

Trinity News

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IRELAND'S OLDEST STUDENT NEWSPAPER



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trinity.news@tcd.ie

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Cian Traynor meets the legendary Christy Moore

MUSIC

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New Look TNT Inside!



First Year Nursing Students Protest at St James's

Nurses Will Refuse to Pay Vaccination Charges, Some Students Angered by INO 'Agitation'

Fox Alexander

Trinity nursing students based at St James's Hospital will refuse to pay €100 each for vaccinations because they consider the charge to be unjust, student representatives have said. 65 first year students picketed the hospital on Friday, October 21st in protest at the controversial fee. The protest was the second in the space of year by Trinity students at St James's.

Friday's unplanned demonstration received widespread national media coverage for the students and had the backing of the Irish Nurses Organisation (INO). But some student nurses who took part in the protest have since accused the INO of 'agitating' the situation and making life difficult for students.

The protest began when first year students at St James's objected to paying a €100 levy to the hospital

for vaccinations against Hepatitis B and Tuberculosis. The students picketed outside the hospital and staged a sit-in in the Nursing Administration offices.

Following the protest, hospital authorities agreed to vaccinate the students as planned and allow them to pay the €100 fee at a later date. All students have now been immunised but they are adamant they will not pay a cent.

According to first year Nursing student Mr David Wallace, St James's has no justification for charging students for immunisations. "Student nurses have the same status as hospital employees. Our health and safety are the responsibility of the hospital, so it should be up to the hospital to cover the cost of vaccinations."

Mr Wallace, who acts as the class' INO representative, also pointed out that Trinity nursing students who do their annual work placement in Tallaght Hospital are

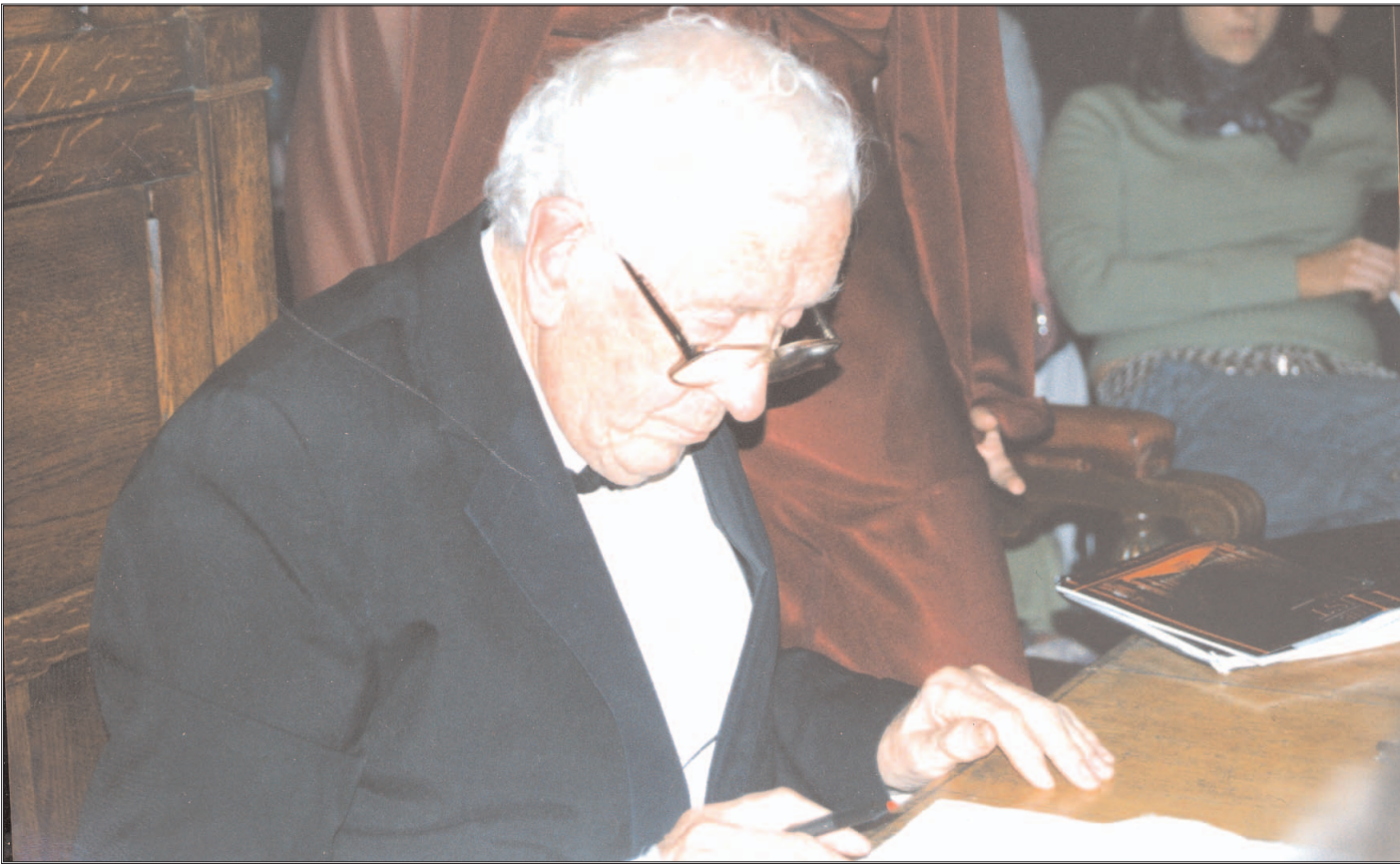
vaccinated free of charge.

Mr Wallace stated that students were united in their decision to boycott the €100 charge and had the full backing of the INO.

A spokesperson for St James's Hospital told Trinity News that the hospital was already providing Hepatitis B vaccinations to students at a reduced rate. "This is the first year that St James's has offered vaccinations to students, in previous years they had to get it done privately. The vaccination actually costs the hospital €146 but we provide it at a reduced rate of €100."

The spokesperson said that students still had the option of getting privately vaccinated if they wished. He added that he wasn't in a position to comment on procedures in Tallaght or other hospitals.

One first year student nurse who spoke to Trinity News accused the Irish Nursing



Former Taoiseach Garret FitzGerald Finds the Hist's Northern Ireland Debate Too Exciting to Stay Awake For
Photo: Mark Hughes

Organisation of hijacking the students' protest. She said that some of the students took part in the demonstration reluctantly only after agitation by an INO representative at the scene.

"We'd been informed about the €100 cost of the vaccines a couple of weeks beforehand and nobody seemed to have a problem with it. But when the [INO] rep arrived she seemed determined to

get us all out protesting about it rather than discussing it with the hospital authorities."

The student was also unhappy with the possible ramifications of the protest. "Many stu-

dents are worried that it will create a bad atmosphere when we come to do our placements in St. James's in

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Donations to Trinity Reach Record Level

John Lavelle

Trinity College received a record-breaking total of €40 million in private contributions last year from corporations, trusts, alumni and individual philanthropists. The unprecedented figure, raised by Trinity in the twelve month period up to September 2005, is four times higher than the €10 million received in 2004.

The percentage of Irish donors has also shot up with over 90% of the contributions coming from sources within the Republic, a marked shift from recent years.

The vast majority of this money was donated by wealthy individuals, while smaller gifts from alumni and businesses accounted for the remainder.

The 2005 results put Trinity ahead of all other Irish universities in the fundraising stakes, having raised an unparalleled €100 million over the last five years from private sources.

The director of the Trinity Foundation, the body which oversees the college's private fundraising efforts, played down the record breaking haul. Mr Nick Sparrow said that the astronomical increase in the 2005 figure was misleading.

"At the Trinity Foundation, we like to cultivate relationships with our donors. Most of our supporters give generously on a long-term basis. So it wouldn't be uncommon for the figures to fluctuate significantly on a year by year basis."

A member of the College Board revealed to Trinity News that the figures reflect an intensification private fundraising efforts, concentrated particularly on Irish multi-millionaires.

Trinity's building development plans for the campus' North East corner and the Pearse St area will cost an estimated €100 million over the next five

years. The government is likely to provide just a fraction of the necessary funds. The College will be forced to rely largely on an increase in private contributions to meet the shortfall.

In February of this year, Glen Dimplex founder Mr Martin Naughton made a high profile gift of €5 million towards a new state of the art nanoscience institute in Trinity. It was one of the largest public contributions ever made by an Irish individual to a university.

According to Mr Sparrow, donations of this magnitude are not uncommon, though they are seldom made public. Several other contributions in

excess of €5 million have been received by Trinity during the year, but the donors have requested that their anonymity be maintained.

Mr Sparrow explained that the drive to increase private revenue was designed to supplement government funds, not replace them. "To compete internationally, we need excellence," he said. "Excellence has a price. Government funding will support the good and the very good, but to be world leading we need to encourage philanthropy."

TN profiles Trinity's largest donors
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SU Embarrassed by Coca-Cola/Nestlé Double Cock Up

Trish Van de Velde
Jonathan Drennan

The Students' Union was doubly embarrassed last week when a product jointly produced by two companies it is actively boycotting was being sold in one of its shops. Last Thursday, a Trinity News reporter bought a bottle of Nestea Iced Tea at the Students' Union shop in the Hamilton building. Nestea is a beverage that has the unique distinction of being manufactured by Nestle and distributed

by Coca-Cola. Both companies' products are banned from SU shops.

In an ironic twist, the Students' Union newspaper had been released earlier the same day running a front page article highlighting Coca-Cola's attempts to get its products back on the shelves of the SU shops.

The Students' Union policy document for 2005 states unequivocally that, "The council recognises that the students of the college voted in the referen-



dum of 24th February to maintain the current boycott of Coca-Cola and Nestle products in the Students' Union shops."

Students voted for a Students' Union boycott of Coca-Cola in 2004 for its alleged ill-treatment of workers in Colombia. The Nestle ban had been enacted six years earlier for alleged violations of the UNICEF International Code of Marketing of breast milk. Both boycotts were upheld in a referendum earlier this year.

Deputy President of the SU Mr Tom Dillon, who is in charge of publicising the boycott, had no knowledge of the incident when contacted. However, he was quick to assure Trinity News that he would go and check whether there was any Nestea left in the fridge in due course.

Staff at the Hamilton shop denied any knowledge of the incident. All offending products have since been removed. Students have been assured by the SU that this is an isolated incident that won't happen again.

COLLEGENEWS

Plans Announced for World Class Business School

Liam Connors

Trinity College has announced plans to establish a new graduate school of management with the aim of breaking into the top 25 globally within a decade. The school will be run jointly by Trinity and the Irish Management Institute, and will be based on campus and at the IMI headquarters in Sandford. The ambitious development will cater for over 200 students and up to 50 staff. The school aims to forge international links with international business schools in both education and research. A significant collaboration has already been initiated with Babson College, located in Massachusetts.

The new school will focus exclusively on courses of study in executive management programmes and will build on the foundations of the Trinity MBA and the M.Sc. (Mgmt) degree programmes currently delivered across both institutions involved. The Provost Dr John Hegarty said, “The initiative builds on the solid foundations and international reputations in education and research of both IMI and Trinity. It is rooted in the existing collaboration at course level that can number among its alumni many of Ireland’s leading chief executives.” The Minister for Education and Science Mary Hanafin, who launched the initia-

tive, was confident that the venture would be successful. “The positive progress of our economy to date is in no small part due to the high standard of our graduates. However, a world class economy needs a world class executive education system if it is to sustain itself in the long-term.” “That is why the multi-stranded initiative being announced today by Trinity College and the IMI is a welcome development.” Prior management experience in addition to academic achievement will be prerequisites for entry onto the programmes which are expected to begin within the next academic year with an executive MBA programme.

Trinity Students Riding to Combat Aids

While most recent graduates debate whether to seek employment or continue their education, one Trinity postgrad has come up with a more unconventional way of whiling away six months. Paddy Frankel, a post-graduate zoology student, is bracing himself for a daunting 14,500km cycle from Dublin to Cape Town. Along with recent Trinity graduate Paul Tuthill and Julie Wolfe, Paddy is hoping to raise €50,000 to combat the Aids epidemic that is crippling Africa. The trio are embarking on the incredible six month journey in order to raise funds for Oxfam

Ireland. They are the first cyclists to attempt the route, which will take them across thirteen countries in Europe and Africa. Paddy, Paul and Julie are set to depart from Dublin on December 1st, World Aids Day, after he completes his zoology masters. They will cycle through France and Italy before flying to Egypt, where they will team up with Tour D’Afrique - an internationally renowned extreme cycling event. Their journey will take them through Sudan, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Botswana, Namibia before finally

arriving in Cape Town in May. Paul Tuthill, who recently graduated from Trinity with a degree in Information and Communications Technology, said he hoped the epic journey would capture the public’s imagination. “We want to raise as much awareness and funds as we can for Oxfam, because it’s desperately needed. We chose to cycle to South Africa with the objective of capturing as much of the public’s imagination and support as possible, from local communities to corporate institutions.” For more information visit www.bike2africa.com



(L-R) Paul Tuthill, Julie Wolfe and Paddy Frankel

Sports Centre Plans Unveiled

On Target for December 2006 Completion



Projected Image of New Sports Centre from Pearse Street

Fox Alexander

The Department of Sport has announced detailed plans for the layout of the new Sports Centre, which is currently under construction at the North East corner of campus. Speaking to sports club representatives at the AGM of the Central Athletic Club (DUCAC) on Thursday, Director of Sport Mr Terry McAuley said the development would be completed on schedule by Christmas 2006. Construction of the new Sports Centre began in January of this year after several years of planning and delays. The main sports hall will be housed on the third floor of the centre and is expected to be approximately double the size of the current facility in Luce Hall. The new hall will be split into two main playing areas, with a viewing gallery and bleacher seating to facilitate spectators for major sporting events. A 25 metre swimming pool will be located below ground

floor in the complex, complete with ‘village style changing facilities.’ A sauna and steam room will be positioned adjacent to the pool. Initial plans for a FINA standard 33 metre pool with spectator seating were shelved due to space and cost limitations. The ground floor will be the location for the fitness theatre and a new café. It is expected that membership of the new gym and swimming pool will be made available to the public in order to provide extra financing for the development. Student charges for use of the gym facilities are expected to rise to offset the cost of the new complex which will cost upwards of €20 million. Students are currently charged €1 on a pay as you go basis for the Luce Hall gym, a low amount relative to other Irish universities. The new Sports Centre will also house the Department of Sport and DUCAC offices, club meeting rooms, holistic treatment rooms, new team changing facilities and a number of smaller ancil-

lary halls. In his annual report, Mr McAuley outlined the progress to date on the building work for the new Sports Centre. “The basement slab of the Sports Centre is now complete while 80% of the retaining walls have been constructed. In addition 30% of the pool rising walls are completed and the contractor expects to have the suspended ground floor slab installed before Christmas 2005.” He added that work on the Centre would be finished by December of next year. Department of Sport officials emphasized that layout plans had yet not been completely finalised and were subject to change. The final layout of the Sports Centre has been under discussion for almost a decade and has evolved significantly from the original plans. Initially, the Sports Centre was to be housed at a site on Pearse St currently occupied by An Post. A student levy of £15 was initiated in 1998 to provide partial funding for the project. But planning difficulties and a lack of

funds led College to revise these plans. A new proposal was put forward in 1999 for a Sports Centre, much of it underground, located on campus at the North East corner adjacent to Pearse St and Westland Row. But construction was again delayed by financial difficulties and negotiations with Iarnród Éireann over effects on the rail line which borders the site. Trinity was forced to modify its plans once more. Work on the complex finally got underway in January 2005. According to the Department of Sport, the floor area of the facility will be 6,500m2, less than the 10,000m2 envisaged in earlier drafts. However, the cost of the development is expected to be lower than in the original plans. Luce Hall, current home of many of Trinity’s sporting facilities, will be transformed into a Student Centre once the new sports complex is complete.

College on the Defensive as People Finder is Lost

John Lavelle

College authorities have defended the decision to terminate student access to the ‘People Finder’ email directory on the grounds that it violated students’ privacy. People Finder, which enabled students to locate the email addresses of fellow Trinity students, was abruptly removed from the TCD local

homepage earlier this month. Trinity’s Information Compliance Officer Mr Tom Turpin defended the College’s decision not to consult with students before imposing the People Finder ban. “The issue is not one of consultation or of the imposition of someone’s view on others. Rather it is a matter of complying with a legal requirement.” He continued, “this is a duty which the College

has under the Data Protection Acts 1988 and 2003.” Mr Turpin told Trinity News that the decision was taken due to concerns over students’ privacy. “The College is obliged to protect the privacy of individuals’ personal information that it holds, including information held about a student, such as his or her email address,” he said. “An email

address is regarded as private information about the individual concerned.” Although students have been denied access to one another’s email addresses, the People Finder program is still freely available to the majority of the 700 academic staff in Trinity. Mr Turpin denied that there was any contradiction in the College’s policy. “This is not applying

double standards. It is not implied that students would abuse access to other students’ email addresses, or that they would be more likely to do so than staff,” he said. “College staff have access to ... the Student Information System because it is required for the performance of their College duties.” Mr Turpin cited the prospect of “unsolicited, unwanted or even unpleasant mail” as an

additional reason for the removal of People Finder. The Students’ Union Education Officer Donal McCormack said that the issue would be discussed at a meeting of the College’s Information Services Committee this week. He expressed hope that a compromise could be reached but admitted that he didn’t know whether or not the program would ever return.

This has prompted the Historical Society to establish their own version of People Finder that will be allow students to voluntarily lodge their details with the society. The system will be up and running by next week. Students can still search for email addresses via the *Search Active Directory* option in *My Network Places* on College computers.

TRINITY NEWS SUDOKU

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News in Brief

Top Sociologists Go Head to Head in TCD

Trinity students were spoilt for choice as two of the foremost social commentators of the last decade addressed students at lunchtime on Friday, October 14th. Although the speeches were delivered simultaneously, large numbers gathered to see both Prof George Ritzer and Mr Paul Howard.

Prof Ritzer was honoured by the Philosophical Society (Phil) in recognition of his outstanding contribution to sociology. Over one hundred students gathered in the Graduates' Memorial Building for the occasion.

Prof Ritzer gained worldwide prominence in the mid nineties with his influential book, The McDonaldization of Society.

Meanwhile, the Dublin University Business and Economics Society played host to a sociological thinker of a very different nature. Mr Paul Howard,

sports journalist and author of the Ross O'Carroll Kelly series of books, read extracts from his latest publication, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nightdress.

Mr Howard began by joking with the audience about the financial state of his employer, The Sunday Tribune, describing the ailing newspaper as "cash-fucked". He then surprised audience members by doling out free Ross O'Carroll Kelly t-shirts, with the phrase "You SO would, wouldn't you?" emblazoned on the front.

The first four of Mr Howard's Ross books have already won him cult status among segments of Ireland's youth. Many believe that the books are the most accurate sociological account to date of the culture and social rules of the South Dublin upper-middle class. Some critics have dismissed Howard's work as 'fictional'.

Trinity Staff Research Association Launched

The Provost has welcomed the establishment of Ireland's first staff research association by Trinity College employees last week. The Trinity Research Staff Association (TRSA) was launched to combat poor job security for researchers and to give research staff a greater input into decisions taken by the College.

The president of the TRSA, Alison Donnelly, stated that "In order for Ireland to attract and retain highly educated and skilled researchers they require greater recognition." Dr. Donnelly went on to say that the majority of third level researchers only receive short-term contracts and are denied even basic entitlements such as pensions and parental leave. This

job instability stems from the lack of research funding in Ireland.

The TRSA also aims to stop the decline in the uptake of science subjects in schools and colleges.

Provost John Hegarty strongly backed the formation of the TRSA, which will represent over 400 staff, around 15% of college employees. He stated that research would play a vital role in the future development of the country.

The Provost also expressed a wish that the TRSA will provide a forum for researchers to voice their opinions and have input into policy decisions.

Unscrupulous Promoters Prey on Nurses

Mysterious event organisers attempted to lure Trinity nursing students to their party under false pretences on Tuesday October 25th. Unknown hooligans handed out posters in the Pavillion Bar and around campus advertising a 'Nursing Society Party' in a Hardcourt St nightclub.

The Trinity Nursing and Midwifery Society were bewildered by the posters as they did not have an event scheduled. When a youth handing out the advertise-

ments was confronted, his reported response was, "It's, eh, the UCD Nursing Society. Yeah."

But the University College Dublin website contains no details of any 'UCD Nursing Society.'

It is believed the amateurly produced posters were distributed by lustful ruffians as part of a ruse to attract to attract female nursing students to their party. The nature of the youths' intentions are not known.

John Lavelle, Rachel Fahy and Diego Cortez

SOME MIGHT SAY

Compiled by John Lavelle

“There is, of course, no problem where students choose to make their email addresses available.”

The College Information Compliance Officer shows that despite removing People Finder, Trinity is still deeply committed to personal liberty

“We’re only a year old and we’re trying to get people to take us seriously. Obviously this kind of thing doesn’t help”

Nursing Society President Ceire Proctor after posters advertising fake Nursing Society events were distributed around

“Now, the reason you’re all here is to turn yourself into a product that somebody, someday might want to buy”

A lecturer bluntly explains the business school’s concept of higher education to 2nd year students

THE NUMBERS GAME

Compiled by John Lavelle

167,375 The total amount of the times sporting facilities in Luce Hall were used last year

270 The scholarship, in book tokens spread over two years, that will be awarded to first year Trinity students who achieved over 545 points in their Leaving Certificate

1,300 The scholarship, in cash, offered by University College Dublin to students with equivalent points

‘Thank You Matt’ Say Princes William and Harry



Above: Matteo Matubara. Right: Princes William and Harry, Tony Blair, Bill Clinton

Diego Cortez

College personality Mr Matteo Matubara has received warm letters of thanks from both Prince William and Prince Harry. Mr Matubara, an elderly Japanese man who is a regular fixture around campus, had sent long letters of congratulations to both princes in the last two months.

Matt', a former Trinity post-graduate student, wrote to wish Prince Harry well on his recent twenty first birthday and congratulated PrinceWilliam on his graduation from St Andrew's University. Representatives of each of the princes responded, thanking

Mr Matubara for his kind letters.

This is not the first time Mr Matubara has corresponded with major international figures. William and Harry's late mother, Princess Diana, exchanged letters with him in the mid nineties. The French educated Matubara has also corresponded with Bill Clinton, Jacques Chirac and Tony Blair in the past. More recently, President Mary McAleese wished Matt a return to health after a period of illness two years ago.

Mr Matubara spends much of his time on campus and has acquired a degree of fame among Trinity students. He has been deaf and dumb since birth but is proficient in at least six lan-

guages. In recent years, Matt has been at the centre of a number of controversial disputes with college authorities.

Mr Matubara has kindly allowed Trinity News to publish selected extracts from his correspondence.

Matteo Matubara in a letter to Prince William, dated August 20th:

I have the honour to offer my most heartfelt congratulations on your graduation with an honours degree in geography, after four year's study at St Andrew's University, prestigious, the oldest in Scotland, on June 28th. It was one of the proudest moments in your life.

Keen rugby fan, you were invited to join the British and Irish Lions tour by head coach Sir Clive Woodward to support the Lions team. When you visited the Lions team at their hotel in Wellington, you met the injured captain Brain O'Driscoll and commiserated with the unfortunate Irishman with a sympathetic, 'Bad luck, old mate.'

On the sixth day of your trip you visited the Starship Children's Hospital to meet little patients. Your caring warmth rejoiced ill children and their mothers

Prince William's secretary in a reply to Mr Matubara:

Prince William has asked me to thank you for your letter of August 23rd in connection with his gradu-

ation from St Andrew's University and his trip to New Zealand. It was so kind of you to take the trouble to write as you did and His Royal Highness has asked me to send you his warmest thanks and best wishes.

Matteo Matubara in a letter to Prince Harry, dated September 23rd.

I have the honour to offer you my heartfelt congratulations on your twenty first birthday on the 15th of this month.

You have never insisted on following the tradition of going into the Royal Navy because you are said not to like the sea. You are undergoing your initial training at Sandhurst. You say that you do enjoy running down a ditch full of mud. You say that you have been treated equally.

You defend yourself for being both a party prince and a caring prince. 'I am what I am, I'm not going to change,' say you.

Prince Harry's secretary in a reply to Mr Matubara:

Prince Harry has asked me to thank you for your letter of September 23rd in which you congratulate him on his twenty first birthday. It was most thoughtful of you to do this and greatly appreciated. Prince Harry has asked me to send you his best wishes.



Lack of Respect for Meas Costs SU Sponsorship

Ann Marie Ryan

The Students' Union turned down the possibility of substantial sponsorship for its alcohol free 'Gigs and Giggles' nights, it emerged last week. The organisation Mature Enjoyment of Alcohol in Society (Meas) is funding identical gigs in universities across the country featuring a host of top comedians and musicians. But Trinity's Students' Union refused to deal with Meas because of its ties to the alcohol industry.

Meas, which aims to promote sensible consumption of alcohol, receives funding principally from member companies such as Diageo and Heineken Ireland.

The group has sponsored 'Gigs and Giggles' style alcohol free events in Dublin City University, University College Cork and University of Limerick. In some cases, student unions have accepted up to €10,000 in sponsor-

ship from the organization.

The SU Ent's Officer Niall Hughes said that the TCDSU opted not to seek sponsorship from Meas for their alcohol free series, which features top Irish acts such as Ed Byrne and David Kitt. This was due to a resolution was passed at an SU council last year banning the SU from dealing with the controversial group. The main reason cited for this was funding received by Meas from the drinks companies and the Licensed Vintners' Association.

Mr Hughes admitted that the 'Gigs and Giggles' event, run in association with 8 Ball Productions, was operating at a loss. The SU were prepared to accept the shortfall in revenue however, as the events are part of a welfare campaign to provide non-alcoholic events for students to attend. Hughes feels that an event sponsored solely by the SU is "the best way of getting the message out there."

TCDSU is charging €8 per gig in UCD and other colleges. Mr Ciarán Ó hlarnáin, spokesperson for Meas has defended the independence of the organisation. "It is a not for profit organisation, funded principally by its member companies. It has also received some funding from the European Commission", he said.

Ó hlarnáin claims that drinks companies have very little influence on Meas, citing the example of a five-person complaints panel which adjudicates on alleged breaches of its code on the naming, packaging and promotion of alcoholic drinks has just one representative from the drinks industry.

Earlier this month it was revealed that college authorities in UCD spent €10,000 subsidising the cost of the alcohol-free events in order to ensure that sponsorship from Meas was not used.

Key Players Gather for Northern Ireland Debate

Hannah Scally

New optimism mixed with old grievances was evident at the College Historical Society's (Hist) annual Northern Ireland debate on Wednesday 19th October. Two former Taoisigh spoke at the event which has become an important national discussion on the future of the North in recent years.

Ex-Taoiseach Dr Garret Fitzgerald chaired the debate. Former Irish leader Mr Albert Reynolds, hailed as one of the architects of the North's peace process, was joined by other high profile speakers including the controversial DUP hardliner Mr Jeffrey Donaldson, and the SDLP leader Mr Mark Durkan, a moderate nationalist.

The motion, 'That the Peace Process has let Unionism Down' provided an opportunity for speakers on both sides to assess the current situation in Northern Ireland, in light of the recent IRA decommissioning.

A recurring flashpoint throughout the debate was the contentious issue of concessions to Republican paramilitaries.

A number of speakers from the proposition argued that such concessions played a large role in the lack of progress in the peace process. An alleged concentration on republican grievances was criticised.

"It's supposed to be over now and we're still making concessions to them", Jeffrey Donaldson contended. He continued, "Isn't it time we had a bit of remorse from the IRA?" Mr Donaldson was adamant that little progress was possible while this continued, as Unionists had been alienated by this attitude. He also raised the issue of transparency in the recent IRA decommissioning.

Mr Mark Durkan, leader of the SDLP, agreed that there had been too much effort on protecting aggressors. He asserted however that the "perceived concessions" to IRA members were not set out in the Good Friday agreement. Unionist leaders, he said, were also

to blame.

In a dramatic moment, Mr Sean Farren of the SDLP claimed that Unionists were using their "victimhood" to buffer them from the realities. He further claimed that Unionists saw the period of Catholic oppression in the north as a "golden era". A clearly angered Jeffrey Donaldson refused to take part in the formal applause at the end of Mr Farren's speech.

Despite this, a more open-minded approach was evident from both sides. From both Unionist and Nationalist speakers there was an acceptance of the need to look forward, away from the grievances of the past.

Mr Durkan commented on the perceived failure of the Good Friday agreement, and referring to the motion, suggested that "If anyone has been let down, it's those who voted for the agreement." Mr Donaldson emphasised the need for both sides to "respect the rule of law." Mr. David Hanson (minister of state at the Northern Ireland office) pointed out that, as



Albert Reynolds at Hist Debate

Photo: Mark Hughes

he was appointed rather than voted into office, his own position was undemocratic and therefore "untenable" for the future democracy of Northern Ireland.

Mr Albert Reynolds also suggested that a focus on the economy was now necessary, declaring that "the sooner leadership comes forward in the North of Ireland to develop the economy, it will give

everyone a much better life". Mr Fitzgerald agreed: "the real obstacle, in the long run, is economic".

Dr Fitzgerald closed what he called "a reasoned debate", stating that empathy was apparent on both sides, and that "all the points of view put forward had merit". The motion was defeated

Trinity News

NEWS FEATURE

Abortion:The Facts, The Law and Your Views

“People on both sides...are good and decent people who have different lenses on life.”

Frances Kissling

Shiela Lynch and Hannah Scally

There are few issues in modern society that generate such strong opinions as abortion. Typing the word “abortion” into Google’s search engine yields 37,100,000 results: more than the death penalty and contraceptives put together.

The Hist’s recent debate on abortion illustrated just how contentious an issue abortion remains. Extra security measures were necessary due to the high profile of guest speakers Frances Kissling and Dr Rebecca Gomperts. Both were forced to leave through the back entrance of the GMB due to impassioned protesters outside from Youth Defence.

Ms. Kissling in a later interview with Trinity News said that she didn’t believe that such disagreement could be resolved. “And I don’t think it should”, she added, suggesting that it was healthier to have continuous reassessment and challenge.

Reassessment of the

issue has certainly been apparent in Irish law. There have been 5 referenda in twenty years, and the current legal status is based on the ruling in one of the most divisive cases in Irish Legal history – the X-Case. The most recent referendum in 2002 (an attempt to restrict abortion laws) led to more confusion on both sides than clarity.

The “D Case”, currently awaiting hearing in the European Court of Human Rights could have a dramatic affect on abortion law in Ireland. ‘D’ became pregnant with twins. One died in the womb while the other was found to suffer abnormalities. ‘D’ decided to have an abortion and travelled to England to do so.

“I think we are going through a generation or two in which the humanity of the unborn has become invisible.”

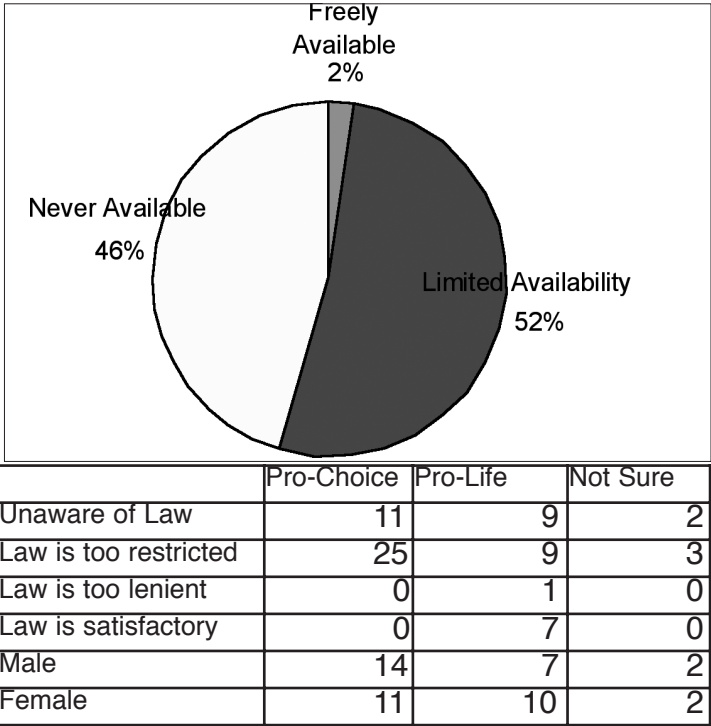
Prof. William Binchy

‘D’ claims that by forcing her to travel to England the government is violating two basic human rights: the right not to be subject to torture, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment and the right to respect for private and family life and no interference by a public authority with the exercise of this right. If the court finds in favour of ‘D’, it could mean extending the right of abortion to

women whose foetuses were found to be abnormal.

But what about Trinity students? There is a long standing tradition of activism within Trinity on the topic of abortion. In 1990

News by Welfare Officer Stephanie O’ Brien. She said “Our job is simply to represent everyone’s views” and that SU officers are “trained to deal [with the issue] in a sensitive-way”. However when asked for



and 1991 the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child (SPUC) took cases against the Trinity Students’ Union to prevent them from handing out information on abortion services.

Today’s SU stance on abortion and advice relating to it to students was outlined to Trinity

specific details on the procedures followed, Ms O’ Brien was only willing to say that “there is a mechanism place, but for confidentiality reasons we are not at liberty to disclose it”

A survey of students taken on the 26th October by Trinity News in the Arts Block sug-

gests that students have a more choice-oriented view of the issue.

A random selection of students were asked a set of standard questions which included “To the best of your knowledge is abortion in Ireland available freely, in limited circumstances or never?” and “Would you consider your self pro-choice, pro-life or neither?”

While 37% of students said they were pro-life, 80% of students surveyed thought that the current abortion law was too restrictive. More surprisingly: prior to being informed of the law, 48% of students thought that abortion in Ireland was either never available

“Abortion is wrong, abortion kills an unborn child, abortion destroys women.”

Bernadette Smith, Precious Life

or conversly freely available – in other words were unaware of the legal status of abortion in Ireland.

This lack of awareness among third level students may be indicative of a general ignorance of the issue. It also suggests that it is a small number of dedicated activists, rather than the population at large, that is fighting on this issue. Furthermore it may explain why recent referenda have failed to give definitive outcomes, and why

among our political parties, there seems to be a general apathy tend-

“Do you have a womb?”

Remark addressed to one male speaker from the crowd at the Hist’s recent Abortion debate

ing towards safer conservative abortion policies (see inset).

The current standing on abortion in Ireland:

-Abortion is illegal in Ireland except where there is a real and substantial risk to the life of the mother. This includes the risk of suicide.

-All women have the right to travel to avail of abortion services outside of the state in a jurisdiction where it is lawful. Thus last year 6,217 women traveled to England for abortions. Figures for travel to other European countries are unavailable.

-The biggest age group is 20-29 year olds.

-Abortion info is now available freely following the Travel and Information Referendum in 1992.

As a society we seem much happier to let another country deal with a problem we are reluctant to face. As a result, abortion today is dealt with on an almost economic, rather than a moral basis. Those who want abortions and can afford to travel abroad, do so. Those who cannot are left in an unenviable situation.

The Policies of the Political Parties:

Fianna Fáil: No plans to change the legal situation of abortion.

Progressive Democrats: A spokeswoman said the party was “against abortion”.

Fine Gael: No plans to change the situation.

Labour: Supports abortion in cases where there is a risk of life or significant injury to the mother, or where the foetus will be stillborn.

Sinn Féin: Supports abortion in cases where there is a risk of life or significant injury to the mother, where the foetus will be stillborn or in the case of rape.

Green Party: Has no policy on abortion

Trinity’s Money Men

As the level of private funding for Trinity soars, TN profiles some of the billionaires whose chequebooks line the College’s pockets

Chuck Feeney

- Irish-American billionaire who pioneered duty free shopping.

- Founder of worldwide charitable foundation Atlantic Philanthropies.

- The largest funder of Irish education after the government

- Anonymously gave away 99.9% of his \$5 billion fortune

- Reportedly owns no property or car and flies economy class.

Mr Feeney’s foundation, Atlantic Philanthropies, has been by far the largest private contributor to the Trinity College coffers. It has publicly donated over €32 million to the college since 2001. This funding has supported areas including Non-Profit Management, Neuroscience and Ageing. Smaller grants have been given for research into sexual differences and the payment of sabbatical leave for a former Provost.

Peter Sutherland

- Chairman of British Petroleum (BP) and Goldman Sachs International.

- Former Attorney General and member of the Council of State.

- Former EC Commissioner for Competition Policy.

-First Director General of the World Bank.

- Reputed to be a high ranking member of the secretive Bilderberg group.

Mr Sutherland is also a regular supporter of and contributor to the prestigious Trinity Foundation. His main interest is in the area of European and international relations. The Sutherland Centre for International Integration bears his name. Mr Sutherland is a trustee of the Trinity Foundation.

Anthony O’Reilly

- Self made billionaire and Ireland’s wealthiest man, valued at €1.8 billion.

- Part owner of Independent News and Media, Eircom and Waterford Crystal.

- Former chief executive of food giant Heinz.

- Former Irish international rugby star.

-Vice-Chancellor of the University of Dublin.

Mr O’Reilly has been a consistent donor to Trinity College through his trust, the O’Reilly Foundation. He has supported neuroscience and Jewish studies in Trinity. The O’Reilly Institute (near Pearse St Dart station) is named in his honour. Mr O’Reilly sits on the board of trustees of the Trinity Foundation.

Martin Naughton

- Founder, Chairman and major shareholder of electrical appliance manufacturer Glen Dimplex.

- Ireland’s tenth richest man with a fortune in excess of €450 million.

- Assets include part share in the Merrion Hotel, three Dublin office blocks, and an extensive art collection.

Mr Naughton has been a constant supporter the Trinity Foundation and sits on the board alongside Messrs O’Reilly and Sutherland. He made a much publicised €5 million contribution earlier this year to the CRANN institute of nanoscience, currently under construction on the corner of Westland Row and Pearse St.

Anonymous Donations

Companies

The vast majority of private funds raised by Trinity College come from wealthy individuals or charitable foundations and trusts. However, many businesses also contribute to the Trinity Foundation. Here is a selection of the corporations that have donated in excess of €10,000 over the last three years:

A large proportion of private gifts to Trinity come from donors who prefer to keep their identity a secret. Many unidentified individuals and trusts have given contributions, on some occasions in excess

Allied Irish Bank
Authentik
Bank of Ireland
Bank of Scotland
Bloxxham Stickbrokers
Bristol Myers Squibb
Citigroup
Cement Roadstone Holdings (CRH)
David Clarke & Company

of €5 million, with a condition of anonymity attached. For these donorsremaining in the background is important and Trinity has always respected this. The Trinity Foundation’s Director, Mr Nick Sparrow,talking to Trinity News

DCC
Depfa Bank
Elan
Friends First
Ganly Walters
Gateway
GlaxoSmithKline
HJ Heinz
IAWS
Irish Life and Permanent

said: “Donors are not looking for glory. They’re not interested in self promotion. So why publicise it?” These selfless donations are an as essential part of Trinity’s funding as the funding provided by those such as the gentlemen above.

The Irish Times
KPMG
Matheson Ormsby Prentice
Molex
The New York Times
Novo Nordisk
Pfizer
Roche Products
The Special Olympics

The Importance of being Irish

Trinity News looks at the role Irish citizenship played in the abduction of Rory Carroll

Gearoid O’ Rourke

On Wednesday the 19th October the trial of Saddam Hussein, deposed president of Iraq began. On it rode the coalition’s hope of some sort of closure of the current bloodied chapter in Iraqi history and with that a return to stability in the region. However the events that followed that day and in the following 36 hours served to highlight a very different situation.

The kidnapping that day of Guardian reporter and Trinity College graduate Rory Carroll has shown that Iraq, despite the best efforts of the coalition and provisional government, is still very much in a state of turmoil. It also showed the limited extent of the control exercised by the coalition powers even within the very capitol of the country. Lawlessness seems to reign in vast tracts of the country and the coalitions efforts have so far been inadequate to tackle the problem.

Carroll was not the first journalist to be abducted from Sadr City in this manner. However it is not the frequency of these abductions that is most disturbing in itself. The most disturbing aspect of Carroll’s and others abductions



In the words of Michael D. Higgins, Labour spokesman on international affairs: "It should be made immediately clear that Mr Carroll is a professional carrying out his task of reporting objectively on the Middle East, something he has done with fairness and distinction to date."

The Guardian has also been critical of the invasion and the coalition’s subsequent actions in Iraq. It has been seen as sympathetic to the Iraqi population and as a very fair reporter of events in the region. This was highlighted by the fact that a leading Islamic cleric in the region Sheikh Yusuf al-

Meanwhile Irish diplomats were keen to emphasise the fact that Rory is Irish and not British. The Dept of Foreign Affairs released a statement saying “The Government are determined to do all within their power to secure the release of Rory Carroll, a Dublin-born Irish citizen.”

Ireland’s policy of neutrality may often be derided by critics as nothing more than lip service but it is in situations such as Rory Carroll’s abduction that the benefits of being Irish become apparent. Coupled with the well held reputation of the Guardian newspaper in the East, Carroll’s Irish citizenship is quoted by many as a major reason for his release. From the moment that his abduction became widely known all efforts were made to emphasise this Irish citizenship. He was issued with an Irish language passport and it was Irish diplomats who contacted intermediaries in Baghdad.



Fellow journalists in Iraq spread information about his nationality to contacts on the ground and a special office, almost in the vein of a temporary Irish embassy, was set up in the British consulate. It seems that while it may have become almost fashionable to criticise Irelands flimsy neutrality, planes or no planes in Shannon, Irelands stance and reputation in the international community still holds a lot of water.

On his realease Mr Carroll urged that it’s vital for a strong media presence to remain in Iraq. More importantly it is important that a strong independent media presence be maintained after strong criticisms that have been leveled at embedded journalists. However it is a concern that independent journalists face risks such as abduction and possibly murder. To paraphrase Mr Carroll the international media’s presence is essential but a story should never come at the cost of a life. Thankfully that wasn’t the cost in this case.

is the impunity with which the opportunists who carry them out can operate with outside the immediate areas of coalition control

Rory Carroll was kidnapped within the Sadr City region of Bagdad, a notoriously dangerous area since the fall of Saddam. Returning from an interview with a local family about the start of Huessin’s trial Carroll was halted at gunpoint and bundled into a waiting car. This was to be the beginning of a 36 hour ordeal which gripped both the Irish and international communities.

Carroll’s history of reporting in Iraq did not make him an immediate target for abduction. Since his arrival from his post in North Africa he has been critical of the coalition and had made an effort to highlight the plight of ‘oppressed’ Iraqi citizens. He had even covered the alleged killing of several indigenous reporters by coalition forces earlier this year.




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National News

Trinity News

High Court injunction forces students to leave unfinished building

Anne-Marie Ryan

Around 40 students from various colleges around Dublin were forced to leave their accommodation last month as a result of a high court injunction preventing them from remaining in an unfinished building which they had been allowed to move into.

The new apartment block, located off Dorset Street near the Bolton Street Campus of Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) in North Dublin City was deemed unfit to live in by Dublin Fire Brigade, who sought the high court injunction.

Dublin Fire Brigade inspected the premises following a complaint made by the Health and Safety authority to Dublin City Council.

During the course of their investigation they found that wires had been left exposed, paintwork was unfinished and smoke detectors were not fully connected in the brand new apartment complex. Residents had also experienced disruption to the water and electricity supplies and the outside of the building was still covered in scaffolding.

According to a report in The Irish Times, The building was deemed to constitute a major fire hazard, with no fire retardant doors

on the premises, plywood sheets used to cover the lift shafts and no escape routes in case of an emergency.

The residents had already paid a deposit of €600 to their landlord. Many of the students have requested their deposits back and are currently moving to alternate accommodation. When Trinity News visited the complex last week it was still covered in scaffolding, and builders were working on it.

The students were particularly inconvenienced by the injunction however given the difficulty of finding accommodation so close to the city centre when the academic year had already commenced.

Bernadette Farrell, Vice President at DIT Student Union told Trinity News that she is currently working with some of the DIT students involved to rectify the situation. She has been liaising with the landlord's representative, the national housing organisation Threshold and the Private Residential Tenancies Board (PRTB). Ms. Farrell has also found alternative accommodation for those who have requested it. A full hearing of the case is due shortly.

Although this is an extreme case, students encounter

many difficulties when searching for accommodation and dealing with landlords.

At a recent launch of a Union of Students in Ireland (USI) rent book, Welfare Officer Tom Lowth commented on the problems experienced by students in their search for rented accommodation. "Students continue to be one of the most exploited groups in the accommodation market. Many are paying exorbitant rents while living in sub-standard housing", he said.

There is currently no national regulatory body that oversees the standard of rented accommodation in Ireland and it is currently the responsibility of local authorities to monitor the quality and safety of such residences.

The new 'Rent Book' aims to provide students with information regarding their tenants' rights and contains advice on looking for accommodation, details of tenancy agreements, information on health and safety requirements and information on how to make a complaint about landlords to the PRTB. The rent book also provides students with a useful way to record payments to their landlords. The book is available in students' unions around the country and also on the USI website www.usi.ie.

Medicine reform: increased places and graduate entry

Anne-Marie Ryan

Major reform of entry into medical courses in Ireland is set to take place in the coming year, with the Government planning to double the number of places available in medicine courses and UCD introducing a graduate medical school in 2006. Under the current system, only 300 publicly funded medicine places are made available annually to Irish medical schools. But according to new plans due for cabinet approval in the coming weeks the number of medicine places is set to double, with 725 places becoming available for Irish, EU and non-EU students.

During the economic depression of the 1980s, a cap of 308 medicine places was set in order to control the costs of educating doctors. In spite of the chronic under-staffing of the health service which has come about since then, the number of students entering medicine courses each year in TCD, UCD, Royal College of Surgeons, NUI Galway and UCC has remained static.

The proposed increase however, brought about as a result of the recommendations of the Hanly report on the health service, is hoped to alleviate pressure on the health service as well bring under control the increasing Leaving Certificate points required for entry into such courses.

However due to the enormous demand for medicine courses which far outstrips supply, it is thought that an increase in medicine places will not bring about a significant decrease in the CAO points required for entry. This year's entrants to medicine at TCD required a points score of 590 out of a maximum possible score of 600 points.

Part of the government's plans is to introduce a two-tier system of entry to medicine courses for both school leavers and graduates. This plan is similar to the new graduate entry system to medicine recently announced by UCD.

UCD hope to begin a graduate medicine programme in September 2006, where postgraduate students will complete a four year course that will lead to the same degree as students entering through the traditional leaving cer-

tificate undergraduate route.

The Head of the School of Medicine at UCD, Professor Bill Powderly said that a graduate medical school is to be introduced "for strategic and educational reasons". "We need to educate and train more doctors, and we need to encourage diversity by creating more entry pathways to our medical schools", he said.

It is not necessary for applicants to have a science degree, applications will also be accepted from graduates of the arts, social sciences and other areas. However all applicants will have to undergo an internationally-recognised entrance examination which will test the candidate's scientific knowledge as well as their general aptitude for medicine. Prospective students will also be interviewed. UCD hopes to achieve a 50:50 balance between graduates and school-leavers on its medicine course by 2010.

UCD Students' Union President James Carroll recently expressed concern regarding a jump in points requirements for medicine in UCD next year if the

government does not increase the number of medicine places available. The proposed graduate entry system will half the number of undergraduate entry places available next September in UCD, and could see points rise as high as 600, with not all applicants with these points being selected.

As of yet the fee for the course has not been decided and is dependant upon the outcome of discussions with the Higher Education Authority. However, it is thought that the cost of the course will be in the region of €15,000.

The UCD graduate medicine course is set to compliment the UCD Horizons programme, where students who are majoring in non-science degrees can take life science modules, which will be useful later if they opt for graduate entry to medicines.

Academic research into differences between the performance of students in four year medicine courses and five/six years courses published in Medical Education in November 2004 has concluded that while there are small differences early in the pro-

gramme, these lessen with time.

Dr. Aileen Patterson, Curriculum Advisor for the School of Medicine at TCD told Trinity News that most graduate programmes employ problem based learning and students study in a self-directed manner. "This is a much more active form of learning than is employed in most traditional 5/6 undergraduate degree programmes", she said.

Only 120 students enter first year medicine in TCD every year, 60 of whom are EU students with the other 60 entrants coming from overseas. A limited number of direct entry places are available in the Second and Third medical year to students who fulfil the designated criteria. This year also sees the start of a new five year medicine course at Trinity with an additional 'intern year' spent in designated hospitals.

Dr. Patterson said that she was not in a position to comment on whether or not the School of Medicine at TCD was planning a graduate entry system similar to the one in UCD.



Irish exam causes controversy in NUI Galway

William Aherne

Mr. Éamon Ó Cuív, Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht affairs has told Trinity News that new legislation will replace the controversial 1929 University College Galway Act, which was at the centre of a recent high court action.

The National University of Ireland Galway (NUIG) was embroiled in a legal battle recently over the academic appointment of a lecturer to the faculty of Law on the grounds of sitting and passing an Irish exam.

The Irish exam for lecturing positions has been obligatory for years at NUI Galway this is due in part to legislation under the University College Galway Act 1929, which compels staff at NUI

Galway to be able to lecture through the Irish language.

Although the Irish exam is not mandatory the belief is generally held, that to attain a pass in it is a serious advantage in persuing a lectureship position at NUI Galway.

Mr. Ó Cuív said that new legislation will remove the current requirement of the 1929 Act. "Discussions have taken place between my Department and the Department of Education & Science, and the National University of Ireland, Galway, in relation to the replacing of the 1929 University College Galway Act, with a more modern piece of legislation more suited to today's requirements, particularly in the context of the Official Languages Act", he said.

The plaintiff's council sought for Mr. Justice Michael Peart to have the issue struck out following discussions between both parties. The entire issue was successfully resolved and the lecturer was appointed to the position that was vacant.

Paddy Reilly, Students' Union president at NUI Galway, told Trinity News that he thought the exam was a good idea at the time of the university's inception but it is does not suit the current needs of the college. "As a result of the ever-expanding profile of the specialised teaching and research in the University, it has become somewhat outdated. Thankfully, it'll be addressed in upcoming legislation in this session of the Dáil, which we (the SU) support", he said.

Board Students

A round-up of what students have been talking about on their message boards around the country

Anne Marie Ryan

In UCC students have been debating which faculties have the best looking female members – while Arts has emerged as the most attractive faculty, students have proposed holding contests between faculties to decide. Most students agree that the university has a high quota of attractive female students, however some students have expressed concern that there are genuinely no good-looking men attending UCC. Cork students are also concerned about the lack of water fountains available in college and the persistent fashion for orange faces and snow boots

around campus.

Meanwhile in NUI Galway, students have been discussing where the best place for a nap is on campus, with contributors proposing an on-campus sleeping area. Freshers at the college are singing the praises of Galway city as a place to live in comparison with the Pale. A major point of debate has also been which sports club has the nicest hoody, with the Kayak club narrowly emerging victorious and another web poll has concluded that it is not yet time for Dustin the Turkey to stop releasing singles.

In DIT contributors have been criticising the lack of parking

for students available on campus, but have praised the new student newspaper in DIT 'The Compact'.

Meanwhile students at the University of Ulster want their student union to have stress and mental health as their main priority for awareness campaigns this year.

Contributors to the student section of the website boards.ie have been debating which is the best university in Ireland, with one contributor placing TCD at the top for arts, science and medicine, although another contributor criticised TCD as being the worst college for non-academic facilities having no student centre and a small sports hall.

USI launch 'Mind Yourself' mental health campaign

Jennifer Gallagher

These are the best days of our lives. Getting the first taste of independence. Meeting new, interesting people everyday. Having a social life that extends far beyond the confines of a few pints in the local on a Saturday night. Switching off the alarm and conveniently forgetting about your 9 o'clock lecture in order to nurse the killer hangover brought to you courtesy of the afore-mentioned hectic social life. Students, it would seem have never had it so good.

However, it may come as a surprise to discover that although the majority of Irish students rate their mental health as good, one in thirteen Irish students suffer from depression. With this in mind, the Union of Students in

Ireland (USI), in conjunction with Lundbeck Ireland and the Samaritans, launched a national mental health campaign 'Mind Yourself' on the 24th of October. This campaign aims to shatter the stigma attached to mental health problems among Irish students and to promote communication as the best approach to tackling any issues encountered. The campaign involves the distribution of leaflets informing students about mental health and well-being. A series of free college events on the subject of mental health have been arranged in UCC, NUI Galway and in UCD with comedian Jason Byrne, psychologist Trish Murphy and student union welfare officers.

Although student life can appear to be care free, "going to college can be a very stressful time" according to Tony McDonnell, President of the USI.

"'Mind Yourself'" he feels, will "encourage students to develop the coping skills and support networks they'll need to help them through college".

The campaign also aims to raise awareness among students so that they can recognise the signs that may indicate a person may be in difficulty. This is an important factor in that other students will be the first to notice changes in behaviour of their fellow students. Tom Lowth, USI Welfare Officer encouraged other students "to look out for the mental health of their friends in college too", especially given that "83% of students would discuss feelings of anxiety with a friend".

The 'Mind Yourself' campaign will be run in conjunction with welfare officers who will inform and remind students of the different relevant services avail-

able on their campuses, for example Student Counselling and Health Services and peer support networks.

Reactions from students have been positive and enthusiastic. "College can be a really lonely place sometimes, especially in first year. Students go from knowing everyone in their school to walking into a lecture theatre full of strangers" according to 3rd year psychology student Laura Gormley. "Along with the stress of trying to negotiate the campus, a new course and way of learning, students may be away from home for the first time and feeling vulnerable. The 'Mind Yourself' campaign is a great reminder to all of us to look after ourselves and keep an eye out for those who might need assistance".

After the Earthquake

GOAL's reporter *Liam Horan* is currently working with the GOAL emergency response team in Pakistan, where over 50,000 people are thought to be dead after the October 8th earthquake. In this article, he describes the scene in Bagh, where GOAL are concentrating their efforts.

It lay abandoned and almost un-noticed on the pile of rubble that was a school just a week ago. "Sales Return Book" the young student had written at the top of the page.

Was it a boy or a girl who opened the account? What dreams did he or she nurture for a life but starting? Or did they survive – only a few did from this school in Bagh, so probably not?

Of all the suffering in Bagh, the tales from the missing schoolrooms are perhaps the worst. Nearby, at the girls' college, a young man of about 22 years of age keeps a lonesome vigil.

"My mother was principal of the school. She is fine, and all the staff are fine, but 75 students are dead. We could hear some of them crying for help after the earthquake, but we couldn't do anything for them," says Tipu Tanwix.

"After a while, the shouting stopped. We got out what bodies we could and buried them, but now we are waiting here for earth-movers to come along to help us find the rest. We don't have that equipment here."

And so he stands at the school every hour of the day, hoping that the next vehicle in the gate will be the one to begin the clear-up.

The school's giant general purposes room has been transformed into a warehouse to store food. This food will be distributed to the thousands of people now homeless in Bagh.

Less than three weeks ago, life was normal in Bagh. Anytown, anywhere. People shopped, played cricket, held casual conversations in the street. A busy economic centre, the city served people who lived up to 40km away.

It has now been transformed into a surreal Hollywood-like location. Helicopters fly overhead. People mill around the city, seeking food here, a blanket there, and all the while watching in disbelief as the city they once knew is transformed beyond belief.

And there is an edge now to the need: the instances of looting appear to be rising, and at least one shot was fired during an altercation in the city late at night. The cover of darkness increases the sense of menace.

"It is getting out of control," says GOAL's Ray Jordan, an experienced disaster relief official. "There is no co-ordination of the general relief effort. The traffic jams alone are unbelievable – nothing is moving."

"It is crazy here. And that's just in the city – we are hoping to get out into the countryside around Bagh very soon to see how bad things are there. We are hearing that it's extremely bad and those people will need huge assistance too."

Down by the river, where perhaps locals strolled and took their leisure during Bagh's warm summer days, a new village has sprung up. It's a village of tents, tarpaulin, and other ad-hoc premises: three of them are temporary hospitals where various agencies dispense what medical support they can manage in an inhospitable environment.

The injured lie there perplexed how life came to this. Families are still ferrying their injured loved ones there, carrying them on stretchers and even on beds. Some of the injured are evacuated by army helicopters to hospitals in Islamabad.

"It will take years to rebuild this city. People will be homeless, and living in tents, for years," added Mr Jordan.

"The weather gets even colder at night in the next few weeks. It's freezing already. The colder it gets, the worse conditions will get and people will get even more frustrated. It could get very nasty."

What the immediate future holds for Bagh is unclear. The scene is being replicated in other cities and towns around the country. Right now, a resident of Bagh has no greater prospect than a functioning generator and a winterized tent.

GOAL, and other agencies, have commenced the job of giving people tents, food, and other medical supplies. Progress will be slow, but after the week just put down by the people of Bagh, it will be welcome.



Volunteering Abroad - More Than Package Holidays with a Conscience

Emily Sharratt

As summer approached last year I, along with countless other library-crazed students, turned my mind to what to do with the four month break. All fired up by the Suas development course which I took in Trinity term, I began to consider the possibility of volunteering somewhere. A perfect opportunity to perhaps be of use to someone, to gain a bit of perspective (as well as new skills and experiences) and to see a different part of the world.

However, I had done a 'volunteering-holiday' before, and this had left me with very specific ideas about how I would like to do it differently. During my gap year I travelled to Mexico for three and a half months with a British company called Teaching and Projects Abroad. Barely out of school, and a little nervous at the prospect of travelling so far by myself, I didn't really balk at the £2,000 fee they charged for the three month placement.

But when I got out to Mexico I couldn't help but wonder what had happened to all the money I had earned and raised. And I found many other volunteers asking the same thing. The project, having assured us of 24-hour support, more or less left us to our own devices for the duration of the trip. When questioned, they said that the remaining money not used for travel or accommodation went towards their advertising costs. Hmm.

What was more, our usefulness within our placements was debatable to say the least. On my first day, the head of English in the school where I was to be teaching looked at me with the same "what am I supposed to do with you for three months?" expression that comes into the eyes of any employer presented with a sixteen-year old on work experience. She led me into a classroom of about forty rowdy, undisciplined teenagers and presented me with the world's most boring, irrelevant and comically inaccurate text-book ever, and then retreated out of the line of paper aeroplanes and flying eggs (don't ask.) Don't get me wrong, it was loads of fun, in a 'Dangerous Minds' sort of way, but I'm not sure whether the kids even noticed when I walked out on my last day. The conclusion I drew was that TAPA, and other similar organisations provided a sort of 'package holiday with a conscience' service, useful

in its own way, but not for me.

But, trawling the internet with such specific requirements in mind, I soon discovered that the opportunities to volunteer where I could be genuinely useful, and not have to pay a fortune for the privilege, were scarce. The few organisations that didn't ask for money were looking for volunteers who had a specific skill, such as nursing, engineering or the like. Not many prospects for an unqualified arts student.

I had more or less given up when I came across a link to Project Galle 2005 on the Lonely Planet website. PG05 was set up in the Sri Lankan city of Galle in the immediate aftermath of the tsunami last December. It was founded by a group of individuals who

"PG05 do not ask for anything more from their volunteers than willingness to work, an ability to fund themselves, and respect for the local culture"

found themselves in the Galle area on December 26th last year, and who realised that by joining forces they could achieve much more than their individual efforts. They received the sponsorship (I THINK SO, YES) of the British High Commission in Sri Lanka and have been doing valuable work in the Galle area ever since.

PG05 do not ask for anything more from their volunteers than willingness to work, an ability to fund themselves, and respect for the local culture. The projects they run have changed in the months since the tsunami, evolving with the needs as and when they arise. For example, in the days immediately following December 26th, the most urgent work was obviously removing bodies from the rubble, clearing debris and providing water and food for those left with nothing. More than nine months on, they have initiated and expanded projects as diverse and important as helping people to get back to work by providing them with essential equipment, monitoring the camps and working to improve them, taking photos of family groups in camps, providing accurate maps of all the camps and temporary housing in the region, encouraging ecological and environmental awareness in schools, and running movie nights in the camps.

Project Galle is completely democratic and non-hierarchical and

volunteers are actively encouraged to contribute their own skills and ideas. While I was there, some of the boys working to build playgrounds in the camps started up a project to provide schools and clubs with football equipment. Since I've been home I have checked PG05's website and have seen that this project has already been expanded, with new aims to encourage girls to play football as well, in a bid to encourage gender equality.

Another long term volunteer was in the initial stages of research into a new project while we were there. Sri Lanka is listed as one of the countries with the highest level of alcoholism in the world, with World Bank statistics claiming that 30% of Sri Lankan families use alcohol and spend more than

30% of their income on it. Similarly, drug addictions (with heroin presenting the greatest problem) are on the rise. The UN Office of Drugs Crimes argues that most heroin addicts in Sri Lanka require more than their daily income to maintain their habit. These problems have become even more pressing since the tsunami and many PG05 volunteers working in camps and elsewhere saw their tragic effects on a daily basis. The aforementioned PG05 volunteer is now looking into the possibility of setting up some kind of rehabilitation scheme for the camps.

In addition to the 30-40 short-term volunteers, and roughly 10 long-term internationals, PG05 employs over 60 Sri Lankans, as drivers, translators, project leaders, bursars, kitchen staff, and office clerks. It is largely due to their involvement that PG05 has been so successful at identifying the local needs and providing for them. Most of the money donated internationally after the tsunami went to the larger NGOs and aid agencies. While they obviously had greater funds, manpower and experience in the development sector, many of them had little or no history of work in Sri Lanka. The fact that PG05 were equipped with local knowledge soon marked them out, and they have been liaising with, and receiving funding from, better known NGOs since February. Known as the

'maverick' aid group among the development sector in Sri Lanka, the fact that PG05 has no political or religious ties, or any of the problems associated with larger and better-known NGOs, has also helped them bypass a lot of red-tape and just get on with their projects.

As time goes on and the immediate urgency of the situation is alleviated somewhat, inevitably PG05 has run into more and more delays with local councils, new post-tsunami planning laws and insurance issues, to name but a few. Their reputation in the area remains largely unchanged, however. The nearest beach town to Galle, Unawatuna, where most of the project's volunteers stay while working, is evidence of how much can be achieved, on a small scale, by an organisation like Project Galle. Living there for over four weeks, it would have been impossible not to have heard of PG05, even had I not been working for them. From the tables and chairs made for the roti (tasty local snack)-man's shop, to the coconut trees planted along the beach, most of the locals know of, and have something positive to say about 'the Galle Project', even without the blazoning of their name all over the place that some NGOs resort to. On one of my last days I ran into Mike, who makes and sells necklaces on the beach, and is known amongst volunteers as a terrible practical-joker. Grinning broadly he told me that Project Galle had given him vouchers to buy a new cart so that he can wheel his necklaces (and books when he starts up his mobile library) along the beach. Just a small thing, but a perfect example of why Project Galle is so well-loved in the area. It was a nice memory to take away with me when I left Galle.

I don't wish to suggest that PG05 is perfect; I know that some of the long-term volunteers have become a little disillusioned about the effectiveness of aid in a country like Sri Lanka. However, the whole experience was a world away from my time as a volunteer in Mexico. The genuine enthusiasm and dedication buzzing round the Project Galle office, as well as the opportunity to work and build up relationships with locals, reassured me that it is possible to volunteer as an independent traveller.



Ignore the breathtaking scenery of Yellowstone Park for a second and think about how over four million plastic detergent bottles are helping preserve its beauty. We've created a boardwalk with these bottles to help guide you through the park. If you too can see creative solutions where others just see problems you'll enjoy a challenging career at Unilever so visit www.unilever.co.uk/careers



Could it be 
Unilever

Standing On The Frontline

Eleanor Kelly on the people fighting for human rights at the frontline

“I have been arrested over one hundred times under false charges. I can be ‘disappeared’ at any time.”

This testimony was given by Cheri Honkala of the ‘Poor People’s Economic Human Rights Campaign’, a Human Rights Defender from the United States. She joined more than one hundred other Human Rights Defenders from over seventy countries at the third Dublin platform of ‘Frontline Defenders’ in Dublin Castle from the 13th to the 15th of October. Frontline is an International Organization for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders, defending those who champion the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Each of the participants had been selected on the basis that they are at risk because of the human rights work in their own country.

My personal involvement with ‘Frontline Defenders’ and the Third Dublin platform began at the start of the summer when as a volunteer with the proposed African delegates I began to organise their travel arrangements and visas for the October platform. Working with Human Rights Defenders from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Togo, Rwanda, the Ivory Coast and Burundi I was soon immersed in the bureaucratic mire of transit visas, Schengen visas and the organizational difficulties of getting Defenders from some of the remotest parts of Africa to Dublin. Added to this were the travel difficulties that arose for those Defenders who might have been blacklisted within their own countries due to their political activism and more alarmingly the multitude of security issues, such as phone tapping, that arose when contacting the defenders. However all of these preparations came to fruition on Wednesday the 12th of October when the Defenders arrived in Dublin.

Far from the lofty pretensions that bureaucratic quag-

mires such as the UN might emanate with regard to Human Rights these Human Rights Defenders were some of the kindest, most courageous, eccentric and good humored people I have ever had the privilege of meeting - What marks these Defenders out from their so called counterparts in the ivory towers of Geneva, Brussels, and New York is their willingness to act after all the talking is done. This is done for little if any monetary reward. Rather than status they instead suffer constant surveillance and threats to them and their families. These Defenders were here because like so many other Human Rights Defenders, they are so engaged with their work to protect others they often ignore their own safety. However their time in Ireland also offered them a period of respite so that my work as a volunteer also included some more lighthearted moments such as accompanying a particularly colourful group of female Defenders shopping to one of those universally appreciated destinations; Penney’s.

The aim of the conference over the following days was to allow the Defenders a platform to discuss the changing nature of

who testified as to the continuous abuse of human rights in a country which claims to be its champion, both at home and abroad. Laura Germino, from the “Coalition of Immokalee Workers” outlined the plight of migrant workers in the tomato industry in Florida. Classified by one Justice Department Official as ‘ground zero for modern slavery’ their plight was evocative of a modern day version of Steinbeck’s ‘The Grapes of Wrath’. South Florida has had up to six cases of involuntary servitude – slavery – prosecuted in recent years. Describing the local migrant-contractor power dynamics one Border Patrol guard said “Most of the time these workers are housed miles from civilization with no telephones or cars. They’re controllable. There’s no escape. If you do escape, what are you going to do?...Whoever’s got you, they’ll find you and heaven help you when they do” . One of the main giant co-operative buying mechanisms that fuels and profits from this modern day slavery is the restaurant chain Taco Bell, a fact that launched the CIW’s ‘Boycott the Bell’ campaign.

In a week that had seen the plight of indigenous peoples of Guatemala brought to the fore due to devastating mudslides the testimony of a defender from the ‘Centro de Accion Legal en

longest civil wars in Latin America, from 1962 until 1996.

Today those especially vulnerable to human rights abuses are Guatemala’s poor and indigenous peoples whose very existence has been threatened by deliberate and systematic repression from Guatemalan military forces and the economic interests of large landowners. Mayan scholars estimate that Indigenous peoples account for up to 60% of the population. However backed by powerful state officials, large land owners have been allowed to undertake unauthorized logging and ranching, and the extraction of natural resources abusing the Mayan people’s rights to their land and threatening their environment.

That these sites are of huge historical and cultural importance not just for the Mayan people but for the world is unquestionable. Linguistically too the Mayan people are under threat with a corrupt justice system that rarely conducts proceedings in indigenous languages. A fact all the more reprehensible given that dialects of the Mayan language under threat today are closely related to the languages used in the inscriptions on the ancient Mayan sites in Guatemala. Human Rights Defenders and organizations who act and speak out against such offences have met with further human rights offences, ‘disappearances’, torture and the execution of members and leaders.

Perhaps one of the highlights of the Frontline Conference was the testimony of Dr. Mudawi Ibrahim Adam, Chairperson of the ‘Sudan Social Development Organization’ (SUDO). Dr. Mudawi received the Frontline Award in May of this year however was unable to attend the ceremony in Dublin having been arrested days beforehand in Khartoum and released a number of days later. His wife and daughter traveled to Dublin and collected the award from Mary Mc Aleese in his stead. SUDO is an independent NGO dedicated to the promotion and protection of human rights, peace building and development. Under Dr Mudawi’s leadership SUDO has

been active in Darfur providing humanitarian assistance to the hundreds of thousands who have been forced to flee their homes as a result of the conflict. Dr Mudawi has been arrested three times in the last eighteen months as a result of

hunger strike.

That the work of Frontline for Human Rights Defenders does bear fruit is evident in the fact that Dr. Mudawi was able to attend this year’s platform unimpeded. A recurring theme

“What marks them out from their so called counterparts in the ivory towers of Geneva, Brussels, and New York is their willingness to act after all the talking is done...”

his human rights work. On December 28th 2003 he was arrested by the Sudanese security forces and held for over seven months before he was released and all charges against him dropped. Arrested again in January 2005 he was held in a secret detention centre, a “ghost house” in solitary confinement. Following a hunger strike undertaken by Dr Mudawi in protest against his imprisonment, the denial of any medical attention or access to lawyers and family, he was released but subsequently charged with ‘attempting to commit suicide’ with relation to his

amongst Human Rights Defenders is the need to focus international attention on their work. Most Human Rights Defenders report that an increased international profile improves their security due to the consequent heightened potential political costs of action against them. Those who would persecute Human Rights Defenders are slower to do so when they know that the others in the international community are watching.

Throughout the platform Human Rights defenders from around the world were unanimously agreed in the necessity to main-

stream human rights. Indeed many attested that human rights activism is continuously and wrongly interpreted as political activism. It is not. What the Mayan people of Guatemala, the migrant workers of Florida and all those like them ask for transcends politics.

More than forty years ago, Dag Hammarsjold, second Secretary General of the United Nations, said that ‘the constant struggle to close the gap between aspiration and performance makes the difference between civilization and chaos’. Today Human Rights Defenders around the world continue to try and close that gap. Faced with countless examples of human rights outrages around the world many of us may find it hard to muster much optimism. However if we cannot be optimistic we must at least be aware. It’s about time the world knew who Cheri Honkala, Dr Mudawi, Laura Germino and their counterparts are. They are the voice of the voiceless. And we? We should listen.



Angela Merkel and Dermot Aherne at conference

Iraq - In One Sorry State

As the state of affairs deteriorates daily in Iraq, William Aherne reviews the situation:

There was yet another scene of carnage in Iraq as coalition forces attempted to ferret out twenty insurgents from five Al-Qaida safe houses near Husaybah on the Syrian border. According to the US military, they were used by foreign militants to harbour Islamic terrorists. This latest engagement adds three more U.S. soldiers to the list of those members of the U.S. military who have been killed since the war started in March 2003, and which topped 2,000 late last week.

Coalition fighter planes were also used as part of a precision joint strike operation, in conjunction with raids on weapon caches and bomb making material in two neighbourhoods near Husaybah according to U.S. military sources.

In the meantime defence lawyers have discarded an offer of improved protection for them by Iraqi Interior Ministry officials after the abduction and slaughter of one of their co-workers.

In a shocking new twist and sign of the further breakdown in law and order, the public prosecutor has suggested that they required U.S. security, being deeply suspicious that the Iraqi police have Shi’ite Muslim elements, which may have been behind the killing of Sunni Arabs.

The torture and execution of lawyer Saadoun Al-

Janabi terrorised the twelve enduring trial lawyers who appeared at the first gathering of Saddam’s trail on behalf of the ejected tyrant and seven former officials from his Sunni-dominated Ba’athist regime.

The murder bears similarities to the death of other Sunni Arabs who were abducted by men in stolen police uniforms professing to be members of the Interior Ministry, only to be found dead with gun shot wounds in the back of their

‘The number of members of the US military killed since the start of the war in March 2003 topped 2,000 late last week...’

heads. Sunni leaders have blamed these butcherings on Shi’ite death squads apparently linked to the Iraqi Ministry. In the meantime Government officials reject any shouldering of responsibility, instead blaming the violence on the insurgents who have a record of accomplishment for these kinds of attacks.

In other news, U.S President George Bush, along with UN elections officials based in Iraq, welcomed the

long-awaited result of the October 15th constitutional referendum which was confidently passed with a 78.59% approval rate in Iraq’s eighteen provinces. President Bush said: “The Iraqis are making inspiring progress towards building a democracy.” This comment comes as the resounding success of the constitution now allows for the election of a parliament on December 15th. Meanwhile some Iraqi commentators have noted that the results of the constitutional referendum, which was passed despite the large turnout of Sunni Arabs to try and crush it, could enrage an already volatile situation and increase the support for the country’s Sunni-led insurgents. However international and Iraqi experts searching for irregularities poured over the results of the election. Delays in three territories including Nivnevah had seriously delayed the announcement of the results until last Tuesday. But official observers played down concerns over deception and insisted no fraud had been discovered.

Either way Iraq is in a sorry state of affairs. Only time will tell how events will progress. I’m not a golfer but I think the metaphor is “You play it as it lays”



Smoke fills the sky as Baghdad burns

Pride - the second of seven



A Googlers Guide To Pride.com

Kathryn Segesser

Oh Google, how I do love thee. Let me count the ways. When worrying about what article to write this magical little website kindly provided the answers. I decided to type in the word ‘Pride’ and see where the wave of life would take me. I’ve got to admit that I was expecting an overload of gay pride websites, and perhaps if I had limited the search to Ireland only I might have got different results, but the listings were surprisingly varied.

Ok, so the first hit I got was for a website entitled PRIDE FC (it deserves capitals) and a poster of a scary amount of muscle. Apparently, and I quote; “Antonio Inoki first possessed the feverent dream of realizing an Olympic Games of combative sports. The late Ikki Kajiwara depicted that dream through his illustrated stories”. In other words the good harmless people at PRIDE FC have taken these “dreams” and created a sort of no holds barred combative fighting society. Oh, and these ‘bouts’ take place in “the white stage of

dreams”. How macho.

Now, I’m not one to be cynical but I’m slightly unsure as to whether or not the entire point of this exercise is to simply find the best of the best, that PRIDE FC is a pure sport. For example, names such as Mirko “Cro Cop” Filipovic of Croatia and Ikuhisa “The Punk” Minowa of Japan seem to have a slightly theatrical feel to them. Maybe that’s just me. Then again, this stuff obviously goes down well (one word – Americans) as lucky punters who can’t get enough of the muscle can purchase dvds and a PRIDE glove replica key chain. Surely the gift this Christmas.

Moving on from all this wonderfulness my next website had a slightly different target audience. Pride Mobility “The first name in Mobility” nonetheless has been operating since 1986, beginning its business in lift chairs before expanding to include scooters. Their website has also been operational for a while and has features such as “Web Talk” and the chance to meet the newest member of the team: “Ed McMahon”. Ed apparently was for years part of “The Tonight Show

and the host of the talent show Star Search and on TV’s Bloopers and Practical Jokes”. That’s a rather high standard to beat.

As if that wasn’t enough excitement they’re product list is pretty impressive. Scooters such as the “Quantum Rehab” and “Jazzy” are just part of the range. For those of us not quite willing to spend all the pennies, the good people at Pride Mobility have also created a range of “Pride Gear”; “hot accessories”. The guys at PRIDE FC could take note from the high name calibre. Imagine my disappointment when I realised that these lovely little small off road vehicles are not yet available in Ireland. Shame, I think I’ll probably need one after my PRIDE FC bout.

So, emboldened by my two results I set upon Google one last time. This time I hit upon the Pride Institute. This fantastic facility is designed specifically to provide “addiction and mental health treatment to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities”. They have facilities all over America, including at Chicago and New Jersey. Not bad. I must admit that their figure of

one in three gay men and women “struggle with the disease of chemical dependency” struck me as very high but their must be a market for a specifically non heterosexual medical clinic. Not sure this is exactly up the people of PRIDE FC’s street, but the ‘signposts of trouble’ make it clear they know what they’re doing.

One little signpost of trouble of my own was the lack of pricing given anywhere on the website. Now, this may just be a built in student reflex but my guard automatically goes up whenever I fail to see a big shiny price label. I wonder how much the people of the Pride Institute charge for such a level of specific care. A lot if other American hospitals are anything to go by.

So, the result of an hour of tapping and amusement resulted in what exactly? Well for starters I have some Christmas presents sorted and I know where to go when I break my neck on the Front Square cobbles and can’t walk without a scooter. Plus I know the name of the leading medical facilities for gays and lesbians in America. Life is suddenly looking up!

Diary of a BESS girl

Our girl around the Arts Block tells us how it is...

I checked my dictionary before I got started on this column, and pride is like, the same as vanity, ok? Which (I would like to take the opportunity to stress) is like SO not any kind of sin, let alone a deadly one.

Where would we be without vanity? Vanity is what makes us look hot, what makes us want to marry equally hot rugby-player types, what makes us get up at 6am to grapple with Frizz-Eaze and a GHD. Basically, vanity is what makes us CARE.

Actually, I’m making a valid point here. I mean, vanity is what keeps good old BTs above the break-even line. (Business reference, nice!) Just think, if we were all humble and stuff, would we really care about what we looked like? The MAC counter would have to close down and I really dread to think of the future of Ralph Lauren. We would all be, like, satisfied going round wearing badly-made replica polo shirts and cheap makeup from places like the Northside. If we wore any makeup at all.

This brings me to my next point. If there was no vanity, who would the ugly people look up to? They would have nothing to aspire to. We all know that models don’t look as hot in real life (consider Kate Moss at the last Trinity Ball) but they create a nice ideal to aspire to. As a member of the royal elite of the Arts Block, it is me and my associates’ duty to educate the bare-faced masses (or Hamilton students, if you will) about the wonders of a spot of fake tan and a slick of mascara. I don’t mean becoming an oompaloompa drag queen type, by the way. They are SO over, or should be. Bare-faced chic a la OC is in, and we, dedicated fashionistas (not sheep, as one jealous TSM student suggested) that we are,



Ruth Hodgins

Thus begins the brand new tradition of ranting off on anything we feel like. Because we’re special and because we can.

Ruth begins in style with an especially drunken rant about a certain multi national corporation that cannot be named.

Such is the depressing state of my life that a night’s efforts in getting drunk, or rather, reaching the level of intoxication achieved by only a

few committed individuals, is now an event. An event on the grande scale.

Weeks are spent in preparation. Minute detail and thought is given to all the essentials - where, with whom, drink of choice, compatibility with next days lectures etc. Although, it must be noted that the latter of these is rarely given serious consideration. Or consideration.

What tragic circumstances combined to leave a respectable junior fresh with this dire life I hear you cry. Well, for a start, f*cking Tiscos*.

Never in the history of the earth has there been so evil a foe. God fought Satan, the West fought Hitler, I deal with a major brand supermarket on an almost daily basis, martyr that I am.

For yes indeed, signing

up for a weekly pay packet severely stunts your ability to spill out of taxis. And have conversations whilst being sick.

I urge you, appreciate having your exploits explained - and told - to you the following morning. Once you get paid its all down hill.

Of course, the weekly pittance would seem to suggest the ability to purchase more liquid. But, problemo maestro: you are too busy earning the bloody dosh to spend it. This is the result of (quote un-quote) “your important position in the company”. The wanker wants you to pull an extra shift on Friday night. At 10pm.

So, when you do finally get a suitable (dear god, see the level of madness. Using words the mothership would use) night, it’s all go.

Then of course, you rediscover that horrible thing you found out at the age of 15 - alcohol tastes like shit.

Years of commitment had made you forget this horrific oversight. Now though, not only do you find yourself unable to drink the damn stuff but, god have mercy, unwilling.

Thus you find yourself in the dignified position of telling anyone who will listen (in all probability your favourite childhood teddy) just how unfair life is.

I mean, is there really any justice in the world when those of us who are desperate to get drunk are hindered by our own taste buds. Traitors in the mist.

So, one night, and I’m sure there will be a night, when it does happen, and I end up reaching a whole new level in my

Pride comes before a fall literally!

Wuthering Depths (the events in this story took place when I was but a schoolboy. Names have not been changed to protect identities.)

Paddy Rennison

For years my parents had yearned after a cottage by the sea. A little place, preferably whitewashed and with a roaring fire of driftwood, where they could read books, play board games and go on improving nature walks.

One day they found just such a house. “The Cottage” as it came to be known was about as close to the sea as it was possible to go without actually being in it. It was whitewashed, it did have a roaring fire (when you lit it) and there was ample opportunity for improving nature walks. I am sorry to say that I was not a great fan of prolonged stays at The Cottage.

I mean, once I did both nature walks, noted the seagulls and oystercatchers and had my attention directed to a number of blobs on a rock that I was assured were seals, I was basically left with the reading and the board games, and I could do those at home. There was one possible good point to the cottage though, and that was the possibility of throwing a damn fine party. My parents, understandably wary of allowing an indeterminate number of adolescents to run amok in the fulfilment of their dreams, settled for a dry run. As the World Cup was on at the time, I could go down to watch England vs Argentina and stay over. I would

take with me two friends: John and Will. How could it possibly go wrong?

This is a question I still ask myself today. How? Three reasonably intelligent boys, one football match, one civilised day by the sea, or so one would think. Why then did the evening end up in a maelstrom of well-meant destructive behaviour and the subsequent eruption of my father? The catalyst, my friends, was booze. Too much booze.

My parents had thrown a party themselves the previous week, and owing to the remoteness of the location and hence the high percentage of designated drivers, the place was awash. Beer and above all wine, was there in abundance. The cupboards groaned under the weight of all the grog. So we drank it. We drank so much that I still can’t remember the score of the match that we had gone to see. I also didn’t remember to eat any lunch, which can’t have helped, but I was neither hungry nor capable of preparing anything beyond a bag of crisps, and I had some issues with that.

So far so good, but at some point after the match, I felt the call of the deep. I knew that somewhere about the place was my younger brother’s toy rubber dinghy, a vessel just about more seaworthy than a lilo, and I wanted it. I wanted to put to

sea. Somehow I managed to inflate the boat, but I couldn’t find any oars. Happily, two half full bottles of red wine filled the gap admirably, with the added advantage of providing onboard refreshment. What saved me from a certain watery grave was a) the shallowness of the water and b) what I noticed happening in front of the cottage. My car was moving. And I was not inside it. I was in the boat. Who in heaven could be in my car? So I dragged the boat up the beach towards the cottage.

Will, apparently, had always wondered what it would be like to be run over, so, obligingly, John was running him over in my car. Not very fast I might add, but he had fallen over and grazed his hand on the gravel, so there was a murderous looking streak of blood down the bonnet of my mother’s white Polo. That was Enough. Back in we went.

We were cold. Cold and drunk, one of the worst things to be. We decided to light a fire. We could have put on the heating, but that would have been boring, and not at all in fitting with the nihilistic, twisted Boy Scout flavour of the day. So a fire it was. But could we get the bugger to light? Not at all, every match just flickered and went out. So we resorted to barbecue fluid. Lots and lots of it. So much in fact, that when John set the match to the sodden wood, a fire-

ball leapt out of such magnitude that it burnt his eyebrows off, and had he not been wearing glasses may well have done the same with his eyes.

The flames lulled us to sleep and it was asleep that John’s girlfriend, Lee, found us. Although we had totally forgotten, John had agreed to another party that night, and Lee had obligingly agreed to come and pick him up. John was duly bundled into the car and it was then that I made my fatal mistake. Hitherto, all our antics had not threatened the lives of anyone but ourselves. When Will innocently suggested being allowed to practise his driving just up to the end of the lane, my alcohol-addled brain suggested no possible objection. Will had never driven before. He knew what the clutch, accelerator and brake were, in an abstract sense, but he had no knowledge of the relative pressure that must be applied to each. And so it was that we shot down the road, music blaring, in an exact imitation of every grim Northern Irish anti-drink driving advert ever made. If I knew my hard hitting adverts, at any moment a winsome child would innocently appear on the road, only to fall beneath the wheels of our careening death wagon. NO!!!!

“Stop you stupid bastard!” I screamed, “We’re coming to the end of the lane!” So he stopped. In much the same way as the hero

screams “put me down, put me down!” in cartoons and is then savagely dropped, so Will stopped. He hit the brake so hard we went off the lane, into a grass bank and finished on top of a signpost. No more.

I got out, and miraculously, and perhaps naively, I judged that there was no damage. So I drove very slowly back to the cottage and got into bed. It was all ok after all and we had, somehow, got away with an incident that could quite well have killed us.

I awoke the next morning to a nice day and breakfast. All was well, all was nice until I noticed Dad coming up the drive, his face the colour of a beetroot. The car was not “ok”, the undersection of the bumper had been ripped off. We had not “got away with it”, the whole talk of the cafes in the nearest towns was of the disgraceful behaviour of the previous night’s “joy-riders”.

Not good. Not good at all. In the end everything worked out-we had to pay for the damage, but still, neither we, nor anyone else was killed or injured by our insanely irresponsible behaviour. Still, it’s not something I’m particularly proud of, but what can you do? Put it down to experience I guess....

Pride - the schizophrenic sin.

Liz Johnson

Pride is a tangled sin. The word can refer to a virtue, for example, a man can take pride in his work. Nothing wrong with that, but this article wants to deal with the more sinful side of things.

There are other forms of pride that count as real, juicy sin. From now on, when I talk about pride, I refer to the word in the sense of vanity and self-conceit, hauteur and hubris. Good, hearty sinful pride!

The concept behind pride is the gratuitous gratification of the ego. For example, those uncoun

rich who are not content with the creature comforts of their lifestyle flaunt their wealth like a peacock flaunts its feathers. Such ostentatious displays are there for two reasons. The first is that, like the peacock, wealth is displayed to seduce a female (or lad, though I doubt rich women are as prone to this motivation as men. Crudely speaking, blokes are besotted by beauty, women are wooed with wealth). The second reason behind the ostentatious show of opulence is to excite the envy of the subordinate masses.

As those with this particular brand of pride cannot be seen to mix with the more vulgar elements of society, they imprison

themselves from such valuable experiences. They find refuge in the company of other rich-folk. Inevitably they then have to endure the pain of being less proud than the wealthier cronies of their sterile, rich-folk company.

Next then, there are those who are proud of their looks. Usually lacking brains, the beauty-proud depend upon their looks for their morale. And the harvest of beauty is wondrously fabulous indeed. Beautiful people are habitually liked more than the ugly. During first impressions they are subconsciously rated as more intelligent (ironically) and more trustworthy than their plain kin. And beautiful people have better sex;

they are more experimental and less inhibited under the satin sheets. Or so I'm told.

There is an evolutionary explanation for all this. Beauty is intimately linked to symmetry. Beautiful faces are actually quite ordinary: when the features are measured they are found to be close to the human median. We find them beautiful because the two halves of the face exhibit a higher symmetry. This is a sign of healthy genes and upbringing.

However, the problem here would be the ageing process. Even the most beautiful people begin to sag and stretch and wither once they reach a certain age. The pain of the beauty-proud is thrice

that of the rest of us, for their life's gamble is not hedged in other interests or charms. While everyone else begins to rely upon their witty repartee to draw in the interest and affections of others, the ex-beautiful find themselves with little except the few core hangers-on left from their former glory days.

It is said that pride is the root of all other deadly sins and one can see why. Pride is seductive and whispers "You're better than the rest". The key to remaining modest is to not take it for granted that you are better than the rest- you might be heading for a fall.

Pride - its surely nothing to be ashamed of???

Anna Kavanagh

In this article Anna Kavanagh argues that it's time we all were proud of our exploits, both sober and not!

better people if we managed to eliminate them from our lives. They are distractions in our lives, leading us astray and into further sin. By submitting to one, we enter a downward spiral of continuing and escalating debauchery.

It is for this reason that I take issue with the inclusion of Pride as part of this spiral. It is not the intention of this article to undermine or ridicule what for some is still a strong religious belief, but it should at least be pointed out that in some cases a reasonable level of pride can be of far more benefit than an overdeveloped sense of humility or, worse, an overabundance of a 'devil-may-care' attitude.

Consider any given Saturday night in this fair city of ours. As the average student is sick of hearing, by one am the streets of Dublin are strewn with the drunken dregs of that ubiquitous animal – the youth of today.

One cannot flick through either a national paper or homegrown news programme at this

stage without being bombarded by images of our peers staggering into oncoming traffic or battling to increase their alcohol tolerance – and losing with colourful results. An entire industry of lazy journalism has been built up around this ever-present story. Slow week in Iraq? Don't worry - we've got CCTV footage of Baggot Street last Sunday morning. We should get a good twenty minutes out of decrying the lack of pride these teenagers are displaying.

Because surely that's one of the main problems: a massive lack of pride. Pride and shame go hand in hand – abandon the former and you subject yourself to the latter. It is the lack of pride you showed which led to you dancing on the counter in XXI and the excruciating shame you're now experiencing is a direct result.

Obviously alcohol is the major factor, but all of us have that one friend who, no matter how much they imbibe, manages to resist the temptation of performing a striptease for the DJ or demon-

strating their ability to walk in a straight line by using the pretty white one in the middle of the road. Each of us has that slightly irritating friend who, even after matching us shot for shot, manages to keep a firm hold of his or her dignity and get not just themselves but everyone else home with all their belongings intact.

It's tempting to believe that these are some sort of magical creatures or even freak genetic throwbacks with unnatural alcohol tolerance. It is far more reasonable however to accept that, even when under the influence of the full Aftershock rainbow, there are some people who manage to maintain a sense of pride, who don't want to let themselves down and manage to behave more like an adult than recently liberated Junior Cert student.

Obviously an excess of pride can lead to all sorts of problems, but this is true of almost anything. It is possible to have too much Vitamin C! What we often neglect to acknowledge is the severe conse-

quences a lack of pride can have. Very few people actually want to wake up on a Sunday afternoon and resort to spending the rest of the day burrowed in the duvet, piecing together the previous night's escapades in abject embarrassment. But our lack of pride leads most of us to this.

When one calls for a restoration of pride, it's hard not to sound like a conservative politician attempting to rally community spirit or a particularly irritating pensioner, prefacing statements with, "In my day...".

That said, these negative associations should not prevent us from acknowledging the need for a revival of this particular deadly sin. It would certainly be better for us to indulge a little than abandon pride totally in an all-out display of fecklessness. If nothing else, barmen the world over would thank us!



You too could own a sexy beast like this.

HOROSCOPES Brought to you by your resident Trinity psychics.

Scorpio: October 24 - November 22

Today you receive advice from a very friendly pride of lions. Ignore what they tell you to do to the kitchen cabinets but their comments on Neolithic cave paintings in the Alsace region have valid points. The youngest cub is called Bob. He is not a builder despite the yellow hard hat.

Sagittarius: November 23 - December 21

Warning. Warning. You are about to be approached by a member of a secret sect of APOLS (anti pride of lions society). This is not a CSC registered body and its members are highly stoned. In fact, sources tell us that they do not even have shoes. You can spot them because they all wear leopard print leotards. Stay away from their favourite area of habitation - the middle of the middle floor of the middle building of campus.

Capricorn: December 22 - January 20

Stay away from the buttery on Thursdays and Tuesday afternoons. The king of the Jungle is in heat and may try to impregnate you. That is unless you want mutant lion babies that will eat you up. Take pride in your humanness. It will get you through the wilderness. Some how you'll make it through. Like a virgin. That is if you stay away from the buttery at the above times.

Aquarius: January 21 - February 19

Bertie Ahern decides that the best way to rejuvenate the Dail is with a pride of lions especially flown in from Luxemburg. He asks you to design the publicity brochures for the move - word of advice: keep your knickers on. The Luxemburg lions are randy little beasts. So is Bertie. Guess which one is more scary.

Pisces: February 20 - March 20

A pride of lions is a magical body. It likes parsnips on Tuesday afternoons and tea at the Four Seasons on Wednesday morning at 7.43am. It also likes to watch Trisha reruns and Paisean Faisean. This has absolutely no relevance to your coming week but we thought you'd like the information. That's for free and nothing in this life is free. Except useless information. Oh joy.

Aries: March 21 - April 20

Somebody once told me to wish upon a star. At the end there was some lions. They had pride. Then I caught a rainbow to the end of the projection point of a light green coloured felt tip. Finally I landed in a big pile of Penneys vest tops. This story is exactly how you will feel at the end of a particularly vigorous nail filing session towards

the end of the week. Please don't do so on campus or in areas of security guard activity.

Taurus: April 21 - May 21

Go to the zoo. See the lions. Take some pride in your heritage. This is the week when all that sort of stuff might actually pay off. Then again we could just be lying and doing our bit for Dublin tourism. Whose to know? That's the great thing about horoscopes. Welcome to our world. It sparkles.

Gemini: May 22 - June 21

A pride of lions is for life, not just Halloween. Don't make us call the ISPCA on you. Also, dressing up as a zebra is definitely not a good move in light of your Halloween purchase. Blood on the carpet will not go down well with your mother. Or your great aunt twice removed and three times banned from driving.

Cancer: June 22 - July 23

For some time now you've been thinking of a mail order partner. Don't do it. Internet abuse is not good for any of us or the tulips. We happen to know from secret sources (the people at Lemon) that a pride of lions have recently offered their services. For all of you who just got extra excited, go back to the halls of the BESS department you weirdoes.

Leo: July 24 - August 23

Hurrah! This is the week of your star sign - the pride is strong in you little lioning peoples. Run around and do at least six 'Sound of Music' tribute moments throughout the course of the week or else the lions will cry. Its true. They have feelings and are not afraid to show them. They also have claws. Nuff said.

Virgo: August 24 - September 23

ROAR! Ha, that got your attention you little fecker. Lions are good, lions have pride, lions look pretty in pink polka dots. Climb a tree, arrest the stars, get yourself arrested for being a public nuisance. Johnny Logan will thank you in the end. Make sure you make some form of carbon based contact with at least three alpha females/males, depending on your persuasion. Lions are a universal experience.

Libra: September 24 - October 23

We've run out of things to say except that Wonder Woman should be your role model for the week. Also, make sure you watch Lion King and sing along at strategic points. Take pride in your personal appearance - not everyone can carry off lime green velvet. Simba can - don't hold it against him. He's only little. And an imaginary cartoon character.

Of all the Deadly Sins, Pride must be the one least deserving of its connection with eternal damnation. If anything, in recent times it has become more of a virtue than sin. We are regularly admonished for displaying a lack of national pride, having no pride in our work, taking no pride in our appearance. Pride has moved from being the mark of a sinful person, lacking in humility, to that of an upstanding, well-balanced person, aware of their achievements.

How often do we use the phrase 'to be rightly proud' of something? The basic tenet of the Deadly Sins is that we would be

Finding Jesus on Campus

Darren Fitzpatrick

If you ever wish to experience simultaneous amusement and embarrassment, try, as a mere fresher, approaching random strangers on campus and enquiring as to their relationship with God. I have had to deal with the 'wha' are you on' looks, retort accusations of my being a theology student (which in the science block, is seemingly a sin against human intelligence) and no, I am not recruiting for the Dublin Church of Christ.

For the most part, students were 'tersely' forthcoming. Answers such as "I don't know", "never really think about it" and absolutely no relevance" were common. When quizzed as to his source of morality, one student promptly answered with "it's in me head". Also known as ethical individualism (or as some mutated descendant of ethical individualism), the "in me head" approach to morality seems to be en vogue on campus. The above I refer to as the 'complacents'.

And now on to the nihilists. Here my questions were quickly dismissed with a vacuous spouting of aphorisms. In an attempt to cut short my enquiries one student disclosed to me that "God is dead". What a revelation! Indeed, I was left marvelling at his lack of originality and asked as to whether or not he also thought that "religion was the opium of the people". I think he was offended but my arrogance does not easily permit dismissal.

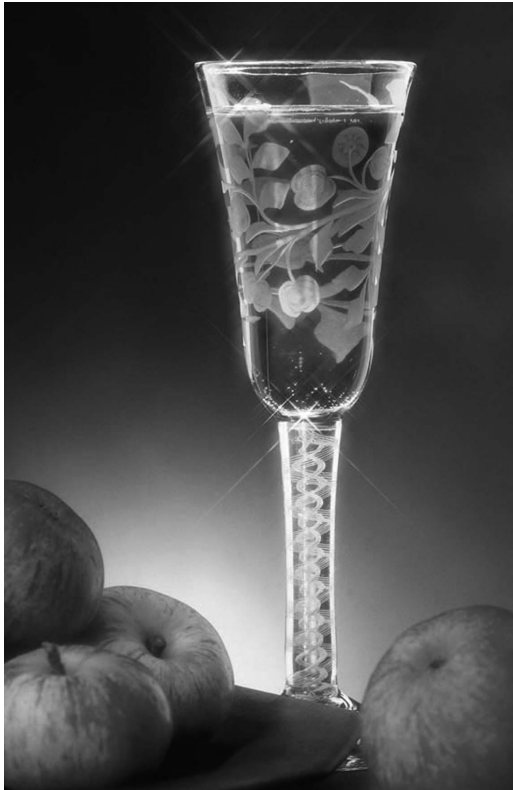
Fortunately, I came upon a post graduate student who candidly told me of his difficulty with the chasm between acknowledging the existence of a deity and making a leap of faith. His difficulties are also my own. To make a leap of faith brings with it some hefty demands, demands that are not always easy to meet in a culture that is predominantly consumer

driven and pleasure seeking. I recommended that he go and overdose on Kierkagaard. This, I assure you was a welcome change to the "well, I believe in something" brigade.

Thus far, you may get the impression that I am horribly biased. Granted, my search for interviewees was mostly confined to the Hamilton. If one is in pursuit of the on campus cult of Richard Dawkins, the Hamilton is probably a good place to start. However, based on my enquiries, it is obvious to me that people are generally not willing to talk openly with a complete stranger about an issue that is very personal. When speaking with Paddy Gleeson and Katherine Meyer, two of our chaplains, it became clear that the liberation of religious practice from social etiquette has resulted in a more sincere practising congregation. Religious practice is no longer a case of keeping up with the Jones'. For that, we now have the Brown Thomas loyalty card.

My interview was stalled mid-way on the arrival of the new Presbyterian kettle. The chaplaincy provides free tea and coffee in house 27. After the excitement had ebbed, I had a head on collision with hypocrisy, whilst playing devil's advocate. When quizzed about her views on hedonism and student life, Katherine Meyer did not deliver an impromptu speech on the evils of the ENTS committee but rather avidly denounced the "scapegoating of students for a problem that is societal".

And then there was the BESS girl. She "just like so loves Chanel". Maybe I should have qualified God with an adjective. (This didn't actually happen. Due to late night shopping on Thursdays, no BESS girls were to be found on campus at time of interviewing). Now, for those of you who, having read this article, wish to research a moral critique of myself, let it be known first hand, that I practise debauchery in moderation.



Whats Hot

- 1) Pav Monday - shaping up to be just as good as the quintessential Pav Friday
- 2) Chocolate Gloop
- 3) New sexy cider in Pav
- 4) The new Lemon
- 5) XXI - Ross O'Carroll Kelly digs it. Therefore so do we.

Whats Not

- 1) Buttery Monday
- 2) Any other type of Gloop
- 3) Bavaria wanabee brands - the blue stuff is untouchable
- 4) Old Lemon - mouldy and cramped. Too far to be doable.
- 5) Spirit - who wants a map to find the toilet?

Now introducing: Break Up Tips. Tried and tested by only the most professional. Every paper should have them. Substitute he for she or vica versa depending on the state of things in your twisted little lives.

1 - Tell him you just want to be friends. Then offer to set him up with one of your friends, mentioning she hasn't been in a relationship for a while. He'll hear (a) you see him as a sexless hang out buddy, (b) who is not capable of getting his own dates and (c) is only fit for desperate women.

2 - Make him cry: sleep with his best friend or brother. Remember that the best way to achieve a "clean break" is to make it as harsh as possible, so the parties involved don't ever get to see each other again, partly due to sheer embarrassment, partly due to the restraining order.

Trinity News

The Real Moneypenny Diaries

Thrilled at the prospect of the recently released ‘Moneypenny Diaries’ the Bond aficionados that make up the Trinity News film team were sorely disappointed to discover last summer that the promised ‘for her eyes only’ closet records from M16 were in fact a cunning hoax. Fortuitously our contacts at British Intelligence managed to acquire a certain battered pink Smythson notebook from which we have been given exclusive leave to publish extracts...

Friday 14th October
9st 8; Alcohol units 12ish (surely vodka martinis can not have more than a unit each in them);Cigarettes 6 (cadged off Q – drunken nicotine craving); calories 1,954 (Yey for calorie-free champagne!); No. of men I fancy at the office 1. Oh James....

Ooo the excitement! For the last month no-one at the agency has been able to talk about anything but James’s expected return. It’s all been kept so hush-hush though that I hadn’t dared raise my hopes until I saw that familiar hunky frame stride through the door. If only I’d stuck to that diet! Though James always says he prefers a bit of meat on me; I expect those stick-insect supermodels he hangs around with on assignment must get a bit boring after a while and I’ll bet none of them can rustle up an apple pie like mine... So there I was filing my nails and typing up some letters for M when suddenly he was there, leaning over my desk ‘Moneypenny’ he said. ‘I’ve missed you.’ I was lost in those arctic blue eyes, his hair had been wonderfully bleached by the sun and his voice seemed to have got rougher, sexier, a bit like how it



used to be in the good old days when he first arrived at M16 and had a Scottish accent... funny that... ‘Was it awfully cold in Iceland’ I gasped. ‘Not as cold as an autumn’s day by the Mersey’ He replied, winking at me. The Mersey I thought? But that’s in Liverpool. How strange, I was sure James had said his family was from Navan...Well no matter he’s such a cunning linguist one can never be sure where he’s come from. ‘Lots has changed around here since you left’ I stammered ‘Even the website (www.mi6.gov.uk). Apparently we’re trying to attract a new kind of recruit; we want people who are adaptable, resourceful and flexible’. ‘Oh Moneypenny’ he smirked ‘Have you been flexing at the yoga again? You must know I think you a girl of infinite resources.’ I blushed crimson and

muttered something about flexibility being the key to a more rewarding position – bloody men! As if only last year James wasn’t

“I was lost in those arctic blue eyes, his hair had been bleached by the sun and his voice seemed to have got rougher, sexier...”

encouraging me to put my ankles around my ears. I am so pleased he’s back though, last time he was gone for such a long time was back in 1989 when he was away for six years! He told me that he was grocery shopping (James Bond, the modern man, who’d have thought it?) when he got the call summoning him back into the office. He dropped what he was carrying, went straight to the alcohol aisle, bought himself a bottle of vodka, a

bottle of vermouth and made himself a martini. Putting aside my worries about James’ possible drink problem- he does seem to get through the booze at an alarming rate –a drink every 25.7 minutes according to one ex-girlfriend. I saw that this admission was clearly a cue for me to flutter my eyelashes and ask him out for celebratory cocktails. ‘There’s no need to wait until after work Moneypenny’ said he and whipped out a bottle of Bollinger from his briefcase. Good old James, he seems to be dressing rather better than when I last saw him too,instead of Brioni suits he’s working a rather foxy black leather jacket. I like it. I told James how much I approved of his recent sartorial changes and he grinned. ‘To the new me!’ He toasted. We clinked glasses and with a quick glance at his Rolex he was off. Oh James....

Becky Jackson

The golden ticket to a superior horror movie is involving the audience. Somehow the viewers have to be manipulated into empathising with the blonde heroine of dubiously high IQ as she legs it from the killer. During an art-house movie or any film with vaguely cerebral pretensions the cinema audience will be mostly quiet: internally wrestling with meanings and subplots. The dark air of a horror film by contrast, will be rent with gasps and screaming. While this sort of anonymous audience participation may sound somewhat liberating, I would not recommend getting involved with a hot date without careful consideration; James Weaver of Virginia Tech's Laboratory for the Study of Human Thought and Action took the trouble of investigating the social implications of horror movies and the results are well worth registering. As the male half of a couple it is imperative to keep calm, masterful and

manly. Screaming like a girl will show your lady friend that you are not the macho man she subconsciously wants to be with. As a girl I’m sorry to say, forget all that talk about female empowerment, and cringe pathetically into his manly chest, this being the best way to appeal to your boy’s latent instincts as a protector. How can a low budget slasher movie ignite this kind of primal response? Horror movies are fear served up in a sanitised form, allowing the viewer to tackle disturbing issues from a secure distance. Bessel Van Der Kolk M.D, the clinical director of the HRI Trauma Centre and professor of psychiatry at Boston University postulates that frightening films rev up the body’s sympathetic nervous system, resulting in the release of opiate endorphins and a form of ‘stress-induced analgesia’ – a state of painlessness brought on by stress. Seeking out this fright-induced high one usually finds the typical horror audience of late adolescent males. However hormonal thrill seekers aside, the film-related release of these opiate

endorphins has undergone more serious research involving the victims of post traumatic stress disorder. As part of this investigation Vietnam veterans with PTSD were shown combat scenes from the movie Platoon. During the film they experienced a temporary, reversible numbing sensation, similar to the effect of opium. This research would indicate that the psychological affects of horror movies are more deep rooted than the

‘It seems churlish to dispute the therapeutic powers of watching Paris Hilton being dismembered on screen...’

childhood nightmares that tend to follow that illicit first viewing of Halloween. However even with the knowledge that horror films may be used as a form of cinematic opium it seems somewhat unlikely that they will replace the romantic comedy as the popular genre for zoning out to. On the other hand it seems churlish to dispute the therapeutic powers of watching Paris Hilton being dismembered on screen.

James von Simson

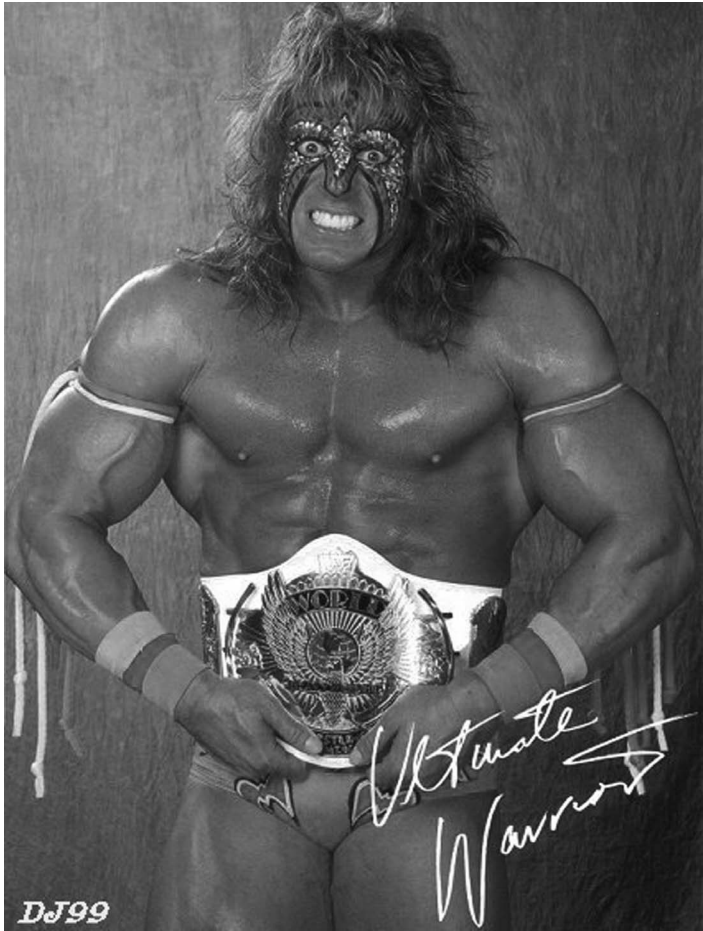
Video collections have no parallel. Figuratively, historically or literally. Your music collection can be shit and it doesn’t matter. It’s ironic. Christ anyone who enjoys a dance at The Palace or in Doyles can’t claim a discerning taste. But a video collection actually reflects who you are.

And yet you can’t judge a man by his video collection unless you understand his intentions. Any man who owns a Sex And The City box is likely to be labelled gay and yet they might just want a bit of fucking peace whenever their girlfriend is over. Equally WWF videos. Does owning a video of spandex-clad men hugging each other make you a bit juvenile, homosexual, someone that pulls the legs off insects or is it just a great piece of theatre sport? Can you really make that judgement call?

Ever dated someone a few years younger with a completely different set of friends to you? And find you’ve nothing in common? Nothing to say to one another? Popping a video in constitutes quality time spent together. I have videos simply in case certain people come over. I have videos that have never been watched, yet I know one day I’ll rely on them to save me. A wide-

ranging collection also maximises the chances of a friend wanting to borrow one. Which means they owe you. And favours are a valuable currency in an ever more

expensive city. But your video collection doesn’t just distract, placate or accrue favours; “Do you want to go for a drink?”



WWF: Straight as you like...

“Not really, I’m rather tired.” - (uninterested)
“Oh. Well do you wanna come over to watch a movie?”
“Hmmmmm.” - (still not interested)
“I’ve just got the DVD of Empire Records...”
“Omigod I love that movie.”

Suddenly she’s back at yours, snuggling on the sofa, a couple of glasses of wine and then boom. Easy as taking candy from a baby.

A video collection is a sophisticated social tool that fools, deceives, hoodwinks and dupes. It is not something that can be taken at face value or even understood by the closest of friends. After all, you don’t know if Spice World The Movie is actually in there for your benefit. Never judge a man by his video collection. Unless you see a copy of Shawshank Redemption. It’s an overrated piece of cack and the owner is an emotionally stunted fool.

Judge us on our other activities; on Sunday morning I noticed my laptop whirring away and I realised having returned from a family wedding I must have downloaded something. But what? I couldn’t even remember getting home. The Jungle Book, Jenna Jameson & Aladdin according to the search topics. Therapy beckons.

A ‘dog’-umentary in Nomads’ land

Alex Christie-Miller

In 2003, a Mongolian film student studying in Munich by the name of Byambasuren Davaa caused a sensation with her documentary ‘The Story of The Weeping Camel’. Now Davaa is back with her second movie ‘The Cave of the Yellow Dog’, again a study of the Mongolian nomadic way of life. Having made a huge impact in Germany, it has already taken the top prize at the Hamptons Film Festival in the US, and was screened last week at the London Film Festival, and looks set to receive a wide distribution in other countries around the world.

It’s the tale of a young girl who comes into conflict with her parents when she finds an abandoned puppy in a cave and insists on keeping it. As in ‘Weeping Camel’ the story is told in such a way as almost to seem incidental, and it is in fact the extraordinary lifestyle of the Mongolian nomads- one of peaceful, uneventful subsistence- which is the film’s true subject.

The thirty-three year old Davaa’s sudden rise to prominence through her first film brought her from almost total obscurity. After a stint from 1989 to 1993 in the Mongolian television industry (that cradle of genius), she studied law and film in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia’s capital, for a further five years before

gaining a place at the Munich Academy for Television and Film. ‘Weeping Camel’ was essentially a student movie, funded with German money, that went on to achieve distribution in over eighty countries, an audience of millions worldwide, and even an Oscar nomination. ‘Yellow Dog’ is in fact part of her graduate thesis.

Both her films seek to evoke a sense of the Mongolian

“...whilst the people and relationships in the film are genuine, the central story is fictional, blurring the line between narrative film and documentary.”

nomadic lifestyle: their close bond with the land and animals on which they survive, their deeply rooted traditions and beliefs, the tenderness of relationships forged through hardship, and the snail-slow pace of life in this remote region of the world, as well as the growing encroachment of Western technology into their way of living. Davaa expresses this through a curious form of semi-documentary, in which the characters, settings, and lifestyle are real, with certain parts being scripted

so as to create a sense of narrative more akin to film. The result is a work which captures the slow rhythms of nomadic life whilst avoiding the sense of tedium that one might get from watching camels and boiling milk for an hour and a half.

Part of the success of ‘Weeping Camel’ must be explained by the frankly miraculous nature of the true story it tells, in which a Mongolian family hire a violin player to perform a ritual on a camel that has rejected its colt. It is here that ‘Yellow Dog’ represents an interesting departure. For whilst the people and relationships in the film are again genuine, the central story is in fact fictional, blurring the line further between narrative film and documentary. Also, whereas the emphasis of ‘Weeping Camel’ was on the bond between man and animal, ‘Yellow Dog’ focuses in on the family relationships within the ‘yurt’, and this is perhaps why a fictional story serves it better.

However this blend of fact and fiction in ‘Weeping Camel’ attracted some criticism- and her new film is almost sure to as well- over the degree to which the lifestyle portrayed is edited and idealised to cater for a Western audience that wants to see picturesque nomads with cute children and animals. After spending two months in Mongolia myself, and visiting several

nomadic families, I was struck by how faithfully representative Davaa’s films are of Mongolian life. The people she follows are in no way exceptional: almost everyone you encounter in the countryside lives in exactly the same way; and the sense of the tender, harmonious relationships within families also tallied perfectly with my own experience.

Another way in which the film is frequently misconstrued in the West is over its attitude to the adoption of Western technology by the nomads, seen as depicting consumerism’s erosion of a traditional lifestyle. Indeed, on my visit it was not at all unusual to arrive at a remote yurt tent complete with solar panels, satellite dish, TV, and DVD player, and

“The story is told in such a way as to almost seem incidental, and it is in fact the extraordinary lifestyle of the nomads which is the film’s true subject...”

yet there was little sense of the thirst for Western culture one might expect. Everywhere I went nomads were keen to impress on

me how their way of life was the best, and how life in a yurt is in fact the *only* way to live.

In ‘Yellow Dog’ the family at one point replace an old broken metal spoon with a cheaper plastic one bought in the local town, only to have it melt when they do not appreciate the inferior properties of plastic. The daughter then fashions it into a drinking bowl for her dog. This episode was curiously representative of the interaction of Mongolians

with Western culture- they seem to appropriate it to their own way of life, rather than be assimilated by it.

Davaa alludes to this in a recent interview with the German *Spiegel* magazine: “Progress in itself isn’t such a bad thing... In ‘The Story of the Weeping Camel,’ we filmed nomads watching television. Whenever we screen the film in Mongolia, viewers are always vicariously pleased with this achieve-

ment.”

It remains to be seen whether or not ‘The Cave of the Yellow Dog’ will repeat the phenomenal success of Davaa’s earlier film, however it certainly represents a development in the work of a highly talented film-maker, and deserves attention as one of the first self-representations of this struggling Third World country on the international stage.



A still from ‘The Cave of the Yellow Dog’ which documents Mongolian nomadic life

The Cult of Frank (and Walters)

The Frank and Walters’ Paul Linehan on songwriting, their new album and er, giraffes.

Steve Clarke

You'll have to excuse my ignorance. This time a fortnight ago I knew practically nothing about the Frank and Walters. Nada. They had just passed me by. The Cork band's debut album, "Trains, Boats and Planes" included some of their highest charting songs; "Fashion Crisis Hits New York", "This is not a Song" and "After All", but that was back in 1992 and I was probably listening to East 17 or 2Unlimited at the time (I was seven, give me a break). Subsequent albums, while critically acclaimed, never quite broke through to the mainstream.

Thus it came to be that their gig in Whelans last week was a revelation. I could tell I was getting into cult territory by the growing queue at the door- normally the uber-trendy Whelans crowd prefer to be fashionably late. This was a whole other kettle of fish. All detached hipness was left at the door, and was instead replaced with dancing, moshing, and sing-a-longs. I was impressed. It was the

reason for that being because in Ireland today there's a lot of depressed people, there's a lot of sadness as well. I know there's the Celtic Tiger, but on the other side of the scale there's a lot of depression and suicide in the country as well. And it's because, especially amongst the younger people,

“I’ve been blessed for the last 15 years [to be in the band]. . I think I’d probably be dead if I wasn’t in the Frank and Walters...”

there's too much expectation put upon them to succeed and when they don't measure up- when they don't achieve these things- they have a small opinion of themselves. And I think this is the main reason why there's such a high suicide rate in Ireland, y'know? So at the time I thought I'm going to try and do something positive, and maybe spread a bit of happiness and a bit of optimism. While I can like.

TN: Is it hard to write happy songs in the context of global terrorism,

PL: It definitely influenced us, y'know what I mean. Living over there, listening to the music they listen to, the experience of living in New York- it does open your eyes a bit. It definitely did have a bit of an impression on us.

TN: Originally you were being supported by bands like Radiohead and PJ Harvey, who have since become massively successful. Why do you think that level escaped you?

PL: The music business is a funny thing- a lot of it's down to luck- being at the right place at the right time, with the right music. If any of those things don't work, you're out. Our "Glass" album- the last album we released- was 20 years too late and 4 years too early. Are you familiar with it?

ed to release that now?

PL: The main reason was because over the years fans have been coming up to us after gigs saying "Where can I get that song?" and a lot of the songs we'd play in our set, you couldn't get them, so we decided to release this album. That

was one of the reasons- there were other reasons as well.

TN: I'd imagine also as a stop-gap before the new album next year. One of your early hits was "Fashion Crisis Hits New York." Do you feel you have suffered for your fashion statements? [The band had been known to wear oversized purple and orange uniforms.]

PL: Probably- we never really wanted to be cool y'know. The way we dressed...but that was back in '93 - we did dress a bit funny back

TN: What do you think you'd be doing if you weren't in the Frank and Walters?

PL: That's a very hard question. I think I've been blessed for the last 15 years to be in the Frank and Walters. It's a very hard question. I think I'd probably be dead if I wasn't in the Frank and Walters. I would have found it very hard to live and work in a normal 9-5 job...

{At this point my dictaphone died, cutting Paul's answer short. I managed to revive it though...}

TN: And we're back! There was a lot of hype about you in the beginning in the media and the trendy papers like the NME. Do you feel you still have something to prove or are you past that at this stage?

PL: The main thing that we like to prove is ourselves. I still have an ambition to write brilliant pop songs. The main reason I do music is because I like to express myself and it's a great medium to do that, and I do love it. I love playing- I love writing and recording it more than playing live. My ambition is to create a brilliant album. Once I'm happy with it, once I've expressed myself I don't really care what anyone else thinks. If people like it, well then good. If they don't...y'know?

TN: It's the only way to be. So, if you could be any animal in the jungle, or perhaps the savannah, which animal would you be, and why?

PL: Um, I suppose a giraffe. It's like my favorite animal, the giraffe. I dunno why cus they kinda look stupid, but they've got a good view they're up so high.

TN: You're pretty tall yourself.

PL: They say that whatever animal you pick reflects yourself. I'm not that tall, not these days. In my day I was tall, but young people these days are reaching up to 6 foot 4.

TN: Why do you think that is?

PL: Better diet, I suppose.

TN: Aha. If Hollywood were to make a movie about your life, who would you like to see play the lead roles?

PL: Jeepers, that's a hard one. Um, can they be dead?

TN: It's a purely hypothetical question.

PL: I'll be Jimmy Stewart.

TN: Good choice. So what does the future hold for the Frank and Walters?

PL: Obviously I don't know. I could be dead in five minutes. We're just optimistic about playing our music. We don't have that many expectations. We're happy to just plod away with our music. We don't have expectations as regards commercial success, but we would, as I said earlier, like to make a good album and hopefully we can cheer people up. I'd be very happy if someone said to me that we'd cheered him up with our music.

Souvenirs is out now on Fifa Records.



(Not) Too Cool For School: David Kitt In the Ed Burke

Nicholas Hamilton

Murmurs about the suitability of lecture theatres as venues for gigs, long aired by more muso sections of the student body, are finally being acted upon by the Students' Union, with this term's series of 'Gigs and Giggles.' And who better than everybody's favourite B.E.S.S. graduate and Trinity Ball stalwart, David Kitt to inaugurate the Ed Burke's new role as a music venue?

Although the shape and structure of a lecture hall may suggest themselves as suitable for live music, it became apparent on entry that the atmosphere and associations which the Ed Burke holds for many students could be hard to shake off; the audience had to resist the impulse to pull tabletops across and soon realised that, unlike at most lectures, the back row was not the most desirable position. Kitt too, noting that he himself had spent many a boring hour dozing off in the very room, seemed aware of the strangeness of the circumstances. As it turned out however, it was this familiarity with Trinity of his that helped to overcome any feelings of awkwardness.

Four years of studying B.E.S.S. has left more of a mark on the singer-songwriter than might have been imagined (if only on his wardrobe). After a few jibes at his old classmates (especially the much maligned 'B.E.S.S. girl'), Kitt wryly noted that he was showing his true colours tonight when he realised that he was wearing a pink shirt (though it was second hand of course, he assured us). Kitt's affability (and knowledge of college stereotypes) soon ensured that everybody settled in to enjoy themselves.

Switching from raconteur to troubadour, Kitt kicked off with some new material, playing acoustic guitar solo. Such a stripped-backed approach seemed wholly appropriate, given the enduring association between students and acoustic guitars that goes back to the models of Bob Dylan and Leonard Cohen in the Sixties and Seventies. Though not reaching the poetic heights of either of these two greats, the attraction of Kitt's songs is undeniable, filled as they are with smart observations about love and life, and with enough catchy pop hooks to keep heads bobbing

and bodies swaying all night. After a few songs however, the limited range of Kitt's voice began to border on monotonous. Despite attempts to add a bit of variety by introducing some beats and upgrading to an electric guitar, the homogenizing effect of the 'Kitt sound' became most felt during covers of Thin Lizzy and J.J. Cale. For this reason it was a relief when he started to call on the services of his two-strong backing band, and the gig really moved up a gear.

‘Kitt seemed like a slightly odd choice for promoting the message of moderate drinking...’

If from the start David Kitt seemed like a slightly odd choice for promoting the evening's message of moderate drinking, given the complaints in the sleeve notes of his last album about the lack of decent grass available during recording, it became clear that the evening's message was being completely flouted when Mark Quinn (who played the trumpet and was responsible for a bit of percussion, but mostly just danced) emerged on stage with a can of Heineken in hand. The only mystery is how he managed to smuggle the intoxicating beverage into the Ed Burke, given the strict bag searches at the door.

Any questions about the possibility of creating an atmosphere in the austere environment of the Ed Burke were laid to rest as Kitt, breaking with his singer-songwriter image, unveiled some new, far more rocking tunes. Matching the change in tempo, Quinn (like Bez with Sideshow Bob's hair) bounced around with so much energy that he seemed to call for a stage all of his own. There was no shortage of crowd participation either, as Kitt tried to encourage a re-enactment of the video for 'Smells Like Teen Spirit' and the audience (spurred on, no doubt, by the mention of the crowd in U.C.D. the night before) duly obliged. For the rest of the night Kitt darted about from album to album, playing a selection of songs from his back catalogue, returning to his first album to finish with the suitably mellow 'Headphones.'

Prairie Wind is out now on Reprise Records.



The Frank and Walters - Best thing to come out of Cork since, um, er,

feel-good gig of the year. Prior to the concert I spoke to singer and bassist Paul Linehan, possibly the most charming man in Irish indie music. He came across as very serious, very sincere. For fun at home, get a friend, and read out my questions in a Northern accent, and Paul's responses in a Cork one. It'll be just like you were there!

Trinity News: In your website bio, it states "The Frank and Walters began in Cork, it was the early 90's and their mission was to spread cheer and optimism throughout the world via their music." Do you think this has become increasingly important with the rise of "death" metal, "gansta" rap, and Coldplay?

Paul Linehan: Well to be honest with you, a few years ago I nearly gave up music. It was kinda close cos we had just got dropped from our record company... At that time when I decided to get back into it again, I said that if I'm gonna write music, I'm gonna try and write positive things, y'know be positive and write songs that will hopefully have a positive message. The main

war, natural disasters and a possible bird flu pandemic?

PL: It's something within my own spirit - the way I seem to write songs is that I identify a problem

that I have with something in the verse, I deal with it in the bridge and I have the solution by the time I get to the chorus. That's just my nature.

TN: Ok. For your third album "Beauty Becomes More Than Life", you had moved to New York, and it marked a change in musical direction for you. A lot of artists seem to go to New York to find or reinvent themselves- Bob Dylan, Bright Eyes, Ryan Adams for example. Did you find that at all?

TN: Um, I've heard some of it...

PL: What's the band now, I can't remember their name. The Killers. There's a song called Underground

then. Maybe we dress just as funny now but we don't realize it- y'know, we think we look ok...

TN: Totally respectable I think. So, what do you believe in?

“We never really wanted to be cool y’know. The way we dressed back in ’93-we did dress a bit funny back then. Maybe we dress just as funny now but we don’t realize it...”

PL: What?

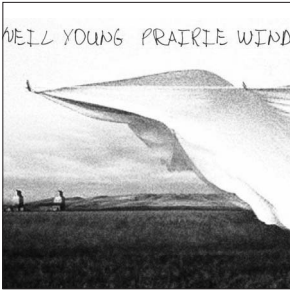
TN: I mean do you maybe believe in fate, that you were meant to be in this band?

PL: Yeah. Well I believe in God. That's what I believe in. And I believe in Jesus like- that is my higher power. And whatever plans that he has for me, I'll just go along with them. My whole existence I believe is in his hands. That's what I believe in.

Neil Young: Prairie Wind

Cian Traynor

For all his former glories, Neil Young nearly lost me with "Greendale." I remember sitting in the front rows of Vicar St. when he was debuting the material, looking over my shoulders in disbelief, wondering if anyone else felt that we were being put on. So while all



the talk of "Prairie Wind" being a return to his "Harvest" days may be jumping the gun somewhat, it certainly is a stabilising return to form.

The album starts off strongly; though the substance is somewhat familiar, the effective simplicity of tracks such as "The Painter" are what Neil Young does best. "No Wonder," a meditation on the climate around 9/11, can be praised for the same qualities, but also marks the introduction of one of "Prairie Wind's" most notable features. This is where we're given the first taste of the layering of elements that are wrapped around the songs from here on out: gospel

choirs, church organs, horns, and even a string section are used on a rotating basis.

Tracks such as "Far from Home," "It's a Dream," "Prairie Wind," and "He Was the King" (a light hearted tribute to Elvis) are loaded with this kind of pomp, and strangely enough, it's difficult to tell whether these songs would float or sink without them. The female backing in the title track in particular sounds quite soulless, and by the song's end (an unnecessary seven and a half minutes) it

has emptied itself of all significance.

To counterpoint all this perhaps, there's plenty of dirty acoustic riffage to keep things flowing nicely. The return of guitarist (and co-producer) Ben Keith to the fold means there are some striking similarities to "Harvest Moon" - arguably Young's last release of genuine class. If the elderly, autumnal romanticism of "Falling Off the Face of the Earth" and "Here for You" don't underline the comparison for you, the recy-

cling of the riff from the title track on "This Old Guitar," certainly will (the melody of "World on a String" is also rehashed earlier on in the album).

Ultimately, a sepia-toned album filled with nostalgia and the recurring image of prairie wind (you will swear you've heard him sing lines such as "Bury me out on the prairie/ Where the buffalo used to roam" before) will come as absolutely no surprise to those with any previous knowledge of Neil Young. The good news is that

if you're a dedicated admirer of the song-writer's trademark touches, you'll certainly be pleased to know he's still capable of producing something of note. Although this may indeed be his best album it years, it serves as more of a redeeming move rather than a latter-day magnum opus.

Coming Back For Moore

Trinity News’ Cian Traynor talks to Christy Moore about his new album, Burning Times

There’s no point in covering a song unless you’re going to bring something to it, to make it your own in some way and bring out an element that may not have been there before. Anything else is little more than self-indulgence.

Though it may seem crass to draw comparisons with Johnny Cash’s American Recordings series, there’s a refined quality to Christy Moore’s new album, “Burning Times,” that recalls the same kind of presence the Man in Black imbued to songs that were not his own. However, rather than having a producer like Rick Rubin to pick out the songs that might work best for him, Moore has found himself magnetically drawn towards certain songs over the years: “I love to sing a song that has meat and bones in it, that has a personality and a character... ‘cause it’s what I do. I wouldn’t perform my own or another writer’s songs with any more passion or examination. To me, a song is a song no matter who’s written it. I mean if I sing a song to you now and it lasts four minutes, for those four minutes, that song belongs to me and you – the singer and the listener. As soon as I’m finished singing it, then it reverts to Bob Dylan. He gets it back then,” he laughs.

In many cases, Moore has been playing these songs for years, honing and subtly re-shaping them until they’re as familiar as an old set of friends. Yet even for those that have come to make regular appearances in live performances, the songs of this particular collection were fortunate to find a home together at all. Ever the perfectionist, Moore’s meticulous preparation also means long periods of incubation, wearing a tune in like a new guitar until there can be no doubt about its place in the fold. So much so, in fact, that Moore didn’t hesitate to re-record the album until it felt right: “We tried it in two different recording studios, and the third time we did it down in Declan [O’Rourke’s] house in Cork. Just from the time we kicked off, I knew we had it, which was fabulous. We both knew it was happening. I mean it is a bit of a cliché, but in a way, this is a series of photographs of what Declan and I have been doing for the last couple of years.”

Having such an inclination towards the heart of a well-written song, crossing paths with the penmanship of Bob Dylan may have always seemed inevitable. Covering the likes of Morrissey, on the other hand, may come as a surprise. “I was talking about my ambivalence towards America, the fact that I’ve got wonderful American friends whom I love dearly. I love being in America, I love gigging there, I love a lot of its culture and art. And yet, the behaviour of some Americans appalls me...at the moment, it’s a very frightening country.” Having been a major part of the “When Bush Comes to Shove” protest gig last year, and recently organising a benefit concert for New Orleans, it’s clear Moore harbours a bittersweet relationship with the US – one that led him to an acquaintance with the ex-Smiths singer’s song at just the right time. “I think I said to my wife: ‘I’d love to write something about my mixed feelings for

end to the world’s all-consuming concrete sprawl with an apocalyptic vision where only insects remain. The rather serene contemplation bookends matters nicely by answering the almost despondent call of Natalie Merchant’s “Motherland” at the album’s beginning. Despite not being his own songs, everything that lies between and around those two points is distinctly Christy Moore. Perhaps it’s that there are universal themes at the foundation of many of these songs, or maybe it’s just the feel that Moore’s voice lends to them, but he has found a way to make the work of Merchant, Richard Thompson, and Joni Mitchell sound like they were once traditional Irish folk songs. In fact, finding that means to add eloquence to shards of life-changing memories and heartbreaking imperfection – the fabric of Ireland’s character – is what makes Moore the iconic storyteller that he is. In his own words though, cohesion and the themes that announce themselves from it only arrive as an afterthought: “I don’t set out to make a concept album...I hope that in the recording, sometimes unbeknownst even to myself, one will actually emerge and there will be

“I love being in America, I love gigging there, I love a lot of its culture and art. And yet, the behaviour of some Americans appalls me...at the moment, it’s a very frightening country.”

America’. So she just played it for me and I said: ‘Jesus, I wonder if I could sing that’. And then it started,” Moore smiles, “...the long, agonising journey of trying to learn a Morrissey song.”

Moore has enjoyed a fruitful association with some of Ireland’s finest songwriters, and so unsurprisingly, when the Kildareman applies himself to the work of John Spillane and Wally Page, it’s an entirely natural fit. The country-tinged macabre of the world of The Handsome Family, however, is another connection that one might not have foreseen with Moore. “I heard the Handsomes singin’, and I was instantly smitten... I mean they are very dark, but sometimes they manage to be hilariously funny simultaneously, and I love that. It’s great sometimes to be breaking your hole laughing at something so incredibly dark.”

One of the two Handsome Family tracks to feature on “Burning Times,” “Peace in the Valley Once Again” imagines an

a vibe that will go through an album. But it’s just twelve individual songs that’ve been brought together, and hopefully, will hang well that way.”

As a whole, there is a duality at play within “Burning Times” – a mixture of nostalgia for the craic and biting statements that can touch a nerve unexpectedly. An expert at knowing how to prick the listener’s consciousness, Moore knows that the right moment to do so is just when you’re at your most comfortable. “I suppose that would be my approach,” he ponders, as if he had never thought of it that way. “But I think you’ve got to be very careful how you do it...you can’t go straight from the abuse of children into ‘The Craic Was Ninety In The Isle Of Man’, we have to move gently from topics that deserve sensitivity to bit of lunacy.”

Stepping seamlessly from the warmth of “Magic Nights in the Lobby Bar” to tales of injustice within a minute, the proportion of this balance on “Burning Times” around the countries I do is that there’s usually a fairly happy aul’

buzz around the hall when it’s over, a lot of smiling faces. So that seems to be the way it works; we seem to

heavy subjects, and we manage to do it in a way that also allows us to have a good night and to enjoy ourselves.” Even still, Moore is always prepared to pick up a lesson or two along the way: “I remember a long time ago in the Point I got stuck in some kind of a rut. I played ‘Farewell to Pripchat’ and then I did ‘The Middle of the Island’, and this guy shouts up:

‘For feck’s sake Christy, would ye ever lighten up!’ Just this voice booming down the Point: ‘Bloody lighten up man’. But he was right...and it was a magic moment.”

Burning Times is out now on Columbia Records

Christy on the new album: “Just from the moment we kicked off, I knew we had it, which was fabulous...”

“I love to sing a song that has meat and bones in it, that has a personality and a character... ‘cause it’s what I do.”

acutely represents the essence of Moore’s live experience. “My impression of the atmosphere



Musical Rev-olution

Trinity News’ Andrew Payne talks to The Revs about their new musical direction and why they’re not playing “Turning Japanese” anymore.

What do you think of when you hear the name The Revs? I used to think Irish Blink 182. The band’s new self titled album was then very much a shock. Gone are the pop-punk airs and in their place some excellent tunes perhaps most reminiscent of a young U2.

I suggest this to the band and they explain how they’ve recently gone through some big changes. ‘We changed managers and that has had a big effect’, explains guitarist Michael Daniel. ‘When we were with our old manager [Robert Stephenson], he was very into all-age shows and he had a lot of punk bands on the label. Initially though we weren’t punk, then we released Wired to the Moon and we got labelled as pop-punk. We’d go out and play these gigs and then go home and listen to the music we love, bands like the Beatles, Radiohead, and the Jam. I mean we enjoyed everything, but the media he was pushing us into was Kerrang. That seemed to kind of scare people in the Irish scene a bit and maybe they just saw us as Blink 182-style California wannabes at best’.

The band released their single ‘Death of a DJ’ in the UK and although it didn’t really do too much, it was given rave reviews in Kerrang. That was pretty much all however. The ‘Revs Suck’ album was released in Australia last year. ‘We

released the same record in Australia last year with Smash Music. It was played on alt. radio and we suddenly found we were

Lips do their own artwork, direct short films, and other things. It makes the whole band deeper’. The change with this

“The new album is a lot closer to our influences. Like in my early teens I was really into U2. I remember listening to Under a Blood Red Sky on cassette all the time...”

getting really, really good reviews from the same material that had largely been ignored over here. It really showed us that how you present yourself is really crucial. How you photograph the band for instance is so important. I’d never really been into the artwork side of things. I’d appreciate it when it was done right, like for instance Damien Rice with O- that makes the whole inlay much more interesting. But now I realise how much it affects how you’re viewed’. The artwork of the new album is certainly very striking; this was very much a conscious decision. ‘We wanted to change everything - before this everything had always been very rushed with artwork. But I think we’ve realised that if someone doesn’t like a photo then they’ve judged you already. For instance, if I like the look of a CD in the shop, it catches my eye and I think the band must have put a lot of time into it and must care. It’s just another side to the music. The Flaming

album hasn’t just been in artwork however. There has been a clear musical shift. As guitarist Michael Daniel explains, ‘the direction with our previous manager was very very commercial. It was all very in your face, two top 5 albums kind of stuff. We just had enough and decided that this wouldn’t work, we didn’t want to play that music anymore. The new album is a lot closer to our influences. Like in my early teens I was really into U2. I remember listening to Under a Blood Red Sky on cassette all the time. Then also Achtung Baby and David Bowie. What’s been really positive about this round of promotional stuff is the references people are quoting in interviews that we’re reminding them of. It’s been very positive, a real step up. People are comparing our stuff to stuff we’re interested in, that’d never happen before’.

The past few weeks have seen lots of gigging for the band. How have people taken to

this new sound? The band admit ‘it takes a little while for people to realise that we’re not spiky haired punk rockers, and there’s still a lot of convincing to do. But that said a lot of our old fans got into us when they were 16. Now it’s four years on and they’re in second year in college, they’ve grown up too and they probably don’t want another version of the last album. We still get the odd person coming up after gigs and saying ‘why didn’t you play Turning Japanese?’ but we haven’t played that in fuckin’ years! My response is always ‘Did you have a good gig?’ and the response has been that they loved it so everything seems to be going very well. In

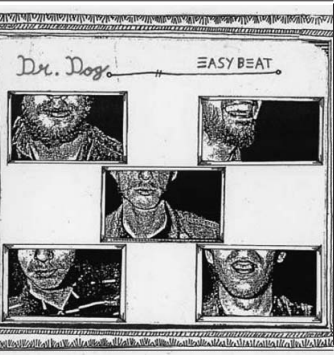
the gigs we’re mostly playing new stuff but if the crowd’s insane we’ll play the old singles like Wired to the Moon- while we want to play the new material, at the same time we don’t want to disappoint’.

There would seem then much for the Revs to look forward to and the band are definitely looking forward to the future. ‘We’re so excited about getting the record out and so happy with how it turned out. It’s still early days yet but the initial response has been great. We wanted to record something we’d buy ourselves and I think that’s something everyone should strive for’.



Dr. Dog: Easybeat

Cian Traynor



Dr. Dog make Arcade Fire feel like the altogether wholesome marriage between a picture-perfect jock and head-cheerleader, "Funeral" being the clean-cut, picket-fenced product of their consummation. In comparison, "Easybeat" is the long-haired deadbeat who's more than happy to leave the world of high-school reunions behind. That is to say, Dr. Dog sound like they know no one's ever going to hear their songs...and they don't care.

The album starts off with a sound like that of "Abbey Road," but as one soon sees, "Easybeat" is filled with more familiar turns than the spiral patterns on a stretch of forgotten 70s carpet. In fact, one could argue that musically, there's not a single original element to be found on the album...but yet that's the most wonderful thing about it. Dr. Dog take sounds that are so over-used they've long since curdled and make something endearingly orig-

inal with it. Of course, things are kept considerably lo-fi throughout, but there's a dark, rugged attractiveness and a tangible sense of team spirit that's hard not to find appealing. There's a looseness to songs like "The Pretender," "OhNo," and "Easybeat" that somehow always pulls things together enough to flirt with the notion of anthemic genius. Tracks like "Say Something" and "Wake Up," on the other hand, will have you following their trail until the path has changed unrecognisably...the destination becoming something unforeseeably brilliant. The cascading doo-wop harmonies and Scott McMicken's wavering (sometimes faltering) bathroom-vocals are elements almost guaranteed to eventually have their way with you.

The final moments of the album finish things up wonderfully with what sounds like a campfire sing-along, screaming: "Wake up, wake UP...wake uuu-uppp! We are only part of a dream. Oh, the things in your heart, like the things in your head, are only what they seem." In an era of creative saturation, we need more records like "Easybeat," not only because it proves that there is a quality of life to be found in aesthetic recycling, but just simply because they're damn good.

Easy Beat is out now on National Parking

Conspicuous Consumption ...With Claudia Braün



Good evening my darlings, and welcome to Conspicuous Consumption, a new column wherein I, Claudia Braün – doyenne of high society and champion of exotic cuisine – share with you – eager little minnows of Trinity College – some of the secrets of eating high off the hog, and other animals.

Now, before I begin, I must stress that I will not be dwelling at any length on the outrageous allegations that have landed me in the dank squalor of Women’s Prison, nor will I be expounding in any detail upon the meagre menu that is now offered to your humble servant and the slack-jawed harri-dans with whom she must share her every waking moment. I feel that readers of any distinction would soon turn away from a correspondent who wasted precious column inches on the vague differentiations in flavour between the alternating White Gruel and Grey Gruel which I am served in lieu of actual food.

Rather I will be seizing upon this opportunity to reflect on my gastronomic adventures outside prison walls, dictating to my scribe (the warden having cruelly denied me access to any implements of writing, cutting or scoring) some of the myriad expeditions I have made into the furthest alimentary orbits.

I have always felt that good taste, much like intelligence or class, is something with which one is born. And so it was with me. From cradle to finishing school my parents ensured that I was plied with only the best of sustenance. Not for me the humble nourishment of the breast. No, under my mother’s tuition I quickly developed a taste for fruits de mer, particularly squid. Squid was the staple food I consumed from my ivory highchair, though in times of duress, when our procurer of my preferred mollusc informed us his stocks had run dry, I could be persuaded to sample octopus. In truth I simply affected choosiness. I would gladly consume anything as

“I was informed by My Nephew the Vegetarian that this was somewhat akin to consuming a beef steak floating in a bowl of milk – so I promptly disowned him”

long as it had tentacles – oh, they excited my childish fancy so!

The best way to serve squid, to either infant or adult, is within a pool of its own ink. I was informed by My Nephew the Vegetarian that this was somewhat akin to consuming a beef steak floating in a bowl of milk – so I promptly disowned him. Nobody but nobody will convince me that squid should be served any other way. Hot or cold this makes for a sublime taste experience, one which once sampled is rarely forgotten. It is also, when served to children, an excellent authenticator of pedigree. Allow me to expand...

Upon the occasion of my second birthday, a special Squid dinner was arranged for myself, my sister Hecabe, and the three chil-

dren of the neighbouring estate, which was owned by a slightly inferior family, the Sexton-Ritchies. The youngest Sexton-Ritchie child, Eustace (18 months), disgraced both himself and his family by first refusing his meal and then attempting to employ the ink for some kind of crude finger painting upon his napkin. Of course he was instantly removed so that I and my guests could enjoy our squid at peace, and yet a seed of disquiet was placed in the mind of Mr. Sexton-Ritchie that any child of his could behave in such an uncouth manner. Naturally the seed germinated till Mr. Sexton-Ritchie could stand it no longer and was forced to order a paternity test for the scurrilous juvenile. It was revealed by this test that young Eustace was, in fact, the bastard progeny of Mrs. Sexton-Ritchie’s brief adultery with the rugged son of the family’s coal shoveller. Of course both mother and child were hastily removed to The Colonies, and soon Mr. Sexton-Ritchie came to be glad of the Squid Ink Incident, for it had helped expose a cuckoo in the nest.

In many ways this tale illuminates my own philosophy of food and eating. It is often claimed that the consumption of a meal is a great ‘leveller’. I believe some of the proletariat refer to this as ‘breaking bread’. Well, while a general ignorance of cutlery may, in some part, explain the vulgar brutality of this term, I feel it is a fine example of the fundamental truth I shall be imparting through this column: Anyone (even the son of a coal shoveller) can eat – only a person of quality can dine.

[Claudia Braün is in conversation with David Turpin.]

Chai-Yo and Town Bar and Grill

Our Editor Finds Out That Eating Out In Dublin Is Not Quite As Simple As One Might Think...

I’m not sure why it is, but I find I’m constantly thinking about the meaning of eating. Ok, ok, that sounds ridiculous. Obviously eating is what keeps us alive, blah, blah, blah. But what about the occasion and circumstance behind it? How is it we get such joy and pleasure out of something which is fundamentally just another bodily function? The fact is eating is not just the act of consumption. Or at least it shouldn’t always be.

Food plays such an important role in everyone’s life. It can make you happy, angry, depressed, whatever. Some people have the ultimate in pleasure in eating a particular meal while for others it’s the cause of stress. Whatever the case, food always surrounds some other action. Be it for romantic pursuits, an excuse to get the family together, to gain weight, to lose it. Without meaning to sound sinister, there is always some ulterior motive to eating.

I recently spent a day with my father. We don’t spend that much time together anymore, and on this occasion I hadn’t seen him in a particularly long time. We decided, seeing how he was in town for the day that we would meet up for lunch. I would go back to college for my last two lectures and then we would meet up again.

For lunch we stopped off at the Chai Yo Asian restaurant on Baggot Street. The restaurant is in one of the big, old Georgian buildings just opposite the Bank of Ireland. It is quite incredible, a bit of a show off really. The seats are arranged around three sides of a large, completely flat metallic cooker. You are given a menu by one of the superbly overly-polite staff, which consists of Prawn, Chicken, Beef and Lamb, or various, more expensive, combinations of the above.

I wrote a review last year of the Alilang on Parnell Street, where you cook your own food on your personal grill in the middle of the table. Well, this is a notch or two up from that. Chai Yo specialises in Teppan cooking in which not only is your food cooked for you, but you get the whole theatrical show along with it. You are greeted by your ‘chef for the day,’ complete with meringue hat and



“I couldn’t stop thinking about all the events, decisions, meetings, that had happened over a meal, a drink, a feast, whatever”

some super culinary tool belt. Your food is then flipped up and down, caught in hats, juggled, cooked and served, all right in front of you. I

had the prawns which were tasty, but I was left with the distinct feeling that one was paying for the show and smiling staff rather than the haute cuisine. Filled me up for a while though.

But that was only until after we met up again and wandered round Grafton Street and Dawson Street wondering what we would do for the evening. I felt too guilty after eating so much lunch to suggest more food. But all that traipsing around looking for something to do built up an appetite. On a friend’s suggestion we decided to try Town Bar and Grill on Kildare Street, a place where we might be able to get a bottle of wine and some nibbles. However, after looking at the very appealing menu we couldn’t not eat.

This newly opened, dimly lit basement has been really well reviewed by the Tom Doorley’s and Domini Kemp’s of this city. I, well, must say wasn’t exactly blown away. The menu, as I said, is impressive, with your usual mishmash of upmarket brassiere fare. I had Chicken Breast wrapped in Prosciutto, which was tasty, but not mind blowing. We

also shared a bottle of the house red which was remarkable in its own right on a wine list which boasted €700 bottles of Rothschild.

It was during lunch that it became apparent that we were not just there to eat. This was something much more. This was an excuse to sit me down and talk about, dun dun dun, my life. Argh! Food was just the medium through which this was made possible. And in retrospect spending this time talking about the direction I was going in while incredibly worthwhile also made me reflect on the idea of eating as a whole. This was just one occurrence where something important had been discussed or had happened. While we ate amazing food, I couldn’t stop thinking about all the events, decisions, meetings, that had happened over a meal, a drink, a feast, whatever. Yet to eat and drink are just simple animalistic bodily functions but are really not a simple as one might think.



SEARCH FOR THE HOLY GRAIL

The essence of this column is cheap. But a cheap pint doesn’t have to mean a bad pint. It is with this in mind that we are including a section on drinking on the bright side of three euro. If you are taste sensitive then turn away now. The sunny side of three euro per pint comes at a cost, the bar maids with hoof dentures, the funeral time music and the refreshing taste of anti-design. This is not Dawson Street country.

Bavaria

€3



Fibber’s, Parnell Street, Dublin 1

Fibber Magee’s - or to us unfortunate locals simply Fibber’s - is an institution in itself.

Along with several other pubs around the city centre, it has copied on to the fact that if you sell cheap and nasty beer you attract an entire sub-crowd who are too broke-ass or stingy to spend the guts of a fiver on a pint. Hence you can now buy one of our nation’s favourites, Bavaria, on tap for 3.

For the joy of being able to purchase such liquid all you have to do is make the trek down to Parnell Street and put up with the god-awful smell of shite that has lingered within those walls since ever. Seriously it’s nasty. You also have to put up with the regulars there of which there are two kinds and couldn’t be any more different from each other if they tried. Upstairs the local gentry are com-

prised of leather-faced men, and women who have become installations at the bar they look like they have been sitting there that long. Downstairs, you will find any leather-wearing alternative youth who ever graced the steps of the Central Bank or decorated the ground of Curved Street with their vomit.

“Downstairs, you will find any leather-wearing alternative youth who ever graced the steps of the Central Bank...”

Probably not the most appealing of descriptions but the place does have some upsides apart from cheap drink. It boasts a really

cushty beer garden, which is probably now Fibber’s crowning glory. One of the few places in town you can sit and smoke a joint hassle free. They also have a couple of pool tables which are the most social part of the place.

Fibber’s is known as Dublin’s Oldest Metal Bar; how viable that is I don’t know. However, I guess that’s down to personal opinion. Metal in terms of Bon Jovi, more recent System of a Down, Guns n’ Roses and any of the first six tracks from Metallica’s black album.

Fibber’s also run a 3 euro night on Thursday nights where you pay 3 euro at the door and the same for any drinks. Which is sort of defeatist in a way because the only reason I go there is to drink Bavaria on tap.



The Food News Column!



Fast food giant McDonald's is to begin printing nutritional facts on the packaging of its burgers and fries.

McDonald's said the labelling would include the fat, salt, calorie and carbohydrate content of its foods.

Critics have accused the company of contributing towards rising levels of obesity and other health problems.

Nutritional information on items such as the Big Mac, which contains 30g of fat, are currently only available in leaflets or on the company's website.

McDonald's said it hoped to have the new packaging in 20,000 of its 30,000 fast food restaurants worldwide by the end of 2006.

'Take responsibility'

McDonald's chief executive Jim Skinner said printing nutritional facts on the packaging of its foods would put the information directly in the hands of the company's customers.

"We think this the absolutely easiest way to communicate it," Mr Skinner said.

"We've given them what they asked for and then people take responsibility about whether they add it up or not add it up."

McDonald's has been introducing items such as salads and fruit to its menus, alongside the company's more traditional fare of burgers, fries and milkshakes.

Earlier this year, the US company announced that it was giving its iconic mascot clown Ronald McDonald a sporty new makeover in a bid to encourage children to take up more active lifestyles. But critics have maintained that many of the foods on offer at

McDonald's are unhealthy and fattening, at a time when obesity levels in many countries are soaring. The world's biggest restaurant company said it hoped to introduce the new packaging by February next year in time for the Winter Olympics in Italy.

Food experts advise that eggs should be cooked thoroughly

Poultry and eggs should be thoroughly cooked before consumption to avoid any risk of bird flu, food experts advise.

Although the risk of these products carrying avian flu is extremely low, the European Food Safety Authority has reiterated its advice. Raw eggs and chicken can carry bugs and viruses that people can catch, such as salmonella and the-oretically bird flu.

By thoroughly cooking these foods people can avoid the risk, no matter how small it is.

We are not aware of any reports of people getting avian flu from eating poultry or eggs

A spokeswoman for the Food Standards Agency An EFSA spokeswoman said, given measures already in place, the risk of bird flu entering the food chain was in fact very low. She added: "Should this happen in future cooking will also be protective." The advice has been issued because anxiety about bird flu has

raised public concern about the safety of poultry products. The spokeswoman said: "We are not saying anything new, we are simply reiterating food safety advice."

Cook thoroughly A spokeswoman for the Food Standards Agency said: "Like EFSA, we are not aware of any reports of people getting avian flu from eating poultry or eggs.

"The issue is people having contact with live birds that have the disease.

"EFSA appears to be reiterating long-standing food safety advice about cooking poultry and eggs thoroughly to kill bugs and viruses."

The H5N1 strain of avian flu has



killed at least 60 people in Asia since 2003.

Humans catch avian flu through close contact with live infected birds.

Birds excrete the virus in their faeces, which dry and become pulverised, and are then inhaled.

Therefore, the people thought to be at risk are those involved in the slaughter and preparation of meat that may be infected.

However, the World Health Organization recommends, to be absolutely safe all meat should be cooked to a temperature of at least 70C. Eggs should also be thoroughly cooked.

The Dublin Food Experience Burritos and Blues, Ranelagh Road, Dublin 6

Until recently I was of the opinion that the words Mexican and Fast Food should never be in the same sentence. If they did it was only to summon up tearful memories of severe cases of a certain Japanese Flag syndrome. Simply put Mexican Fast Food, especially when in Mexico, is just bad news.

However that opinion was greatly altered when I discovered the newly opened Burritos and Blues. Looking for something other than some battered deep fried Chineseness on a wet evening; I was lured by the blues.

Burritos and Blues is a newly opened Mexican Fast Food joint in Ranelagh. And it does exactly what it says on the tin.

They serve a large selection of burritos, nachos, quesadillas, all for under €7. And of course the obligatory fries and soda fountain drinks. They even have a student special with their speciality Silver Bullet Burrito, chips and a drink for a fiver. Nice one.

You don't even get bombarded with run of the mill music – we're talking quality Creedence, Janis, Nina, you name it. They also have live bands weekly.

Ok, so this isn't exactly a review, more like my personal rant about this place's greatness. But seriously what more could you ask for in a restaurant? And it's on the LUAS, so free transport. No excuses.



Plans for regeneration of the Buttery to go ahead

Trinity News Guide to Eating and Drinking in... Dublin 1

With the changing streets, eateries and boozeries in Dublin we have decided this year to continue the Trinity News Guide to all your food and drink needs. Issue by issue we will ingest the best, on your behalf. Area by area, we pick apart your locality in an effort to give you an idea of which part of town is the real liver and legume of Dublin's food and drink scene.

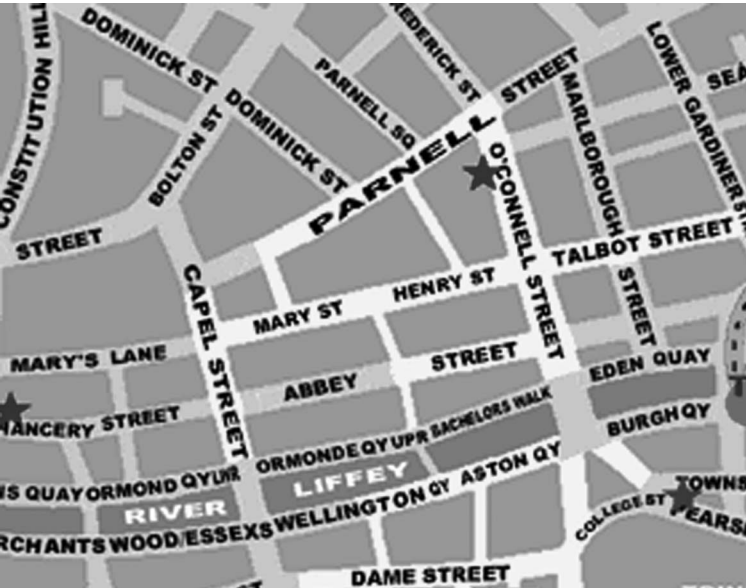
Best for booze: The Chinese Off-Licence, Parnell Street. Can't for the life of me remember what it's called but it is ridiculously cheap and it comes complete with a sign on the wall in Chinese – I had to ask for it to be translated of course – that tells you Alcohol Brings Sorrow. But you can get about 18 cans of beer for €20.

Best for meat, fish, fruit and veg: Moore St Market has been here for generations. The owl ones still remain even though the area has now been dubbed various things from Little Nigeria to Chinatown. This only adds to the charm and means that it has also become one of the best places in town to find exotic ingredients too.

Best for a pint: The Flowing Tide, Abbey Street. A dingy old man pub with a metal bar downstairs and resident bar of Abbey actors for years, it even serves a good pint.

Best dancing: Hospital, Traffic, Abbey Street. Friday nights at Traffic have become one have the only reasons for going out in this dismal city. Some of the most amazing live electronic music around as well as some of the nicest people. Yay for Hospital!

Best grub: Alilang Korean, Parnell Street. Cheap and fun. I know I talk about this place a lot, but really, it's for a reason.



November Recipes

Hallowe'en evokes memories of stuffing one's face following a ridiculous dash around your area asking neighbours for sweets while dressed in a bin bag and if you were lucky a cheap elasticated mask. Oh Hallowe'en! While I would have loved to have written about the best methods of Trick or Treat, I thought against it. Here are a few traditional recipes for Halloween treats:

Pumkin Pie

Frozen shortbread pastry (defrosted), you can buy in any supermarket!
1 lb (450g) pumpkin flesh, cut into chunks
2 eggs plus 1 yolk (Keep the white)
1 tablespoon molasses
3 oz (75g) brown sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon
_ teaspoons of Nutmeg, ground cloves, ground ginger (You can mix n match these depending on what you have!)
10 fl oz (275ml) double cream

You will need a 9 inch tin – which you can buy for about €2 in Tesco

Pre-heat the oven to gas mark 4, 350F, 180C

Place a steamer over a pan of simmering water, add the pumpkin and steam for 15 minutes until tender.

Then place a sieve over a bowl and press the pumpkin through.

Roll the pasty and line the tin with it. Prick the base all over and brush it with the egg white. Place in the centre of the oven and bake for 20 minutes until crisp and golden.

Next lightly whisk the eggs and extra yolk in a large bowl.

Add the molasses, then the sugar, spices and cream to a saucepan and let it simmer. Whisk it to mix everything together. Pour in the eggs then the pumpkin, whisking the while time.

Pour into the pastry case and bake for 35-40 minutes. Allow to cool on a wire rack before serving!

Dinner in a Pumpkin

Not quite sure if I'm disgusted or intrigued by this – found it on the internet. Man, those crazy Americans.

1 small to med. pumpkin
2 tbsp vegetable oil
2 tbsp soy sauce
1 1/2 c. cooked rice
1 (4oz.) can sliced mushrooms, drained
1 (10 3/4 oz.) can cream of chicken soup
1 (8oz.) can sliced water chestnuts, drained
1 onion, chopped
1 1/2 - 2 lbs. ground beef
2 tbsp brown sugar

Cut off the top of the pumpkin and thoroughly clean out seeds and pulp. Paint an appropriate face on the front with a permanent marker.

Preheat oven to 350F 180C Gas mark 4. In a large frying pan, sauté onions in oil till tender. Add meat and brown. Drain drippings, add soy sauce, brown sugar, mushrooms and soup.

Simmer 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Add cooked rice and water chestnuts. Spoon mixture into the cleaned pumpkin shells.

Replace top and place entire pumpkin with filling on a baking sheet. Bake 1 hour or until inside of pumpkin is tender. Cooking time may vary up to 2 hours, depending on size of pumpkin. Place entire pumpkin on serving platter, remove lid and serve mixture plus meat of the pumpkin.

Thai Green Curry - benji gogan

Ingredients: Chicken (cubed), Onion (sliced), Garlic , Aubergine, Cougette, Rocket Lettuce (shredded), Green Curry Paste, Coconut milk, Peppers, Chillies, chicken stock cube(dissolved in half a cup of hot water), Rice. The ingredients you choose for this recipe are all really a matter of personal preference, aside from the essentials of the dish.

Cut all your ingredients to roughly the same size, with the exception of the garlic and chillies. Start by putting your rice on, following the directions on the packet is probably your best bet.

Begin by sweating your onion over a low heat in a little oil along with the garlic, chillies and curry paste (the amount depends on your preference, one desert spoon per average human being average human being or to taste.) Once soft, add the rest of your veg and fry lightly for 3-5 minutes, add your coconut milk, stock and rocket lettuce. the curry should be a creamy consistancy, if it's too thin cook for the remaining 30 minutes uncovered, otherwise thin with a little water and simmer half covered.

And how could we forget...

Curly Kale/ Colcannon

3 lbs potatoes, scrubbed
2 sticks butter
1 1/4 cups hot milk
Freshly ground black pepper
1 head curly kale
4 scallions, finely chopped
Chopped parsley leaves, for garnish

Steam the potatoes in their skins for 30 minutes. Peel them using a knife and fork. Chop with a knife before mashing. Mash thoroughly to remove all the lumps. Add 1 stick of butter in pieces. Gradually add hot milk, stirring all the time. Season with a few grinds of black pepper.

Boil the cabbage in unsalted water until it turns a darker color. Add 2 tablespoons butter to tenderize it. Cover with lid for 2 minutes. Drain thoroughly before returning it to the pan. Chop into small pieces.

Add cabbage and scallions, to mashed potatoes, stirring them in gently.

Serve in individual soup plates. Make an indentation on the top by swirling a wooden spoon. Put 1 tablespoon of butter into each indentation. Sprinkle with parsley.

Exploring In Ecuador

Alyson Mc Evoy on her volunteering experience

From above, Quito, the bustling and at times turbulent capital of Ecuador appears out of nowhere. From among the rugged mountain peaks of the Andes appears a plain, a flat rectangle of land hemmed in on all sides by mountaintops and volcanoes, into which is crammed one of the liveliest capital cities of South America. A startling array of buildings of all shapes, sizes and wacky colours assaults the senses of an Irlandesa, fresh from the misty greens of an Irish winter...

As the plane nears the airport, which is bang in the centre of the city, a teeming population reveals itself pouring around the streets. Now on Ecuadorian soil not much has changed. Only the clamour of city reveals itself. Honking horns, roaring engines, friendly banter and the yells of hawkers adds an animated soundtrack to the bustle.

After about a month working in this jam-packed city, its charms began to reveal themselves to my co-workers and me. We stumbled upon ‘salsotecas’ brimming with Latin passion, cafes serving local favourites such as ‘maduros’, (fried banana) and crispy ‘choclo’ (corn on the cob) and small theatres, cinemas and quirky bars. We soon realised however, that nowhere evaded the Latin passion of the Ecuatorianos and we often found ourselves hopping from bar to bar, not for the sheer fun of it, but to evade our amorous admirers who marvelled at our pale complexions and yellow locks. The same admirers who declared their undying love half way through our first dance!

But the Ecuadorian hom-

bres weren’t always so amiable. One of my worst memories of Quito is sitting at a bus stop at 5am on a Monday morning, one of the most exciting weekends of my life just behind me, but my eyes nearly falling out of my head after a bumpy overnight bus ride. I sat dazed, wondering if buses even ran at this hour of the morning, when two shoeless muchachos approached. I can’t quite remember what was said but before I knew it they were quoting Edgar Allen Poe

“We stumbled upon ‘salsotecas’ brimming with Latin passions, cafes serving local favourites and small theatres, cinemas and quirky bars”

at me and getting closer and closer. All I could do was gaze astonished and bleary eyed at them and clutch my belongings fiercely. Next thing a flashy car pulled up beside the bus stop and two wealthy Ecuadorians asked me if I needed some assistance. I wasn’t sure which would prove to be the better of the two evils but I got into the car and off we sped. They turned out to be computer programmers who had just finished a major assignment and had slept even less than myself over the past two nights. They assured me they had just saved my skin and that I was surely about to be robbed. I took it all very lightly at the time but the next day, after a goodnights sleep, reality dawned on me and I found myself agreeing with them.

As time went on, another advantage of Quito dawned on me; its proximity to small mountain villages, each easily visited in the space of a weekend and with the most amazing views of ‘La

Cordillera De Los Andes’. This Andean ridge sweeps majestically from north of Columbia right down through Ecuador, Peru and Chile into the Patagonian plains at the very southern tip of South America.

One of the most memorable journeys made to these mountain communities was to an especially chilled and remote place, made famous by its proximity to a stunning lake filled volcanic crater. The alkaline content of this mas-

sive volume of water was such that it had a permanent green tint, the intensity of which altered with each passing cloud. ‘Quilotoa’, as this place was called, was scarcely what you might call a village. I saw humble brick houses-cum-hostels and a small women’s hand craft shop but no tienda or shop of any kind was ever made known to me no matter how much I paced its one narrow street looking for a much deserved bread roll and perhaps a hot drink. My overnight stay in Quilotoa, I will always remember as the bitterest and wintriest of all my life. Preparing for bed that night saw my friend and me putting on pyjamas over our clothes in a desperate attempt to stay warm. We were the only guests at the hostel that night and we stalked the rooms for blankets, before shivering into bed and layering at least five blankets on top of ourselves. It wasn’t so much warm as just really heavy and stifling but I didn’t move all night to peel any off...

The next day more than made up for it though, as we decided to descend to the shore of the magnificent ‘Laguna Quilotoa’. We approached the descent into the crater hesitantly but soon we were literally sliding down the interior of the volcano as walking proved impossible on the gravelly soil. On reaching the lake’s edge we came across a little dinghy, unmanned and unattended. Excited and eager as we were, we searched the shore for the owner of the tiny vessel, ready to implore him to venture onto the lake with us. We never found him, if he does exist, and we contented ourselves with gazing awe-inspired at the lake and the sloping inner walls of the volcano and laughed at ourselves, picnicking, of all places, inside a crater!

The Andean ridge is but one region of Ecuador however. This, one of the smallest countries in South America, is also one of the most diverse. As I found out during my weekend explorations throughout the country, Ecuador boasts a stunning coastline, a sizeable section of the Amazonian rainforest as well as the remarkable Galapagos islands, made famous by Charles Darwin’s made most controversial work, ‘The origin of the species’.

Over the next three weeks I’ll be giving you a taste of what I got up to in these various parts of Ecuador; an up close and personal account of the full moon party in the hippest little town on the Pacific coast, some monkey business in the jungle and you’ll meet a shipwrecked group of dejected tourists on the isles of Darwin’s dreams...



Alyson and friends pose for the camera

Off the Rails

Jonny Drennan treks the European plain

“Hello, this is the final call for Easyjet flight from Belfast to Trieste for Mr Jonathan Drennan, Stephen Mennely, Andrew Kyle and Adam Lewis; I repeat the final call.” Mr Mennely heard this when he was sitting on the toilet with the Sun. His other friends were too tired to hear. At four am human reactions aren’t normally the best but we realised it might be a good idea to start running for the sake of the holiday. Sprinting down to the departure area we saw something orange on the horizon. It wasn’t an early morning sun but instead a very cross Easyjet employee called Mandy. No

Croatia. Ten hours later we arrived in Split and got a ferry to Hvar Island.

Hvar Island, a playboy’s paradise. Yachts line the shore-front and marble streets give the island an Italian feel. Renowned for its beauty, we came here on the strong advice of friends. It didn’t disappoint. We enjoyed days of beautiful sunshine, exploring the old town and just enjoying the fact we had somehow managed to get into Eastern Europe.

Next stop was Korcula, an island close by, as a college friend of Stephen’s was staying

where. I fear it’s only a matter of time before you will be able to eat a Sunday Roast whilst watching Eastenders in the old town.

Another week, another country. On a bit of an impulse we decided to go to Sarajevo. After a day’s travel in a minibus we arrived at around midday. Looking out the window we saw shelled buildings everywhere; the first sign we came across was ‘Welcome to Sarajevo, Olympic City 84’ with a shell mark through it. We had no accommodation, so when a nice old lady driving a yellow school bus said she would take us to her place we didn’t hesitate in accepting.

Arriving at Hostel Lbujica, we were informed that accommodation in the centre was full but there was a dorm nearby and Vladimir would take us there. Vladimir spoke no English, was 6’4” and drove a yellow Mercedes that had seen better days. Driving us high up above the city, we eventually arrived in a field with no exits and three men with their arms folded. A rotweiler on a leash was snarling at us. We needn’t have worried; the men and their dog were instead a dubious welcoming committee. Our three days in this city were a pleasure. The people were desperate for us to form a favourable impression of their city and generally, we did. Our visit coincided with the annual Sarajevo film festival and we spent our last night watching a

square was a particular highlight, huge golden statues depicting warriors of Hungarian folklore were set against a backdrop of children skateboarding. In search of amusement one day, Adam suggested a massage at Budapest’s thermal baths. I scoffed at the suggestion but soon I found myself face down on a table not with the beautiful Hungarian lady I had imagined but with a hairy bloke called Nikolae, pummeling my backside. When in Rome...

Travelling by night on the train is a novel experience. If the lack of conversation doesn’t get to you, the smell of feet will. After a tiring journey via Slovakia we arrived in Krakow in Poland. The city resembles Prague ten years ago before stag nights arrived en masse. A beautiful square flanked by an impressive cathedral, Krakow cuts an impressive figure. Krakow offers the traveler plenty, but unfortunately a lot of its notoriety derives from its close proximity to Auschwitz. We went to the camp for the day as we felt we should but that’s another story.

Our final stop of the trip was Prague; the general consensus was that this could be the best city of the whole holiday. You are left in no doubt about Prague’s beauty. The problem is how ultimately kitsch it has become. Prague Castle for example is the largest ancient castle in the world. We visited it only to see a Disneyesque procession of knights and

“We arrived in the near deserted townand were met by a South African in a cowboy hat who wanted us to come to his ‘happy house’...”

film about a Romanian prostitute and her turkey- at least I think that was what it was about.

Budapest was next on the agenda. Separated by the Danube river, Budapest is in fact two cities, Buda and Pest. The city has an odd feel to it- it looks like a slightly rundown Spanish town with shop fronts that are caught in an eighties time warp. We were staying in Pest. It proved a pleasant base, but the beauty of the city was to be found in Buda. Heroes’

jesters emerge from the drawbridge for the tourists. The city boasts some amazing architecture but the onslaught of tourists in recent years has somewhat diminished its fairytale charm.

Very tired, we arrived in Belfast days later. We had no money left, had maxed our credit cards and lost half of our clothes. Still, you can’t buy experience and I can’t wait to do it again.

The Interrailer’s Survival Guide

| | |
|---|---|
| Alix O’Neill and Dexter Galvin | |
| Interrailing; the obligatory student experience. Right up there with anti-war rallies, embarrassing one night stands and fantasising about your elderly Greek History lecturer. Ahem... | |
| With Eastern European travel increasingly accessible these days, the possibilities are endless. Travelling on the continent however, does have its trials, so you should be well prepared before you set off on your travels. Here are our top ten tips to make the most of your trip. | |
| 1) Bring a backpack | You’ll invariably wake up to a foot massage in the middle of the night, administered by some dodgy Italian gentleman called Federico. This is not a desirable situation. The solution is to take your smelliest mate travelling with you. Anytime the train stops for passengers, get him to remove his shoes and delve into an in-depth discussion on his athlete’s foot. Invite Johnny Foreigner to examine said ailment. You’ll never see him again. |
| The obvious choice of luggage for the budget traveller, right? Many first time interrailers truly believe a Louis Vuitton suitcase on wheels is a sensible vessel for traipsing round the continent. These are usually the sort of folk who pack superfluous items such as fake tan and curling tongs. Steer clear- high maintenance women are not cut out for life on the road. | |
| 2) Don’t dress like a tourist | Unfortunately, there are those who think travelling involves changing your name from Kevin to River, taking up juggling and growing dreads. It doesn’t. These people smell. Avoid them. |
| Different countries have different uniforms. Americans typically sport the white tennis shoe and oversized Bermuda shorts with numerous pockets for their dollars (the Yanks have yet to work out that different countries have different currencies). The Japanese tourist can often be identified by his large elongated implement... his camera lens. The French wear sweaters as scarves a la Alan Partridge and the Spanish give a nostalgic nod to the eighties with a wide selection of mullets. You do not want to be associated with any of these people. When in Rome, dress as you would in Ireland. | |
| 3) Don’t sleep with Italian men | Especially when they say they love you... They don’t mean it... Miscreants! |
| Especially when they say they love you... They don’t mean it... Miscreants! | |
| 4) Bring a mate | The last thing you want on an overnight train journey is to share a cramped carriage with Johnny Foreigner. |
| The last thing you want on an overnight train journey is to share a cramped carriage with Johnny Foreigner. | |
| 5) Learn a foreign language | It might come in useful. |
| | |
| 6) Don’t take anything expensive with you | This is common sense but you’d be surprised at the number of idiots who don’t follow this simple rule. They usually end up inventing nonsense insurance scams that never work. |
| | |
| 7) Shun hardcore travellers | Unfortunately, there are those who think travelling involves changing your name from Kevin to River, taking up juggling and growing dreads. It doesn’t. These people smell. Avoid them. |
| | |
| 8)Buy booze from the supermarket | Find yourself a member from the above group (on the rare occasion they come in handy). Ensure they can provide music of some sort (bongo, guitar, tin whistle). Buy copious amounts of cheap beer from your local supermarket and sit around in a circle availing of herbal refreshments and singing the entire repertoire of Jack Johnson. This will save you a fortune and make you feel “alternative”. |
| | |
| 9) Don’t buy vulgar souvenirs as presents | The male phallus fashioned to resemble the Eiffel Tower is not an appropriate gift for your grandmother. |
| | |
| 10) Keep a journal | We have to keep this page going. |
| | |



Prague’s Huss Monument, a regular stop for Trinity’s interrailers

Loving Erasmus in Lausanne

Thinking of going away on an Erasmus programme?
Elaine Gallagher looks back on her time in Switzerland and thinks Lausanne could just be your perfect European destination...

The Erasmus-Socrates programme was founded in the early 1980's with the aim of improving cultural relations between the youth of Europe. Under the scheme students from EU countries may choose to spend a semester or year in another European university. It is hoped that by doing so students will gain valuable experience, not only academically, but culturally and socially as well. So successful has been the scheme that it has even managed to infiltrate the usually impenetrable Swiss border. Thanks to a bi-lateral agreement, between Switzerland and the EU, the Erasmus programme now operates between Swiss and EU state universities.

Two years ago I too chose to partake in the Erasmus experience. As a student of English literature and French, I was seeking somewhere in Europe where I could both improve my proficiency in French, and continue with my English studies. After much reflection, I found myself drawn to the Helvetian state. Paris had become a clich , Brussels was too wet (remember I was coming from Ireland and wanted to escape bad weather) and Luxembourg was too small. That left French-speaking Switzerland, home of watches, cheese and, most importantly, chocolate - no competition really. Once I had made my decision the final arrangements were left to Trinity. They kindly placed me in the University of Lausanne, a leading Swiss, and indeed European, centre of learning.

As a student of English I was intrigued to learn that Lausanne had a history of attracting famous writers to its shore. In the past it had played host to Lord

Byron, George Eliot, T.S. Eliot, and Ernest Hemingway, among others. Thus it seemed clear that the town had something special to offer. Other than serving as a writer's muse, however, I was eager to discover what Lausanne had to offer the visiting student.

So how does Lausanne, and indeed Switzerland rate as an Erasmus destination? In

“If you are looking for an exuberant night-life, or high culture, then perhaps Paris or London is what you seek, but if you want something a little calmer, more active and healthy, then you could do a lot worse than Lausanne”

many ways Lausanne provides the complete Erasmus package. The University of Lausanne, as well as the polytechnical school, E.P.F.L., are high-quality institutions. They therefore fulfil the principle requirement of the Erasmus programme, i.e. the furtherance of the student's academic education. I thoroughly enjoyed my English literature course, and found it to be every bit as good as my course in Trinity. Others that I spoke to, students of Arts, Law, and Sciences, all gave positive feedback.

Studies aside, Lausanne and Switzerland offer much to the Erasmus student. It is a veritable utopia for sports-enthusiasts, with an endless array of activities on offer during both the winter and summer seasons. During the winter, even the un-sportiest of students will want to take advantage of the near-by Alps. The sports-centre, open to both UNIL and E.P.F.L. students provides weekends away in the Diablerets ski resort, where for a very reasonable fee one receives ski and/or snowboarding instruction, in addition to

bed and board, in a charming, and quintessential Swiss chalet. This is only one of many ski resorts on offer in the Lausanne area; one is spoiled for choice, with such resorts as Villars, Verbier, and Porte du Soleil all easily accessible. Other winter sports to be enjoyed include tobogganing, ice-skating, and ice hockey. However, if you do not wish to try your hand at the lat-

ter, you can always attend a hockey match and let the local Lausanne team show you how it is done. During warmer weather, Lac Lemane is at the heart of sporting activities, with sailing, canoeing, windsurfing, water-skiing, and swimming all to be savoured. Hiking is another favourite past time during the summer with countless mountain walks on offer in the region.

Another advantage of studying in Lausanne, or anywhere in Switzerland, is its geographical location. The county is ideally located in the heart of Europe, allowing easy access to neighbouring France, Italy, Germany, Liechtenstein, and Austria. The super-efficient Swiss train system makes travel all the more comfortable. Unfortunately, however, one pays dearly for such efficiency, as transport in Switzerland is very expensive. It is therefore advisable to avail of the discount tickets on offer, namely the annual Half-Price card, and for those under 26, the Platform 7 card which enables one to travel for free



after 7p.m. The Inter-rail pass is another option worth considering if one wishes to travel both in Switzerland and further afield. It is perhaps best to avail of the Inter-Rail pass during the semester break or during the summer holidays.

It is not only the price of train travel which the Lausanne Erasmus student will find expensive, the price of living in general is very high. The financial burden is undoubtedly the main disadvantage of studying in Lausanne as, like most Swiss towns, it is expensive. Accommodation, although cheaper than in Dublin, is still quite expensive for a town of its size; the town is somewhat larger than Galway city. Other strains on one's wallet are the price of books, entertainment and food, with the exception of chocolate, which is generally quite cheap. However, if like me,

you are a chocoholic then this may be a mixed blessing. Although you will adore the delicious mountains of chocolate on offer, your waist-line will not thank you for it.

Moving abroad, for whatever length of time, can be a demanding experi-

“Another advantage of studying in Lausanne, or anywhere in Switzerland, is its geographical location. The county is ideally located in the heart of Europe, allowing easy access to neighbouring France, Italy, Germany, Liechtenstein, and Austria”

ence. However, moving to Lausanne, while on Erasmus, is generally a very smooth and stress-free process. This is mainly thanks to the Centres for Student Affairs at the University of Lausanne and E.P.F.L. These centres provide the Erasmus student with useful advice

and assistance regarding studies, accommodation, residence permits, etc. Equally important when one joins a new university is one's social outlet. Here again the centres are on hand to help. Throughout the year they organise several trips (most of which are subsidised),

soir es and other events, where Erasmus and other university students can meet and socialise. One really has no excuse for feeling lonely or isolated, as the Erasmus experience in Lausanne provides the opportunity to meet students from all over Europe and beyond.

Erasmus is a very individual experience. If you are looking for an exuberant night-life, or high culture, then perhaps Paris or London is what you seek, but if you want something a little calmer, more active and healthy, then you could do a lot worse than Lausanne. It is a charming town, with a young population. Furthermore it is a very safe place to live, always re-assuring when one is unfamiliar with a new location. I greatly enjoyed my stay in Lausanne and would strongly recommend it as an Erasmus destination.

Those of you who are interested in taking part in the Erasmus programme in the University of Lausanne, or any other university, should contact your Department's Erasmus/Socrates coordinator.

The A-Z of careers - Each letter is a Career explained



Myles Gutkin returns once more with the final part of TN's A-Z of Careers

S for Soldiering

The actions of military agencies all over the world are watched with more suspicion now than ever before. It takes loyalty and confidence in the Irish Government to work in the Irish Defence Force. A military career is physically challenging and requires strict adherence to an agreed code of conduct and morality. Some people will find this environment constraining, others will find it liberating.

Cadetships are available to those with sufficient Leaving Certificate results, by interview. Cadets complete a rigorous 21 month training course in the Curragh, county Kildare, consisting of three 7 month stages, after which they receive a diploma in Military Studies and the rank of second lieutenant. All Cadets go on to complete a degree, usually at NUI Galway. Those applying with at least a pass in an honours degree will be considered preferentially for Cadetships.

During study Cadets are paid just under  30,000 and accommodation at Barracks is supplied. After completion of the degree course, graduating Officers are assigned to a military unit and

commissioned for around 5 years. Wages increase with service, to around  40,000. If Officers fail to serve the entirety of their commission, they must repay their university costs and the wages they received while studying.

Military apprenticeships are also available, with many trades to choose from, all of which are recognised by FAS. Apprentices receive training in their chosen trade, as well as military training, and are assigned to units with upward mobility upon completion.

The Defence Force takes on many university graduates to serve in their areas of study. Military training will be provided, as well as interesting and unusual opportunities to apply learning under the leadership of experienced personnel.

T for Teaching

Teachers at the primary and secondary levels provide one of the most important services in Irish society. They help children and young adults to develop positive attitudes to work and each other, as well as providing them with a core of knowledge to help them contextualise their lives.

Although holidays are longer, and working days are shorter than in most other careers, there is a lot of preparation required to do the job properly. Pay is usually inferior to the commercial managerial positions that require equivalent education. Teaching is a career that can be extremely rewarding to those whom it suits, and very taxing for others.

A successful teacher requires excellent communication skills, with particular emphasis on the ability to gauge student understanding, and simplify complicated concepts to a suitable level. There are many subjects to be taught, so a broad understanding of the core subjects taught in Irish schools is certainly a bonus. Sufficient knowledge of the English and Irish languages is essential, particularly in primary school where all teachers must be fluent in Irish.

Secondary teachers require a bachelor degree in any subject, but ideally related to subjects they wish to teach, followed by a higher diploma in education. Primary school teachers require a bachelor degree in primary education.

U for University Professorship

A university professor works with students and with university faculty to facilitate the education of students, as well as research in their field of expertise. A professor is always learning, through research, study and conference. It is a varied profession involving individual, group and mass communication, usually in the role of a leader.

Professors are experts. In order to be competitive in academia, a would-be professor will need a university degree, a doctorate with research in a chosen field of speciality, and further experience in the form of research or application in that area. Travel, and varied

experience within academic fields will make a candidate more attractive. Within scientific fields, it is essential to publish research or review articles in widely recognised scientific journals. The ubiquitous maxim is, "publish or perish".

Ireland has several prestigious universities, but with great

Entry into a veterinary ‘Teachers at the primary and secondary levels provide one of the most important services in Irish society. They help children and young adults to develop positive attitudes to work and each other’

competition for professorial roles, it will probably be necessary to apply to universities in every country you would be willing to live in and find lecturing, tutoring or research posts until positions becomes vacant.

The pay that most professors receive is substantial, but not as high as could be obtained in commercial enterprise by expert consultants, so it's not a job one does solely for the money. There is great job security, however, with very low probability of dismissal. Many academics also supplement their income by becoming involved in commercial research, practice or consultancy.

V for Veterinary practice

Veterinarians treat the acute and chronic illnesses of domestic animals. Specialists treat wild and captive exotic animals. Because owners become emotionally attached to companion animals, it can be very rewarding to help people's beloved pets. Working animals and livestock are cared for in a more pragmatic way, with more consideration for profit, productivity and legal requirements. Many vets are also employed to care for laboratory animals undergoing research procedures.

Salaries for veterinarians

vary from around  50 000 to  65 000, per annum, with some fields of specialty obtaining substantially higher wages. Most veterinarians work in private practice, acting as to diagnose and treat a variety of domestic species with all sorts of illness, as well as managing the business side of the clinic.

Entry into a veterinary

medicine course is highly competitive and the studies are very challenging, covering a wide range of animals and pathologies. A strong understanding of biology and chemistry is essential as well as good communication skills, both with humans and animals.

The field of veterinary medicine is a very challenging one, with a high degree of technical and scientific knowledge required. It's a career that will be very rewarding at times, when an animal is cured and the owner is grateful, but may be very upsetting when animals have to be euthenased, or can't be saved.

W for Writing

‘Many people dream of expressing themselves to masses of understanding and thoughtful readers. Coupled with the freedom of being self-employed, as many writers are, it seems to be the perfect career. But very few people will be able to sell a sufficient quantity of their writing at high enough prices to make writing a viable career for them.’

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career. But very few people will be able to sell a sufficient quantity of their writing at high enough prices to make writing a viable career for them.

There is limited employment in creative writing, which is largely freelance, and involves producing a piece of writing with a target audience in mind, and then selling it to them. Some creative writers are employed by publishing companies, and commissioned to write regular or periodic pieces for distribution by that company. Wages vary greatly, depending on proliferation and saleability of writing.

Non-fiction and technical writing is a field with higher employment opportunities and more opportunity for stable employment. The same companies produce scientific, journalistic and technical writing regularly and many writers are employed to contribute frequently. Writers with a particular field of expertise are paid more and have greater opportunities to write on related issues.

Writing requires the ability to express concepts clearly. Creativity, curiosity and self-motivation are important traits for successful writers. Firms that employ writers appreciate practical writing experience, in amateur publications and through voluntary internships. Newly employed writers usually

begin by doing research and fact checking, before moving on to writing or editing.

Writers usually complete broad arts degrees, with some preferring journalism, communications or english. Specialised techni-

cal writers study subjects within their field of interest, and require experience either in research or practical application of their studies.

XYZ for Zoology

Zoologists study and care for animals of all kinds. For those who have an inherent love of animals, this may be an ideal career.

Those zoologists involved in research spend similar amounts of time researching animals in or out of their natural habitats, and analysing the results of their study. Graduates of biology or zoology degree courses may find employment in such labs and research teams, but a masters or doctorate would be required to lead such a team.

In zoological gardens, zookeepers are employed to care for animals. Maintaining enclosures that replicate each animal's natural environment as much as possible, while facilitating their easy observation by patrons of the zoo.

Government bodies, as well as industrial and land developing corporations, employ zoologists to ensure that habitats are not illegally destroyed by commercial activities such as mining, pollution, and clearing.

To be a successful zoologist computer skills and the ability to work alone, as well as in interdisciplinary teams, are needed. Communication skills are also essential to convey results and demand corporate action.

Starting A Society - The Inside Guide

You’ve decided; the college needs a new society. Although there are already 97 other societies in the college you’re convinced that there’s a gap in the market for a new one – and you may well be right. This guide contains the six vital steps you should know before you try to set up any society. Having tried (unsuccessfully) to establish a society last year, I shall now grace all ye intrepid folk with the mistakes that are made and the clues that must be learnt for to gain recognition for societies...

Enda Hargaden

1. Think long, hard, and research

The first thing you really need to do is think long and hard about your potential society, which is officially referred to as a Proposed Society: Is it already covered by any other society currently operating? Would you truly put the effort in necessary to running such a society (and it can be an awful lot of hard work)? Do you think there’s a demand for a society like it in the college? Perhaps most importantly, would it really work? Research what you would do. Familiarise yourself with the governing body of the societies - the Central Societies Committee (C.S.C. see www.csc.tcd.ie) - who decide which societies receive recognition, which level of recognition is granted, and upon the prerequisites for acceptance. I suggest you have a think about whether you wish to apply for associative recognition or go for broke with provisional recognition. Make sure that you have at least a fighting chance before you bring yourself to the C.S.C. only to be shot down because it was decided that the college doesn’t need

another debating society.

2. Recruit some friends

If at all you can, get your friends involved. There’s a surprising lot of work involved in even getting the necessary signatures, so share the load. It’s also far easier to work as a team than on your own – and it may impress the C.S.C. a bit more also. Gather yourself a team of helpers and assure them it will be a great achievement when it’s done.

3. Contact the secretary

The secretary of the C.S.C., currently Christine Bohan, does what she can to aid fledgling societies in bringing the motion forward to the C.S.C. Executive (Exec). Contact her (bohanc@tcd.ie) and let her know that you intend to bring this forward and she’ll help you out. By meeting the Secretary, the meeting with the Exec will also be less intimidating as you’ll know at least one face there. Similarly if you convince her of your merit you may even have a voice for you on the Exec.

4. Write your constitution

The next step is writing the constitution. There is a very basic constitution which will suffice in the Downloads

section of the C.S.C. website. If the constitution is not acceptable, the society is not acceptable so exert caution in its drafting. The constitution will last beyond your stay in college so it cannot mention any people or guarantee any action other than the society existing. Be vague - if you’re trying to set up a computer gaming society, do not mention playing PS2’s as your main aim because as further technology develops, you’ll run into constitutional difficulties.

5. Get the signatures

With the constitution written you should have a very specific idea about the society as a whole. This gives you a great ability to answer any questions people may have when getting the necessary one hundred signatures of support. Also this prepares you for the questions from the Exec and, if accepted, recruiting members next Freshers’ Week.

6. Bring it to the Exec

The Executive committee of the C.S.C. is made up of five officers and eight ordinary members, so when you are asked to put forward your proposal expect to be intimidated by thirteen people staring at you. Don’t bring



The Eliz Rooms, House 6 - The C.S.C. Exec hold their weekly meetings here.

more than two people with you to the meeting. Crucifixion is a very emotive word these days, but the C.S.C., by necessity, will do their best to foresee any problems. You’ll be asked to

put forward your proposal, and sell it to the officers and ordinary members. Expect some difficult questions, and do your best to make it easier for the C.S.C. to accept the proposal. Bear in mind

the C.S.C. fully encourage the creation of societies and are thus on your side, but with budgetary constraints it must ensure that funds are only spent on suitable societies.

Oftentimes, there is a problem with precedents for societies – if the C.S.C. allow a long-overdue Roy Keane Appreciation Society, where do they draw the line with appreciation societies?

Similarly, there can be the same problems with societies dedicated to specific geographical regions (e.g. American society, British society etc)

Try to expect any

potential problems the C.S.C. may have and prepare suitable answers to them. If the C.S.C. can see no problem with the society, it will be granted recognition.

Is SU Council worthwhile?

Christine Bohan on how SU Council can be both the best (and worst) thing about the Students’ Union...

Here’s something for you to do this Friday. Go up to your class rep (if you’re in one of the classes lucky enough to have one) and ask them what they thought of the first SU Council of the year, which took place the night before. Chances are that they’ll remember anything particularly funny that any of the reps said. Maybe any bitching or bickering that took place between any of the speakers. If there were any interesting motions, like maybe a proposal to applaud every time the SU President walks into a room or something similarly ridiculous (or worthy and appropriate, depending on your point of view), then that will probably have stuck too. But the technical parts of the evening, the nitty-gritty bits are unlikely to have stuck.

This is because whilst SU Council can be the most lively, interesting and involving part of being a class rep, it can also be the most disheartening, depressing and quite frankly boring part of the whole Students’ Union. A typical Council runs like this. It starts with questions for the Officers - anyone who has anything that they need to get off their chest can ask the President, Deputy Pres, Education, Welfare or Ents Officers a question. The first question is usually an angry one, asked by someone who is quite angry and has been angry all week, and wants to tell everyone just how angry they are. The Officer in question will neatly

sidestep the question and assure the rep that they too are angry about the issue and will do all they can to sort it out. A first-time rep, wishing to establish himself as the alpha among his new best friends, will ask a complicated question, wrapped up in sub-clauses, the gist of which will be that he is very very clever. The Officer will pat him on the head for being a good rep and deflect the question.

‘Council can be the most lively and involving part of the SU - but it can also be the most disheartening and boring part...’

Next up is discussion papers. These are ideas and suggestions that the Officers have

come up with after their hours spent in committee meetings. They are usually very very worthy and very very dull.

All of this takes up a surprising amount of time. Often it can be supplemented by things like elections to various committees or vacant positions on the Executive Committee. Finally though, we get to the good bit. Motions. This is the T & A of Council. A couple of interesting Motions can transform even the dulldest Council into one that will be talked about for days afterwards, by people to whom this kind of thing matters. Motions are suggestions put forward by class reps or members of the Exec on action or policies that should be adopted by the Union. They give an idea of the direction that the Union will be going in. and of the level of participation of class reps. Last year for example, the first two Councils saw a number

of motions brought forward. Each motion was passed easily, with no-one speaking against them and almost everyone voting in favour. Whether it was because the reps at the time were an agreeable bunch or simply because the motions were so inoffensive as to not warrant opposition is debatable.

Finally we have Officers’ Reports, where the five Officers er, report on what they’ve been doing, with the occasional member of Exec piping up. Exec are the mini-me SU Officers, with Officers for such briefs as LGBT, Disability, Environmental and Ethical Trading and International Students. Some Exec members will report on what they’ve been doing several times a year. Some of them won’t even attend many Councils. It’s always a mixed bag. Any Other Business draws Council to a close.

There are variants on this, but this is how the majority of SU Councils come to pass. And so for every time that you come out of Council feeling that something worthwhile was achieved, there’s the time when you feel like you’ve lost two precious hours of your life and you really want them back. The first Council this Thursday will set the tone for the year - a full report will follow in the next edition, but until then it will be interesting to whether it breaks from this mould in any way.

Class Reps Elected

Students’ Union Education Officer Dónal McCormack hopeful for future as class reps' elections most contested in years

Twenty-five counts later, the election night for the representatives of each subject in each undergraduate year (class reps) to the Students’ Union (SU) ended on Wednesday 26th October. It had been the most contested class rep election in years, with twice as many contested elections as last year.

TCDSU Education Officer Dónal McCormack is delighted with the increased participation, as this is one of the most contested class reps election in living-memory. With three of the six Students’ Union Council meetings deemed inquorate last year with less than fifty class reps in attendance, Dónal is hopeful that it this will not happen again this year with the increase in class rep participation.

Out of the 281 class-rep positions available, over one hundred were filled by default as there were not a surplus of nominations for all class positions. However, this has left approximately 135 vacant positions for class rep, those without a single nomination. This is surely a cause for concern as there was no stated interest in half the positions available

Another point of contention this year was that many students felt there was not enough promotion for the nominees and several expressed surprise that the ballot boxes were open last Tuesday and Wednesday; the general impression was that the elections were being held later on in the year. Dónal McCormack responded to criticisms over lack of promotion by stating that over one hundred posters were placed on campus on Tuesday night, and that all candidates were requested to promote the elections.

The election results for the contested positions for this year are:

Social and Human Science

JF BESS: R. Sparks, M. Swan, H. Allen, E. Moore
JF Law: A. Dai, D McHugh
JF Phil Pol: C. O’Broin
JF Sociology & Social Policy: J. Halpenny
SF Business: V. Benishev
SF Economics: R. Kearns
SF Political Science: K. Lynch
SF Sociology: C. Sheehy
SS Law: G. Mellon, N. Clayton

Engineering and System Sciences

JF Computer Science: R. Burke
JF Engineering: J Greavey, J Kinsella, N Reynolds
JF MEMS: S. McNamee
SF Engineering: A. Wall, C. Curley, D. Macken
JS C/CD/D: C. Berry
JS Mechanical Engineering: A. Corrigan
SS Mechanical Engineering: T. A. McGuinn

Arts and Humanities:

JF European Studies: E. Tihomirova
SF Music/Music Education: A. Ní Laoire
JS History: U. Faulkner

Science

JF Science: C. Reilly, M Giblin, L. Fogarty, F. Hanrahan
JF Theoretical Physics: M. Nyhan
SF Mathematics: C. Dolan
JS Biochemistry & Immunology: N. Scanlan
JS Medicinal Chemistry: L. Coady

Health Sciences

JF Dental Science: E. Finnegan



Students casting their ballots in the recent elections
Photo: Enda Hargaden

The election of the JF Engineering rep caused the most controversy of the evening as the Electoral Commission withheld the result of the election pending investigations into improper conduct by one of the candidates. However no irregularities were found and the result stood.

The details of the non-contested class rep positions are available from the Students’ Union website. If you’re interested in being a class rep, call Dónal on 01-6468439, or follow the signs up to his office in House 6.

Apologies to John Kealy, Chairman of DURNS, who was not credited for taking the photograph of Dónal McCormack that appeared on this page in the last edition of TN.

Putting the “Hip” back in hypnotism

Nicolas Kelly

A hypnotist robber has forced bank bosses to warn tellers not to look customers in the eye. The man has struck at a number of banks in Moldova, using his hypnotic powers to put staff in a trance and make them hand over large sums of money. Police say they believe the criminal is a trained hypnotist from Russia. He leaves the workers with no memory of handing him the money. Officers, who are still looking for the man, said he took more than £20,000 in his last robbery.

A spectre is haunting Europe – the spectre of hypnotism. Far more fearsome than some sniffing and feverish migratory fowl is the already-present scourge of the dark hypnotic arts and those who command them. Today’s hypnotist has shed the unkempt eyebrows, German accent and swinging pocket-watch that for centuries made him so recognizable and thus avoidable. Though his currently favored get-up—dark patterned shirt with a few too many buttons undone to reveal a gold chain resting on a bristly patch of chest hair—is instinctively off-putting, it does little to distinguish him from most other middle-aged men that the Trinity News readership might encounter on a night out. Indeed, the grounds of our dear college have already been contaminated by one of these predatory mind-snatchers.

Some crypto-hypno within the Student Union arranged for a hypnotist’s show as one of the evening entertainments at the Buttery during Freshers’ Week. With the aid of a music programmer, the patented hypnotist’s brand of charismatic sleaze and his soul-bought command of the innocent mind, he quickly went to work manipulating his latest fod-



Cartoon by Micheal Church

der into unwillingly making complete fools out of themselves, to the delight of their friends and enemies. Certainly, the image of two kangaroos humping each other in the wild is to be appreciated as a shining link in the circle of life. But when two male college students engage in a gross parody of this natural love, nothing is to be gained from it except sore quadriceps and some potentially serious chafeage. As the student who was under the impression that he had just been exten-

‘Tom Cruise has the piercing yet unintelligent eyes that are the hallmarks of the modern hypnotist...’

sively defecated on by a monkey so poignantly expressed, “I know it’s funny, but not when it’s happening to you!” As the strip sequences by both males and females clearly displayed, the hypnotist is not afraid to involve himself or his zombified playthings in activities sexual. Who knows how much groping has

gone unremembered by innocent girls asked the question, “Have you ever been hypnotized?” Only one entity knows—the HYPNOTICON. And even they probably only have a ballpark figure.

Yes, though it endangers my life and significantly raises the odds that any snapped finger I am in proximity to will make me act like a chicken, I dare to bring the existence of the super-secret steering committee of the world’s hypnotist community to light. Ever since the first hypnotist of Mesopotamia enchanted his friends and neighbors by swinging a lump of clay back and forth from the end of a vine, the HYPNOTICON has controlled the geopolitical meddlings of their sinister constituency of magic school dropouts. The have played a secret part in innumerable world events. Even today they continue to shape the path of history. Consider these two examples.

The Illegitimate Bush Election of 2000. In the post-election contest over Florida, much was made of the fact that heavily Jewish, older and liberal counties voted for right-wing kook, Patrick Buchanan. While most pointed to

faulty ballots, the true cause was malevolent hypnotism (Bush has long-standing ties to the HYPNOTICON). These elderly people are exposed to hypnotists at an alarming rate, as a cheap entertainment in nursing homes and retirement communities as well as on the cruise ship vacations they are constantly taking.

The Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes Mystery. As anyone who has seen the film Magnolia can attest, Tom Cruise has the piercing-yet-unintelligent eyes and dark greasy hair that are the hallmarks of the modern hypnotist.

What can we do? The current situation in Moldova is especially tragic, as St. Krysztywkzki expelled all hypnotists from this proud republic in the fifth century. In the absence of any modern saints who can actually do anything magical, we must look to our own ingenuity to rid the world of this blight. This writer suggests the creation of a worldwide hypnotist tournament to be held on an isolated tropical island. Once every hypnotist got there we could just leave with all the boats!

COMMENT & OPINION Do it for the Kids

Derek Owens

When the PD’s defend a law tooth and nail, we can safely assume it’s a sinister measure designed to eviscerate the proletariat, launch ethnic minorities off to the moon, or keep under-26’s locked up in small chicken-wire cages. So three years ago, when the Progressive Sociopaths threatened to pull out of government over Noel Dempsey’s wild plan to scrap ‘free fees’ (my inner pedant screams “the Higher Education Fee Remission Scheme”) our world was turned upside down. We were inconsequential, non-D4-dwelling, students, and had bleated frantically against Dempsey’s plans for the best part of 6 months, but to no avail. For some reason though, McDowell et al deigned to ride to our rescue, ambushing and butchering the plan within a week.

You have to admire the way they work, but it threw our political compass into chaos. If PD = evil, and ‘Free Fees’ = good, how can PD save ‘free fees’? Could it be that PD = good(ish)? Three subsequent years of proletariat-evisceration, the imminent launch of Ireland’s first rocket (marked ‘Deportation I’), and the sinister sound of chicken-wire cages in construction blow that theory out of the water. So then we’re left with the devastating possibility that ‘Free Fees’ = bad. Rather than abandoning our nice black and white formulae, accepting ‘shades of grey’ (anathema, as we all know, to student politics) we have to allow the unthinkable, and ask whether the Fee Remission Scheme really has helped education in Ireland.

The scheme, introduced by Niamh Bhreathnach (a Labour minister for Education, therefore good, right?) was designed to open up the doors of 3rd level education to everyone by eradicating its cost. It has singularly failed in that purpose. Aside from the lingering existence of a registration fee, as well the impenetrable and inadequate 3rd level

education grant system’s failure to meet the additional costs of attending university, both these barriers to ‘education for all’ have grown. A registration fee increase is now a yearly occurrence, while inflation has taken greedy bites out of the real value of the grant. Any complaint about this is (understandably) considered whinging – after all, look how much money is already spent on students!

The problem, as Dempsey said back in the day, is that this money is spent on disadvantaged and coddled students alike. While wasteful spending is hardly out of character for Irish Governments, there are few areas where spending has been so useless, even destructive. Those who can afford to invest heavily in their children’s education, freed from the shadow of university tuition fees, pack their Celtic Tiger cubs off to private schools, or worse, the Institute of Education (more of a crash-course in jumping through the hoops necessary for College admission). Meanwhile, even the top non-fee-paying schools now struggle to fill their classes, as reports in the last few weeks show. So our educational class divide, rather than being minimized by government subsidies, has been aggravated by them. The upper-to-middle classes are able to stay in private schools, leaving state-run schooling to everyone else.

Think about it too – where are the best teachers likely to go? Freshly qualified teachers largely prefer working in subsidised private schools (with all the perks and extra-curricular earnings & grinds to be had) rather than ministering to the economically disadvantaged. More eager applicants to a position bring (you guessed it) a higher standard of employee hired. To abandon managerspeak, that means the best teachers will increasingly gravitate towards private schools.

So with a higher standard of secondary education and a fee-free route into college, the middle class decision to

enter third-level education is not a genuine sacrifice, or even a lifestyle choice. More than ever, we went to college because it was simply the thing to do. For disadvantaged students, there are still substantial barriers, plus a swarm of middle-classes armed with a sense of obligation to ‘do something’ in College and every advantage at secondary school level.

Laudable schemes like the Trinity Access Program, which helps less advantaged students enter College, do exist. The difficulty experienced by non-middle-classes, though, is such that 15% of places in Trinity College will soon be saved for ‘non traditional’ students, including mature and disadvantaged students. When the CAO system has to be distorted in this way, surely that says something about severe inequalities in the education system as a whole. Indeed the Access Program’s very existence surely shows how the Fee Remission Scheme has failed in its purpose, to open third-level education to all Irish people. The Remission Scheme has largely perpetuated and exacerbated inequalities in our education system, as well as being a major drain on the Education Department’s budget that prevents these inequalities being addressed. Adequate government funding directed towards schemes like the Access Program, or the long-neglected Higher Education Grant, would do far more to make our education system fairer. So when Noel Dempsey challenged our cosy ‘free fees = good’ equation, calling for a radical review of the situation, maybe it was slightly unfair of 10,000 self-interested students to march down to government buildings chanting ‘Dempsey is a wanker’. We would have done well to see shades of grey. Or at least check our math.

Power For Dummies Part 2: Rules, Ghouls, and other Fools

Derek Owens’ fortnightly update on seizing power from the great unwashed

Ok. So this ‘power’ malarkey may be tougher than I thought. Since deciding to put up a candidate for each Student Union sabbatical election in March, I’ve been on a bit of a recruiting drive, trying to rope friends and enemies into my scheme. Most of them have responded with benign indifference, which isn’t particularly encouraging. Last weekend though, one prospective candidate reacted to my plan (explained at that fine post-pub-eatery, ‘Ricks’, with well-lubricated enthusiasm) with horror. After looking at me as if I’d spat out my double-greaseburger in my eagerness, he simply muttered “you can’t do that,” before returning to munch on what we both hoped was a lamb kebab. Why not? “Because it’s unconstitutional!” he cried.

A short, slightly irrelevant note here: It’s physically impossible to shout ‘unconstitutional’ with your mouth full, and not spray food in all directions. Try it yourself. Not in front of someone you like though.

After a brisk facial wipe-down, I enquired further. “Well, that kind of thing may not be, you know, in the constitution,” he eventually conceded, “but it’s definitely against the rules.” Now, I’ve always distrusted ‘rules’. They tend to exist primarily for bespectacled, knowledgeable, people to get their own way. Think about it: Isn’t it true that the more arcane and implausible a rule is, the more eerily it tends to suit the person vigorously asserting its existence? Having no spectacles, and being a bad liar, rules are rarely of any use to me. In fact, they are bitter enemies, thwarting me at every turn. Not this time though. Machiavelli, patron saint of this project, says to know your enemy well. Time to set about looking at these pesky ‘rules’.

Four pages of them are handily available on the Student Union website, covering just about every aspect of an election – if all Irish elections were this straight, Fianna Fáil wouldn’t have a hope. In fact, Fianna Fáil, the Greens, and the Shinnars would be in some difficulty – the centralised printing system that the Union uses only allows for Blue, Red, Yellow, Purple and Green posters and flyers, and even then only one shade of each. Two of those parties would probably have to disband. Would that be such a bad thing?

But I digress. Colour isn’t a major issue at the moment. In fact, there aren’t that many major issues at all – the rules are largely to stop eager hacks from bothering people and littering up the place. Three clauses may be a mite tricky though. Firstly, they seem set on banning gifts ‘or items that could be construed as gifts’ from the elections, and setting a spending cap on each candidate. Fair enough, although it does scupper my ‘lollipops for votes scheme’. What may cause

a bit more hassle is the claim that no campaigning shall take place in advance of a set ‘campaigning period’. So is this column shamelessly flouting this rule? Now if I remember correctly, a fair few hopefuls last year managed to get their faces in Trinity News, or even write a few articles, long before officially ‘campaigning’. Besides, self-indulgent rants in the comment pages of TN could hardly be calculated to win over voters. It all seems fairly open to interpretation. The rule that ‘no candidate may receive sponsorship’ or help from ‘any internal or external organisation’ is similarly hazy. Here, though, we’re on steady ground: Calling me organised, let alone an organisation, is giving me far too much credit.

So my kebab-spewing friend seems to be wrong. There’s no rule specifically against the ‘power: for dummies’ project, and any rules I could be nailed under are hardly cut-and-dry. But who interprets these rules? Well, the pages yanked from the website are peppered with so many references to the ‘EC’, you’d be forgiven for thinking that an outdated version of the European Union was once again standing in the way of Irish enterprise. No such luck. The Electoral Commission, to give the ‘EC’ it’s full name, are the veritable Stormtroopers of the Students’ Union, keeping control over the feeding frenzy for CV-padding positions with ghoulish glee. They are the Union’s defenders. They know (or at least pretend to know) all the rules. I’ll bet they even wear glasses, and are brilliant liars.

If this thing is going to happen then not only do my crack team have to win over 15,000 odd students, we also have to win over this lot. So from now on I’ll be aggressively finding, winning and winning over the ghouls of the Electoral Commission. Not to mention finding me real candidates. Wish me luck.



The Big “Mac” knows his enemy well: but is he underestimating the greaseburger?

Dublin goes Metro

Niamh Fleming-Farrell

The mornings may now be cold and dull but the streets of Dublin become increasingly animated. Since last issue the vitality of the charity worker - and my aggravation by this - has been surpassed only by the throngs of newspaper peddlers turning the inner city into a sea of red, blue and newspaper ink.

Ah yes, Metro has hit the city simultaneously with the Independent Group’s new creation Herald AM.

Over the past two weeks it has been interesting, if not enjoyable, to watch the evolution of the free paper force in Dublin. A far cry from the cap-donning “extra, extra” boys of yore, this loud, rainproof-jacketed lot began on October 10th by rather politely gesturing their respective papers in your direction. Some hands reached out and made contact with apt curiosity and others remained swinging as their owners brushed past. As the days passed however the polite atmosphere dissipated. Whether the competition betwixt the two papers rose or the increase in paper-pushing animation was born purely of chill combating pragmatism, the paper people began performing, adding to Dublin’s increasingly imposing street theatre. Turning, tilting and each with his/her own action, accent and attitude they entice the public to take the thin tabloid from their hands. I walk with my Metro flapped open, raised shield-like in front of my face, reading the 60 second interview while hoping to simultaneously weave my way in and out between the twenty or so people offering me copies of the paper I already possess.

Irritation aside, it’s not such a bad paper you know, this Metro. The cover carries the latest headlines and the interior offers everything from the sixty-second

celebrity interview to snippets of international news, sport and trivia. Metro was first launched in Sweden ten years ago and is now available daily in 57 cities across 18 countries. Metro’s success is readily demonstrated in the UK where, since it was launched in 1999, has grown to be the fourth largest national daily. Distributed easily to commuters from dump bins at tube stations Metro has, according to Rupert Murdoch, succeeded in taking 40,000 readers from The Sun. So it is of little wonder that its launch here was greeted with anxiety within the media world.

‘It has been interesting, if not enjoyable to watch the evolution of the free paper force in Dublin’

Associated Press are the major force behind Metro with a 90% stake in the paper. Metro International and the Irish Times hold the remaining shares. Many consider the involvement of the Irish Times in the Metro venture a smooth marketing ploy, adding credibility to the free daily. It may also go a ways in explaining the eagerness of Independent News and Media to launch a rival free daily. Indeed, it took a High Court injunction to prevent the title Metro being used for the mini-me Herald free sheet (hence launched as Herald AM). The Irish Examiner pegged the dual launch of the papers as the beginning of a new “media war”. And morning disturbances aside, I think it safe money to back Metro emerging victorious.

Sure, people will complain that Metro contributes to littering and wastes paper. The usual pedants at indymedia will drone on about the dumping down

of news by the snappy 20-minute read. I hate being bothered in the morning, but these oppositions ring on deaf ears. Metro employs an editorial staff of 35 in Ireland and a further 115 human distribution units. Sure, maybe Metro is just a vehicle for the ingestion and defecation of batch after batch of Media Studies graduates, but we have to do something with them don’t we? And yes, handing out papers between 6.30am and 10am may well be defined as a true Douglas Coupland “McJob”, but again who are we to scorn paid employment? I am a leeching student after all.

Metro does exactly what it says on the tin. It targets young urbanites, financially comfortable but time deficient. It gives them the headlines, the sport, the gossip all in a snappy Metro moment, or in Dublin’s case a “bus crawl” moment. Yes, the target circulation of 50,000 does pose a litter worry but this morning I did spot, amid the red and blue, a young yellow-jacketed man with ‘Metro Recycling’ written on him. I presume he takes your paper away from you again. Perhaps to wittily redistribute it. Metro is up with the times after all. Although, despite enthusiasm for its first weeks, how well Metro will do here remains to be seen.

Herald AM on the other hand seems more of a teaser paper designed to boost the sales of the Evening Herald, the thicker and juicier tabloid, than a real freesheet competitor. The Herald AM is the starter that leaves you salivating for the main course, but it definitely isn’t the ham (despite its name) in any sandwich. It will be interesting to see if the launch of the free Herald baby does indeed correlate to an increase in Evening Herald sales. Or is the petulant little sister paper simply Independent News and Media’s way of demonstrating to the Irish Times and Associated Press that it

Comments, Tips, Hate-mail to: vandevp@tcd.ie

Please feel free to send comment or opinion articles to the same address.

Me versus the Smoking Fascists

Smoking is banned, but my fire remains - **Gawda Lyde** resists prejudice

I’ve done a great many stupid things in my life, but possibly the stupidest was to start smoking. And I mean, go past the stage where you’re actually not sure you like it and past the stage where you smoke only socially. I sometimes wake up in the morning wanting a cigarette. Cigarettes get me out of bed, and the possible combination of a very strong cup of coffee with a nicotine fix has me knocking the alarm clock back to Greenwich Mean Time. I sometimes like to think that I am lucky: my addictions make me the only person I know who never sleeps in, and pretty much has the best head start on the day. Ok, who am I kidding - my flat

stinks of smoke, I’m always broke, smoking outside of bars in the rain does not have any New York glamour to it and yes, I was aware that smoking gives you lung cancer. So, you may say, what’s the problem? Is this just going to be another rant at the smoking ban, or on the evils of cigarette? The problem is the non-smokers. I don’t mind going outside for a smoke in bars, I don’t mind smoking outside full stop, and I fully realise the implication of second hand smoke and that there is as much lung cancer from passive smoking as from actual smoking. I never smoke around people who mind or who resent the smoke. So why the looks? Why the constant disgust at me ruining my lungs? That’s my business, thanks for caring, I am aware of how stupid I am but I have an addiction.

Many people are not of course in this category; my non-smoking flatmate last year very generously allowed me to smoke in the living room, and some peo-

ple sometimes come outside with me just to continue a conversation. To these people, a great big thank you. Not for sparing me many colds last year, or choosing to converse with me, but for not allowing the stigma of the smoker weigh on who I am. I’m a good person, just stupid for smoking, and unfortunately duped by cigarette companies. There are the other types. My ex is the over-arching guru of these types . Last summer when I was visiting him, he actually had the nerve to develop an allergy to me. Not the cigarette smoke (because I very carefully refrained from smoking in his presence), but to me. Me as a smoker. Apparently I have fumes,

ly interesting. You probably won’t be surprised to hear that our relationship has degraded since then.

A friend of mine sighed to me, as we were puffing away outside a Trinity building, that cigarettes were such a lifesaver. In the interests of journalism I enquired a little further (normally I just grunt back at her); she looked at me as if I were stupid (duh, I smoke) and carefully elaborated that you always had something to do. Smokers are never really bored. Upon which she stubbed out her cancer-stick and lit another. I wish I could pull off bull with such panache.

In all seriousness I do understand why a smoker can be a pain. The smell really isn’t nice and quite a few people even point out that the long term effects of smoking affect them as a tax payer. Well, smelly boys smell too. And although, I sometimes wish my friend the smelly boy would consider my nostrils and his hygiene a bit more, one never actually points this out, or wrinkles a nose in disdain. Reckless people, sexually promiscuous people, as well as the plain unlucky people also eventually clog up the health services of the state, but again we don’t constantly point this out.

What I’m asking for is a little respect, a little dignity, and maybe the thought that I’m trying to quit and a light for the road would be appreciated. There are quite a few of us out there, trying to quit, failing miserably and just getting through the day with this crutch. I’m not asking to smoke inside, nor am I asking you to condone smoking, all I’m asking is not to be judged. So next time you see me puffing outside the Arts Block why don’t you, instead of pitying me and glancing with revulsion at what I’m inflicting on my lungs, say “ Hey man, I know you can do it. Quitting’s never easy but you’re doing great. And here’s a piece of chewing gum for the road.”



and all my pores ooze out some disgusting noxiousness. He actually managed to become bleary-eyed, have a runny nose, and generally cough in my direction. I refused to grant his petty cold any more status than that of a petty cold, but his methods were definite-

No to negotiating

Trish van de Velde



Everyone knows that we don’t negotiate with terrorists. So since when have we started doing just that? There is much controversy about the release of Rory O’Carroll from Iraqi insurgents, and although it is claimed that his release was not due to any concessions from the Iraqi government or the Irish one for that matter, it remains in doubt what the exact swap was for his life. It has been written that the release of two prisoners in Basra clinched his return to safety but in my books that’s still blackmail. Why would a hostage suddenly be released? Because the bad terrorists repented? As much as I am thankful for any spared life, I can’t help but feel uneasy at the fact that some form of concession must have been made at some level.

Ok so maybe we didn’t exactly negotiate with the terrorists, but there was definitely some understanding, some deal, some quid pro quo, some give and take, some: “yes your freaky conditions undermining stability will be taken into account because we give into the fact that you are holding someone innocent of political importance hostage...oh and yes, we know this is setting some sort of precedence for your creepy methods to work”. I just laid that out in lay-man.

Call me a cold-hearted conservative, with a taste for bad political movies in which the good guys always win, (remember that great film with Harrison Ford when Air Force One is swamped with terrorists and he’s all sexy strong guy and no negotiating and then saves the day?) but you know I’m right. What I haven’t given you, of course, is what to do to save innocent lives without giving into terrorism in situations like these. But what I can give you is, besides a rather simplistic break down of why this is negotiating which is hardly helpful, is exactly why we should keep believing that terrorism can’t work. And not doesn’t, or won’t. It can’t work, because society and order is based on the fact that we do not give into anarchical instincts to take the law into our hands. It can’t work because we tacitly consent to a legitimised

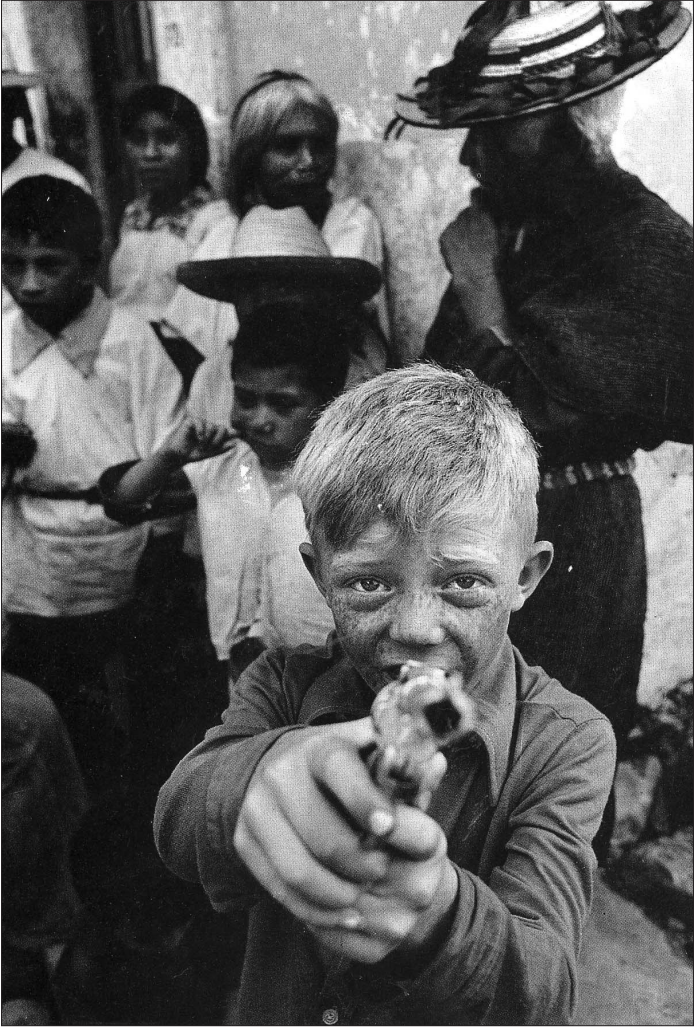


institution (the state) to resolve our political differences to avoid a constant state of war (state of nature).To override that as terrorism does, is to negate that we need a state at all, and that illegitimate violence works.

The nature of terrorism precludes negotiation as a fundamental. However we may have overlooked that. Terrorism can be the ultimate cry of the unheard and unhappy, or the ultimate weapon for obscure and dangerous ends. Either way, terrorism as we generally define it is the illegitimate use of force. It can be in the form of a freedom fighter, or the fundamentalist who irrationally resents all that western society stands for. Terrorism is “abominable means used by political fanatics for contemptible ends” as a rather large statement, but can it lead to dialogue? History has proved that it can - one need only look at Northern Ireland or the Palestinian National Authority (PNA). But let’s take a closer look, the foundations of these negotiations lay on atrocious acts of violence which coerced the states involved in these conflicts to immediate concessions. Sadly enough, the violent foundations of these dialogues make violence still a tool used by those involved in the peace processes. The IRA may be disarming, but resorting to violence in Northern Ireland is still common.The PNA may not be a terrorist group anymore, but more violent branches of the movement regularly cause violence and undermine real peace efforts. It could be because the regions are volatile in themselves

but also maybe that violence in any way part of the negotiation process (even in the early beginnings) sets precedence for those methods to work.

On a different level, terrorism has, post 9-11 become such a widespread and scary phenomenon because it has no face (who are you negotiating with?), and no message except hatred (what’s on the negotiating table?). Maybe terrorism in the past was something that could eventually be dealt with in some form of dialogue, and just hope that the outcome would be so satisfactory that violence was not part of it anymore, but today, this isn’t and cannot be the case. Terrorism makes no demands, has no ideology except hatred and to even begin to give in is to ask for anarchy. If we are to build a safer world, and a peaceful world, we must not give in to the short term, which is placating them and trying to save more lives. This may sound harsh, but a life for a thousand more, with a principle and a strong message may be worth it. I don’t know, I haven’t been faced with this decision but to paraphrase a great believer of strong diplomacy: “What a wuss. Real men smoke’em out, they don’t parlay”.



Political Rip-Offs

Liam Connors

Politicians and the web don’t mix. Just a few weeks ago the Irish Independent broke the story of the €3 million of taxpayers money spent on a ‘website that never existed’, despite former Health Minister Micheál Martin spending many long nights at his computer with his Dummies guide to HTML and a copy of FrontPage 98. Now Ms Harney will have to clean up his mess and clean it up she will. Lets hope she doesn’t get any help from the youth wing of her party who ,despite being overrun by hundreds of actuary studying computer nerds didn’t have the know how to renew their domain name back in 2004 and ended up having their beloved youngpds.org being redirected, ironically enough, to the left-wing indy-media.ie site.

But of course these are technical issues, nothing pumping more money in or threatening legal action won’t solve. This action won’t work for Fine Gael’s disastrous ripoff.ie website however. While visually the site is stunning and should definitely win whatever the Internet equivalent of an Academy Award is, the content is just a little on the poor side.The best part of the site has to be the ‘Your Stories’ section as this gives an insight as to what is troubling your average Fine Gael voter. ‘We have received reports of a Crunchie bar being sold for 85c in Sandymount, Dublin’ goes the site. I am aware that Enda Kenny probably knows much more about Crunchie bars than me but I would have thought in or around 85 cent would be the norm.

Some of the examples on the site seem just a little unbelievable. The site notes that the price of a packet of 30 aspirin tablets varies from just 27 cents in Gorey to a whopping €3.08 in a pharmacy in Tallaght. This along with the story of a rug bought for €708 in a city store was seen on sale in the suburbs for €530 would seem to be saying ‘Shop Around’. Now where did I hear that advice before? Enda and his pals also don’t seem to understand the concept of taxation. He notes one ‘visitor paid €19,000 for his new car. Later, his kind friend emailed him a link to a German car dealer who was charging €10,500 for the same vehicle’.

As Eddie Hobbs pointed out in his ‘Rip off Republic’ series the reason for high car prices in this country is the high level of VRT. As Hobbs demonstrated, even going abroad to buy the car wouldn’t save money as the VRT would have to be paid when the car is returned to Ireland. When Seamus Brennan suggested on a recent edition of Questions and Answers that a government headed by Fine Gael wouldn’t reduce VRT, Enda couldn’t give any definite answer. And of course VRT would have to remain as it is one of the largest sources of income for the state so I wonder, what exactly is Fine Gael’s problem with this scenario? And why does it merit a mention on their website? The website points out ‘From the cost of seeing a doctor to the cost of having a credit card this Government is the main reason why we all live in rip off Ireland. Foolish you if you thought that the Doctor or the bank were to blame’. But maybe ripoff.ie is referring to the €40 stamp duty which was introduced by former minister for Finance Charlie McCreevy. If this is the case it would appear Fine Gael’s plans for government are to get rid of this disgraceful charge which translates to approximately 47 Crunchie bars even at Dublin prices. Fine Gael are partially correct however in saying this government is the main reason why we live in a ‘Rip off Republic’. His annoyance at the increase in the RTE license fee is justified as it is squandered on talent shows such as ‘You’re a Star’ and non-talent such as Eddie Hobbs.

This government is also responsible for increases in salaries which mean Enda Kenny receives a whopping €87,247 for his services as a TD which means he can surely afford the whopping €3.08 charged for aspirin in Tallaght. If the public would just stop heaping praise on Eddie Hobbs and would adopt Irish Ferries style tactics in electing their TD’s (thereby replacing Enda Kenny with 10 eastern Europeans who would do the same job for half the money) we would surely see and end to this ‘Rip off Republic’.

Trinity News Archive

Comment, November 27th 1969 by Sheena Crummie

The illegal immigrants into Trinity are still struggling for legitimacy. The Laurentian Society was founded in 1953 as a social society for the 200 odd Roman Catholics attending Trinity. Now the number of Catholics has increased to over a third of the student body, and the Laurentian Society has undergone a complete change to accommodate the increasing number of Catholics, and to cope with the problems created by the still existing ban on Irish Catholics in TCD.

The first statement banning the Irish Roman Catholics form Trinity, contained in the Maynooth Statutes of 1995, has been stringently enforced by Dr. John Charles McQuaid, who became Archbishop of Dublin in 1944. The ban states that Catholics commit a grave sin of disobedience if they attend a non Catholic University, as the latter represents a grave danger to their faith and morals. What it means, in effect is that Roman Cathlics entering Trinity College without the permission of the Hierarchy are “living in sin”.

Therefore they are not supposed to attend Trinity, Irish Catholics are actually ignoed by the Hierarchy. According to Gus Mac Amhlaigh, the Chairman of the Society, their immediate aim is to gain recognition by the Hierarchy of the Irish Roman Catholics and to receive a resident Roman Catholic Dean. He, on behalf of the society, rngaged in frequent correspondence with the relevant authority on this subject, but has received an uncompromising “no”.

To support his demands for a resident Dean, Gus quotes a phrase from the Second Vatican Council relating to education. “ Non-Catholic Universities must have a suitably trained chaplain on the campus on a full-time basis.”

At the moment Irish Catholic students wishing to attend University in Dublin are directed to the National University, or UCD, as it is better known. A parallel situation existed in Montreal where Catholic students were forbidden to attend Magill University and were obliged to go to La Salle, a catholic University, but since the Vatican Council, Cardinal Leger of Montreal has abolished this law.

At the moment, the only religious facility offered to Irish Roman Catholics students at Trinity is the services of Fr. McMahon, of the Presbytery, Westland Row. On seeking an interview with him at the beginning of College year, his housekeeper told us that he had departed for his holidays on the opening day of term and would be away for three weeks. She was asked what Chaplain was made available to Trinity students in the meantime, and replied “none”.

Father McMahon is full-time priest of a large parish in which TCD is geographically situated. Because Catholics attending TCD live within the boundaries of his parish he is obliged to minister to them if called upon to do so, but he is forbidden by his superiors to enter College; the students must come to him. The ban must be enforced!

Trinity News

LETTERS

Trinity News

EST. 1947

Let’s Make a Real Difference

The recent class rep elections saw a record number of contested positions. While this is clearly good news for the classes involved, a more worrying trend was obscured by these contests. Just over half of the class rep positions have now been filled leaving almost half the classes in College without a representative.

Student representation is crucial at all levels within the college. While classes have no representation they have no voice when plans that may not be in their interests are discussed. Representation and student organisation also allow students to work together to oppose unfair events. An example of this has been demonstrated by some of the nurses in St James’ Hospital refusing to pay for vaccinations already paid for by the Department of Health.

Representation and the need to make your voice heard doesn’t end with your class. Students have also been targeted by the Government as the doubling of the Registraion Fee in the past four years demonstrates. With a general election looming, possibly as soon as next summer, it’s important that students show their opposition to these kind of moves and make the student voice a loud one at election time.

This voice should emphasise the importance of education at all levels in society highlighting not just the needs of today’s students but also those in primary and secondary schools with a particular emphasis on increasing access to education.

Students are often accused of apathy, a sometimes justified claim. Let’s prove it wrong, starting at the bottom with class representation and moving up to show the government what we want to see in our society.

Trinity News

GIVEAWAY

Win the Revs’ new album

One lucky reader will recieve a copy of the Revs’ new self titled album. To put yourself in the draw just answer this simple question:

What was the name of the Revs’ 1st single?

Send your answers to trinity.news@tcd.ie

Mushrooms Article

Sir,

I am writing you this e mail in relation to an article that appeared in your newspaper on the 11th of October 2005. The article was about the sale of magic mushrooms in Dublin shops and focused on The Hemp Company. The article is named "Shrooms hit the streets of Dublin" and was featured in your food and drink section. I am aware that this was meant to be a comical piece however i feel there are elements to the article that should be addressed by us here at The Hemp Company. First of all, and most importantly, the article mentioned more than once,about the sale of the magic mushrooms to "groups of nervous looking teenagers". The Hemp Company has a strict policy of not serving anybody under the age of eighteen and i feel that that should have been specified. The reason for this being that we do not wish to have an influx of young teenagers in thinking that they will get served. We also do not wish that the general public think this as there could be a lot of concerned mothers or fathers out there thinking that their sons or daughters have free reign to come in here and purchase the mushrooms. Another area of the article that i would like to address is the comment about the staff being "glorified drug peddlers". First of all, the magic mushrooms we sell here are completely legal and unless he wishes to name every pub owner and worker in Dublin the same, i would think that he should re think his comment. I think it also important to note that we are a hemp company and we sell an array of health foods and cosmetics. I am currently study-

ing as a nutritional therapist and enjoy being able to help our numerous customers who find relief from various conditions by using our hemp products. We apologise if a staff member in particular was unable to answer all the writers questions but if he had come in and asked for a legitimate interview at an appropriate time we would have been more than happy to accomodate him. Your writer also seemed to think that our customers who visit The Hemp Company in order to purchase the mushrooms consisted of "eager teens, students,and old hippies". This statement is misleading and untrue. Just as many hard working business people or people in trades buy our products. Your writer also recommended that people put them in tea which is illegal as well as suggesting that people buy a few different types, mix them alltogether and eat them as a salad. However humourous this is meant to be, the bottom line is that it is irresponsible to give out this information, as mixing mushrooms together is not good for you and we tell our customers not to do it. If taken in a responsible dose they have minimum toxicity as well as no rise in blood pressure or heart rate. This is not to say that people cant abuse them and that is why we take what we do here quite seriously. We do not mind articles being written about us, or even having a little giggle about ourselves, just as long as the "facts" are true. We advertise with Trinity College every year and felt that in order for us to feel happy, this issue needed to be brought to your attention.

Yours,
The Hemp Company of Dublin
167 Capel Street
Dublin 1
Ireland
Tel:01 874 85 15
Fax:01 874 58 31

New Square Proposals

Sir,

With reference to the last edition of the University Record, I was quite concerned that the Site and Facilities Committee under their "Development and Control Plan 2003-2008" continue to consider the opening up of New Square for recreational activities.

The document sees "a need on Campus for casual recreational space for 'unofficial' games for students during summer examination time in particular. It appears incongruous to students that there is so much green space on Campus but yet all of it is effectively 'out of bounds' to those wishing to recreate in a casual way." It appears to me however that the needs and requirements of the DU Croquet Club are not to be considered, and that recreational activities are to take priority over an established and highly reputable competitive sports club.

The croquet lawn on New Square was once an excellent facility, but in recent years has deteriorated with annual damage from the Trinity Ball and this year, the BA Festival of Science. There used to be a time when the New Square lawn was maintained to championship standard, and like everything else in College these days, will deteriorate into a free-for-all by those administrators in power out to make popular decisions. Pointless recreational activities have a very limited role and ought not to be encouraged as they make little, indeed a negative contribution to the name of Trinity as a centre of excellence for Irish sport both nationally and internationally.

College ‘Join-Up Week’

November 14th-18th

Freshers week was a great success thanks to the commitment and enthusiasm of all the students involved - and also helped this year by good weather for the entire week (the traditional soaking of the stalls and stall-holders was avoided!). As we move towards the middle of Michaelmas term, a great many of our new and continuing students will be getting involved in the many sporting, social or cultural activities that are going on here in Trinity.

I am aware that there will be some students who missed out on Freshers week. These might include new postgraduate or international students who arrived after Freshers' week, continuing students who are based off-campus, or new students who found the whole hustle and bustle of Freshers week a bit overwhelming. We would now like to encourage these and all our students to take the opportunity of engaging fully in College life through its societies, sports clubs, student unions and other activities. To this end, we are planning to run a 'Join-up week' during the week beginning 14th November. Stalls will be set up on different days at various locations around College and at some off-campus locations, such as St James's hospital, giving information on what's available in College, including information on student support services.

Please keep an eye out for these displays and talk to the people at the stalls to find out more about what goes on in College and how you can get involved.

Bruce Misstear
Dean of Students

I would hope the Students' Union would seriously take on board the priority of competitive sports clubs over the 'needs' of those students who wish to spend their afternoons engaged in activities such as juggling, disc throwing or rounders with a bat in one hand and a can of Bavaria beer in the other (I'm thinking of the GSU's annual softball day). It seems debates pertaining to Coca-Cola and Nestlè are of more relevance to the student representative authorities these days.

As a member of the DU Croquet Club (the only university croquet club in Ireland) and regular player, I hope the Fellows and College Board would not support the Site and Facilities Committee's propos-

al. The effect on Croquet play would be devastating in light of the marvellous achievement of a Club who narrowly lost against Oxford University CC last year and whose former Captain, Conor Broderick (playing for Dublin University), won the Irish singles championships held at Carrickmines C<C last August.

400 years of a tranquil university environment where harmony and orderliness underlies everything we do will be destroyed were we to allow such a shortsighted proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Eamonn Hynes
Dept. Electrical & Electronic Engineering

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Photograph of the Fortnight



Trinity enjoys a brief autumn

GAEILGE

An feidir seilbh bheith ag duine ar an gceol?

Fionn
MacDhomsaigh

Cé leis an gceol?

Ar an 12ú lá de mhí Aibreáin an bhliain seo, d’fhogair Cumann Cheol Taifeadta na hÉireann (I.R.M.A.) gur thosaigh siad gníomh dlí in éadan daoine bhí ag scaipeadh comhaid ceoil ar an idirlíon go leanúnach in Éirinn. Bíonn na scaipeadóirí seo ag cur ceol atá cóipcheart air ar fáil ar an idirlíon go neamhdhlíthiúil. Tá I.R.M.A. ag lorg damáistí agus urghairí in aghaidh 17 duine a

Má dhéanann gach duine ceol a íoslódáil, an mbeidh sé ceart? An féidir le I.R.M.A. dul chun dlí le gach duine?

ndearna na céadta nó na mílte rianta ceoil a uaslódáil go neamhdhlíthiúil ar córais chomhchomad idir-chomhgh-leacaithe. Mar chéad chéim, d’iarr I.R.M.A. ar sholáthraithe seirbhísí idirlín ainmneacha na ndaoine nach raibh ag cloí le cóipcheart ar an idirlíon. Ní raibh sé éasca do I.R.M.A. na hainmneacha a fháil ó na soláthraithe seirbhísí áfach. Ar an 8ú lá de mhí Iúil, rinne an Ard-chúirt cinneadh roinnt soláthraithe seirbhísí idirlín a chur faoi dhualgas ainmneacha 17 duine a ndearna comhaid ceoil a scaipeadh a chur ar fáil.

Is é an fhadhb atá ag an tion-scail ceoil ná go ndéantar an uaslódáil gan cead ó na healaíontóirí. Bíonn líon mór millteanach de mhuintir na hÉireann ag íoslódáil ceoil go neamhdhlíthiúil. Ní cheapann muid gur rud mícheart é.

Turairim na gceoltóirrí

Ach dar le Éanna Casey, Príomhfheidhmeannach Ealaíontóirí agus Ceoltóirí Taifeadta (R.A.A.P.), is rud santach, neamhdhlíthiúil é píoráideacht ar-líne ceoil agus bíonn tionchar díreach uaidh ar leasa eacnamaíoch na nEalaíontóirí agus na gCeoltóirí. Tá cearta úinéireachta intleachta ag na hEalaíontóirí, agus tá daoine ag tógáil a gcuid ceoil agus tá siad dá thabhairt amach saor in aisce. Cén fáth go ndéanfadh daoine ionsaí ar na ceoltóirí? Is léir go bhfuil meas ag daoine don cheol, sin an fáth a mbíonn siad dá íoslódáil agus dá héis-teacht. Ach ag an am céanna, ní cheapaim go dtuigean siad an tionchar atá ann. Go hiondúil, ní bhíonn ach albam amháin ag ceoltóir agus caithfidh sé nó sí maireachtáil as sin.”

Is léir ón sliocht thuas, go bhfuil tionscal an cheoil na hÉireann an-bhuartha faoi maireachtáil na gceoltóirí. Ach caithfear an cheist seo a chur: An mbíonn uaslódáil agus íoslódáil neamhdhlíthiúil saor ag cur isteach ar na ceoltóirí nó ar na meáncheannaí don chuid is mó?

Córás Nua?

Tugann an idirlíon deis do healaíontóirí ceol a dhíol díreach dá lucht éisteora. Dá mbeadh an corás sin i bhfeidhm, s.l.r. díolacháin díreach chuig an lucht éisteachta, ní bheadh le déanamh ag tionscal an cheoil ach ról bainistíocht fógraíochta a chomhlíonadh. Le fada an lá, bíonn an tionscail ag fáil na milliúin agus ní raibh ag dul do na ceoltóirí ach pá fíoríseal. Mar a dúirt Bob Dylan agus é ag tosnú mar cheoltóir proifisiúnta

“Now, a very great man once said That some people rob you with a fountain pen. It didn't take too long to find out Just what he was talkin' about.” Ach tá Apple ag iarraidh úsáid a bhaint as an margadh nua seo. Tá siad ag athrú leis an dul chun cinn atá déanta i saol an cheoil agus tá na hI-tunes ar díol acu. Tá díol láidir ar na hI-tunes seo, agus dar le Dick Doyle, Stiúrthoir Ginearálta I.R.M.A., tá fáilte mór roimh na níos mó ná 300 céad laithreáin idirlíon dlíthiúil atá ann ar fud na hEorpa. Agus tá comhlachtaí eile ar thóir Apple. Ach caithfear an cheist seo a chur: an bhfuil sé de cheart ag éinne brabús a fháil ó dhíolachán ruda nach bhfuil ann i ndáiríre, cosúil le sonraí ríomhaireachta?

Vótáil leis na Cois?

Tá millteanach mór daoine thar éis vótáil leis na cois. Iad míshásta le praghas thar fóir na ndlúthdhioscaí, chur siad riocht nua ar an tionscal ceoil. Nach cheart go mbeadh na ceoltóirí ag díol díreach leis an lucht éis-teachta, agus an brabús á fháil ó na seóeanna beo. Agus caidé faoi na 17 daoine seo atá faoi bhagair ag I.R.M.A. Bhí lucht éisteachta ceoil na hÉireann ar bís agus cás an 17 idir lámh. Tá socraíocht déanta ag 12 dóibh; ní féidir le ceann amháin cistiú a fháil; tá duine amháin fós i mbun cainte agus tá I.R.M.A. ag dul chun dlí leis an triúr atá fágtha.

Ceist: Má dhéanann gach duine ceol a íoslódáil, an mbeidh sé ceart? An féidir le I.R.M.A. dul chun dlí le gach duine? Má dhiúltaíonn muid ar fad praghas €24 a íoc ar albam, an athróidh an suíomh?

Nascanna

*Limwire
www.limewire.com
*Soulseek
http://www.slsknet.org/
*Gnutella
http://www.gnutella.com/

*Cumann Cheol Taifeadta na hÉireann
http://www.irma.ie/
*Ealaíontóirí agus Ceoltóirí Taifeadta
http://www.raap.ie



T u a i r i m

na Mac Léinn (agus Tommy Tiernan)

Tommy Tiernan:

>Tionscal an cheoil: “Ní féidir sin a dhéanamh! Tá lucht na mbilliún le sásamh againn”<

Mac Léinn Choláiste na Tríonóide

>Is rud maith é an íoslódáil saor. Is cuma faoi na bastaird chorpraithe. Tá na dlúthdhiosca ró-chostasach.<

Mic Léinn eile Choláiste na Tríonóide

>Na bastaird chaipitlíoch. Tá na dlúthdhiosca ró-dhaor. Agus maidir leis na ceoltóirí féin, ceaptar gur daoine ar léith iad.<

Mic Léinn eile arís Choláiste na Tríonóide

>Is maith an rud é an íoslódáil saor. Is rud daonlathach, réabhlóideach cothrom é<

Mic Léin arís arís eile Choláiste na Tríonóide

>Ní bheidh tionchar chomh mór sin ar na comhlachtaí mar a deir siad. Tá fhios acu sin, tá an teicneolaíocht acu déaláil leis más maith leo<

Trinity News

Imeachtaí

An Cumann Gaelach

Bíonn ciorcail comhrá gach Máirt - seomra 8 agus i ndiaidh sin is féidir dol chuig.....

Club Chonradh na Gaeilge - gach Máirt Oíche na Mac Léinn - Ceol Beo agus gach pionta ar trí euro. An craic is fearr ar Shráid Fhearchair!

*Nóta : Más i Scoil na Gaeilge atá tá, déan cinnte go n-íocfaidh tá do chuid ballraíochta don Chumann Gaelach an bhliain seo. Níl ann ach €2 ach tá sé tábhachtach. cumann@csc.tcd.ie

Tradfest: Déardaoin, 8ú lá de mhí na Samhna, Vicer Street, 20:30. Ticéidí €10, ar díol ag an doras ó 19:30 nó ó Ciarán (gaeilge@tcdsu.org). Ceol traidisiúnta,rince Gaelach, amhráiníocht agus na SAW DOCTORS!

Polasaí Gaeilge Aontas na Mac Léinn

Seo Polasaí Gaeilge Aontas na Mac Léinn Choláiste na Tríonóide mar a bheartaigh Comhairle A. na M. L. an bhliain seo caite.

Tógtha ó dréachtcháipéis Polasaí Aontas na Mac Leinn 2005

04/09: Irish Language Policy (Polasaí dá-theangach)
Council recognises: the importance of promoting and supporting the Irish language,
Council further recognises: USI's recommendation that all SU's adopt Irish language policies (polasaí dá-theangach),
Council notes: that the union had a polasaí dá-theangach in 1985 and 1988.
Council further notes: that the Irish language is set to become much more prominent within Trinity in light of the Official Languages Act.
Council mandates: Oifigeach na Gaeilge and the sabbatical officers to draft an updated polasaí dá-theangach to be presented at the next Council meeting.

Má tá ceist agat faoi úsáid na Gaeilge in Aontas na Mac Léinn, cuir r-phost chuig Ciarán MacFhearghasa, Oifigeach Gaeilge an Aontais.ag gaeilge@tcdsu.org Más ionadaí ranga thú, ná dean dearmad go bhfuil tú in ann Gaeilge a úsáid nuair atá tú ag caint agus gur féidir leat rún a mholadh freisin atá as Gaeilge (ach scríobh aistriúcháin freisin chun a bheith beasach). Mar a deir an té, beatha teanga í a úsáid chun daoine eile a chur as agus tú ag iarraidh polasaithe a shleamhnú isteach.

Seo sampla ón bhliain seo caite:

04/11: Cúnamh Forbairt Thar Lear (International Development Aid)
Glacann Comhairle: gur cheart do rialtas na hÉireann cloí dá ghealltanas chun 0.7% don brabús comhlán intíre a chaitheamh ar cúnamh forbairt thar lear, go háirithe in ndiaidh an tubáiste san Áis thiar theas.
Éileamhaíonn Comhairle: ar Uachtarán Aontas na Mac Léinn litir a scríobh dhon Aire Airgeadais, an t -Uasal Brian Cowen, T.D., ag cur dearcadh na hAontas in iúil dó.
Translation: Council accepts that the Irish government should honour its pledge to spend 0.7% of gross domestic product (GDP) on international development aid, in particular following the tragedy in south-east Asia. Council directs the SU President to write to the Minister of Finance, Mr. Brian Cowen TD, communicating the Union's policy to him.



An tír nach bhfeiceann na turasóirí

Leslie Protche

A thaistealaí fáin, nach bhfuil fonn ort dul i mbun eachtra? Fáil réidh leis an seanbhóthar atá siúlta agus aimsigh an Fhrainc, a cultúr, a hoidhreacht agus a daoine. Rachaimid i bhfad ón *Tour Eiffel* agus na aiteannaí eile atá ar eolas ag gach duine.

Spórt

Ní bhíonn an chuid is mó de na turasóirí ag dul chuig iardheis-ceart na Fraince ariamh. Is é sa gceantar seo don chuid is mó ná na tuaithe agus an nádúr. Is í Toulouse, “an chathair bhán-dearg”, príomhbhaile an cheantair seo, agus an chuid eile de, tá sé iargúlta is fiáin. Ceann amháin de na háiteanna nach bhfuil eolas maith faoi ná Saint Antonin Noble Val, seanbhaile beag galánta atá suite sna gleannta ar bhrúach na hAveyron ar imeall aille. Is féidir cuid mhaith stuife a dhéanamh ann, mar shampla d r e a p a d ó i r e a c h t ,

curachóireacht, cnocadóireacht agus rothaíocht.

Fion

Táim cinnte go mbeidh cionn ag lucht na fíona ar an áit seo freisin. Go dearfach, mar dhuine atá cleachtadh maith agam leis an bhfíonchaor, i mo thuairimse, caithfear cuairt a thabhairt ar Gaillac. Is ceantar ollmhór é seo ina bhfuil na ciliméadair de na fionghoirt agus tugann na cuireadóirí cead duit a gcuid earraí ar fad a bhlaiseadh. Geallaimse dhuit go mbainfidh sibh lántaitneamh as, ach bí cúramach, fág an car ag an óstán.

Stair

Moladh eile a thaganns díreach chun aigne ná go gcaithfear seal a chaitheamh i Cordes Sur Ciel. Tá an baile stairiúil seo suite ar barr cnóic. Is deacair an rud é an cnoc a dhreapadh, ach nuair a sroicheann tú doirse an bhaile, is féidir domhain ar fad eile a aimsiú ag dul fada siar san am atá thart. Nuair a bhfeiceann tú atá le díol sna dosaen siopaí atá ann, beidh tú ag ceapadh go

bhfuil tú thar n-ais sna meá-naoiseanna: siopa bróga is cuaráin leathair; culaith na háite; bia traidisiúnta na ndaoine agus níos mó freisin. Lacha, foie grás agus arán. Má chaitheann tá oíche i gceann de na hóstáin traidisiúnta áille, chuile sheans nuair a éireann tá ar maidin go bhféidfeadh tú tar éis dul ar ais sna seanlaethanta.

Seachain na linn Snámha

Mar fhocal scoir, tá orm a ra gur fiú an Fhrainc a aimsiú i gceart. Is tír niamhrach é, seachas mar ghnáththurasóir, ach mar thaiscealaí. Déan iarracht tú féin a slánú isteach le muintir na háite agus beidh tú in ann na rudaí is fearr agus is breátha a fheiceáil. Ná bí ar thóir na linn snámha móra ná na hóstáin mor le rá, in iardheisceart na Fraince ar a laghad, mar ní bhfaighe tú ach an saol ceart Francach, maith nó olc. Ach maith don chuid is mó.

International Students

Striking differences between Ireland and your home country



Hey again,

hope you are doing well, and the promised 'pre-Christmas depression' doesn't occur to you so far. At any rate we are here to share with you a couple of thoughts about Irish and what's so different.

Some of my friends

told me how the bureaucracy, new professors and your 'special' status do stress you, but you are strong - I know that! It is different here, but that's what makes your experience in Trinity so unique!

There are a lot of things to do here - go on a trip with climbing society,

for instance, and discover the beauty of the Irish countryside with traffic jams, because of the number of sheep on the roads, visit the commons and experience how posh the Irish can be, or just go for a free lunch in the chaplaincy on Tuesdays and say hi to father Alan! Just do

something you've never done before!

But for now- have a glance at the page and get to know how your friends discover a green island and

what did they find strikingly different and curiously interesting. Hope you will enjoy it and be motivated enough to take part in the next issue and share YOUR experience.

For further information see the box below.

L'IRLANDE ET LA FRANCE ONT-ILS DES POINTS COMMUNS?

Tony Parsons

La première chose qui soit étonnante lorsque on commence à se familiariser avec l'Irlande c'est l'incroyable nombre de gens qui prétendent agir pour des causes et vous demandent de signer une pétition ; les abords de St Stephens Green, par exemple, sont ainsi remplis de ces racketteurs éthiques qui vous fondent dessus avec un sourire mielleux alors qu'a dix mètres de la il y a des clochards, beaucoup de femmes d'aïlleurs, sur lequel touristes et irlandais piétinent joyeusement. Ce faux souci des autres, cette bonne conscience achetée a ceux qui veulent vous vendre leurs salades humanitaires, ne se retrouvent pas encore dans les régions francophones. Voila. Cela m'ennuie d'avoir ces rabat-joies sur le dos, mais il faut remarquer que les irlandais sont naturellement chaleureux et généreux ; surtout ceux de la base.

La richesse qui leur est soudainement tombée dessus ne les a surement pas rendus meilleurs. Car tu remarqueras, cher lecteur, que cette richesse est un peu téléphonique, et qu'elle semble surtout une apparence; on a l'impression qu'ailleurs qu'ils s'enrichissent matériellement, ils s'appauvrissent spirituellement.

Mais, on ne peut pas masquer une qualité évidente, propre aux irlandais, c'est qu'ils ont une relation a l'autre qui est plutôt

charmante –et d'ailleurs, vous remarquerez que la plupart des irlandaises sont aussi très charmantes, leur peau pale comme le lait, leur rousseurs ou leurs blondeurs allies a un sourire souvent désarmant nous fait oublier les horribles charognards, vautours et autres Concern, qui volètent au

Louis LeBrocquy a réalisé; c'est plutôt impressionnant. Et puis en littérature, il y a des géants comme Heaney ou Yeats. En philosophie, l'Irlande peut s'enorgueillir d'avoir mis au monde des géants comme Berkeley, Burke ou Bono –Bono qui, lui aussi, s'est spécialisé dans l'éthique: on le comprend car notre

On ne rencontre jamais d'elfes en France.

dessus de St Stephens Green.

Et puis, il y a aussi le problème de la nourriture; on peut très bien manger en Irlande, comme en France. La cuisine irlandaise, contrairement aux apparences, ne se limite pas aux patates et aux haricots. Non. Ne vous inquiétez pas chers gourmets et allez goûter leurs poissons, leurs huitres ou leurs viandes qui valent le détour. L'Irlande, au point de vue, culturelle est a l'image de leur cuisine: très riche –le whisky est bon aussi-. L'architecture, par exemple, est assez remarquable. Alors que les maisons, en France, sont généralement bâties en hauteur, ici, elles sont construites en largeur et en profondeur et elles sont assez gemutlich.

Il ne faut pas oublier aussi l'activité débordante de nos amis irlandais au point de vue artistique; littérature, poésie, peinture, philosophie ; c'est riche messieurs dame, c'est bien riche. Il faut aller voir les peintures de visages que

monde a bien besoin de grande conscience pour nous rappeler a l'ordre-.

L'Irlande est bien différente de la France; ces différences sont toutes à la fois positives et négatives, mais on pourrait en dire autant de la France. Vous ne verrez pas en Irlande des flics à tous les coins de rue comme c'est le cas maintenant en France alors que s'approche les élections présidentielles. On a bien aussi notre forme d'hypocrisie, la différence avec l'Irlande c'est qu'elle se rapproche moins du porte-monnaie; elle est un peu moins pragmatique. Les irlandais sont aussi assez humbles, alors que souvent les français croient avoir inventé l'eau chaude. L'Irlande ne ressemble pas trop à la France: c'est le bout de l'Europe, l'Irlande. Et puis c'est un pays de magie aussi, de druides et d'elfes. On ne rencontre jamais d'elfes en France.

Buenos días Ireland!

Oscar Falagan

Una mañana de agosto, custodiado por el encapotado cielo dublinés, me dirigí a un local de la city centre a hacer algo de shopping, pocas horas después de bajarme del avión que me había transportado desde la soleada España estiva hasta la cuna de mi tocayo Oscar Wilde. -Good morning!- saludé amablemente. Tanto el dependiente del negocio, como el

el ocase del mismo, pasando por el modo de enjoy the leisure o disfrutar del fin de semana, all irish and Spanish have well-different ways to do. El irlandés coge fuerzas y recarga energías (por no decir calorías) a primera hora de la mañana. Y es que ¡vaya breakfast contundente!, lejos de nuestro cafécito o vasito de leche con Cola-Cao. Tonterías ligeras son esas, pues con el fuerte viento que sopla por estas latitudes, los nativos prefieren meter buen peso dentro.

...cada uno con su estilo, el español con sus tascas de tapas y el irlandés con sus pubs...

resto de clientes me dedicaron una mirada de extrañeza que me dejó ligeramente fuera de juego. -You mean good afternoon!- precisó uno de los presentes. ¡Claro, eran ya las doce y cuarto de... la mañana! Y es que aquí no es como en el rincón ibérico de donde yo vengo, en el que siguen siendo “¡Buenos días!” hasta después de comer, es decir, hasta cuando el reloj dice que son, mas o menos, las tres.

Hoy, transcurridos ya varios meses en esta isla del otro lado del Saint George's Canal (viva el spanglish!), he comprendido que los horarios y costumbres de los irlandeses distan bastante de aquellos españoles.

Lo cierto es que no es España un país con escasas peculiaridades ni con excesivos hábitos comunes al resto de los europeos, así que en contraste con el pintoresco Eire, que tampoco se queda atrás en el número de sus singularidades culturales, las sorpresas son notorias. Partiendo desde el modo de abordar los prolegómenos del día hasta

Fritos varios: bacon, huevos, salchichas y más, con sus alubias al ketchup y, por qué no, un té con su par de tostadas, mantequilla y mermelada para cerrar. Y entonces sí, ¡listos para faenar!

No tan venerado, sin embargo, tienen el momento del almuerzo. La hora de la comida, a la que los españoles manifiestan gran devoción, con sus pinchos o entremeses, primer y segundo plato, postre, café y hasta quien

...el español ingiere en “cuba libres”, tal vez lo que en pints of beer ingiere el irlandés...

copa y puro también, se resume en este country a un corto break para tomarse un tentempié. El español, como pueda, se va a su casa en medio de la jornada laboral y le dedica su tiempo a las tareas del buen yantar. Quizás sea esa copiosa Spanish lunch, la causa de sus famosos afternoon naps, pues es la siesta española costumbre de pres-

tigio internacional.

The Irish women and men lo hacen con más desdén, resolviendo a menudo esa primaria necesidad de manera individual. Y lo hacen por todas partes, en las calles, en los parques o en cualquier corner del town. Espacios verdes no les faltan para sentarse a comer, pero conviene que lleven el chubasquero, por lo que pueda suceder...

Pero es el de la cena el horario más dispar: Irish dinner about six; cena española, tranquilamente a eso de las diez. Y es que si se trata de un sábado, midnight es buena hora en España para salir a “festear” (muchas veces hasta el amanecer) y beber, beber y beber. Pues el español ingiere en “cuba libres”, tal vez lo que en pints of beer ingiere el irlandés. Ahí se encuentran ambas culturas, en el placer que estos dos curiosos pueblos le encuentran a la vida social en el bar. Cada uno con su estilo, el español con sus tascas de tapas y el irlandés con sus pubs. Las tascas llenas de humo y en Irlanda ¡prohibido en los pubs fumar! Mas encontrando coincidencia en la sencillez y espontaneidad o en las

siempre presentes ganas de bromear, tanta cara de sorpresa se la queda al turista irlandés que ve una corrida de toros en la tele de Manolo's bar, como al turista español que ve un hurling match en el McFlanagan's pub.

Nederland en Ierland: Zoek de Verschillen

Lieke Boersma

Na nog geen vijf minuten in Ierland ontdekte ik al een groot verschil met Nederland. Ik kwam aan op het vliegveld in Dublin met een koffer die veel te zwaar was en een rugtas die zo groot was dat ik bijna omviel. Terwijl de taxi chauffeur mijn spullen in de kofferbak deed ging ik heel vrolijk achter het stuur zitten. Ik realiseer me dat het algemeen bekend is dat de bestuurder hier rechts zit, maar ik had een lange dag achter de rug. Wellicht is het interessanter om het te hebben over de wat minder duidelijke verschillen tussen Nederland en Ierland. De eerste dag dat ik boodschappen wilde gaan doen begon ik al ernstig aan mezelf te twijfelen. Waar waren alle supermarkten gebleven? Was er misschien een geheime plaats waar alle Ieren hun boodschappen doen? Ik begreep er niets van en was natuurlijk te trots om het te vragen. De volgende dag ontdekte ik de warenhuizen waar

sprak me aan met: “Hi, how are you?” Ik dacht dat hij me iets wou vragen en ik reageerde met: “Hi, I am fine, how are you?” Tot mijn verbazing was hij al doorgelopen voordat ik mijn zin kon afmaken. Na een tijdje kwam ik erachter dat dit een manier van begroeten is en dat men niet echt wil weten hoe het me je gaat, maar alleen beleefd wil zijn.

In de Freshers week heb ik vol verwondering tussen alle stands gelopen waar ik door de een na de ander aan de mouw getrokken werd met de vraag of ik lid wilde worden van hun vereniging. Alles wat je maar kan bedenken is vertegenwoordigd in een vereniging! Ik heb mij diverse keren afgevraagd wat men doet bij de Food and Drink society, om maar niet te spreken van de Paintball society. In Utrecht hebben we ongeveer vier verenigingen en persoonlijk vind ik daar niet zoveel aan. Een Ierse eerste jaars student liet me vol trots twintig kaartjes zien, uit een porte-

Ik heb mij diverse keren afgevraagd wat men doet bij de Food and Drink society, om maar niet te spreken van de Paintball society.

tot mijn verbazing alles, maar dan ook echt, alles te koop is. Eten en kleding in dezelfde winkel is iets dat je in Nederland niet zo snel zal tegenkomen. Over eten gesproken: het lijkt erop alsof Ieren niet koken. Ik heb drie Ierse huisgenoten en ik heb ze nog nooit in de keuken gezien. Het kan zijn dat ze mij gewoon vermijden of ze koken echt niet. Ik hoop maar dat het dat laatste is. De meeste studenten uit Utrecht die ik ken zijn gek op koken, dus vandaar dat het mij opvalt. Een van mijn andere huisgenoten vertelde mij dat Ieren alleen maar brood eten en thee drinken. Ik weet alleen niet of dit van toepassing is op alle Ieren, of dat enkel mijn huisgenoten van een zeldzaam niet kokend soort zijn. De tweede dag dat ik hier was liep ik over de campus toen een beveiligingsman mij passeerde. Hij

monnee die bijna uit zijn voegen barstte, van alle verenigingen waarvan hij lid was geworden.

Ik was zeer trots toen ik erachter kwam dat de meeste Ieren ons Nederlanders meestal met de wallen of met drugs associëren. Het is toch altijd fijn om te ontdekken dat men een positieve indruk heeft van je landgenoten. Er zijn ook genoeg vooroordelen over de Ieren en hun alcohol gebruik en het is waar dat elke Ier mij onder de tafel kan drinken. Ik moet echter toegeven dat daar is niet zoveel voor nodig is. Ik heb ontdekt dat de meeste Ieren erg gezellig en gastvrij zijn. Ik heb nog geen heimwee gehad want tot nu toe hebben de Ieren er voor gezorgd dat ik me ontzettend welkom voel.

Ruben Lagattolla

Dopo le prime due settimane dall'arrivo in questo college, si sono cominciate a notare le prime facce dei compatrioti, più o meno desiderate...

Ci si riunisce in party dove manca il vino, in cene in cui si rimpiange lo Stravecchio a fine pasto, addirittura in passeggiate dove mancano le ragazze coi capelli neri...

Mi tiro fuori un po' disgustato da questa realtà.

Fortunatamente mi sono voluto divertire a conoscere gli irlandesi, questo popolo che non finisce mai di stupire per la propria "kindness"...coloro che diventano la vera attrazione del turista in questa verde terra.

La differenza sostanziale vista fin'ora sta nella disponibilità delle persone: non sia mai che un anconetano, che tuttavia mai mi metterei di associare al resto d'Italia (ma che ahimè costituisce la mia realtà!), venga a chiedere a due ragazzi stranieri che guardano la cartina al contrario in mezzo ai binari della Luas: "vi siete persi?"

C'è da ammettere che vederci in giro per questa città, è spesso divertente. C'è sempre il tipico gruppetto con l'invicta dai mille colori, che entra nel hard rock caffè a chiedere una "medium guinness,

denghiu"e che sorreggerà per tre o quattro ore, facendo un casino infernale...

Oppure il nostro patacone riminese che non può fare a meno dei suoi occhiali griffati nemmeno di notte, e il povero irlandese che tenta di fargli notare che è notte, viene scambiato per uno scippatore e mandato a quel paese senza nemmeno capire perché, visto che ovviamente lo farà in italiano...

Speriamo sempre che tali personaggi non incontreranno il "coatto"... di quelli che si riconoscono da un chilometro di distanza, per urla ai suoi "compagni" riferite al gentil sesso, o ai "buoni" prezzi di quello che probabilmente è il ristorante più costoso di temple bar...altrimenti si rischia di ritrovarsi in un turbine di terribili esclamazioni patriottiche e continui: aoo! ma che ppure te sei italiano?! Ma te guarda 'n po'! hai visto come se magna ququa?!ma questi so'matti! A quel punto è consigliabile scappare...anche un marziano capirebbe che quelli sono "gli Italiani" col marchio in fronte meridionali e si metterebbero a prenderli per il culo.

La cosa che più ci riesce, è in ogni caso la passione che abbiamo per insultare il nostro paese da casa...e di diventarne fanatici quando ne siamo fuori. Insomma, da casa il ragù della mamma a volte fa schifo

Trinity News

Was ist ein Ire?

Jens Gartmann

Hallo ihr Lieben,

Ich schreibe mal ein paar Zeilen über meine ersten Eindrücke von Irland bzw. Dublin.

Vor dem Beginn meines Erasmusjahrs war ich noch nie in Irland und man macht sich natürlich so seine Gedanken, wie es einem in einem fremden Land ergehen wird. Nachdem ich etliche Reiseführer sowie unzählige sehr gute Erfahrungsberichte von ehemaligen Erasmus-Studenten im Internet gelesen haben, hatte ich schon so eine Vorstellung was mich in Irland und im Besonderen in Dublin erwarten könnte.

Um nur einige meiner Vorurteile zu nennen, die sicherlich viele Deutsche haben:

1. In Irland regnet es immer
2. Viele Iren sind rothaarig
3. Die meisten Iren trinken zuviel

Das es in Irland (wobei ich mich hier auf Dublin begrenzen muss) immer regnet, kann ich noch nicht so ganz bestätigen, da es seit ich hier bin, auch schon mal eine Woche gar nicht geregnet hat. Ich habe jedoch gemerkt, dass es immer ratsam ist einen Regenschirm bei sich zu haben, denn wo gerade noch die Sonne schien, kann es Minuten später schon wieder regnen.

Dass es hier mehr rothaarige Menschen als Deutschland gibt kann ich nicht ganz bestätigen.

Welches Vorurteil aber zutrifft, ist das die Iren zuviel trinken! Während sich die Trinkelage in Deutschland meistens auf die männliche Fraktion beschränken, sieht man hier viele betrunkene Girls. Wenn man sich in den Pubs oder in den Clubs mal so umschaut, entsteht bei mir des öfteren der Eindruck, dass manche Männer an einem inoffiziellen Trinkwettbewerb teilnehmen, bei dem es das Ziel ist, so schnell wie möglich betrunken zu werden. Der einzige richtige Gegner hierbei ist die Zeit, die einem übrig bleibt, bis es heißt: last order.

Auch sehr interessant ist es,

wenn man abends durch die Strassen von Dublin pilgert und sich die Outfits der Girls so ansieht. Man müsste denken, man sei gerade in Spanien, denn auch bei den niedrigsten Temperaturen scheint das Outfitmotto: „as short as possible“ zu gelten. Es ist schon amüsant, wenn bei herbstlichem Wetter die aufgetakelten Girls mit Pfennigabsätzen oder Flip-Flops und Miniröcken versuchen elegant die Strassen entlang zu laufen. Um weiter beim Nachtleben zu bleiben, so ist es für einen Deutschen schon ziemlich ungewohnt, wenn man ein Pint Bier bestellt. Hier möchte ich mich gar nicht über die Grösse bzw. den Inhalt des Glases beschweren sondern vielmehr, dass der in Deutschland viel zelebrierte Bierschaum nicht existiert und dadurch dass die Gläser hier randvoll gezapft werden, mir schon das ein oder andere Bier über meine Klamotten geschüttet wurde. Auch wenn man einige Ungewohnheiten im Nachtleben hinnehmen muss, muss man ganz klar sagen, das Dublin eine Party Stadt ist. Wenn man möchte hat man sozusagen fast jeden Tag die Möglichkeit hier raus zu gehen um zu feiern.

Eine andere neue Erfahrung die man als Deutscher in Irland machen muss, ist das man viel Zeit mitbringen muss und sich brav in einer Schlange anstellt. Teilweise kann man meinen, dass es von einigen Iren ein Hobby zu sein scheint sich in Schlangen anzustellen, wenn man hingegen in Deutschland oft die Ellenbogen benutzt um sich Platz zu verschaffen kommt es hier schon mal vor, dass man 1 Stunde in einer Schlange steht (eigene Erfahrung). Auch wenn ich hier einige ungewöhnliche aber jedoch interessante erste Erfahrungen gesammelt habe, haben die ersten Wochen schon meine Erwartungen übertroffen und ich hoffe, dass es hier so weiter geht wie es angefangen hat. Die Mischung aus Spaß + Studium+ Lifestyle soll weiterhin so ausgewogen bleiben. Ich freue mich auf noch einige erlebnisreiche Monate und neue interessante Erfahrungen mit vielen anderen Studenten.

...postumi di un'Italia...

perché troppo di sale, o la musica della radio è inascoltabile perché troppo vecchia e la nonna è una rompi.....

Una volta scesi dall'aereo, tutti, diventiamo dei nostalgici del sugo salato, di Battisti, e ci ascoltiamo la nonna registrata nel cellulare. Come se non bastasse, diventiamo tutti degli esperti d'arte, e quando non annuiamo per far finta di capire cosa dicono, tiriamo fuori nomi che ci ricordiamo per caso dai cazzeggi al liceo tra una sigaretta e l'altra nel bagno. Anche io mi sono ritrovato a parlare del Palladio, lo ammetto senza sapere nulla di lui oltre al

nome, ma con le donne fa sempre effetto...queste donne irlandesi, che al contrario di altre sono in grado di capire che se un uomo parla con loro non ci sta necessariamente provando...

Non mi sto mettendo a criticare, però a volte vale la pena di considerare l'importanza del viaggio che spinge a far cambiare forma a questa cosa che a volte non ne ha, che è la vita. Far evolvere quello che è l'intimo accadere, con desiderio, malizia e ingenuità allo stesso tempo, perdersi nella vita insomma; gli irlandesi ce lo insegnano...e non mi riferisco alle birre!

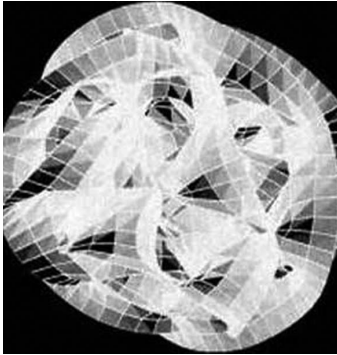
The topic of the next issue are the cliches about your home country and Ireland so if you would like to share some impressions or if you have a nice story to tell us, please contact via cell 0851495979 or by mail krita@tcd.ie and leave your article before the 7th of November. If any questions occur to you, please don't hesitate to contact me.

I'd love to get to know you. Take care, yours Alesya.

A Well Strung Universe?

Since Copernicus looked to the heavens, Galileo peered through his telescope, Newton pondered under an apple tree and Einstein studied his watch, the great thinkers have sought to explain the world around us. They have all yearned for the scientific Holy Grail, the physicists Pandora’s Box – The Theory of Everything. **Nicola Hughes** examines String theory

A theory of everything (TOE) is a theory of theoretical physics and mathematics that fully explains and links together all known physical phenomena (i.e. “everything”). This theory, if found, should be able to describe the weak nuclear force (involved in nuclear decay), the strong nuclear force (involved in nuclear fusion), electromagnetism and gravity. Above all, TOE should be simple and elegant. Many men have claimed to have found such a theory. Indeed, after



A Kalabi-Yau shape, apparently

devising General Relativity (GR), Einstein said that everything would be found “in the details”. But GR, although encompassing the enigmatic notion of gravity (seen as a distortion of spacetime) as no other theory before has been able to do, only describes the large – planets, galaxies and the universe. Quantum mechanics (founded by Pauli, Dirac and Heisenberg to name but a few) became the new contender for TOE. QM is a theory for describing physical events on the smallest scale - atoms, electrons and quarks. It describes a universe based on probabilities. A particle’s speed and position can only be estimated, for if we try to measure one the value of the other gets more and more uncertain (Heisenberg’s Uncertainty Principle).

As it stands, GR and QM cannot both be right. When physicists try to combine them to mathematically describe the small but massive e.g. the centre of a black hole or the Universe at the time of the Big Bang they get infinite prob-

abilities. This has been the great hurdle for decades. Both these theories are “correct” but neither describes everything. More importantly, each is the others antithesis. But a new theory has been proposed that is compelling the scientific community to believe that TOE has been found: String Theory.

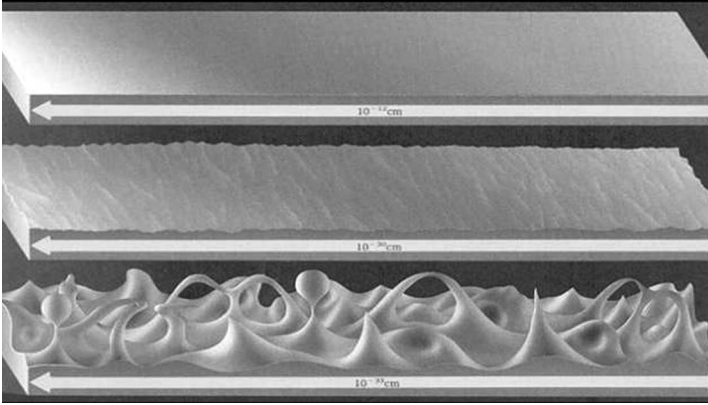
String theory is a model of fundamental physics whose building blocks are one-dimensional extended objects (strings) rather than the zero-dimensional points (particles) that are the basis of the Standard Model of particle physics. This is the currently used model of the physical universe that yields accurate predictions. It consists of four fundamental interactions of nature and twelve elementary particles. This model is among the most successful theories in history, but it fails to explain everything. It doesn’t explain the origins of the universe before the Big Bang. There are 18 arbitrary constants and a dozen elementary particles in the

Standard Model. Why are there so many? This model breaks down at the Planck length (10⁻³³ cm). At this quantum mechanical scale, space is seen to be “frothy” (See picture). Larger objects don’t experience this froth and so see space as flat, making their physical constraints measurable (GR). But if elementary particles are infinitely small points then they will experience this “quantum foam”, making everything uncertain!

But strings have a finite size. Strings have tension much like regular strings made of twine. The tension of a string is closely related to its size. Consider a closed loop of string, left to move through space without external forces. Its tension will tend to contract it into a smaller and smaller loop. Classical intuition suggests that it might shrink to a single point, but this would violate Heisenberg’s Uncertainty Principle. The characteristic size of the string loop will be a balance between the tension force, acting to make it small, and

the uncertainty effect, which keeps it “stretched”. Consequently, the minimum size of a string must be related to the string tension. Using the tension to calculate size, the smallest string was found to be the size of the Planck length.

In fact, using the tension and length of a string as its only arbitrary parameters, string theory predicts all the properties of the elementary particles of the standard model. The crux of the theory’s success lies in the fact that it predicts the graviton, the fundamental particle of gravity. No other proposed theory has done this. It includes gravity at the Big Bang as another dimension. In fact, it predicts 11 dimensions. At the birth of the universe five of the dimensions “unfurled”: three space, one time and gravity. The other six dimensions are left unfurled at the Planck length in Kalabi-Yau shapes. (See picture) The interaction of strings with these extra dimensions gives all the elementary particles. Just as strings on a guitar make different



‘Frothy’ space

sounds depending on their length and tension, so the strings in a Kalabi-Yau shape produce the characteristics of fundamental particles depending on how they are “plucked”. The idea that the strings of string theory can be plucked is synonymous with the idea that different forms of energy can be interchanged. For if a string vibrating in the “mass” mode is plucked in the proper way it can change its tune and sing of energy.

This is the elegance of string theory. Everything is made up of just one entity.

However string theory remains unverified. In this sense, string theory is still in a “larval stage”: it possesses many features of mathematical interest, and it may yet become supremely important in our understanding of the Universe, but it requires further developments before it is accepted or falsified.

Going Ape: The Primal Scream

Pending the ruling in Pennsylvania over the teaching of Intelligent Design in schools, **Abby Semple** evaluates how apes have fallen out of favour with us humans



Apes- Like Marmite

Overrated and Underrated Science

OVER-RATED

Photosynthesis

Yes it makes glucose out of sunlight and oxygen is a natural by-product, but life as a plant isn’t all that great

The Carbon Cycle

Overrated. Always has been.

The Periodic Table

Good in parts, as the name suggests. Later groups fail to realise the promise shown by group I.

The Science of Mixing Drinks

Leave it to the professionals

UNDER-RATED

Respiration

Just try doing anything without it

The Nitrogen Cycle

Hugely implausible idea about lightning and clover fixing nitrogen in the soil. Also involves cows. Brilliant

Other Tables

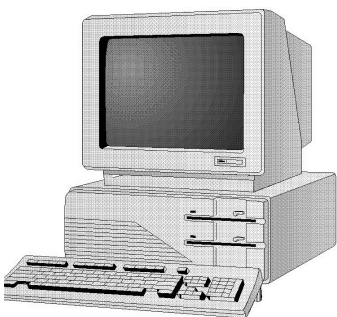
Four legs and a hard flat surface. A timeless piece of classic design.

The Art of Rolling

Do it yourself

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|----|----|
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| Li | Be | | | | | | | | | | | B | C | N | O | F | Ne | | |
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| 39.10 | 40.08 | 44.96 | 47.87 | 50.94 | 52.00 | 54.94 | 55.85 | 58.93 | 58.69 | 63.55 | 65.38 | 69.72 | 72.64 | 74.92 | 78.96 | 79.90 | 83.80 | | |
| Rb | Sr | Y | Zr | Nb | Mo | Tc | Ru | Rh | Pd | Ag | Cd | In | Sn | Sb | Te | I | Xe | | |
| 85.47 | 87.62 | 88.91 | 91.22 | 92.91 | 95.94 | 98 | 101.07 | 106.38 | 106.42 | 107.87 | 112.41 | 114.82 | 118.71 | 121.76 | 127.60 | 126.90 | 131.29 | | |
| 55 | 56 | 57 | 72 | 73 | 74 | 75 | 76 | 77 | 78 | 79 | 80 | 81 | 82 | 83 | 84 | 85 | 86 | | |
| Cs | Ba | La | Hf | Ta | W | Re | Os | Ir | Pt | Au | Hg | Tl | Pb | Bi | Po | At | Rn | | |
| 132.91 | 137.33 | 138.91 | 178.49 | 180.95 | 183.84 | 186.21 | 188.23 | 190.23 | 195.08 | 196.97 | 200.59 | 204.38 | 207.2 | 208.98 | (209) | (210) | (222) | | |
| 87 | 88 | 89 | 104 | 105 | 106 | 107 | 108 | 109 | 110 | 111 | | | | | | | | | |

Periodic Table: Definitely overrated



The New Craze: ‘Electronic Mail’

This week the onslaught of modernity with its stealth bombers and its iPods has finally overwhelmed the science editor’s last bastion of bayonet-wielding resistance. Having arrived ‘fashionably late’ in the 21st century I have finally begun using e-mail much to the relief of everyone. Which means anyone who has any questions or queries, would like to submit an article or enjoys sending random abuse can do all these things at the click of a button by writing to: northo@tcd.ie

Jane Ferguson

Without having done any scientifically-sound research on this particular topic, a quick survey has confirmed my suspicions to me: crying during sex is not usually seen as being particularly sexy. In fact, especially if the partner doing the crying is male, this would be seen as a definite turn-off by some, and at the very least as a blatant over-extension of modern man’s foray into metrosexuality by most. This, however, might not be viewed the same way in the mouse community. Genetically, mice are pretty similar to humans, but aside from the obvious differences (fur, tails, likelihood of becoming a cartoon character), there are some more subtle variations to be noticed, which may even teach us something about our own sexual origins.

In a recent publication, it was found that male mice secrete sex pheromones from, of all places, their tear glands. It is well known that many animals secrete pheromones during sex, and that these signals are vital to normal mating behaviour, but usually these

pheromones are found in sweat or urine. It took the scientists some time before they discovered that the mice were producing a previously unknown sex pheromone in their tear glands, and secreting it as eye fluid, where it could be picked up by any female who was in nose-rubbing distance. The brains of the female mice “light up” when exposed to this chemical. It is received by the vomeronasal organ, which handles all pheromone-relat-



Crying, probably not during sex

ed business, and is passed on as a sexy message, encouraging the female to dim the lights and whip

out the special lingerie.

Humans don’t have a very impressive vomeronasal organ (VNO), and some researchers even dispute its very existence, or argue that it is non-functional. While it appears that humans don’t use their VNO to the large extent that other mammals do, it is likely that it has played a role in our recent evolutionary past, and may still have some functions, albeit less obvious ones. Nobody really knows why we cry, but this study could give us a clue. If you can produce pheromones and secrete them into your eye, what better way to spread the message than creating big fat tears full of the stuff? Maybe our ancestors used to employ tears as a means of communication; or maybe we still do! Most species have introduced their own personal modifications into pheromone communication, so just because we mightn’t always find crying sexy, doesn’t mean that we aren’t getting another message from those sobbs. Crying usually inspires empathy in those exposed to somebody shedding tears. We might think that this is just because

we associate tears with pain, and therefore understand that a person crying is suffering. But what if our empathy is chemically induced? Could tears be signalling directly to our brains rather than via our emotions?

This is a difficult question, and one that may not be answered for some time. Until more research is carried out into human pheromones, and the capabilities of humans to respond to them, we won’t know whether tears could have this significance. Maybe they are a vestigial phenomenon, like the appendix, which we have but don’t really seem to need anymore. During plastic surgery on the nose, the VNO is sometimes removed. Could this explain why people with severely surgically altered noses look so creepy? So many questions, so few answers. All I can advise is carrying out your own surveys. Next time you want sex, try crying. See what happens. If enough people report back, we could have the beginnings of a scientific study on our hands.

Nothing Posh About The Uzbeks: Appalling Ruling Leaves Former Soviets Out In The Cold

Jonny Walls

Football’s world governing body is well known for it’s habit of issuing nonsensical directives when it comes to the administration of the sport. Sepp Blatter and his friends in FIFA like nothing more than to meddle, whether in the disciplinary procedures for players and coaches or the application of the rules of the game.

Most of the time the federation’s attitude though undoubtedly over zealous at times, is usually of little long-term significance for those on the receiving end of FIFA’s rulings. However in the last six weeks there has been an example of the new depths to which the organisation has sunk. This incident points to a worrying new trend whereby procedure is adhered to so trenchantly that often it is the innocent party who gets punished.

The elimination of Uzbekistan from Asian Zone World Cup qualification may not

‘Sepp Blatter and his friends in FIFA like nothing more than to meddle’

give rise to many sleepless nights for Irish soccer fans, but the way in which FIFA played such a major role in their exit from the competition should cause raised eyebrows among any fair-minded football supporters.



Uzbeki Soccer Fans Are Understandably Outraged by FIFA’s Controversial Ruling

Uzbekistan were drawn to play Bahrain in a World Cup qualifying play-off, with the winner of the tie set to face Trinidad & Tobago in a subsequent two-legged affair for a place in Germany. As one would suspect the Uzbeks were rated as strong favourites and duly set about their business with relish in their home leg. The hosts went ahead early in the first half and were then awarded

ed a penalty ten minutes before the break. Surprising then that it was this point that things went a cropper for the men from Taskent.

Though they successfully converted the penalty, Japanese referee Toshimitsu Yoshida disal-

lowed the goal and awarded a free-kick to the visitors. This was despite the fact that it was a Bahrain defender who had encroached into the “D” on the edge of the penalty area before the ball had been struck. By the letter of the law the official should have ordered a retake of the penalty, though if he was willing to show a bit of common sense he would have awarded a goal. He did neither and the game ended 1-0.

So infuriated were the Uzbeks that they submitted an official appeal to FIFA, claiming that because the referee had made a “technical error” they had been unfairly penalised and so should be awarded a 3-0 win. The annoyance at being denied what would have been close to an unassailable lead for the second leg, clearly

affected their better judgement. Only in the cases of teams failing to show for a game or fielding and ineligible player can 3-0 results be awarded by FIFA.

‘What happened to the referee’s decision being final? Uzbekistan have been punished twice for the ref’s mistake’

In hindsight Uzbekistan should have kept their head down, their mouth shut and taken a strong advantage into the 2nd leg. However not even they could have predicted one of the most unjust decisions FIFA has ever made. The world governing body did indeed agree with the Uzbeks that a “technical error” had been made but didn’t accept the proposed solution.

Football’s decision-makers could have left the result as it was. But they didn’t. They could have given the former Soviet state the choice of replaying the game. But they didn’t. Instead FIFA determined that the result was nul and void and HAD to be replayed! What happened to the referee’s decision being final? Uzbekistan had been punished twice for the mistake of the referee and it got even worse.

The two sides drew 1-1 in a re-scheduled match on 8 October before Bahrain held on to secure a 0-0 draw in the second leg to progress. Uzbekistan had

got less than they deserved, then asked for more than they were entitled to, and were subsequently awarded less than they already had.

They now want to leave the Asian Football Federation and join Uefa, as their neighbours Kazakhstan did a few years. However FIFA’s reach is global and no-one is safe from the medalling of that organisation, not least the small, vulnerable footballing nations such as Uzbekistan.



Japanese referee Toshimitsu Yoshida has been suspended indefinitely following an incredible display of incompetence that left many prominent Uzbeks questioning their future in the AFF.

Breaking The Rules, Aussie Style

Jason Bensohn

It’s a funny old game, International Rules. Ireland absolutely demolished the Aussies at Croke Park last year, with an exciting blend of pace, skill and opportunism, and yet over the last two fixtures they have been humbled by a convict team that was clearly superior in every area of play. The Australians



Tom Kelly Lies Prone After A High Tackle By Australia’s Russell Robertson

have clearly benefited from the presence of Irish coaches in their backroom staff, and it looked as though they had taken a leaf from Tyrone’s All-Ireland winning football side of this year, with rapid and skilful ball handling combined with great running lines, especially in the midfield. They rarely risked putting the ball to the boot, except when attempting to score. Their kicking, when executed, was accurate and incisive, and you could be forgiven for thinking that it was the plodding Irish boys who were more used to playing with an oval ball than a round one.

To say that the Australians were far more aggressive in the tackle than the Irish would be to to put it excessively mildly. Their superior proficiency in contact situations (including

‘To say that the Australians were far more aggressive in the tackle than the Irish would be to to put it excessively mildly’

punch-ups) results from the rather more physical nature of AFL when compared to football. It is also worth bearing in mind that many of the Australians will have played either Rugby Union or Rugby League in their youth, and so will be used to putting their weight behind a tackle and wrapping up their opponents in a way that it is unfamiliar to many of the Irish team, most of whom would rather sell their souls to the devil than set

foot on a rugby pitch. Last year Ireland were able to counter the Australians’ size by outrunning and outplaying them all over the park, so they will be alarmed to note the ease with which their opponents managed to run around them, as well as straight over them this year.

Having lost the first Test by a Irish record of 36 points (100

Lockhart admits he and his teammates were “bullied” by the opposition, it was the intention of the Irish side to really take it to their antipodean opponents. The Australians, however, were determined not to be outdone in any area of play, legal or illegal, and it would appear, that Ireland can’t even win the fist-fights, let alone the match or the series. In fact, one must question the entire build-up of the Irish team to the second test. Rather than go all out and at least attempt a win of sorts in the match, they appeared to have given the series up for dead and only trained once in the week leading up to the deciding match. This is hardly the way to beat an intensely prepared team like Australia, and certainly not the best remedy for one of Ireland’s biggest problems in the first Test; that being their reliance on the individual talent of players like Brendan Coulter, Ronan Clarke and Tom Kelly, rather than good interchanging and playing as a team.

The apparent motive behind this disastrous decision to give up on training was in order to bring some “freshness” to the team. Here again, Ireland seem to have missed one of Australia’s best tactics – good use of rolling substitutes. Australia constantly ensured they had fresh legs on the pitch, and used their attackers in short, explosive bursts, much like an ice hockey team. Ireland, on the other hand, looked tired and weary from a very early stage. No one can argue with the fitness of any GAA County representative – these boys are professionals in all but one glaringly obvious respect, and they dedicate their lives to training, but it is worth noting that they looked shell-shocked and exhausted by the furious Australian onslaught.

The Australian squad has certainly put the terrible memories of last year’s humiliation behind them and brutally brought on 12 months of nightmares for the GAA’s International Rules selection panel.In fact, questions have already been asked about the viability of the International Rules format as an ongoing competitive fixture as over the last two years the winning side has completely outplayed the losers to produce comprehensive victories, but it is important to bear in mind that last year the team on the end of a hammering were this year’s outstanding performers. As long as the two coaching and selection panels continue to adapt their teams and tactics and maintain their desire to win, this sport has an extremely healthy future. It is a truly brilliant, if eclectic spectacle; cast your mind

back if you will to last year’s Second Test at Croke Park, when the variety of entertainments on display ranged from a thirty man brawl (about an effeminate Australian ponytail) before the start of the match to a white dog who ranged around the pitch for most of the first two quarters prior to being apprehended by the least popular official in the history of International Rules. All this was followed by an exciting match which Ireland eventually won with ease, and a great day was had by all of the 60,000 in attendance. The series must be allowed to continue, and it is clearly in the interests of the organisers and players to ensure that the contact rules are tightened up and that punishments for offenders are suitably harsh.



Pete McGrath, Ireland Manager

It is hard to impose strict sanctions in a sport which is only played twice a year, so one solution would be to enforce punishments within the domestic codes. Thus a GAA or AFL player who is adjudged to have offended by an International Rules disciplinary committee would be banned for x-number of games from playing for, say, Kerry or the Sydney Swans. Though this might not be a popular move, it makes sense for the two governing bodies to make sure the players who represent them overseas every second year compete in a manner which presents their sportsmanship in the best possible light. This would surely be a far more sensible solution than to abandon the otherwise enjoyable code altogether, and would hopefully prevent athletes, whether professional or amateur, from seriously damaging themselves and potentially ending their careers prematurely.

Search for a new Captain Fantastic

Andrew Payne

After months of wondering, Ireland’s World Cup campaign came to an end in less than thrilling fashion with a miserable fourth place group finish. The team’s lowest finish in the qualifying rounds for a major championship in twenty years led to the FAI opting against renewing Brian Kerr’s contract. The hype surrounding Kerr’s exit has somewhat overshadowed another major departure however.

Ireland’s nil-all draw at Lansdowne Road with Switzerland marked the end of Kenny Cunningham’s Ireland career and the vacation of the team’s captaincy. A decision must now be made not only on who will command the boys in green off the pitch but a new leader will also have to be appointed on the field.

Cunningham himself enjoyed an excellent career for the Republic. Following his debut at the relatively experienced age of 24 away to the Czech Republic in April 1996, Cunningham went on to win 73 caps for his country. Having originally made his name as a full back, Kenny moved to the centre where he found a new lease of life and his last few seasons have arguably been his best.While he had to sit out most of the 2002 World Cup as Steve Staunton and Gary Breen formed a successful partnership in the centre of the defensive, Cunningham was on the field as the team crashed out to Spain in the second round.

Staunton was to retire from international football after that tournament and along with his place in the starting line up, Cunningham also claimed the captain’s armband. In his roll as captain Kenny was regularly one of Ireland’s best players for the past 3 years and it is with much disappointment that Irish fans see him head into international retirement.

With Roy Keane also hanging up the green jersey for the last time there would seem at first no immediate contender for the captaincy. For those who have considered the issue many people’s favourite to take on the armband is Shay Given.The Donegal man is of course an excellent player, a fact clearly demonstrated

in last month’s games against Cyprus and Switzerland. He is of course however rooted to the goalmouth, a fact that takes from his case to a large extent as goalkeepers have rarely proven the most effective of on-field leaders.

If not Shay then who else to lead the team? A few potential candidates spring to mind. For starters how about Matt Holland, Kevin Kilbane, or as an outside candidate Damien Duff?

First Holland.After the Korea/Japan World Cup Holland would have appeared a strong candidate for future Ireland captain. His equaliser against Cameroon in Ireland’s opening group match was a trademark Holland strike, an excellent long range low drive. He also played well in an Ireland midfield with Mark Kinsella still reeling from Roy Keane’s shock departure from the squad. He was however passed over in the race for the captaincy and with that his chances of ever taking the role would seem to be gone. He has struggled to start of late for both club and country due to a mixture of both injuries and those ahead of him in the pecking order.With Keane’s retirement he may regain his place in the centre of the park but the captaincy is unlikely to follow.

The men most likely to be vying with Holland for a central midfield place are Graham Kavanagh and Kevin Kilbane. Although 31 year old Kavanagh has done well when called upon, his mere 12 cap international cap haul and age are likely to ount against him. Kilbane is a much stronger candidate however. The 28 year old, despite his somewhat indifferent recent performances in the green shirt is the reigning FAI Player of the Year and in the match against Cyprus overtook Packie Bonner’s record for most consecutive appearances for Ireland.His move to centre midfield has also broadly been a positive one and places him in a position to command from the middle of the pitch.There are sections of the public whoever who do not think he should necessary be a first choice pick for the team’s new manager, whoever that may be.The same worry may be enough to stop whoever the new boss is from giving him the honour.

Kilbane’s move to the

centre also opened up the way for Damien Duff to play in his natural left wing position for Ireland. As perhaps our most talented player there is an argument that Duff could be given the honour to lead by example - it is however a highly unlikely proposition. Duff does not tend to lead on the pitch vocally and his recent international performances haven’t set the world on fire to the extent that he is clearly capable of. The same reservations would quieten any argument for Robbie Keane.

Who then should be the new captain? The answer as far as I am concerned is Richard Dunne. A member of Brian Kerr’s under-18 European Championship winning side, Dunne has youth on his side and has always impressed when called upon by his country. Even more importantly he is currently playing well week in week out for a talented Manchester City side and most important of all has this season been made club captain. The experience this will have brought is invaluable and makes him a top candidate for the position.

When Ireland’s new boss is appointed he will have a tough job ahead of of him. Ireland’s fourth place seeding for the European Championships qualifiers will ensure that. A good captain will make the job slightly easier however and thre is no better man for the job than Richard Dunne.



Man for the job?

A Difficult Year In The Heineken Cup For Irish Provinces

Theo O’Donnell

The Heineken Cup has never been an easy ride for the Irish provinces. With the exception of Ulster at Lansdowne Road in 1999, no side has yet managed to bring home the European Bacon. Leinster, for instance, have a long and illustrious history of failing to

‘No European team has thrown more weight and passion into the pursuit of bubbly Heineken-soaked glory than Munster’

live up to their potential and have developed a nasty habit of proving to be exceptionally disappointing on their expeditions onto foreign soil. No European team has thrown more weight and passion into the pursuit of bubbly Heineken-soaked glory than Munster, from the days of Mick Galwey and Peter Clohessy to those of Big Jim



Another Year Of Broken Irish Hearts?

Williams and now Antony Foley, but then no team on earth has endured such years of heartbreak as they have in tense and ultimately disappointing finals, semis and quarters over the last six years or so. Ulster, for their part, have never been able to repeat their awesome achievement and have continued to disappoint many a brave Northerner, failing several times to emerge from their group in the pool stages. The question is this – could this year be different? Will Leinster overcome the massive loss of experienced players like Byrne, Corrigan and (don’t laugh) Costello? Will they cope without O’Driscoll to hold the

backline together? If last week-end’s performance at the RDS against Bath was anything to go by, they have a long, hard road ahead of them. Some players certainly shone, in particular former Trinity DUFC Number 8 Jamie Heaslip (recently called up to the Ireland International Quad along with team-mate Robert Kearney), playing in his European debut, but their

failure to grasp a winning-try or a drop-goal to draw despite ten minutes of persistent pressure at the close of the 19 – 22 loss speaks volumes about their ability to be clinical and seize a game that’s theirs for the taking. Perhaps the most infuriating aspect of the defeat was Leinster’s failure (on several occasions) to score tries out wide,

after the home defeat to Bath they will be lucky to make it to the knockout stages. Although they subjected Bourgoïn to a humiliating 96 – 13 thumping last year, the French side have new depth in their squad and have confirmed they will be fielding full strength sides rather than the semi-professionals who holidayed in Dublin last year. Drawn in the group with Leinster and Bath again, they will be keen to show their teeth, and having remained undefeated at home in domestic competitions for three years they are unlikely to let down their fans on French turf. Expect them to lose in Dublin, and possibly Bath, but to blow the crap out of Glasgow in Scotland and hold their own at home.

Glasgow, bless ‘em, will undoubtedly be the whipping boys of this group. Lamont is just about their only player of note, and apart from him they are a side remarkably lacking in talent, despite their remarkable win over a strong Munster side in the Celtic League a few weeks back. Prepare to watch them get absolutely schooled by everyone they come up against. Bath should win their home games, though both Leinster and Brougoïn may be tricky if they front up properly, but with the wind up their backs after the win in Dublin, they may have what it takes to emerge from this group as the victors. Leinster must seek bonus-point wins at home and in Glasgow, and must look to take at least a bonus point from each of their games on the road at Bourgoïn and Bath. It’ll certainly be an uphill struggle, but a big win in Glasgow on Sunday would certainly help put them back on track.

Its hard to see Leinster going beyond the quarter-finals even if they make it out of the group, though by then their infuriating backline will hopefully have been bolstered by the return of both Hickie and O’Driscoll. Munster have a tough group, but overlook them at your peril. One aspect that could potentially lead them to success this year is the new look they have about their squad. The key men are still in place, notably O’Callaghan, Wallace and captain Antony Foley in the pack, with O’Gara and Stringer running the game in the backs. Other players have impressed recently as well, particularly Denis Leamy and Shaun



David Wallace Is a Key Man In Munster’s Campaign

Payne. Although injuries – particularly to the immensely effective and influential Paul O’Connell – could hurt Munster, the loss of Cullen and the ever-aging Mullins could be blessings in disguise for a backline that for so long has placed too many eggs in shaky, underperforming baskets. Munster will not look to use too much trickery with the ball out wide, but some good angles from big men like Trevor Halstead, John Kelly and Anthony Horgan combined with solid set-piece play and good kicking could will see them overcome their early defeat to Sale. In fairness to them, Munster were well on top in the first half,

‘Munster and Ulster could make huge strides in Europe with just a little improvement’

but they allowed Sale to roll out the panzers and blitz them for much of the second. Expect a different story in Limerick though, as Munster aren’t likely to allow Sale any room to breathe in front of their home fans. Watching Robinson get flattened will be fun. The boys in red should extend their already incredible unbeaten record at Thomond Park in the Heineken Cup, especially following this Saturday’s well-worked 42 - 16 win over Castres. Munster’s pack was working well, and Shannon’s Jerry Flannery, coming in at hooker for the injured Frankie Sheahan, was particularly impressive both at set-piece on in the loose. O’Callaghan, Leamy, Wallace and Foley all stuck their hands up as well, and all put forward a great argument for their selection for the upcoming interna-

tionals in two weeks time. The forwards out-performed their opponents all over the park, particularly in the mauls, one of which was driven 20 metres for Flannery’s try. In fact no Munster player failed to show up, with good tries scored out wide by both wings, and moments of individual brilliance in midfield like that which resulted in South African Halstead’s try. One area of concern will be the ease with which Castres out-half Teulet slid over for his try at a time when the result was far from certain, but it was a rare lapse in an otherwise impressively sturdy defensive line. Eddie O’Sullivan will take a lot of heart from

Munster’s impressive performance, particularly as O’Gara was on good form in his first meaningful post-Lions Tour outing with some great playmaking at out-half, and some incisive flat passes to the outside backs.

Munster in Castres? This one’s harder to pick than a broken nose. The two sides have faced each other nine times in the Heineken Cup, with six of the results going Munster’s way, and a trip to France holds no fear for the Munster squad, nor for their huge army of impressively merry travelling fans – the best in European sport, without doubt. Munster have won on Castres’ home turf once before, back in 2000, and will be keen to replicate what was an awesome comeback performance. Expect a much closer game than Saturday’s, and a hugely physical

contest, especially from Castres’ former All Black prop, Kees Meeuws, who was far from impressive in Limerick. Antony Foley could well be the difference between the two sides – he’ll hold the pack together and will be looking to extend his record as the highest scoring forward in the history of the competition.

A man with a point to prove to Eddie O’Sullivan will be David Wallace, who has for several years been the best and most underrated flanker on this island, and who, alongside team-mate Denis Leamy will be looking to force his way into the strongest section of the current Ireland side. The Dragons could well ask questions of Munster, but expect the passion and desire emanating from Limerick to steam-roll the Welsh pretenders into European oblivion. Munster ought to make it out of this group, and if they do they will have a good chance of progressing to the semi-finals, whoever their opponents may be. They will have learned their lesson from last year’s painful defeat in Biarritz when they really should have done better, and will have the confidence to force themselves on through the knock-out stages. Of all the Irish sides involved, perhaps they have the best chance, but can they really go all the way? Munster, as ever, will certainly believe they can.

Ulster could well be a team to watch this year. After a brilliant start to their Celtic League campaign (bar the disappointing defeat to Leinster in Dublin), confidence will be flying high, and it is well founded. They boast an impressive tight five, particularly with the addition of Australian international Justin Harrison alongside the likes of Simon Best, and there should be no shortage of grunt in the close games. Neil Best is having a terrific season and will be delighted to have been rewarded with an Ireland call up, as will centre Andrew Trimble, who adds some youth and invention as a counterpoint to Kevin Maggs’ mind-numbingly boring – but effective – running. Isaac Boss looks nifty at scrum-half, and Humphries is nothing if not reliable at out-half, so expect Ulster to work well in the backs when they get enough ball, particularly with the youth of Tommy Bowe and experience of Tyrone Howe.

Getting possession could well be their major stumbling block, especially against a side like Biarritz. Though the French outfit have lost Betsen to injury for the foreseeable future, they still boast an impressive set of forwards with the likes of Yannick Nyanga and Imanol Harinordorquy.

Biarritz will certainly remain unbeaten at home, with Yachivili guiding them and Damien Traille hoofing them to victory, but like French food they seem to go a bit mushy and soft as soon as they leave the Basque region. If Ulster can reverse this weekend’s well fought but ultimately disappointing 33 - 19 away loss and grind out a win at home, their chances of emerging from this group with a place in the quarter-finals look good.

Saracens, though boasting an impressive line-up of former internationals (the key word there is *former*) like Taine Randell, Kyran Bracken, Cobus Visagie and class players like Thomas Castagniede, always seem to struggle, whoever their opposition and whatever the competition. Currently lounging around mid-table in the Guinness Premiership in their usual lethargic fashion, expect Ulster to glide past them with ease. They struggled this weekend against Treviso, and are unlikely to provide any meaningful opposition to Ulster’s first credible onslught on the heights of European rugby for some time. Treviso are a good Italian side, of that there is no doubt. Unfortunately for them, that still means they are small fry on the European stage. Led by the multi-talented Troncon, they will be an entertaining side to watch, but are unlikely to cause Ulster too many problems at Ravenhill or in Italy. All in all, it could be a great year for the Irish provinces in Europe, and Munster and Ulster in particular could make huge strides with just a little improvement. Appalling performances by favorites like Leicester and Wasps could well herald a much more open competition than previously expected, though Toulouse are still very much the team to beat in this spectacular competition. Keep your fingers crossed for what could be a vintage year for Irish teams.

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Croquet Club draw Herbert Park

Conor Broderick

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With recent encounters between the two clubs being evenly contested, it was hoped that the match with Herbert Park Croquet Club on Saturday 22 October would be equally exciting. The two teams were composed of four players each. Alan Donagher, Jamie Burke, Daniel Kelleher and Conor Broderick represented Dublin University. Herbert Park was represented by Robert Barklie FTCD, Redmond Holloway, Bill Brosnan and Monica Brosnan.

The match was to be decided over two games of doubles and four afternoon singles matches. A strong start was desired by Trinity in order to stave off an expected onslaught in the afternoon singles matches. Broderick and Kelleher paired off against Barklie and B Brosnan in game one of the doubles, with Burke and Donagher pairing off against Holloway and M Brosnan in the second game.

Broderick & Kelleher vs Barklie & B Brosnan (7-13)

In the first game, Broderick and Kelleher struggled to gain a foothold in a game that was rarely out of the control of the Herbert Park pair. Barklie produced a fine break and set up his partner ball to establish a commanding lead mid-way through the game. Despite a late charge by Broderick, Herbert Park emerged as comfortable winners.

Burke & Donagher vs Holloway & M Brosnan (5-7)

In game two, DU started off on a more promising note, with Donagher seizing the opportunity to establish an early three hoop lead. The remainder of the match produced a tense affair in which Trinity remained slightly ahead. With time approaching it was left to Holloway to hit an excellent long shot and produce a well timed three hoop break to deprive the Trin of victory.

With two defeats in the morning doubles the afternoon didn't augur well for a team that had so far struggled to find its rhythm and form. After a brief respite and a sampling of the hospitality of the Herbert Park team, the draw was made for the singles games.

Broderick vs Barklie (26-2)

In what would be the only 26 point game of the afternoon Broderick started with seven bisques in accordance with the disparity of the two players' handicaps. Having utilised three of the free shots to execute an eleven hoop break on ball one Broderick was in a strong position, with a rush established for ball two and his opponent split. Barklie, however managed to hit in from thirty yards in an incredible shot which saw him set about building a break which only came to an end with an unfortunate missed hoop at hoop three. From there Broderick was able to hit in and to again utilise two bisques to execute a twelve hoop break and to peel ball one through the rover hoop before pegging out to record Dublin University's first win of the day and to bring the scores to 2-1 in favour of Herbert Park.

In the aftermath, Broderick's handicap was reduced two shots to a Five which marks a six shot improvement in the last two months.

Burke vs Holloway (10-6)

With Jamie Burke being the most exciting prospect in the University Croquet Club for some time, this game was always going to be a key result. The experience of Holloway made him favourite for the tie but Burke excelled himself, making a four hoop break on the way to establishing an early 7-1 lead. Burkes approach shot on the second hoop set him up for a memorable break which displayed some of the shots which he has developed over the last season since his arrival on the team. The game was far from over though, and saw Holloway climbing his way back into it with a series of hoops scored, but it wasn't to be enough. Burke held out for the win with time called, and registered another point for the University side.

Donagher vs M Brosnan (9-10)

This game proved to be a real battle with both players showing some great approach play through the course of the game. M Brosnan established a commanding lead from early on and never really looked like surrendering it to an opponent that was out of sorts. Donagher has been a consistent performer in the University team but struggled to find his rhythm through the encounter. With time running out, Donagher found his form and mounted a late challenge

to construct a four hoop break to bring the match back to parity. As time was called M Brosnan hit in to provide an exciting finish. She managed to get in position and run one final hoop to win by the slenderest of margins. (9-10) Donagher was left to rue some missed chances but had to bow to the excellent play of Brosnan. Herbert Park restored their advantage to take the lead at 3-2.

Kelleher vs B Brosnan (11-7)

In what was to be the final game of the afternoon, Kelleher had to win to keep Trinity from losing the tie. This was a lot of pressure for somebody who was making their debut for the club. Both players were evenly matched, playing off a Seveteen handicap, so it would prove to be a tight game and a fitting climax to the day's play. Brosnan got off to a good start and established a small lead over Kelleher. There was never much between the two players and as the game approached time there was only one hoop between them. Brosnan held the lead with balls at rover and hoop three, with Kelleher attempting to run both balls through hoop four. As time approached Kelleher made the play of the morning by peeling ball one through its hoop before taking another two hoops with his ball in play. With time running out Brosnan was unable to hit in and Kelleher held on for what will be a memorable victory for the team.

Kelleher showed great composure to win and succeeded in levelling the score at 3-3. All in all it was a fair result for the morning's play. Both sides exhibited some great moments, displaying some peel shots and some breaks along the way.

The exciting climax marked a most impressive baptism of fire for Kelleher. In his debut for Trinity he excelled himself, pulling off the most memorable play of the day, even managing to peel a ball in the course of a three hoop break!

DU Croquet Club can take heart from their performance, with the Club continually raising the bar over the last two years: we have seen the development of several of the players, with handicaps being lowered and with higher standards being achieved throughout the club.

For contact information and an explanation of the rules see www.tcd.ie/clubs/croquet.



Conor Broderick training in New Square photo: Peter Henry

100 years ago in College Sport

Boat Club

For the past two weeks rowing has been in full swing at Island Bridge, and we find ourselves on the brink of another rowing year. What the fates have in store for us, who can tell? The success or failure of a rowing season is, perhaps more than in the case of any other sport, dependent on the keenness and energy displayed by junior members.

The number of new members is quite up to the average, and the form displayed at this early stage quite promising. At the same time we would commend to the junior members the fact that an increased display of energy, in securing new members, and in making known the joys and glories of rowing among Freshmen entering College, would not only benefit a number of our fellow-creatures, but at the same time materially assist the cause of the Club to which we all owe so much.

As is universally recognised in the sporting world, rowing in Ireland has advanced by leaps and bounds in the past few years; and it rests with the Freshmen entering College, and the Junior members of the Club, to see that the University Boat Club will continue to hold, in the future, the proud position which it has always occupied in the past.

It is absolutely necessary that all new members should attend regularly for the next month, in order to endeavour to learn as much as possible about rowing before the term races, which have been fixed for the 12th, 13th, and 14th of December. It may not be out of place to remind them that the art of rowing is not learnt in a few outings, and it is only by constant practise and unequalled attention to the coach's directions, that anyone can hope to become a really good oar. It is requested that all

those who intend taking part in the coming term races should notify to the Captain their intention of doing so immediately, and also the days on which they will be able to attend for practice, as the crews will be picked within the next week.

The Annual Boat Club Dance will this year be held in the Graduates' Memorial Buildings, by the kind permission of the Board, and of the Societies, on 15th of December. The number of tickets is strictly limited to 170.

Rugby Football Notes

We regret to have to chronicle our first defeat this season. On Saturday, with a rather weak team – Casement, Thrift, Caddell, and Robinson being absent – we were beaten by Lansdowne FC by 13 points to 11. The backs, on the whole, played well; Parke secured a most brilliant try, and Huggard's defensive work was excellent. Of the forwards, Sugars, Acheson, and De Courcy were the most prominent, but, in our opinion, their tactics in keeping in the ball during the first half were ill-considered. The backs, although not at full strength, were well able to cope with the Lansdowne backs, but there is very little question but that the opposing forwards were superior.

On the same day the 2nd XV beat Lansdowne 2nd by 1 goal 2 tries to nil. The victory was largely due to the forwards, who showed their best form so far this season.

The 3rd XV played Clontarf 3rd on Saturday, and Blackrock Past and Present on Monday. They are still unbeaten.

Association Football

Last Saturday was a day of disappointed hopes. The defeat of both 1st and 2nd Elevens was certainly

not expected. There are two explanations of Saturday's débacle, with regard to the 1st Eleven at least – either the certainty of gaining two points made the team over-confident and contemptuous of their opponents' capabilities, or else they were all suffering from some lethargic disease. There was hardly a spark of life among the forwards, with the exception, perhaps, of C Finny and Elliott, both of whom, however, have played much better. The three insides all lacked vigour and dash. Dilworth is too fond of dribbling back towards his own goal instead of going straight ahead without waiting; he is also rather inclined to pass to the opposing half instead of to his wing partners. Page, though out of his place, was a little disappointing. Fottrell has been seen to much greater advantage. The halves were all off their game, Lambkin being the best. Griffith has all the appearance of being a very useful man, and has plenty of dash; but he has still to learn that more knack and less force will send the ball just as far and much more accurately. The 2nd Eleven, too, was off colour. Phibbs and Boyce, though a steady pair of backs, both lack speed. Robertson was the best of the forwards. It is to be hoped that last Saturday's performances will not be repeated.

Hockey Club

The 1st XI, last Saturday, were by no means sanguine of beating Monkstown, on the latter's ground, and consequently the team played their best game this season, and won by 5 goals (Gregg 2, Dunlop 2, Dagg 1) to nil. Trinity frequently suffers from over-confidence, and as frequently we do not do ourselves justice. In the game on Saturday the forwards had much more combination than usual. The outside forwards "centred" at the

right time, and had the satisfaction of seeing goals scored directly from their passes. The halves were on good behaviour, Robinson, playing a fine game in the centre, was responsible for at least two of the scores; Sherlock (till he was hurt), and Young did well. The latter, with more experience of senior hockey, should make a good half. He must resist the temptation, however alluring, of stopping the ball with his stick as it flies over his head. McCormick was steady, but Carey tried to be brilliant, and sometimes failed. He and, indeed, all backs, should make it their aim to "get possession" before trying to feed their forwards. It is almost impossible to "rob" a forward and pass the ball all in one stroke; it is much better, and less dangerous, to get the ball under control first, and then pass to your half or forward. However, this does not mean that backs should "dribble" more than a few yards. Moloney had a dull time in goal, and he is accused of being the instigator of the dog-fight that drifted across the ground during the game.

The 2nd beat Croydon by 4 goals to nil. The win would have been more decided had the forwards taken a reasonable percentage of their chances; in fact, the halves became so exasperated that one of them shot a goal to try and arouse the jealousy of the forwards. The team must settle down. They want practise, and they won't practise, so their blood will be on their own heads if they come to be beaten.

The 3rd XI could not find any victims, and had a day off, while 3rd A won, as they casually said, by "7 or 8".

At last we have obtained possession of our new ground at Kenilworth Park, and it will soon be in order. It has a much more even surface than our late ground at

Donnybrook, and is fairly convenient, being near the Rathfarham and Kenilworth Road tram lines.

To-day we play Three Rock Rovers, at Foxrock. As regards the result, it lies with every member of the team.

Harriers

At the opening of the season 1905-6 it may be well to chronicle the doings of the DUH last season, which was, on the whole, a successful one. We secured a rather easy victory over the United Hospitals H and H, at Dundrum, by 25 points to 39. The team that travelled to Edinburgh to do duty against the EUH and H, though the greater part of those originally selected could not cross, ran well, although losing the match by 24 points to 14. The Club also finished a team in the Junior Cross-Country National Championships.

The season which has now begun ought to be a very successful one for the Club, as practically all last season's members are available, and there are quite a number of new members as well.

The best run so far took place last Saturday from Clonskeagh, when there was a large turnout. The hares led the pack across a nice stretch of country towards Dundrum, and ended a course of about six miles by a run of a mile home on the road. McCreedy finished a few minutes after the hares, and some of the new members also showed good form.

Extracts taken from *TCD: A College Miscellany*, No 194 (1905). Last issue's extracts were taken from No 193, not 194 as indicated.

Short Sport Report

DU Boat Club ex-Captain banned

NUI Galway's men's intermediate eight was recently disqualified from its win at the Irish Championships in July. The strong crew, who beat Queen's University, Belfast, by two and a half lengths, was found to have contained an illegal rower.

The crew member, ineligible by virtue of having previously won a certain number of races at senior and intermediate level, was recent Trinity graduate Stuart King. King, former Captain of the DU Boat Club and holder of

a University Pink, had been stroke man in the Galway eight. He achieved his previous status-breaking wins while rowing with successful Trinity crews.

NUI Galway Boat Club was fined €500 by the Irish Amateur Rowing Union for breaching the status rules. The Union also suspended King from competitive rowing until December 31, 2006. The disqualification was made known in an email from the Union on 10 October.

Best Ladies' Club?

This week's Students' Union newspaper carried a gushing article about the DU Ladies' Boat Club, pointing out that they are "holders of the Best Ladies' Sports Club Award for the past two years". It should be pointed out that despite being the holders of this award, the Ladies' Boat Club won no regattas in 2005. Attendance at international regattas is not an achievement in itself,

and the Club needs to justify itself in the upcoming season if it is to hold on to the Best Ladies' Club trophy. It may not be difficult: there are only eight Clubs which will not accept male members (not counting the DU Heraeans) and only the Ladies' Boat Club, Ladies' Football Club and Ladies' Hockey Club seem to maintain any existence separate to their male counterparts.

DULTC wipe the floor with UCD

On Monday, 2 October, DU Lawn Tennis Club's first team beat UCD's second team in an at-home game of the Dublin Floodlit League. Trinity will not face UCD's first tennis team until February's Intervarsities, which will be hosted here in College. DU's team last Monday was David Spollen (Captain), Patrick Cosgrave, James Kirk and Kei Fujiwara. In their singles matches,

Spollen won 6-0, 6-1; Cosgrave won 6-0, 6-2. Kirk and Fujiwara paired off against UCD, winning 6-3, 6-1. All matches were finished within thirty-five minutes, showing the strength of Trinity's first team. The next game is tomorrow (Wednesday 2 November) against bottom-of-the-table Swords, which will be played at-home.

Croquet Club and New Square lawn

The Captain of the Croquet Club was recently reported as saying that the Croquet Club is "totally fine" with the proposal to open New Square for everyone and anyone to sit on. It would be unimaginable for the Cricket Club Captain to invite the hordes of drinkers using the Pavilion Bar (many of who are non-students) to

sit on the crease. Similarly it is inappropriate for the Croquet Club Captain to be "totally fine" with American tourists and anyone else sitting in the middle of a facility which requires care and attention. If the the proposal is passed, any hopes for a higher quality and more level lawn in the future can be forgotten.

Proud Moments for Trinity's Boxing Club

Eoin Sheridan

DU Amateur Boxing Club reached a further high this past week as a Trinity graduate and boxer fought for Ireland for the second time. Arran Sadlier, who finished his degree in Computer Science last year, represented Ireland twice in Canada in the past week. On both accounts he fought brilliantly against Canada's number one boxer in the 60kg weight class. Unfortunately, Arran lost the first bout on points and despite an outstanding effort narrowly lost the second, although some present

thought it was perhaps a home town decision. Despite his loss the tournament was a massive success and raised over 120,000 Canadian dollars for charities. Six Irish boxers traveled over and fought in two contests. Ireland lost the first night 4-1 and won the second night 3-2. It was a great trip for all involved and vital experience for Arran, who we can expect to see a lot more of in the future.

Well-known lecturer and Trinity boxer, Prof David Scott FTCD from the Department of French is responsible for the second proud moment for the Boxing Club in the past week. Currently in New York, Prof Scott is boxing in part of a new program called "White Collar Boxing". It is a great

program which gives boxing enthusiasts a chance to box and train in some of the best gyms in the world. While in New York Scott has two fights and will train with many famous names from both Tyson's corner and Hagglers, to name a couple. Both Arran and David are great boxers and it's great to see such success from the College club.

The Club's first table quiz of the year was on last Thursday night and was well attended. There were great prizes which led to people doing anything to get their hands on them, including stripping, singing and sexy dancing; although not all that sexy! Club President Michael McClure came along and made the night that bit more special. The event raised over €1000 for the Niall Mellon Township Foundation which Coach Dan Curran is taking part in. The money will help cover the cost of Dan's flight to South Africa on Friday where he will build houses for impoverished communities. The night was finished with the team entered by the DU Boat Club taking home the grand prize of 400 euro worth of travel vouchers donated by Panorama Travel. For those who missed the night we hope to have another quiz during the year.

A Need for Speed, Salt and Windswept Hair?

Karina Finegan Alves

Windsurfing is the most underrated sport in College. My efforts to relieve newcomers of a mere €4 of their parents' money were met with singular resistance in Freshers' Week. I was disdainfully eyeballed and verbally attacked with the likes of, "Can you honestly see *me* windsurfing?!" or "God no, I'm far too weak" or "I'm not a strong swimmer." None of which are valid arguments against joining the Windsurfing Club. I was stunned into a relatively silent state by the (false) impressions that many of you held. Therefore, before I wax lyrical on the wonders of windsurfing, I wish to quash a few myths.

Firstly, strength: it's *not* important. Most people think that you need the arms of Arnie ze governor, when in reality windsurfing is about balance and poise. Think ballet, not boxing. Admittedly, professional windsurfers do look like they've spent their lives at the gym, but that's because windsurfing is *all* they do, whereas studying serves as a fantastic regulating force, keeping us student-shaped (i.e. weak and feeble).

Windsurfing is not difficult to learn; the Club boasts three trained professionals who will have

you up and zooming along on your first day. As long as the board and sail are the right size for you, it's a cinch.

If you can't swim then you should be ashamed of yourself – you live on an island – and you need to learn how. But if (as is more common), you are not a 'strong swimmer' you needn't worry. On the regular trips to Malahide the water is only about 4ft deep and in any case we make you wear a buoyancy aid.

It is not a dangerous sport; base jumping, speed skiing and street lugging are all examples of dangerous sports, none of which have clubs in College. Windsurfing falls are generally cushy. Whereas surfers may get run over and mauled by other surfers due to bad visibility, this doesn't happen to windsurfers. Whereas surfers can suffer nasty blows to the head and body if they fall badly and their boards whack into them; for windsurfers this is less of a danger, not least because wearing a helmet is an option. This is not to malign surfing, just to say that windsurfing is the safer option for anyone worried about concussions, bruising or broken bones.

Windsurfing is addictive primarily because of the speed factor; for beginners optimal wind is anywhere between three and six

knots, but a breeze is sufficient if all you're looking to do is move. When you learn the basics and can handle the sail well enough, you can go out in winds of over fifteen knots, which (in laymen's terms) means going really really fast. Besides speed, one of the advantages windsurfing has over surfing is air time; jumps are somewhat limited on a surfboard. An experienced windsurfer can hit a wave head on and propel themselves fifteen feet or more into the air, but if hang-time is what floats your boat, turn to kite-surfing. Better yet, found a Trinity kite-surfing club: one is needed.

True, the weather here leaves much to be desired, but an 8mm wetsuit and a good pair of boots keeps one relatively warm, as does the industrial waste that graces the Malahide estuary. Indeed the greatest danger to the Trinity windsurfer is the projectile vomiting and instant death that follows even the tiniest gulp of estuary water.

On a different note, if it is fame and glory you crave, join the ruggers, the rowers or the ladies' hockey team. The windsurfers enter very few competitions. Most of us are crazy-haired adrenaline junkies who are in it for the buzz



A "crazy-haired adrenaline junkie" on a sunny day in Malahide

Photo: Karina Finegan Alves

New Faces in the DU Central Athletic Club



Voted out: Bart Connolly at the DUCAC AGM Photo: Peter Henry

Peter Henry

Last Thursday's AGM of the Central Athletic Club was conducted quickly and efficiently, and thankfully did not drag on late into the night. Most attendees were there to run for positions on the committees, or to vote for their friends.

Ruth Collins stepped down as Hon Secretary, a position she had held for several years. Two people stood for the position: Pamela Fitzgerald (Camogie) and Marie-Therese Bolger (Ladies' Football). Fitzgerald won by a large majority; the five GAA clubs seem to do very well in College, last year getting three members onto the DUCAC executive, and managing to get their man in as Students' Union President.

Ben Hartnett stepped down as Hon Treasurer after one year in the position. Hartnett last year took the position which our new JD Emma Stokes resigned from in 2004. The Dean of Engineering and Systems Sciences, Dr John Brian Foley, replaced

Hartnett at the meeting.

Marie-Therese Bolger of the Ladies' Football Club replaced Liam Murray as Secretary of the Sports Facilities Committee.

There was one person nominated for one of the eight Pavilion Member spots on the Executive Committee. Alan O'Cais, last year's Captain of the DU Amateur Boxing Club, replaced Bart Connolly, who also ended his term on the College Board this year.

The Club representative positions are always the most hotly contested, and this year ten students went forward for the eight positions. Nominees were: Frank O'Connor (Swimming), Michael Hyland (Hurling), Niamh Smith (Surf and Bodyboarding), Kevin Lally (Judo), Patrick O'Shea (Amateur Boxing), Shane McVeigh (Gaelic Football), David Quinn (Lawn Tennis), Philip Balberni (Hockey), Niamh O'Sullivan (Ladies' Boat) and Paul Lynn (Boat). Lally and Balberni lost out in the vote.

Thomas O'Connell

The weekend of the 22/23 October saw the first tournament of the Irish Ultimate Frisbee Calendar and Cork's "Skullimate" were hosts. Nine Trinity players made the journey south to the rebel county with high hopes of bringing home some silverware.

Sixteen teams from all over Europe came to compete, including teams from Belgium, Scotland and Italy, not to mention Dublin's very own all ladies' team, "Maith An Cailín". Coming from all directions, the teams gathered on Friday night in the Western Star pub to start the weekend in style. Next morning, we made our way to the pitches at nine for an intense day of ultimate, comprising of four sixty minute games.

First we took on "Broccoli", a team of experienced university graduates who went on to get to the final of the overall competition. Needless to say, "Broccoli" took the game comfortably, having some of Ireland's best players in their side. However, our

much less experienced team, which included two beginners, improved as the day progressed, and went on to win our next two games against DIT and "Stirling Blaze" to finish second in our group.

Drawn against UCD for our crossover match, this tense game tested both teams' abilities and unfortunately our old rivals came out the victors. This condemned us to the lower eight teams and we'd have to be content to play for the plate on Sunday.

Although we were battered and bruised from our day's exploits, we were in high spirits getting ready for the Saturday night party which had the fancy dress theme of "movies". *Being John Malkovich* was our movie of choice and our Malkovich masks went down a treat at the party. Party Award winners "Maith An Cailín" dressed up as the cheerleaders from *Bring It On*, and kept all the lads amused all night with their "pom-poms".

Our two games in our lead-up to the plate final were against DCU and Sligo IT, both of

which we won comfortably. The plate final saw us meeting DIT for the second time and we went into the game confident we could win. This was our closest game of the weekend and the end result was 7-5 in our favour.

In the overall final, defending champions Johnny Chimpo retained their title in a close game against "Broccoli".

Cork Open 2005 was a great weekend for DU Ultimate, with some silverware added to the cabinet. Congratulations to our MVP, David Misstear, who put on a great display all weekend with some great diving catches and interceptions.

DU Ultimate has just spent the weekend at the Edinburgh Beginners' Tournament, where twelve new recruits got their first taste of ultimate.

To enquire about membership and training times for this year contact the club on nighiolc@tcd.ie. This year's captain is Cian O' Morain.

DUFC J3s at Clontarf Blitz

David Robbie

Trinity J3s had their first outing of the season, competing in the Blitz in Clontarf on October 17 and emerging with a creditable result of two wins and two losses. It should have been better as the students allowed a big but limited Clontarf team to use their only weapon, a rolling maul, to score the only try of the game. Thereafter Trinity gave as good as they got and only the bounce of the ball prevented an equaliser from scrum-half Ralf Heffron.

The Blitz consists of matches of twenty minutes with no place kicking; the emphasis being on open play. In their second game Trinity warned to the task and were worthy winners over a big Lansdowne team that tested the defence but proved vulnerable to the straight running of the fitter Trinity team with Dónal Salmon's uncomplicated style particularly catching the eye.

A fifteen minute break proved Trinity's undoing for the

third match as slight complacency allowed Stillorgan to score the only try of the game. The Coach's gamble of playing three complete newcomers in the same game proved to be a fatal miscalculation and although Trinity competed well for the last ten minutes they just could not get back on even terms.

The final game proved to be the finest hour for the students when a Wanderers team, hitherto unbeaten, were given a sound beating with right winger Finn Power skinning his opposite number for three classic wingers' tries in a very competent all round performance that saw the rattled Wanderers side turning increasingly petulant.

Last minute news: DUFC's first XV lost their AIL match with last year's league winners Shannon RFC 19-6 last Saturday on a miserable afternoon in College Park.

Colours match: DUFC will face UCD in the annual Colours match next Friday 11 November at Donnybrook. Kick off is at 6:30pm.



Disappointment: DUFC men come off the pitch after last Saturday's match against Shannon RFC

Photo: Peter Henry

Send your match reports, articles, opinion pieces and other College sport related comment to pehenry@tcd.ie