treated like rubbish, discriminated against, excluded and called dirty. But did this make us aware and open to others? Not at all. Once

we gained some bit of power, we turn around and treat other minorities lower down the scale as badly as we were treated. Power corrupts.

As to Zimbabwe and Mugabe, peaceful land reform protests were ignored. When people are angry and ignored, violence can often be their only recourse. Same in India. I can't help but admire the Karnataka State Farmers and their anti-GM protests. Not only do they object to GM crops, but they destroyed the Cargill seed distribution company completely by hand. Throwing a brick at a McDonalds franchise or burning a field of biotech crops pales in significance.

And the World Bank and IMF are not democratically accountable. They are not accountable to their main clients, the developing nations. That's why there are protests. That's why activists were on the streets in Seattle and Prague. And why we will be on the streets in Bonn and Genoa this summer. Passion are what it is all about and sometimes it breeds violence from the frustration of being ignored and excluded. But it

is passion and violence informed by conscience, not greed for power.

UL Enviro Soc are a small part in a much larger global movement that is about bringing people back into politics. Yes, its political. Damned right its political- its exactly what politics is all about. The common good. Be it environmental good, social good, or economic good. About making life better for someone. About babies in Africa. About trees in Brazil. About Traveller rights in Ireland. And yes, certainly its about interfering with sovereignty. Sovereignty is meaningless in our world today. Multi-national corporations operate above and beyond state controls. Nuclear pollution doesn't recognise arbitrary national borders. And the fight against nuclear weapons doesn't either.

That's the motivation of UL Enviro Soc. Its called justice, based on equality, motivated by conscience. That's our mandate! And in the interests of those who cannot fight and speak for themselves, it's the only one we need.

The Pope castigates Globalisation

Translated by N. Serrano from EL TIEMPO, Colombian National Newspaper, 27 April 2001 www.el.tiempo.com.co

'It should not become another version of colonialism' Vatican City (Efe-AP-AFP)

Last Friday, April 27th 01', Pope John Paul II launched a tough speech against globalisation and he stated that he was against it as it has become "a new version of colonialism" and he said that it "can no longer ignore a common ethical code".

Directing himself towards the Papal Academy of Social Sciences, meeting in the Vatican at their annual assembly, the Pontiff affirmed that the church will strive towards all of humanity being the the winners of this process and not one elite class be in control of science, technology, or communication. "The market imposes its way of thinking and acting and imprints its code of values on the behaviour of people. What's happening is that changes in technology and labour relations have occurred too quickly for cultures to react, but globalisation often risks destroying these carefully constructed structures, imposing the adoption of new ways of working, or life, or

community organisation", said the Pope before the Assembly after which he concluded "Globalisation should not be a new form of colonialism".

John Paul II advocated that ethics should not be dependent on financial or ideological interests or political party visions, and insisted that an all-dominating socio-economic or cultural system that imposes its values and criteria has to be avoided.

John Paul II believes that the market rapidly imposes, a new set of values.

In this respect, he pointed out that nowadays the market economy dominates the majority of the world and because of this, it must be controlled by the community so that the common good reaches all. "Social relations cannot be reduced to economic factors", indicated the Bishop of Rome. "We have to protect those who fall into new forms of exclusions or marginalisations", the Bishop of Rome pointed out.

John Paul II also expressed his concern for scientific investigation, advocating that the new research areas should respect human values. He added that ethical values cannot depend on technological innovations, engineering or efficiency, but it is the system which must adapt to the needs of mankind and not

humanity be the one to sacrifice itself for the salvation of the system.

The Pope's speech against globalisation has been reiterated in the last decade during which he has brought to attention to the effects of consumerism, and more recently globalisation.

'NO DEBE SER UNA VERSION DEL COLONIALISMO'
El Papa fustiga la Globalizacion

Ciudad del Vaticano (Efe-AP-AFP) El Papa Juan Pablo II lanzó ayer un duro discurso contra la globalización y se mostró contrario a ella si supone "una nueva versión del colonialismo" y dijo que ésta "no puede prescindir más de un código de ética común". Al dirigirse a los miembros de la Academia Pontifical de Ciencias Sociales, reunidos en el Vaticano en su asamblea anual, el sumo Pontífice afirmó que la Iglesia trabajará para que el vencedor de este proceso sea la humanidad entera y no una elite que controla la ciencia, la tecnología o la comunicación.

"El mercado impone su modo de pensar y actuar y estampa su escala de valores sobre el comportamiento (...) Lo que sucede es que los cambios en la tecnología y las relaciones laborales se pro-

ducen demasiado rápido para que las culturas reaccionen pero la globalización a menudo arriesga destruir estas estructuras cuidadosamente construidas, imponiendo la adopción de nuevos estilos de trabajo, de vida y de organización comunitaria", dijo el Papa ante la Asamblea después de lo cual concluyó. "La globalización no debe ser una nueva forma de colonización".

Juan Pablo II abogó también para que la ética no dependa de intereses financieros, ideológicos y visiones políticas partidistas e insistió en que hay que evitar que domine un sólo sistema socioeconómico o una cultura que imponga sus valores y criterios.

Juan Pablo II cree que el mercado impone, rápidamente, una nueva escala de valores

A este respecto precisó que actualmente la economía de mercado es la que domina en gran parte del mundo y que por ello tiene que ser controlada por la comunidad para que el bien común alcance a todos.

"No se pueden reducir las relaciones sociales a factores económicos. Hay que proteger a aquellos que caen en nuevas formas de exclusiones o marginaciones", señaló el Obispo de Roma.



Juan Pablo II también expresó su preocupación por la investigación científica, abogando para que las nuevas prácticas respeten los valores humanos.

Agregó que por ello los valores éticos no pueden depender de innovaciones tecnológicas, ingenierías o eficacia, sino que son los sistemas los que tienen que adaptarse a las necesidades del hombre y no el hombre el que se sacrifique por la salvación del sistema.

El discurso del Papa en contra de la mundialización ha sido reiterativo en la última década en la que ha llamado la atención sobre los efectos del consumismo y, más recientemente, de la globalización.

THE COST OF UNIVERSITY LIFE - IRELAND VRS THE US

SINEAD KELLEHER

Since 1996 fees have been abolished in Ireland which at the time were about £2,500 annually. But we still complain about the cost of going to university, which is about 5,000 if, you live away from home including rent, books and all those other bills that keep coming up. A bank of Ireland survey found that Irish students spend between £420-£725 a Month on college life. Most

of this is funded by loans, part-time jobs, our parents and some of us get a grant from the VEC or the county council, which is about £48 weekly.

But if we think we have something to complain then U.S. students definitely do. These students often end up in debt of \$80,000 after finishing college. Fees can vary from \$3,000 to the more prestigious colleges, which cost in the region of £33,000. These fees vary

from course to course and whether you study in state or out of state. Harvard's University fees range from \$25,000-\$33,000 while Princeton averages about \$25,000 as does Boston University. Both Berkeley university and Colorado state university are about \$12,000 though in Colorado this number can drop if you are studying in state to \$3,000.

Shane O'Brien who is studying in Idaho university and is now here on the

Study Aboard Initiative says that his university costs him about \$8,000 semester tuition Fees, another £500 on books and about \$2,000 on rent every year. By the time he actually finishes college he will owe \$65,000, about \$32,000 of that to his state of Alaska and the rest to a university loan. You can get a grant of about \$5,000 depending on your circumstances. He says that some universities charge \$60,000 tuition fees such

as Pacific University. If you decide however to go to college in state it is much cheaper ranging from about \$5,000-\$6,000 to study in their home state but many prefer to study elsewhere. They do offer a much wider range of degree courses and he feels that the level of services is higher. But if U.L. offered psychology he would study here.

Special end of year report on the workings of the Class Reps Council

John Mulcahy Chair of Council

It's been an interesting year for class reps. There have been changes left, right and centre, and hopefully this is only the beginning. I was very idealistic coming into the job as chair, and I've had no excuse to lose that idealism. In this article I will show some of what has been done this year, some of what is being done, and what I think needs to be done to further improve class reps. I'll finish by thanking/taking the piss out of a few people who deserve it.

What has been done!!

With the splitting of the CEO position into two jobs, class reps were put firmly under the wing of the Education Officer. When Tom O'Donovan came into the job he had little knowledge of class reps but he made them his own. It was this fresh blood that initiated the drastic changes.

Come September and after a rocky start, including a college wide power cut, Class Reps Council was split into sub-committees. While they were slow to start off, these committees are now proving invaluable. For example what would Kollege Week have been without the daytime events, thank the Entertainment Committee. However it was not all successful, the Finance Committee flopped, hopefully that can be sorted next year, but on the most part the Education, Welfare, Communications, Entertainment, and General Affairs Committees have been hugely successful.

What is being done!!

This year Class Reps will be, for the first time, receiving letters from the university thanking them for the work they have done. Both the President of UL Students' Union, Mick Phelan, and the President of the University of Limerick, Dr. Roger Downer will sign these let-

ters.

Another new committee has just been established, the Class Reps Chairs Committee. It is hoped that this committee will take over the day to day running of class reps, sorting recurring problems that seem to be brought to Council every week, promoting co-operation within the different committees, and acting as a watchdog for the SU Executive and class reps in general.

During the summer a few dedicated class reps are staying around to sort out the Class Reps Handbook and the Union Strategic Plan. It'll take a lot of work but I'm sure we'll get there in the end.

What I believe should be done!!

We must improve the training at our administration day. It is only through proper training that class reps can make better and more informed decisions. It is up to current class reps to come back in September and provide this training. There must be full representation at Council. Every class has been asked enough times to get a class rep. They do make a difference and when a major problem comes up you'll know why. There should be something in the region of 400 undergraduate and postgraduate reps. We must achieve this if we are to continue the progress that is being made.

Proper sponsorship must be established in order to equip the class rep room and to fund class reps initiatives. Once class reps have been fully developed it should be very easy to market them.

It must be an objective of the Union to put in place a Class Reps Development Officer. It can be seen from Paul Lee's huge influence on Clubs and Societies how invaluable this position would be. It is only with a similar position that class reps can fully develop.

Thank You!!

All the class reps who came along all year, especially those who sat on committees, we would have been nothing without you. You were an interesting bunch and I don't think I will be let forget you. Thanks for everything.

Tom O'Donovan, daddy himself, for being an inspiration to us all, blah, blah, blah. Don't want to give you a big head, but thanks for all the help.

The rest of Exec, especially our "Supreme Leader" Mick Phelan aka Mike aka Moby Mick, etc. I could be cruel but you have to stay in the job for another year. Thanks for spreading the stories, taking the piss at every possible opportunity, and all the support. Cheers. Everybody who helped in establishing the CRCC, especially Mags "Phelan I'll have you yet" Ryan, Breda "cha, cha, cha" Kiely, Shelly "I've 700 committees to sit on and no free time" Daly, Sarah "I'm not going in that gunge tank" Moloney, Daniel "mission impossible" Nagle, and Padraic "It's not my fault" Cleary.

Sarah Allen, our sole post grad rep, we'll miss you. Enjoy South America; don't let any animals or engineers (well done Flynn!!) get you. See you in the next life!!!

All the fourth year reps, especially Jen, Alona, Brendan, Joe and Sean. Any excuse to get out of doing that FYP. Good luck in whatever you do next year and keep in touch.

Marian Roche and Shane Dempsey, we needed a good laugh.

Tadhg for building the gunge tank, and taking Louise while Shane moved in on Maz.



Timmy Hennessy for giving us all hope from those extra-curricular activities he got up to with his lecturer. Well-done mate!

Fergal, for the crossword, ain't that right Ruth.

Louise and Catriona, I said I'd mention you.

The secretariat, how will we survive without Dave and his team.

Fergal again for this being the last issue of An Focal this year so no one can take the piss out of me in the next issue. (Editor: We don't need another paper to take the piss out you John "I love himself in this photo" Mulcahy)

Seriously though thanks to everyone who got involved, if I forgot to mention you you're lucky. You've been a brilliant bunch of people and I've enjoyed working with you all. Thanks for the opportunities you have given me and the memories I'll keep with me. You've made it a year that I for one will never forget. Good luck in the exams, enjoy the summer and hopefully I'll see you all in September.

Whose text is it anyway????

N. Lawton

Received one new message... hi wat r u up 2? fancy goin 4 a pint? ps tink u r luvly cant wait to c u l8tr☺.

Received one new message... did u not get my last msg? let me no wat u r doin wud luv 2 meet u 4 a drink

Create one new message who is this? nd why r u txtin me? do I no u? how do u have my number?

Received one new message its dave the guy from the pub we met last nite do u not rem?? stil tink ur luvly!

The situation I have just described is one that is probably highly familiar to anyone reading this article. Yes you've guessed correctly this is the text message (oh darn I gave my mobile number to some stranger last night possible stalker boy type thing.) syndrome.

Memo to self. Must never ever, ever again give away my mobile number!

Create one new message sorry don't know wat to say/write. last nite was fun but dats all it was. 1 nite kinda thing!

Events in recent weeks are compelling me to submit this article, documenting my own personal experience, and that of my friends, in relation to the goings-on with our mobile fones, (sorry phones!). Picture this scenario. You are out and about, as all socialites are! You have a had few too many vodies and red bull, perhaps even some aftershock the greatest thing about aftershock being the err after .. shock!!! The world is great, you love everyone; everyone loves you because you are lovely and so on. You meet a lovely boy take my

word for it, vodka emblazoned goggles do tend to transform all the not-so-lovely boys out there into the sex gods that they really are. Honest.

Anyhow getting back to the situation you find yourself in with this 'lovely boy'. He is lovely and gorgeous. He is perhaps the cutest boy you have ever seen! Life is gr8t! You kiss each other and all that kinda fun stuff. He proceeds to inform you that you are truly the most amazing individual, or even 'sex goddess' he has set eyes on. Oh and you have the most amazing eyes he has ever looked into etc. The night continues. You 'connect' on a mental, physical and emotional level. (Does this sound familiar to all those of you that watched Temptation Island I tell you the amount of 'connecting' they got up to on that programme I was traumatised by it all but that is story for another day).

Memo to self must stop getting off track and continue detailing my observations on the 'text message syndrome'. Right then after you have both come to the profound conclusion that you have both 'connected' (BLAH) sooner or later that most dreaded moment of moments will occur "I find you very attractive, would you like to give me your mobile number?"

And so begins the onslaught of the text message romance, otherwise known as the text message syndrome. I am of the firm belief that the advent of mobile phone technology had changed the nature and scope of relationships forever. Think about how many of you can relate to what I have just stated in this article. My guess, being the fairly good guesser that I am, is that a lot of you can. I'm not

saying that everyone will have encountered a situation similar to this, but probably quiet a few of you have. And even if you haven't experienced this, take my reliable word for it you will, sooner or later. The gods have predicted it and it is written in the stars. Another thing to you should consider.

Before you had a mobile phone, how many of us, in all honesty, would have even dared give out our home phone numbers, let alone even ask for someone's number..

Continuing with the text message/romance syndrome, or even the fear of such, there are a number of ways and means to ensure that you can exit quick smart out of this despicable situation. You could always give somebody else's number. I once gave my brothers number, only because it is the same as mine except for the last digit being 9 not 3. The only problem was of course that the said boy I gave this number to, proceeded to ring it as he stored it in his phone, only to discover that the phone I was holding in my hand, being my said phone, wasn't ringing. Funny that he thought, your phone isn't ringing, even though I just dialled your number. Embarrassing situation you betcha ya! All I could do was look dumfounded, say something about the dreadful network service in Castletroy, and think to myself Smart Bollocks.

Another nasty situation you could find yourself in, is when the said stalker boy/girl refuses to get the message sorry crap pun I know but when one does not reply

to a text this usually means one of only two things either he/she has no recollection of you or the night that you met, or the realisation suddenly dawns on him/her, that you are not the sex god/goddess he/she was led to believe. Infact a gift, you are the sad boy/girl that they never want to lay those beautiful eyes on again, let alone waste a valuable 10p on by replying to an even sadder text message.

The moral of the story. which of course is as relevant to all the girls out there as it is to all the boys is quiet simple. Quit giving away your mobile phone numbers, or simply state that in this pathetic and falsified semi-sound capitalist, semi-sonic american pie-ised society that we live in, that you refuse to reduced yourself to the standards of complacency, and that in actual fact, you do not own or ever want to ever possess a mobile phone. Of course if the phone number-asker-person is someone that you think is 'not lovely', and that the only connecting you would like to do with them is connecting their arse to a gyrating sewer, you could always add that "even if I had a mobile phone, I most certainly would not give you my number!" Nasty or what? Yeah but it works!

Cool, fine, done, wicked and pure loving it! The madness and the mayhem goes on, and suffice to say with my wonderful sense of the future, or even my belief in 'banal futurology', the syndrome of the text message romance is bound to continue, unless of course we turn in on ourselves and self implode! But I'm sure our mobiles will remain intact!

Summer Ball 2001

27th May

Venue: South Court Hotel

Tickets: £25

Tickets on Sale in the Canteen

Wednesday Wk 13

For Further Details e-mail: 9923071@student.ul.ie
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Gig goers	<i>tommy finneran.</i>

HEROS IN OUR MIDST.....

Siobhan O'Connell
Welfare Officer


As many of you know, last November the Outreach Society organised and co-ordinated the 10k Walk for the Children of Chernobyl. On the morning of the 16th November last, there was a great turnout of students, all wrapped up warm, and ready to walk for 10 kilometres as a mark of empathy and caring for the children of Chernobyl. During the weeks preceding this walk they had been out with their sponsorship cards, trying to raise as much

as possible for the cause. And I am so glad to say that their great efforts were not in vain. £3000 is the sum of money, which was raised from this day. And what a difference this money has made. If you don't believe me, the proof is below. Some of the money was used to buy some essential hospital supplies..X-Ray film, syringes, Intra-venous Giving Sets, needles, Assorted medicines and Bed Linen...all which was much need in the local hospital in Mikashevichi. We are told that our help "couldn't have come at a better time". The value of the money

over there is hard to grasp. As is explained in the letter below, if we had not come with help at that time, one part of the hospital was in danger of being closed down. There is also a school in the village which was in need of a few things which could really make a difference..simple things that we so easily take for granted in our lives here in Ireland...a TV set, some tape recorders, a storage press, paints for the floors and windows, and paper and pens. We have so much, and they so little. It's so easy to forget this as we go about our lives from day to day,

but its times like this that we get a very stark reminder. I'd hate to think we didn't even try to help. It's so much nicer to know that we did. Thank you to everyone who took the time. I am sure you already feel glad, but read these letters now, and you will feel even more so. Every-one who took part last November is, in my opinion, and most certainly to the villagers in Mikashevichi, a hero.

FROM THE VILLAGE OF MIKASHECICHI TO CASTLETROY..... HEART-FELT THANKS TO UL STUDENTS FROM ACROSS THE WORLD!



Friends of the Children of Chernobyl

reply to:

Cloughatacka,
Clarina,
Co. Limerick.
Phone: 061-353552.
20.04.01.

F.A.O. Ms. Siobhan O'Connell,
Students Union,
University of Limerick.

Dear Siobhan,

Both Brigid Maguire & I wish to thank you & all the students in U.L. who so kindly fundraised for Chernobyl. We visited the village of Mikashevichi in March, we have been hosting children from & bringing humanitarian aid to this village for the last number of years, however this was the first time that we brought a substantial amount of money out with us (thanks to you).

With some of this money (\$2,500) we purchased X-Ray film, Syringes, Intra - venous Giving Sets, Needles, Assorted Medicines & Bed Linen for the local hospital. Your help couldn't have come at a better time as the hospital was in a bad way for equipment, also the Psychiatric Workshop in Creevocean where we purchased the bed linen, was in danger of being closed down. But the order from Mikashevichi Hospital has enabled the workshop in Creevocean to remain open indefinitely, (the order was for approx.\$1,200. of bed linen)

School No.3. is the most deprived in the village, so we decided to make some purchases for them with the remainder of the money.

We ensured that the people in Mikashevichi & Creevocean knew the donation had been raised by the Students of the University of Limerick & on their behalf we want to thank you again most sincerely.
We are enclosing two letters of thanks for you, from the hospital & school No. 3

Thank you for caring for the people of Chernobyl.

Mary Power
Mary Power
Brigid Maguire.


Dear Irish friends,

On behalf with all teachers, parents, pupils of Mikashevichi school number three Luminats district Brest region and myself we would like to express our warm and most sincere gratitude to you for your great help to our school in buying the TV set, three tape-recorders, a ~~staircase~~, 40 packets of paper for writing, pens, 40 packets of paper for writing, pens.

It's very helpful for our school in such a difficult time. We are very grateful to you for your kindness, attention, care about our children. Many thanks for everything you do for your noble mission. We will never stop thanking you.

From the bottom of our hearts we wish you the best of health, lots of happiness and luck in all your affairs.

Yours sincerely,
Principal of school no 3
Denis Kislyuk



Министерство здравоохранения
Республики Беларусь
МНІАШЭВІЧСКАЯ
ГОРДСКАЯ БОЛЬНІЦА

Министерство образования
Республики Беларусь
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факс 249 20 200
E-mail: msh@ulb.by

Our Irish friends,
We are very grateful to you for your help, as we needed it greatly. We highly appreciate it. Thanks for your doing so much for us, thanks for your kindness, showing much attention to us, for your understanding our problems, listening to them,
We wish you health, happiness and luck.
With respect the main doctor and the staff of Mikashevichi hospital.

(4.03.2001.)

D. P. P. / Natalya Takhovitch
Natalya Takhovitch
Natalya Takhovitch

Special Feature - Clubs & Societies a year in Review



Paul Lee

Clubs & Socs Development Officer

Another year over and another very positive step forward in the development of the University of Limerick Clubs and Societies. One of the main problems for the Clubs and Societies is that they are often ignored and forgotten by the majority of students during their time in college. As a voluntary pastime it is often thankless, but to those who believe in Clubs and Societies and its development, they have left a very healthy environment in place for those new arrivals next semester who want more from their college experience than just the four walls of a lecture theatre. As such great credit must be extended to all committee's who have managed to take their club/society to a new level this year, especially those voted as the best by their own clubs and society peers this year (see BEST OF AWARDS).

The success I refer to above it is no figment of the imagination either or a cynical PR stunt it is a genuine fact which is most evident in the 3 year plan endorsed last year by the all Clubs and Societies. Of the items outlined below only points (2) and (8) have yet to be tackled.

1. Clubs & Societies Lotto - Semester 1, 2000. THIS WAS SUCCESSFULLY IMPLEMENTED IN SEMESTER TWO
2. Sponsorship Database DEFERRED
3. Lobby the University for Increased Funding EXTENSIVE REPRESENTATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE BY MICHAEL PHELAN THE SU PRESIDENT AND WE AWAIT NEWS ON HIS MOST RECENT APPLICATION FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS.
4. Purchase of 2 mini-buses AT PRESENT AS A RESULT OF TENTATIVE NEGOTIATIONS A DETAILED PRESENTATION RESIDES WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE COLLEGE AND WE AWAIT HIS RESPONSE
5. Storage Space THE OLD CLUBS AND SOCIETIES OFFICE WAS RELINQUISHED TO THE OUTDOOR PURSUITS CLUB AS THEY ENDEAVOUR TO EXPAND THE CLIMBING WALL. THE STORAGE SPACE ISSUE IS

MOST PRESSING FOR THE ROWING AND KAYAK CLUB AN UNDERTAKING BOTH CLUBS HAVE WORKED EXTENSIVELY ON AND MICK AND MYSELF AND THE AFOREMENTIONED HAVE A MEETING WITH THE BUILDINGS AND ESTATE MANAGER TO DISCUSS THIS FACILITATION IN THE NEXT FORTNIGHT. THE ISSUE OF CONTAINERS AT THE OUTSET LOOKS ASSURED UNTIL SUCH TIME AS A FULLY FUNCTIONAL BOATHOUSE IS ON CAMPUS.

6. Structural Framework for the Executive i.e. (Specific Roles & Responsibilities) THE DESIGNATED ROLES WERE ABANDONED IN FAVOUR OF A PROJECT BASED APPROACH AND THE RESULTS WERE A FANTASTIC ACHIEVEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE C&S EXECUTIVE. VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE FOR THE BETTERMENT OF CLUBS AND SOCIETIES STANDS IN EXCESS OF 50 HOURS FOR THE MAJORITY OF THE 10 PEOPLE WHO TOOK UP POSITIONS THIS YEAR.

7. Orientation Week "Village" SEE SECTION ON ORIENTATION WEEK VILLAGE

8. Clubs & Societies Network DEFERRED BUT THE GENERAL CONCEPT IS TO ESTABLISH LINKS WITH FORMER CLUBS AND SOCIETY MEMBERS INCORPORATED WITH THE CLUBS AND SOCIETIES BALL

9. Clubs & Societies web-page with web administrator THE ENTHUSIASTIC MICK PHELAN IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ULSU WEBSITE ON OFFER AT THE MOMENT IF YOU LOG ON TO www.ulsu.ul.ie AND CHECK OUT THE CLUBS AND SOCIETY SECTION THIS WILL MORE THAN ENDORSE THIS POINT TO THE READER

10. Campaign for the Re-Introduction of Wednesday afternoons for Sport/Activities - THE SCHEDULING AND REVIEW COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE COLLEGE TIMETABLE HAVE ENSURED THIS YEAR ALL CLASSES FROM 3.00PM WERE FREED UP THIS YEAR AND THIS WILL BE EXTENDED TO 2.00PM NEXT YEAR WITH THE EVENTUAL AIM TO REMOVE LAB'S AND TUTORIALS AS WELL - This campaign will be ongoing

11. Market Clubs & Societies Rooms to outside groups during the summer for a fee (which will go into clubs & Societies coffers) THIS DID HAPPEN LAST YEAR BUT WAS ONLY INITIATED MID-SUMMER AND SUCCESS WAS LIMITED BUT THIS YEAR AN IMPROVEMENT IN REVENUE FIGURES IS ANTICIPATED.

Administration Weekend

This weekend is designing to prepare and advise Clubs and Society administrators (approx'120people) on what is expected of them in the course of the year and provide useful hints and tips for a more productive term of office as a committee member for their particular Club or Society. This Administration weekend is a constitutional requirement for any Club or Society under the auspices of the "Union" to attend in order to qualify for a budget- (non-attendance means no part of the £120,000 budget figure). The other key function of this forum is to elect the Clubs & Societies Executive, which is comprised of no less than 8 democratically elected representatives. Workshops were set up to cover various topics such as sponsorship and event management amongst others conducive to the development of student activity.

Administration Weekend 2000/2001 - Schedule

- 9.00am Depart from Stables
- 9.45am Welcome & Brief presentation from Don Reddan Insurance
- 10.00am -10.30am Seminar 1 Event Mgmt (Mr. Keith Pigott)
- 10.35am - 11.05am Seminar 2 Marketing (Mr. Garvan Barry)
- 11.05am -11.25am Coffee Break
- 11.30am - 12.00pm Seminar 3 Clubs & Society Structure (Mr. David Fleming)
- 12.05pm - 12.35pm Seminar 4 Finance (Mr. Muiris O' Sullivan)
- 1.10pm - 2.00pm Dinner- 3 Course Meal
- 2.00pm - 3.00pm Business/Promotion (See below*)
- 3.00pm - 3.45pm An Focal & Outreach Initiatives

3.50pm - 4.30pm

Clubs Address - Neasa Fahy O'Donnell

3.50pm - 4.30pm

Societies Address - BICS

Administrator (Mr. Graham O' Sullivan D.I.T.) & SoUL Week

4.35pm - 5.15 pm (Approx.)

Coffee Break & Voting Hustings & Conclusion

7.30pm Depart for tour/promotion

of the Globe By Mr. Howard

Flannery (Proprietor)

9.00pm The Round House

(Acoustic Session)

11.30pm The Globe

*Business Promotion - (those relevant to clubs and societies)

Textile Print

Jamaica Inn

Connolly Sports

Ted O' Connor Dress Hire

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Limerick Sports Store

Mc Elligotts Coach Hire

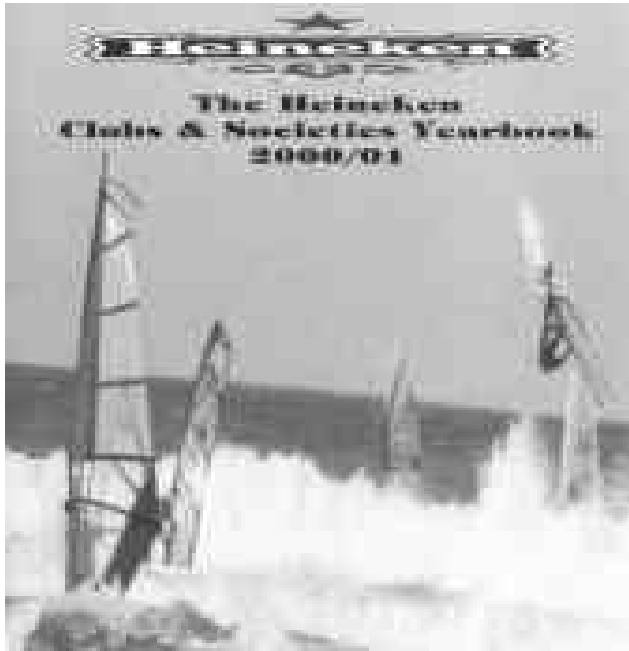
Mc Carthy- Banner Design

Mc Carthy- Banner Design

Memorial Wall

This is on display in the Clubs & Societies main office as a tribute to those deceased Clubs & Societies members past and present. The memorial wall was launched in a small ceremony of approximately 80 people, which included Clubs, & Societies representatives and members of the Sadleir, O'Brien, Driscoll and Cooney families last year. Mrs. Frances Sadleir re-dedicated the room to her son Mike and each of the families was presented with a copy of the then new Clubs & Societies yearbook which contained pictures and tributes of their loved ones. This year the clubs and societies organised another dedication for the memories of Ciaran Casey (Debating Union), Darnell Lordan (Celtic Supporters Club), and Jason Hackett (Windsurfing Club). All families were again invited to a simple ceremony for the unveiling with a blessing provided by PJ Sommers after whom the yearbook 2000/2001, complete with tributes was provided to the families. A cheese and wine reception followed for all 80 clubs and society members, classmates, friends and





family. My thanks to the students union, clubs and societies executive, clubs and society personnel, PJ Sommers, John Hickey of Himar memorials, Aidan for mounting the plaques at such short notice, Jim Ryan for the curtains and finally the Scholars for another excellent cheese and wine reception.

Yearbook

This was the second year of the new look yearbook and many will agree it is getting better all the time. These are available for collection from the clubs and societies office (limited supply), for those who require a memento for the year. The Yearbook will also be used in Orientation Week next semester as a promotional tool for the incoming freshers as well as forming part of my annual presentation to the study abroad classes that arrive in UL each year. My thanks to Mary Hayden and Josephine Page of the Study Abroad office for this opportunity and looking at the increased involvement of American Students within Clubs & Societies, it is proving very worthwhile. Special mention must go to Fergal Fennessy the Communications Officer for his superb work on this year's publication and also Davis Printers of Limerick. Of course none of this would be possible without our sponsors of the handbook and sincere thanks and appreciation from the clubs and societies of UL to;

AIB
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SU Shop
Lynch Hotels
Derek Mc Nulty
Round House
Stonecraft
Bus Eireann
Ryans Pharmacy
Stables
The Globe
Castletroy Lodge B&B

If you want to check this out log on to the following site
www.ulsu.ul.ie/yearbook

Clubs & Society Ball

The highlight of the year in my mind. 3 years ago the ball was nearly cancelled this year the ball attracted almost 350 people. This is due in no small part to the creativity and enthusiasm of both the new arts officer, Ms. Patricia Moriarty and of course Neasa Fahy-O'Donnell the Sports Administrator. We tried and succeeded (I might add) in giving the ball more prestige and offering the clubs and societies a quality night of entertainment.

The prestige arose in a new format to electing the "Best Club/Society categories" coupled with 10 new specially commissioned awards at a cost of over £2000 befitting the outstanding efforts of the successful nominees. This began a fortnight previous in the scholars function room, with shortlisted applicants making a presentation as to why they deserved the awards. All clubs and societies present voted by secret ballot at the end of each category with eventual winners only announced on the night of the clubs and societies ball.

The night in the function room involved Patricia providing her version of

Ted
o'

"Clubs and Societies Weakest link" and giving Ann Richardson a run for her money with those weakest link victims placed in a medieval style stockade and being cream pied. Party games followed with some abysmal Karaoke singers. The only disappointment was that many clubs and societies failed to show their support on the night (duly noted!! see you lot next year). On behalf of Neasa, Patricia and myself thanks to the SU for their financial support (again) and to super-Ed' (Ed Horgan that is of history soc fame) for building the stockade....oh and Paddy Buckley and his car because the Mountshannon gremlins (would-be mechanics) got at Patricia's car.

All of the above shenanigans culminated in a very successful ball in the Limerick Inn (thanks to Patricia Ryan and Una Kelleher and the courteous and accommodating staff on the night).

A poignant moment which saw all present give two standing ovations to our guests of honour, Deirdre and Colm Hackett, parents of Jason Hackett who died tragically while windsurfing in Killaloe with the UL Windsurfing Club. One ovation was for their presence on the night the other for a tribute paid by a doting mother to a loving son. This then led onto the award ceremony for which our guests of honour awarded Declan Burke from the Kayak Club and Sub Aqua Club the first ever Jason Hackett memorial award for his outstanding contribution to clubs and society life during his time in UL.

The entertainment as arranged by the legendary Keith Pigott set a fantastic evening alight, Marc Oberon master of light and

clubs and societies of UL. My thanks to the SU Graphics dept' for the printing of the tickets, Stan and Dermott for the slight overspend on the night that they have yet to sign a cheque for (only because I have not told them yet!!), Neasa and Patricia for their time, patience and expertise and finally Michael Kemmy of "Stonecraft" Limerick for the production of the awards.

The following brief summaries give a glimpse into the pedigree of the winners of the following categories of awards.

BEST CLUB – MENS SOCCER

Winners of the "Collingwood Plate" this year and were also unfortunate to lose out on no less than 3 other finals this year in the cruelest of fashions..penalties. Their future is well assured as the club continues to grow and nowhere is this more evident in their huge 5-a side/ 7-a side and 11- a side competitions all of which involve no less than 800 players in each tournament. "Soccer for Success" was another initiative in association with the Access Office, Sports Dept' and Limerick FC. This involves coaching children from disadvantaged areas of Limerick City. Developments are also afoot to enter the national U21 league. A true credit to the campus community.

BEST EVENT- HOCKEY INTERVARSITIES

We are constantly reminded especially at budget time that hockey is a minority sport but that myth was shattered last year when the men and women's hockey teams made an audacious bid to host the Irish Intervarsities which was successfully hosted for the first time on

UL soil last November. This involved 5 days of on-going competitions with no less than 9 college's represented and 17 teams. A massive feat logistically and financially, it cost approx. £16,000 to host with £10,000 secured in sponsorship from Goldman-Sachs. An excellent achievement in its own right, made more remarkable by virtue of the fact that the combined ladies and mens hockey budget for the year is marginally over £7000. This involved city wide accommodation, transport, referee's fees and a banquet in the South Court for 300 people but to name a few considerations.

BEST INDIVIDUAL- KEITH PIGOTT

One of the most charismatic members of clubs and societies and a most respected member, Keith was also a member of the Hockey organising committee. His experience as a former students union entertainments manager has enabled him to pass on his experience with event management and sponsorship to any club or society that ask for help. To Keith's credit the big man was the architect in the sponsorship of the marquee in freshers week of over £10,000 from Digiphone-On-line. This was a major contributory factor to the first ever Orientation Week Village for clubs and Societies to recruit new members.

NEW & IMPROVED – WATERPOLO

The new incoming and dynamic Welfare Officer, Ms. Tara Curly, leads the club. This is the second year in succession that the waterpolo club has retained this honour and with 2 plates at intervarsity level to their credit numerous medals and international



Special Feature - Clubs & Societies a year in Review

representation as a consequence the future is good for waterpolo on campus. Only 3 _ years in existence the respect gained in the waterpolo world is such that they can now seriously threaten the traditional waterpolo powers of trinity and UCD.

BEST NEW AND IMPROVED SOCIETY & BEST SOCIETY- ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIETY

Affectionately known as the "crusties" both of these awards fell to the campus environmentalists. The success of the environmental society was evident this year in the group that travelled to the Hague this year to form part of the global protest at the "World Climate Change Conference". Events also include two green fairs promoting all things organic, tribal drumming, workshops, a trip to Glenstal Abbey to the Irish Oak broadleaf forest and still to come is the river Shannon clean-up, but to mention a few of their activities.

BEST INDIVIDUAL- KEITH PIGOTT & MICHAEL HOURIGAN OF THE DEBATING UNION

We have already heard of the merits of Keith Pigott the Club man but many would argue that the Debating Union is his true spiritual home with Michael Hourigan as his right hand disciple. They have represented UL in the best traditions of the debating union in the "worlds" which took place in Glasgow this year. They were also present at the Oxford IV which is biggest outside of worlds whereby both made the final and were beaten but Keith did take first prize as the best individual speaker. They also made the Irish Times final. As a consequence of all these achievements both were invited to the prestigious "British Isles Individual Speakers Championships". Only 8 people are ever invited to this competition and UL were the only college with two representatives and both made it to the final stages.

BEST EVENT- INTERNATIONAL SOCIETIES FOODFAIR

This is without a doubt the single outstanding society event each year that all look forward to. This involves military style precision as

the stewardship of Sean Maher ensured that the foreign students on campus cooked recipes native to their country. The only difference being that that you expect anywhere between 600 and 1000 people for dinner. The hundreds of pounds of flour, vegetables, meat and accessories boggles the mind when you see meeting room 2 block booked as the ingredients are measured out for each of the 30 countries represented on the night. So elaborate id the event that Sean has based and submitted his Final Year Project on the event Management of the Foodfair.

The last two awards are more sombre but probably the most cherished and that is the, Jason Hackett award and the Mike Sadleir award for Club and Society excellence over their 4 years in college. This is awarded to a final year student whose commitment to Clubs & Society life and its development is widely acknowledged by all members of clubs and societies spectrum. Sombre in that these awards are dedicated to the memories of our former clubs and Society colleagues who have died suddenly whilst enjoying life to the full in UL. Cherished in that it is an important part of your life coming to an end, your time in the University of Limerick and these awards serve as reminders of that important phase.

JASON HACKETT AWARD

This year's recipient was Declan Burke from the Kayak Club and his most recent club involvement came this year with the Sub-Aqua club. Declan has had extensive involvement in co-ordinating all aspects of the both clubs but predominantly the Kayak club, most notably probably were the trips to Wales in the last two years. Declan also held the position for Clubs Officer on the Clubs and societies executive during his time in college. While on CO-OP in Italy stayed in regular contact with clubs and society goings-on, not to mention flew back for the St. Patrick's weekend last year and stopped off at the clubs and societies ball en route. "Bronco" Burke (a nickname that seems to be sticking) is indeed a character and



such is his love of watersports that it is forming his FYP "Predicting Surf Conditions". Declan has indeed set a great standard by which to judge other potential recipients of this award.

MIKE SADLEIR AWARD

The legendary master of minutes, filing, standing orders, precision and excellence in record keeping, David Fleming is this year recipient of the Mike Sadleir award. Dave has revolutionised the clubs and societies with his record keeping ability, a fact, which was not lost on the SU, and at Dave's behest a full time secretariat was established being paid casual labour. Dave is also one of the co-founders of the History Society and has been involved with that societies big projects such as the "Viking re-enactment" of 3 years ago, the "Reed Raft Project" of two years ago and the most recent would be editor of the "History Society Journal" which has had its second publication this year. This is a publication in association and endorsed by Dr. Roger Downer, President of the University of Limerick, College of Humanities, Dept' of Government and Society. David has also been a very active participant in all things Clubs and Society related. Like Declan he to has set a high mark in this award for future candidates.

Orientation Week

The last week in September saw a very ambitious pioneer effort to create a miniature "Clubs & Societies Village" under a marquee in the main courtyard outside the Students Union building. The marquee with a 500-person capacity was successfully secured in the form of sponsorship from Digiphone-On-Line via the enigmatic Mr. Pigott. Under this marquis we erected 60 custom built kiosks. These stalls were built from MDF material generously sponsored by Willamette Europe and their company in Clonmel. This was brokered by our former soci-

eties officer Muiris O' Sullivan and our sincere appreciation to Muiris and to Mr. John Guerin of Willamette Europe on behalf of all the clubs and societies of the University of Limerick.

The inspiration behind this idea was generated by last years Clubs & Societies Executive as a means of increasing the participation in extra curricular activities of students whilst engaged in their studies on campus. Each year to date in the first week of term there are designated Clubs Days and Societies Days whereby the aforementioned list of Clubs and Societies set up make shift "stalls" to showcase and promote their individual activities to try and attract new membership. In reality it has to date only managed to achieve annually a combined active membership of less than 3000 out of a possible 8000 full time students thereby falling far short of its expectations. This it was felt was attributable to the following factors,

1. Located in a student canteen that is no longer the main thoroughfare it once was resulting in limited interaction with the main student body
2. The "stalls" were a clutter of tables and chairs with poor access
3. Visually crude and unappealing presentation
4. Generally disorganised and haphazard

The new village idea counteracted this with

1. Central attractive location to maximise interaction with the main student body
2. Re-usable custom built stalls that will be painted to give the visual impression of an "Olde Village" concept
3. Professional consultation in maximising impact of layout
4. Highly organised event and centrally co-ordinated by the Students Union
5. High media Profile

This whole concept was interspersed with regular day and



night-time entertainment coordinated by the Students Unions' part-time entertainments Manager. It is with all of the above reasoning this new approach extolled the virtues of being involved in a Club or Society during a student's time on the University of Limerick campus. The general feeling of all-participating clubs and societies was that it was a great success with substantial increases in membership registered during orientation week. Thanks must also be extended to Tim Mc Auliffe, Deirdre O' Connor, Aidan, Mick Phelan, Paddy Buckley, Eamonn Flynn and anybody else who painted, cut, drilled, marked out or screwed the stalls together. Thanks to the Accounts dept' and graphics dept' again especially Rebecca on this venture.

Finally as can be seen from this report the success of clubs and societies is very much a team effort but if there is a single bunch of people that massive praise must be heaped on for the significant progress this year it is the students clubs and societies executive members. These are a group of people who despite being involved in their own clubs and societies also try to

contribute unselfishly to the promotion of all clubs and societies on campus and are in effect the think-tank of clubs and societies. With a meeting every Friday and one every fortnight at Clubs and Society Council excluding the time administering reports and meetings with various other groups, conservatively I would estimate that this group of executive members on average have given at least 50 hours of service almost. This is a staggering achievement and unfortunately lost on a lot of people who take it for granted that somebody else will always pick up the pieces when necessary. These are the people responsible for pushing the council, students union and myself along in the promotion of clubs and societies. A sincere and personal thanks to all concerned, if the phrase a well-rounded person has any meaning any employer would be fortunate to hire any of these members. The outgoing Clubs and Societies Executive are:

Stephen Driver - Clubs Officer
Mark Breen - Clubs Executive
Paul Ruddy - Clubs Executive
Bríd Walsh - Clubs Executive

Ella Daly - Societies Officer
Michelle Daly - Societies Executive
Chresten Anderson - Societies Executive
Niall Mc Glade - Societies Executive

Others to contribute in Semester One in their role as executive members include:

Rob Hickey - Clubs Executive
Fiona Earls - Societies Executive
Eimear Griffin - Societies Executive

All contributions greatly appreciated from the above

The other members include
Stan Blennerhassett - SU General Manager
Patricia Moriarty - Arts Officer
Neasa Fahy-O' Donnell - Sports Administrator
Michael Phelan - SU President

On a final note I would like to wish all Clubs and Societies the best of luck in the upcoming exams and enjoy the summer. To those who finally have to deal with the real world the best of luck in whatever career your qualifications offer you.



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4th YEAR HPSS HAS LEFT THE BUILDING

4TH Year HPSS

We think therefore we are or We drink therefore we're drunk.

Before we start, lets get one thing straight. This will be the most self-interested, self-centred, and boastful article you are ever likely to read. After reading this you will be in awe of the greatness that is 4th Year HPSS.

Throughout our four years here we have heard scurrilous remarks about our existence. These remarks have been varied and usually amount to our workload, capabilities and future prospects. Now hear the truth!

The greatness of 4th

Year HPSS has to be acknowledged. We can juggle ten hours a week of lectures, several committee and other meetings, two hours of study and fifty hours of drinking and still find time for lots of sex and lively discussions. Bow down people and adore us - post modern, extensten-tilist, and omnipotent gods of modernity. How many of you supposed engineers and mathematicians can accomplish these ends while still finishing with a substantial QCA? Who among those banal public admin students can claim to have a future beyond the mindless drudgery of 9-5 office hell? For we are the educators., liberators and holders to the keys of

your lives. Although we are not constrained by any foreign language, we speak the language of love and the unspoken codes of lust. To paraphrase Foucault: We had the madness to study reason, now we had the reason to study madness. This we have done by mixing with you technocrats. The soul is not to be found in computers, nor does it lie in the box of Shrodinger's cat (Yeah read your physics), but in the knowledge of what we have accumulated. We have studied life through our questioning of your existence. We have studied power by creating it ourselves from nothing. [For more information refer to the achievements of the

two great societies, the Students' Union - Education Officer x 2, CCO, possible President, many class reps, a secretariat - the increased profit margins of the Stables and the Scholars, the raised the intellectual standard of conversation and the establishment of a quasi-oligarchy on the Aran Islands in the name of 4th Year HPSS]. We have educated many who passed through our beds, sofas and sinks. For us in our pursuit of knowledge, beer, sex, liberty, freedom for all, and the essence of Luke Ashworth, we have coloured the blank canvas that was the University of Limerick. We have, dare we say, generally made

things better.

Look for us in ten or twenty years time and we shall be yours Descartes, Marx, Kant, Plato, Caesar, Pinky and the Brain.

As a final thought: Relationships fall apart and people stop loving. When people start sleeping with cows, sheep, or other cloven animals, you have got to accept some pay-back. Thank you for the music, look after yourself and each other.

To our lecturers who have been Dr. Frankenstein to our Igor, thank you.

Sapere aude
Dare to Know

FOCAIL EALAINÉ REVIEW

Patricia Moriarty

UL Arts Officer

The last two semesters have seen a variety of artistic events taking place on campus. The Irish World Music Centre continued its bi weekly lunchtime concerts ranging from the fiddle playing of Caitriona MacDonald to the virtuoso guitar playing of Pierre Bensusan. The Irish Chamber Orchestra had two very successful tours, with concerts in the University Concert Hall – one of the year's highlights was their performance of *Musica Celestis* by Aaron Kernis. They also premiered a piece by Micheal O'Suilleabhán – HUP - with percussion provided by an Irish dancer! The Concert Hall also presented a broad variety of concerts – Emmylou Harris and Paul Weller were just some of the big names who appeared. The ever popular ALONE IT STANDS gave three sell out performances and more recently the Limerick Music Society presented a masterful production of the musical CHESS. The Visual Arts Office mounted a series of quality exhibitions including shows by Paddy Lennon and Catherine Lynch and a somewhat controversial piece of sculpture by Antony Gormley was placed in the Plaza courtyard providing a great talking point over coffee.

The Societies of the University of Limerick continued to develop a broad range of activities to enhance life on campus. SoUL Week, under the coordination of the ever enthusiastic Societies Officer Ella Daly, saw a broad range of events take place. One can only wonder if an Inter Soc grudge match of TWISTER will be on the cards for next year! One of the highlights was the International Food Fair under the capable direction of

Sean Maher who was so busy that he didn't get to eat!!!!!! Hopefully the award for Best Society Event may have made up for it. The History Society constructed a guillotine for the Scholars Courtyard but fortunately for some of its intended victims technical difficulties meant a reprieve. Council voted to fix SoUL in the annual calendar to give Societies the opportunity to plan events in advance. For those of you who will be around for the summer a SoUL Week Committee is being formed to plan a cam-



paign for a bigger and better programme – if you're interested in joining contact Patricia at ext 2130.

Throughout the year Societies continued to give us the opportunity to wind down from studies - DebU continued its attempt to take over the Western World and Radio Soc valiantly flew the flag of UL in Wired FM. The History Society gave us a glimpse of how we used to live and work while reprising their wonderful medieval banquet, first seen at the Food Fair. Enviro Soc took time out to organise another Green Fair, Dram Soc presented the controversial OLEANNA by David Mamet and Photo Soc continued to archive our leisure time pursuits! The UL Choir appeared several times on campus and also continued their worthy fundraising work for Romania. Ten Forward and Film Soc amalgamated and we look forward to great things next year from one of this year's strong contenders for Best New and Improved Society. These are just a few of the numerous events that took place all over the campus notwithstanding those events which had to be cancelled due to the Foot and Mouth precautions. Being in a Society is not only a great way to meet like minded souls but also to get involved in organising activities that make our lives just that little bit less hum-drum. The hard work of the committees, often unseen by those of us who enjoy the fruit of their labours, must be commended and the Societies of UL can only continue to develop. We all owe a big debt to Big Daddyio (you know who he is) who played a blinder

in his organising of this year's Clubs and Socs Ball.

The warm and heartfelt reception of the Hacketts, who presented the Jason Hackett Award commemorating their son while celebrating the achievements of its recipient Bronco, testifies to the deep sense of community among UL students. An equally warm reception was given to the recipient of the Mike Sadler Award – David Fleming has made a great contribution to the workings of Clubs and Societies in his work on the Union Secretariat and the detail and precision of his minuting of meetings is legendary!!!!!!!!!!!!

The Arts Office coordinated a series of events beginning with the highly successful collaboration with Daghdha Dance Company on the Living Room Project. Essentially three musicians and three dancers visited a student's home and performed in their kitchen – there was too much lovely food in the living room! Students and their neighbours enjoyed the considerable talents of Roger Black, Yoshiko Chuma and her dancers, and Sandra Joyce, and the evening evoked memories of an earlier time when people visited each others homes and entertained one another with ceol and craic.

The visiting performer Peter Badejo gave an open workshop where students, staff and members of the broader community sang, danced and told stories. Combining different cultural experiences and expressions they proved that our universal language is our expression of ourselves through what we grandly

call art.

The National Theatre in association with the Peacock presented the new play EDEN by Eoin McCarthy. This often hilarious and sometimes bleak production played to capacity houses for three nights. The performances by Don Wycherley and Catherine Walsh were outstanding and the final sell out night saw them receive a well deserved, sustained standing ovation. Thanks are due to the members of Dram Soc who gave great house support and a special thanks goes to John and Niall. Next year we hope to broaden the range of theatrical events in the Jonathan Swift.

DatsIncredible visited UL shortly after Easter. This customised Datsun acts almost like a mixing desk and the Welfare Officer and Arts Officer thoroughly enjoyed their impromptu session! The car returns in October for a possible stand off with some of our resident DJs.

Thanks are also due to all those people who contributed to Focail Ealaine and Focal Eile and to Fergal and Michelle who have given up most of their free time to produce the paper.

Finally a special acknowledgement must be made to the Clubs and Socs Exec who worked long and hard to implement the three year plan. Always good humoured and never begrudging they have proved that if you enjoy something you will work 25 hours a day to achieve it.

Music is the Answer - Reviews & Interviews



In the summertime when the weather is hot.....

Outdoor Summer Gigs 2001

Tommy Finneran

Entertainment Correspondent

After spending your weary Winter months confined to dark clubs, smoky pubs and music nubs, its about time you leave your cosy confines, and celebrate the summer in style with the best ever selection of outdoor gigs planned for your entertainment. There's no excuse. Wet or windy, Dylan or dance, sleeping bags and over priced tee-shirts; there's something stirring about getting out there and sharing in a unifying appreciation with thousands of others. We've already had a superb weekend with the Heineken Green Energy in Dublin so hurry up, get yer tickets and check out what's ahead to reward all your studying and sacrificed nights out.

June Bank Holiday Weekend

Heineken do it again and for the second year take their Green Energy beyond the capital with Cork and Galway privileged to share Marquees. Ocean Colour Scene return to our Isle after a sell-out run earlier this year in the Olympia and like their Modish rekindling or loathe their less than inspiring innovation, you'll agree that live, among their massive Irish fan-base, OCS are at their best and ignite even the cynical spark. Muse and Ash team up and promise an irresistible musical temptation with the northern stormers delighted to prove their "Free all Angels" album is as indispensable as they say while Muse will be previewing their forthcoming album release "Origin of Sympathy" with similar gusto.

June 16th

Aslan continue touring Ireland forever and in the meantime will be only third after The Manic's and Buena Vista Social Club last weekend to test the Smithfield surface. Always a favourite, especially in

Dublin, Aslan live are always distinctive and the open air of Smithfield should be an exciting alternative to their regular gigs around our fair Isle.

June 23rd

Creamfields returns to PuncHESTOWN with Beck, Fatboy Slim, Chemical Brothers, Paul Oakenfold, Seb Fontaine, Tall Paul, Fergal Fennessy (actually no, well maybe!) and lots and tots more across six stages in Lush, Cream, Boutique, 2FM, Bugged Out and Metalheadz arenas. The huge event caters for the most novice of tastes across the ever-widening genre they call dance providing you can hack all that walking. That said, with the prospect of Homelands going ahead now looking slimmer than Geri Halliwell and the "Love 2001" in Antrim behind us, this might be your only chance of decent dance festival this year so go for it.

June 26th

Limp Biscuit in PuncHESTOWN. Of course I have to be impartial. Well, maybe you could treat those pestering little cousins for a day or perhaps if nobody buys tickets this shallow plastic excuse will go away forever...I know, wishful thinking. (Ditto June 16th, Destiny's Child in Dalymount Park)

July 15th

I was one of those spoilt few who was fortunate enough to witness Bob Dylan live last summer in the sensual confines of Vicar Street and since then, have not stopped "harping on" about it. With good reason. Dylan is a legend and to experience him live is something that will entertain your future kids for many a power cut.

Dylan plays Nowlan Park in Kilkenny "town" this summer and both seated and standing tickets are still available. Most of us have that purple CD at least with all his

greatest hits. Live however, Bob adds his own unique style and rhythm to a selection from decades of albums and in doing so he adds new life to many overplayed classics. Don't miss this one either.

July 18th/19th

David Gray returns to his adopted homeland, neck oscillations and all, to the delight of his most faithful of Irish fans. Apparently we discovered him so we're to blame. Still a long way from Nowlan Park. Mind you, that "Babylon" song was nice.

Okay, I'm being harsh. Smithfield, Dublin is once again the venue and it being Ireland, Gray should be performing at his best. If you missed him at Witness last year, this is probably your only chance to make it up to the girlfriend!

July 22nd

Smithfield delights us again hosting Van the man. Van Morrison has created some of our generation's finest music and so it's always a treat to observe the master in action. Bring a warm woolly jumper though, it can get extra cool when the Man walks on stage!

July 25th

Sting finishes the Smithfield summer. Definitely one for the fans, Sting returns to Ireland for the first time since his album release last year. His shows are reported to be energetic and extensive. Simple really, tea or coffee, white or black, Sting or not!

August bank Holiday Weekend

Witness 2001 was a grey area with the outbreak of foot and mouth but all looks well now so the country's finest music festival returns for the August Bank Holiday weekend. Already confirmed are the Stereophonics, Ash and Tindersticks with loads more

on their way. Last year witnessed (I know...doh!) the first time the best in Irish talent, ranging from the Frames to Aidan Kelly, could showcase their stuff to a massive home audience and it was amazing. Witness should be the highlight of the summer being the most comprehensive weekend music event of the year. Get your tent, your bottle opener and a change of socks and get ready.

August 25th (September 1st?)

If music was a drug then Slane 2001 would be an overdose. If you've got a ticket you're in for a treat of a lifetime. Accompanying one of the greatest on stage acts ever are Kelis, Coldplay and the Red Hot Chilli Peppers. Whilst Coldplay might lack the spirit and zeal of The Chilli's and U2 who combined promise to be mind blowing. The question for those without a ticket remains, why Bryan Adams and Mel C. last year and then all this for 2001. The answer: tough if you didn't get a ticket, keep your fingers crossed for that second gig, the outlook looks bright and promising.

That's just about covers what's happening so far this summer. Of course there's loads of fantastic weekend festivals around the country, which always offer some attractions so stay attentive. Before all the fun however it's those exams so best of luck. Hopefully I'll survive with some divine inspiration and get my real working boots on in Co-op. Sniff Sniff...Thanks finally to Fergal for hanging in there when reviews were late, we wish him the best in the future. Also thanks to Dolan's for their hospitality throughout the year and for providing us with a venue that's so special...blowing nose now in tears sniff sniff! Have a good Summer!

End of Term Entertainments

Week 13
Tuesday May 8th

Murphys DOT COMedy Club

presents:

Des Bishop (Don't feed the Gondolas, International Comedy Club)

Paddy Courtney, PJ Gallagher

Week 15
Friday May 25th

The Frames

Jean Monet Theatre

Tickets £5. Doors 7.30pm

Saturday May 26th

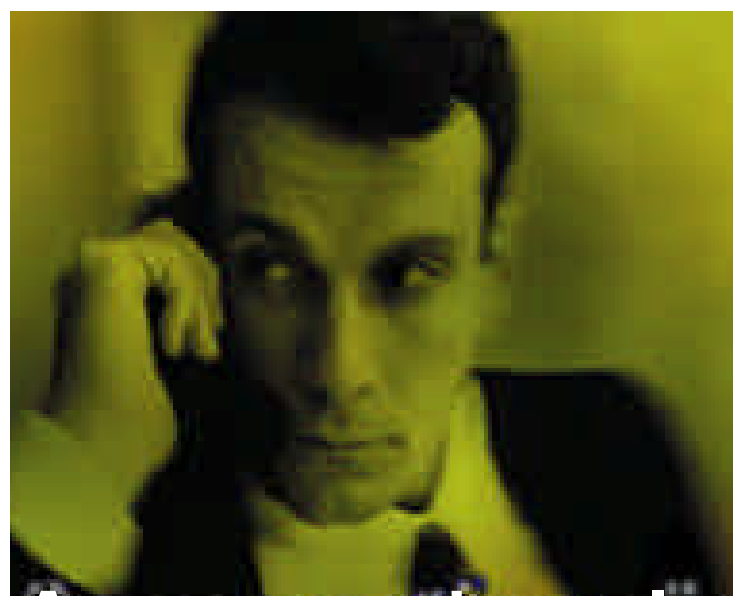
“The FK Slane Beach Party”**

**Zoo Tour (U2 Tribute)
and Beach Party Tunes**

at Limerick Race Course

Indoor Gig , Full Bar, Food on site

Tickets £6 (first 400)£7 thereafter
(price includes Bus to and from Venue)



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What Are You Doing For The End Of Term?

The Frames; Jean Monnet; Friday Week15; 7pm; £5
Fuck Slane Beach Party; Limerick Racecourse; Saturday Week 15; £6/7
Tickets on sale from Tuesday Week 13 at Students' Union Reception

The Frames; Jean Monnet; Friday Week15; 7pm; £5

Right. We all know what happened with Rag Week. We had it planned for ages, booked weeks in advance, and we were sitting back more organised than ever. Then a sheep took ill, and everyone lost the plot. It was cancelled about 7 times and put back on 8 times. On the Thursday before hand, we were ready to roll with the original plan. And then the choppers told us we couldn't put our tent up. One hectic weekend and a lot of phones bounced off walls later and we had the whole thing rearranged, with all the gigs in new venues. Unfortunatley, the only venue we could get for the Frames was the Gallery, which was great for Jeremy Healy, but not so good for UL's favourites. It was still a great gig, from what people have said to me, but the lads weren't happy with it. They felt they'd let people down, so they rang us up and asked us if we'd do another one with them, in a lecture theatre like we've done before. We said we'd love to and booked the Monnet.

So on the second Friday of the exams, they're going to play with us again. It's going to be an early gig, with doors at seven, and finished by eleven. So, you can go to the gig, and theirs still a whole lot of time to go out afterwards. There are rumours knocking around that Mundy might be supporting, and we haven't tied it up for definite yet, but they're not far from the truth.

Now, we've done them in this sort of room before; the Monnet, the Swift, the old student centre with 200 people jammed in and a bunch of candles. They're amazing gigs, totally different to how you've seen them in Rag Week or anywhere else really. Great music, great stories music, great stories and a lot of laughs. the other side of it is, that, in case you haven't noticed, the rest of the country seems to be copping on to the what UL copped on to years ago, with everyone wanting a piece of the Frames right now. So, it's looking like this might be one of your last chances to see them in a little room like this. This time next year who could be saying 'U who?'

One thing we do want to point out is that this is a straight up Frames gig, the only possible support being Mundy. So you go there, and you see the Frames all night. Smashen'!

So basically, five bucks for the best band in the country, Mundy (fingers crossed), comfy seats, a great atmosphere, and the perfect way to chill out after the stress of the last few weeks before you go on the tear proper for the weekend and get yourself a Pamela Anderson or a David Hasslehoff the next night at the Fuck slane beach party.

It almost seems worth breaking your ass for a few weeks, doesn't it.



Fuck Slane Beach Party; Limerick Racecourse; Saturday Week 15; £6/7



You know the way, at end of term, you arrange to go out with all your mates. but what happens is some of yis go to the Scholars, a few more go to the Stables, the odd few end up in the Hurlers, and a few more scattered in town. every where's jammed, you can't get a pint, etc. etc.

ULSU Ents have the found the answer in the shape of the mother of all rooms. Its a brand new venue in the Limerick Racecourse, which apparently, used to be a kip, but they just spent 40 million pounds doing it up which pays for more than a few chairs and some new carpets. What it does pay for is a huge function room that holds 2,000 people, which means none of this drama of losing your mates. What it also pays for is a real long bar, a fast food counter, a stage area and some chillout spaces, all within the one room. Long story short, it's the answer to a lot of problems for an end of term gig.

Next step. What do we put in there. Right. Well we thought of a few things, but pushed them all aside when we remembered that the biggest gig of the summer is the one that no-one has tickets for. So we thought, Fuck Slane. We booked the best U2 tribute band around, the 'cleverly' nick-named Zoo 2, and then decided to throw in the trimmings of a beach party on top of that to get yis in the mood for the months ahead.

So what you have is a baby Slane, plus a DJ, in the sand, with palm trees, beachballs, bikinis, bermudas, shades, sun tan oil, and all your mates. You've also got buses to and from the gig and a wicked view. Wait till yis see it.

And it only costs six bucks if you're one of the first 400 punters to get a ticket, and seven bucks after that. The plan is we'll have everyone out there for 9 o'clock-ish, and we'll be going till two and then dropping you to your door(also an ish). So you can't ask for more than that. Get your mates, get your sisters and bring 'em to the Limerick Racecourse on the Saturday night at the end of the exams. We guarantee a good night. And i hope to fuck it rains at the real thing.

Music is the Answer - Reviews & Interviews



Creamfields 2001 - The Preview

The countdown starts here...to the best dance festival of the year...Creamfields!

The excellent Creamfields Ireland event, will be returning for a second year on Saturday 23rd June, at its original site of Punchestown Racecourse, Dublin.

Last years sell out 25,000 capacity event became the Ireland's biggest dance festival of 2000. Following on from its celebrated success, this capacity has been increased to 35,000.

This year will bring together 5 of the UK's leading club brands, including...

* Cream

* Bugged Out
* The Boutique
* Lush
* Metalheadz
* Cream/MTV
* Outdoor Stage

A fusion of musical genres combined with spectacular live performances is once again guaranteed to make this a night to remember. The perfect Midsummer treat for the musical masses.

Headlining this years event will be:

* Beck
* Outkast

* Chemical Brothers (DJ Set)
* Fatboy Slim
* Paul Oakenfold
* Pete Tong
* Seb Fontaine
* Dave Clarke
* Goldie
* Erick Morillo
* Tall Paul
* Richie Hawtin
* Jon Carter
* Nick Warren
* Boy George
* Satoshi Tomiie
* Justin Robertson
* X Press 2
* Futureshock
* Storm

* Unkle
* Luke Slater
* Yousef
* Anthony Pappa
* Mr Spring
* John Power
* John Cecchini
* Col Hamilton

Tickets are £1R51 can be purchased from [Ticketmaster](#) and usual outlets and with the postponement of Homelands Ireland, this is your last chance to see a line-like this Ireland until 2002.

Special Interview with Tom Rowlands (Chemical Brother)

Where were you born?	Kingston	whole stage went off 5 times in our set not good!	ty certain that we will dig it, if we do get dodgy stuff we	favourite genre of music	I love both, but i find play-
Age?	29	What has been your most memorable gig? (live or dj'ing)	give them to oxfam	you listen to at home?	ing live more satisfying as we have created
Where do you live?	West London	Difficult to pin it down but live its probably playing "red rocks" natural	What would you like to achieve in the future?	I like all types, I don't just have home and work music	all the music and at our own gigs have created the
Obviously the scene has changed over the last 10 years, in what ways do you see the differences?	Sum up the decade in 4 words... No (that's 1)	Ampitheatre in Denver and djing its maybe the Glastonbury dance tent in 98!	recordings we have made	it all fits together	whole environment from the ambisonic sound to the visuals, but djing is cool as its so immediate - no need for rehearsals or tour buses or sound checks etc...
What was your highpoint in the last decade?	Just being able to make music and play music all the time-doing what you enjoy and seeing other people get into it.	What tune gets YOU dancing?	Do you drive? If so what car?	Who do you see as a rising star in the dj world at the moment? And why?	Your working on an Album at the moment, tell us about it?
Do you get recognised by strangers?	Yes	The Jazz by the Micronauts	Yeah-a BMW 330ci	James Holroyd (Bugged Out Resident) because he knows how to ache people and then knows how to bang them...if you know what i mean?!	When is the album due for release?
What has been your most disastrous gig?	Anywhere there has been powercuts-at a festival in spain the power to the	What do you do during the day?	Whats your favourite club & where?	The Chemicals have just started a new monthly residency in London, what is its concept?	Too early to tell really we are still just mucking about!
		Go to the studio and make music with Ed	Of course Cream, Fabric and for a flash one it has to be Pacha in Argentina!	It wont be a Residency probably just a one off. We just wanted to get back to a more intimate environ-	When its done... And we can't wait until it is....
		What do you do with records you get sent that you don't like?	Will you be touring America in the near future?	ment where we could experiment a bit and help us to make our new record	For further information about the Chemical Brothers log onto www.chemicalbrothers.net
		I don't seem to get sent them anymore,generally i just get sent stuff from people we know, who are pret-	Yes, probably after we finish our next album-weve been playing live out there since '94 when we used to play on the Florida rave scene	Do you prefer dj'ing or playing live?	
			What is your personal		

Music is the Answer - Reviews & Interviews



Dance Society Fundraising Night

On Friday 4th May the Dance Society had our final night out. Dance performances on the night included Belly Dance performed by Anu Lauhkanun and her students and Irish Dance performance with Lorraine Duggan. Well done to both who got the attending crowd into the party mood and their feet tapping !!!

We say a fond farewell to our Belly Dance teacher Anu and Jazz teacher Matt Gough and wish them all the best in the future.

The night was a huge success and a great night was had by all. This would not have been possible without our sponsors. All funds raised will go towards bringing in new professional dance teachers next year. (Salsa, Irish Figure and Set Dancing).

Best of luck to all our members in the exams and enjoy the summer! Thanks to our Committee members Caitriona,



Annmarie, Maria, Sharon and Doirean for all their work during the semester. Also a huge thank you to all those who sold Lotto Tickets for us.

See you all next year
Keep practicing
Dance Society

Sponsors on the Night:
Guinness
Limerick Phone Centre, Dublin Road, Castletroy, 061 332200

Offer: 20% Discount for Students and Staff of UL

Fine Wines, Dublin Road, Castletroy, Limerick
Castletroy Day.Today foodstore, Dublin Road, Limerick, 061 330798

Castletroy Pharmacy, University Court, Castletroy

The Hurlers
Power Cut Hair Salon, University Court, Castletroy, 061 335885
Grays Pharmacy, Castletroy Court, Castletroy

Sports 2000, Cruises Street, Limerick

Marathon Sports, Limerick
JeansWear, Thomas Street, Limerick

Easons, Limerick

Boots, Cruises Street

Leavys, William Street, Limerick
Kenneallys, 45 Wickham Street, Limerick, 061 416704

Spectra, William Street, Limerick
Xtra Vision, Thomas Street, Limerick

Tesco, Arthers Quay Shopping Centre, Limerick

Pagada Chinese Restaurant,

University Court, Castletroy
Lenas Sewing and Knit, William Street, Limerick

The Hair Shop, Castletroy Court, Castletroy

Castleblance Hair Studio, Castletroy, Limerick

Body Craft Health and Beauty Salon, 54 The Orchard, Castletroy, 061 338299

UNIVERSITY of LIMERICK

OLLSCOILLUIMNIGH

POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES IN THE COH

Applications are invited for masters and doctoral research degrees and the associated funding opportunities (where applicable) in the following subject areas for the academic year 2001/02:

Government and Society (European Studies; History; Human Geography; International Studies; Peace Studies; Politics; Public Administration; Sociology; Social Policy; Women's Studies)

Languages and Cultural Studies (Cultural Studies, English; French; Gaeilge; German; Linguistics; Spanish; Teaching English as a Foreign Language; Technical Communication)

Law (Commercial Law; Comparative Law; Criminal Justice; Criminal Law; European law; Public Law)

FUNDING:

The following funding opportunities (maintenance and fees) are available, commencing academic year 2001/02:

Postgraduate Research fellowships in: History, Human Geography, Politics, Sociology, Women's Studies (4)

Postgraduate Scholarship in Sociology and Social Policy (1)

Postgraduate Research Bursary in Public Administration (1)

Postgraduate Research Bursaries in Languages and Cultural Studies (2)

Registrar's Scholarship (1) for postgraduate research degrees in any of the subject areas listed above (confined to graduating students of University of Limerick)

Funding applications consisting of: (i) a completed postgraduate research degree application form, (ii) a 1000 research proposal, and (iii) a curriculum vitae must be received by the Assistant Dean Research, by **31 May 2001**

A postgraduate research application form and further particulars of both funding and research opportunities can be obtained from:

Assistant Dean, Research
College of Humanities
University of Limerick
Ireland

Phone Breda Tuohy on 061-202435. email Breda.Tuohy @ul.ie

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Centre for Criminal Justice

The Centre for Criminal Justice seeking to appoint a

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The **Research Officer** will have a primary degree and a postgraduate research degree in a criminal justice related area. The appointment will be made at a point on the salary scale £21,593 – 27,010 per annum.

The **Research Associate** will have a primary degree in law or a criminal justice related area. A postgraduate research degree will be an advantage. The appointment will be made at a point on the salary scale £15,784 - £21,628.

For further details, contact: Professor Dermot Walsh, Director, Centre for Criminal Justice, University of Limerick, Ireland. Phone (061) 202533/202344; Fax (061) 202417; email: Dermot.Walsh@UL.ie

Closing date for receipt of applications: 18 May 2001

Music is the Answer - Reviews & Interviews



Dance Society reviewing a very successful year

The year 2000 was an enormous success for the Dance Society as it grew from strength to strength. The Dance Society began with Salsa Classes with the Superb Harry Sealey. Initially there was one class a week, however there was such keen interest shown, we decided to have two classes. The turn out to these classes was amazing with up to 100 attending. With the turn of the Semester however, Harry was unable to return to us, a huge disappointment and loss. For all those Salsa fans: do not despair; we have found a replacement. Next year we will have Salsa Classes up and running with **Rico Sabo**. Something you all can look forward to.

Through out the year the Society had various other classes running. Oriental Belly Dance classes with Anu Laukkanen, a postgraduate student here in UL were also very popular. Classes had a good and steady attendance all year round. Anu has on various occasions given astonishing belly dance performances for members of the society. Her performance on Friday night was yet again a tribute to her as were her students who performed with her. We

wish her well in the future as she returns to Finland this summer.

In November of this year the dance Society struck it lucky to acquire the amazing and talented Jazz dance teacher Matthew Gough. Matt, who has experience in London's West End, Broadway and New York became involved in the Dance Society when he came to UL to take up study in Contemporary Dance. Matt offered two Jazz Dance classes a week, a beginners and an advanced. The beginners' class served as an introduction to dance technique while the advanced class was for those with experience and who wished to expand their performance and skills. Many thanks to Matt for his contribution to the Society. Other classes offered this year were Ballroom in semester one with Ralf Drachenberg, and Irish figure dancing in Semester two with Lorraine Duggan.

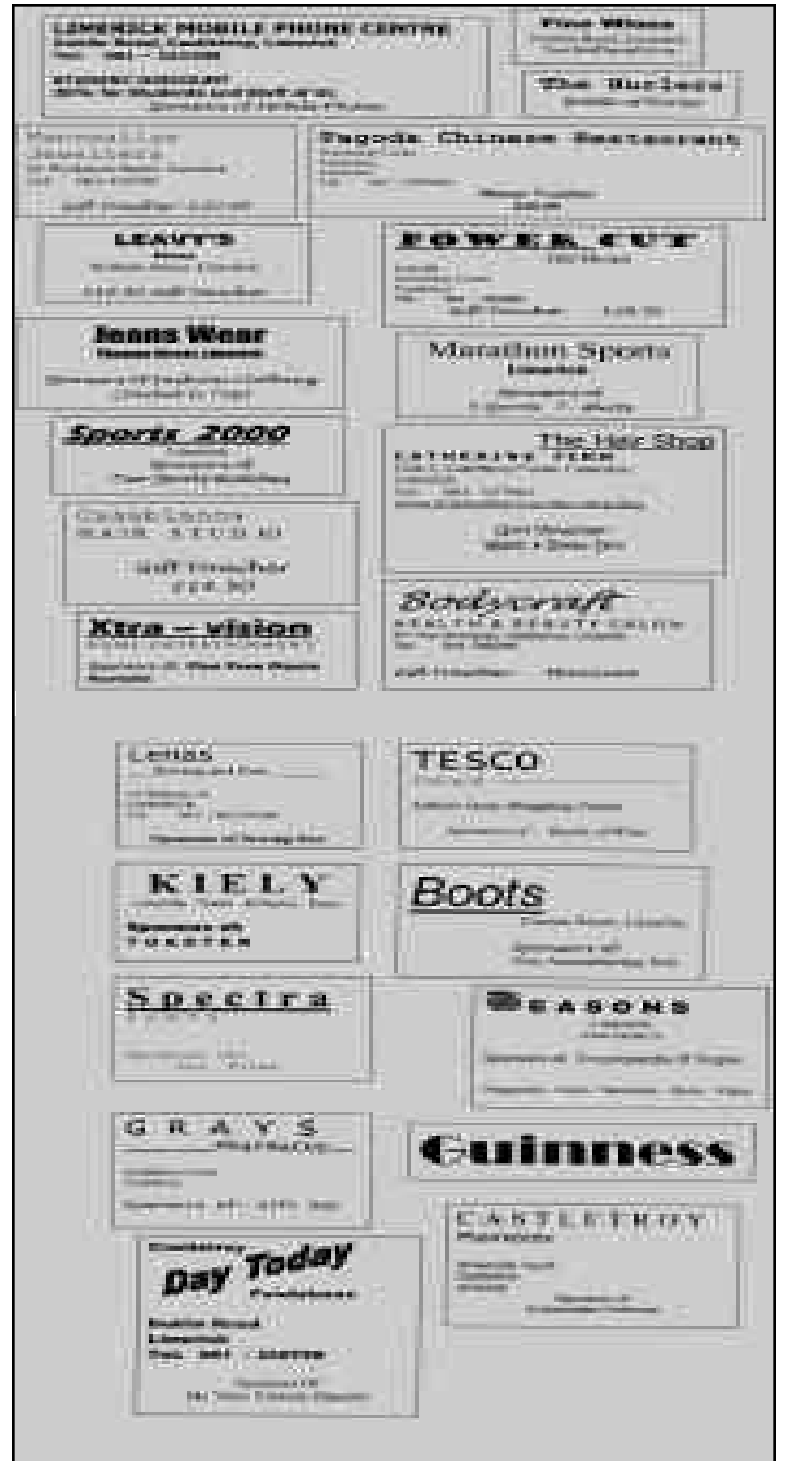
Tribute must be paid to all those responsible for such a successful year. Unknown to many people a lot of work was done behind the scenes. The original committee Ralf, Anu, Tristian and Lorcan were responsible for the

setting up of the Society. A new committee was then formed for semester two when some of the original group were going on Co-op. Many thanks to our new committee members: Annmarie, Sharon, Marie and Doireen for their hard work and commitment. Thanks also to all who sold Lotto tickets for us.

Fund raising has been a major issue for us this semester as we realised we needed to invite in professional teachers who will be available to members year after year and offer them consistency. This was the main reason for organising our night out. Many thanks to all our sponsors. The raffle was a huge success and all funds raised will go towards finding professional teachers. We look forward to Set dancing, Salsa and a variety of classes in the coming year.

Finally I want to thank the Scholars for allowing us the use of their function room for classes and socials. Hope all had a good night, best of luck to everyone in the exams and see you all next year.

President UL Dance Society.



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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 Centre, and he'll point you in the right direction as to who to contact to get involved.

Clubs Officer Report 2000/01

Stephen Driver

Clubs Officer, ULSU

I was elected to the position of Clubs Officer at the administration day. This position entails sitting on the Clubs & Societies Executive and the SU Executive committees.

Items tackled this year:

1. Administration of budget allocations to all recognised clubs
2. Administration of the Special Events fund as pertaining to clubs.
3. Initiated Mini Bus Proposal
4. Initiated Insurance rule re.

Outside members

5. Held various meetings throughout the year with various clubs (Table Tennis, Rowing, Roller Hockey etc.) as regards different matters/problems facing the respective Clubs.
6. Held developmental meetings held with particular clubs the Clubs Exec deemed to be in need of some help or advice to both ensure their continuity as well as help them further improve their clubs.
7. Oversaw initiation of Digital Camera proposal.

8. Helped Mark Breen in conducting a review of Club websites in an effort to highlight the good and the bad, and essentially to impress upon clubs that websites are a major source of advertising and promotion.
9. Initiated Budget Review proposals, which were implemented by council.
10. Implemented categories for Special Events Fund.
11. Amended budget booklet to make it user-friendlier.
12. Represented UL clubs at CUSAI.

13. Sat on Stables Club & Scholars Club sponsorship committees.
14. Assisted in formulating proposals re. Outside membership.
15. Met with various representatives of various clubs on an informal basis, simply to give advice or help with the organisation of the club's events.
16. Assisted Paul Lee in administrative duties.
17. Met with the University Arena management to explore the extent of clubs' grievances with club times.

Societies Officer Report 2000/01

Elle Daly

Societies Officer

It was the best of times it was the worst of times...as its the last An Focal of the year I thought Id take the opportunity to sum up my year in office and that of my Exec.

The year started in a panic with SoUL week looming no timetable no events and no promotion plans but with the help of the ever resourceful Arts officer, Chresten, Fiona and Eimer G, my exec at the time, as well as the hard work on the part of all the Societies that took part the week went off almost effortlessly. Also a big thanks to Heineken our sponsors Clare Cox whose poster design was used and Keith Piggott who let me cry all over his desk. After SoUI came a lot of hard work on the questionnaire mostly done by the excellent Fiona Earls. Fiona did most of the background work on the questionnaire deciding on its format, having it printed in the paper and manning the stall in the canteen trying to get a complete picture of Clubs and Socs in UL. Over Christmas and the three weeks off we elected two new

people as we lost Fiona and Eimer to CoOp and academic constraints. With Shelley and Niall now on exec we got to work on the Handbook articles. We also took a look at our roles and responsibilities and decided to reform exec into a project based organisation rather than sub-dividing it into Marketing, Finance and PR.

The start of semester two saw an emergency Council meeting as we attempted to bring some pomp and ceremony into the short listing of Societies for awards at the Clubs and Socs ball. This led to a hustings night in the function room on Wednesday week 3. After much karaoke and cream pieing we heard the reasons to vote or not for Society of the year etc. Preparations for the ball went ahead silently as Paul and Patricia saw to making it a night to remember. Exec on the other hand were busy holding developmental meetings pushing for digital cameras and taking yet another look at outside membership. In addition to all the normal meetings and paperwork (special aps etc) The Wired Select committee was set up to take a look at UISU's part in

Wired fm. Plans were afoot to represent UL Clubs and Socs in the Paddy's day parade and to take part in the Aware day out in Patrickswell however Foot and Mouth soon put an end to that. Clubs and Socs had a hard time with foot and mouth as for some of us our one and only intervarsity of the year were cancelled.

But life went on and so did access days, council meetings, and the Ball Held on March 15th it was the biggest ever and was a cracking night congrats to Environmental Society, International Society Keith Piggott, Mike Hourigan and Dave Fleming for winning awards on the night for just being the best societies people ever!!!! International Soc and Enviro Soc then went on to represent UL in DCU at the AIB Board of Irish College Societies awards at the end of April. We didn't win anything but it wasnt for want o trying and it was worth the trip just to see Big Daddyoh wear his chain of office. The year ended on a high note on controversy with the disbandment of the Socialist party oh well there's only one thing worse than

being talked about and that's not being talked about.

In conclusion I just want to say a big thank you to all those people who've made my life so much easier this year.

Stephen Driver; my partner in crime what more can I say Fiona, Chresten, Eimer, Shelley, Niall my exec who did ALL the work love ya lots like jelly tots and to Chresten good luck with the Fiancé and the course in Pennsylvania

Mick Phelan your a, but thanks for all the hear burning no our behalf.

Patricia Moriarty; sarcastic woman. For all the arguments, support, work you took off my hands, and especially for all those chats about separating the person from the office.

And finally Big Daddyoh Paul Lee; for listening to me gripe, complain, whinge, for putting up with the hyper days the bad days and the so-so days and for all the guidance.

To all of you as well as all my beloved Societies a great big THANK YOU

UL Racing Society's "Trip to Tipp"

Thursday afternoon at 1.30pm from outside the Stables saw the departure of the bus taking the 50 hopeful punters to a day at the Tipperary races at the Limerick Junction racecourse. The event was the first outing for the newly established society, with previous excursions being prevented by the unfortunate foot and mouth disease restrictions. The race day, which cost £2 for members and £5 for non-members, entitled each racegoer to the bus down, entry into the race meet, a pint, a beef roll and a race card. The £5 paid by non-members also includes membership of the racing society for the academic year 2001-02.

Fortunately (quite unusual for Limerick) the weather proved to be

on our side, despite the occasional cold breeze, a drop of rain was not seen all day. Arriving at the race course just on time for the first race at 2.30pm, the racegoers stepped off the bus, collected their food and pint vouchers and race card, and made their entrance into the (what was for some their first) race meet. The first race set off on time, and the £12,500 "University of Limerick Racing Society Race" took place at 3pm. Roland Blennerhassett, Paul Downes and Conor O'Brien presented to the groom the prize of the best turned out horse before the horses exited the Parade ring. The prize for the winning horse "King of Tara" was presented to the winning owner (Mrs John Magnier) and trainer

(Aiden O'Brien) by Julie-Anne Hannon and Leah McNamara. Sponsorship of the feature race of the day was a major advertising coup for the society, with significant publicity being received in the national media.

After the presentation, the majority (except for the dedicated punters) retired to the "Istabraq Bar" for a few "beverages". The voucher for the beef roll, which was bigger than the average student dinner, was made use of by everybody there. Obviously everybody made use of their pint vouchers too, which entitled them to a pint of their favourite beer or Guinness.

For a weekday race meet, the event was well supported, and rid-

ing at the meet were such jockeys as Ruby Walsh, Paul Carberry and Barry Geraghty the latter two of which attended our highly successful race night held on Friday the 20th of April in the Stables club.

There were seven races in total with the last race at 5.30pm. We returned to the University at 7pm and once again retired to the pub just to finish off a great days racing. Although most returned with less money than they had at the beginning of the outing (and with a lower sobriety level!) a most enjoyable day was experienced by all and a sincere thanks goes to Peter Rowe (manager Tipp race course) for his kindness and generosity.

Aeronautical Society flying high after a successful year

This year has been a successful year for the Aeronautical Society. There were many great moments throughout the year such as winning part of the RaES Aerochallenge in London, the aero bar eating competition, the trips out to Shannon to and the lecture

by Gerry Humphreys. We would like to thank all of our members for supporting us throughout the year and we hope to see you back next year, and of course our sponsors, **Ryanair**, the **Scholars Club** and the **Lodge**, for helping us to get that all important cash. I would



like to thank the committee members for all their hard work during the year, and wish next year's committee headed by Andrew Lawler the best of luck. Finally a word of thanks must go to Paul

Lee and the societies exec. for their support throughout the year. Hope you all have a good Summer.



UL Law Society AGM

Wednesday Wk 13
6.00

SU Meeting Room 4

All members are recommended to attend.

Positions available include:

Co-Auditors.

Secretary

Treasurer

UL Women's Rugby narrowly defeated in the final of the second at the Ovalies International Invitational Tournament in Paris



Continuing on from their Intervarsities and College's League double triumph, the UL Women's Rugby team finished second at the Ovalies International Invitational Tournament in Paris.

The tournament, the largest competition for women's university rugby in Europe, comprised 16 teams from four countries, France, the Netherlands, England and Ireland. The pool matches were won with some comfort and style. Wins over Alfont (France), Deventer (Holland) and Bristol (England) saw UL qualify for the playoffs at the top of its pool, scoring 22 tries and only conceding 2. The team finished the first day with a hard fought quarterfinal win over the University of Paris 2 tries to 1.

Saturday, April 28 was finals day, with UL drawn to play the University of Rennes (France) 'B' team in the semi-finals. For the first time in the tournament, UL found themselves behind on the scoreboard, and had to dig deep to make the final. After drawing level just before halftime, UL

applied all the pressure in the second half and scored two more excellent tries by Lysa Coburn and Lynne Cantwell, to win and progress to the final.

UL's opponents in the final were the University of Rennes 'A' team. In an emotionally charged atmosphere with a highly vocal crowd of over 500, Rennes showed superior speed and support play to run out winners by 4 tries to 1. Rennes jumped out to an early 2 try lead, but UL fought back and scored a magnificent try by Kate Hennessy set up by a quick penalty by team captain Monica Dunne. Both teams fought very hard in the second half and the game hung in the balance, but two late tries by Rennes sealed the win for the French.

The pain of losing the final was eased by the knowledge that the team, which only had one returning starter from last year, performed magnificently throughout the tournament. The entire team gave standout performances over both days. Team captain,

Monica Dunne, provided great leadership and was UL's player of the tournament.

Off the field, UL continued to represent the University and Ireland proudly. The team won the Best & Fairest International Team trophy, for best overall foreign team, both on and off the pitch. A big part of this was the magnificent team gear funded by team sponsor, Heineken. The UL team were the best-outfitted team at the tournament. International relations were enhanced and fostered at every opportunity. Louise Beamish, Lynne Cantwell, Lysa Coburn, Sarah Keane and Patricia Peoples flew the flag for Ireland, especially with the Scots.

Special mention has to go to team manager Neasa Fahey O'Donnell and team sponsor representative Mike Knightson of Heineken. Without the outstanding work of these two, the team not only wouldn't have participated, but wouldn't have performed nearly as well.

Photos

1. Team After the Final
Michelle Hickey, Miriam Clegg, Fiona Coghlan, Lynne Cantwell, Lysa Coburn, Sarah Keane, Louise Beamish, Edwina McCarthy, Kate Hennessy, Monica Dunne, Patricia Peoples, Caroline Mahon

2. Touring Party
Back Row (L to R): Rohan West (Coach), Caroline Mahon, Lysa Coburn, Sarah Keane, Fiona Coghlan, Patricia Peoples, Neasa Fahey O'Donnell (Manager)
Front Row (L to R): Lynne Cantwell, Edwina McCarthy, Kate Hennessy, Monica Dunne (Tour Captain), Miriam Clegg, Michelle Hickey, Mike Knightson (Heineken Rep)

Absent: Louise Beamish

University of Limerick Womens Hockey Club Review of the Year

UL Womens Hockey Club continues to grow from strength to strength and they had a hugely successful season with their Minor As winning their Munster league having played 16 league games and bowing out of their Cup due to players having Ashbourne Cup commitments. The most successful team in the club this season was indeed the Minor Bs, Captained by Susan Fingleton who have already won the Munster Cup and are playing in the final of their league in Waterford on Thursday night. Susan's team played 18 league games apart from the Cup and she was elected Club person of the Year - a fitting honour for Susan who despite the pressures of FYPs and presentations was Captain fantastic.

While the F & M disease precautions played havoc with our Senior Team fixtures they acquitted themselves very well this sea-

son. They started off with Intervarsities in early November and their game against UCD in the quarter finals saw the biggest spectator support ever on UL campus for a hockey match. It was a superb game and they progressed to the Semi Finals in Limerick IT and I'm afraid the early start did not suit them and they bowed out to Jordanstown. In the Munster League they only lost two games all season and were second in the league having played 16 games in all. They won the first round of the Irish Senior Cup and in a very entertaining game against Pembroke Wanderers from Leinster they were unfortunate to be beaten. They were runners up in the Division 1 Munster Cup which was hosted in UL and for the first time ever they were eligible for the All Ireland Club Championship. Unfortunately because of the lateness of this

competition due to the F & M disease no Munster team competed this year.

Individual players recognised by Munster and Ireland include Kate Rushe - Munster Junior Interprovincials, Fiona Murray, Eimear Cregan and Elaine McHugh, Munster U21 Mairead Murphy Captain South East Interprovincial U21 Team Eimear Cregan and Mairead Murphy, Irish U21 members. Senior Munster Interprovincial No. 1 Keeper was UL's keeper Ciara Ronan Included in the winning Munster Interprovincial Team were 8 ex UL players and in the South East team there were 3 ex UL players

Hockey girls have to be congratulated on their commitment to UL hockey and their efforts to keep the club afloat financially. Unable to attract any major sponsorship or full time officers like their fellow

students in the more spectator orientated sports we have to be very proud of their efforts. Hope is that negotiations with UL's Sports Administrator will address this issue. The girls deserve better in that they are committed to three nights a week training and a match every week-end.

We are extremely grateful to our sponsors for this season

**Kilmurry Lodge
O'Dwyer Electrical, Cork
Dew Valley, Thurles
Stables Club
McEligotts Bus Company
O'Mahony's Bookshop
The Hurlers
Scholars Club**

The Kayak Club Kick-Ass in 2001



This is the final news update of this semester. The weekend of the 28th of April was the date set for our "U.L. Cold Water Classic Kayak Surf Competition to be held in Lahinch CO. Clare.

Unfortunately due to no surf and bad weather, it was cancelled and is due now to run off on the May bank holiday weekend instead. However all was not lost, as the organisers held a freestyle competition on the Curraghgour instead. The Curraghar is located in Limerick city centre. It is a tidal rapid. It is a large standing wave, which only works as the tide goes out. There were 2 divisions in the competition and the winner of group 1 was Kev and Edel won the second division. The winners received fab prizes courtesy of **River Deep Mountain High**. The day was a great success and fun was had by all, esp. as I was told by Donie. It was a sun soaked comp (with brief rain intervals).

The kayak club enjoyed great success this year, for September we had record numbers at the pool sessions, and also had numerous trips to Kilaue outdoor pursuits centre. The first club trip this year

was to the world famous Lahinch, there the club got to know the new members while also enjoy the surf, which was at least 4 to 5 feet clean waves as I can remember.

The kayak club made several successful trips to the (muddy) Kingdom this year, where the water was always high and the weather bad! A great number of new members joined in on these infamous trips and gradually developed their skills. It was an excellent opportunity for new members and old to try out new rivers and beaches. The ULKC rang in the New Year in Rossbeigh co. Kerry. Spirits were high and so were the water levels!

During the spring break the club went across the water to Wales. The famous trailer was to be seen scouting the countryside of Wales looking for the next river to conquer. The club carried thirty white-water hungry kayakers to Wales, nearly lost one to injury but managed to lose no boats! (This is very important, as the rowing club should know by now)!!!! The club ran one river a day for seven days and this gave everyone a great chance to improve and practice

their river skills. The trip was the best one yet!

The next big event on our calendar this year was the intervarsities, which was held in Dublin. The club were winners in the two previous years and were hopeful of a win again this year but it was not to be. There was an excellent turnout by the club over 40 members took part, from kayak polo, freestyle kayak, etc. We were disappointed that the long distance wasn't run this year as we won it last year. We finished 6th overall, and everyone enjoyed taking part, even me who swan on the smelly Liffey- (fun).

Shortly after the intervarsities, the epidemic of foot and snout broken out. This quickly brought our river trips to a grinding halt, but all had not failed, as we were still able to have our pool sessions. We also took the time to do a first aid course and a level one kayak-training course. We availed of this free time to improve our own personal skills and we hope this will benefit our club in the coming year.

The club is going from strength to strength, and we hope to have a new boathouse shortly to

further strengthen our club. There is great excitement for the coming summer, we are running a trip to the Alps in June, two of us are heading off to Colorado to try out the rapids there, other brave members are heading for the Zambezi to kick ass with the big boys, and others embark on a wild road trip of Europe.

Next year sees the opening of the 50m pool and the kayak club have secured their place in the venue. We hope to use this to introduce new members to the sport of kayaking, with the aid of our instructors course behind us we hope to implement new initiatives as regards training. The sheer size of the facility means that the club maybe able to gain extra pool time which means more fun to be had by all!!

So if you missed out on the fun this year, why not consider joining us next year as it is never too late to start and we guaranteed a great time. So join in on the fun! See ya next year and have a good one this summer! Paddle on!

UL-Sub-Aqua Club cause controversy with the Fishies

I can safely say UL Sub-Aqua club is now as active as the sea life down below. After a semester of warm water pool training and 10 hour-long seminars on all aspects of diving from recompression to simple mechanics of breathing, we headed on a weekend trip to Kilkee in West Clare. This was the first ever cold-water sea dive for some individuals in the club. The luckier of us go to imagine what sea life is like below 5 metres (a wonderful experience that's almost impossible to describe). Thankfully the cold water caused no problems due to the expert leadership of our coach Mr. Bob Strunz and our 8mm semi-dry suits.

As of last week 12 members of the club have successfully completed their sport diver pool tests successfully and now all that is left is more practice in the Open Water. Between now and the writing of this article we will have completed another weekend diving trip to the Southwest.

If you have £60 to spare (all compressed air and equipment supplied) and would like to battle with the fishes then give Bob.Strunz@ul.ie a call as diving is a lifetime experience that you will never forget.



U.L Waterpolo Club had a ball of a year

This year started with a bang, with the Waterpolo Club seeing record numbers showing up in the pool for training. Word has finally got out about two sexy coaches who only wear their togs while coaching!!! Don't worry lads, there's lots and lots of girls there to keep ye entertained too!!

We started the year with the 35's competition hosted this year on home ground - this was an experience match more than anything else, as DCU have never had a strong Waterpolo team (its one match we are guaranteed to win), which surprise, surprise we won 7-3. We also had, for the first time, a team of swimmers, who swam exceptionally well considering the amount of alcohol in their systems. (We even had a guest appearance from our own Welfare Officer, Siobhan O'Connell, who did us proud and even swam butterfly!!!) U.L took the points once again, winning both swimming and Waterpolo. This was a great confidence builder for all, and enhanced Club spirit further.

Next of the event list was the Freshers Intervarsities, it was the home of the skull and cross bones UCC who hosted the Intervarsities in Mallow. IT

has been one of the most memorable waterpolo event to date, a weekend where heads were shaved (as well as other parts of the body), bets were won, the world saw the men's team bare all and club incest was rampant. We left Friday the 24th of November, a relatively well-behaved team. We arrived at the Mallow Park hotel with a nervous air with the newcomers not knowing what to expect, the old-timers, dreading the state they were going to be in by Sunday. We finally made it to the pool for the swimming, this was the first year we had ever had a full swim team, and did we blow every other team out of the water. The team who were never heard of before left with 12 medals, with 3 individual gold's and a team gold!!! Friday night was when all was revealed; the true sides were seen of all as we celebrated the night away!!! The hardest task of the weekend was getting the teams to the pool Sat morning!!

Lucky for us, fresh heads joined us from Limerick and provided wake up calls for all those who spent the day asleep on the deck. Unfortunately the semi-finals were as far as we were to go as the men faced DCU, they fought hard but they were

playing the winners. The ladies faced their old rivals Trinity, we are getting closer and closer every match to beating them, with only 2 goals in the difference this time. We had all done ourselves proud and retired black n'blue and very sore. We had to go for a few drinks for medicinal purposes only...Honest!!

The main intervarsities were hosted this year by D.C.U. in Nenagh on Friday 9th and Saturday 10th February. Five athletes from U.L. were selected to represent the Irish Intervarsity Team in Swimming and Water Polo as a result of their performances at the National Swimming and Water Polo Intervarsities were. Brian McCaffrey, Wendy Godley, Colm Fitzgearld, Michael McNieve and Pat Lowery stood out to the selectors at the competition where as ever U.L. were among the top colleges competing. They had a great weekend in Wales, we are not sure about the swimming and waterpolo but the craic was mighty and they did us proud! Unfortunately Pat Lowery could not make it.

Brian McCaffrey, Wendy Godley, Colm Fitzgearld, Robert Ducie, Mark Higgins, Adrian Cosgrave, Joanne Tighe, Padraig Mulcahy, Michael McNieve Fergal Dalton,

Padraig Mulcahy, and Pat Finn all swam doing us proud. Medals were won; the work was done, home for an early night ready for the waterpolo early the next morning!! Well an early night was the early hours of the morning!

The ladies were knocked out in the first round, went into the plate and won in style. The men stayed in the cup, had a few gruelling matches, and unfortunately were knocked out. The nemesis of our Men's team N.U.I.G. went on to win the tournament in an enthralling final against Trinity.

Plenty of fun and frolics followed at the presentation dinner were the whole squad were delighted with the news of the colleges five Irish Representatives.

Throughout the year there were a few memorable events, our famous strip night was a great success, all the lovely boys in the club volunteered to get their kit off for the girls, all involved enjoyed every minute! It was a great money raiser for the club and helped us sponsor Fergal for his challenging climb this summer to raise money for the children of Chernobyl.

We have had lots of nights out the Lodge has been frequented after many night of hard training,

we had Christmas piss-up, friendly matches away.

Just last weekend a mini tournament was held here at U.L, it all ran smoothly the girls had a tough match it was close all the way but finally were defeated by the strong Clonmel side. The lads as usual did us proud winning one match and drawing the next. Thanks to all the referees, score keepers and time keepers!!

No doubt there will be another session before the year is out, we have a challenge match next Wednesday against the internationals in the college. It could be interesting to see which side some of our current members will favour!

Thanks to Mike and Pat, our coaches, who have helped us have a successful year and who have kept the interest in training!!! And to all the rest of ye, thanks a mil for making the effort and for staying committed for the year for whatever the reasons!!!

For anyone who likes the sound of waterpolo don't be afraid, just show up at training Mon 6.45-7.30 and Wed 9.45-11.00, check out our website through the U.L homepage or contact Tara Curley at 9722777@student.ul.ie

UL Environmental Society saving the planet - on a yearly basis

The crusties are back and this year we're bigger and noisier than ever!

Yes, enviro soc. has gone from strength to strength - haven't quite greened the planet (YET!) but getting there!

It's been a great year for us - winning both the best society and best new/improved society awards.

We've had activities every week this year. Starting in orientation week, we gave out 1500 cloth bags as part of our plan to reduce the use of plastic in the college.

We also pushed the Environmental Policy through to the Students Union. This policy means that the SU shop is not buying in any more plastic bags, that there will be recycled paper in the photocopiers in the Students'

union, and much more!

Other on-campus events included: Weekly "Tribal Spirit" drumming classes, 2 Green Fairs, Questions and Answers night, talk on straw bale house building. We also had talks from the Vegetarian Society (+ free vegan chocolate cake!), and a west-Papuan rights activist.

Possibly our biggest achievement on-campus this year has been winning the referendum to have Nescafe banned from the SU shop. It may only be one product (for now), but we took on a big company and won, getting nearly 2,300 students out to vote in the first referendum in 5 years!

We were represented in good style off-campus last year at Glastonbury 2000, Ekotopia, an

enviro camp on a forested island in Finland (August), IMF/World Bank Protest in Prague (September), and the World Climate Change conference in The Hague in November. There we stayed in a squat, built a sandbag dyke around the conference, and met with Noel Dempsey, the Minister for the Environment. ;)

We also attended the Trocaire "Living on the Edge" conference for 3rd level 'Greenie' societies in Dublin in October. Here we made valuable contacts in other Irish universities which led to the formation of "Gluaiseacht for Social Justice", a movement of students from all over Ireland.

We organised 2 buses for Irish students to go to a protest at the Faslane Nuclear submarine

base in Scotland in February.

Visited Sellafield nuclear power plant the following day but never made it past the visitors centre - it seems our reputation had preceded us!

We wish to thank all our society members this year, especially our enthusiastic and energetic American and European friends without whom we couldn't have made ourselves the best society on campus. Cheers guys and long may our success continue!

We meet every week beside our noticeboard in the canteen. Email: environ@csn.ul.ie and check out our webpage <http://www.csn.ul.ie/~environ>

UL Vikings AFC Defeat the Reigning National American Football Flag-League Champions 24-20

Mike Ryan, Bill DeKyser & John Farrelly

The UL Vikings, American Football Club, travelled to Dublin looking to avenge last years defeat by the Drimnagh Cycos, All-Ireland League champions 4 years out of 9.

The trip started with a poor tactical decision by team captain Mike Ryan to get the 7:30 Dublin bus on the Sunday morning. Team members started arriving with tired swollen eyes and obvious signs of a drink or two the night before, including Q.B. Bill DeKyser who had a dog in tow. With only two members of last years team available to travel the team was composed of several new faces. The absence of all-rounder Jason "The Arm" Hackwelder and speedy running back Fergal "Shaggy" Fennessy had a telling factor on the game.

After the long journey to The Big Smoke and the team adequately aggravated by John "Muppet Piss" McEnery's incessant chattering, everyone was ready for some action. The Drimnagh Cycos won the toss, decided to Kick, and the second meeting of the sides was underway.

In hindsight the Cycos would regret the decision to kick, with the Dublin side taken by surprise when The Vikings scored on the first possession of the game. Patrick Ryan was on the receiving end of a 30 yard touchdown pass from Bill DeKyser. The 1 point conversion pass was incomplete.



Vikings 6 Cycos 0.

The Cycos wasted no time in getting back into the game but with the Vikings defence stifling the Cycos deep passing attack, The Cycos relied on a steady running game and short passes to work their way into the end zone. The two point conversion was intercepted by DeKyser, who then instinctively decided to run the ball to the oppositions line, having to be told by the ref he can't do so from a conversion play. This was also news to the rest of the team who were cheering him on. Vikings 6 Cycos 6.

The high power UL Viking offense needed only three plays to find pay dirt again. DeKyser connected Patrick Ryan on a long touchdown pass. The two point conversion was wasted by a fumble on behalf of Q.B. DeKyser as he attempted to run it in. Vikings 12 Cycos 6

The Cycos first pass of their next possession was intercepted by, the now ball hungry, DeKyser. What followed was The Vikings only long drive of the game which came due to "Muppet Piss". John McEnery kept the drive alive with three huge receptions in what later

became known as "The Drive of John". The drive was completed when Tommy "Superman" Conneely made a spectacular catch in the end zone. A wide open Andy O'Connor was missed by a pathetic pass by the Q.B. Vikings 18 Cycos 6.

In an attempt to slow down the highflying Vikings, The Cycos slowed the pace of the game with a gruelling running attack. A short pass for touchdown capped the drive. While the Cycos devised their play for the extra point 5-yard conversion the Vikings plotted their no-huddle offense. Vikings 18 Cycos 13.

After the Kick off with less than a minute remaining in the half the Vikings offense stepped onto the field again. The Cycos strolled onto the pitch as Muppet Piss and Co. already in formation, ready for battle. From the snap a speeding bullet flew past the Cycos defence only to be intercepted by Tommy "Superman" Conneely in the end zone. Half time came with the UL Vikings in a commanding if unexpected lead, Vikings 24 Cycos 13. The half time pep talks were intense with both teams realising that there was a lot of football left in the game.

The Cycos came out with all guns blazing and hungry for blood, clearly annoyed with how they let the game get away from themselves. But the Cycos didn't help their cause by sticking to a slow grinding running game, but did cause some problems for the UL defence.

An important turnover was made by the Vikings on their one yard line, at this stage the Vikings were brimming with confidence and thought they could score from anywhere, only to stupidly turnover possession in a dangerous posi-

tion on a 4th down where a punt was the most obvious option. The Cycos made the touchdown and No.55 Liam Farrell ran in their 1 pt. Conversion with only eighteen minutes to go. Vikings 24 Cycos 20.

The Vikings made one long time wasting drive down the pitch, with a view to finishing off the job, only for John "I can't believe I dropped it" Farrelly to drop a pass in the end zone. After this play, Tommy "Superman" Conneely was unlucky not to add to his two previous touchdowns with two obvious touchdowns being ruled out by the referee. The Vikings turned over the ball on the Cycos 10 yard line and the Cycos began to move their way back up the pitch with their tedious running game. The Vikings knew that they would have to throw the ball in order to make decent yardage so all eyes were open.

After making it half way up the pitch, the Cycos quarterback through a pass in the direction of Tommy "Superman" Connelly. It did not look like he would reach it but all of a sudden; one arm reached into the air and came back down with the ball. When the Vikings realised he had the ball, they ran to the referee asking how long was left in the game. The referee surprised everybody by telling us that there were only forty seconds left in the game. After one attempted pass was incomplete, there were only 25 seconds left, so Bill DeKyser went on one of his winding runs only to kneel on the ball when the Cycos came near him. The Game was over and the Vikings had won, avenging the defeat of 2000. After the match the teams congratulated each other on a great match and some great performances. The two teams went for a quick pint together to show there were no hard feelings. The journey home seemed to take forever; you should try sitting at the back of the bus with Muppet Piss telling his stories about "his mates" for the whole three-hour drive. Don't worry John, we all know it was you!!!!!!!



Are you interested in playing roller hockey in UL

What? The pace of basketball but with sticks, the skill of hurling but on blades. Add an indoor sports hall or even a car park and at least 12 players and you've got yourself a game of roller hockey.

Why? With teams all over Ireland and new teams starting ever year, it is up and coming sport. It is the next best thing to play ice hockey.

When and Where? At the moment we play in St. Endas sports hall on a

Friday night. You might also see us playing in the church car park beside the college. Numerous games are played against other teams throughout the two semesters.

What you need? Simply a pair of blades, helmet and a stick, though stockists throughout are few and far between. There are many websites they sell equipment also. For more information on these look up our website on the bottom of this article.

How do you join? All you have to do is look up our website, <http://inlineskating.csn.ul.ie/> and all the information is there.

The committee would also like to thank everyone who helped us throughout the year, the Killmurry Lodge for the tickets they gave us to raise



funds, St. Endas for the use of the hall, and Paul Lee and the clubs and societies executive committee for helping us get of the

ground. Looking forward to seeing new members next year.

PROFESSIONS OF THE PAST - A DAY OF WORKSHOPS PRESENTED BY THE UL HISTORY SOCIETY

Katherine Haynord
PRO History Society

This event took place on Wednesday the 25th April in the Stables Courtyard

Wiping the beads of sweat that accumulated as a result of persistence in the face of difficulties; organisation in the hope of joy, this event turned out to be a fantastic and memorable day for all.

Finally when all the workshops, arriving from all around the country were in position after some precarious manoeuvring of trailers into the stables courtyard, 'Professions of the Past'

was declared open for the day.

With a friendly audience of Milford school children, students and staff of UL, Dr. Padriag Lenihan said a few words, addressing the skilled trades that had gathered, highlighting their success in surviving industrialisation and technology to carve out a niche market.

Before passing over to the stunning, and moving voice of Michelle Burke for a taste of traditional Irish song, Dr. Lenihan also illustrated the now popular methods of accessing history, other than written doc-

umentation, with whom the elite of the past were the only passage. This was a chance to see what people cite, what clothes they wore, what tools they used throughout the ages. The gathering of workshops in this way gave people the chance to use their senses to experience history, and even have ago, and that they did!!

The whole of Milford school arrived in groups throughout the day, as did three secondary schools from limerick city with the co-ordination of the

Access off ice on campus. The pupils took part in a melody of activity, with the trades people inviting them to try their hand at dress-making and sign writing; basket weaving and roof thatching; copper smithing and winemaking. They even had the chance to listen to the vibrant Eddie Lenihan telling stories of folklore. Members of the public (perhaps more hesitantly than the children) also absorbed explanations and demonstrations of the skill and history involved in the trades.

The reaction was remarkable: young lads sewing beads, girls shaping copper, even a request for a sign written arm, and all tucking into the medieval recipes. We even found the



lost shirt maker in Ireland. Feedback from participants and onlookers was very positive, with one teacher from limerick addressing the importance of such an event so that history is mode accessible to all and to perhaps students who would not have previously thought it to be an enjoyable discipline. Great too, was the media response with Jennifer's famous pigs head in all its glory on the front cover of the papers the

very next day.

On behalf of the History Society I would like to thank everyone who supported the event and helped out on the day or gave valuable guidance in the build up, I hope you share our feeling of achievement!! -You never know we may be persuaded to do it all again next year!!



UL Football Club look back on a great season

Guinness Freshers

Astroturf League

Our first activity of the Year was the First Years Astroturf League. We had entries from each Academic Department and the Tournament was well appreciated by all participants. The Final saw PESS, managed by Ross Dunphy taking on Humanities, managed by Darragh McMahon. PESS came out on top, winning 2-0. The PESS team were well supported by their Class and were strong throughout the competition. Humanities claimed that they had already had their Final, when they beat an Erasmus team who had previously beaten them 4-1, in the Semi-Final by virtue of Robbie Hammonds penalty.

Kostal 11 A Side

There were 32 different sides in the competition this year. Many were of the opinion that Foot and Mouth had claimed another victim, and that the games would be cancelled, but this wasn't the case. The Semi-Finals saw Ulatasaray v PESS and Felix Legions v The Mamalukes in the Cup. With both PESS and The Mamalukes stumbling, the scene was set for Felix Legions (4th Yr. PE) versus Ulatasaray (Freshers Squad). There couldn't have been a better day for it either. Level pegging at half time, the game was, as expected, very tight. However, The Legions soon made the breakthrough and added to that lead to take home The Michael McMahon Perpetual Trophy. The Pissheads took on The Long Shots in the Plate Final. A last minute penalty miss ensured that the Long Shots took the Plate on a 1-0 scoreline. There have been many high energy games, some great scorelines and goals. Special mention to Lunnsavirgin FC, who bowed out in the ? Final, and their band of supporters. The Club wishes to extend a word of thanks to Kostal for their very kind sponsorship of the Tournament. Hope to see you all back next Year.

National Universities

League

Our senior team made it through to the League Final, losing out to Maynooth on penalties on Wednesday last. The result could have gone the other way, but for some unfortunate misses and for the sending off of Brian Donnellan. Maynooth also have the distinction of being the only team to beat us in competitive action over the course of 90 minutes, a 3-0 win in the first league game of the season. We finished 2nd in the group overall and beat UCD 4-1 in a Semi to progress to the Final, which was played in RCSI. This is the report from the game against our rivals NUIG.

UL 1 NUIG 0

This fixture has traditionally been of high quality and this one was no different. After UL securing a victory in last seasons Collingwood cup, Galway were seeking revenge. The game began at a high tempo, which was to set the pace for the rest of the game, with Galway enjoying a lot of early possession. The first clear chance of the game fell to Conor Molon and his shot was touched around the post for a fruitless corner by the visitor's net minder. UL then came more into the game and enjoyed more of the possession without really creating any clear-cut chances. Galway always looked dangerous from set pieces but the home defence stood firm. Just before the break Galway created a good opportunity but Darragh McMahon parried and Scott Brady completed the clearance. So it was level at the interval. UL began the second half by putting twenty to twenty-five consecutive passes together as they searched for that elusive goal. The game began to open up a bit more with Eddie O'Brien twice being denied by the Galway keeper. At this stage UL seemed in control with the likes of Oran Weldrick, Eoghan Poil and Ross Dunphy heavily involved. The breakthrough came when a superlative Scott Brady pass let Ross Dunphy free down the left flank and he centred for



the intruding Oran Weldrick to see he shot parried but substitute and former NUIG player Gordon McCann was on hand to slot the ball home much to the delight of the home fans. Galway began to push more and more players forward but this only left more space for the likes of Michael Ryan and Hugh O'Loughlin to exploit. UL pushed for more goals but in the end were happy with the three points. It was a good team performance and a win away to ST Pats next week will set up a league quarter final against UCC. The team was as follows: Darragh McMahon, Eoghan Poil, Peter Murphy, Scott Brady, Stephen Driver, Hugh O'Loughlin, Oran Weldrick, Conor Molon, Ross Dunphy, Bryan Donnellan and Eddie O'Brien. Substitutes were Brendan McDermott, Eoin Killackey, Eoin Keating, Gordon McCann, Kevin Murphy, and Michael Ryan.

Collingwood Cup Report: Sponsored by Analog Devices

UL FC bring Silverware home from the Collingwood Cup

University of Limerick Football Club continued their impressive season last week when they brought the Plate back to Shannon side in the Collingwood Cup Competition.

University's premier soccer competition satisfied large attendances all week in Dublin, as the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland hosted the annual event. UL were drawn in the same group as Dublin

City University and Dublin Institute of Technology.

UL began the competition in great style, when they overcame the challenge of DCU by 3 goals to 1 after going a goal down against the run of play. Brian Donnellan, Gordon McCann, and Eoin Keating all found the net, as UL controlled the game from start to finish in impressive fashion on the Monday of the competition. Tuesday saw UL have a free day as they were drawn in the only group of three.

The second group match against DIT had much at stake on the Wednesday. DIT had also defeated DCU by the same score line as UL on the Tuesday and with one spot up for grabs, it was 'winners take all' for a cup spot. DIT led by 1 goal until the 65th minute, whereupon Conor Molan brought UL back on level terms with a crashing drive. A 1-1 final score-line saw the game go to the dreaded penalty shootout to decide who would compete in the Cup and Plate competitions respectively. DIT were the strongest in the war of nerves, winning 4-2 on penalties. and advanced as far as the Collingwood Cup Final whereupon Jordanstown disposed of their challenge by 3 goals to 1.

NUIG provided the opposition in the Plate semi-final. With former NUIG student Gordon McCann finding the net twice for UL and Brian Donnellan adding a third, there was always only going to be one outcome, as UL ran out 3-0 winners.

Last year's winners of the Collingwood Cup,

UCC, awaited UL in the plate final on the Friday. In a very tense and tight match the sides remained deadlocked until the 70th minute, when the ever-illusive Gordon McCann scored the winning goal for the Limerick students. McCann was rewarded with his excellent performance throughout the tournament when he received the Top Goal scorer award with his tally of 4 goals. Centre back Brendan Hughes, was UL's player of the tournament. Oran Weldrick and Scott Brady are also notable mentions for their performances throughout the hectic week in Dublin.

In the Cup final on the same day, UUU overcame a very tired looking DIT winning by 3-0 in a dour match. The draw for next year's Collingwood, which is being hosted by NUIG, took place at the banquet later that evening. UL were drawn in the group of death along with this year's cup winners UUU, semi-finalist TCD and a strong QUB side. The announcement of the International side saw only one UL player making the squad in the shape of Oran Weldrick.

UL have worked hard all season and now hope to continue to reap the rewards. Having just lost one league game all season, UL now face UCD in Belfield in the league semi-final on March 14th. While manager and trainer, Noel O'Connor admits that the effort put in by the squad throughout the year is now receiving fruition, UL soccer team are very appreciative of their sponsors – Analog Devices, Guinness, Kostal, The Scholars Club,



The Stables Club, the Kilmurry Lodge and ULSU without whom success would not have been garnered.

The squad that represented UL in Collingwood Cup is as follows:

Darragh McMahon, Brendan McDermott, Eoghan Poil, Scott Brady, Brendan Hughes, Garry Gorman, Peter Murphy, Michael Ryan, Mark Holland, Oran Weldrick, Eoin Keating, Conor Molan, Ciaran McElwaine, Eoin McCormack, Ross Dunphy, Gordon McCann, Eddie O'Brien, Bryan Donnellan.

Manager: Noel O'Connor, Asst. Manager: Stephen Driver.

Kostal Indoor Mixed 5-A-Side

The Club held an Indoor Tournament for the first time, which was held in The University Arena. We will push this event strongly next year and imagine that it will take place in Semester One. We will organise it in the same manner as the 11 A-Side and hope it will really take off.

Crowley Cup

The Senior Reserve team was well prepared for this Tournament, I heard rumours that we were the pre-tournament favourites! We had financial backing from McElligotts Coach Hire and AIB UL Branch, and were coached by Billy Barrett and Joe Carey. However, despite our best preparations, the squad fell victim to the Foot and Mouth Outbreak. Being held in Coleraine, we were warned against cross border events and will have to wait until next year to make a claim for victory.

Awards Night

We held our annual end of year bash in the Sarsfield Army Barricks on Wednesday last. This is our way of paying tribute to the men that make things happen, on and off the pitch. The awards went this way:

Fresher of the Year –

Padraic Brody

Junior B of the Year –

Robbie Downes

Junior A of the Year –

Darragh "La La" McMahon

Senior Player of the Year –

Brendan "Betty" Hughes

Special Merit Award –

Garry "Gazza" Gorman

Clubman of the Year –
Eoin Killackey

Junior B Team

Here are a couple of reports from our Junior B Team Archive. Some fine displays.....of writing.

U.L. 'B' (3) - St Paul's (1)

UL 'B' and St Paul's played a very competitive and highly entertaining game at the university. It was A perfect day for football and both teams reveled in the good playing conditions.

UL started well but as the game went on, St Paul's started creating more chances. Gerry Scully

Had a great game up-front for UL and would have opened the scoring after 10 minutes, but for an instinctive save by the St Paul's goalkeeper. St Paul's could have gone into the lead, were it not for a great save from Chris Shepard in the UL goals. Both Sides continued to create chances but At half time the game remained scoreless.

The second half was scrappy as both sides fought to gain the upper hand. UL's back four dug in well

And were very solid, with Jack Anderson having a fine game at the heart of the defence. UL started to increase the pressure as the second half progressed. The UL midfield, and John Lynam in particular started to create a number of chances. A goal finally came when a well worked UL move

resulted in a penalty for UL, which Robbie Downes converted. UL scored again a minute later after some clever work down the left wing. St Paul's came storming back and put UL under a lot of pressure with a number of corners and set pieces. They would perhaps have scored had it not been for the safe hands of Chris Shepard. Super-sub Mauro Aguanno scored the third goal for UL after good work down the right wing by Frank Lilje and Jason Begley. St Paul's scored a fine headed goal in the dying minutes, which they thoroughly deserved. This was UL's best team performance to date and hopefully the team can continue to improve over the rest of the season.

UL' B 3 Hill Celtic (4)

UL(B) and Hill Celtic played out an exciting all action game at the university on Thursday evening. It was a rollercoaster game with both sides dominating long periods of the game. Hill Celtic played with the wind in the first half. They settled early and began carving out useful chances. UL took a while to settle but at the half went on they played with more and more confidence. Hill Celtic went one up when their striker latched onto a long ball and drove it home from the edge of the area. Hill Celtic continued to create chances and would have gone further ahead but for solid defending by James Binchy and fine goalkeeping by Kevin Donnelly.

UL upped their game at the start of the second half and pushed forward in numbers. Jason Begley dominated the challenges in midfield. The two left-footed UL wingers started to feed great ball into Gerry Scully who was working tirelessly upfront as a lone striker. His hard work paid off ten minutes into the second half when he finished superbly after a fine UL move. This gave UL great confidence and they continued to push on in numbers. They went ahead a few minutes later when Robbie

Downes blasted a great free kick over the Hill Celtic wall and into the top corner of the net. The Hill Celtic goalie may have been distracted by Robbie's rather 'unique' fashion sense. Hill Celtic came charging back at UL and equalised with a brilliant header after a great cross from the left. Both sides created a number of chances but it was Hill Celtic who went ahead after they were awarded a penalty. To their great credit, UL did not give up and great work by John Morris and Chris Shepard earned UL a penalty, which was converted by the excellent John Paul Henry. It looked like the game was going to end in a draw but in injury time Hill Celtic stole the game after a header was judged by the referee to have crossed the line when it looked like it hadn't. UL continue to improve game by game and deserved at least a point out of the game.

Squad : Greg Coulter, Pat Tynan, Chris Shepard, Friso DeJong, Fergal Fennessy, Jack Anderson, James Binchy, Jason Begley, John Morris, Ger O'Driscoll, Niall Brosnan, Robbie Downes, John Lynam, Gerry Scully, Ammaniel Araia, Tony Connelly, Kevin Donnelly, Kevin Maher, Martin Power, Daragh Kennedy, Paul Mulvihill.

U21 National League

The ball is rolling for UL to enter a team into the Eircom National U21 League in time for the start of next season. This is a big development for the Club. This is a stepping stone for our goal of entering into the National League soon. The steps are slow, but we'll take it one step at a time.

The Club was kindly sponsored this season by The Scholars Club, The Stables Club, AIB, ULSU, McElligotts Coach Hire, Kilmurry Lodge Hotel, Guinness, Analog Devices and Kostal.



UL Badminton Club does the treble, only Ireland and Europe stands in the path of total domination

It seems that nothing can stop this year's Senior Badminton Team who are literally winning all round them, the club has now won more trophies in the past month than it has in the previous 25 years. Starting over the Easter weekend UL won the Intervarsities for the 1st time in its history, this was followed by the retaining of the Limerick crown which it won last year for the 1st time and this in turn was followed by the club winning its 1st ever Munster trophy when the Badminton club won the Munster Senior Club title.

Varsities

Perhaps the finest moment in the history of the UL Badminton Club came on Easter Weekend when UL won the Badminton Intervarsities. Hosted here in UL, it took sheer determination and guts for this team to take on some of the best players in Ireland and win.

The first major test for the UL team was their match against Trinity in the second round of Group B. The Trinity team had three current International players, so it was a mighty relief when UL emerged with a credible 4-4 draw. UL finished top of the group with 3 wins (Tralee IT, UCC & Tallaght IT) and a draw (Trinity) however we had the best sets difference. In Group A, UCD (hot favorites and the winner of the last 8 out of 11 Varsities) finished top followed by Maynooth. The UL B team also managed to qualify for the plate semi-final by finishing 4th in this group.

Semi-Finals

UL V's Maynooth 5-1 in the end UL had a fairly handy victory here, however NUI Maynooth started very well and gave the impression that they could cause a major upset. Maynooth's 1st ladies raised eyebrows to say the least when they had a great victory against the UL pair of Anne-Marie Reid and Karen Kennelly. Maynooth also started well in the men's doubles but the greater experience of the Nelligan brothers of Eric and Alan finally got their act together to give them a crucial victory. This knocked the wind out of the sails of Maynooth and UL ran away with the remaining games.

In the meantime, the "one to watch" between UCD and Trinity was taking place...

UCD v Trinity 5-1 UCD had a comprehensive 5-1 victory over



Trinity. This didn't do much for the confidence of the UL camp as we only drew with Trinnors four all. Trinity's only victory came in the 1st men's where Irish Internationals Ciaran D'Arcy and Neil Lynch beat the other Irish International pairings of Thomas Ward and Darryl Eadie in a fantastic encounter. Some splendid games of Badminton were witnessed and another other exciting games included 1st ladies where Trinity's International Keelin Fox did her best to prevent UCD taking a narrow victory. The 1st two mixed were also classic games with some brilliant rallies and deft shots. But UCD came through quite easily in the end.

And so the scene was set: For the third time in four years UL were to meet UCD in the Badminton Intervarsity Final. UCD were of course the hot favourites, and nobody gave UL much of a chance especially when one considers the thrashing that we have endured from UCD in the past. But at last Lady Luck was on our side...

UL v UCD 4-4 This was a close nail biting match that was neck and neck the whole time. Well done to the Ladies, who did well to win both their doubles and with both men's games lost to the Dubs the score was 2-2 going into the mixed games. UCD moved into the lead again when they won 1st mixed, UL levelled the scores at 3-3 when Eric Nelligan and Fiona Farrell pulled off a major surprise by beating Thomas Ward and Michelle O'Brien 15-8, 15-4. The scores were now tied at 3 all with two mixed games left. The final two mixed ended with UL comfortably winning 4th mixed while UCD winning 3rd mixed. Now the realisation began to set in that it would have to go down to points, a thorough adding of the points showed that UL had won by the narrow margin of 6 points, UL had 177

while UCD had 171. Victory went to UL, and revenge was sweet!

The Cup wasn't the only piece of silverware UL would receive, the UL "B" team gave an outstanding performance to make it to the Plate Final where they met Queens.

Queens v UL B 5-1 Queens were the red hot favourites going into this game, and UL B didn't seem to have much of a chance. The result of the game was never in doubt as Queens flew into a 3-0 lead, UL's only victory came in the 2nd men's. However, Queens were simply too strong for UL "B" and took victory in the end.

It wouldn't be an Intervarsity without the obligatory drinking sessions throughout the weekend. I must at this point thank Guinness, from whom the beer just kept on coming and was responsible for a number of twisted badminton players roaming around the streets of Limerick during the wee hours!

As for the nights out, well any plans made by the UL team of getting a good night's sleep on the Friday before the madness began were quashed when prompted by a bottle of vodka courtesy of Anne-Marie Reid's mother (thanks Mammy Reid!) the session began! After all it is good to have a bonding session before any match, although Alan and Fiona might have taken the whole "bonding" experience a bit too literally!

It must be said that things didn't get off to the best of starts on the Saturday night when we were left wondering exactly which city centre did the bus driver think he was driving us to, Dublin or Limerick? Well after a good few trips around the one round about (yes you read right), we eventually made it not into town but on the side of the road half way into town with the horn of the bus blaring! (Again you read right). After about ten or fifteen deafening minutes stuck there, Dave Savage our hero

from Tallaght used all his hotwiring experience to fix the problem. At last we were on the way...

That night Nestors and the Globe showed us a great time with great bands and DJs and just too many promotions, if the sore heads the next day were anything to go by! Of course there was some scandalous behaviour, its not like the UL crew to behave on nights out! One Conor Smyth from UL was thrown out of the Globe, for chatting up the Bouncer, was it? In the meantime his brother Patrick, from UCD, was doing his best to infiltrate the UL camp via Andria. He might have succeeded at getting the girl but the team's tactics eluded him!

The Sunday night saw the Badminton crowd taking to Limerick town again (no hiccups this time), firstly in McGregors and then on to the Market. McGregors saw the girls defeating the boys at downing the pints, and were the first to fall to the floor aswell...While the Market was the setting for some absolutely awful dancing (God knows Badminton players aren't noted for their rhythm!) Those who weren't getting jiggy with it on the dancefloor were busy elsewhere, like Ross McCann from Queens and Sarah McCabe from UCD. After numerous phone calls Ross was eventually found by the Queens team the next morning just in time to play his next match!

The last night of the Intervarsity was spent in the confines of the Lodge – no complaints here! By the way thanks to the Kilmurry Lodge for hosting the Presentation Dinner for us and also, thanks to Rowan West for presenting each of the prizes. After all the formalities were gotten out of the way, along came the entertainment courtesy of Sandra Lynch a.k.a Anne Robinson, yes you guessed it, it was time to play the Weakest Link! The poor souls who bore the brunt of Anne's tortuous questions were Gavin from Maynooth, Tim from Cork, Dave from UCD and our own Andria from UL. Questions ranged from the obscure to the obscene, not to mention ridiculously embarrassing for the contestants! Gavin was voted out first and then Andria was thankfully released from the reputation damaging interrogation! The remaining two players in order to win had to be the first to crawl around the function room and kiss Anne Robinson's toes. As you can imagine they were a little reluctant,

so a bottle of Black Label vodka for the winner was brought in to entice them ...lets just say the two are still suffering from the carpet burns today! Following this we went to the niteclub and all had a great time. Afterwards, it was back to the function room for some more drinking and a very drunken singsong! Conor and Dave from Cork and Marie from Tralee should definitely not give up the day jobs!

Overall the Intervarsities was a great success in terms of the running of it, the nights out and of course the victory. The University Arena was the perfect location for this tournament and I'd like to thank all the staff there for helping us throughout the weekend. The UL Badminton Club would also like to thank its many sponsors including Kilmurry Lodge hotel and niteclub, Bank of Ireland, Stables, Scholars, Kilmurry village shop, Mary Dinan Sports, O'Mahonys Bookstore, and Guinness.

Limerick Final

UL Badminton Club retained the Limerick City and County title, which it won for the first time last year in a closely contested final. UL had met their opponents twice previously this year, UL won the first encounter while Manister won the second encounter.

As with the previous encounter, Manister stormed into a 2-0 lead. It was always going to be extremely unlikely that anyone of

the UL players would trouble former Irish international Denise O'Shea in ladies singles. The men's singles was always going to be a close encounter, Alan Nelligan representing UL tried hard but in the end the Manister players was a few points too good. As with the previous two games UL were very strong in the doubles and they had few problems in winning the doubles. Andria Beazley and Gillian Holmes had no problems in the ladies doubles, the same could be said of Eric Nelligan and Shane O'Sullivan in the men's doubles.

The score was now evenly balanced at 2-2, as usual the mixed would decide the destination of the final. Eric and Fiona Farrell were out in the first mixed, despite a great effort in a game that lasted nearly an hour they narrowly lost in three sets. Things began to look seriously bad for UL when Alan and Andria were hammered in the first set. The change over did them the world of good and a massive transformation took place, they went on to narrowly win the 2nd set while they ran off with the 3rd set. The deciding 3rd mixed was never really going to anybody but UL, Shane and Gillian played very well to win the 3rd mixed with the minimum of fuss.

Munster Finals

After the agonisingly narrow defeat in last years final, the club went one better to record the famous

victory in their home venue, the University Arena.

UL's opponents in the semi-final were Galbally. Despite the best efforts of the Galbally team they were no match for UL who stormed through to the final with a comprehensive 4-0 victory. Gillian Holmes (the only new addition to last years team) won her ladies singles, Shane O'Sullivan was UL's men's victorious singles player, Fiona Farrell and Andria Beazley had the toughest match in their ladies doubles but managed to win, while it was final game involving the Nelligan brothers of Eric and Alan who sealed UL's convincing victory. And so it was on to the final.

UL's opponents in the final were Carrigtwohill from Cork. Carrigtwohill had come through a very tough semi-final with a narrow 4-3 win against ArdnaCrusha from Clare. In the ladies singles Gillian Holmes narrowly lost in a thrilling game. This gave Carrigtwohill a 1-0 lead but this was as good as it got for the Cork team as the UL students turned on the style. UL went into a 2-1 lead as the UL men easily won the singles (Shane) and doubles (Eric & Alan) by massive margins. The turning point in the overall game came in the ladies doubles. Things started badly for UL as Andria and Fiona were beaten 15-5 in the first set, the second set was a much closer affair with some great rallies and superb net

shots, however the UL girls held their own to narrowly take the second set 15 points to 13. With confidence high after the second set 2nd set Andria and Fiona produced an excellent performance to comfortably win the 3rd set 15-6.

UL were now with a 3-1 lead, and needing just one victory from final three mixed. As the mixed games progressed the large crowd of onlookers began to realise that a UL victory was imminent. All three UL pairs won their opening sets comfortably and it was now a mini race to see who'd win 1st, the honour fell to Alan and Andria to claim UL's 1st ever Munster club title

UL will now compete in the All-Irelands finals, however by the time you read this the final will have been played. The final event in the clubs calendar will be the club trip to Norway, this trip will take place from the 13th - 20th of August. If there are any members interested in traveling to what should be an excellent week, you must contact Brid Walsh (0040819@student.ul.ie) or Enda O'Connor (0034304@student.ul.ie) before the end of the semester.

And don't forget to check out the clubs website for all the latest news, fixtures and club photos on: <http://badminton.csn.ul.ie/> or <http://www.csn.ul.ie/~shuttle/>



Triumphant Again-Do U.L Athletes Ever Stop Winning?

MARIA SHEEHAN

U.L athletes rule! In fact it would be quite fair to say that they rocked Santry a few weekends ago with a performance that can only be described as phenomenal. All I can say-humble though it may be-is that I was mighty chuffed to be part of it. The camp undeterred by the fact that it had been severely hit by injuries stuck to its task of bringing back home the four cups and showed indescribable team spirit in the process. This year alone we have won ten out of the eleven cups to be won and we seem to better our performance each time we tog out to compete. This weekend was no exception. Our boys (in their collected form-the envy of all colleges) represented themselves with a performance that can only be classed as fantastic.

Brendan Bourke gave his usual high quality performance winning the 110m hurdles, the shot and the discus. Brendan was also seen doing the pole vault and the hammer picking up valuable points in the process. Speaking of pints another man who earned his fair share was Alan Delaney winning the high jump in style and bravely finishing fifth in the 400m hurdles-the one lap wonder I hear you say-not at all! Just a man that loves getting points!

The aerodynamic Alex Brennan deserved his win in the 400m hurdles (I put it down to sudden hair loss myself). He ran bravely to finish well aHEAD of the field.

Colm Lynch gave a stunning performance in the 400m; he showed great cunning to finish second in a top quality field. What a Kerryman!!

John Coughlan and Dermot Smith (Cocho and Smithie) paired up in the 100m each of them pointing and Paul Phelan also jumped his way into the points fin-

ishing fifth in the long jump and third in the triple jump.

John Egan was definitely eager, finishing the 800m just in time to start the steeplechase. Although quite an achievement to finish both he also picked up those points needed to confirm our domination and to help in our anialation of all competition.

Brian Swaby left a few pockets empty when he proved some gamblers wrong and gave a stunning performance to finish fifth in the 1500m (it is rumoured that he was running on an empty bladder). Multi talented Kevin Burke whose amazing feats are too numerous to mention in detail, dominated. He finished second in the long jump, third in the 200m, fourth in the shot and 110m hurdles and captured the multi-events title outclassing his competition by miles. Others to help the team out were Mark Reid, Adrian Gurn, Damien Cunningham, Vincent McGuinness, Michael Nelson and Francis Hanily. However, the last word must go to the captain himself, Mr. Mark Hamilton, he managed to juggle organising everyone else with competing himself and succeeded- more about him later.

Boys you not only did yourselves proud, you also did us proud.

Now moving on to the fairer sex, and man did the girls hold their own. Orna and Rosie were competing all over the place, jumping, running, throwing and hurdling. Multi talented as a description of these two is an understatement. Sorry girls, if I were to report on all of your outstanding achievements there wouldn't be enough paper. Mary Kilkenny ran a stormer in the 400m to finish fifth and Orla Power gave an excellent performance in her debut over 800 m to finish an excellent fourth in top quality company.



Norah and Anne walked their way into a share of the ladies points tally and top points were achieved by Fiona Reid and Anna Verges in the 3000m where the pair finished first and second respectively. Fiona actually managed to get around without falling, but she made up for this on Saturday night where she and the dance floor had a unique bond.

Elaine O'Donoghue stamped her class on the 5000m field to finish first and another debut performance for Theresa O'Hanlon over this distance proved to be successful-she got bronze. Croine Wyse and Nora Mulcahy came second and third in the pole vault respectively and Emma Daniel picked up valuable points in the discus and hammer, for the latter she was joined by Avril Mansfield who also pointed in style.

Eliz Egan didn't quite manage to do as many bends this weekend as she did in Nenagh last December but she came very close. Finishing second in the 1500m in which she was joined by Claire Phelan, she also did the 400m hurdles for good measure. She performed her role as captain to perfection.

Now to the relays-My God didn't we kick ass? Both the mens and the women's 4 x 100m and 4 x 400m teams picked up golds. All involved in each of the four teams ran a blinder. Most notable performances must go to Sheila Buckley for an excellent start in the 4 by 100meters. Mark Hamilton had an outstanding and gutsy leg in the 4 x 400m team (for a man that likes lard, you showed some speed) and John Coughlan who false started a couple of times.

Words of appreciation must also go out to our most vocal supporters-The merry men themselves-Dave Crowley and Crazy Steve, along with Bairbre they

managed to amuse us and to get us movin. A special mention must go to Lynne Cantwell who for her size has a wicked loud voice. Without her I don't think we would have gotten all the way around the track.

Now for the gossip-nothing exceptional happened. Dave, John and Alan fell asleep, I hear that this is a regular occurrence. Alan met up with old friends from Queens while Dermot made some new ones. John Egan fell in love with the ladies tea/coffee pot and we are all still asking the question-Who stole Colm's pants? Brendan Bourke told some stories, in which I hear he has quite a career. I believe he gives an amusing rendition of the Diver and his Snorkel.

Next the acknowledgments, Daddy Mark and Mammy Eliz, be proud. For the effort ye have put in, ye deserve all this success. It's all been said before. The both of ye are fantastic; all that is left to say is thank you both very much-this first year is very impressed. Also John Coughlan, the sprints group would like to thank you for your advice, your tips and those stomach-turning sessions that you devise. We hope that next year we will be able to continue without your coaching excellence. You are a star and we owe a lot to you. Thanks man.

On a final note I am so sorry if I have left anyone out. Congratulations to all, to describe the weekend as successful doesn't do it full justice, it was absolutely brilliant. I think I say it for everyone when I say thank ye for some laugh, have a lovely summer and roll on next year.

A word of congratulations to Colin Griffin who broke the national junior record for the 10k walk on the same weekend at a grand prix meet in England. It is unfortunate



that he couldn't have been with us, he would have definitely impressed.

Captains' Bit

Thanks Maria! Great job on the article. In her modest nature, of course, Maria neglected to mention that she herself took a silver medal in the 200m, bronze in the 400m, as well as helping BOTH relay teams to victory, and all this in her first year in college! Much Respect on a job well done!

And so the most successful year ever for ULAC comes to a close. 11 cups from 12 isn't a bad tally. (We're working on a grand slam next year) And while we struggle to stuff all our trophies into the cabinet, we reflect on what has been a rewarding, but more importantly, a thoroughly enjoyable year for the club.

The year began with the women's team taking victory at the Road Relays in November, while the men put in a solid performance also. This was followed by overall



victory at the Indoor Championships in December. With a strong taste of victory in their mouths, and with huge ambitions, the middle-distance squad then put in an amazing performance to take both men's and women's titles at the Cross-Country Championships in April. The icing on the cake then came at the Track & Field Championships two weeks ago, where the club put in a repeat performance of last year to make a clean sweep of all 4 titles. Next year, aside from the Grand Slam (!), ULAC is planning to expand on our success even fur-

ther. With some good international performances under our belt this year, we hope to send a big team abroad to compete in a match with some foreign universities. The World Student Games take place in Beijing, China at the end of the summer. Colin Griffin and Rosie Ryan look good for qualification, so we wish them the very best of luck should they be selected to compete.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Sports Department, and in particular Neasa Fahy-O'Donnell, for all her help and support throughout the

year. A big thanks also to Paul Lee and the Clubs & Socs. Exec. for all their help. Thanks too to Kilmurry Lodge and everyone else who contributed to making the year a resounding success. None of our achievements would have been possible without your help. We look forward to your continued support next year, when ULAC will again, go for Gold!

It is with a heavy heart that we say Slán go Fóil and Bon Voyage to Siobhan O'Keefe, who is leaving us this summer, after 8 years as an outstanding servant to the club. We wish her every success in the future, and thank her from the bottom of our hearts for all she has done.

On a final note, Eliz and myself would just like to say a big "Thank You" to all the club. It has been a great honour and pleasure serving as captains. Thanks for an enjoyable and memorable year. We now pass The Baton to Rosie Daniel and Dermot Smith, who will serve as captains for next year. Congratulations to them. We only hope you will enjoy it as much as we have!

Postgraduates Students Association go from Strength to Strength this year

The PSA Committee

Well it's the end of another year in which the Postgrad Association has gone from strength to strength. Initially we faced the momentous task of trying to fill the shoes of a particularly dynamic committee but the annual meeting proved to be a success with the election of a mix of old hands and new blood to the committee.

The 'Welcome to Postgrad Life' party at the beginning of the year provided a very necessary avenue for new Postgrads to meet each other at a time that can be very intimidating for those of us who are new to the college. The association held various events during the year which brought both research and taught Postgrads together in that unifying activity of having a few pints and a long winded discussion about the situation in some completely unknown country just to prove how like intellectual we are y'know like! The Christmas Party in Schooners was very well attended and a great night was had by all, very likely due to the fact that the word 'Free' came before everything. The 'Going to the Dogs' night

made a reappearance under the supervision of Andrew McCormack, VP and the Committee assisted in a Race Night for Rwandan street children in the Stables which many Postgrads attended and lost their rent money in the process. The Annual Charity Ball was held in the Castle Oaks and was undoubtedly the highlight of the year. The Greenbacks were excellent, as was DJ Keith who got the crowd going, not that they needed any encouragement. Much of the crowd retired to the new Postgrad centre after the Ball and were happily ensconced there with their free drink until the wee hours of the morning. The PSA would like to extend special thanks to the sponsors of the Ball and the Raffle who were very generous. We would also like to thank all of you who put on your good guna's and your monkey suits in support of Milford Hospice and St. Vincent de Paul and made it a truly memorable night.

Of course the PSA has a dual role in that not only does it organise events for Postgrads, it also represents Postgrads on various committees in the college ranging from

Governing Authority and Academic Council to the Students Union Executive. Marcus has been very active in putting forward the Postgrad point of view all year and this has resulted in some major steps forward in Postgrad policy. One notable achievement has been the reforming of the Regulations dealing with Supervisor-Postgrad relations which will mean a lot to those of you who have been experiencing problems with your supervisor over the year. Marcus has been working on the Postgrad Academic Charter in conjunction with the Dean of Research Studies Nicholas Rees throughout the year and it is now in its final stages of development. The Irish Postgrad Forum has been resurrected and it has met with the Minister for Education to discuss additional funding for both research activities and the grant and we'll let you know how that progresses. Many of you dropped in to Marcus during the year to discuss various issues and your input has been invaluable. The PSA President's office is now located within the new Postgrad Centre. The Centre has so far played host to a number of

Postgrad functions and it is intended to widen its usage over the Summer with the installation of web access and other facilities when the finances become available (and possibly even free coffee!!). We'd like to see it turn into a hub of Postgrad activities that all Postgrads can feel free to drop in to and lounge about in. Marcus will be finishing up the end of June and wishes to thank the Committee, Andrew McCormack, Paul Healy, Carol Timmons and Eoin Brazil for their contribution and those Postgrads who attended the various functions during the year and wishes every success to the those Postgrads who are leaving us to pursue their chosen paths. The President elect is Carol Timmons, a current Masters in Comparative and European law student and she will take over in July and intends to keep you all entertained this Summer with as many events as she can think of. Have a great Summer and talk to you soon.

STAND UP FOR THE CHAMPIONS – WHAT A YEAR FOR THE CELTIC SUPPORTERS



Who would have thought it? After the disgraces and humiliations of last year, Celtic are now the undisputed kings of Scottish football. Apart from their League Cup victory, they have brought a new level to the League, losing only once all season. With the title secured on the first weekend in April, it was time to put on a show. Anyone who witnessed the events of 29th April will know what I mean. The 3-0 stuffing of the blue half of Glasgow was the culmination of an amazing season. And the University of Limerick Celtic Supporters Club was there every step of the way.

This year, the supporters club had its best season yet, not surprising considering events on the pitch. Over 200 members helped to make the club as successful as it was, with numerous trips to Paradise, legendary Celtic evenings all over the country as part of the Association of Irish Celtic Supporters Clubs, as well as being very active in or around the campus.

The first trip took 54 diehards over for the tricky assignment against Hearts at the end of November. Despite the long travel time, everyone was in great spirits when we arrived, and it didn't take long for most of the lads to immerse themselves in East Glasgow culture. The game itself was amazing.

Despite the early setback of a Hearts goal, the Hooped legends scored six without reply, including an amazing curling drive from crowd favourite Joos Valgaeren. We left the magnificent stadium in great spirits and went exploring the late night delights of Glasgow (!!!). Everyone returned safely to get back on the ferry the next morning, and we arrived in Limerick content that no one could possibly have had a better weekend.

Two weeks later, a coachload left the Stables on the Friday night, hoping that a similar result would be obtained against Dunfermline. Well, it was a different sort of game to say the least.

Incompetence began to manifest itself in various Celtic players, and we were fortunate to leave with a 3-1 victory. The only bright point on a disappointing evening was that we had learned to win when we weren't playing particularly well. Two of our club members, Martin Power and myself, were fortunate enough to be invited into the Players' Lounge after the game. It was some experience to finally get to meet our heroes on a one-to-one basis, and Martin also enjoyed the free bar!

An amazing number of UL Celts made the trip over for the 'Irish Derby' against

Hibernian. A different weekend was in prospect as the Sunday evening kick-off ensured we had a changed schedule. Nevertheless, bhoys being bhoys, we made the most of it, and were even content when the match finished 1-1, as it could so easily have been worse! It was the sad end to a proud UL Celtic record, as for the first time since our inception in '97, we were present when Celtic dropped points. It didn't take long for most of the lads to forget about it though!

Apart from our official club trips, our members have made various trips of their own. A number of UL Celts, Aengus O'Malley, Gerry Scully and myself, were in Luxembourg, as part of Aengus' reformed Paris CSC, for the start of our underachieving UEFA Cup run, and we had representation, in the guise of that lunatic Martin Power, at the infamous 6-2 Demolition Derby last August. Martin, JP O'Connor and myself were proud to be at Celtic Park for the presentation of the League Championship trophy only two weeks ago, where another unforgettable Celtic party took place. It's at times like this where the magnitude of being Celtic supporters really hits home.

Our on-campus and local activities were considerable also, and both the

college bars were graced with our unique presence on numerous occasions. We were also rumoured to have left our mark on Limerick's only Celtic bar, Tims on Thomas St. The highlight of our social calendar was once again our Kollege Week gig, where Wicklows finest, Oisín, entertained an enthusiastic crowd like never before. With the League being clinched that weekend, it was a week we'll never forget. Only the Association dinner in Dublin in July, complete with first team squad and coaching staff, and hopefully three trophies, can possibly top that. We were also major players in the Hands Off Our Hoops campaign, when the Celtic board inexplicably dispensed with 98 years of tradition by launching a jersey without the trademark green and white hoops, and having the audacity to call it a Celtic jersey. Thousand attended rallies the length and breadth of the country, and the influential voices of various Celtic greats added weight to a strongly presented argument, but once again the weak link in the Celtic armoury didn't heed the supporters concerns and the jersey was launched as planned on St. Patricks weekend. Thankfully, it hasn't sold too well and we have been spared the sight of too many Celtic wannabes parading this excuse for a jersey.

The most important event of our year was the unveiling of a commemora-

tive plaque in honour of Darnell Lordan, a much loved and well remembered member of the UL Celtic Supporters Club, who tragically lost his life only a few short years ago. Aengus delivered an emotional tribute to him on the night, which was well received by Darnell's family and by all those present. He will be fondly remembered as a Celtic supporter, and our thoughts are with him and his family always. We would like to dedicate the achievements of this supporters club, and the recent achievements of Celtic Football Club to his memory.

The committee of the UL Celtic Supporters Club would like to thank our main sponsors, The Stables Club, as well as Guinness, McNulty Coaches, The Travel Lodge Group, StenaLine, The Scholars Club and Tims for all their help and support throughout the year. We are also very grateful to Paul in the C&S Office for his continuous help, and to John, Diane, Tony and Frank in Glasgow who helped to make our season so enjoyable.

Championees,
Championees,
Hail! Hail!
Darach Kennedy, ULCS



UL Radio Society Year in Review - New Studio, New Manager & one great year

Tommy Finneran

For some time the UL Radio society has struggled to be viewed as a separate organisation from Wired FM and although the two work hand in hand, it was the aim of the Society from the onset this year to prove that as an independent society, The Radio Soc. have much to offer. In hindsight, as we finish another academic year and Club and Soc' activities grid to a halt, we're very proud of the busy and productive year, not just with Wired FM but with the many activities and events we held.

A new studio, new Station Manager and a new beginning for Wired FM in UL welcomed us all back last September. It was looking good from the onset with our largest new membership, most recruited as part of Orientation Week's Marquee, which hosted stalls for all Clubs and Societies. New members were most enthusiastic and gelled successfully with current members resulting in a more driven and comprehensive society than perhaps previous years.

Meanwhile, Ms. Neasa McGann took over as Station Manager for Wired FM and calling all three colleges together; a new team spirit soon manifested. Our own reception from WIRED was improved around Castletroy only a

few months earlier with the new 106.8FM frequency. We were all excited with our new studio in the Student Centre and although some technical problems hindered early in the semester, a new-found professionalism brought the Radio Societies of all three colleges and WIRED FM closer together resulting in better programmes, better quality and better listening. Aside from the radio, the other DJ's in the society were planning their own project. The aim was to finally unite the best in UL DJ talent and give it a recognisable platform. We felt sure that there lay an abundance of unheard talent and we were right. ASCENSION began in the Scholar's Function room and brought such names as Deccy, Shaney boy, Fergal F, Liam Curran, and Brian Phelan to the decks. Naturally, such a range of influences and talent created some of the most interesting and diverse gigs.

With the successful nights in the Function Room, ASCENSION was moved to the Globe in Limerick City for a night and although town was empty as a result of the Taxi strike, the UL Radio Society were responsible for the only busy venue that night. Drink promotions and good music attracted many but the DJ competition was the real feature and out of the array of first class talent,

Brain Phelan was commissioned as the Deck Master. Brian has since impressed the masses in Soul Clininc, during Kollege week at the infamous Jerme Healy & Bugged Out Resident, James Holroyd and apparently the talented DJ has even attracted a fan-base (see letters An Focal Week 11!)

As part of SOUL week, the Radio Soc. joined forces with one of the most improved and animated societies in the college this year. The Sci-Fi Society added more than the odd "Treky" question to the table quiz held in the Stables. SOUL Radio was unfortunately withheld as a result of technical problems with the new studio but we held our chins high knowing things were only getting better.

Our Society also became a little more organised with regular e-mail bulletins for all members, a new homepage and e-mail address on CSN while a free advertising and promoting service was offered to all UL Societies. Some great relations were struck up and a fundraising night only helped strengthen relationships in the Lodge after St. Paddy's Weekend.

However, Kollege week was the highlight of the Radio Society's calendar. While most of you were enjoying the festivities and fun, we were preparing for silence. 12

hours of silence to be exact and in doing so we managed to raise over £800 for charity thanks to sympathetic and generous students. ASCENSION once again entertained in the Scholars whilst "Rag Radio" could be heard until the early hours. New presenters, shows and ideas joined the more settled slots to bring some of the Kollege Week fun to our airways. Thankfully, it all ran smoothly and was a credit to all involved.

So, not a bad year at all for the society. However, we owe much gratitude to all who helped us including Nessa in Mary I, Fergal and all the lads involved in ASCENSION, our sponsors and all who helped with spot prizes and to you for playing along! Also, a special thanks to Paula O'Sullivan, our Co-op student in the studio, for taking us through the transition to the new studio and for promoting and informing everyone about society events. The radio society wishes you all the best in the future Paula!

We've got even more ideas for next year and in the true spirit of the Society our ideas will hopefully help, entertain and involve you. Why not get involved? E-mail: radio@csn.ul.ie and remember to stay tuned to WIRED on 106.8FM, broadcasting until the end of the exams to keep us all company!

Another Successful Year for the UL Equestrian Club

RUNNING, SWIMMING, SHOOTING and RIDING....., otherwise known as the Tetrathlon Intervarsities, was how the equestrian club embarked on there dominating year. Two teams headed down to Tralee at the start of November for what promised to be an eventful competition. Saturday saw the start of the competition with the running. Kerry weather and mucky fields meant less than ideal conditions but UL were not deterred from such adversity and Kiera-Eva and Rob both won their respective competitions. Next was the shooting where once again UL dominated with Rhona getting the highest score. From there the competitors moved onto the swimming phase, which involves swimming as many lengths as possible in the required time. Day 2 saw the riding phase in which the team of Rob Downes, Kiera-Eva Mooney, Rhona Howell and Paul Downes succeeded in clinching the overall team title for the third time in a row. That however was not enough for them and individually Kiera-Eva won the female indi-

vidual with Rhona coming third and Rob won the mens individual title.

More competitions followed on in February with the Equestrian Intervarsities being held in Galway. This involved a number of equestrian disciplines: showjumping, dressage and prix caprilli. The showjumping team, consisting of Ciaran O'Neill, Pamela Galvin and Jen McDonald and Julie-Anne Hannon as an individual, were unlucky to say the least with the draw for the horses. Ciaran got through to the second round where he was unlucky not to feature any further. The dressage team of Haley Wade, Paul Downes and Sinead O'Keeffe also gave a good performance but tough competition meant they didn't get through to the next round. Sunday saw the prix caprilli competition get underway where UL were made proud with the performance of the team comprising of Fiona O'Keeffe, Liam O'Connor and Stephen McAvinchy. Once again ULEC were bringing home cups, with the prix caprilli team coming first and Stephen also winning indi-

vidually with Liam coming third.

Due to the Foot and Mouth crisis, all other events since then had to be cancelled but plans are already underway for next year. This summer is also looking set to be another busy one for the club. For the past three years members have travelled with the Irish Student Riders Team to such countries as Germany, Austria, America and Switzerland to compete in the Nations Cup. This year so far, members have been selected to go to Romania to compete. UL are hosting the Tetrathlon in November of this year so be prepared for an unforgettable weekend. Many people will remember the event being held here three years ago and this year promises to be even better, with UL trying to retain the title for the fourth successive year, so you are warned now!!!

For more information contact:
Fiona O'Keeffe
9932569@student.ul.ie

UL Gaelic Football Club Notes

Cumann Peile Ollscoil Luimnigh would like to thank the following for their help with the club during the year: Beamish & Crawford, Cork, in particular Brendan Coughlan for MGD, Paul Lee and the ULSU, The UL Sports Dept. for their facilities, The Stables Club, & Anthony Walsh at Kilmurry Lodge Hotel.

All those who brought in fundraising money, a big thank you. Fresher A team mentors; Intermediate team mentors and Micheal McDermott Fresher B team mentors, Dan Doonan, Shane Dalton and Joe Chambers for leading their team to the All Ireland final David Daly, To those of you who helped the Cathaoirleach in any way, you know who you are, take a bow. Best of luck to the incoming committee — the "wise old head" has left the ball in your court! Many thanks to PRO Denis Everett and his secretary Damien Stephens for their very kind words in the last issue — just to put it to rest, I didn't write it myself.

Beir bua agus beannacht.

Is mise le meas
Mick Fitz
Cathaoirleach ULGFC 1999 - 2001

The Windsurfing Adventure continues this summer in Gran Canaria

Edward Kilgariff

Hey kids, how's it goin'. It's been 2 weeks already? I can't believe it. We had another beginners week-end, which I was on about in the last An Focal.

And lads, it was only fantastic. There was no sun, sand & sea, but there was Bar-b-que, wind and a sauna. Perfect for windsurfing. And let me tell you that, the DURTY sailor known as Paul Ruddy can't cook to save himself. Eating Ruddy's food made eating small lumps of coal really quite appealing.

Oh, when will Dave Hurley (former club captain) return, then he can cook us proper Bar-b-que. The club got allot of new equipment in. I mean this stuff is really fantastic. And,



Yes... yours truly, Lord Ed. has passed his powerboat level two-certificate exam. Although, it was a small step for me, it was a huge leap for mankind. Also, all semester long, I've been trying to stir up a bit of rivalry between both presidents of the club. Now as this is the last article of the year, I think we should get them to fight it out Gladiator style. Except with electric cattle prods instead

of those cushioned sticks. What do you say to "Mountain Man Brian" Verses "Mad Mucker Diarmuid"? I think it would be a great round off to the year. "Round off to the year?" Oh dear God no!!!!, Exams!!!!!! Arrrgghh. Well exams can only mean one thing, that the Clubs & Socs finishing up for the year. YOU THINK? The Windsurfing Club

is still awaiting their club trip to Gran Canaria. Gran Canaria is the main island of the canary's archipelago. Others are Lanzarote, Tenerife & finally Feurte Ventura, the windsurfing paradise. A couple of members have organised (in conjunction with the club) to go to Gran Canaria near the other Canary Islands for the summer. If you're interested, you should get in contact with Brian

Leddin, Diarmuid Boyle, or Gary Meredith for more information. Or check out the web site.

<http://www.csn.ul.ie/~winds/>

So we will be the only UL club still out there, risking their stomachs on dodgy foreign food. Eeking out a meagre existence on handouts and selling sand to tourists in little Tayto bags that they robbed off kids. Why would they do this you must be asking yourself? Are they mad in the head? Quite possibly, but that's not why they are going. No folks, it's all for the windsurfing. It's all for the adventure.

U.L Judo Club – An end of year comment from your coach

Joe Monaghan

The end has come all too swiftly to my first year of coaching the UL Judo Club. It has indeed been rewarding for me! The members of the club have filled me with inspiration and hope for the future. Having travelled with them to Belfast for the Judo intervarsities, held in Queen's University, where I had a great opportunity to get to know all the individuals in the Club. They enjoyed fully their participation in the Judo competition, were great for a laugh; fun to be with; intelligent and interesting to talk with. I could not speak highly enough of them all.

There is sadness too at this time of year, as some members depart our Club. Three members

in particular must be mentioned. Ailbhe Carpenter, a wonderful Dubliner who will be returning to University in Aberdeen next semester. Ailbhe is a super example of what can be achieved when you dedicate yourself to a goal and give the commitment of attending each session. Ailbhe is a fantastic example for us all. Best of luck in Scotland Ailbhe and to your own Judo Club if it works out!

Paddy Hennessey and Caroline Cannon are at the summit of their college life here in Limerick and will be sitting final exams next month and I must take this opportunity to wish both of them all that they would wish for themselves, from those exams. They have been a driving force in the club for a number of years. They will

undoubtedly leave a huge vacuum in their wake, people who give so much always do. But of course their spirit will live on and others will pick up where they have left off being inspired by their legacy of enthusiasm and dedication.

I am sure that Paddy won't mind me paying special tribute to Caroline Cannon, one of Ireland's top Lady Judo Players and a gracious role model for all aspiring Judoka. It is plain, for anyone who knows Caroline, to see that she has a real sense of ownership and care for the UL Judo Club. I am very aware that a burden of responsibility always accompanies such feelings. Caroline will miss the Club when she has left but will also gain a deserved rest from the workload involved in running an

active Club. If I am right in saying that Caroline will miss us (I hope I'm right – maybe she can't wait to see the back of the place!), please remember Caroline, the Club will miss you far more, so don't be a stranger.

To all our members, I pay tribute to your efforts in this past academic year and look forward to working with you again on the green mat! Don't forget to train over the summer. If there is no Club nearby pick on a brother or sister and if that fails, a Taiotoshi followed very quickly by Kesa Gatame, on the first person you come across will suffice. To all other readers – **BEWARE!**

The Mature Students Society - one year older

Sheila Ellis

Since January the society has been very active socially, with members going on weekends away down to Kerry, and some even on a sun holiday. Our weekly outings included set dancing in Dolan's every Tuesday night, plays in town and in UL, and Jazz nights. We found that Dolan's warehouse was more our scene than the Lodge and head there regularly on the weekends for bands like Kila, The Frames and The Hot House Flowers.

As a society we believe in being as involved in univer-

sity life as much as possible, we attend and help out in many events put on by other societies and support their efforts. A number of us are involved in working with disadvantaged children in The Soccer for Success programme. This programme brings children from their schools and we look after them for 3 hours while they have their dinner, supervise their homework, then take them for a swim or soccer training.

We are actively working to better the lives of mature students for the future; we have put forward many recommendations to UL. These include the

appointment of a Mature Students Officer, there is a proposed increased of mature student intake in the next few years. This increase is due to the drop in the birth rate in the early eighties leaving a slump in the numbers of leaving cert applicants. There are currently 400 of mature students now and there is already a serious need for a person to advise prospective and current mature students. We also feel that more computer rooms should be made available till later hours, especially coming up to exams and project deadlines, 20 minutes is too

long to be waiting for a PC. There is certainly a need for an induction for mature students with a number of current mature students to help to ease the daunting nightmare of the first few days of college. It was suggested that a mentor system would be beneficial to all students, where a person in your course would advise and even sell on books etc. I feel that this would be a system that would greatly improve the



standard especially when a student knows the standard of what is expected for projects etc.

That's all for the moment, see you next semester, we want you all to join us in the party next year.

The year that was Softball

Robert Hickey

The year 2000-2001 had its ups and downs for the softball club but on the whole the year was a major success.

First semester saw the committee tackle the problems that faced the softball club over the past few years, namely the lack of competitive games. We affiliated to the IBSF (Irish Baseball and Softball Federation). The itinerary

of matches has increased dramatically to such an extent that for the first time in the history of Irish college softball an intervarsity competition was held. However similar to other clubs in U.L external forces outside of our control, ie foot and mouth disease prevented the completion of the intervarsity competition which was to be held in Limerick.

Not to dwell on the downside of things, despite

the postponement of matches second semester was our most busiest, enjoyable and interesting to say the least. The first intervarsity leg which was held in Dublin was a huge success, with U.L sending two teams, Our annual home and away match against the UCC pirates was as competitive as ever with a 1-1 draw .Last week saw the first match between UL 55 and WIT, UL winning out narrow winners at 12 runs to 11.

Throughout the year the 55's participated in numerous charity and fundraising events, which The Table Quiz and Pub Golf held jointly with the Sci-fi Soc Ten



Forward in aid of Milford hospice, was most successful, with latter raising nearly £300 for the hospice.

On a closing note, the year would not have gone ahead without the work, support and participation of a few people, Firstly the committee, John, Gerry, Rob, Tim, Dave, Michelle ,The students union, the Killmurray Lodge, The IBSF, The Stables Club, The Scholars Club, However most thanks is for the actual softball players

themselves who were Jenn, nancy, tim, paul, aimee, Kelly, will, kieren ,Amanda, Amanda, annie, Diana, bill, tom, pete, Abe, Jason, Ronnie, Roxeanne, Michael , Abby , Leah, sarah, Malacka, rubin, Nicholas, anna, and who ever else I'm forgetting you can catch me later, Lastly a fond farewell to our puppet president Mr. Jack ryan, whose leaving us for Boston , and finally remember what goes on tour stays on tour!!!!



Outdoor Pursuits Club report on the year's of activities

It's almost over. Both the college semester and the foot and mouth restrictions are ending next week. For those of us interested in all things outdoors, it's been a hard few weeks. However against the odds, the Outdoor Pursuits Club battled through it all.

In the last few weeks, we have tried to improve the club's profile and training. During rag week we took part in the courtyard events with our Tyrolaen Traverse, which was very successful and helped improve awareness of the club. The following week, we held a caving SRT (single rope technique) training session at the climbing wall. This was good fun and will no doubt, prove invaluable in the future, allowing more adventurous caving trips to be planned.

The next weekend there was a



climbing trip to Dalkey Quarry in Dublin. This is the only climbing area open during the foot and mouth crises. Despite early problems in planning the trip, it went ahead as planned. However, poor weather meant that most of the climbing took place at the indoor

wall at UCD. The night before leaving for Dublin, the club decided to wash the climbing wall. The main aim of this was to improve the texture and friction of the climbing holds. The fact that it brightened the grips as well as improving friction was an

added bonus.

With the summer break quickly approaching, all OPC minds are turning to the Alps for some snow and rock fun. Plans are already in place for next semester where we will hope to make up for our forced exile from the countryside this semester.

So if you want to join the most exciting, adventurous, fun-loving club on campus, look out for our stand during orientation week September 2001.

GOOD LUCK TO EVERYONE IN THE EXAMS

Letters to the Editor

The best letter each week will receive an amazing £15

Letter of the Week

Dear Editor,

I have noticed that after the past number of ULSU elections that someone inevitably writes a report, opinion piece, or letter in the pages of An Focal and attributes the quote "Academic politics are so bitter because the stakes are so low" to Henry Kissinger, as in deed was done in the last edition of your publication. There is little doubt that this misquote is a hybrid of two quotes; "Academic politics is the most vicious and bitter form of politics, because the stakes are so low." - Wallace Sayre, a professor of American Government and "University politics are vicious precisely because the stakes are so small." - Henry Kissinger

It should also be pointed out that neither Professor Sayre nor Henry Kissinger were referring to student politics at the time.

During the five years I spent as a student of the University of Limerick, I have heard much being said about those who have held office in the Students' Union that was far from flattering, and indeed in most cases was downright insulting. But I can think of no greater insult than to denigrate the importance of the positions held, to borrow a phrase from a regular contributor to another UL student publication, to refer to the Students' Union as "baby politics". Whether or not it is acknowledged by the student body the fact remains that the officers of the Students' Union have a significant role to play in the lives of nearly 10,000 students, and by extension over 2000 staff, and the wider Castletroy community. The final tally of votes for either candidate in this year's ULSU presidential election would have elected the individual onto any local authority seat in the state. The officers of the Union administer over £400,000 pounds of student money every year and are fighting the UL authorities to have the right to administer even more student money. In other words, the stakes are anything but low.

Having touched on the importance of the role of Students' Union the cynic has to ask the questions; How come only one of four positions was contested this year? How come only two students in a student body of nearly 10,000 contested the president's position? How come the voter turnout is less than 25%? None of these questions are that easy to answer and I fear the answers would be very worrying. Perhaps an even more worrying answer comes about if we ask the question; would Mick Phelan, a fine president with an excellent record, have retained his position without the help of a giant inflatable whale and massive cut-out of shoe sporting the word MIKE with the Nike symbol? Was this a case where the marketing campaign supplemented the election issues? Or was it a case where the marketing campaign replaced the issues? And if indeed the latter case is true is this only sure way of being elected to a position in the ULSU?

Of course the election of sabbatical officers is only one aspect of student governance in UL. Here are some interesting facts regarding the others.

- The Class Representative Council is the body charged with deciding Union policy between general meetings.
- Each class under 25 students is entitled one class rep; each class over 25 members is entitled to two.
- If every undergraduate class had their allowed number of class reps, there would be over 400 class reps.
- This year approximately 70 class reps were registered.
- This year approximately 30-35 of those attended council regularly.
- This year had a better attendance than previous years.

- A Union General meeting must be held once a semester.
- The quorum for a general meeting is 200 students or 2.3% approximately of the student body.
- Of the last 10 general meetings over the past five years only 3 had a quorum.
- Of those 3 meetings none had a quorum for the entire meeting.
- This year there is no Student Teacher Officer on the ULSU Executive
- The post was advertised several times.

'Apathy' is a word that features from time to time in this publication. Several times in the past number of years someone has bemoaned the apathetic nature of the students in UL in the pages of An Focal. Another common excuse is to simply refer to the Students' Union as a 'clique', an approach many have adopted over the years. Is it really as simple as students don't care or the SU is a clique and therefore exclusive to a precious few? Or perhaps it is something that isn't exclusive to UL students and can be seen all over this fair isle. It still amuses me that some of ULSU officers will quite trenchantly tell me that they are not politicians, despite going through a political process to hold their position and being to the forefront of student governance which is de facto political. Of course this fear of being branded political is merely a knock-on effect of the behaviour of many involved in national and local politics throughout the state. Does this fear have a large part to play in the lack of student participation in the ULSU? Or is everything I've already said nonsense and the lack of participation is a result of the student body being content with their lot? I have many thoughts and opinions on the whole situation as do many others, and I believe most would accept that there are no simple answers to the questions posed. Perhaps a more apt quote than those by Kissinger and Sayre when referring to the ULSU over the years is one from Plato "One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors."

Yours etc.
Muiris O'Sullivan
Production Eng Class of 1999,
Grad. Dip. in Business Admin Class of 2000,
Class Rep 1995-1999,
Societies Officer 99/00
Failed ULSU Presidential candidate 2000

A Chara,
The time has come to respond through an open letter to the article written by Mr Gerard Gill in the last edition of An Focal. First of all we would like to thank Mr Gill for his honesty and frankness in his analysis of what he sees to be wrong with our anti-Nestle campaign and what he sees to be right with Globalisation.

Its not often we get the pleasure of hearing such a defence of right wing neo-liberal economic and political thought. Most of these anarcho-capitalists pretend to have some sort of environmental and social conscience. Mr Gill appears to be devoid of these.

But we have never met him in a public forum. Maybe he doesn't really believe what he writes and is playing devil's advocate. Maybe this is why he chooses not to attend "Questions and Answers" which we held here in UL recently where all of Mr Gill's concerns were thrashed out by none other than Dr Mary O'Donnell of UL Economics Dept., Prof. Richard Douthwaite of the foundation for sustainable economics, Kieran Dolan general Secretary of the Irish Creamery and Milk Suppliers association, Deirdre Keogh from Jubilee 2000/ the

Irish debt and development coalition and about 60 UL students who were not afraid to voice their opinions and concerns on both sides of the stratum. But we can do it here anyway.

Mr Gill it is you who are caught in a time warp. Where are all the students who protest at the drop of a hat? There are none. At the anti-WTO demo, which culminated with Seattle last year, 15 people showed up. This year only 20 UL students joined the grants march in the city. 300 students joined the blockade of the college last October. This leaves 9,000 UL students who don't protest. Those days are gone Mr. Gill and we leave it to you to figure out why.

So why have an Environmental Society at all? We would prefer to spend our time playing music, doing drama, cooking food, climbing mountains, making crafts but unfortunately we feel that the human race is in the process of exterminating itself from planet Earth. Let there be no doubt, the Earth will be fine and will recover but we will not be part of it. You call students morons for not obtaining a greater knowledge of issues at hand. Who's fault is this? Did you organise a "Vote No" campaign in the Nescafe Referendum? Did you attend the debate with Baby milk action? If the WHO and UNICEF are unhappy with Nestle's marketing practices, that's good enough for us. After all they are not in it for the money. As to the futility of banning 1 brand, we say one step at a time and look forward to an informed debate when we campaign for a total ban on Nestle products in the SU shop and on campus next year. So are we all happy now that we have no longer got the threats of Communism and Nazism at our door? Isn't the gap between rich and poor widening all the time? Is there a crisis in farming? Are stress and suicide levels rising? Did the Irish Times not announce today (2/5/01) that urban dwellers are 15% more likely to contract cancer. Is there a public transport crisis? Is there a waste crisis? Is our western affluence, which Mr. Gill is so proud of, built off the backs of millions of exploited workers and farmers in the third world? Working for what? Is this the reason we sometimes by second hand clothes, eat locally produced food, avoid plastic bags.....

Mr. Gill, we put it to you that your attitude dis-empowers people. It discourages people from believing they can change anything. We say to you "OUR WORLD IS NOT FOR SALE".

Until such time as you and your ilk acknowledge the environmental, social, and cultural costs of the system you are promoting, we will speak out and actively engage in the issues we care about; issues that affect us all. You even acknowledge that Nestle broke the rules in the past. Isn't this kind of thing inevitable under the present system? We believe in a fair, green, more equitable world.

Yours with the earth,
Cearbhúil Ní fhionnghusa, Mark O'Connor, Tracey Snyder, Kalista Mounjoy, Catarina Kliengebiel, Axel Don, Nancy Serrano, Eoin ó'Broin, Caitriona Jackman, Peter O'Dowyd, Shelia Ellis, Holly O'Reilly, Margaret Liddy, Beth Agnew, Ron Byrne, Oliver Moran, Marie Kennedy,

PS Only one member of the enviro soc can be classed as a hippy or crusty. He is our token mascot to satisfy your (Mr. Gill's) narrow interpretation of the world and to show an alternative to your NIKETOWN culture. You all know who he is. For the sake of the rest of us, "Label Jars, not people!"

Hi, my name is Patrick Kennedy and I'll be your Communications and Campaigns Officer for the coming academic year. I'm just taking this opportunity to say hello to everyone briefly and thank everyone who offered their help and support for

the election campaign. Even though I stood for the position unopposed there are loads of people I want to acknowledge for all they did, however large or small, in aiding and assisting me. They were, as follows;

Fergal Noone: Campaign manager with the easiest job ever and boy he did it so well!

Alan Byrne: Lord of music and conspiracy, instrumental in helping me work computers and spreading propaganda.
Bernie(adette) Sexton, Sinéad Collopy and Grainne O'Mahony: Artists and potential Picassos. Creators of the best ever banner that served little purpose; your true greatness will not be recognised in your own time (like all great artists). I don't think anyone will ever get higher than we did off the fumes of the spray paint.

Nicola Cooke, Nora Lawton and Fiona Lyne: Known as easy, mental and psycho-interchangeable title for each or so I'm told. Earned these titles by doing a trojan amount of PR (or whatever you really want to call it girls) during Kollege Week.
Joanne Finnegan: Scared away all the opposition away with her usual threats, so much to be scared of in one so little is very bewildering

Eimear O'Leary: Acted as campaign manager for half an hour when Fergal was at work. Took up the heavy workload well it must be said.

Jen O'Brien: Provider of the 'raw' political outlook on things

Dee Mangoang and Olivia Frawley: Helped out with the letter drop in Plassey Village

Fintan Tuohy: Another HPSS stalwart, just a good job you never got to wear that poncho.

Alona Troy: World champion Fiesta driver from Bruff and a legend in her own traffic lane.

Ger. (Robbie) Gill: Tried to be controversial at every possible moment also managed to get himself labelled as a fascist by the Environmental Society during the election week, a pillar of society.

Cian O'Driscoll: Theoretical analyst of the possible campaign strategies, don't give up the day job!

Gearoid/Gary/Ger Holland: Or whatever you want to be called, great help on policies and keeping me guessing as to what I should be telling people his name is.

Mary O'Dwyer: Let us hide in her house during our letter drop in Elm Park, great way of avoiding other campaign teams.

Joan O'Sullivan: Great analysis and cheers for trying to prove "that democracy doesn't work!"

David Fleming: An enormous provider of advice and information on policies, don't ask him though he's very modest.

Jennifer Kiely: Respect for the support Sinéad Kennedy: Veteran of many ULSU elections plagued me with advice up to the closing of nominations.

John (G)Lennon and Orla who he lives with: Appreciation for dropping flyers in College Court

Paula O'Sullivan: Thanks for the advice on Wired FM.

Sinéad Gormley, Treasa Keane, Niall O'Flaherty, Yvonne Quinn, Elaine Byrne, Eoin Hahessy, Ciarán O'Doherty, Una Browne, Jane Moloney, Colm Healy, Barry McLoughlin, Ann McDonnell, Ann-Marie Power, Maria Dillon, Mags Liddy, Meta Troy, Caroline Mongey, Fionnuala Delahunty, Marion Roche and all those who offered any kind of support, all legends and if I've left anyone out please feel free to come and tell me in no uncertain terms how ashamed I should be of myself!

Before I finish I want to wish everyone the best of luck for the exams and also ask all Club and Societies to leave a contact so that they can contribute to the Students Union Handbook for next year.

Have a great summer,
Patrick Kennedy- Communications and Campaigns Officer Elect.

A Chairde,

First of all I would like to start off this foray into journalism by thanking all those who took the time to vote and to those who were responsible for overseeing such a hectic operation. Stan Blennerhassett comes in for special mention here. I would also like to extend my gratitude to Mick Phelan and Tom O'Donovan (best of luck next year it was a pleasure working with you) , their campaign team especially Patrick Buckley and Eamonn O'Flynn for contesting the election.

Mick Delaney: No tribute is too great for the effort energy and organisation that you put in. Your Iron like personality really kept the roof on things that week, not to mention the humour you displayed when it was most needed. Your passive mannerisms were a joy to behold!!!!!!!!!!!!

Manus Bree: Considering that you were drafted in at a late stage, your Trojan work and ladder climbing skills were a key component of the success of the team. The revolution is coming!!!!!!!!!!!!

Darach O Cinneide: For the help with the original manifesto, the incisive advice throughout the week and rounding up the bodies when it really mattered. Go raibh mile Comrade. As someone who understands and has been a fellow victim of hatred, bigotry and narrow mindedness you were a rock of strength, ón tus go deireadh, "Something inside so strong".

Cal Barrett(U.Ls answer to Desperate Dan): For the speaking, putting in those vital hours on Friday afternoon, the effort you put in on the bus and most of all for being there right to the end.

Emma McNamara: For the canvassing and your most eloquent speeches, never was a cause more grandly served.

Anthony Ryan and John O'Gorman: For the relentless effort you guys put in. For being up at the crack of dawn on the election morning, and for unbelievably staying out of the pub for nearly a whole week.

David Farrell and Martin Keenan; To the most affable pair of cu###, I have every meet in my life. David thanks for the speaking, I heard from a few reliable sources it went down a treat. Marty for ensuring that I got a portion of the woman's vote.

Gearoid Liddy, Cathal Kiely and Noirin ni Rian : Gearoid fair play for the canvassing and the superlatives that were spilling out of your mouth. Cathal sound for the help maybe I will see you at home in County Kerry someday.

Keith and Conor Glynn: For all the help at the weekend, thanks Conor for the couriering you did for me around Limerick that Saturday and Keith for not publicly associating yourself with the campaign.

Eoin Walsh: For your work from start to finish, particularly for the bit you did for me that Sunday night. A stalwart who responded in true Irish Republican style, 100 per cent committed, dedicated and disciplined at all times.

Eoin Kelly: Horsebox himself, cheers for all the votes you gained through your personality, persuasion and very composed demeanour. A bottle of the loony juice awaits you Kelly.

Niall Phelan and Sinead: Niall for all the work you did from start to finish and for keeping your cool despite extreme provocation from fat chops.

Darragh Kennedy and Niamh: Darragh for words of wisdom throughout and all that postering in the most strategic locations, Niamh for your help on Election Day. Cathal Crowe and Tony Loughran: Cathal for telling the world and its wife that I was the messiah and Tony for your commitment and ideas, which contributed in no small way to the size of the vote we achieved.

Paddy Dunne and Thomas Allen: Cheers for all you did bhoys, Paddy how did you pull a woman like that!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Shelia Hartnett and Paula Sheehan: Thanks so much for your time, it was especially appreciated given the amount of course work ye had to do.

Simon "Danger Buckley and Ivor Carroll: Nice one for all those posters ya put up. Simon, I hope this election hasn't ruined the rest of your life!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Mary Norton, Grainne McDermott, Maria Campion: For your good humour and canvassing on election day, a time when it was most needed.

Tricia Mulvahell and Gemma Hogan: For the design on the tee shirts and adding your own special spice to the campaign.

Gerry Scully and William: For bringing a touch of chic Parisian know-how to the electoral process of U.L Students Union.

Eoin Stafford : A man who needs no introduction.

Killian Mullins, Lorcan "Rip van" Murphy, Niamh Barrett and Peter Mulhall, Donnacha and Gillian: Killian for your unwavering support, sorry we ate into your bedtime Lorcan, cheers for everything Peter especially considering your other commitments.

Dave Hennessey and Louise Ryan: Fair play for the public speaking with that deep voice of yours Dave, and Louise thanks for the door-to door canvassing.

Dave Gerighty and Toireasa: Good on ya Dave for wearing the Tee shirt (sorry I didn't have any blue ones) and cheers for the use of the car Toireasa.

Paul Heffernan: Cheers for the blanket postering Heffo and for all you did during the week.

Johny MacAuley, Danny, Conor Buckley, Bonesie and Eager Alan, Steve "the muppet Lavin, Fergal Kelly and Gillian: Thanks for the canvassing lads.

Condon, Lawlor, O'Mahony: For your sophistication and political acumen.

Muiris O Sullivan: For breaking the mould last year and helping out with the web-site.

Fintan Breen: For that most endearing e-mail.

Dave Gayle: For all those important phone calls.

Alan Cuddihy and Liam Dineen: for doing Curragh Birin the night before the election, Darty, JP and Lorcan, : For your help despite being on Co-op.

Finally many thanks to the 911 of you out there who put your trust in me, for what is a very demanding position. For while we weren't victorious, we certainly didn't lose. Not to challenge would have been to lose. We gave our all in what turned out to be the encapsulation of a David and Goliath contest. Lets us be judged not for what we achieved but for what we attempted.

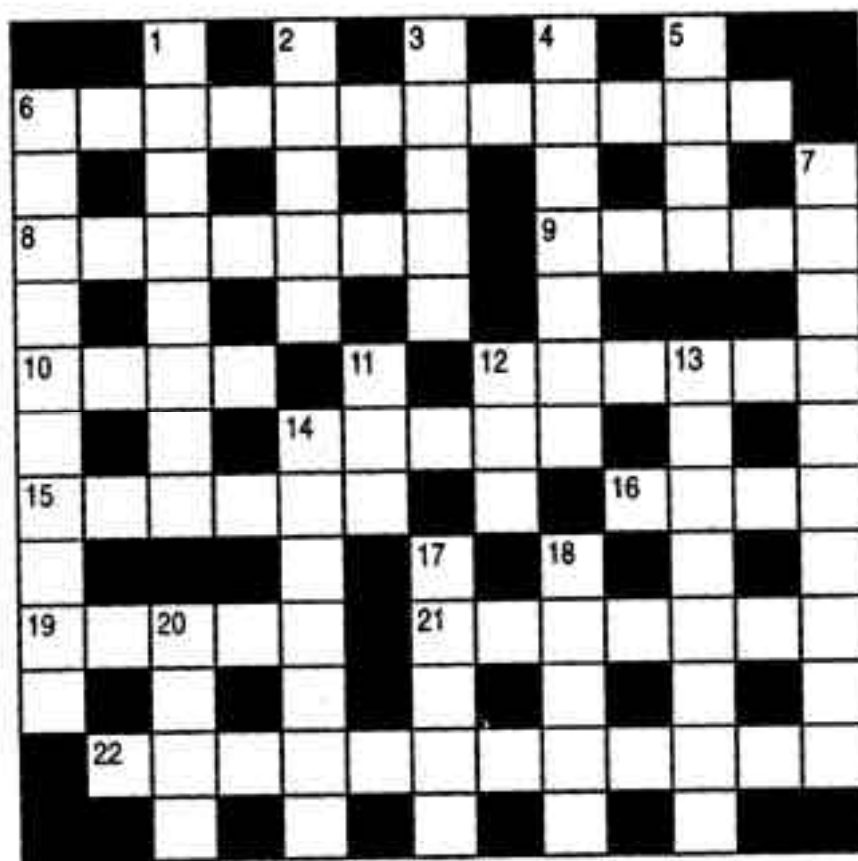
Is mise le meas,

Aengus Collins O'Malley.

Drop the correct answers into

Reception

& You Could Win yourself a CD



ACROSS

- 6. Shortening (12)
- 8. Finger idly (7)
- 9. Rule of conduct (5)
- 10. Female servant (4)
- 12. Fire —, emergency exit (6)
- 14. Arctic marten, hunted for its fur (5)
- 15. Small domestic cock (6)
- 16. Woman's name (actress Moore) (4)
- 19. Folded-back part of jacket (5)
- 21. Flute (7)
- 22. Mark of royal esteem (5,2,5)

DOWN

- 1. Unremembered state (8)
- 2. Keen (eyes) (5)
- 3. Cut into cubes (5)
- 4. Catalogue (7)
- 5. Banded agate (4)
- 6. Car (10)
- 7. Hindrance (10)
- 11. Potato-like tuber (3)
- 12. Mischievous little creature (3)
- 13. Opening in camera etc. (8)
- 14. Undertook excursion (7)
- 17. Lose consciousness (5)
- 18. Thingumajig (coll.) (5)
- 20. Shave edges (4)

le scribble box

Last Week's Answers

ACROSS:- 6. Abbreviating. 8. Twiddle. 9. Maxim. 10. Maid. 12. Escape. 14. Sable. 15. Bantam. 16. Demi. 19. Lapel. 21. Whistle. 22. Order of Merit. DOWN:- 1. Oblivion. 2. Beady. 3. Diced. 4. Itemise. 5. Onyx. 6. Automobile. 7. Impediment. 11. Yam. 12. Elf. 13. Aperture. 14. Sallied. 17. Swoon. 18. Gizmo. 20. Pare.

Life through a Lens

- Sinead's view of Life

Another semester over, exam fever sets in. All the seats in the library have jackets slung across them, the desks are crammed with books and articles from Short Loans and Reprints. The people who own the jackets are sitting outside the Library or lying in the grass, on the pretence of a study break, eating Magnums and soaking up the few paltry rays of sporadic May sunshine. Some others plot revenge on the powers who conspired to alter their timetable, to disadvantage as many people as possible (At this point I would like to say a huge thank-you to "Student"

Services, you really eased the burden, my thank-you card is in the post). More are reaching for the dictionary to find out what marketing means, before they embark on a journey of discovery into the fascinating world of advanced marketing, which lies between the covers of the big yellow book. (Homer is *not* alone) Hair will be torn out, vast quantities of

coffee will be consumed, indeed some souls may even enter into Faustian bargains in an effort to raise the QCA. So if the library's sole copy of the core text, which is vital to your course, is out on loan, or if you couldn't be bothered joining the six mile queues for the photocopiers, or if you're just too damned cool to open a book until the night before the exams, take five minutes and indulge yourself in a wander through the year in review, my final back page contribution to this fine premium quality publication (sob, sob)

September

Michelle Smith enrolls in University College Dublin, to study the subject of the righteous and good, - *law*. She obviously developed a taste for it during that mix-up about the drugs and the Olympics and wants to help vindicate the rights and names of other innocents, like herself...

October

Brendan Morrissey is crowned Culchie King at

the national final in Shrullege, Co Mayo. He is also a previous winner of the All-Ireland Sheep Judging title, and is a mad man for the Guinness and the goat's milk, a lethal combination, he says, for attracting the women.

Pursuant to this

announcement, sales of Guinness and goats milk peak on campus...

November

The advent of pay to park on campus drives (sorry, I couldn't help myself) a handful of righteous protesters to block the gates of the University, in an effort to remove this scourge from our midst.

Demonstrators assembled in the wee small hours of the morning (bless their little cotton socks), to show the heartless bureaucrats that we have a voice, and we will not be ignored, unfortunately no-one was listening.

December

Ireland looks forward to the rain as post Christmas snow, and lots of it, paralyses the nation. Bus Eireann are delighted as they have a reason to be later than usual.

Unfortunately the snow thaws in time for everyone to get back to Limerick for the end of semester exams

January

Greedy publicans conspire to cream more from their pints, with an increase of as much as 14p on the price of a pint of the black stuff in some watering holes. This occurs in spite



of a 1% reduction in VAT

on alcohol in the November budget.

Students are unperturbed, as neither Dutch Gold or poitin are sold by that measure.

February

Foot and Mouth, Foot and Mouth, Foot and Mouth madness hits Irish shores. A ring of lime and disinfectant is placed around the border in an effort to keep the dreaded FMD out of Ireland. UL in its endeavours for the national interest create a new subspecies. The mixture of really cheap brown mats and smelly disinfectants have produced what could possibly turn out to be the missing link. The half-rug, half-muck creature currently lives at the East Gate, and answers to the name of Jeremy.

March

Strike threatens at Guinness plants nationwide (imagine another strike). Mercifully, a rapid compromise was reached in time to save its many fans from the hell of inferior brands. The almost forgotten teachers pay dispute still wages (oops, did it again), as the government feel it is more important to protect industry than children.

April

Election of Students Union Sabbatical Officers (enough said)

Six taxi drivers were fined the princely sum of £1 each by a Belfast magistrate for overcharging their passengers. Students wonder if a similar action would be successful against the purveyors of the sumptuous culinary delights on campus.

May

Plans for Stadium Ireland cause ructions between Fianna Fail and the PDs. The teachers pay dispute hasn't yet been settled, but Bertie presses on with the more important issues of a nice big football pitch. In other news, Students Services in UL has been swamped with thank-you cards from grateful students, in recognition of another wonderful exam timetable.

