

TRINITY NEWS

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Trinity College is a place of superlatives. This is Ireland's oldest and most esteemed university. This is home to the greatest academic minds in the country. We are surrounded by the most beautiful College grounds on this island. Everything about this place inspires greatness.

Unsurprising, then, that among our fifteen thousand strong population lurk some of the best, brightest, most ambitious, talented and powerful students Ireland can offer.

Here we list them.



Loves charity

Had Alessio Frenda, President of the Graduate Students' Union, had a bad year? Well, yes, as it happens, really, really bad. In a nutshell, he tried to filch €20,000 from the other student bodies (the CSC, Students' Union, DUCAC and Publications) whilst simultaneously giving money away to charity. While there's nothing wrong about giving your own money to charity, he tried to give everyone else's money to charity, which led him to being taken down a peg (or three) by College.

In addition, his Treasurer resigned, and he lost his Vice President before the term even began. Once the term started, he...well, the Panel is hard-pressed to think of anything that Frenda has done. His spending power is a 4, as he has control of large amounts of money (despite the fact that he obviously has no idea how to spend it). Frenda comes in with a 2 for both profile and influence, reflecting a year of disappointment and confusion for all involved with the GSU under his guardianship.



A laugh a minute

John Gallagher is a History and French Scholar and perhaps one of the greatest whits of Trinity College. Hailing from Dublin, John is a Belvadere boy through and through. Good mannered, smart and above all an all round nice guy. As Record Secretary of the College Historical Society, he is well-

known for his ability to contort words, much to the amusement of the Wednesday night audiences. He is an accomplished debater and a finalist in the *Irish Times* debating competition. His score of 5 in regards to profile is due to the fact that anyone who's ever met him will remember him. Gallagher is also heavily involved in Players, after all, the

boy does love the stage. With a spending power of 1 and influence of 2, Gallagher is much further down the list than his heir apparent counterpart in the Phil, Barry Devlin, who also holds a position on CSC; nevertheless, the Panel predicts another good year for the Hist, particularly if Gallagher runs for the top job, something the Panel predicts to happen.

The perfect BESS girl

This year's Dublin University Business and Economics Society (the society for all the BESS kids) auditor has really gone from zero to hero. Things didn't start out well: her committee was riddled with in-fighting and nobody really expected her to do much.

She managed to turn this around, with the BESS Ball, which sold out and was a big, big success.

The lady has garnered a pair of 3s for spending power and profile due to her position in DUBES and the fact that she's done a damn good job at it. She gets a lonely one for in-

fluence, as she might be auditor of DUBES, but this only gets her in with the BESS oompa loompas. There might be hordes of them, but they are all very non-powerful, since they spend more time talking about their fake-tan and clothes than noticing what's happening around them in College.



The electoral overseer

The handsome rising star of the Students' Union, Cathal Horan looks to have a bright future ahead of him. Since becoming a class representative for Theoretical Physics in first year, he has become more involved in the Union and ran the Electoral Commission this year (the most anally retentive and pedantic group of people, ever). He gets a nice round zero for spending power, as it is only the sabbatical officers in the Union that have any say.

A regular around House 6 and the H-

Block nets him a 4 for profile, and having scored most of the first year class reps last year helps as well, as does his relationship with socialite Orla Marnell. Alas, Head of the Electoral Commission might seem important and indicative of respect within the Union, but he hasn't landed himself any positions that might give him influence and hence he gets a 2 here. Rumours abound of his intentions to run for high office in his beloved Union (as well as branching out into CSC), so we can expect him to be on the up and up for next year's list.



You'll hear her coming

If random College knowledge was a qualification for the Power List, this American would certainly rate highly. Try to find something that she's not involved in: Chief Copy Editor for *Trinity News*, she sees this paper from cover to cover before it's published. As the dedicated International Students' Officer of the Students' Union (read: the only international student you've ever heard of), she can often be read in a letter to the editor complaining about an issue that no one cares about.

Her spending power is a mere 2, as Beard solely uses financial influence to grab more money

for her various societies, Beard scores her highest in profile: obviously not enough to win a Students' Union election (better luck next year!), but having the most Facebook friends in the TCD network has to count for something. Beard's influence is 3, as she manages to worm her way into everything; a significant amount of her powerbase comes from assorted romantic interests (a boyfriend with a gun never hurts). Although she ranks low on the list, being simply the silent person in the room (and by that, we mean every room) rather than the person in charge, look for her to attempt to raise her profile in her final year.



For the record...

Not that we're biased here at *Trinity News*, but does the College really need the *Record*? So we have a newspaper that covers news and events in College and then we have one that covers Union news and events while promoting the Union agenda. Propaganda rag? Don't be absurd...

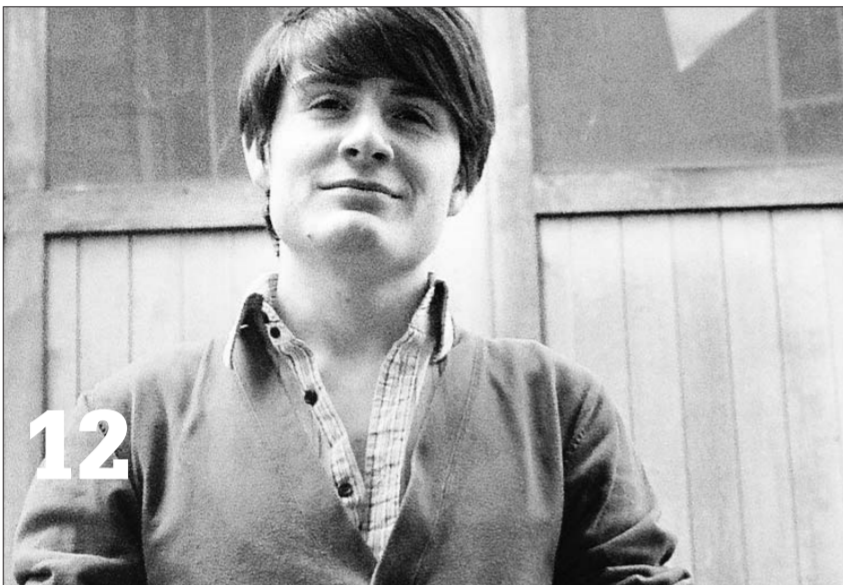
The Record, to its credit, has employed a number of

bitchy hacks this year who have endeavoured to create some passable standard of journalism, chiefly by ripping off *The Guardian* and anticipating that a former Union officer would be capable of tracking down news-worthy stories (alas, delusion strikes).

Tighe's spending power is 3; one has to ask how much that dirty rag costs to produce (more in blood, sweat and tears than cold hard cash, the Panel

would hazard). *The Record* has been described as "the best *Record* in years"; but even a cursory glance through its archives would prove this faint praise.

Generally well-liked as a human being, Tighe's profile of 5 is due to her, occasionally, leaving her office to saunter down the hallway ("anybody want tea?"), and her influence 3. We imagine some people read it...



A total playa'

Ciaran O'Meala is the outgoing Chair of the College's cliquiest student society – Dublin University Players. His rise to the top came after Players' most controversial AGM in recent history, which led to the storming out of the society's

honorary patron. Despite this, O'Meala has managed to reunite Players this year. The darling boy presided over the 75 year celebrations, although some say a little more could have been made of the event. Not just a committee member, O'Meala is one of Players' best actors with a particular

penchant for Shakespeare. One wonders if he ever managed to put this skill to use when working as a sales advisor as Schuh?

The Senior Sophister Drama student's hard work was rewarded at the recent CSC Awards, where he received the award for Best Individual.



Taken at face value

An English student, Joey Facer is arguably the most innocent of the political operators on the list; the Chair of DU Publications certainly shies away from politics, despite being a regular around House 6. Facer is the other half of *Trinity News* editor Gearoid O'Rourke and between the two of them, they command a great deal of influence in Publications and the college media. Some might say she slept her way to the top, but the Panel would never be so cheeky (after all, she signs his cheques, not the other way around). Her position on the Capitations Committee also allows her some influence in the horse-

trading that goes on between the various capitated bodies.

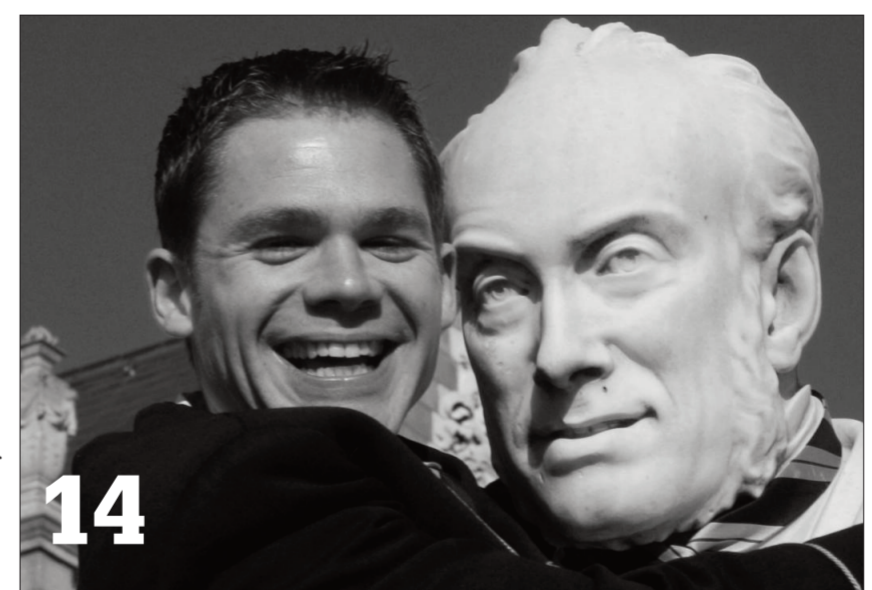
This year has been a relatively good one for Publications, mainly due to the absence of scandal that characterised previous years. Facer scores a four for spending power, given the high revenue of publications such as *Trinity News* and the €47,000 Pubs receives from the Capitations Committee. Her profile of 2 reflects the fact that Facer commanded more space in *Piranha!* this year than the Junior Dean; now, that's a feat. Her literary credentials remain confined to her column in *Trinity News*, which causes as much controversy as Roisin Ingle's regular contributions to the

Admiral on deck

Gabriel Magee arrived at Trinity as just another American obsessed with the folklore of the British Isles; thanks to his involvement in DU Boat Club, he ironically stayed true to the traditions (read stereotype) of philosophy, his chosen branch of enquiry, now in his fourth year in Trinity, having squeezed the most time out of his Mlitt, he is now Vice President of the Graduate Student's Union.

By an ironic twist of faith, this traditionalist who also acts as the Union's Welfare Office is forced

to distribute promescuity packs to the horny post grads of Trinity College. Seen by many as the real force within the Graduates' Student Union, Magee scores a three for influence. He still carries a lot of weight in the Boat Club, having advised current Captain Joe Calnan on his recent dealings with the Junior Dean. Magee's traditionalism angered some last year, when he opposed many of the proposals for pinks (the University's highest award for sport). He can often be heard ranting in Neds of Townsend Street.



Now in stereo

Brendan McGuirk is the only person to come in lower this year than last. After making TFM known around College (if not listened to), McGuirk searched for the bigger and better challenge: he landed on the role of CSC Secretary. In keeping of in this year's theme of former society officers fading away into CSC officers, McGuirk tends to sit quietly through meetings. His big project this year has been the new music magazine *Analogue*. McGuirk rates a 2 for spending power this year, as he only has the budget of any mem-

ber of the CSC Executive (and let's be honest, they all tend to nod and agree to Steamroller Joe). He rates a 3 for profile; most would know his name by now and even perhaps read *Analogue* (despite the fact that if you're not a die-hard indie music fan, it can be difficult to understand). Finally has 3 for influence, as the extent of his power is to recommend that your society be recognised by the CSC or writing up your mate's band in *Analogue*. Luckily for this Senior Sophister Medicinal Chemistry student, he has a good degree to fall back on.



No Flash, just fizzle

Ruth Faller, Trinity's second largest student society, featured at number 25 last year. The Galway girl is on a sabbatical from her Law degree so she can concentrate all her attention on the University Philosophical Society. She stood unopposed for the position of President last year, and featured at number 25 on our Power List. Faller presided over perhaps the most successful Freshers' Week any society has

even seen, attracting over 2,500 new members and taking in revenue of almost €20,000, which awards her a spending power of 8. Guests included Oscar-winning actress Dame Helen Mirren, and Smiths guitarist Johnny Marr. In November, Faller entertained the controversial one-legged Heather Mills to a packed Chamber. Following this everything fell apart. The Panel wonders whatever happened to the promise of Naomi Campbell, Harrison Ford or even Jade Goody? Perhaps an interview with Brian Cowen

might have given Faller some respect. Her year may be aptly characterised by the words "premature ejaculation." Faller scores 3 for influence; after all, no one really knows who she is, and she hasn't done anything either. She also managed to cause herself a few problems with the Central Societies Committee, who certainly weren't happy that she skipped off to Florida when she should have been presenting her grant application. Many of her Council are said to be disappointed or disillusioned with the society. This is despite

the fact that Faller has more MC's (for the uninitiated, these are the "Members of Council", chiefly responsible for glass-cleaning) than those before her. She scores a 3 for profile, not a patch on her predecessors. Faller hit the headlines only once this year, when she was criticised for distasteful comments towards Jews in her Philander magazine. Although she is credited with bringing debating back from a lads' club that entertained page 3 girls and porn stars, didn't she do that last year? Frankly, the Panel expected more of Faller.



College's mammy

Welfare is that notorious position which appears to not do much. Previous Welfare Officers have rarely ventured beyond the confines of House 6 and have found the "big push Union weeks" difficult to commandeer. Faulkner, who proved throughout her campaign she was one of those "strong woman" types, has been an exception.

As an erstwhile Trinity News section editor (for National News), of course, we necessarily find Ms. Faulkner quite lovely.

And few College students would refuse a wholesome Mass-reading wench bearing condoms. All round wife-figure, Faulkner is endearingly described by one Union insider as "the Mammy of the Students' Union".

Faulkner's spending power is a paltry 2, although she herself admits that "SHAG banners aren't that expensive". Her profile, as mentioned above, is a strident 5; it is difficult to ignore a presence as great as Faulkner's. Her influence of 4 reflects a close relationship with the Man Himself (no, not Jesus - that'd be Andrew Byrne), as she is a fully paid-up member of the History mafia.

This year has seen campaigns

for Mental Health and SHAG weeks of a profile never before achieved, for which Faulkner should congratulate herself. However, her greatest achievements are probably her dedication to individual casework, something that goes unnoticed by most but must be mentioned here. Faulkner is swift and helpful in her correspondence, often spending long days sifting through mind-numbingly dull documents in search of grants, aid and, well, welfare.

She is a straight-talking, dedicated lady with an agenda to push and she knows how to push it. Hats off (or should that be, hats on?) for Úna Faulkner.

Pulled no punches

Sam Chappatte has had a decent year, despite holding the office that is the pothole of Halls JCR President. He might be Swiss, but his diplomacy skills wouldn't bear this out. It's usually a good idea to keep in with the Phil,

Hist and Ents, but he has messed these guys around big time in the past year. The JCR has a budget of €50,000 and this nets him a 5 for spending power (God knows what they do with it all, since most Halls residents quite understandably wonder frequently where on earth their money goes). The fact that the Halls

JCR possesses scarce influence within Halls and that Chappatte has landed himself in the bad books of most of this year's Power List, means that he gets a paltry 3 for influence. JCR president, his boxing achievements and his dashing good looks combine to get him a respectable 5 for profile.



The man who will be King

This man is the Brain behind the Boobs. While Ruth Faller, President of the Phil, might have made a bit of a hash of her year off-books, Barry Devlin, Faller's Secretary, has quietly worked away at the society's Thursday night debates, which have been well-attended both in terms of crowds and guests.

It's no secret that Barry is already President-Elect in the Phil. He had already secured this, however, long before the upcoming Election/Coronation season in the GMB. More than one Panellist has speculated that

he might already have some top guests lined up for his year already.

Barry gets a 4 for spending power, due to the fact that the Phil has lots and lots and lots of dosh. He cuts a distinctive profile with his Dylan Moran-esque drunken intellectual charm (he is also a scholar of this hallowed College, with more brain power than both of Faller's assets combined) which earns him his 5 for profile. In addition he holds a coveted spot on the CSC, and keeps the Hacks sweet with his frequent contributions to this paper. His influence rating of 3 might seem a bit low, but this will surely rise in the year to come.





The rock

Dear wee Bartley defied all the hacks' expectations when he was elected to Education Officer of the Students' Union, largely trading on the helpful timing of the new "rock the vote" omnipresent slogan around campus (thank you, Mr. Hickey). The vote was rocked, and Bartley duly entered office, promising

everything from more libraries to note-sharing and even, could you believe it, timetables. Another set of well-worn election promises seem to have finally come through in Rock's year, which is why he finds himself at number 4 in the list.

Rock scores a mere 3 for spending power, but he would contend this matters little, as he has managed to score big with the birds. Shock and horror rippled through the cynics as

Rock found females were, contrary to previously held belief, attracted to him.

Rock's profile is a respectable 6; it is hard to miss his quick trot around the vicinity of the College. Rock has what few others possess: all-consuming hack-power. Indeed, wherever he trots, he becomes a hack. Rumours of USI electioneering were confirmed, as Rock now prepares himself to step up to the national plate.

With an influence score of 8, Rock pulls himself ahead of the herds. Having lost several elections in his time (but who hasn't?) he has excelled himself in the office of education. In spite of being said to be too quick to fall in step with the College line and described by one co-worker as "not so helpful with casework"; Rock seems to be a do-er. Library hours? You got 'em. Timetables? No sweat.

Hacks may scorn him, but

Bartley Rock has, where so many have not, really come through for the students. Of course, there will always be those nay-sayers who pick holes in policies and allege he has other motivations. Despite this, we have very much to thank Mr. Rock for. As other Education Officers melt into the mists of time, Rock is one who will be remembered for years to come as someone who achieved the beginning of great things for students.

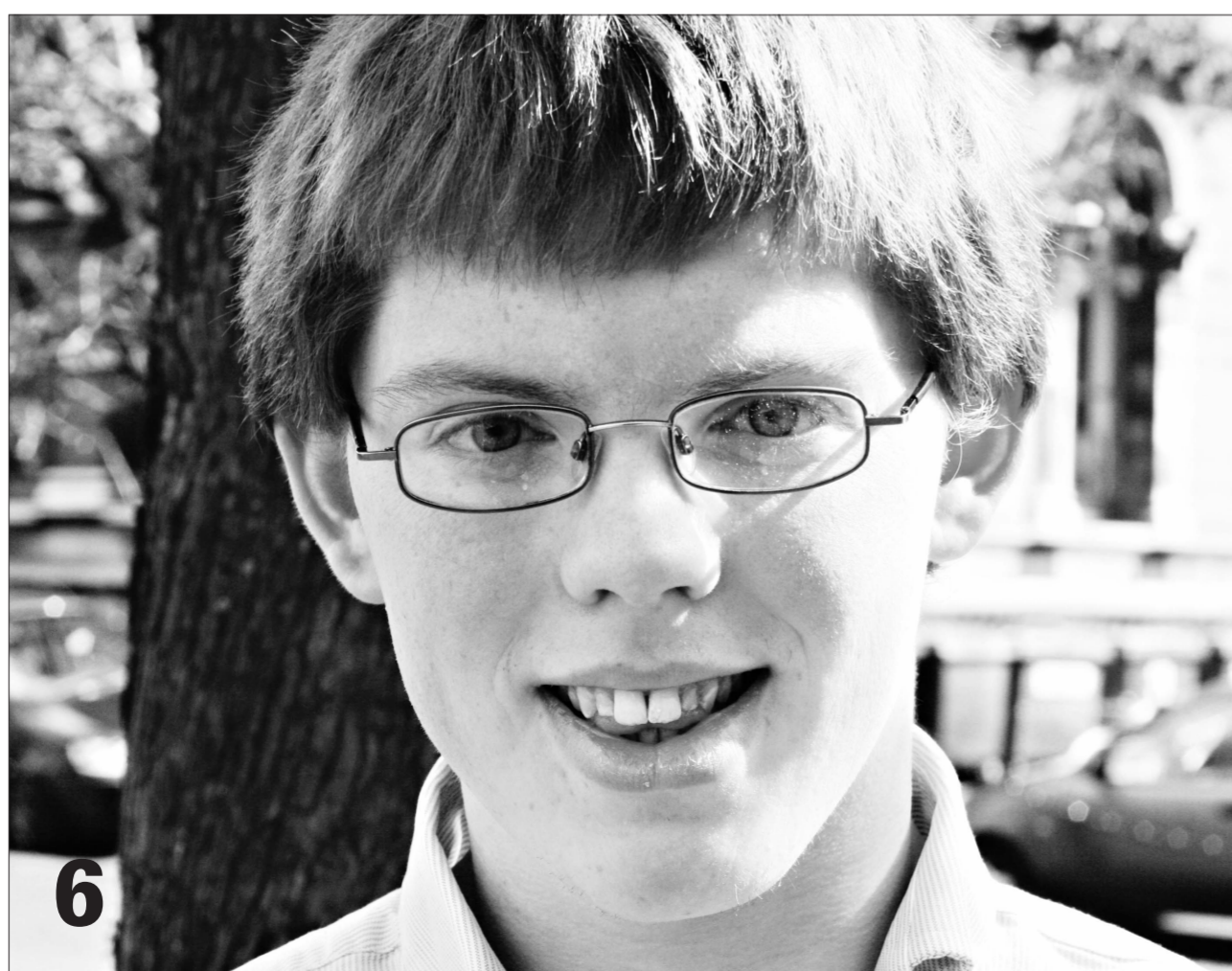
All bark, bark bark but no bite

Tim Smyth, Auditor of the Hist and Member of CSC Exec, has led his society into probably the most successful year in quite some time. That being said, comparative years were disasters. Smyth quietly stepped away from the James O'Brien-shaped-mess and managed to reunite the society. Guests such as FW De Klerk, the Burmese PM in exile and John Major gave Smyth an edge over his counterparts in the Phil. Ian Paisley was perhaps his biggest coup. Smyth's profile sits

at a respectable 5, as he can often be seen cantering across Front Square of bellowing into his mobile, complete with West-Brit nasal tones. It's hard to believe this boy is from salt of the earth Kells, Co. Meath. He is, however, a true blue blood Protestant. Smyth made a name for himself this year as perhaps the most difficult person to deal with. Friends were lost and many enemies made. Instead of playing Mr. Nice guy like his predecessors O'Brien and Cathal McCann, Smyth took everyone on from his colleagues in the CSC, The SU, JCR, The Phil and Trinity News. Smyth

took particular offence to his appearance in the Evelyn Tent column. At the same time as racking up enemies, Smyth made an undertaking not to bring any controversial guests to the College and seemed to court the friendship of Junior Dean, Emma Stokes. He has also enjoyed some cordial relations with the Auditrix of the Law Society.

Despite also sitting on the CSC Exec, Smyth's influence is only a 3. Too much blustering doesn't get you far. Spending is a respectable 6, given he is in charge of one of the biggest student society budgets.



Reserved

Gaffney made the list last year due to his stellar performance as Phil Secretary, but has pulled away from the society somewhat this year.

Gaffney is a Maths student. He wears glasses and dresses like a civil servant, in fact, some people refer to him affectionately as the Martin Manseragh of Trinity College, or for those of you who share his interest in the series Yes, Minister, he is Sir Humphrey Applebee. He currently holds the position of Treasurer of the CSC. Last year, Gaffney was the man in the shadow behind Phil president Daire Hickey and is a

quiet individual. Words are carefully chosen and advice delicately dispensed. His profile is a 3, as he's well-known within the GMB and House 6.

His influence of 5 is reflective of his position as Treasurer of CSC, the gatekeeper to some serious funds. Despite being a man of principles, one CSC Exec member confirmed suspicions that Ed just rubber stamps for Joe O'Gorman. As a HMC of the Phil, Gaffney still holds some power. He sits on the society's Constitutional Review Committee and is a close confidant of President Ruth Faller. The Panel agrees Gaffney's happy to still be involved in College life and CSC is essentially his retirement home.

Can the real Andrew please stand up?

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Coming in at number two is Students' Union President Andrew Byrne. Byrne might be a bit disappointed to be taking up the same spot as David Quinn, who came in second last year. Despite this, no one has any doubt that Byrne has done a better job. Speaking to one *Trinity News* staffer, he talked of a 78% satisfaction

rating that the Students' Union got in a survey they ran, and claimed that this means he got 78% satisfaction, and therefore, everyone just loves Andy. (If he uses this reasoning in his academic work, you wonder how he ever got Schols.) The Union has had a decent year; but whether you can put all this down to one person is a different matter. Bartley, Ed and Úna have all done lots of spade work in their respective jobs and it would really be awfully unfair for Byrne to claim all the credit. He can claim some of it, though.

Longer Library opening hours and exam timetables in April might seem like minor achievements, but College bureaucracy is a notorious minefield. What are minor changes for Trinity's peers worldwide are major ones here due to the backward, inept and inefficient administrative structure of Trinity. It is not a huge exaggeration to say that the Union is really running to stand still. On paper (specifically, on his CV), Byrne seems to have ticked all the boxes. Scholar in History and

Politics, Secretary of CSC, Chair of Trinity Greens, MC of the Hist, the list goes on and on. He seems to be the ideal career politician, having his sights on working in the Union when his five years in Trinity are up. Andy is a Really Nice Guy; but a bit too nice, if you ask the Panel. He comes across as just a bit fake and the hacks, and many others, will always wonder what his real motives are. Andy scored a 7 for spending, since the Students' Union has a good bit of (your) money to play around with, and Byrne also claims to have

complete control of discretionary spending. He loses out to Number 1 on this measure, since Ents has an incredibly profitable year. The 7 for Profile comes from his ability to spam all 12,000 Undergraduates weekly with whatever he so fancies, and just by virtue of being President, people will more likely than not know who you are. Finally he gets an 8 for influence, coming from his from his automatic right to sit on almost every committee including the College Board, the highest of them all.

"Nice" can get you places

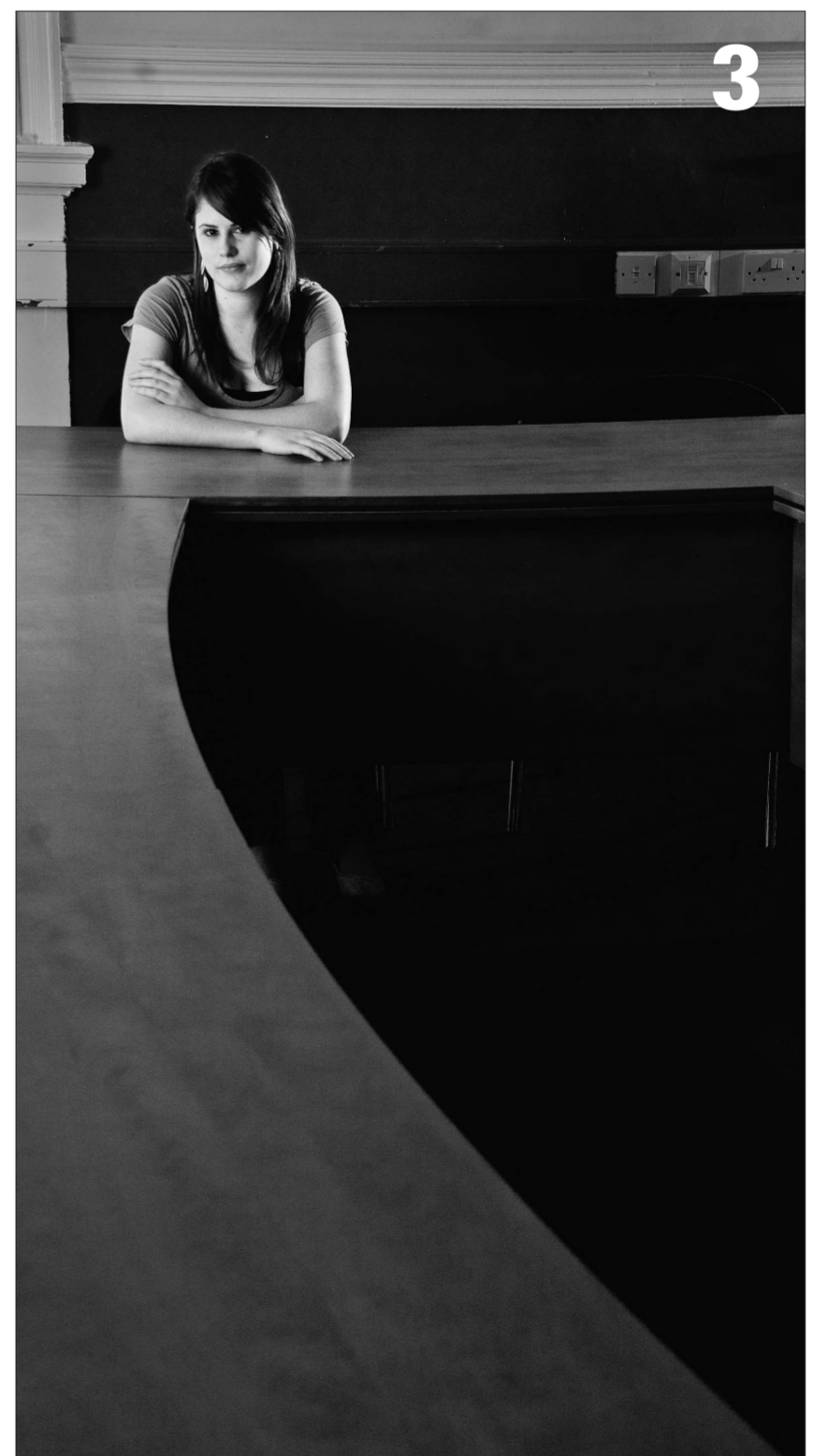
Everyone's favourite society girl, Sophie comes in as the number 3, just pipping last year's CSC Chair Kat Sheane, who made it to 4. Davies should hold a lot of power by virtue of her position as Chair of the Central Societies Committee. She has risen to this spot mainly by being a nice person. Really, really nice. Don't mistake this girl for being a pushover, though; Davies is pretty even handed and even has a bad side to get on. Just ask Afro Caribbean or the Phil, who got their funding slashed this year. She's even had a run in or two with the man behind the throne, Joe O'Gorman (CSC Honorary Treasurer) and CSC Executive colleague Conor McQuillan. How do we know this? Well, Davies is a bit of a gossip. Davies defies the Hamilton Block stereotype by actually engaging with the College. The Junior Sophister Maths student shunned the Hamilton last year and is now firmly at home in House 6.

She plays the flute for the Trinity Orchestra and chaired the society last year. Despite increasing the society's funding, she was still an outsider in what is an unbelievable clique. She also edits the Societies' page for this fine publication, which has gained her some considerable favour with the smaller societies which she has championed through the paper and CSC.

The panel have given Sophie a pair of 7s for Spending and Influence. This comes from being a genuinely nice person and from her position in the CSC and its massive €250,000 budget. O'Gorman holds most of the sway over this (he even pays himself €30,000 from it and kept everyone in the dark about this until last month), but Davies has proved herself willing to stand up to the man, something none of her predecessors ever did. One wouldn't want to overstate this, as O'Gorman needs taking down a peg or two. O'Gorman is also an impediment to any real influence Davies could have in the CSC. After all, he is the man with the real power, even if that's not what the Constitution might say.

Chair of CSC garners her another 7 for Profile. Seen at every party in College from the smallest to the biggest, Sophie also managed to get herself featured in a number of newspapers just a few weeks ago. The all-round good girl found herself at the end of a fist when travelling home to her Northside residence last year. Poor Sophie's bloody face made the *Sunday Independent*. Davies is a friend of Students' Union President Andrew Byrne and also dates David Rickard, former Secretary of the Scholars Committee and the Frisbee Team.

We wish Sophie the best of luck in her re-election as CSC Chair. The panel's money is on Sophie not to run unopposed. We wonder where she'll feature on next year's list?



3

PullOut

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15. The Dublin University's Literary Society's largest event by an order of magnitude this year was a visit by a Heineken-wielding, cigarette-rolling D. B. C. Pierre. After enlisting the help of the audience with his new novel, in progress, the action moved to Doyle's.

16. Ents officer Ed O'Riordan (left of catwalk) admires part of the casual wear collection modelled at Trinity's Next Top Model in January.

17. Eternal student Matteo (Masahiso) Matubara, known popularly as "Matt the Jap" to students, died of natural causes in his home off Mount Street, aged 73. He was found by Gardaí on 20 November, shortly after 9 am., after food outside his door was left untouched for a number of days. The Gardaí contacted Matt's niece Akiko through the Japanese embassy and she flew to Ireland to identify the body.

18. A visit by Jonny Marr to the Phil, guitarist for the Smiths and Modest Mouse, was part of a lacklustre year for the debating society that was marked as much by the absences of promised guests such as Naoimi Campbell and Harrison Ford as it was by the presence of Heather Mills, on the same night that the Hist brought John Major to College.

19. Students' Union presidential candidate and JCR grand poobah Rob Donohue revealed some genuinely promising election pledges despite his jokey image.

20. Staff photographer Mark Carroll plucked up his courage in a graveyard to produce this photo-illustration for TN2's feature on how to survive if you find yourself in a Hollywood horror film.

21. One lucky Trinity Hall resident got more than he bargained for at his birthday party in Halls last September, with fire alarms, robbery, mass evacuation and a 35-year old (allegedly transsexual) stripper. One of the young Team-Englanders got a bit trigger happy and coated the common room with foam from one of the fire extinguishers, which could potentially have suffocated everyone present. It is unclear what happened next, though a wallet and 250 euros was stolen, one guy vomited on the floor and another urinated on himself.

22. USI President Richard Morrisroe resigned following a motion of no confidence at the USI National Congress in Galway in October. In an interview with Trinity News, Morrisroe said he felt his ousting was "completely political" and "absolutely disgusting".

23. Dublin University Football Club in action against visiting Malone from Belfast in College Park. The home side lost 9-32 on the beautiful sunny Sunday afternoon.

24. "Liffey Larry", a visiting Erasmus student from Finland who did not want to be name lest he had broken any potential administrative regulations by undertaking a guerilla-style swim in the Liffey to raise funds for Players' Freshers' Co-op.

25. Outgoing First Minister of Northern Ireland, Dr. Ian Paisley regards one of the original copies of Declaration of Independence in the Old Library, during his visit to the Graduates Memorial Building this year.

26. In Joe Duffy's day, the mantra was 'Fight the first cut'. This year, appeasement has been in vogue. Students' Union president Andrew Byrne prides himself on having built up cordial relations with the senior College administration. However, with the Student Union actively supporting controversial College policies, such as restructuring, semestrisation and a new student levy one, wonders if Andy is quite sure what team he is playing for.

27. Dame Helen Mirren poses for photographs in the Phil Council Room. Mirren's visit marked the high point of the Phil's calendar and showed much promise for the year to come. The event itself was greatly oversubscribed and Mirren delivered an interview arranged in topic from her own acting career to the importance of strong women in society.

28. Enda Kenny, lands some punches while visiting the young Fine Gael stand during Freshers' Week. A member of the Young PD's present but not pictured was heard to comment, 'It's a pity he couldn't land any during the General Election.'

29. Junior Dean and Registrar of Chambers, Dr. Emma Stokes. At the beginning of this academic year, Trinity News set about compiling file photos of senior college staff including the Senior Dean, the Senior Tutor, the Dean of Students, et al. Though emailed in October, Dean Stokes has yet to reply to our invitation. We await the opportunity to photograph this pillar of College society with great, yet patient, expectation. Photographs can be arranged by emailing photos@trinitynews.ie.

Staff photographers: Brian Martin, Caroline O'Leary, Conor O'Kelly, David Adamson, Dave Molloy, Dominique English, Emer Groarke, Jessica Pakenham-Money, Madeleine Carrouée, Mark Carroll, Martin McKenna, Rachel Kennedy, Stephan Hügel, Tom Gillespie.



MARTIN MCKENNA



EMER GROARKE



MARTIN MCKENNA



DAVID ADAMSON



OFFICE OF THE JUNIOR DEAN

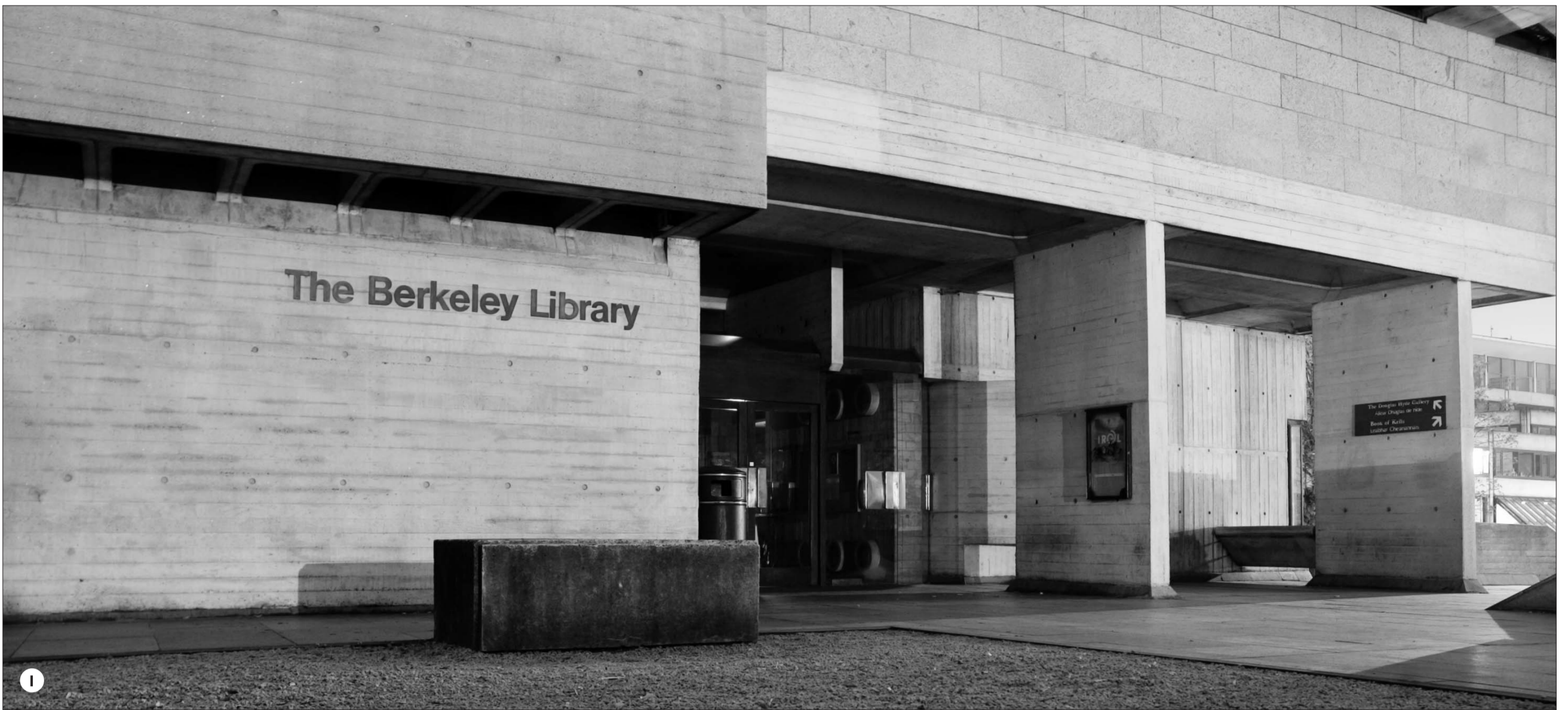


MARK CARROLL



MARK KEARNEY

PullOut



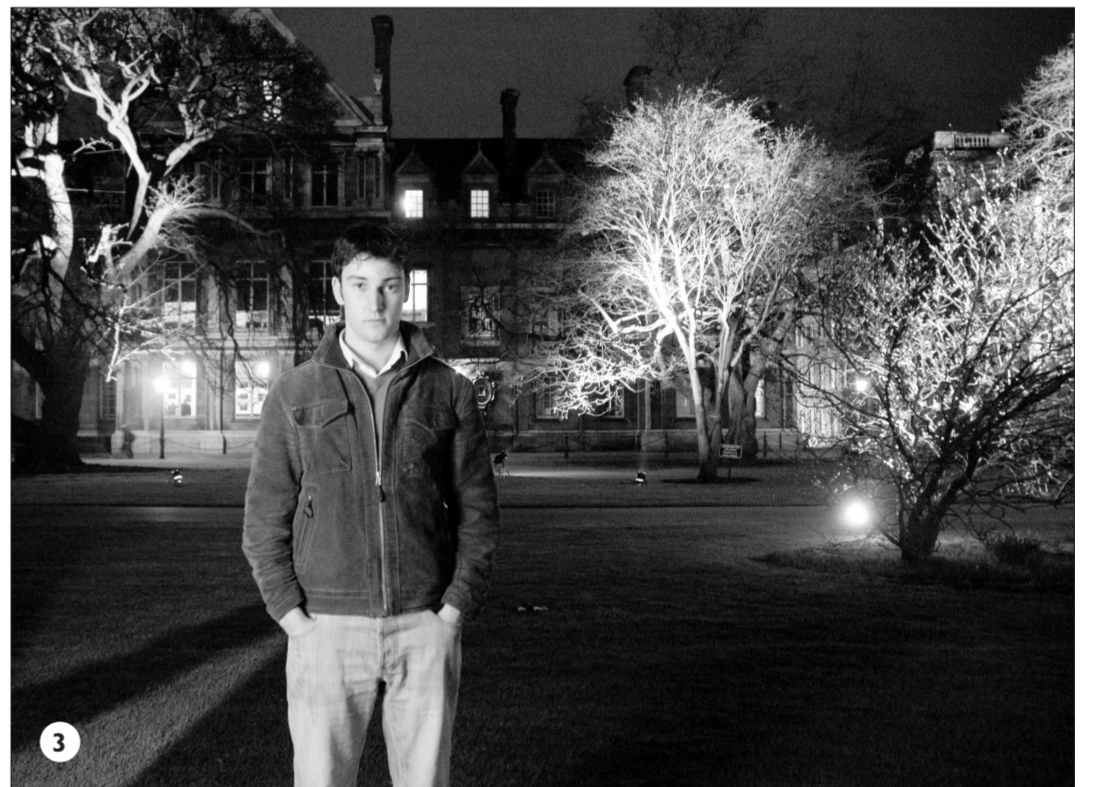
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MARTIN MCKENNA



2

JESSICA PAKENHAM-MONEY



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MARTIN MCKENNA



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MARTIN MCKENNA



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MARTIN MCKENNA



4

MARTIN MCKENNA



5

MADELEINE CARROUEE

PullOut

'07

'08

The year as seen by Trinity News staff photographers



MARTIN MCKENNA



BROCHURE COURTESY OF CHURCH OF GOD

1. The Sunday opening hours secured for the Berkley Lecky Usher complex was a significant achievement for the Students' Union, though as always it was tempered by conditions; there were no counter services and the Hamilton and John Stearne Libraries stayed closed.

2. Dublin University Hockey Club and Dublin University Ladies' Hockey Club sent nine teams to UCD for this year's Colours at which the hosts were ultimately victorious. The Ladies' 1st XI were engaged in an incredibly tight game that finished 4-3 to UCD, with goals from Rebecca Murphy, Maebh Horan and Claire Hearndon. Après hockey, with hotel management complaining of loutish behaviour, the teams were unceremoniously kicked out at midnight.

3. Despite topping Trinity News opinion poll, Eoin Moore failed to beat science kid Cathal Reilly to the Students' Union presidency.

4. Amid the hallowed stones of Christ Church Cathedral, the string section of Dublin University Orchestral Society prepare to dazzle audiophile and philistine alike with their celestial rendition of Dvorak favourites in November.

5. The LGBT wisely added spotlights to their photocall scheduled after sunset, but failed to foresee that a dispute would arise when members of College Security claimed that prior permission had not been sought to hold the event in Front Square. The LGBT responded with chanting and singing and a standoff ensued. Luckily the Honorary Treasurer of the CSC, Assistant Junior Dean, Strategic Development Officer of the CSC, Chorister of the Chapel Choir, Chapel Crucifer, Department of Philosophy Lecturer, Secretary of the Dublin University Far Eastern Mission, Mr Joseph O'Gorman (M. Phil, M.A. 1988), pictured, was on hand to bring his sobering influence to bear before events escalated too far.

6. Sam Chappatte had his eye on the talent on display at the Dublin University Amateur Boxing Club's annual "Brawl in the Hall" in the exam hall on January 16th.

7. Students' Union Education Officer Bartley Rock has had a visible year of education-related success -- exam timetables arrived on schedule and the BLU library opened on Sundays. Having graduated this year, he will take up the position of Education Officer of the USI for which he was uncontested.

8. Admiral of the Dublin University Boat Club, Gabriel McGee, looks forlorn with the surgically vandalised boats (with one end severed, to his left) in storage in the boathouse in Islandbridge. The damage occurred while the boats were on a trailer during one of the boat club's trips over the Christmas season.

9. The "Church of God", which Trinity News revealed had begun recruiting members of the college community to their faith, believes that their founder, Ahnsanghong, is the reincarnation of Christ. The Church was less than pleased with the free publicity they received from Trinity News' front page story on the matter, threatening in no uncertain terms to take the matter all the way to the top -- the Provost, that is, not God. Trinity News was happy to assist them with this, directing them to no. 1 Grafton Street. Despite dire warnings, we can only assume the locusts have been lost in the post.

10. The sleek new Buttery was being finished mere days before Freshers' Week started when Trinity News was given a tour of the facility by Eugene McGovern of College Catering, who said he wanted to distance the Buttery from its previous "greasy spoon" image.

11. A 35-year lease to the Wright Group promises €9.5 million for the College to develop the currently criminally underused Foster Place into a two-storey bar and restaurant complex with room for the School of Linguistics, freeing up 500 square metres in the Arts Building.

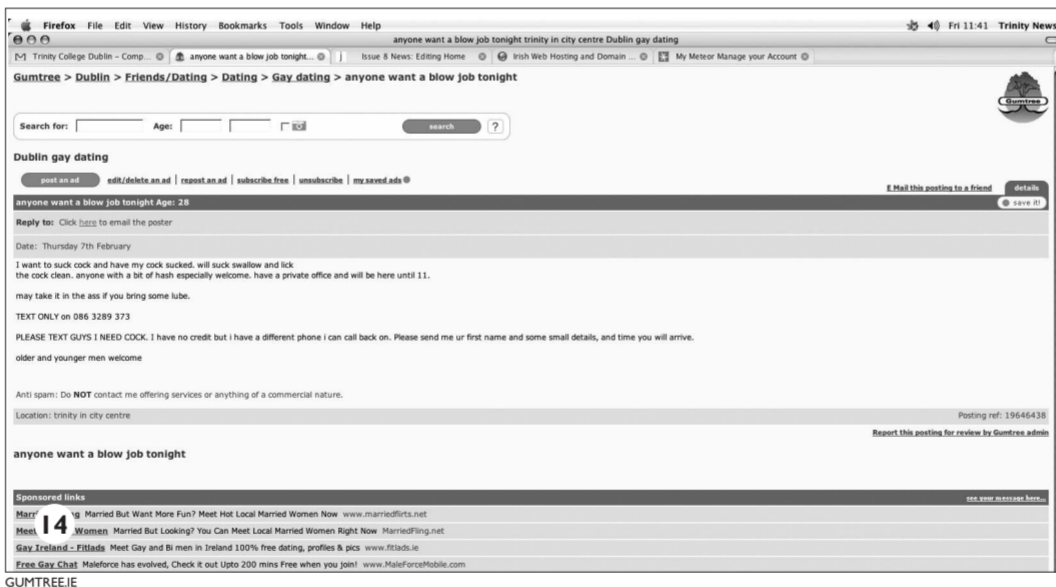
12. A tender moment at this year's Strauss Ball in the Dining Hall.

13. A reveller at Trinity Arts Festival.

14. The now-infamous screenshot from gumtree.ie that gained Trinity its only front page national news story this year, first reported in Trinity News and subsequently blazoned across the front page of the Evening Herald, the "staff sex story" showed Trinity at its stuffiest. The staff member in question is, to the best of our knowledge, still working in Trinity College despite his dalliances. To date, no Garda investigation has been logged.



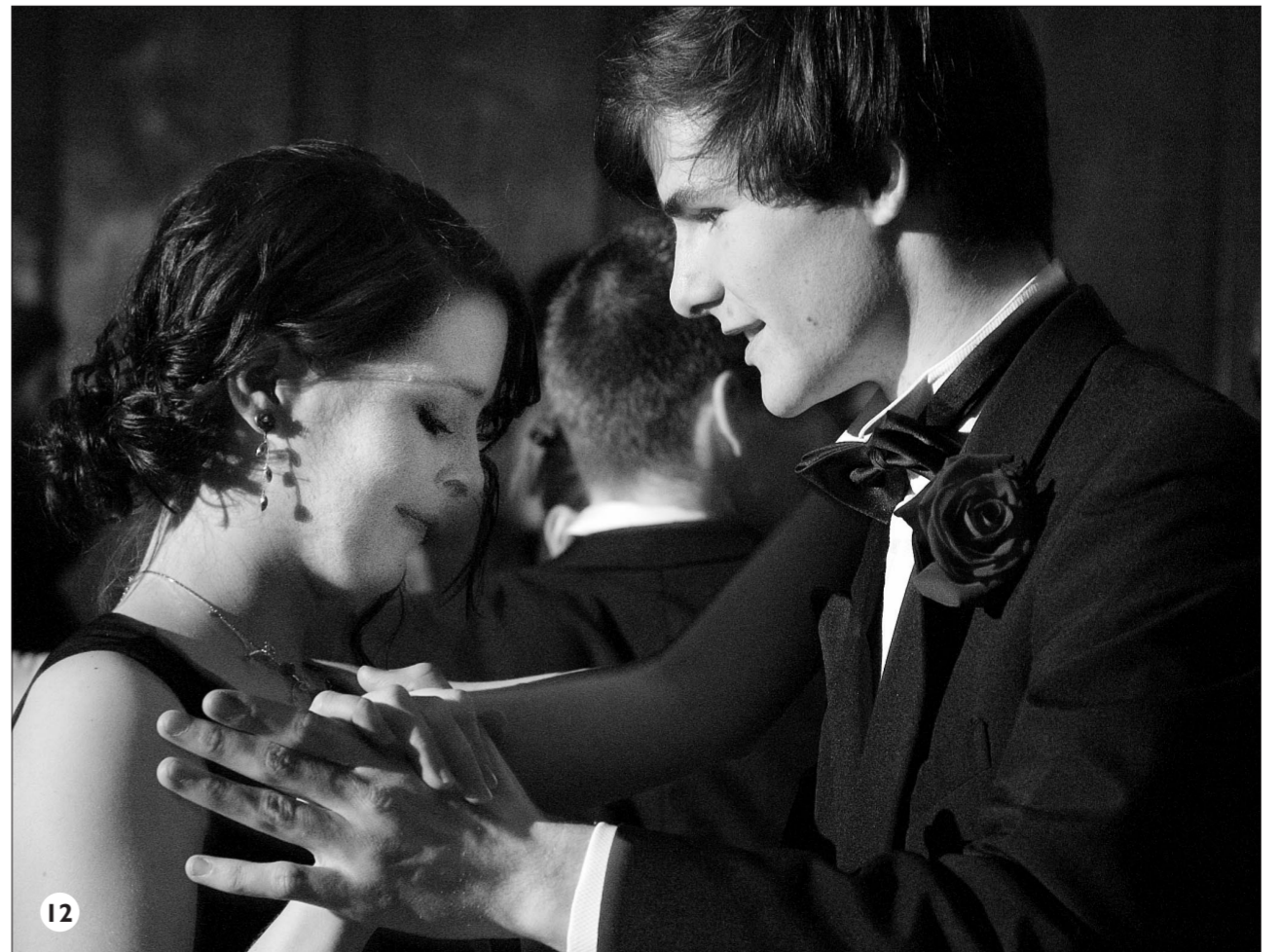
MARTIN MCKENNA



MARTIN MCKENNA



MIKE WAZOWSKI



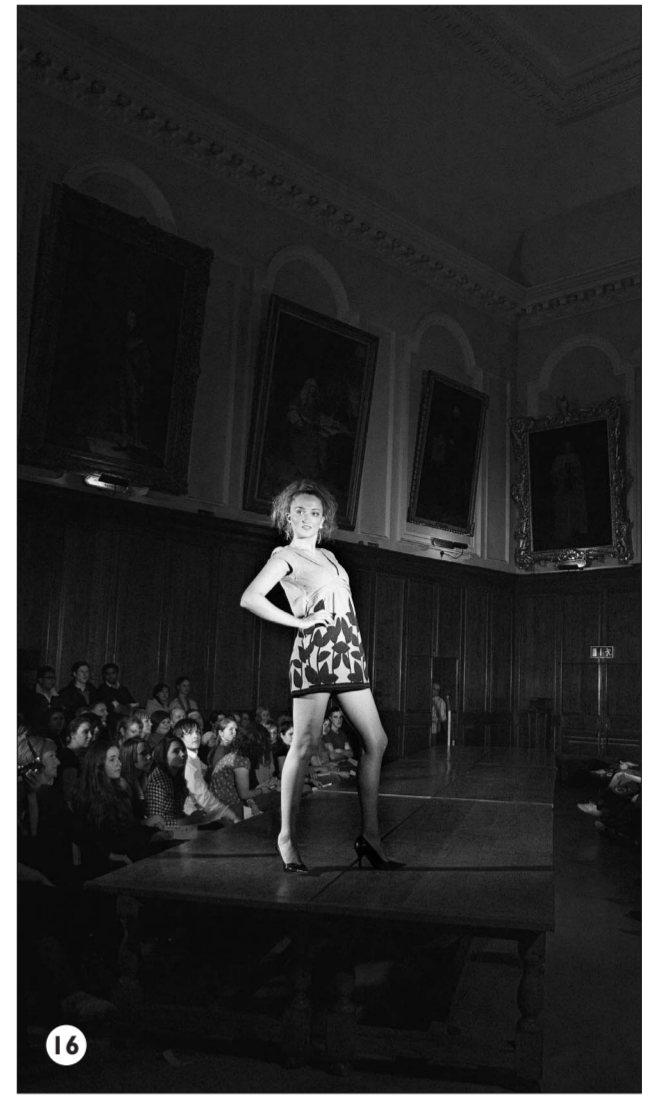
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PullOut



15

CAROLINE O'LEARY



16

CAROLINE O'LEARY



20

MARK CARROLL



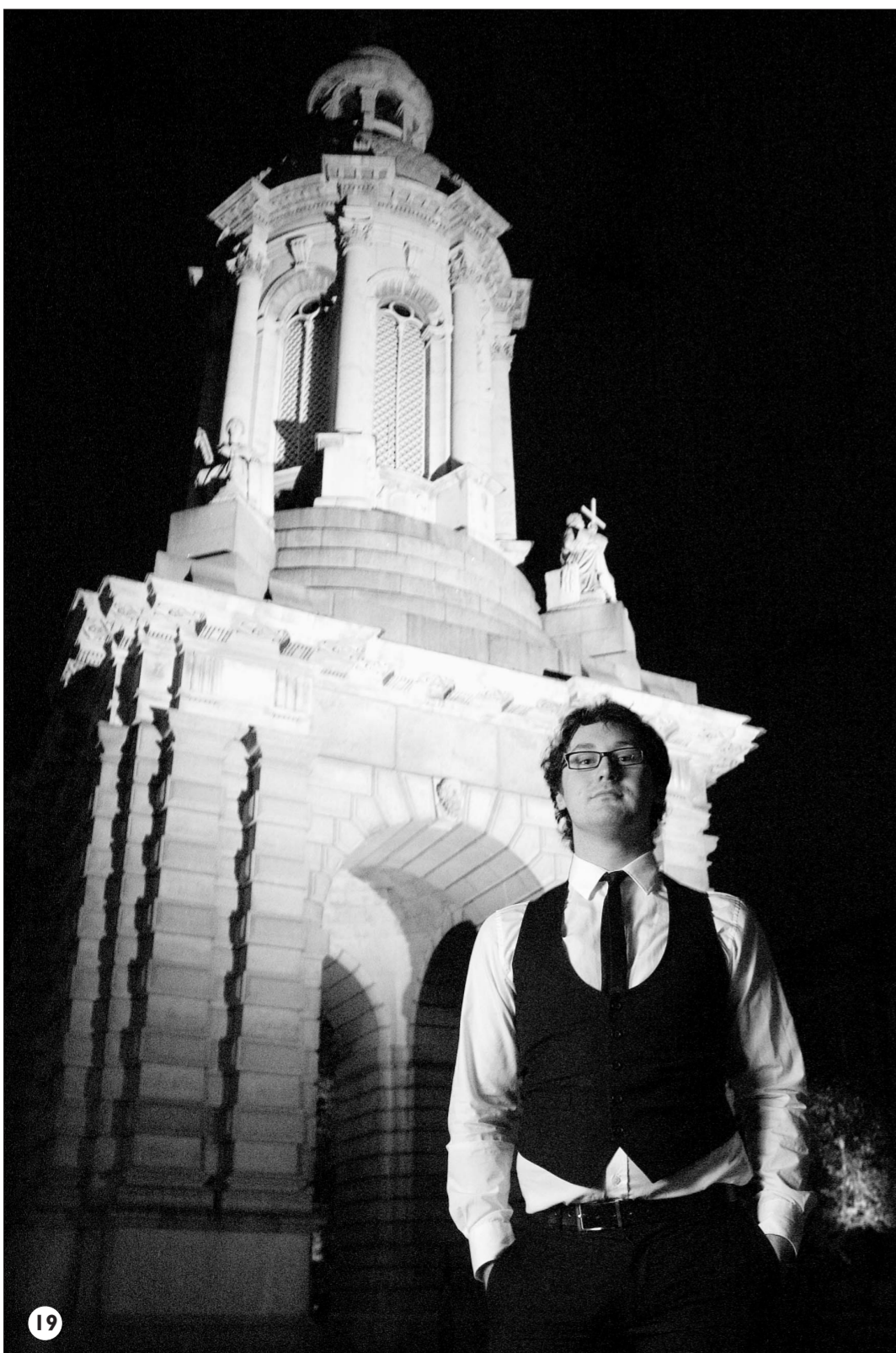
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THOMAS VALENTINE SPENDLOVE



17

SHANE COLWELL



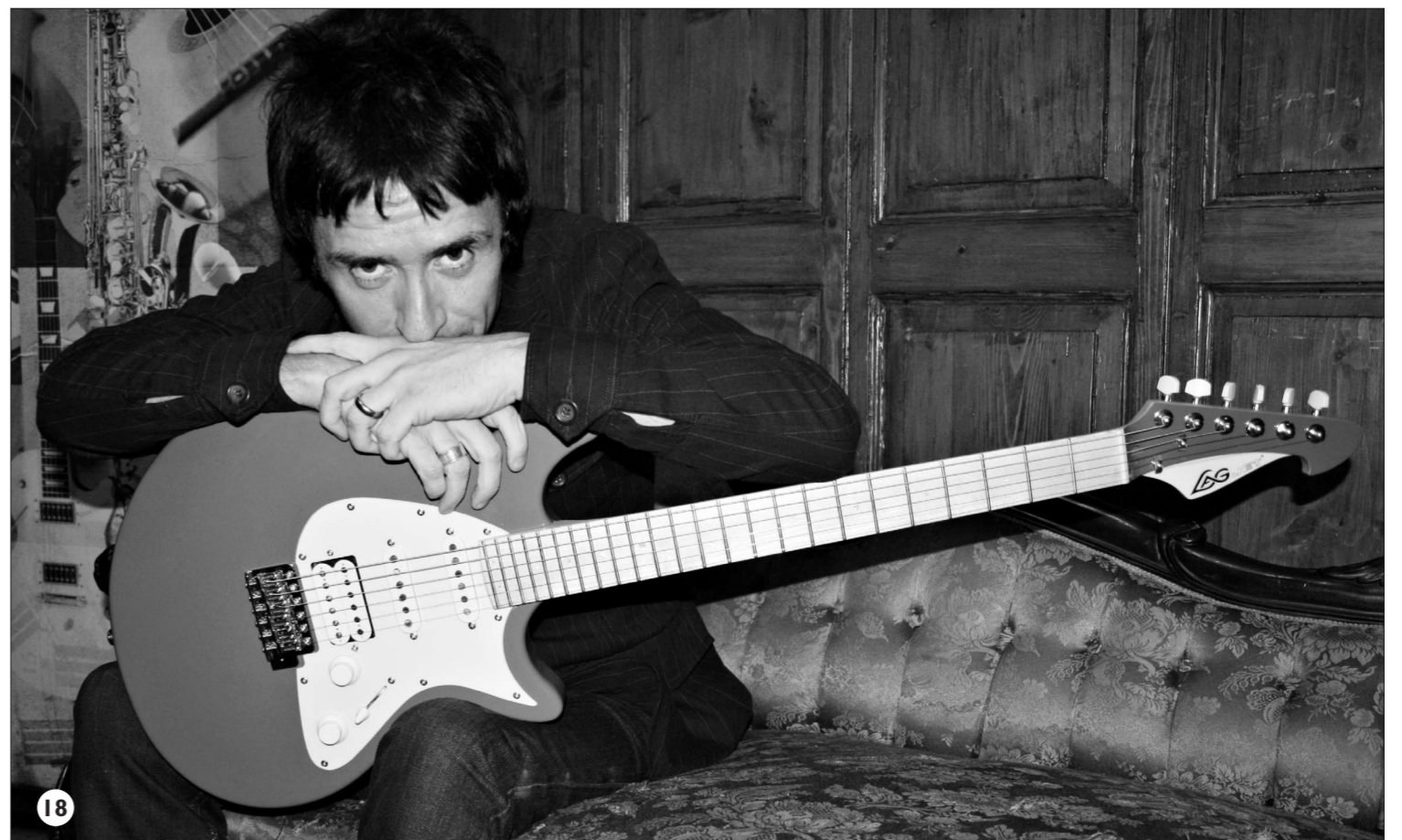
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MARTIN MCKENNA



22

USI



18

DAVID ADAMSON

Getting you twisted every week

Being known by everyone from first year BESS to final year medicine gets O'Riordan to the top slot - what better power over the masses than through their beer glass?

The Limerick boy done good. Ed O'Riordan's rise to the dizzying heights of this year's list are sure to put a twisted smile on his little face. For those who do not know Mr. O'Riordan (definitely in the minority), here's an overview of nuggets we have picked up whilst being allowed, from time to time, to bask in his glowing presence.

O'Riordan is the first person to top this list who has not been regarded as a "hack". He is even more of an oddity in that as an Students' Union Officer and even in the run-up to his election, he was not an Students' Union hack. (Although he did publish one front-page story in *The Record*, a particularly low-point in his career.) O'Riordan is the anti-hack who is also known and loved by hacks. Of course, hosting the biggest and best events in College is sure to make even the most cynical warm to you. O'Riordan controls Trinity through the beer glass and the guest list.

In spite of spending the majority of his time in the company of the most wasted people in Dublin, O'Riordan has managed to secure a reputation as straight down the line – he is very honest and would never embroil himself in the seedy drug-fuelled ventures that have become the hallmark of past Ents Officers. Hailing from Limerick, you would expect him to be a good deal more au fait with the seedy underbelly of a city, but in fact, O'Riordan is more little-boy-lost than gun-toting gangsta. O'Riordan went to Glenstal Abbey, along with former number 1 on the Power List of yore, Paddy Cosgrave – one wonders if there is something in the water there?

Generally well-liked and amiable, O'Riordan is not afraid to speak his mind and has gone against the Students' Union when he thinks his way will reap the more shiny rewards. This finds its repercussions, however. O'Riordan's diplomacy skills are perhaps not quite as top-notch as his party favours, and his blunt-to-the-point approach has got him in trouble with the Students' Union and the other Sabbatical Officers on more than one occasion.

On a more personal note, O'Riordan lives with David

Quinn (however has, to the naked eye, picked up no similar characteristics of the slime-variety), enjoys cheesy pop (who doesn't?) and prefers to go running at night so no one sees him in his running shorts.

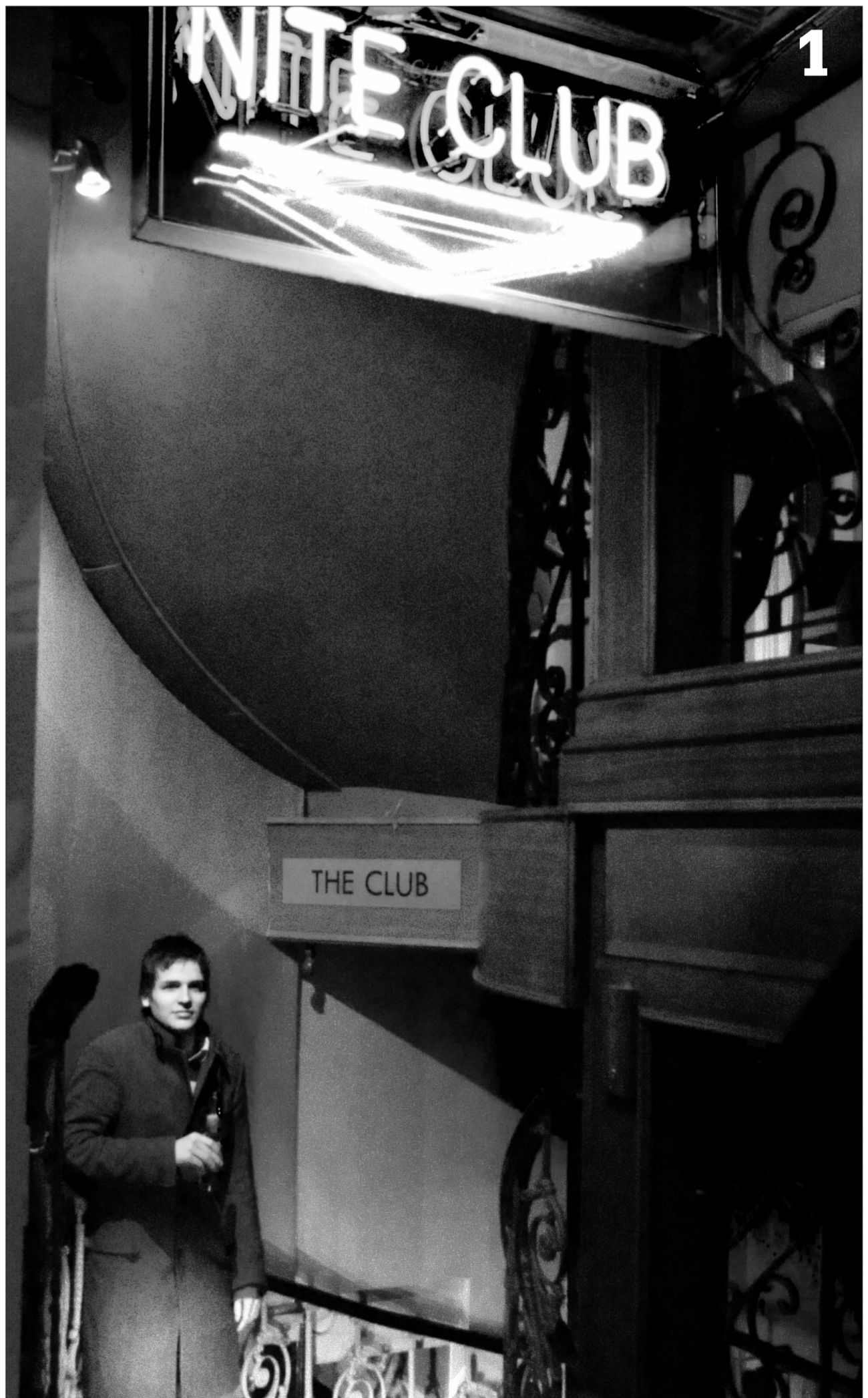
Ed O'Riordan was once the Trinity Hall Ents Officer known to all those Dartry kids, however, he really made his name by co-hosting club nights – predominately in Citi Bar – with old school chum Bobby Talbot. It is said that Ed is the "good cop" to Bobby "Muscles" Talbot. The two-euro drinks at Twisted Tuesdays were a winner for O'Riordan, ensuring that more students piled along to his nights ("rack 'em and stack 'em") than to erstwhile Ents Officer, Barry Murphy's, gigs.

It was not always smooth sailing for O'Riordan, however. His similar club night, Smashed Thursdays, caused a rucus with Mature Enjoyment of Alcohol Society, although there has been speculation that the "anonymous complaint" was in fact lodged by one of O'Riordan's rivals for Ents Officer in the run-up to last year's elections. Similarly O'Riordan is not a fan of College beauracracy and his hobby-horse du jour is the Junior Dean's ability to halt even the most wholesome of plans before they have passed through a forest-worth of paper trails.

This year, O'Riordan was burned by one prominent College society, who withheld once-promised rooms from him for a function. Happily, O'Riordan, ever the pragmatist, had a handy back-hander prepared for the man of the moment, ensuring the night went ahead without (many) hitches.

Surprisingly, the reputation for being a "Ladies Man" has eluded this Ents Officer, although there are rumblings of his indiscretions – the Ents Office has been privy to some amount of action, as have the elevators in Halls and the bathrooms in Citi Bar. (Something to chew on on your next visit).

Commanding an estimated budget of upwards of €50,000 and also bringing in the majority of the Student Union's sponsorship this year, none of Ed's club nights have made a loss yet, which accounts for his hefty 7 in Spending Power. The Students' Union will even make a profit this year, thanks largely to O'Riordan's efforts.



O'Riordan's profile is a whopping 9, mostly due to the fact that social life is pivotal for students and he is firmly behind the machinations of it this year. In addition, he is rarely to be found in his office, preferring instead to spend his days flyering, poster, visiting and generally working jolly hard in the public eye. O'Riordan's influence is 6: this is the year of the party people and he

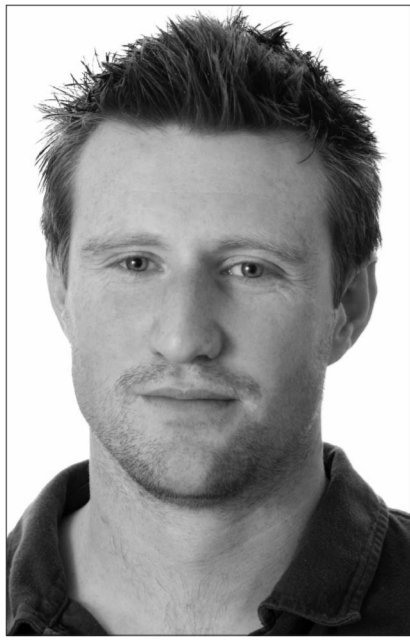
commands the course of the social life of practically every Trinity student.

A part of O'Riordan's success is thanks to his close relationship with Simon Evans, the administrative Officer of the Students' Union. O'Riordan's unsurpassed skills in fundraising have made Evans' job smooth-sailing this year and he is one to respond in kind, allowing the Ents Officer the support he has

needed to back all his ventures.

Other accolades to his name include the fastest selling Trinity Ball in history (it's not often you see a queue around House 6), a successful and well-marshalled Ents Crew and a great right hand man in Mick Birmingham.

Having built College Ents up to its current status, next year's Ents Officer will definitely be starting out with more money than sense.



Timmy Harnedy

Very few Trinity students can claim to be among the world's top athletes, but rower Timmy Harnedy has a silver medal from the World Championships. Harnedy was a member of Ireland's elite lightweight coxless four at the Worlds in Japan, where the crew was less than two seconds off the gold medal. The Botany Bay resident is a Skibbereen Rowing Club man, but this year he will be competing for Dublin University Boat Club, helping the crew towards victory in regattas closer to home. Good friends with the current DUBC Captain Joseph Calnan, some students might remember the amorous encounter between the two at the Students' Union slave auction last year – all for charity, of course.



Eoghan Kerlin

Eoghan Kerlin's brute strength and years of rowing experience make him one of Trinity's top sportsmen and an indispensable asset to the College's senior eight. Kerlin rowed for years at Queen's University of Belfast, before coming to Trinity to study for a master's degree and he has been part of almost every winning Trinity combination since he arrived nearly two years ago. Kerlin has yet to receive the call for Ireland, but his dedicated approach to training and natural aptitude for rowing may see him selected for the Home International Regatta this summer. Northerner Kerlin rows hard, but he is also well known for a healthy approach to socialising and he is a big hit with University College Dublin's beefy ladies.



Johnny Watt

Dublin University Football Club- Johnny Watt has been an integral part of Tony Smeeth's plans ever since he walked through Front Gate in 2004. A talented schoolboy footballer, he was once a member of Glasgow Rangers school of excellence in Belfast. Watt started his rugby career at the Royal Belfast Academical Institution, earning Ulster and Irish schools honours. Now a Senior Sophister Business, Economics and Social Studies student, Watt's performances at fly-half in an ailing Division 2 side have helped to carry his team at times. Closely followed by Max Cantrell and Joe Burns as the side's talisman, an injury cruelly deprived Watt of his final colour's appearance and Trinity of one of their most naturally talented players.



Rebecca Murphy

Dublin University Ladies' Hockey Club - Rebecca Murphy - The Senior Sophister Sociology and Business student is irritatingly talented. An extremely skilled sailor, she recently captained Dublin University Ladies' Hockey Club to their first Leinster Senior Cup final since 1975. Murphy epitomised a team that overachieved against the odds. A recipient of provincial Under 21 honours for her native Munster and her adopted Leinster, Murphy was selected for the Irish Universities' Squad this season. Ably supported by a backing cast that includes Club Captain Vanessa Buckley and Connacht senior player Ciara Murphy, Rebecca Murphy has excelled in her leadership role this year, fully deserving her place.



Ben Hewitt

Dublin University Hockey Club - Ben Hewitt- A captain in a difficult season, Hewitt has worked tirelessly to ensure DUHC had some chance of promotion back to Division 1. Hewitt gained Ulster 16 honours at school before changing provinces as a student, earning Under 21 honours for Leinster. In a club which was often without a coach on the sideline, Hewitt was forced to combine roles, leading both on and off the pitch. A Senior Sophister French and History student, Hewitt's season has been filled with surprising losses and wins. DUHC have been wildly unpredictable. A steady hand on an unsteady boat, Hewitt fully deserves to represent his club on this list.



Sam Chappatte

Dublin University Boxing Club- Sam Chappatte- Featuring twice on the list, Chappatte remains Trinity's great multitasker. In his role as President of Trinity Hall JCR, he has managed to earn his place on the Power List in only his second year. However, his sporting prowess is arguably more impressive. A former rugby standout at St Paul's in London, Chappatte took up boxing on arrival at Trinity. Vice-Captain of the Club this year, Chappatte has revelled in the role; an outstanding boxer, he won the British and Irish Universities Championships.



Bryony Treston

Dublin University Harriers and Athletics Club- Bryony Treston- A Senior Freshman Medicine student, Treston is her club's outstanding representative. Combining one of College's most demanding degrees with her sport, Treston was elected captain of Dublin University Harriers this year. She has dealt with the responsibility with ease; a member of the Irish team at the European Junior Championships, Treston came second in the Celtic Nations varsities cross country championship. A winner at the European Club Championships, Treston is closely followed by the men's captain Simon Taggart-a winner of the varsity 400 title at both indoor and outdoor.



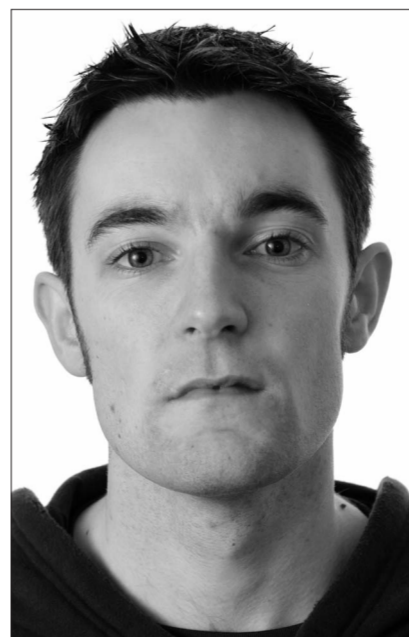
Laura Cremen

Laura Cremen has been practising Tae Kwon Do since she was seven years old and learned to kick before other important concepts, such as how rivers are formed and that the famine was, in fact, bad. Apart from being a central member of the Irish Ladies senior team for the last three years, she has won a silver medal at the European Championships and Gld medals the English Open (twice) and the Spanish Open. Despite her lethal abilities, Laura is a Hufflepuff at heart, enjoying cooking Sunday lunches, baking and yoga. She is testing for her third dan in this September and is tipped by many to be the first female to reach Master rank.



Ciara Aucoin

Ciara Aucoin was on the Irish ladies senior team who won gold at the International Tae Kwon Do Federation's World Championships in August 2007. She has kicked ass in several other competitions, winning medals at the English Open 2007, Irish Intersvarsities and the West Kinsale under 11's "Brawl in the Hall". Learned in languages, Ciara has read Kant's critiques of both pure and practical reason in the original High Dutch. She likes dancing, flower arranging, wearing pretty summer dresses and other such noble feminine pursuits.



Barry Kennedy

Barry Kennedy is a rarity in Trinity. A member of the Dublin senior GAA panel, he is one of the naturally most gifted footballers to ever play for the club. A Junior Sophister physiotherapy student; Kennedy is blessed with raw natural pace and an ability to kick equally well with both feet, helping him to become top scorer this season as full-forward. A man with his talents in demand, Kennedy spent his summer playing football in Boston. Earning Dublin minor honours in hurling, he concentrated on football, coming runner-up in the All-Ireland championship in 2003. He also won a Leinster Under 21 championship in 2005. Moving from his home club of St Mark's GAA club in Tallaght to Trinity, Kennedy has won the Trench Cup and player of the year honours.



TRINITY REGATTA PREVIEW



SATURDAY 26TH APRIL



ISLANDBRIDGE





TRINITY REGATTA PREVIEW



Piers White and Mark Ryder observe some fine rowing by DUBC at the Trinity Regatta in 2003. Photo: Peter Henry

A DAY AT THE RACES

Peter Henry

“The race between Dublin University and Oxford University promises to be the highlight of the day”

Trinity Regatta takes place on Saturday 26th April and you are invited. The Boat Club’s annual rowing tournament has been a fixture on the College social and sporting calendar for 110 years. The event was first held in 1898 and has long been an unmissable day in the Dublin social season. As a day out, Trinity Regatta has been gaining popularity among undergraduates in recent years and this year’s event has plenty to offer the diversion-seeking student.

Trinity Regatta has been compared to the famous Henley Royal Regatta. Henley is on a much larger scale, but Trinity Regatta has the same attractions: a high standard of rowing, beautiful surroundings, and a busy and enjoyable social side to things. But the Dublin event has its own peculiar charms. Everyone at Trinity Regatta has a rowing background or has studied at Dublin University; whichever it is, a friendly and convivial atmosphere exists, which makes for a very pleasant day out. This year, a large entry means races every five minutes during the day, with events ranging from junior women in small boats to top men’s crews racing for the University Grand Challenge Cup for senior eights. Trinity have not won the University Grand since their small-margin victory over Lady Elizabeth Boat Club in 2004 and this year’s powerful eight have high hopes for another glorious win.

The eight will really be out to prove themselves at the home regatta this year. Defeat at the hands of a lucky University College Dublin crew in this year’s Colours race has meant that the men in black and white need a confidence boost – and they’ll be

hoping for some decisive wins at Trinity Regatta in front of the college crowd on the bank. The draw, yet to be made, may pit Trinity against the Belfield boys yet again. If this occurs, then spectators can expect a hard-fought race, with neither side willing to give an inch.

The big one this year, threatening to overshadow the University Grand, is the planned challenge race between Dublin University and Oxford University. This varsity race, generously sponsored by the Central Athletic Club and Department of Sport, will take place just after lunch. This race promises to be the highlight of the day.

Oxford’s Blue boat had a resounding victory over Cambridge in the annual Boat Race on the River Thames in London a few weeks ago and the race against the Oxonians’ world-class boat will be tough. But Trinity have had many unexpected and unlikely victories in the past and with the Dublin men having the home advantage, the Dark Blues may return to England with their tails between their legs.

Along with Oxford University and a host of crews from Ireland, the boat club of St John’s College Durham will be travelling to Dublin to test themselves against this country’s finest oarsmen.

As well as your encouragement from the bank, the Boat Club’s crews are looking forward to having the Provost, Dr John Hegarty, there on the day. British Ambassador to Ireland, Mr David Reddaway, will be a special guest this year. A large turnout from College would be a huge boost for the Club’s crews, which have been training all winter to win some glory for old Trinity.

Socially Trinity Regatta has always been a favourite among students and a

large turnout is expected this year.

When the sun shines, the grass by the towpath in the War Memorial Park is packed with rowing fans and attractive girls. As usual, the Pembroke Bar will be open all day in a marquee by the river and the Boat Club’s own bar will be serving drinks in the club itself. Some people like to bring a picnic and the park with its riverside setting is an ideal place to sit down for some food with a group of friends.

Making it easy for the student socialite, the Boat Club is organising buses from College and Trinity Hall to Islandbridge on Regatta day. Keep an eye on posters around College and on the Facebook group (search for “Trinity Regatta”) for the times of buses.

There is no dress code for Trinity Regatta, but many people like to dress in the spirit of the occasion: blazer and tie for men and pretty summer dresses for the lady undergraduates.

In the evening, when the racing is finished and the prizegiving over, the Club is organising a competitors’ dinner in the Boat Club. Non-competitors, particularly students, are very welcome to stay and socialise in the Boat Club, where the bar will remain open.

A lot of Boat Club men are working hard in advance of the big day, both on the organisational side of things and in preparation for some tough races. You can help too by praying for sunshine. The old Club building and the marquees will protect us from any bad weather, but beautiful weather would really make Trinity Regatta an unforgettable occasion.

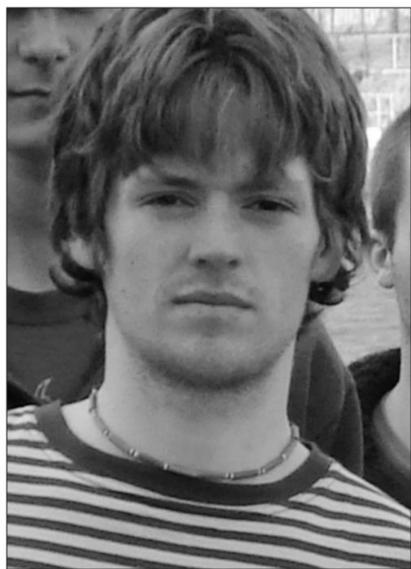
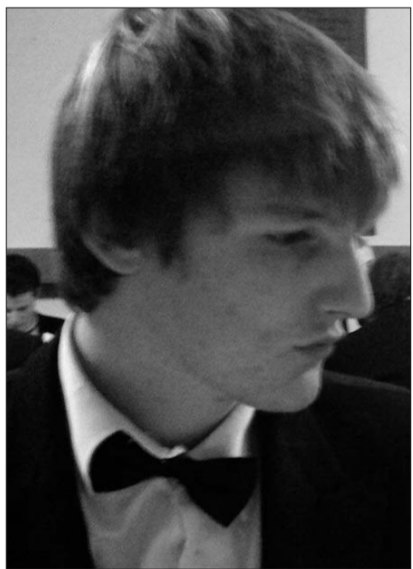
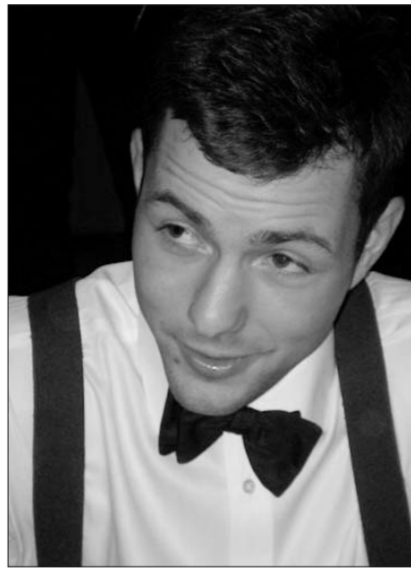
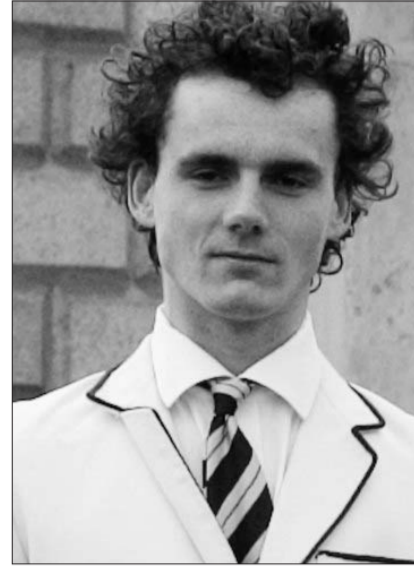
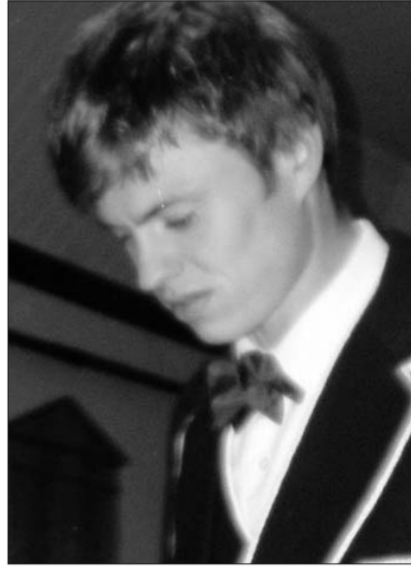
This year’s Trinity Regatta will be a memorable day. Take some time out from the drudgery of study and come and enjoy yourself at Islandbridge!



Top: Some of the members of the undefeated Maiden eight from the Regatta in 1946. Above: DUBC Senior eight, 1950. Current club President Robin Tamplin is pictured third from right. Photos courtesy of Peter Henry.



TRINITY REGATTA PREVIEW



IN THE BLACK AND WHITE BOAT

Peter Henry

With less than two weeks until the race against Oxford University at Trinity Regatta, Trinity's oarsmen are anxiously awaiting the naming of the final line-up. From left to right and top to bottom:

Coach **Mark Pattison**, himself a successful former senior eight man, will not announce the names of those who will race for Dublin University until days before the race, and a large group of students is contending for seats in that boat. The varsity race will be contested by "eights" – racing shells containing eight oarsmen and steered by a cox. More than ten men are training hard, hoping for a spot in the Trinity boat.

Captain **Joseph Calnan**, an Senior Sophister Business, Economics and Social Studies student, has a successful rowing history behind him and is considered a reliable man to have in an eight. Calnan won the schoolboy event at Henley Royal Regatta before coming to Trinity. An Abingdon man, he is friends with Oxford's president and coxswain, Nick Brodie.

Paul Laird is a veteran of the Boat Club's senior eight and the massive amount of power he brings to the boat can never be underestimated. Laird, a Scholar, is extremely strong in tests in the gym, and has valuable experience.

However, unlike previous years, he has not been the top man on the rowing machine. Inconsistent application to training may also be a black mark against Laird in the eyes of the coach.

Seán Osborne always rows well and he has been considered a natural oar since he took up rowing at Trinity. The southsider's smooth rhythm makes him a candidate for the stroke seat. His performance in training leaves little to be desired, but with so much competition, Seán's seat is far from guaranteed.

Black blazer **Henry Tindal** is hard to beat on the rowing machine, and the TSM student has been a lover of Trinity's traditional ideals for years. If the coach places an emphasis on technique for the varsity race, then there is a small chance he could be sacrificed, but the good money is on Tindal sitting somewhere in the powerhouse of the eight.

Sculling supremo **Eoin MacDomhnaill** is the model Trinity oar. Having taken up the sport in College, MacDomhnaill has excelled both in the gym and on the water. He has had a meteoric rise from naïve novice to star senior, but his recent poor health may count against him when it comes to selection day.

Robert Swift has been committed to his

rowing since the day he entered Trinity, but his eloquent bladework has not always compensated for his lack of power. Rowing at school has given Swift a technical edge, but he cannot match the sheer strength of the likes of Laird and Tindal. A possible lack of dedication to land training may be Swift's downfall.

Belvo boy **Gavin Doherty** took up rowing in College, rising quickly through the ranks. His precise oarsmanship has made him sought-after as a stroke man, and he was in the hero seat for Trinity's win at the Erne Head of the River race this year. While Doherty's times on the machine don't match that of some of the heavier crew members, his light weight makes his excellent scores particularly commendable.

Alexander Floyd is new to the Trinity squad, having been the novices' coach in his Junior Freshman year. Floyd has over one year's priceless experience at Eton. However, for a man of his weight, Floyd's time on the rowing machine leaves something to be desired, which may work against his bid for a seat.

There is no doubt that JS Bess student **Timothy Harnedy** is the best oar in Trinity College. The World Championship silver medalist has only recently put himself forward as a candidate for the University's senior eight, but his unmatched rowing

history should see Harnedy in the white shorts, stripy socks and stripy zephyr on Trinity Regatta day. A win would bring Harnedy one step closer to his private goal: the right to wear the famous Boat Club senior blazer.

Peter Heverin is a lover of DU Boat Club's grand traditions. The hopeful youngster has a wealth of experience from his time spent rowing with Clonmel Rowing Club before coming up to Trinity. A consistent winter's training means Heverin will take no prisoners if he makes Trinity's varsity eight.

A heartbreaker off the water, Queen's University of Belfast graduate **Eoghan Kerlin** will be indispensable to the Trinity assault on Oxford. Kerlin has beaten Oxford University in the past and his confidence makes him a prime candidate for the stroke seat. Kerlin stepped right into the Boat Club's senior eight when he came to Dublin to read for his MSc and rowing fans can expect to see him either in stroke or in the big six seat.

Outside bet **Brendan Guildea** has impressed this year in the gym, having rowed in Trinity's best second crews last season. But Guildea's attempt at last year's scholarship examinations may have set back his rowing goals, and he is likely to be on the bank for this race.

Junior Colours man **Paul Dunphy** probably has the edge over Guildea, having performed excellently in the single scull at recent Dublin regattas. The BAI candidate is a dark horse, but his quiet nature conceals an irrepressible will to win. While Dunphy and Guildea have been working hard this year, neither is likely to face Oxford, but they should form the backbone of a strong second eight later in the season.

Long-time MLitt student and Graduate Students' Union Vice-President **Gabriel Magee** is guaranteed his spot in the coxswain's seat – or is he? The committed admiral was ousted by veteran cox Sophia Gold before Henley last year, but he seems set to steer Trinity's finest in the varsity showdown at Trinity Regatta this year.

Whatever the make-up of the final eight, Trinity will have a determined and experienced crew, and the Dark Blues shouldn't approach the race with too much arrogance. The fame of the Oxford-Cambridge Boat Race draws experienced international oarsmen to Oxford every year. But the determined will to win of the Trinity College rowers is extremely powerful and will make this an unforgettable race.

Remember, Oxford: we have good men, not simply good oarsmen.