

COLLEGE THE DIFFERENCE IS WE'RE INDEPENDENT TRIBUNE

ISSUE 3 / VOLUME 19

19.10.05



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THE HARSH MEDIA
REACTION**

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COMPLETE THE GRIDS SO THAT EACH ROW, COLUMN AND 3X3 BOX CONTAINS THE DIGITS 1 TO 9. THE SOLUTIONS WILL APPEAR ON THIS PAGE IN THE NEXT ISSUE.

Drop the solution to Sudoku No.5 (Medium) down to our office in LG18, Arts Block to be in with a chance to win a trip for two to one of An Oige's worldwide hotels



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NOT FOR US MINISTER!

VINNE O'DOWD



EDITORIAL
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UCD students protested against the presence of Minister for Justice, Michael McDowell TD, in UCD stating that he was "not welcome".

The group of students were disingenuously referred to by McDowell as "living in a time warp" as they finished their protest.

The students in question were protesting against the immigration legislation brought into effect by McDowell last year, who was in UCD to attend the historic UCD/PSNI GAA match on Tuesday October 11.

The Minister was escorted by "several Gardaí and campus security people", according to Niall Dolan, 2nd Social Science Class Rep."

Dolan went on to say "about fifteen of us protestors headed out, including three sabbatical officers. We approached him and started talking about the referendum [on immigration, 2004], saying it contravened the Geneva Convention, to which he replied along the lines of 'nobody cares about the Geneva Convention anyway'."

The Class Rep added that "a few people tried to tackle him over the squalid conditions of the refugee centre on Gardiner St. to which he replied 'Well, 80% of the people voted for my referendum, so there's your answer' sort of thing. At that point, someone from the College intervened and said that "you've had enough time talking to him, move along."

McDowell was confronted by the group on the sideline of a pitch opposite the UCD Sports Centre. The protest was peacefully orchestrated, with the students involved brandishing signs and posters calling for equality for all and especially so for young children.

Students' Union Education Officer Jane Horgan-Jones and Welfare Officer Dan Hayden attended the protest. Horgan-Jones commented "we needed to make this protest, so that the Minister would know that he was not welcome on our campus", adding that "I know we cannot speak for all of the people in the College but it needed to be done."

Although he wasn't present at the protest, SU President James Carroll said "he's [McDowell] not strictly welcome in UCD. He should be getting a

NOT WANTED: MINISTER FOR JUSTICE MICHAEL MCDOWELL'S VISIT TO UCD WAS SHROUDED IN CONTROVERSY

good grilling when he does come here, we should be doing that as well."

There was a large security presence on campus for the arrival of McDowell, with both Gardaí and campus stewards present at the event. The Minister was repeatedly challenged by two of the protesters to engage in debate with Noam Chomsky, who is expected to visit UCD in the

next few months. McDowell ignored the requests unequivocally.

McDowell also refrained to comment on much of what the protesters were saying to him. A spokesperson for the Minister, who was with him when the incident occurred said that, "I could say a lot of things for the minister, but I shall only say this; he is not going to engage in any debates."

However, many students do not agree with this policy, with Dolan claiming that "if the College want to invite him out, fair enough, but if he comes out here he should be held accountable to students - whom he represents in Government - for his actions. We should have the right to go up and talk to him in an unregulated way, to challenge him publicly."



Unicare

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TEACHING ENGLISH IS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

Concerns have been raised with pamphlets found circulating in UCD endorsing a TEFL programme not associated with the Advisory Council for English Language Schools (ACELS).

The body acts as the government appointed regulatory authority and only holders of a recognised ACELS certificate are permitted to work in Ireland.

Flyers regarding consumer goods not being organised or distributed by a UCD club or society are forbidden on campus by the College authorities.

The flyers were distributed by Phoenix ABC. Director of Communications Eilis O'Brien stated that to the best of her knowledge they had not been given permission to distribute their pamphlets in UCD.

O'Brien went on to state that "commercial entities have to seek permission before being allowed on to campus and permission is only granted on a case by case basis that takes into account the value to, or interest in the service by students."

According to ACELS it is "entirely impossible to receive a job teaching English in Ireland as a foreign language without an ACELS recognized certificate."

ACELS run their own course but also recognise courses given by several language schools

Leaflets for unaccredited TEFL course distributed in UCD

OWEN PRIESTLY

around Ireland. However, they insist that to become affiliated a certificate supplying course must adhere to "very strict guidelines and meet the required criterion."

Any language centre found to be employing someone who is not in possession of an ACELS approved certificate would be subject to a loss of its affiliation to ACELS something that would lead to a serious loss of revenue.

This news comes as concern to undergraduates and postgraduates of UCD alike as the option of spending summers and years teaching English as a foreign language becomes increasingly popular.

Confusion has surrounded certain aspects of the TEFL programme structure. Due to its large and ever increasing popularity more and more undergraduates are considering TEFL as a possible way to capitalise on their summer periods in a foreign environment. The main concern is whether it is possible for an undergraduate who has paid in full for their course is eligible to work in Ireland if they so choose.

However, this concern also highlights whether certificates can be relied upon when travelling and

whether they are worth investing in.

The option to work teaching English as a foreign language in a recognised language school proved popular with last year over a hundred students from one TEFL programme (Phoenix ABC) alone, filling places around Ireland teaching English to tourists and immigrants alike.

The College warns students "only graduates with a TEFL qualification may teach in Ireland. Undergraduates who obtain a TEFL qualification may seek work abroad, but would not be accepted for English language teaching positions in Ireland."

This contrasts with what a representative for one teaching school said. The individual cannot be named for legal reasons but said that "the law is one thing and reality is another. Schools are crying out for anyone and everyone and last year alone I received calls from ACELS affiliated Colleges asking for anyone with any qualifications."

The UCD Applied Language Centre runs two post-graduate courses in teaching English as a

Phoenix ABC T.E.F.L.
 Head Office: 19 Stockton Drive, Castleknock, Dublin 15
 Tel: (01) 820 8462 (until 10.00p.m.)
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 Website: www.phoenixtefl.com

DODGY TEFL COURSES: THE OFFENDING PAMPHLET

foreign language; a certificate TEFL course which is a one year course conducted with the higher diploma in education at UCD, and a higher diploma, which is a post-experience course for teachers of English as a foreign language who already have a qualification in TEFL.

PHOTO: EOIN MAC AODHA



IN THE DARK: THE ARTS BLOCK WAS HIT BY POWER CUTS

ARTS STUDENTS IN THE DARK

The Arts Block was hit with two power cuts in the past week, bringing lectures and computer labs to a standstill.

The first of these cuts happened on Monday, October 10th at 12.10pm. Staff and students were affected by the extensive blackout, which according to Services, was caused by a fault in the electrical system in the John Henry Newman building.

"The process of upgrading the electrical system in the John Henry Newman building has been ongoing for the last 2-3 years" according to Aishling Kennedy, Facilities Manager.

"The power cut was caused by an overload in the old ring system which is due to be replaced in the coming weeks."

It took over 45 minutes for the maintenance team to re-establish power on Monday, October 10th. This led to the cancellation of all 12 o'clock lectures in the building.

"A team of maintenance arrived immediately and began work to regain power" stated Kennedy. She added that "our main concern was to ensure the safety of all the staff and students in the building at the time."

The first stage in the safety plan was to certify that people who found themselves locked in the lifts were aware that the problem was under control and they would be released as soon as possible.

Secondly, it was essential that all students and staff were reassured that the problem was a technical fault and the maintenance

SINEAD MONAGHAN

team were working to restore power.

Services endeavoured to assist anyone situated in the darker areas of the building, such as the bathrooms, the lower ground rooms and the large theatre halls to leave the building safely.

The John Henry Newman building has a battery operated emergency lighting system that provides sufficient lighting for up to three and a half hours.

According to Kennedy, "the emergency lighting system is professionally checked four times a year and we were confident it would provide enough light for people to leave the building. It was not necessary to evacuate the building. We knew this would only create chaos."

One first Arts student told the College Tribune that she was "quite scared at first because we didn't know what was going on." However, the majority of students echoed the views of Postgraduate student Ross Griffin that the situation was handled "efficiently and promptly."

Unfortunately, the following morning at 10.55am, there was a similar fault in the system and a second power cut occurred. Maintenance worked quickly and it only took 10 minutes to regain power.

Services are now confident that there will be no further disruption to the power in the Arts block and they hope that the electrical system will be fully upgraded before Christmas of this year.

DISPUTE OVER POSTGRAD ELECTIONS

Controversy has sparked over the Students' Union Post-Graduate Officer elections, with the advertisement of the role called into question.

The position in question is now held by Patrick McKay, who ran unopposed in the recent elections.

McKay is also the Students' Union Design and Communications Officer, therefore being in a position to know about the election despite many post-graduates claiming they were not properly informed about the election.



PATRICK MCKAY

students who had wished to run for the position claimed they were left out of the election.

Sean Slattery, a post-graduate who wanted to run for the position but had no knowledge of when the election was on, stated his disillusionment about situation. "I didn't know when there was going to be elections, it just wasn't advertised properly. It's the Deputy President's (Dave Curran) job to publicize the position" said Slattery.

In response to this Dave Curran stated that, "The position was put up on the internet, as part of the Class Rep campaign. It was clearly publi-

cized".

Yet the only advertisement of the position, distinct from the Class Rep campaign, was a brief mention in this year's Freshers' Guide.

With the advertisement of the position claimed to be far from adequate, Curran assured The College Tribune that there was "more publicity this year than any other year I've seen."

Another post-graduate student, and former contender for the SU Presidency, Joanne Doherty cited the SU constitution as the problem, stating that "the position should be [advertised] on its own, rather than with the

Class Reps".

Curran acknowledged the problems with the present system, and stated that the SU would be reviewing the constitution, with particular regard to this issue.

However, some feel that this is not an adequate excuse for the lack of publicity this campaign received.

One angry post-graduate, Alan Morecambe, summed up the feelings of other students, when he said, "[the SU] is all about the first years, and it [the current system] is pragmatic for the SU. Hopefully this year, they'll change the constitution".

CLASS MIS-REPRESENTATIVES

Two students sent home from training for "misbehaviour"

JACK CANE

Off-campus Class Representative training has taken a hit to its reputation with two students sent home early from the weekend event.

ing. We're down here to do a bit of work and they weren't."

There have also been reports of training modules starting up to two hours after their listed time as well as a Students' Union-funded sound system and DJ for the entire weekend, adding to the cost of the training event to the student-funded SU.

There are also reports of wild partying and trashed residences at the training event held in Wexford.

Concerns were raised by a number of students over the issue of off-campus Class Rep training at Students' Union Council on October 11th, with Class Reps Oisín Kelly and Niall Dolan proposing a motion mandating the SU to hold Class Rep training on campus. The motion was defeated by a large majority.

The College Tribune has been informed of alcohol drinking during the training modules, the extreme vandalism of one house during a party, the hospitalisation of one student due to alcohol and drinking by UCD Class Representatives in a local school playground during the day, amongst other events.

The concerns that were raised in Council centred primarily on the cost of training the new Class Representatives off-campus. The main concern discussed focused on why it was deemed necessary to undertake the training off-campus rather than avail of facilities available in

The two students were sent home for what Students' Union President described as "misbehaviour, they were just taking the piss they just thought they were down here for a junket of drink-

UCD.

This argument was refuted by SU Deputy President Dave Curran, the organiser of the training weekend, who replied that the weekend training programme was "not just about the training but also acted as a team building process concentrating on the inclusion of the new representatives in Students' Union affairs."

Curran responded by saying that they had received an "extremely competitive price in Courtown, Co. Wexford that suited that Union's needs," claiming that it would work out cheaper to hold the event off campus and he was extremely pleased with how it was all coming together.

The process of Class Representative training entails transporting approximately 100 people to a pre-allocated hotel or functions centre. The training modules last all weekend and incorporate all sections of the Union. Class Reps are supposed to be brought up to pace on all of the SU's actions and ensure that they know how to fulfil their role as Class Rep adequately.

Yet, when talking to The College Tribune, neither Curran nor SU President James Carroll referred to the rampant disorder in Wexford beyond the fact that two Class Reps had been sent home. Curran told the College Tribune that "It's going really well, we're getting positive feedback and the attendance has been good, I mean the attendance at the training was really good and the attendance at the modules has been 100%."

When questioned about the actual monetary cost of the trip Curran was unwilling to estimate a figure, but The College Tribune can reveal that it will be somewhere in the region of 7,000. This figure was thought to be "excessive" by many of those who oppose off-campus training, including Oisín Kelly.

However, one anonymous source at the training event claimed to be "distinctly unimpressed" with the SU's performance in dealing with the situation, "we're meant to come down here to do some work and not sit down and drink cans in the middle of the training."

EDITORIAL 9 >

TOO MANY YOKES SPOIL THE BUZZ

OWEN PRIESTLY

The issue of illegal narcotics in UCD has been raised again with a report that a student was ejected from Belfield campus for possession of drugs.

supplying drugs, only simply passing on his drugs to his friends.

This infringement of the College's anti-drug policy has again prompted questions over security personnel's expertise in dealing with such situations.

The male was carrying a student card which was now expired and was valid for the 2004/2005 academic year. On arrival, the Gardai explained to a College Tribune reporter that the standard process was to confiscate all forms of identification from the culprit and escort him off the premises under the threat that if he was caught on campus he would spend the night in a cell.

With the issue of campus security a high priority for the College since the beginning of this academic year, this issue has come under immense scrutiny during one of the busiest social sessions in the academic calendar.

The male in question tried to pass off lesser forms of identification but the Gardai confiscated his Garda Identification Age Card and UCD student card. He was cautioned for being in possession of illegal substances in quantities in excess of that for personal use.

The issue was highlighted on Wednesday, 5th October when Jacques La Cont took to the stage of the Student Bar and the house music crowd heralded an influx of illegal substances. Campus security was present in force, with members of the Guardia known to be in the vicinity.

A regular squad car was radioed and the student in question was driven to the Foster Avenue exit and asked to report to the local Garda station in the morning to collect his identification and to formally explain his actions.

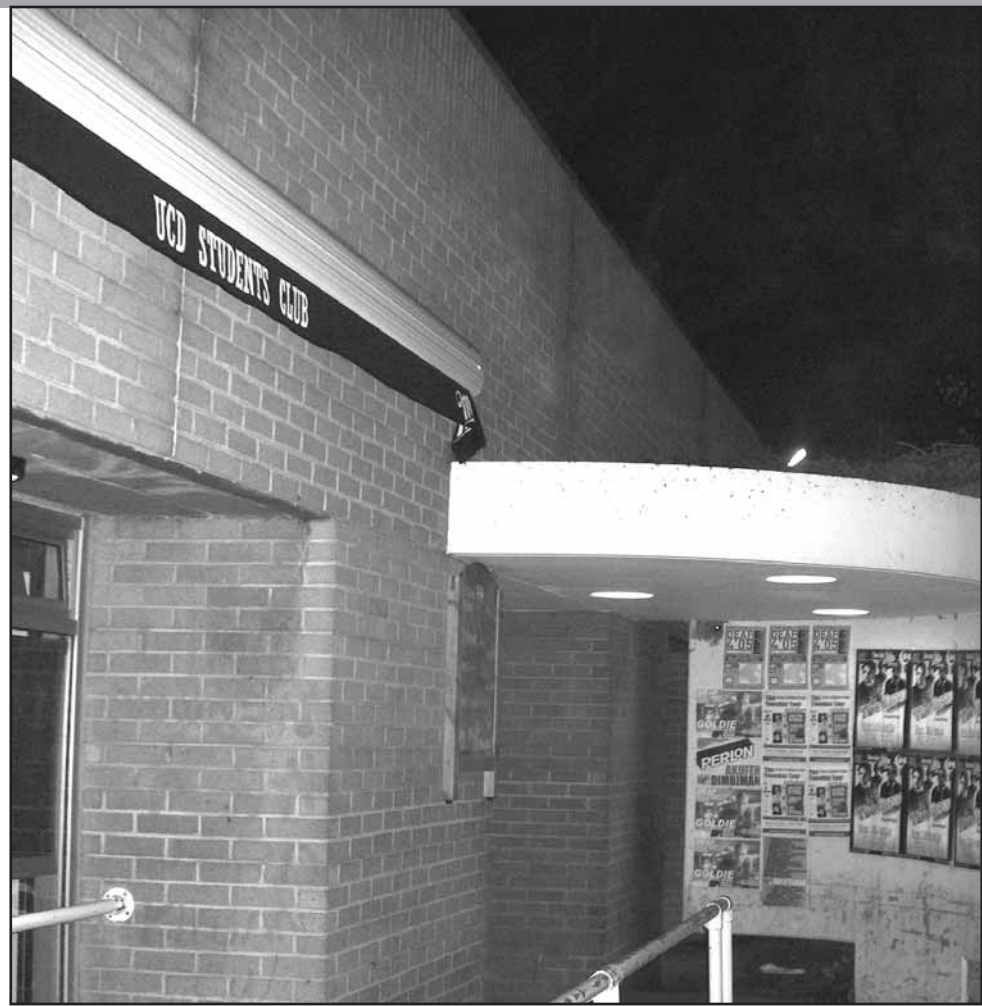
The small venue was packed to the door with revellers, many of whom in attendance were not students at UCD. During the course of the evening recreational drugs such as ecstasy were readily available from a number of sources despite the best efforts of security.

Many students complained at the irritation of constantly being asked if they were in possession of drugs by people in attendance and whether they were willing to supply. One freshman went on record, claiming that "there is drugs in here everywhere, I just got sick of being asked for 'yokes'. I don't care what they do but its' really ruined my night."

On entrance to the Student Bar the majority of customers were not searched and many people entered carrying large bags. Numerous members of the crowd were turned away at the door for being either too intoxicated or too obviously under the influence of illegal substances.

A non-student of UCD said that "the gig was an amazing buzz but it wouldn't have been the same without the presence of drugs, the drugs make the gig."

One male was detained by a member of campus security after being caught passing on drugs and held by the doormen while the Gardai were called. The male in question said that he was not



STUDENT BAR: SCENE OF THE DRUG BUST

College authorities have responded that they have no knowledge of the arrest of a current student of UCD. This is the second incident concerning arrests surrounding drug supply outside the

Student centre. The first recorded incident this year took place after the Damien Dempsey Students' Union Ents event.

UNION WEBSITE GETS A MAKEOVER

RONAN COONEY

The Students' Union website (www.UCDSU.net) is set to undergo a major facelift in the next few weeks with a new design.

by anyone who knows anything about computers and websites.

Students' Union President James Carroll hopes that it will not only make the site more visually attractive, but also make it easier to use for students with disabilities such as dyslexia and visual impairments.

"You don't need to employ someone for the whole summer to design a new website. I myself suffer from reading disabilities and I seem to be able to use it extremely well and navigate it, even as someone who's not very computer literate."

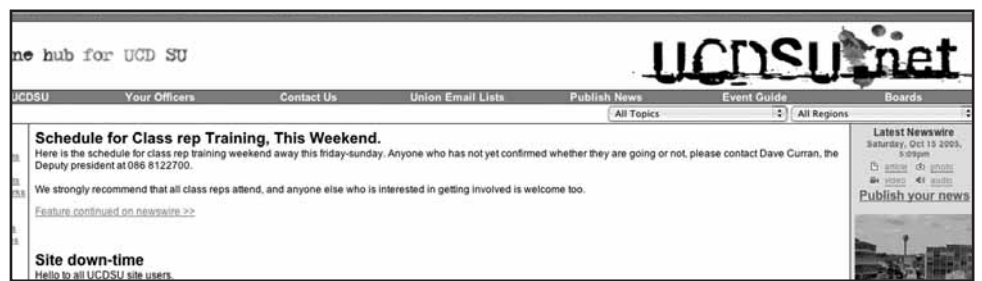
However, with the new design set to cost approximately € 350, not all are convinced by the plan.

Carroll, however, believes that the new design represents great value for money: "We have employed a post-grad Computer Science student to improve the website. He is only charging €350. This is so cheap compared to other Colleges I talked to regarding the cost of a vastly improved website. The minimum it usually costs is at least €2,000," adding that "no way is it a waste of money, in fact it is a great saving."

Labour Youth Chair Enda Duffy, who has twice raised this issue at Students' Union Council, has branded the new design "a waste of money".

Duffy remains unconvinced however, seeing the website expenditure as emblematic of a pattern of excess spending by the SU; "Basically it's

In response to the suggestion that the website would be beneficial to students with visual impairments Duffy said, "You can change the fonts and stuff like that quite easily. You can change the colour background if that needs to be done very easily. They're problems that can be addressed



UCDSU.NET: THE CURRENT WEBSITE IS SET TO BE REDESIGNED

a culmination of expenditure at the moment." said Duffy, "I mean the money that's being pumped into things that aren't necessary, things like clothing for sabbatical officers and executives, money on the website, business cards and spending like close to €7,000 on Class Rep training, all these things.

and if we continue spending money like this then you're not going to have that money at the end of the year to employ one."

"At the moment the way I see it the Union needs a counsellor before the end of the term. That is one of the most important things at the moment

Duffy plans to propose a new motion at the next Council meeting that he hopes will bring about independent editorial working groups elected from Council to run the day to day affairs of the UCDSU.net, to combat what he sees as Union bias in the deleting of posts and changing of threads on the current website.

WHERE ARE THE CHILDREN OF THE REVOLUTION?

"Sex, Drugs and Dylan". This mantra became synonymous with the Sixties in America during the heyday of student activism. It was a period of deep social and political change, a time when students had more than an opinion on the issues of the day such as Vietnam, segregation and marijuana. They had in fact a burning desire to change the world.

Students used protests, walk outs, sit-ins and debates as their weapon of choice to spread their message to the masses and make a difference. Even in our own UCD, people like Kevin Myers and Ruairi Quinn protested for more student involvement in the running of the University, while the L&H was a bastion of non-conformity and individualism.

Forty years on however, times have changed and along with it the role of students as the conscience of society. The torch of student activism has not been passed on to 'generation x' and it seems in the face of the 'good life' we have become a generation that have little or no interest in the issues that should rouse our passions.

Student political activism has become a tired dinosaur perceived to be the preserve of a select few hard liners, with the more radical often deemed 'socialists' because of their push for protest. It seems our comfort in such affluent times has been translated into political apathy. This trend was apparent in the Fresher's Tent where few students felt the urge to pay money to join Sinn Fein, Fianna Fail and the other big wigs in student politics.

According to a recent Irish Times MRBI poll; "the majority of Irish young people are disenfranchised with our political leaders". But evidence would seem to suggest that the problem runs much deeper than a simple distaste for Bertie Ahern and Michael McDowell.

Students are no longer dreamers driven by the desire to change the world, and nor do they seem to get angered about contemporary issues. Apathetic students failed to fully mobilise in outrage against the War in Iraq which surely can be considered a contemporary Vietnam. What other purpose is there for students than to make sure that the governments aren't getting too big for its boots?

Moreover, Irish issues continually fail to spark concern in the minds of the majority of UCD students. Many students feel untouched by the plight of the Rosspoint 5 or the ruthless avarice of Irish Ferries in recruiting Eastern European workers for less than the minimum wage or even by the apparent use of Shannon Airport to transfer Iraqi prisoners for torture in Guantanamo Bay.

These contemporary issues nevertheless emphasise the inherent need for participation in political organisations in order to stand united in the face of huge social prob-

DARRAGH CONNELL

lems and keep the government from getting to 'big for its boots'. Inevitably though, not all students share in an apathetic view of our society. There are those that dare to express their political beliefs and join the murky ranks of UCD's political parties.

Examining The Socialist Party, it seems Karl Marx is alive and kicking in the Soviet Bloc (aka The Arts Building). At a recent party meeting, Joe Higgins T.D. spoke about the mass exploitation of foreign workers such as was seen in the GAMA construction fiasco. Deputy Higgins provided an insight into the harsh lives of many Polish and Turkish workers in Ireland. The small group then debated the importance of action against the Shell oil pipeline in Mayo. Overall, one could not but be impressed by the dedicated views of this small Left wing youth party.

Another political group who took part in the rally was Labour Party whose UCD branch is particularly active around campus. For example, Labour T.D., Mr. Eamon Gilmore visited the Student Centre on Tuesday 11th to share his views with the young members of Pat Rabbitte's mercurial party. In contrast, Sinn Fein's UCD branch was unable to contribute to the debate on the importance of youth politics. Speculation was rife however, that the SF chairman is currently on a "bird-watching trip" to Columbia.

Moreover, Fianna Fail used the face of Eamon DeValera to promote a recent whiskey-tasting evening in the student centre. One had to laugh at the irony of using the picture of a staunch Catholic conservative to promote a night of drunken fun.

Fianna Fail's nemesis, Fine Gael also have an active student branch. Fine Gael Party leader Enda Kenny T.D. even dropped in to U.C.D. during Fresher's week to overview proceedings and inject some energy to the campaign for recruiting the next generation of wannabe politicians.

With the possible re-introduction of student fees always on the horizon with a Fianna Fail/PD government in power, student voices are desperately needed in the political arena. Thus, without more extensive youth involvement, we are inadvertently choosing a future devoid of innovation, initiative and vision.

Politics provides a platform for legitimate protest as well as constructive debate and our generation need to take more note of this. Whether one is Right, Left or Centre is of little importance as what truly matters is that one expresses a valid opinion. Where are the dreamers amongst us that want to change the world or even gain a voice in the political sphere of our society?

As Robert F. Kennedy once said: "some people see things and say why? I dream things and say why not?" It's time for UCD students to kick off their dubs and pick up a placard.



FREE FEES: ONE SUBJECT THAT MANAGED TO ROUSE MODERN STUDENTS

PSNI TAKE BELFIELD BY STORM

Belfield played host to a historic sporting and political occasion last week as UCD took on the Police Service of Northern Ireland.

UCD GAA football team played against the PSNI Garniville Gaels Gaelic Football team for the first time since the deletion of the GAA's "rule 21". The rules removal, which stipulated that no member of Northern Ireland's security forces would be allowed play GAA sports, has enabled the PSNI to field its first ever official gaelic football team.

Formerly known as the RUC (Royal Ulster Constabulary), the PSNI, until recently was banned from playing all Gaelic sports. The PSNI ended its long exclusion from the sporting body in

VINNY O'DOWD

a very exciting, close encounter.

The game formed part of both teams' training preparations for the Sigerson Cup. Belfast Superintendent Gerry Murray, chairperson of the PSNI Gaelic Football club, was delighted with the historical fixture; "I am so very pleased with this occasion. This is (Chris) Patten's Vision of Policing. This is a direct result of the Good Friday Agreement, the agreement for which the people of the Republic of Ireland and the people of Northern Ireland voted emphatically in favour of."

Murray, who has been in Northern Ireland policing for 24 years, noted the great progress that the

police force has made. "This occasion is about moving forward." He also paid tribute to the President of the GAA Sean Kelly, saying he, "was great for going the extra mile for us."

Murray also emphasised that the PSNI has become a "choice career" for young Catholics in Northern Ireland. "All these players are post-Patten. They are no more than two years in the force. It shows that the PSNI is a choice career for young Catholics. The abolition of Rule 21 means that young Catholics can bring their culture with them to their police force."

Commenting on the actual game just before kick off, Murray commented ecstatically, "We just want to win, Come on PSNI!"

The Minister for Justice, Michael McDowell TD,

who also attended the match commented "it is a very important occasion, it marks the entry of the Northern Ireland Police Force into the GAA. Ten or fifteen years ago this would have been unthinkable, but the people spoke when they voted on the Good Friday agreement."

Minister McDowell joked that the bad conditions that the game was being played in was "a fiendish Nationalist plot to get the Northerners down on their game."

A spokesperson for UCD commented that "the University was delighted and proud to host the Garniville Gaels in recognition at their inclusion into the Sigerson Cup competition. Any step that contributes to long term harmony should be encouraged".

JAIL? NO THANKS I'M RICH

The government's treatment of the Rossport Five teaches us a valuable lesson. Dan Finn explains how there's one law for the poor and a separate one entirely for the rich.

The first battle over the Mayo gas pipeline may now be over, but the war has just begun. The people of Rossport will need to be very determined if they're going to defeat a ruthless multinational and its backers in Leinster House. But they've already done us a great service, by reminding the people of Ireland that the rule of law and the rule of justice are two very different things.

When the Rossport 5 were released last month, most of the Irish media bowed to public opinion and gave them a warm reception. Even the *Indo* hailed the men as heroes. But as ever, Kevin Myers could be relied upon to spoil the party. Readers of the *Irish Times* were assured that "the central issue in this dispute is not safety nor [Ray] Burke nor the Rossport Five, but the rule of law and the authority of our courts."

Colonel Myers wasn't the only one concerned. Apparently the release of the five men compromises the whole system of justice in this country. If people are allowed to defy the courts and get away with it, society will collapse around our heads.

Now, the rule of law is a funny old thing. Earlier this year, the High Court ordered that a Ryanair pilot who had been suspended from duty be restored to flying duties while his case against the company proceeded. Initially, Ryanair ignored the court ruling. Shortly afterwards, the pilot sought an injunction against Ryanair's chief executive, Michael O'Leary, seeking to have him jailed for contempt of court.

Strangely enough, the High Court was in no hurry to pack the Clongowes-educated millionaire O'Leary off to the slammer. The judge deferred his decision on the contempt hearing until the full court proceedings had gone ahead. Having been urged to settle outside court by Mr Justice Budd, the two parties soon came to an agreement. Any question of jailing Michael O'Leary was banished, and there was much rejoicing. A cynic might believe that double standards are at work in our legal system...

It's also interesting to consider the fate of peo-

JUSTICE for the ROSSPORT 5

ple who deprive the State of money. So far, the Revenue Commissioners have recovered at least 2 billion from various tax evasion schemes. In the period between April and June of this year alone, they dug up 135 million. Social welfare fraud, on the other hand, costs the State very little - 1.1 million in the whole of 2004.

You might think that the authorities would give priority to the vastly greater loss represented by tax evasion, and crack down hard on those who persist. But in 2004, there was one solitary conviction for tax evasion. It led to a three-month prison sentence, but the guilty party never went to jail - his sentence was suspended and replaced by community service.

In the same period of time, 259 cases were brought in relation to social welfare fraud, and 38 people were sent to jail. Three months' of tax evasion can cost the State a hundred times more revenue than a whole year of welfare fraud. But there are forty times as many convictions for welfare fraud as for tax evasion. It doesn't make any sense does it?

That is, unless we discard a few illusions about our society. The Irish State does not treat all its citizens equally. It discriminates against working-class people and favours the wealthy. It heeds some voices far more than others. 150,000 people can march against the Iraq war, but the government is happy to ignore them. Yet a few murmurings from the business elite will lead to a policy change very quickly.

This brings us back to the Rossport 5. They may have challenged the rule of law. But whose law? Laws are made by the Oireachtas. It'd be nice to think that every citizen has the opportunity to influence the members of that noble institution. Sadly, we can't all afford a ticket into Fianna Fail's tent at the Galway races.

Corporate funding has corrupted the Irish political system, and bred a climate where the demands of business are given priority over anything else. Shell probably didn't need to bribe the government - ministers are so used to favouring



ROSSPORT FIVE: THE CORRIB OIL GAS PIPE LINE IN CO. MAYO

corporate interests, it comes as second nature to them.

Once made, laws have to be enforced by the courts. It'd also be nice to believe that every citizen has the same opportunity to become a judge. But our unequal society places any number of barriers in the way.

You can't get into a Law course without a hefty points score. Then you need ten grand to study at King's Inns. This set-up ensures that most judges come from a comfortable background. On becoming a judge, you are then lifted into a privileged elite, with its own stuffy rituals and culture. You will also end up earning far more than the average punter.

In other words, the realities of class division make it impossible for the judiciary to represent a decent cross-section of Irish society. The jury system can sometimes provide a democratic counterbalance. But in the Rossport case, there was no jury for the men to appeal to - just a pompous judge who couldn't bear to see uppity farmers defying the authority of his court.

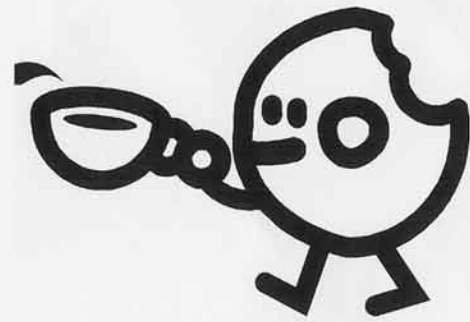
As long as politicians kow-tow to corporate power and judges insulate themselves from society, it will be necessary for citizens to defy the law when it becomes a tool of injustice. The fact that most Irish people seem to understand this is a promising sign for the future.

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FAUSTUS

ERASING THE PAST,
SODOMISING THE FUTURE

Faustus has had enough. You're all fucking useless. Wet, bland and morally decrepit. Up until now he's been nice to you. He hoped that possibly, just somehow, you'd all just got off to a slow start and that things would pick up.

Perhaps you'd become interesting, that you'd entertain Faustus. He didn't want to have to do this but Faustus is now issuing a fatwa against you all. You know who you are.

This is a last resort. It is a desperate attempt to corral you into doing something even mildly worthwhile.

Not even the presence of Michael "Throw all the foreigners out" McDowell could rouse the student masses into a concerted protest. Fair play to the handful that turned out, and asked the rottweiler a couple of nice little questions and then politely excused themselves. Peaceful protest etc yawn.

Now the last thing Faustus would want to do is incite violence. However a peaceful protest lads, really. Ye could at least have roared obscenities at him. He wouldn't be making off the cuff comments about ye being stuck in a time warp then, regardless of whether your clothes did come from a second hand shop.

Where is the mass organisation of years gone by, when figures like Mickey would have quaked in their specially crafted Romanina immigrant tailored shoes. They would at least have worn protective clothing in order to save their Chinese sweat-shopped manufactured suits.

Faustus does have some admiration for the bauld n' bald McDowell for braving the masses and making a stand. And while his ideology would canonise Pol Pot at least he's got a pair.

Speaking of balls, Faustus was delighted to see Q-Soc and B&L join together in a truly frightening partnership. Those criminal masterminds in Q-Soc are evil geniuses. Not only did they manage to make themselves an 'alternative' to C&E, but rumour has it they are going to infiltrate 'Orangatan-Soc' and take it over in a blood filled coup. Paddy "He's from the country but he still like sound" Rafferty, better watch his back because Jerry "The Devil" McGinty is after his crown.

Rumours are also rife that Cock Soc is also trying to get the C&E discredited. The fact that they are running old C&E events such as the 'Stop the lights, I can't, they're already red!' Ball lends credence to the argument.

One late development that caught Faustus' eye was that of the hijinks in Co. Wexford this past weekend. Dave "Off-campus training builds character!" Curran's grand master plan to sit around a campfire singing Cumbaya to create life bonds between nervous Class Reps seems to have failed, with the poor little lambs turning to alcohol to fuel their sociability. What matter is it of the students whether the SU has to pay to rebuild a small town in the country as long as the Class Reps get on and work as a unit? That is, if they can remember each other's names on their return.

Faustus was however, galvanised to see the next generation of hacks warming the benches at the opening session of Council. Shaun "I lost to a girl" Smyth did a masterful job of explaining the nuances of Council in as condescending a manner as humanly possible. It is an absolute wonder that he didn't get elected.

Predictably, the hacks voted for a free weekend away. Obviously it is important for them to see who can drink the most cans of Foster's. Scurrilous rumours contend that the Union spent somewhere in the region of 220 on a decks system for the weekend. Faustus refuses to believe this. James "Uh, I was in a meeting" Carroll simply wouldn't sanction the frivolous expenditure of students' money, but of course, the implications for the poor residents of Courtown remain to be seen. Glancing out your window to the drunken UCD representatives playing ring-a-ring-a-rosies at 9am around a tower of cans in the local school playground must be an amazing sight.

And thus another distinctly shit fortnight in the cesspit of UCD. You have all been warned, a fatwa has been issued and things better pick up. Except for you Jane, may I compare thee to a summer's day?

However, those others who continue to piss Faustus off will have each finger and toe cut off by a rusty saw found lying in acid. And that's just for starters.



FAUSTUS

PLAYING THE BALL, NOT THE PLAYER

Dermot Looney writes on the failures of the right to answer the questions, and of the sporting media to ask the right ones.

Pop quiz hotshot. What's the difference between Michael McDowell and Brian Kerr? One's the most vilified figure in Irish current affairs, responsible for all manner of ills and evils and the possible destruction of our way of life. The other, you'd have to say from much coverage in the media in recent weeks, is Michael McDowell.

The focus on Kerr in recent weeks would make you wonder about the agenda of certain journalists. By all means focus on the man's record and results (taking in a holistic narrative of his place in the development of Irish football over time), but leave off on the personal stuff, the attacks on his character and the bogus psychobabble.

I learned my footballing trade, so to speak, in the "Field" in Greenhills, a football-mad community in the south-west suburbs of Dublin, the buffer between the old sprawl of Crumlin and Walkinstown and the new sprawl of Tallaght. We never used the word 'soccer;' it was always football. The Field had a real name that none of us knew too, but it did do exactly what it said on the tin, providing playing pitches to Greenhills Boy's AFC and Greenhills College.

Few of us were any use, me especially, but the odd weekend morning you'd catch sight of Brian Kerr jogging by; it was always a thrill to have him stop and watch, even only for a minute. He was only the St Pat's manager then, and later on the youths boss, but he was a local celebrity and known and respected as a football man, and a damn good one too.

He would have approved of the maxims we learned in our training sessions. Hit it low, hit it hard, hit it on target. Stick to your man like glue. Play the ball, not the player.

It's clear that a lot of the attacks on Kerr focus on him as a person, and not on his track record. But the concept of such personal attacks is by no means restricted to football. Indeed, it seems like playing the player and ignoring the ball is the political strategy of the right in recent times. And so, back to Michael McDowell.

In the other code, the one we called Gah, UCD played host to a historic event last week. The Police Service of Northern Ireland had their first competitive outing in Gaelic football, beating UCD by four points in a surprise result. Perhaps the Four Green Fielders were right about not letting in the coppers to the GAA – they might just beat us too much.

Michael McDowell was a guest of, you'd assume, College President Hugh Brady at the game, though it was all kept very hush hush – McDowell's policies have been the subject of much protest in UCD over the last three years.

And, again, there was an impromptu (and by all accounts mild-mannered) protest at the GAA pitches opposite the Student Centre last week, focussing again on policies of immigration, deportation and ethnicity. But while the focus of

those protesting was political, McDowell, not a man for the Gah you'd reckon, made that same call and played the player.

"You know, 10-15 years ago this would have been unthinkable," McDowell told the press in reference to the holding of the match, "but unlike our friends who you've just seen there (nodding to the departing protesters) the rest of us don't live in a time warp anymore."

Really Michael? A time-warp? Of course, the majority of those protesting weren't politically active 10-15 years ago. I'd have a guess that a few were still in nappies. Regardless, most are part of organisations, parties and ideological movements that have stood firm against sectarianism at every opportunity over many years.

McDowell, failing to address any of the issues raised by the protestors, merely slagged them off. And not with any particular accuracy.

McDowell's little jibes show an inability to address the issues head on. His snide remarks in UCD are by no means in isolation. Indeed, on previous visits, McDowell has made several such personal attacks, supported by a chorus of giggling gleeful cheerleaders in the debating societies. But such personal jibes, while deflecting political arguments, are by their nature political in themselves. They are part of a growing trend in politics worldwide in which the right in particular focus on the personal characteristics of their opponents and dismiss any and all arguments with jibes, snides and slurs.

Karl Rove and George W Bush merely carried on the work of the Reagan administration and that of his father in dismissing political dissent by attacking the personality of those who create it. Leading US Republican Tom de Lay, recently forced to resign over corruption allegations, merely attacked the character of the prosecuting attorney. It is an appalling vista and one of the true challenges to the modern media to take to task those who deflect politics and to examine the arguments and their worth regardless of who makes them.

I don't claim to speak as a neutral. I've stood up at meetings in silent protest against immigration policy. I've been part of demonstrations against some of the sickening night-time deportations of those whose entire lives are focussed on Ireland. I've spoken and written in the student and national press and fought for a fairer treatment of refugees and those seeking asylum for years now. I've been just one of a diverse range of activists from a variety of groups, and none, who have stood up for the rights of those targeted by aggression and ignorance in the face of populist negativity on the part of this Government.

Those who include Olokunle Elukanhla, the young Nigerian man returned from his callous deportation on the basis of political pressure, now studying a PLC course in Greenhills College, now walking alongside the Field every day. I wonder if he can play a bit?



QUOTES OF THE FORTNIGHT

"Unlike our friends who you've just seen there, the rest of us don't live in a time warp anymore."

Minister for Justice Michael McDowell's witty response to UCD students protesting at his presence in the College

"They were just taking the piss, they just thought they were down here for a junket of drinking. We're down here to do a bit of work and they weren't."

*Students' Union President James Carroll tells the **College Tribune** why he had to send two students home from Class Rep training in Courtown, Co. Wexford*

"We're just good friends, bit of snoggin, floggin, loggin down in Sallynoggin."

Dustin the Turkey explains his relationship with Today FM Presenter Jenny Kelly

"I think every ball went through to Barry Ryan, he could have had a cigar in the goal there tonight with some of our set pieces."

UCD eircorn League manager Pete Mahon on his sides failure to convert their set pieces against St Patricks Athletic last friday night

COLLEGE

THE DIFFERENCE IS WE'RE INDEPENDENT

TRIBUNE

EDITORIAL

McDOWELL

The protest by students at the presence of Minister for Justice Michael McDowell in UCD, must be hailed as a positive development.

Indeed the fact that the protest was peaceful and devoid of acrimony shows more about the maturity of the UCD students than it does about our Minister for Justice. The reality remains that the freedom to demonstrate in a peaceful manner should be one of the major tenets of student activism.

However, the demonstration highlights the apathy so evident in student politics. It is certainly true that Michael McDowell's presence in UCD was unexpected, and as such those present at the protest should be commended for their quick action.

It is doubtful however, whether a planned visit by McDowell would entice a sizeable crowd out to demonstrate. Despite the fact that he has presided over some of the most draconian legislation this country has ever seen.

It is well documented and perhaps over-hyped that contemporary students are an apathetic bunch. It does seem that without any rallying cry on the horizon they will remain that way.

Activists will point to the 'Campaign For Free Education' held in 2003 as an example of mass student demonstrations. Yet the campaign failed to fully mobilise a large section of the UCD populace.

Not even the Iraq war has mobilised the student populace. It seems the increasing wealth of UCD students has bred indifference and a quiet satisfaction to sit on ones laurels.

It is doubtful that the 'Golden Age' of student activism will ever return which is a great pity as there are so many issues that students should be passionate about.

CLASS REP TRAINING

Every year the argument that Class Rep training should be held on campus surfaces and every year class rep training is held off-campus regardless.

The behaviour of some of the Class Reps in Courtown will surely lead to more question marks regarding off-campus training.

The fact that two students were sent home should not be exaggerated and sensationalised. The actions of individual students are their own and they should not be regarded as endemic of the Union.

Equally these reports are not indicative of all Class Reps but rather a minority.

However, reports from Wexford describe a worrying scene. Where module attendance is far from the 100% claimed by Deputy President Dave Curran and where 'misbehaviour' is not just isolated to the two students that were sent home.

The fault does not lie entirely at the door of the Students' Union, who cannot be expected to baby-sit elected representatives and force them to start working.

The most concerning aspect is that these elected representatives are availing of a free weekend away to get drunk at the expense of their constituents.

Class Rep training costs somewhere in the region of Euro 7,000. This money comes straight from the students' of UCD. The event must therefore be held accountable.

It is supposed to be a working weekend and a chance for the incoming Class Reps to get to know each other. It should not be a junket. The emphasis should be on work as opposed to getting hammered. The Class Reps are in a privileged position and should act as such.

In light of the recent events the calls for on-campus training will become stronger than ever before.

LETTERS

The College Tribune reserves the right to edit all letters. The views expressed on this page are the views of the letter writers and do not reflect the views of the College Tribune.

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SANTA BARBARA

To the Editor:

I would just like to make sure that I don't leave the impression from the article in your last edition that I think that the ruining of apartments in California is a regular occurrence by Irish students over there for the summer. In fact just the opposite is true. What I was getting at was that a number of U.S. students living in Isla Vista, California do trash their apartments and a number of property owners in the same town don't keep up their apartments. The issue of trashed apartments is not unique to a handful of visiting Irish students. While Irish students in California for the summer do tend to overcrowd small apartments, I haven't known of any before this year to leave the dwellings in such a disgraceful state.

Is Mise,

Ronan Murphy
Mature Student Adviser

EDITORIAL POLICY

Sir,

I begin my letter on commending the paper you edit for it's all round improved presentation and design. This especially applies to the front page where the main picture is now somewhat relevant to the main story.

I must also commend the range of stories covered which included articles on the much welcome and unrecognised society that is Craic Soc; the University's treatment of it's neighbours; the Belfield FM fiasco which has shown up how much power the Students' Union Administrative Officer - a University employee - has over much of student activity. One article about an arrest for the alleged sale of drugs on-campus. Two articles on the questionable process of modularisation, a report from the USA on hurricane Katrina which included an interview with first-hand witnesses. A new

health section that isn't masquerading as a 'wannabee Science section' and a very good review of the exceptionally entertaining film 'Serenity'.

Given the number of worthwhile news stories that you the Editor had to choose from it was with much surprise after reading the most recent issue of the Tribune that you chose to place a story about a vandalized flat on the front page.

This surprised me for two core reasons. The first is the numbers involved. There were three apartments involved and according to the speculation of one Student Advisor this would have led to an approximate total of 24 individuals involved in causing the damage reported. This is direct contrast to the dozens of people involved in Craic Soc, the hundreds of people potentially present when illegal drugs were being peddled outside the Student Bar, the 2,500 people attending the Fresher's Ball where a violent incident was reported and the approx 4,000 first years involved in the modularisation process.

The second reason for my surprise the distance in both time and space from the campus that this reported event occurred. The "damages" occurred during the summer months yet still made your front page in early October. Also, in spite of the numerous campus based reports for your selection you chose to report on an incident that took place about 8,000 miles away. Surely if you were to choose something so far away the numbers involved should have been larger? Hurricane Katrina, about which you had first-hand interviews available, springs to mind.

The entire front page of your October 4th 2005 issue could have been summarised in the title "Students wreck flat while on holiday abroad." With a possible subtitle of "Yanks were stupid enough to lease it to them."

On behalf of my fellow Union members i.e. the entire student body, I would like to recommend that future lead stories cover recent or on-going events involving a large number of people and are clearly tied to the University.

We look forward to more stimulating reading.

Yours respectfully,

Pierce Farrell
UCDSU Communications and Information
Technology Officer.

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THE SLUT TABOO

While a man can be a 'player' a girl is always a slapper. **Laura Green** delves into the world of promiscuity and asks what makes a slut?

An open-ended question with an age-old double standard behind it-What is a slut? Could "slut" just be an uncalled for judgement of a surplus of cleavage and giggles?

When asking around various fellow students what their definition of a slut is, a wide range of answers unfolded. This, in a way, could imply that being branded a "slut" is only the opinion belonging to the name caller, but some are more open or closed minded than others.

Boy-meets-girl is an active part of college life, on every toilet door on campus there are adds for contraception; both light-hearted giant sperm and STD warnings. All this gives the impression that there's a time and place for everything, and its called 'here an now.'

We've all heard about the type of girl you marry and the type of girl you just sleep with. So if college is such a liberal and experimental time of life, can one "sow ones wild oats" through college, have plenty of meaningless romps, and then after all the excitement, buy a sensible cardigan and evolve into "marriage material"? Or is your reputation ruined by your exploits?

We all have our own standards and morals, which we uphold for our own personal sanity, but if a girl wants to approach a close friend because she is worried about the implications of a recent slutty escapade, the friend's reaction is to console, not judge and to certify that she is not a slut;



these things happen.

So if a girl ostentatiously answers the call of nature with whomever she wishes, wherever she wishes, and is unashamed and admits it- is she a slut? Those who do the same but put pressure on themselves to feel guilty, remorseful and are purposely discreet are not sluts? Just as long as they think long and hard about their wrong- doings. This attitude is evident but it reeks of 1960s rural Catholic Ireland.

Virile, young men have little to worry about, in comparison to girls who have so much. Girls who sleep around, or even have a one-night stand with anyone who is even lurking on the outskirts of their social circle, have to worry about their precious reputation, pregnancy and STDs.

Also a drunken hit and miss rarely leaves a girl with anything to write home about. Its a known fact that in the game of "Wham! Bam! Thank you Mam!" fireworks are not included.

Because girls have so many issues of self preservation to deal with, both body and mind, when they neglect them, outwardly it looks as if they care little for themselves which can make them less attractive to the opposite sex.

Perhaps that's where the stigma of "slut" stems from - someone who puts themselves at risk, seems not to respect themselves, and therefore warrants little respect from others. This begs the question, why are some girls slutty and not others?

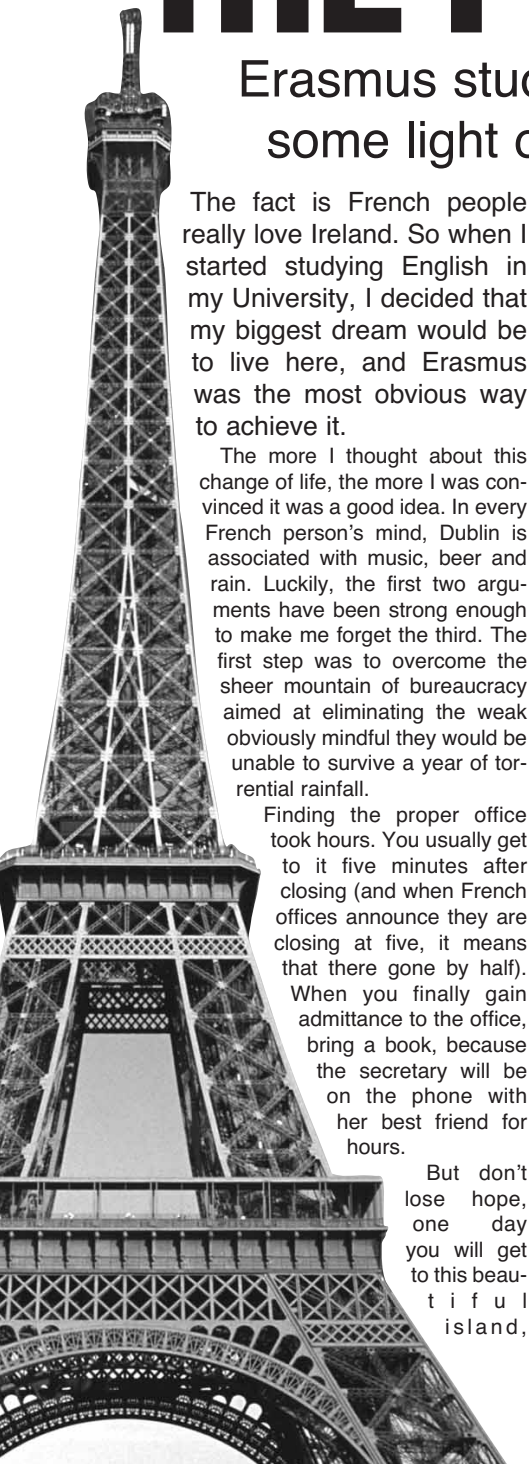
Slutty antics can be a direct symptom of feeling unloved and looking for love in the wrong way. For some it is thought that acting a little loose will win you approval and commitment from your flavour of the month. But let's be honest ladies, it won't.

Some young males have a "conquest" state of mind when it comes to girls, in that it's "who, and how can I get them into bed". Girls with a similar attitude are few and far between and may be looked upon as sluts. Taking pride in loose behaviour is almost more frowned upon than the behaviour itself.

Like many "taboos" there is no black and white conclusion, it's all about opinions and speculation. It's an open-ended debate and your own slant on the motion depends on how you were brought up and what you think is acceptable, with the added factors of hormones, peer pressure and rebellion. As long as one can justify ones attitudes to ones self, slut on my friends...slut on!

THE FRENCH CONNECTION

Erasmus students are often seen but not heard. **Armelle Loiseau** sheds some light on rain, French secretaries and Guinness with blackcurrant



The fact is French people really love Ireland. So when I started studying English in my University, I decided that my biggest dream would be to live here, and Erasmus was the most obvious way to achieve it.

The more I thought about this change of life, the more I was convinced it was a good idea. In every French person's mind, Dublin is associated with music, beer and rain. Luckily, the first two arguments have been strong enough to make me forget the third. The first step was to overcome the sheer mountain of bureaucracy aimed at eliminating the weak obviously mindful they would be unable to survive a year of torrential rainfall.

Finding the proper office took hours. You usually get to it five minutes after closing (and when French offices announce they are closing at five, it means that there gone by half).

When you finally gain admittance to the office, bring a book, because the secretary will be on the phone with her best friend for hours.

But don't lose hope, one day you will get to this beautiful island,



A FAR CRY FROM PARIS: AN EXAMPLE OF TWO IRISH CULTURE VULTURES

though be warned by fellow French compatriots, eventually you'll be dying for some good wine and a baguette.

And that is just what happened to me. Try to imagine how hard it is to pack enough clothes for one year into a bag that cannot exceed 20kg. Later as your new green country rises below, your left wondering why did you take such a monumental decision two long years ago?

Actually, once the first days were over, I had so many things to do that I didn't even have the time to complain and finally I managed to leave the shady youth hostel, unpack my clothes and hang my photos on the wall.

Then there's UCD and the initial 'excitement' of registration. Following this begins a long and

hard fight for credits, where in the end you're left with a truly overwhelming ten hours a week. At that point I realised that life was going to be really great here (not regarding the half dozen of essays of 3.000 words, in a language I'm not totally at ease with).

Let's be honest: I thought Erasmus life was completely devoid of work and full of parties. Actually, your nights are full of parties and only half filled with work, so its only sleep you end up missing.

Among all the preconceived ideas I had, one stood out more than others: Ireland's penchant for the evil drink. I think it's a matter of proportion: in France, a half pint is the norm. The first time I ordered one here, everybody in the pub looked at me with a kind of pathetic side glance.

After a while, I began to think that a half-pint was far too small for the desired effect. Another surprising thing is the way every age group mixes, at any time, any day of the week, in pubs. Don't even think of going out on a Monday evening in Paris, you will be sorely disappointed.

I have also learned on my travels the following; that when someone talks to a complete stranger it's not always to insult him, that when you're lost people can help you with a smile, that it can be rainy one minute and sunny the next and that you can never know when the bus will turn up. The biggest surprise of them all however is that Guinness is far much better with blackcurrant, my what a strange country you are.

ALL WE HEAR IS RADIO GA-GA!

DJ Mike Hogan of FM104's 'Open-Mic Show' takes time away from talking to the cracked and crazy elements of society to talk to **Alan Tully** about storm chasers, strange hats and being a pirate

Walking through the corridors of FM104's Ballsbridge headquarters in Hume House is a strange and immensely moving experience. Following Mike Hogan past the newsroom where the lunchtime news was being broadcast, I cannot help but take a quick glance into one of the various production offices. Inside, the backs of two heads are hunched over various dials and mixing decks, arguing in hushed tones as to whether to focus on drugs or prostitution tonight.

This journalist's ears pricked at the possibility of overhearing the scoop of the century. Imagine the headline – "DJ Sex and Drugs Vices Exposed". I'd be the Lois Lane of the Tribune for sure. But the dream was to be short-lived.

"Oh that's Adrian Kennedy and his producer," comments Mike as he leads the way. It all makes sense now, of course. As any Dubliner knows, Kennedy and his nefarious team have long dominated the airwaves of this fair city every night, specialising in getting the city's denizens up in arms and fanatically impassioned over all sorts of subjects, more often than not relating to sex or drugs. Growing up in Dublin the majority of us listened to these nightly rants and rows, whether we admit it or not.

"When myself and Derek (the 'Open-Mic Show' producer) started the show last April, we wanted to get away from all the serious stuff that's on the radio, and that even goes on in our lives," confesses DJ Mike Hogan. "In the night time slots, shows have always been topical, and they were dead popular in the '80s and '90s, and even still today. But we have three hours on a Sunday night so we wanted to give people a bit of a laugh to end the week and have a bit of relief before Monday starts".

During the interview he mentions a wide variety of guests that have appeared on the show. Instead of trying to catch famous people though, Hogan opts instead for finding anyone with a screw loose or who might be generally insane. "The Open-Mic", for instance, was the platform for a storm chaser who reported to the show live as Hurricane Katrina battered the Gulf Port in Mississippi.

"Yeah, that was a few weeks ago. It was a bizarre interview though, the guy had to hang up and hide out because Katrina was ripping up everything and had freaked him out... and this guy chases hurricanes for a living," laughs Hogan. "We thought he could have died when we found out how big the devastation was so we rang up to make sure he was okay the next week. He was alive and full of talk."

"But he was alright compared with another

American... all the mad ones are from there. We found a website for this guy who used to work for NASA and now he makes hats which apparently prevent aliens from abducting the wearer. The have some metal or plastic in them, which acts as a barrier." Mike rummages around the offices and produces one of these fantastical inventions.

"And does it really work?" I cannot help but ask, curiosity overcoming any sense of foolishness.

"I think so," answers the FM104 DJ, "I mean neither me or Derek has ever been abducted. We asked the guy to send us one made in a Paddy-hat style. Apparently it might disappear if you leave it in a dark cupboard. We've left it hidden for the last three months, and as you can see it's still here, and possibly working."

I begin to think around this time that maybe it was the 'Open-Mic' team who were off their rockers. Hogan explains though that he felt that lending his natural sense of humour is part of what he feels makes the show a success. He confesses that he feels he is a bit mad anyway and that's why all the loonies on the Internet appeal to him.



DOING HIS THANG: DJ MIKE HOGAN IN ACTION

But how did this fellow who used to listen to a tiny Lucan radio station at as a teenager gain such a commendable foothold in professional broadcasting?

Pirate radio fascinated him in his early teens, and at 15, Hogan found himself with his own show on one of the very small stations that had a very limited range in West Dublin.

"But I had a genuine love for radio, you know, and I had a good show there until I was 17 and luckily got picked up by one of the bigger pirate stations. It wasn't commercial but it had a range right across the city. Eventually FM104 came along and let me do overnights on the graveyard shift for two years. That's where everyone starts on commercial radio. It was great that the

bosses here gave me the opportunity to prove myself on this level and I guess the show is its' own reward."

When he got the Sunday slot he now holds, Mike Hogan was evidently not content to just follow on from where the last show left off. Apart from trawling the web and magazines to churn up the wonderfully weird, he has also introduced a section where musicians can send in demos to be cast to the judgement of the general populace. I ask him why he felt the need to do this.

"Well radio is a lot like the music business really. You just have to keep plugging away and send

off demo after demo to get anywhere." The expression of Mike's face shows he has obviously gone through the whole exasperating process and knew how exasperating it can all be.

"I have a lot of friends who are in bands are trying their hand as solo artists," he continues, "and whether someone makes a demo in Brian MacFadden's studio or at home, I felt it would only

be right to let them get heard. We'll play anything as long as it's of roughly decent quality."

A quiet laugh from Derek in

the corner suggests some of the material sent in must also be indecently rough.

"The important thing though is that there's space out on the show for people who otherwise wouldn't get their music heard, and that's getting more difficult as technology and product marketing increases," concludes Hogan.

But of course, as a DJ, Mike is even more equipped to dispense advice for the budding Smashies and Nicies of this world. He gets more pensive when the question of how to get into DJ-ing is put to him.

"Well, it's definitely tougher now," he begins, "I

was lucky I could use the pirate stations while they were around but last year new licensing laws shut them all down so that makes it far more difficult to get heard. Loads of demos are sent in by people hoping to be given a chance on a talk show, but without the practice and the experience of making huge mistakes that you got on pirates, a lot of them fall short of the standards."

"I guess the best thing is for young DJs to just get involved in community stations or college radio... you guys have a good one in Belfield? The one in Maynooth where I studied was pretty bad though... but the best place is probably hospital radio stations like Beaumont or James'. At least you can get good practice, it's a lot more than just putting on a voice or being enthusiastic."

Before I leave the sanctity of the Strawberry Alarm clock office (where the interview was held) I ask Mike to explain where he feels he and the 'Open-Mic Show' might be in the next year or two. "More crackpots, more demo plays and the introduction of live bands" are shot out in quick succession. Mike Hogan is obviously a man with a plan and a belief

that his formula will keep listenership for the station on the up by attracting a net audience of students, young professionals, Sunday night drunks, layabouts and the great array of mad folks that make up our great city of Dublin.

We thought he could have died when we found out how big the devastation was so we rang up to make sure he was okay the next week. He was alive and full of talk

I mean neither me or Derek has ever been abducted. We asked the guy to send us one made in a Paddy-hat style. Apparently it might disappear if you leave it in a dark cupboard

• For more information on Mike Hogan and the 'Open Mic Show', look up www.FM104.ie for a link or tune into the station on Sunday nights from 10pm.

ENTER THE DRAGON

In his effort to 'Go West', avid Pet Shop Boys fan **Derry Nairn** ventures further into the Chinese hinterland and finds himself confronted by a large wall, some would even call it a 'great wall'

Twelve sweaty days in and our wayward journey down the silk road into the belly of the Chinese Dragon has hit a stumbling block. "I hate it here, I want to go home" is the doleful cry from the bed as my travelling partner Aru rolls in agony.

Not for the first time on our trip we have both failed to avoid unfriendly bacteria and are paying the price in substantial physical discomfort and frequent dashes to the toilet. But I only half hear her cries from the wide window of our hotel room. I have a distraction. A familiar scene unfolds in the street below. It's late, but the man lounging semi-conscious and semi-clothed on a deckchair there is still open for business, his wares lying around him, shining in the humid night air.

Opposite him, across the street and near a barrel of hissing, spitting pink meat, a circle of rowdy

gamblers shrieks. They crouch on grubby plastic crates or squat around the makeshift mah-jong table between them, sipping beer and acting out a chaotic scene common to almost every alley and pavement in the middle kingdom.

We saw them everywhere we went. Old and young men and women spending their nights and days playing with cards or dice or chess, oblivious to all. Time didn't seem to matter. The game beside the melon-seller went on well after midnight but could just as easily have started over breakfast.

I remember in particular one warm and memorable Beijing afternoon only days previous when we circled and photographed a large group of card players from the comfort of our rented bikes. It was in the 'hutong', the old neighbourhoods that cluster near Tianamen Square and retain a pleasurable taste of what Beijing life was like when civil war, Mao's cultural rev-

olution and Olympic bids were still unheard of. Pricey guided tours of the area are now possible. But we found it much more satisfying to just follow our wandering wheels wherever they took us. Sailing through vegetable markets and babbling traders, we passed over streams and giant howling dogs being hosed down in the walled courtyards of beautifully maintained old villas.

Not for the first or last time on the trip, I willed my eyes to record everything in front of me. But the memories have faded, as did the evening. So gradually, we meandered our way back to the hostel for a meal of Peking duck, Tsingtao beer and then a well-earned rest.

Beijing is not somewhere to go to chill out though. Our days there summed up the stifling atmosphere of all the big cities we saw in China. Industrial pollution, raw sewage, litter and just general dirt are visible almost everywhere. Smog hides the sky. Traffic roars. The people you pass on the streets try to sell you anything and every-

thing, tipping their cigarette ash on the dinner table raises not an eyebrow, and daily life in China might appear difficult.

That said, staying in a positive humour with a people as exuberant and entrepreneurial as the Chinese in their homeland is not always a challenge. The positive implication of extrovert characters is that people are very bubbly, friendly, helpful and openly loving to each other. It can even be fun when the manners one accepts as normal in Ireland are not an issue for both the native and the traveller. In other words, when you can be rude too.

"No really thank you for offering it to me once again despite my former protestations but I actually don't particularly need or want a commemorative Mao wristwatch" just won't cut it here. After a while, you learn to be more direct and tell people where to go. And it's almost always greeted with a quiet nod of acceptance.

But for now, us two are removed from any such

them, usually disgust me.

I can't stand the horribly packaged anti-climax one feels at such places. I shudder at the thought of the great vacuous circus built around our own Book of Kells or the double-decker tour buses that endlessly obscure the Sagrada Familia in Barcelona from any decent view. Even the supposedly sacred Forbidden City visited only days earlier in Beijing, had been pure and unadulterated Roger Moore-narrated schmaltz from start to finish.

But the wall was something else entirely. Granted, we had chosen a particularly empty and crumbling few kilometres of it to explore. However, I like to imagine the feeling of wonder at a structure so ancient and monumental is the same wherever one treads along its great length. We took a lot of photos that day. That iconic view of craggy hilltops, their towers melting away into the mist like some endless rollercoaster failed to ever become boring. Our imaginations were fired



thing. The Chinese are nothing if not enthusiastic salesmen. You name it – monkey meat, a rickshaw ride, a live turtle - they will sell it. And for a special 'tourist price' too. For this reason, bargaining for everything is a must.

You start doing it for clothes in a street side market. You end up doing it in fancy restaurants and taxis, for water in a supermarket and for your hotel room. As long as it's done in good humour it's a method whereby us visitors not schooled in Mandarin can knock down our prices and communicate with ordinary Chinese people at the same time. Just remember that the prices don't ever come down far. No matter what, you're the amateur. And if you manage to pay the price a normal Chinese customer would, you're doing well.

Otherwise the constant approaches expectant of a flash of George Washington can get rather irritating if you're not in the mood. Or its' simply

forty degrees and you can't open your eyes because of the heat. Which is almost always. Combine this with the fact that ludicrously dangerous jaywalking, appalling road manners and deafening horn beeping is constant, loudly hacking phlegm and spitting it on the floor near your feet is de rigeur and old men loudly farting and then

exchange. Aru continues to cry in pain. I clutch my stomach and watch the action of the mah-jong game on the street below us from the window.

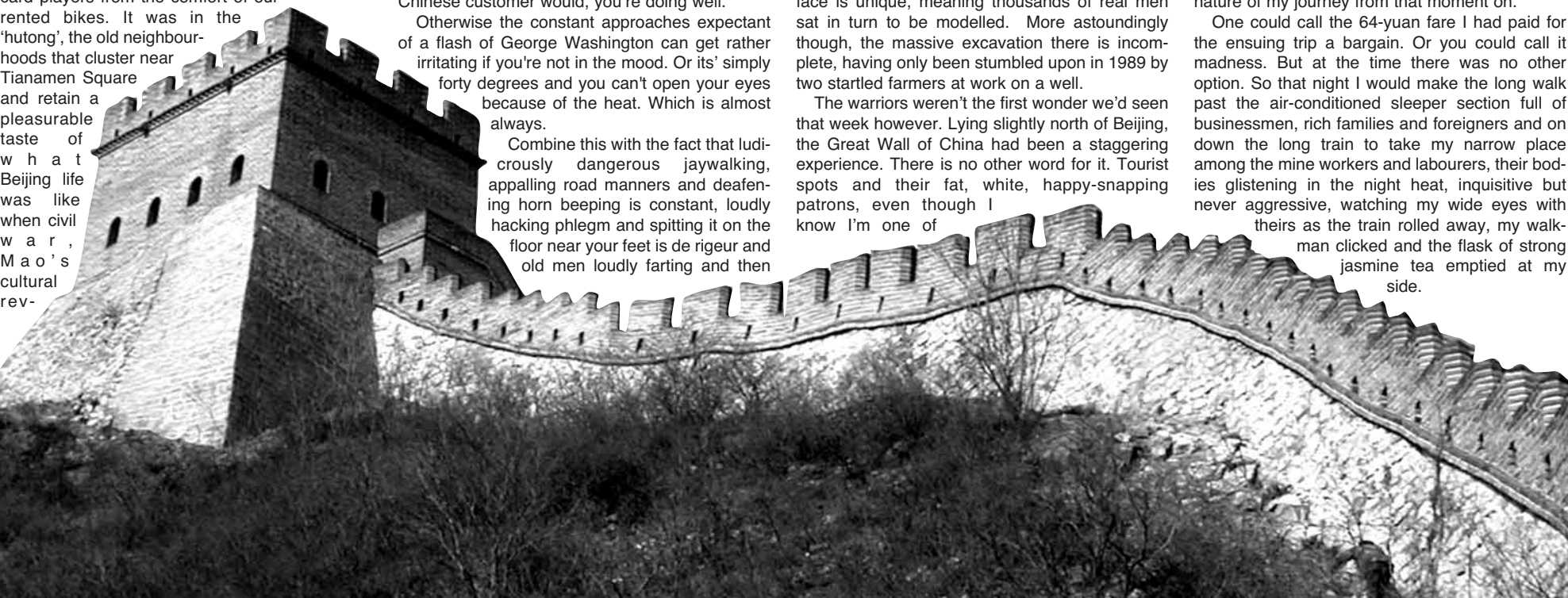
We are in Xi'an, a large, hot and bustling city at China's core that was once the endpoint of the Silk Road to Persia and an ancient and prosperous capital. These days it's more famous as one of the world's richest archaeological areas. More specifically, Xi'an is the home of the Terracotta Warriors, over 6,000 full-scale replica soldiers buried in the vast tomb of a long lost dynastic emperor.

It's a real army, it's cavalry sitting astride full-size horses and sporting iron spears and lances in genuine battle formations. Each statue's carved face is unique, meaning thousands of real men sat in turn to be modelled. More astoundingly though, the massive excavation there is incomplete, having only been stumbled upon in 1989 by two startled farmers at work on a well.

The warriors weren't the first wonder we'd seen that week however. Lying slightly north of Beijing, the Great Wall of China had been a staggering experience. There is no other word for it. Tourist spots and their fat, white, happy-snapping patrons, even though I know I'm one of

at every step. Here the body heat of a guard, shivering in the winter frost fifteen centuries ago. There, the cold breath of a Mongol assassin quietly clambering over a parapet towards him in the dark. Here the death of a thousand armies. The story of a lost world. But in our world the train ticket in our hands said real time was still ticking away. From Xi'an that night, our paths would split. Aru would head southward to Chengdu and Tibet. I would go north to the Mongolian border. We would leave each other not only in ill health but with tears and wishes for safe passage, wishes that, in retrospect, I perhaps needed more than Aru given the chaotic nature of my journey from that moment on.

One could call the 64-yuan fare I had paid for the ensuing trip a bargain. Or you could call it madness. But at the time there was no other option. So that night I would make the long walk past the air-conditioned sleeper section full of businessmen, rich families and foreigners and on down the long train to take my narrow place among the mine workers and labourers, their bodies glistening in the night heat, inquisitive but never aggressive, watching my wide eyes with theirs as the train rolled away, my walkman clicked and the flask of strong jasmine tea emptied at my side.



RAISING THE VEIL ON MUSLIM IRELAND

In the wake of recent world events involving Islamic extremism, **Karen O'Connell** reports on how Islam is coping in contemporary society, Ireland and UCD



MECCA: THE ANNUAL MUSLIM PILGRIMAGE

UCD Mature Student

Undergraduate Scholarships

The Office of the Director of Access, in conjunction with the Ireland Funds and the Kathleen Rooney Miller Foundation, is pleased to offer two new competitive scholarship opportunities for Mature Students* at UCD.

The first scholarship will embrace fully registered Mature Students engaged in Full Time Degree programmes at UCD for 2005/2006 who are studying toward their primary undergraduate degree. This competitive scholarship will offer a limited number of Mature Students, who are in receipt of or economically eligible for a Local Authority /VEC grant, €1000 Euro per annum for a maximum of three years.

The second scholarship will embrace fully registered Part-Time BA Evening Degree Mature Students studying toward their first undergraduate degree. This competitive scholarship will offer a limited number of Part-Time BA Evening Degree Mature Students, who are up-to-date on Tuition Fee Payments and on limited income, €500 Euro on a one-time basis.

Application for these scholarships can be made through the Mature Student Adviser's Office, D207, Newman Building, UCD; Telephone 7168245 or email ronan.murphy@ucd.ie

Deadline for receipt of fully completed applications and requisite financial documents is 21st November 2005.

*Mature Students are those students who were at least 23 years of age on 1st January of their year of entry to UCD



With 1.2 billion Muslims in the world today, Islam is the second largest religion in the world. Ireland has a Muslim population of approximately 20,000.

This Muslim population is now a significant element in Ireland's rapidly evolving social diversity. It contributes a positive influence to that diversity through its multi-cultural and broad ethnic roots. This represents considerable growth on the small numbers that arrived here from 1950s onwards, predominantly as students.

Since that time the Islamic Cultural Centre of Ireland, for Sunni Muslims, in Clonskeagh, and the Shi'a Muslim centre, the Ahlul Bayt Islamic Centre, in Milltown have been established. These centres are a testament to the fact that a Muslim community, albeit relatively small, is now very well catered for in Ireland.

The Clonskeagh Centre incorporates a Mosque, library, shop, restaurant and a Sunday School for Islamic teachings. These centres were established by the Muslim community to provide a central place to pray, meet and exchange information on issues of collective interest.

An added reason for their establishment was to contribute to the breaking down of barriers and encouraging mutual understanding between the Islamic and Irish communities.

Recent events have provided more prominent coverage of Islamic Culture in the global media. The Centres provide very useful information regarding a range of issues that are at the core of these debates.

Ali Selim of the Islamic Cultural Centre considers that integration of Muslims into Irish Society has not been a difficult journey. He states "We don't find ourselves as strangers, we consider ourselves as part of Irish society".

The Islamic students of UCD also mirror this opinion. The Islamic Society has over 200 members, 25 of which are non-Muslims. Ahmed Vaid, President of the society feels that "we have never experienced a feeling of isolation or hostility here". This may be a tangible indication of Ireland's progressive cultural diversity gaining maturity.

Turkey's application to join the EU has sparked a wave of controversy and debate in Ireland and Europe. The process of EU accession includes a complicated debate over issues such as human rights. Turkey's application evaluation will almost certainly require greater liberalisation and democratisation of its legislative and governmental systems.

This process, if successful, will result in Islamic culture being fused into a predominantly Christian EU and hopefully bridge the gap between the

Islamic World and Europe. This accession has the potential to be a pillar of stability in the volatile Middle East, and a powerful model for Islamic societies around the world.

However, attitudes towards Islamic Communities globally are somewhat less sanguine. Political issues such as terrorism and fundamentalism are significant factors in generating mistrust towards Islamic populations. Instances of these are perpetrated by a small number of radical factions but the reaction to them causes major problems for the overall Muslim world. Such factional militancy is dividing global Islamic society and creating an increasing gulf between it and the rest of the world.

This divide has been increased by Western countries. The selfish interests of one country are causing the oppression of one race towards another. Issues such as geo-political power, affluence and control of oil reserves are significant factors in threats to peace and poor communications in the Middle East; the cradle of Islamic culture.

The issue of Women's rights and equality in Islam provoke a vast discourse of debate and controversy. Matters such as the headscarf or 'Hijab' have been misinterpreted. The Hijab while being an Islamic obligation is not a requirement that is intended to oppress women.

It is worn in order to observe a code of modesty, which is an Islamic requirement. However, this code of modesty applies to both men and women as both sexes must conform to such a lifestyle norm.

The recent decision taken by France to ban the Hijab caused worldwide controversy. It was perceived to be a religious symbol and was banned on these grounds. Mr Ali Salem stated that "banning the Hijab was a mistake. The Hijab is a religious obligation not a symbol".

Some liberal Muslims encourage the secularisation of state, the view taken by broad-minded women in Islam is that women's emancipation can only be achieved by the restoration of democracy based on secularism.

Contemporary events like 9/11 and the war in Iraq have polarized non-Muslim views of Islam. Such views are fuelled by less than impartial media coverage motivated by sectional interests. This lack of objectivity in much of the reportage and the resultant sense of alienation amongst many Muslim communities is a primary generator of fundamentalism growth in so many parts of the Islamic world.

Prejudice against Islam is deeply seated and one of the reasons for this bias is a complete lack of awareness and understanding regarding the religion. Islam is a religion that advocates peace. The literal meaning of the word Islam is "a religion of peace through submission to God"

There are the five pillars of Islam. They are testament to the absolute devotion by which Muslims live their lives and are the central tenets of the Muslim way of life.

- **Shahadah** is the declaration of faith or belief in the oneness of God.
- **Salah** meaning prayers are performed five times a day. Prayers are said at dawn, mid-day, late-afternoon, sunset and nightfall, and thus determine the rhythm of the entire day.
- **Zakat** is the financial obligation upon Muslims. The word Zakat means purification and growth, and is an important principle of Islam. Every individual's capital is seen as belonging to God and so all money is held by individuals in trust. 2.5% of an individual's net savings is therefore donated to charity on an annual basis.
- **Haji to Makkah.** This pilgrimage is to be performed once in a lifetime if one can financially afford it. The annual 'Haji' begins in the twelfth month of the Islamic year. Pilgrims wear special clothes: simple garments that strip away distinctions of class and culture, so that all stand equal before God.
- **Swam or Fasting.** Ramadan occurs on the ninth month of the Muslim calendar and this year falls from the 5th October through to the 3rd November. This month of daily fasting is observed by all Muslim adults. The fast is initiated at sunrise and broken at sunset. This includes sustaining from food, drink, sexual activity and smoking. It is believed that if one volunteers to fast in this way, they will be in a better position to avoid unlawful things and acts during the rest of the year.
- Although fasting is beneficial to health, it is predominantly a method of self-purification and self-restraint. After 30 days of fasting, the end of the month of Ramadan is observed with a day of celebration, called 'Eid-al-Fitr'. On this day, Muslims gather together in one place to offer a prayer of thanks.
- On the 26th of October, the UCD Islamic society will hold its annual Iftar in the Astra Hall. This is a one day national fast and is open to all who wish to participate. The money raised from this event will be donated to victims of the recent earthquake in Pakistan. Perhaps many of the College community will avail of this event to observe Islamic culture in practice and increase appreciation of its attributes.



POULTRY

Eoin Mac Aodha talks to cult figure Dustin the Turkey about his Presidential ambitions, going clubbing with Eddie Hobbs, scorin' Ray Darcy's missus and getting beard rash from Anne Doyle



TURKEY: IRELAND'S FAVOURITE FOWL RELAXES ON SET

"You have the scoop on this, I'm going to run in the next Presidential election." The political activist Dustin begins in controversial form.

The turkey, who many describe as the moral soul of Irish politics has declared his interest in becoming the next President of Ireland.

The news will send shivers down the spines of government philanderers across the country as the voice of the people decides to put his previous narrow miss behind him and run, not from any selfish motives, but from a genuine belief that Ireland deserves better.

"There's been two women up in Arás An Uachtarán, hoovering doing the ironing and sitting on they're bums, some bird called Mary and before her another bloke called Mary. They've sat up there and done nothing for 14 years. I'm outraged, that's taxpayer's money. I won't stand for it."

A man with a clear political ideology and an answer to every question, he responds to Turkeys impending secession to the EU with an able yet groundbreaking response "Obviously I'm for it, Turkey should be let in, in any state matter or form, just let the women in not the blokes."

Many describe him as Irelands answer to Che Guevara, others as an irreverent bollix with a hand up his arse. The debate has gripped the country in a similar fashion to the civil war, or the Keane - McCarthy fiasco. However, the fact remains that Dustin is a man with a mission, the voice of dissent and fairness in modern Ireland.

"There's another woman leading the country and he's called Bertie Ahern, he shouldn't be there either. All I'm saying to you is there crooks and they're robbin' us punters dry. I don't have enough money to put on bets in Paddy Power because I'm being ripped off. I was telling the world before Eddie Hobbs was even born."

The precursor to Hobbs, Dustin has been railing against wanton government expenditure and serious social issues for well over a decade.

"Eddie, I set him up, I gave him a start, I got sick campaigning against the government. I just decided to take a break and look after myself for a while. Apparently he had a TV show there and it went ok for him, he got a couple of viewers in and that's good."

Despite that, the emblematic turkey is not impressed with Hobbs' depiction as a beacon of moral

integrity.

"Ah no he's a crook, he's worse than any of them. Sure me and Eddie we were down the junior disco there the other day and Eddie was there with all the brown envelopes going left right and centre."

It seems that his destiny lies in the Phoenix Park and not as parliamentarian. The fractious fowl believes that coalition, so central to party politics, is not for him; "Obviously I went into coalition with Liz O'Donnell before." Dustin had already exclusively revealed to the College Tribune "Liz is a bit of a sloppy kisser, that's why I don't like going out with her anymore, ya know what I mean."

When pursued on the matter of coalition the RTE puppet went on to state "It depends who the person is, I mean there are a lot of honest politicians out there, I mean there's em, eh, not him no, Dermot Ahern no, I couldn't stand looking at Brian Cowen and Jesus Mary Harney, no I think I'd stay on my own."

Forever the politician, Dustin has begun campaigning already, he begins his interview with the rugged experience of a seasoned activist.

"UCD is my favourite College by far, you don't do

Ag Science up there, I think they should wash, I think they should leave their cousins alone, that'd my opinion on it. A lot of people think I don't like the students, but I really do. I think you're great people, you have a vote don't you, I think you're fantastic people, you're absolutely brilliant."

Despite his rabid popularity among the masses and his

polished approach, Dustin has made numerous enemies in the higher echelons of the national media particularly with RTE kingpin Pat Kenny.

"That was a feud that was blown out of all proportion, I mean the two of us are turkeys, the difference is he's seven foot or something like that, he's a bigger turkey than I'll ever be."

"We meet durin the week an' all and I say I'll call you a dirty plank, I'll say your so wooden you need cuprinol when you're sunbathing or I'll say your rubbish on television. And he'll say 'That's alright Dustin'. So it's a mutual agreement."

He does however, reserve his vitriol for one of Kenny's omnipresent colleagues; "it's the biggest problem since the famine I think Ireland's ever had and it's called Ryan Tubridy.

At least Mr. Bean (who wore the same "dirty corduroy" as Tubridy) has the decency not to speak, this Tubridy lad won't shut up. That's something I'm going to have to sort."

Despite his popularity around the country it is unlikely that Dustin Hoffman will be winning many votes in Leitrim. He does go on to state that he has no particular hatred of the county but that his comments come from a deep desire to help the people of the place that proudly holds Irelands earliest salmon river.

"Its not hatred, I'm trying to bring the place out, I mean they're only hittin' the famine now, they've never even heard of potatoes, they're just backward people who are not toilet trained. Ya know I'd never say a bad word about them."

Not even the advent of a set of traffic lights in the 'Wild Rose' county appeases the superstar. "They're constantly on green cos' people are tryin to get out of the place".

Although Ireland's failure to qualify for the World Cup has led for some commentators to call for him to take over as Irish coach, this is not something that interests him; "I'd rather play for Ireland, me and

Robbie Keane I think would be a better idea."

Most critics believe that his best position lies on the wing yet Dustin clearly believes he could be more effective than Robbie's current strike partner.

"I think Michael Flatley would be better than Clinton

I mean there are a lot of honest politicians out there, I mean there's em, eh, not him no, Dermot Ahern no, I couldn't stand looking at Brian Cowen and Jesus Mary Harney, no I think I'd stay on my own

(Morrison) cos' all he was doing was dancing around like, he didn't actually go near the ball."

Clearly distraught about not getting to go to Germany on an RTE junket, he felt the match "was brutal, I was actually embarrassed to be Irish. I thought it was a great idea when you need a goal to take off all your strikers. You might as well have Bertie Ahern managing that team."

The archetypal suave, quick-witted ladies man, Dustin has been constantly linked with major Irish celebrities. Displaying his finely honed media skills, perfected from years in the spotlight of the Irish press, he remains coy.

"No I don't [have a bird] but there's a lot of stories about me and Samantha Mumba. You know the two birds from 'Off The Rails', yeah, them two."

IN MOTION

He denies claims that they engaged in a ménage à trois stating diplomatically "Well there was three but they were on the top bunk I was on the bottom bunk. I wouldn't be havin' any of that you know. Yer one Caroline is very heavy around the bum so I had to reinforce the mattress."

The playboy of Inchicore also claims to have had a dalliance with Miss World, Rosanna Davidson. "Rosanna was always hittin' on me. Now there's another sloppy kisser."

Dustin was quick to counteract claims she was in a relationship with an Ag Science student. "The dirty two timing bitch, I'll have to have a word with her. Then again I've a few fillies on the go so I'm not that upset."

His relationship with Anne Doyle has also been well documented, yet he does claim that with "the beard rash, it's not worth it, don't go there."

Women play an important part in Ireland's favourite turkeys life, so much so that he has fallen out with friend and former co-worker Ray D'Arcy. "I'll just put it this way, we were down at the Rose of Tralee and he'd done fifteen of the Roses by the time I got there. So what's left for me, only a couple of birds from Limerick and one from Australia."

"Anyone who comes over here and does a jig on the stage and says my grandfather is from Ireland, bog off back out the country love, I don't want to talk to you. Its not a beauty competition, I think its Crufts."

The enigmatic presenter has managed to get his own back on D'Arcy with his supposed fiancé Jenny Kelly.

"When you see her in the flesh she kind of looks like Eamonn Dunphy. Me and Jenny, Ray doesn't know, but we've had a couple of weekends away in Bundoran, but you wouldn't put that in would you. We're just good friends, bit of snoggin, floggin, loggin down in Sallynoggin."

He also reserves particular praise for Eamonn Dunphy,

whose "best bet would be to go to Lourdes and try and get his face fixed. He looks like a road in Cavan he does, he's so many holes and lines in it."

Despite his ridiculous success, the life of a superstar turkey is not easy, particularly come Christmas time.

"I go where nobody will ever see me or find me, which is TV3. Basically it's a couple of batter burgers and a bag of Tayto for me unfortunately. You can trust no one, best thing is a gang of vegetarians."

"Just as long as it's not Sinead O'Connor because I'd rather be stuck in an oven than talk to her. She's of full sane mind and body alright, she's not bonkers at all."

Along with his many other talents Dustin plans to release yet another album this Christmas with "yer man Chris the burger, Chris the bird you know who I mean. (Chris de Burgh), entitled 'Bling When Your Mingin.'"

The future looks bright for Dustin, what with a prospective Presidential campaign, scoring left right and centre and a possible debut for the Irish soccer team, he is also eyeing up a promotion in RTE.

"I'm actually surprised (Pat Kenny) hasn't been fired by now. I think it'd be great. I'd have all the commercial breaks in between to relax an'

lie down and I wouldn't have any mutts in the audience from up and down the country. I'd fill it with fit fillies and bimbos and models. Put them all in the audience, give me something to look at.

"I think I would take on the Late Late, I've done the Den for so long now and I've got my own show, now I think it's probably the next progression for me, isn't that what they say."

One turkey, one career, yet so many facets. Never before has one icon so represented a generation. The classic Renaissance man; a singer, dancer, and politician, yet most of all an entertainer. Dustin, your country awaits.

I'll just put it this way, we were down at the Rose of Tralee and he'd done fifteen of the Roses by the time I got there. So what's left for me, only a couple of birds from Limerick and one from Australia.



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FASHION

THE SKINNY ON SKINNY JEANS

Getting them on can prove ridiculously difficult but as **Caitríona Gaffney** asks, just who can pull off skinny jeans?



WALLACE AND GROMIT

Flashback to your childhood this month with Wallace and Gromit's latest offering, The curse of The Were-Rabbit Attack, hits the cinemas. Worth a look since the archives were burned down in a fire. There won't be anymore Wallace and Gromit for a while.

JUMPER DRESSES

A warmer alternative to the Summer mini, this item of clothing will see you through the winter. Associated with the beatnik look or accessorised with a high worn belt, jumper dresses are here for now.

JOHN DEERE

An Ag Society initiative to take over campus, watch out as this phenomenon grows.

ASS LOGO TRACKSUIT BOTTOMS

No wants to know if you're ass is "juicy". Please spare the rest of us from such offensive messages labelled across your bum.

CHRISTMAS BEFORE HALLOWEEN

Every year Christmas gets earlier and earlier. What's next, advertisements and shop displays for Christmas starting in January? Consumerism at its worst.

TOM AND KATIE

Who really believes the latest publicity stunt that this pair have pulled. A baby is a big commitment, not an accessory.

B
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BAG

Not too long ago Kate Moss decided to wear a pair of narrow skinny jeans. In case you didn't already know, it's a fashion fact that Ms. Moss is a successful trendsetter and an established style icon.

But every so often, from time to time, Kate steps out in some God-awful outfit so unwearable that it disappears without trace, never to be worn again.

Slaves to fashion the world over prayed that Kate's skinny jeans were a once off, hoping against the odds that these jeans weren't making a comeback.

Unfortunately Sienna started wearing them with thigh high boots, Elle MacPherson squeezed into a pair, and even Victoria Beckham modelled her approval.

When the Gap's Autumn campaign was launched, Joss Stone's wearing of skinny would have signified the final nail in the coffin if it weren't for the sight of grown men wearing drainpipe jeans tucked into cowboy boots around town.

Like it or not, skinny jeans have well and truly established themselves on the fashion front this season.

Boot cut styles have dominated for so long, but now we have reached a post boot cut era and it seems that spray on pants are going to take some getting used to.

It's a good idea to slowly wean yourself into these jeans. There are varying degrees of skinniness, so start off with a flattering pair. This new trend is unknown to most, so tread with cautions and don't just buy the first pair you try on. It's always best to shop around before investing in

any such must have buy.

Admittedly, they're not for everyone. We all have different body shapes so it's understandable that we can't all look sensational in the same styles. Strangely enough, skinny jeans make most women look either too skinny or else too fat.

Unless you have long lean limbs and an attitude for miles, you'd best steer clear of leg hugging jeans. Under no circumstances should you ever forget the number one rule when it comes to wearing skinny jeans; you have to be skinny to wear skinny jeans!

Skinny cigarette jeans should be worn by girls with boyish figures, the slender cut at the calves will add curves to a flat behind and make hips look wider.

This style of jeans only works with a limited amount of looks. Footwear especially is a tight spot. You're more or less restricted to wearing them with boots and/ or flats, assuming that you've long legs like pins. Worn with high heels they will make you look even taller and more slender.

Do not wear them with trainers, you'll look like you stepped straight out of The Strokes.

On top you can get away with either boxy jackets and Victoriana blouses. If you are on the curvier side, wear a loose fitted tunic to balance out the extremes and to accentuate you at your best.

• PHOTOS BY KAREN O'CONNELL



- 1. Motodrainpipe 61
 - 2. Fornarina 152
 - 3. Topshop Baxter Skinny/Stretch 61
 - 4. Black Skinnyfit Trousers 46
- All Clothes Available in Topshop

SURFING THE CRIMSON WAVE

Periods - What's Normal and What's Not? Caitríona Gaffney explains

Most women have a love-hate relationship with their period. While on the one hand it's not exactly something you look forward to, on the other, it can be very worrying and stressful if it doesn't arrive on time.

Your period is your body's way of letting you know that your internal plumbing is working. If you're on the pill, your period also lets you know that your birth control is effective.

One woman's cycle can vary from month to month, which is why it's so important to know what is normal for you.

You need to self-monitor your cycle, and be aware of any major changes as they can signal serious health problems.

1. CRAMPS

It's normal to feel a dull ache or contracting in your lower abdomen or pelvis immediately before and during the first day or two of your period.

Period pains are contractions caused by the hormone prostaglandin, which causes the uterine lining to expel.

Taking the pill can alleviate cramps. When on the pill, uterine walls are not as thick, so there's less tissue to break away and less cramping as a result.

Aside from taking over-the-counter and prescription painkillers, you can also get relief by taking a warm bath or curling up with a hot water bottle. Heat soothes muscles.

High stress levels are linked to painful periods, try to keep your stress levels under control with calming activities such as yoga and meditation.

ABNORMAL

It's not normal to be doubled over in agony. If medication doesn't ease cramping, make an appointment to see your doctors. Let your doctor know that you can't function with the pain.

A gynaecologist will test for endometriosis (when the tissue that lines the uterus is found on other organs); infections which can be treated with anti-biotics; and uterine fibroids (non-cancerous tumours that grow from the muscular wall of the uterus), which can be shrunk or removed surgically.

2. FLOW

Your flow should be heavier at the beginning of your period, gradually becoming lighter each day.

If you are taking birth control pills, your bleeding will be lighter because it keeps the uterine lining thin, so there's less shedding.

Non-pill users may experience an unusually heavy period once or twice a year, occurring when your body hasn't ovulated that month. This is perfectly normal.

When you skip ovulation you over produce estrogen, making the lining of your uterus thicker, and your period heavier than normal.

The colour and consistency of blood ranges from bright red (new blood) to brown (old blood)

Small clots occur when the blood has had time to collect before being expelled, they are nothing to worry about either.

ABNORMAL

It's not healthy to continually soak through a pad or super absorbent tampon in an hour. Bleeding this heavy could be a sign of uterine fibroids; endometriosis; or a thyroid imbalance,

and could lead to iron deficiency anaemia.

3. CYCLE LENGTH.

A healthy cycle is one that's regular, even if it's not exactly in the norm. Like if you bleed for a few days, stop, and then bleed some more, it's fine as long as it's predictable.

The typical cycle ranges from 22 to 35 days including a period that lasts for 4-5 days. It's ok if your period lasts a little longer or shorter than that.

It is possible, but extremely rare that missed periods could be due to premature ovarian failure or premature menopause. This is what happens when the natural functioning of the ovaries goes into decline.

5. BLOATING

It's only natural to be bloated during your period. Typically this includes difficulty fitting into your clothes or getting rings and bracelets on or off.

week of your period, as it can increase irritability. Exercise can also help, as will taking the pill and taking calcium supplements.

BETWEEN CYCLE BLEEDING EXPLAINED

1. Hormonal Birth Control

Starting on the pill can trigger spotting. This may occur as your system adjusts to the synthetic hormones.

If the amount of blood is more than a trickle, or spotting lasts longer than three months, visit your doctor.

'Missed pills' can also lead to abnormal bleeding. It is important to take the most recent missed pill as soon as you remember and to use additional contraception for 7 days after a missed period.

2. You Have An STI

Light bleeding at intervals can be a symptom of Chlamydia and Gonorrhoea. If you've had unprotected sex and are bleeding lightly between or after sex, consult your doctor, and get tested for an STI. If left untreated your fertility may be at risk.

3. You're Pregnant.

It's not uncommon to experience spotting early on in the first three months of pregnancy.

4. You've Had A Rough Sex Session

Small spots of red blood might be caused by a tiny tear in your vaginal wall or cervix torn during sex.

Bleeding should cease within a few hours, and the tear will heal on its own.

FACTS ABOUT PERIODS:

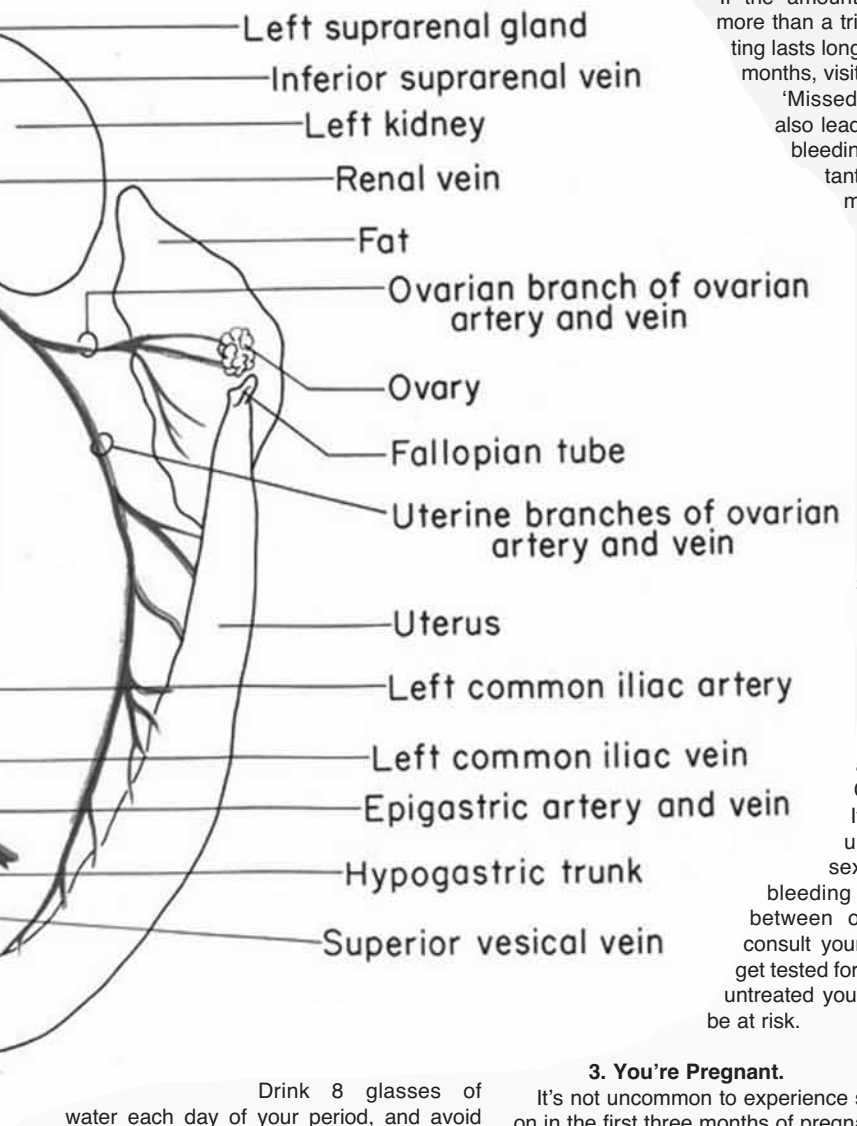
• Girls start their periods between the ages of 9 and 16, but between 11 and 13 is the most common.

• It's not really blood that is lost during a period. Although it is partially blood, it is the broken down lining of the womb, so it also includes womb particles and vaginal secretions.

• The first day of bleeding is counted as the first day of your cycle. Your monthly cycle lasts until day 1 of your next period. By keeping track on a calendar you can establish a monthly pattern and predict what date your period is due the following month.

• Ovulation occurs roughly 14 days before your period starts. This is when you are at your most fertile.

• Research has proven that women who live together often get their periods around the same time as each other. However, interestingly enough it seems that the strength of a friendship affects this natural phenomenon, rather than geographical proximity.



ABNORMAL

If your period lasts longer than seven days your doctor may suggest starting the pill to help regulate your cycle; do a blood test to check your thyroid; or look for fibroids that may need removing. However, fibroids are uncommon in young women, and would only rarely need to be removed.

4. NO PERIOD

It's normal to miss your period when you're pregnant.

Once you've ruled out pregnancy, it's also possible to miss your period when you're particularly stressed.

ABNORMAL

Missing your period for three months or more could be a sign of something more serious, possibly an ovarian cyst or an overactive thyroid gland.

Over exercising or being under weight can also stop periods. Your body requires a certain amount of fat to ovulate, as estrogen is made from both your ovaries and fat stores.

Being over weight can also cause periods to stop as your body produces too much estrogen.

TOXIC SHOCK SYNDROME

Toxic shock syndrome (TSS) is caused by a bacterial infection in the body. It can happen when a woman uses tampons, although it is not clear why it occurs.

Women who use high-absorbency tampons are most at risk. Symptoms include the sudden onset of fever, chills, vomiting, diarrhoea, muscle aches, and within 24 hours a blotchy red rash may appear.

You can avoid TSS by changing tampons often, and using tampons with the lowest absorbency. Store tampons away from heat and moisture to keep bacteria from multiplying, and always wash your hands before and after using a tampon. If an unused one falls on the floor, throw it away and do not use it

Drink 8 glasses of water each day of your period, and avoid salty foods before and during your period to escape that uncomfortable bloated feeling. Exercise will help sweat out excessive fluid.

ABNORMAL

If abdominal bloating persists after your period, it can be a sign of irritable bowel syndrome, or lactose intolerance.

If either are the case, they can be treated by changes to your diet.

In rare cases, persistent bloating can be a sign of ovarian cancer. To rule out the possibility of cancer, consult your doctor

SURVIVING PMS

Breast Tenderness: Taking vitamins E and B6 supplements, wearing a well fitting bra, and avoiding salty foods will reduce aching and sensitivity.

Fatigue: To beat the tiredness associated with PMS try deep breathing exercises to help you relax at night. Regular exercise is the best way to boost energy levels.

Emotional madness: We all get a bit ratty when it's our time of the month when our hormones run wild. To ease the mood swings avoid caffeine the

FILM

BUNNY AND THE BEAST



'Wallace and Gromit: The Curse of the Were Rabbit' is the latest instalment from writer and director Nick Park, who made the characters Wallace and Gromit famous with his stop motion shorts in the early 90's.

A decade later Nick Park and his crew return with similar style, but in a feature length instalment. Peter Sallis returns with the unmistakable voice of Wallace together with Helena Bonham Carter, Ralph Fiennes and Peter Kay.

The story begins with the usual introduction to the twosome, who now run a company, 'Anti-Pesto' that humanely dispose of pests. Wallace and Gromit cheerily help Lady Campanula Tottington (Helena Bonham Carter) rid her garden of rabbits in preparation for the forthcoming annual Giant Vegetable Competition, not, however, without first encountering Victor Quartermaine (Ralph Fiennes) who would rather shoot the bunnies and pompously flirt with Lady Tottington.

To Wallace and Gromit's dismay, the trigger-happy Victor is the least of their worries, for the prize vegetables of the town quickly come under threat from something more than a few rabbits.

Wallace and Gromit are commissioned by Lady Tottington to catch the beast that threatens the future of the annual Giant Vegetable competition.

Victor Quartermaine, on the other hand, has other ideas on how to stop the beast. With the creature still leaving a path of destruction through the town, Lady Tottington is forced to let Victor kill the were-rabbit. Little does she know that this could have dire consequences for Anti-Pesto.

The film follows the predictable structure of most children's movies, and indeed Hollywood films. Park does it, however, with a sense of self-observed humour and makes various references to the werewolf/horror genre such as 'Jekyll and Hyde' and the films of George A. Romero.

The cast deliver their performances perfectly never trying to transcend the comic banter that is inherent to Wallace and Gromit so that the dialogue is sharp but never forced, which was the key to the genius of 'Chicken Run'.

Visually, Wallace and Gromit is very different to the dark and surreal aesthetic that Tim Burton uses in 'The Nightmare before Christmas' and the forthcoming 'The Corpse Bride'. Instead, Park sets out to create a coy and idyllic view of rural England. Every frame of Wallace and Gromit

incorporates a type of realism and attention to detail that is both unsurpassed and impossible to imitate.

Given that every frame (24 per second of film) has to be individually shot and directed, it is a testament to the talent of Park and co. who produce a film that is flawless and spectacular in style and content.

While the typically British wit of 'Wallace and Gromit' is hilarious and the film is flawless in terms of style, it is let down by the fact that this is not a groundbreaking film. If you have seen the shorts of Nick Park then you will already be familiar with the genre.

This could be one of those efforts that should really be watched on a TV screen, rather than in the cinema. In any case 'Wallace and Gromit: The Curse of The Were Rabbit' should not be missed, regardless of age. Park and his team do not need to rely on a saturation of 'adult-but-child-friendly' jokes to make this film enjoyable for adults as it oozes comic charm - and a bunch of floating bunnies (seriously).

-ANDREW WHELAN

WALLACE & GROMIT: **7/10**
THE CURSE OF THE WERE RABBIT

TROUBLED IDENTITY

Breakfast On Pluto is a vibrant black comedy from award winning director Neil Jordan. Loosely based on a novel of the same name by Patrick McCabe,

Breakfast On Pluto is a coming of age tale of young transvestite Patrick 'Kitten' Braden (played by the excellent Cillian Murphy) set in 1970s Ireland.

Abandoned as a baby in a small Irish town near the Northern Irishborder, Patrick senses he's different from everybody else. He begins to dress in women's clothes from an early age, much to the disgust of his foster mother who proceeds to inform him that he is in fact an orphan.

Upon hearing his real mother looks like the film star Mitzi Gaynor, Patrick becomes obsessed with finding his mother and sets off to London in search of the phantom lady.

In London Patrick engages with some unusual characters, from a Connaught man in a wamble suit to a magician and it's not long before he transforms into transvestite Kitten.

The film examines the nature of 1970's Ireland's. Patrick is ostracised from his community because he is seen as as somewhat onorthodox. One of his best friends, Charlie (played by new comer Ruth Negga), is also marginalised from society, as she is a black girl, which was obviously unusual in a mono-cultural and primitive Ireland.

Charlie and Patrick develop a bond through their shared orphanhood. Another of Patrick's friends, Irwin (Laurence Kinlan), also becomes isolated because of his involvement with the IRA.

The rise of the IRA is chronicled in this film. Beginning in the late

60s and ending in the 70s, Breakfast On Pluto shows the beginning of the 'troubles' while highlighting its tragic effects. The conflict clearly impacts Patrick's world as Irwin becomes progressively involved in the rising tide of violence. When tragedy occurs within his community Patrick is dev-

astated and he travels to London with the dual motive of escaping the 'troubles' and finding his mother

Neil Jordan is on top form once again with this gem. Obvious comparisons are going to be made with Jordan's earlier work The Crying Game as gender and the modern day violence of the IRA are dealt with in both films, but that's where the similarities end.

Breakfast On Pluto focuses on different aspects such as belonging, friendship and loss. It is ultimately a quest for home, something that Patrick is missing from the outset.

This is an excellent film mixed with comedy and tragedy as well as outstanding cinematography throughout. It is shot in Kilkenny, which adds to the essence of Irishness in the film while the soundtrack also evokes powerful images of 1970's Ireland.

The cast is brilliant throughout. Liam Neeson excels as Father Bernard, while Brendan Gleeson is hilarious as the wamble Uncle Bulgaria. Stephen Rea plays an unorthodox magician who bringing a great deal to his small part. Newcomers Ruth Negga and Laurence Kinlan also turn in strong performances.

However, it is Cillian Murphy who steals the scenes as Kitten. He bounces off the other actors and actually looks like a girl. Without Murphy this film wouldn't have been such a success. It will come as no surprise, come March, if Murphy is up for a best actor award at the Oscars. While this film isn't for everyone, most will enjoy, immensely.

-ANDREW CARLOS

BREAKFAST ON PLUTO **9/10**

FINGER LICKIN' GOOD

Paul Walker and Jessica Alba star in this nautical adventure set in the Bahamas. The film opens with a run of the mill plane crash, which sets the mood for this run of the mill thriller.

The lead character Jared (Paul Walker) plays a happy go lucky diver whose most notable achievement in life seems to be that he has snared the lovable Sam (Jessica Alba). To enforce this he kisses her vigorously at any given opportunity. Their bliss is interrupted by the arrival of Jared's old friend Bryce, accompanied by the lovely Amanda.

While the two couples are frolicking in Caribbean they come across a sunken pirate ship, and almost immediately encounter the sunken plane and its horde of cadaverous cocaine.

This places Jared in a moral dilemma, being poor he has no money to nobly excavate the pirate ship and the cocaine would provide him with a lucrative source of income. We all know that should he get involved in such a messy business as selling cocaine, things are likely to go slightly askew.

Jared does the right thing and decides to leave the illicit drugs where they lie. But, uh oh, Bryce and his girlfriend have no such ethical compunctions.

The movie steps up a gear when a drug kingpin begins to enquire locally as to the whereabouts of his narcotics. Unbeknown to Jared while he is tenderly kissing his girlfriend, Bryce is alerting the local bad guys to the fact that he has a substantial amount of coke for sale.

Que an annoyed drug lord. Our intrepid heroes then have to face nearly every aquatic danger known to man (unfortunately no giant squid or pirate ghosts) as they attempt to escape the dealers wrath.

The underwater scenes also serve as nice breaks from some of the pretty wooden things the charters are made say, like this gem from Sam "What is it you want in life that money can't get you?"

The plot neatly bounces along, in no small part due to Alba and her amazing ability to bikini act. The underwater scenes also serve to act as an "all you ever wanted to know" about Jessica Alba's body, and thankfully no angle is left out.

Into The Blue is not the greatest film ever

made, but it never pretends to be. It has two positive things going for it. Firstly, its not rubbish.

Secondly and most importantly it has Jessica Alba, who looks just as alluring in her two-piece as Ursula Andres did in Dr No.



-JOHN PARSONS

INTO THE BLUE **6/10**



REALITY BITES

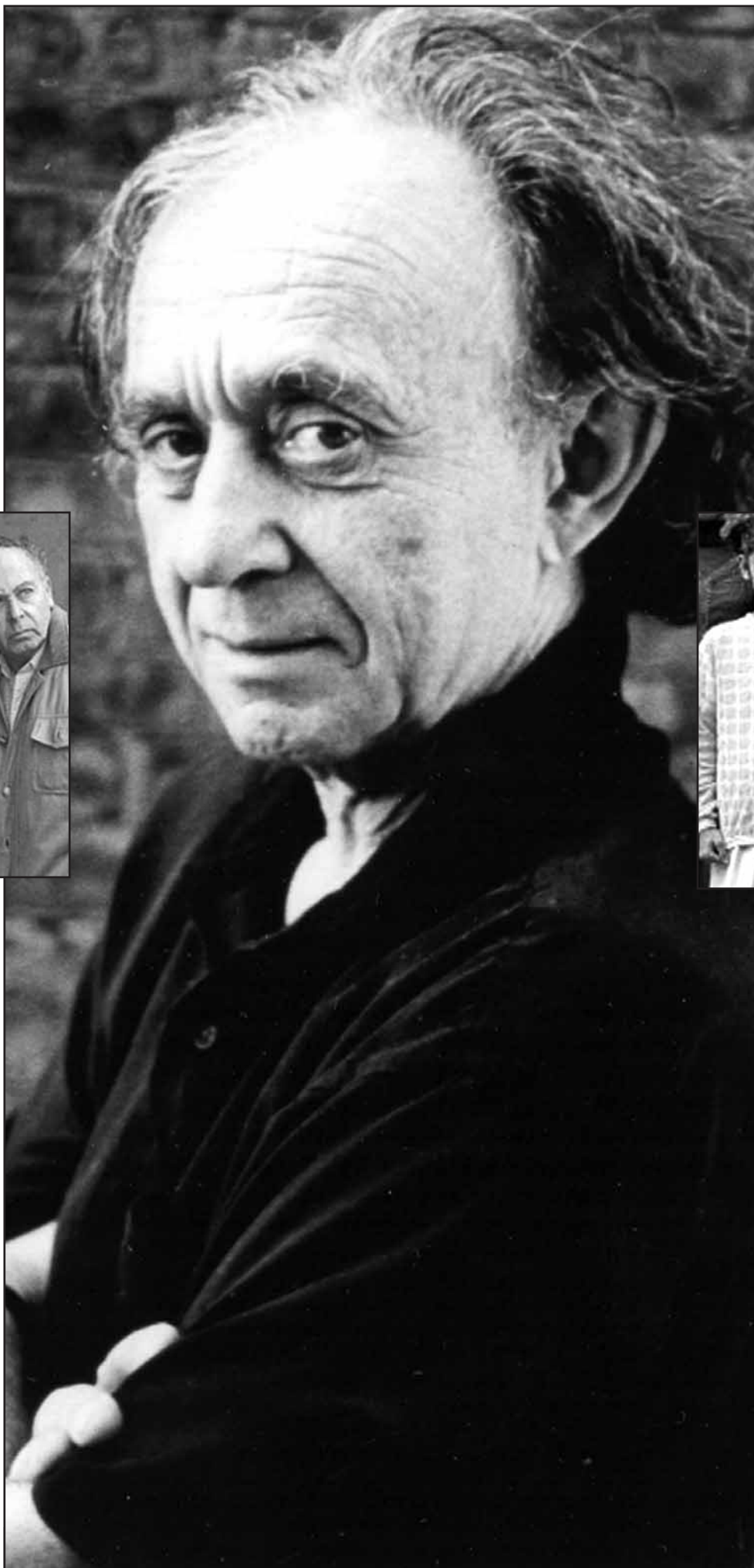
Emma Grealy travels to Dublins Stranger Than Fiction festival and reports back on a vibrant and at times inspiring genre of documentary films.

A dilapidated figure shuffles to the microphone in a dimly lit cinema, wrinkles pour from his face, crumpled clothes hang awkwardly on his frame. This gnome like man shouldn't exactly endear you to listen.

The image completely betrays the character. This is the grandfather of Cinema Verité, the director of over thirty documentaries, the filmmaker who revealed uncomfortable truths about American society in 1967 before the state censor stepped in.

This was Frederick Wiseman; lawyer turned documentary film-maker speaking to a rapt audience about his life's work. Would this have happened ten years ago? Possibly, but could an Irish film festival have dedicated itself solely to the documentary and screened over twenty-five documentaries over four days playing to enthusiastic audiences?

Doubtful. In the background, religious reverence for the documentary may well have been quietly sustained by dedicated film aficionados but a popular genre it was not.



FREDERICK WISEMAN: THE GRANDFATHER OF CINEMA VERITÉ



With the advent of popular productions like *Fahrenheit 911*, *Bowling for Columbine* and *Capturing the Friedmans* the genre has been undeniably altered.

Many would argue that reality TV is an exploration of the social documentary, albeit more than a little jaded at this stage. Digital media has made documentary filmmaking more democratic and accessible, consequently, as Wiseman himself noted, it has allowed for more bad movies to be made.

However, the Irish Film Institute's Stranger than Fiction Festival was worthy evidence of the positive side of this turn around.

Sold as a snapshot of both Irish and International documentary filmmaking, the festival began with a glimpse of the glorious years of Irish football. Jack Charlton-The Irish Years rekindled entertaining Italia '90 memories through the reminiscences characters like John Giles, Ardal O'Hanlon and of course, Jack Charlton. From there, the festival explored a multitude of issues: bigamy, nationalism, prostitution, economic crisis, mere words on a page until brought to life on screen.

From its infancy in 1923, the term documentary has been saddled with the argument as to whether it is reality or merely a reflection of reality. Whichever perspective is taken the exploration of each social quagmire was brought to bear in each individual story, none more individual and personal than Tomás: In Power and Graceful.

An account of fifty-year-old Tomás Lynam who has Downs Syndrome and is writing a book about his life. Local director Barrie Dowdall, a relative of Tomás, steered away from a patronising depiction of Tomás, instead bringing to the screen a man with a sharp sense of humour, who has an opinion on everything from Kevin Keegan's worth as a footballer to the Iraqi War.

Apart from Tomás' character, the audience was drawn in as the documentary was pieced together through a sort of family photo album format. In recollecting his life through a series of photographs, each one was rooted to a story, joke, or

memory, which Tomás shared openly and honestly with the camera, proving unsurprisingly to be an audience favourite.

The 2004 Academy Award Winner for Best Documentary *Born Into Brothels* also proved popular. The film took the audience to the bowels of Calcutta's Red-light district where an American photographer, Zana Briski, was living with prosti-

the camera of their inevitable fate. Kochi, a spindly-legged pixie and descendant of a long line of prostitutes opened the film saying "It won't be long now", speaking of the conveyor belt of prostitutes in place for generations, only waiting for her to join.

Born into Brothels saving grace as a documentary was that it never endeavoured to act as an ultimate saviour nor did it denounce the West. Instead, Briski challenged the social concepts as best she could, actively encouraging the children towards education but all the while remaining aware of the cultural and traditional constraints and therefore never allowing the audience too rose coloured a view.

The closing day of the festival allowed for newer faces to showcase their work. The O2 Irish Short Documentary Competition screened ten works from local directors documenting colourful lives from such diverse subjects as sufferers of insomnia, American Evangelists and student priests.

The winning film *Idir Dha Shaol* told the story of Willie Walsh, an Irish emigrant living and working in a homeless shelter in London. Beautifully shot,



with candid interviews, the film travelled from London to Walsh's birthplace in Connemara to reunite him with his estranged family.

A worthy winner, yet perhaps on an uneven playing field given the hefty production coffers of backers TG4 while smaller productions had to confine themselves to more stringent budgets.

In continuing to encourage documentary film making the IFI also played host to the Stranger than Fiction Market and the Stranger than Fiction Masterclass with the aforementioned director Frederick Wiseman.

The Market allowed for debate on production issues with representatives from RTÉ, TG4, Sky, BBC, Arte and several others while the Masterclass gave Irish film-makers invaluable training with one of the great mentors of documentary film. Outside of the Masterclass Wiseman gave a highly memorable public interview with Myles Dungan of RTÉ's *Rattlebag* following the screening of his 1968 documentary *High School*.

Fans of Wiseman couldn't but have enjoyed his laconic saunter through his history of films, recalling the injunction against *Titicut Follies*, his haunting documentary on the lives of inmates in Bridgewater State Hospital for the Criminally Insane, how subsequently one judge branded the film "a nightmare of ghoulish obscenities". Something Wiseman of course felt was like a flame to moths for cinema goers. Judging by the reception at the IFI last Sunday it won't take such measures to convince people of the documentary's worth.

For More Information

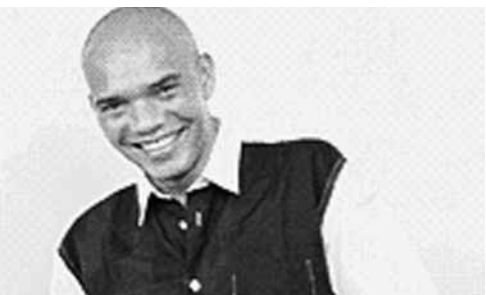
- www.irishfilm.ie
- www.ifi.ie
- www.zipporah.com
- www.queenstheatre.com

The festival officially closed in Dublin on Sunday October 2 but is travelling on to Belfast on October 8th.

tutes and their families. In teaching the children of the brothels photography Briski created great excitement and sparked an otherwise untapped creative talent. The documentary also capitalised on the time with the children who, for brief moments in the documentary, were allowed to act as such.

All too often it was the children who reminded

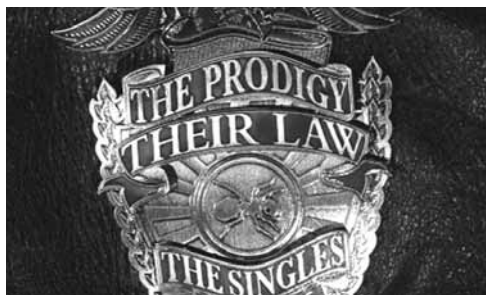
AURAL EXAMINATIONS



JEROME SYDENHAM
'EXPLOSIVE HI-FIDELITY SOUNDS'

The latest release from house DJ Jerome Sydenham displays the kind of genre fusing mixes that we have come to expect from the man behind the Ibadan Records label. Born and raised in Ibadan, Nigeria to an English father and Jamaican mother, Sydenham was educated in England before emigrating to New York where he became a successful DJ and producer. This record retains the deep, soulful beats, which won him the respect of the underground dance scene in the 1980's while incorporating the Afro influences of his Nigerian childhood. The result is a unique mixture of organic and edgier, tech beats. This combination has produced some great club tracks and any Ibiza regular will recognize like 'Stockholm-Go Bang' and 'Sandcastles' both of which could be heard in clubs throughout the island. Sydenham, however, offers more than just catchy club beats with chilled out tracks such as 'Timbuktu' where his Afro influences are plain to see. Overall this is a good record that is well worth a look, even if some great beats are occasionally let down by dodgy vocals dropped on top. If you're a fan of house music this is a record that will hold it's own in your collection even if it won't blow you away.

7/10 **EWIN WHELAN**



THE PRODIGY
'THEIR LAW - THE SINGLES'

The Prodigy have been around for over fifth teen years. Since then they've released four albums, watching the rave scene blossom to incredible highs and faltering to frustrating commercial lows. With "Their Law", they epitomize the whole era to perfection. This is a collection of classic dance tracks that showcase the talent of The Prodigy, from the blistering start of 'Firestarter' to the memorable trippy pop that is 'Out of Space'. This album is a constant reminder of an era when dance singles had originality and authenticity, as opposed to the repetitive beats of commercial dance today. The pounding infectious beats and melodies are still as good as they were ten years ago. Standout tracks worth noting are the superb, "Voodoo People", and the incredible, "No Good". Their intensity as a live band is successfully captured on record. This would be an excellent party album that would get everybody up grooving! However in no way is this an album to chill with, the pounding dance beats are relentless to the very end of the album. Though it is an excellent repertoire of a classic dance band, it is nevertheless slightly repetitive. The Prodigy are a very talented band who produce formidable singles yet they stick to a consistent formula that rarely changes. For the genre, this is a perfect collection of songs, but it lacks diversity.

7/10 **GILL KENNEDY**



CLAIRE SPROULE
'CLAIRE SPROULE'

Reigning jazz queen Norah Jones had best watch her place; a certain Claire Sproule, the latest Irish female singer-songwriter on the block, has her eyes set firmly on her crown. Parlophone snapped up the Donegal native within a week of hearing her demo and their machine has gone into overdrive of late to launch her. The big wigs at EMI definitely have high hopes for her. This, her first offering was written between the ages of seventeen and nineteen. She writes with a worldly wisdom that belies her age and the result is an intimate and sincere lyrical style. Unfortunately, she succumbs to the pull of simple rhyming on a number of occasions, most notably on Strange World ("Have you ever looked to the sky? /have you ever wondered why?"). Yet her voice is undeniably pure. At times a greater injection of soul would have been welcome but this will come with age. "Angel" and "Washover" are highlights and the quality overall rarely wanes. This collection of songs will find itself a faithful band of followers but it is more of an indication of what is yet to come than a showcase of her finest hour. Claire Sproule possesses a quiet confidence and is showing some strong promise indeed.

6/10 **JONATHAN KILBANE**



PANTHERS
'THINGS ARE STRANGE'

The death of the single has a lot to answer for. Panthers' indie debut in 2002 (Are you down?) followed by 2003's 'Let's get Serious' EP saw the band showing a level of progression that should have earned 'Things are Strange' for serious listening. Weighing in at a hefty 54 minutes with a paltry ten tracks; these Brooklyn boys have cracked. This five-piece band knows how to rock. Jayson Greene is a more than talented front man; his deft, and quotable lyrics drowning under the muted guitars and thumping baselines. Jeff Salane's (previously of Orchid) drumming is perhaps the highlight of the album. 'Things are Strange' is angry, rebellious, alternative music. 'Stroke my Genius' and 'Theory is Famous' are especially sharp, funky and pounding, reminiscent of Nine Black Alps. Centrepieces; 'If You Were Young Once', 'Rage' and 'Walk of Shame' are a fifteen minute train wreck, disjuncting the album and lacking the pace and vision to have any merit of their own. The dismal 'Weird Birds' is a gruelling saga; the band running painfully out of ideas before the track is half over. Panther's attempt to expand their music implodes the album, suffocating the energy that originally stood them out of the crowd. This band has pushed itself to the limit and is still left wanting.

5/10 **KINGSLEY KELLY**



GEMMA HAYES
'THE ROADS DON'T LOVE YOU'

Tipperary born performer Gemma Hayes' new release opens with an Ashley Simpson-esque feel plus an Irish edge, slightly darker but far more attractive. The opening tracks have the eclectic feel, which draws the listener in, but unfortunately the magnetism fades by tracks four through six. The tempo drops to mirror the "o" album style of Damien Rice but unfortunately this works slightly against her in track four "Easy On the Eye" This track also sees the lyrics weaken. Despite this slight deviation from a style that obviously suits her far better the album holds together well. She has previously been likened to Joni Mitchell and this is most evident in track eight "Helen" which really exhibits her strengths, especially her sensuous vocals. All in all, 'Roads' is a good mix, which heralds a bright future for this up and coming starlet. What was missing was one standout track that would blow all competition out of the water, but it just doesn't appear on the record. In summation this Southern Irish performer creates lush and airy music warmed by electronic pulses, breathy vocals and subtle but solid, pop hooks but ultimately is too familiar.

6/10 **JONATHON BLACKMORE**



DEVENDRA BAHNHART
'CRIPPLE CROW'

Davendra Bahnhart is not your stereotypical singer songwriter. Born in Houston, Texas, named by his parent's meditation guru, he grew up in Venezuela where he witnessed his first military coup. He moved to California where he dropped out of Art College and, on a whim, booked a flight to Paris where he ended up a homeless and penniless busker, all before his mid-twenties. Influenced by late 60's drag Theatre group, the Cockettes, Donovan and Caetano Veloso, he found himself involved with a group of likeminded friends; Joanna Newsome, Anthony and The Johnson's, and Coco Rosie to name but a few. This is the third full length album in three years from what seems to be a bottomless well of inspiration and extraordinary talent. Recorded near Woodstock, Cripple Crow is a twenty-two song, acid-folk bohemian masterpiece; a musical compendium of hauntingly ethereal and always uplifting jazz, Spanish and folk guitar. The full band jams that didn't really feature as heavily as on previous albums stomp and swing to a very organic Tyrannosaurus Rex meets Spirit groove. However, like on previous albums, it is Bahnhart's wistful, winsome and generally hypnotic voice and his beautifully arcane, cyclical lyrics that gives him that exceptional and distinctive edge, transcending him into a different solar system from the James Blunts and Paddy Casey's of the world.

9/10 **STEPHEN CAFFREY**



JEFFREY & JACK LEWIS
CITY & EASTERN SONGS

Fresh from Rough Trade's anti-folk stable comes Jeffrey Lewis' umpteenth release. Lewis, informed readers will know, is the quintessential Woody Allen of the singer-songwriter world. His work is characterised by a tendency to rambling self-parody of an eccentric variety, set against the background of mundane urban-living in his native Lower East Side New York. Rough Trade have been pedalling him, along with sometime collaborators 'The Moldy Peaches' as the European face of New England's anti-folk movement. He has released a string of moderately successful acoustic releases this side of the Atlantic. Where on previous releases his name was to be found in the small print, 'City & Eastern Songs' sees brother Jack Lewis given equal billing as a collaborator. Jeff's lo-fi trademarks are still present in songs such as 'Williamsburg Will Oldham Horror', but the work benefits from the inclusion of Jack's songs, where we hear a departure from the Jeff tradition with admirable bombast. Underscored with the fuel-injection of Jack's electric bass and a full backing band, songs like 'They Always Knew' and 'Time Machine' shine out as immediate, punk-sensible hits. Where previous offerings suffered from a dearth of counterpoint to Jeff's mordant acoustic wanderings, this album achieves an excellent balance between neurotic introspection and rock-out simplicity and comes with a glowing recommendation.

8/10 **FIONN DEMPSEY**



BOARDS OF CANADA
'THE CAMPFIRE HEADPHASE'

Under the Boards of Canada alias, Scottish brothers Mike and Marcus Sandinson have become deities within the so-called "intelligent" dance music scene. They offer up aural equivalents of the imaginative potential a kid feels when presented with an empty cardboard box. Wrapped in artwork closely mimicking that of previous releases, their aching sense of wonder has once again been borne out across 15 tracks. By and large, you are struck by how minimal their sound actually is. It is like something that has been transmitted across tin cans and string. After the paranoid drones of such songs as 'Gyroscope' on Geogaddi, this album is almost uplifting. On tracks like 'Chromakey Dreamcoat' there's a schizophrenic marriage of beats and acoustic guitar and a viola meshed in on 'Dayvan Cowboy'. The mid-range is up and the bass is down with the eerie voice samples expunged from the mix. One listen through won't suffice here. At worst it is music for yuppies to fuck to or the sort of thing you'd expect to hear at a cult mass suicide. At best it's just a rehash of something that was perfected on 'Twoism' yonks ago. A few thrown in acoustic slices fail to assure us that they've been doing more for the past three years than getting stoned and watching documentaries. The phrase 'one trick pony' has never been so apt.

2/10 **JAMES REDMOND**

STAYING RELEVANT

Andy Gill of post-punk legends Gang of Four, currently touring the US, speaks to **Ronan Dempsey** about reforming after twenty years and the prospects of a new album

Gang of Four are back. This, it is widely accepted, is a good thing. Ever since the original line-up disbanded in 1982 they have enjoyed growing recognition as musical visionaries, pre-empting today's new wave scene with raw, jagged, beat driven funk rock.

Exploding onto the scene in 1977 with 'Entertainment!' Go4 breathed new life into a stagnating punk era with tight, ripping, grooves and sophisticated, of-the-moment lyrics.

Guitarist Gill describes the beginning process and the inception of a new sound. He is halting and contemplative despite the fatigue of touring, thoroughly considering his answers before he begins and pausing frequently for reflection mid-sentence.

"We felt as though we were doing our own thing...we had a little bit of a connection with Talking Heads or Television...but not really with the classic punk thing.

"I'd have some idea and I'd try and tell Hugo where I thought he should put the drum beats which frequently resulted in him telling me where I could put them as well. That's generally the process we went through, not particularly jamming but kind of talking it through...trying things out, arguing."

Did they have any notion of the effect they were to eventually have? "Well I didn't know but I did feel sure that it was important music, without wanting to sound pretentious.

"I also felt that it was something that would last, it wasn't going to date, especially those first two albums...it doesn't have the production techniques of the time stamped on it which kind of date it."

Last years reformation all boils down to one key issue: relevance, both musically and lyrically. It is what has prevented their assimilation into the archives of musical history, condemned to forever proclaim the mantra of an age long since passed.

"One of the things that made us go for it this time was when we actually played this stuff in a rehearsal room it just really struck me that it felt so contemporary. It sounds very fresh, of the minute."

It is not only Go4's music that has always fascinated listeners; it is the depth and breadth of their lyrical capacity. They manage to tap into the anxiety of an age still acclimatising to nuclear threat and a new global order while at the same time dealing with the mundane features of life.

"A lot of what Gang of Four were doing was talking about people, our own lives, peoples lives around us, what happens in peoples lives and the forces that shape events in [them]."

And what of the much examined political nature of the lyrics? He is ambivalent about being pigeonholed as a band preoccupied with lashing out polemic diatribes against society.

"You can trace [that] element in the sense that me and Jon read some of the post-Marx writers like Althusser, Walter Benjamin, stuff like that. And that's part of the mix, you know."

Whether he likes it or not though, the political features of Go4's lyrics are still a prominent part, setting them apart from music of their day and ours. They have also aged particularly well, which he acknowledges.

"I think that there's a great deal of similarities between the big picture now and the big picture then. It feels like these songs could have been written last week and they would feel just as to the point now as they did then."

Has the benefit of hindsight changed his opinions about Gang of Four's message? A pertinent question considering some of his contemporaries' idealistic U-Turns.

"I think I've probably, no definitely mellowed a bit as a person but then that's what we all do.

"You're not the same nutter when you're twenty as when you're forty. Hopefully you learn a couple of things and get a bit of maturity but in terms of the essential, core ways of approaching things, I don't think that's particularly changed."

And what did he think of John Lydon's appearance on 'I'm a Celebrity'? "I wouldn't dream of watching one of those programs [but] because he was on it I actually turned on and watched a couple of 'em. I thought it was pretty entertaining!"

Bassist Dave Allen's departure in 1982 signalled the end of the original band. Gill broaches the subject carefully; this is clearly a subject he would rather avoid.

"It was halfway through an American tour, Dave was getting very depressed. He was sitting around with a towel over his head not talking. I think when you're younger some of the stresses and strains of touring can get to you.

"He wanted to go home [but] financially we were depending on the gigs that were to come...we shook hands and he went off home. It did get slightly acrimonious just in the wake of that but you know it was a long time ago."

Following last weeks release of 'Return the Gift', which features re-recordings of old material by the band and remixes by many prominent acts (including the Yeah Yeah Yeah's and the Dandy Warhol's) should we expect anything new from Gang of Four?

"Well we've talked about it actually and we agreed it'd be a good idea if we could do a bit of writing."

Wrapping up, Gill has the unmistakeable air of a man looking forward to his bed. He laughs at the suggestion of trouble with the authorities in the States because of Go4's somewhat subversive ethos. "I think they're more interested in trying to spot Al-Qaeda suspects and that's one of the things that we haven't been accused of being, not yet anyway!"

And what are the chances of a date in Ireland sometime soon? "There isn't right now but it's long overdue. It's ridiculous that we've never played Dublin and we've all expressed our desire to correct that." And this, it could be said, is also a good thing.



GANG OF FOUR: VISIONARIES OF THE NEW WAVE SCENE

BRING IT ON DOWN

The mercurial Alan McGee talks to **Bill O' Reilly** about today's music industry, the brother's Gallagher and why the Libertines are better than My Bloody Valentine.

A brief check through any students' record collections will no doubt uncover an abundance of bands signed by the notorious and fascinating Alan McGee. My Bloody Valentine, Oasis, the Jesus and Mary Chain, Ride and Primal Scream are all alumni of his legendary independent Creation label.

Since this legendary company's demise in 1999, McGee has been occupied with his new Poptones label, managing the likes of Mogwai, The Libertines and The Hives.

So what does the man who, in 1998, predicted the end of the music industry within ten years make of today's scene? "There are a lot of good bands coming out of Britain, I like The Futureheads, The Libertines, Carl Barat's new

band and Babyshambles."

He does however stand by his earlier assertion "I think every single person has got two or three ipods. The bottom line is most people exchange their record collections to each other. It's whoring the record industry to companies like Apple. So I wouldn't reconsider that at all. I think if anything Apple will just buy the music industry rather than the music industry buying Apple."

At early Jesus and Mary Chain gigs, McGee exaggerated the amount of violence in the audience in order to gain them extra publicity. He is dismissive of today's batch of music journalists "There isn't really much music press left. It's mostly tabloids or broadsheets. There's Q, Mojo, Uncut and NME. It's a kind of boys-club but other than that nothing particularly negative."

Ever the publicist, McGee brands the sonic innovation of My Bloody Valentine as merely "ok"

and "not as good as The Libertines", a band currently signed to his new management company. This is more than likely due to the fact that the Loveless album cost a reputed half a million pounds to record with Creation, a financial blow not fully recovered from until McGee spotted the nascent Oasis in 1994.

Did their spectacular success change the atmosphere at Creation? "Yeah probably but not in a good way but that wasn't Oasis' fault 'cos we didn't have the people to handle that kind of success."

Infamously, in keeping with a reputation for outspokenness, McGee referred to the newly formed Coldplay as "bedwetters" but now adds, "I don't really like their music but I regret calling them bedwetters because I've nothing personal against them."

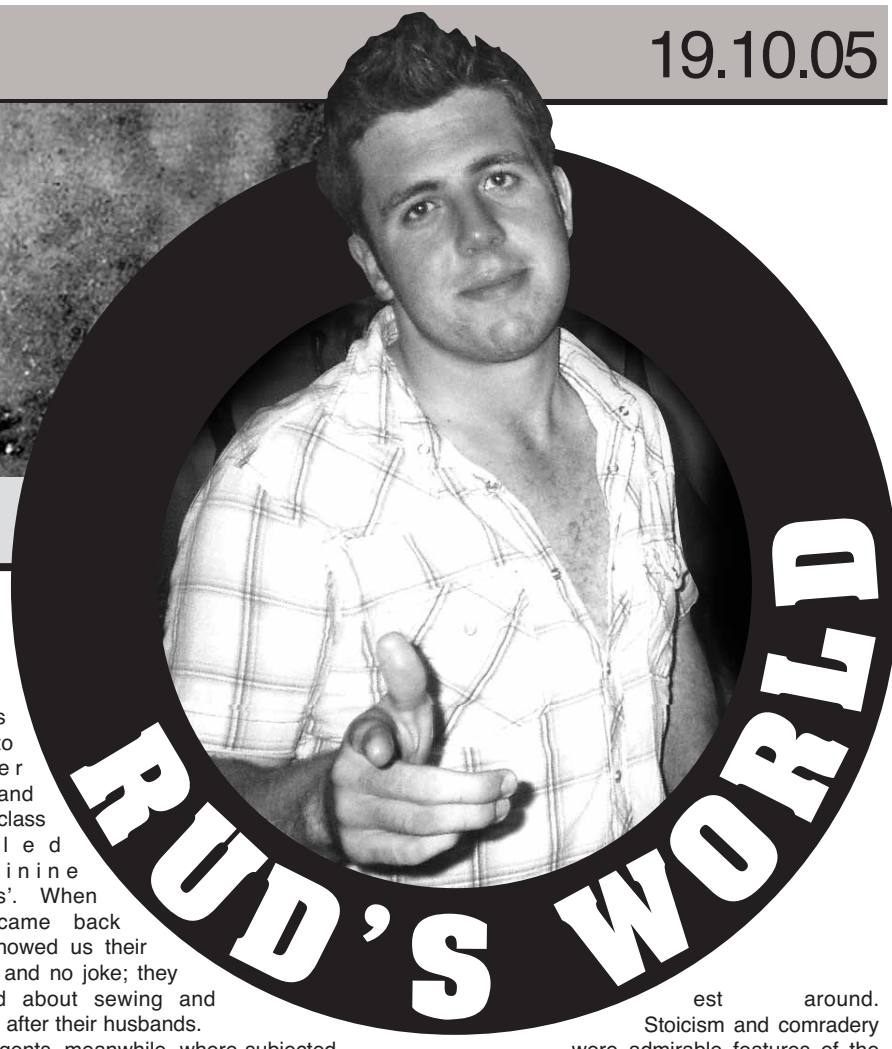
Never a person to worry about controversy, McGee gave the Labour Party forty thousand pounds for their 1997 election campaign. Nearly a decade on he seems to have changed his stance on Blair and agrees that it was a new Labour hijacking of the Britpop movement for its own ends with a beaming Blair being photographed beside Noel Gallagher at number 10.

"We were just trying to get rid of the Tories really. Me and Mr. Gallagher tried to give it a sense of now and we sort of did... All the trouble was I sort of didn't get off the bus the day after the general election, I didn't know, that was probably the mistake, I don't regret doing that to get rid of the Tories, unfortunately Blair's a wet blanket, he's probably destroyed the Labour Party."

McGee brings his Rock n Roll Promz to Dublin on October 26th. The inspiration came while DJing at Glastonbury this year and playing anthemic songs the crowd would sing along to, a mix of The Kinks, Beatles, The Clash and The Verve.

The venture has been yet another success for the former railwayman with packed out venues throughout Britain. He seems like the Richard Branson of music with an uncanny ability to turn initially far-fetched ideas into unquestionable successes, just like the one thousand pound loan that ignited Creation back in 1983 for the then twenty four year old.

Rock N Roll Promz feat: DJ Alan McGee Oct 26, Spirit 12euro doors 10.30



THIS WEEK: GENTLEMEN

In the last issue of this esteemed publication, my colleague Eileen O'Malley asked, where have all the gentlemen gone? It's a good question, but perhaps members of the fairer sex are looking in all the wrong places.

You see ladies there are gentlemen out there. They sit beside you in your lectures. They dance on the same dance floor as you do in nightclubs. They even hold the door for you as you walk around. You just don't notice them.

Green Day once wrote a song called 'Nice Guys Finish Last'. It's not necessarily a truism in all walks of life but when you're trying to impress a girl, gentlemanliness is not the virtue they look for. Girls cry out for gentlemen, but when perfectly polite, respectful men come along they're either ignored or lambasted as clingy.

It becomes clear to the gentlemen of this world that politeness doesn't get you far. It seems that good manners aren't sexy.

Thus, gentlemen are forced to take on a harder persona. To get noticed they must adapt a more bastardly edge, a canny cynicism. Often they're not entirely comfortable with it but unfortunately it's what they have to do to get by.

The next time you see a man go up behind a girl he's never seen on a dance floor and attempt to bump and grind her you'll probably raise your eyes to heaven or take on an expression of disgust. Instead, wonder what has brought about this seemingly primal monster.

This man probably spent his nights dancing

beside girls for half an hour before they sneered, started laughing at each other or moved to the end of the dance floor. This gentleman would have spent his nights wanting to chat a girl up but because of his gentlemanly shyness and penchant for not being sleazy, he didn't.

However, it's the sleazy and cheesy who get the girls. Not for them polite conversation and gracious compliments. They get attention through

However, it's the sleazy and cheesy who get the girls. They get attention through lewd innuendo, cheeky chapiness or sheer force of personality

lewd innuendo, cheeky chapiness or sheer force of personality.

It's a jungle out there and like all animals the gentleman must adapt. Sick of losing out on the girl he is forced to conform to the personality of his nemeses. No more will he be chivalrous; no more will he be ignored.

When I was in Transition Year our class was

split into boys and girls. The girls went to another room and had a class called 'Feminine Studies'. When they came back they showed us their books, and no joke; they learned about sewing and looking after their husbands.

The gents, meanwhile, were subjected to the monstrosity that is the 'Masculine Studies' class. This exercise in male masochism was forty minutes of brow beating on why men are bad.

The teacher, a male feminist who specialised in mind games with children, talked us through all the reasons why our testosterone fuelled emotions were wrong and the moral was that we should embrace our feminine sides.

Last week I wrote about the metrosexual. The affemination of the male. Society has made being a man a sort of pseudo crime. We are expected to become more sensitive and more caring.

With this has come bitchiness. One of the most unappealing feminine characteristics, there is no doubt that this generation of males are the bitch-

est around. Stoicism and comradery were admirable features of the male make up. Now, with schools, media and the marketing world pushing for the toning down of masculinity, the entire populace takes on the personality of an aul one.

Equality and womens' rights are shoved down our throats. Everyone's equal now apparently, but the female of the species expects to be treated like royalty. Then it's thrown back in the face of those offering their coats, opening doors and offering to pay.

So ladies, next time that dickhead you've been scoring doesn't text, leaves you waiting in the rain or makes you pay for an entire meal don't lament the lack of chivalrous alternatives. Lament you're oversights, your lack of discernment when you picked him. There was probably a much better option standing behind him too shy to talk to you.

10 THINGS I HATE ABOUT GOING OUT

by EILEEN O'MALLEY

10 Smell

Fair enough Mr. Martin, the smoking ban was a good idea; it'll save lives and blah blah blah. Alas in the wake of smoke free drinking it became blatantly clear that we are a nation of smelly bastards. We've all been there - having a nice quiet pint when - like a train in the night - a foul odor hits you and a space clears amid shouts of 'who did it?' To which all guilty parties feign ignorance and blame the oversized man with his back to the group. Alcohol, particularly dirty big pints, leads to uncontrollable flatulence, so publicans take note - invest in heavy duty air fresheners, current circumstances cannot continue.

9 'Grabby' Hands

You know who you are. Boys (and to much lesser extent girls), do you think that actually works? That once you've copped a quick feel of our ass or a sneaky brush off the twins, we'll suddenly fall into your arms and be yours? Take note; "IT WILL NEVER HAPPEN."

8 Overcrowding

This issue can't be helped but it doesn't make it any less annoying. Being pushed and shoved for

most of the night by random strangers never makes for a good night. Learn to elbow your way through a crowd and take no prisoners. Release the street fighter in you.

7 Taxi Drivers

Also known as experts on every subject imaginable. As sure as Pat Kenny on a Friday night, there are never enough taxis at three in the morning, when it's pissing rain and bloody freezing. And when you do manage to flag one down you're subject to a litany of questions or to a rant about Bertie and his cronies. Some of us just want a smooth lift home filled with the joys of silence.

6 Vomit

One of the great questions of our time is why is there always carrots in one's vomit...always. It doesn't matter if you haven't eaten said vegetable in years, it will relentlessly end up amongst the sheer mankyness of your own puke. The dangers of vomit also include; skidding, splashing and slipping.

5 Crap DJ's

Have all the fancy 'house,' and 'dance' you like kids, but there should always be room for a spot

of Beyonce or S Club in every DJ's repertoire. Music is a prickly subject, everyone has their personal tastes, but at the end of the day if you're out in a club you're there to shake your thang. There is nothing worse than a DJ who insists on playing tunes with a monotone beat and all the dance-ability of a Daniel O'Donnell in blue jeans special. The Palace back in its golden years, - now there was a club that always got its' music right.

4 Ignorant Bouncers

Everyone has been victim to such specimens. There exists a swaggering, brutish (it's the only name for them) majority who think they are 'The Shit.' Worst of all are those that check your I.D., after which they act like they're doing you a favour by letting you into their fine establishment - only for you to discover upon entering said establishment, that the place is empty and the losers were lucky to have you as a customer in the first place.

3 Girls Pissing on the Street

Admittedly a rare sight, but I myself know young ladies (I use this terms loosely) who have, when nature called, hitched up their 'guna' and did what they had to do. Cringe all you like, but it

happens. Please ladies; the sight of a girl squatting down an alleyway is enough to scar anyone for life.

2 Guys Pissing on the Street

I'll be blunt, there is no excuse for it boys - none. I don't care how much you're bursting; there is nothing worse than lads showering the pavements of our nations capital with their piss. Burger King is always open if you can't be a man and hold it in.

1 Price

Hands up who remembers when you could survive a night out on the tiles with no more than twenty quid in your back pocket? It was a simpler, more innocent time, a time when two pounds got you any drink you fancied in a humble little place called 'The Palace.' Alas thanks to the evil of inflation and the mighty Euro, if you don't have a wad of fifties stuffed down your bra, you are doomed to end up on the water before it hits midnight. Boycott is not an option, so I say stick to what we all do anyway and smuggle in a nagin or two in your handbag. Then party on my friends, party on!

Dear....

COLLEGETRIBUNE@GMAIL.COM

BECAUSE A PROBLEM SHARED IS A PROBLEM DOUBLED

TRIBUNE



Dear Tribune,

I'm a first year "metrosexual" male nurse. I'm constantly surrounded by young fit nubile women. This leads me to be increasingly sexually frustrated. They perceive me as being gay and they show no interest in me except for my opinion on the 'physique' of the male builders working on the Health Science building. To vent my pent up frustration I visit the clinical skills labs on the 3rd floor at lunchtime and 'practice' with the mannequins. Thus I find my mind perambulating to the 2nd floor during my lectures and it is impeding on my education.

Please Help,
Johnny Smith
1st year nursing

Dear Johnny,

You should probably start spending a little more time on your scoring technique than your pedicures. Have a look at the lunge below to see how it's done. With regards to your clandestine visits to the clinical labs, Dear Tribune condemns the sodomisation of mannequins. Try getting a real girlfriend,

there's some proper bowler's in nursing so you should at least be able to score one of them.

Dear Tribune,

I keep having dreams about Justice Minister Michael McDowell. They're not dirty dreams like. He keeps chasing me around with a truncheon in his hand shouting 'unclean unclean, get out of my country'. Afterwards when we've finished we go to a café bar with Gerry Adams and drink alco-pops. Michael always gets drunk and makes really suggestive comments about the Department of Sexual Injustice. I always wake up screaming. Can the Tribune help?

Dazed and Disturbed
Jenny
3rd Psychology

Dear Jenny

Perhaps you should try eating cheese off a pornography magazine. Some scientists believe that the dichotomy of the two apparently diametrically opposed objects produces pleasant

dreams.

Dear Tribune

I'm nineteen years old and have yet to get my period. I've been waiting for years and it still hasn't happened. I've been watching the 'Always' ads from the age of twelve and I have all their products. I'm raring to go. For years I've been living a lie, complaining of PMT even when I didn't and my friends

kept looking at me strange.

What can I do?
John
1st Medicine

Dear John

Please consult your gynaecologist and be sure to write back and tell us what he said, we are particularly intrigued.



THE TRIBUNE GUIDE TO THE LUNGE

THIS WEEK: THE EMBRACIFIER

Ladies and gentleman last week we brought you the lean-in. We trust you have gone forth and perfected this little move, we certainly have. This week we bring you the next step in your lunging progression.

But first, in the last column we mentioned somewhat modestly that the Tribune Guide to the Lunge was world famous. We have been vindicated by the Sugababes as they release their homage to the Lunge.

The song titled 'Push the Button' is a veritable metaphor for lunging. Clearly, the song would have been called 'Lunge Me' were it not for numerous copyright laws and the rapier like reputation of the College Tribune legal team.

Alas we digress; perhaps the thought of simultaneously lunging Keisha and Hydie while letting Mutya watch was too much. You see, we at Tribune Towers have perfected the lunge to such an extent that these things are possible.

The natural progression from the lean-in is obviously the pull and grab, known in lunging circles as the embracifier.

This is a particularly easy lunge to perfect. All you need is a nerve of steel, quick wrist action and strong teeth. The inexperienced embracifier will find that he needs a strong soundtrack behind him to set the mood. However, as you move on you will transcend the music and become at one with the embracifying effort.

It is the most fluid of lunges; one wrong move and you could lose an eye, tooth or testicle.

The embracifier derives from the early years of the WWF, it is essentially a submission move. Like Brett the Hitman Harte, your aim is for your intended conquest to surrender to your wily charms.

Essentially you need to grab her head and pull it in towards you. Don't pull too hard she may end up head butting you; alternatively too gentle a motion may leave you with a footprint indented on your scrotum.

Just the right amount of pressure is needed. Remember however, that it is always the ladies prerogative to say no, so if she's still saying no after the fifth attempt the likelihood is that the lunge is not on.

The embracifier is designed for those lungers who don't have the luxury of time on their hands. It's the sort of lunge the US military pride themselves on; act first ask questions later, the Iraq war of lunges.

THE TURBINE

VOLUME XIX ISSUE III

It's Satire, Stupid!

still only
31p

The McDowell Issue



INSIDE: 4 PAGE PULLOUT

INSIDE

**MAN HIT WITH
PILLOW:
CONDITION
COMFORTABLE**

**AGORAPHOBIC
SETS UP HIKING
SOCIETY -
PANIC ATTACKS
EXPECTED**

**MCDOWELL -
GAY FOR UCD?**

**JOHN DELANEY
CHANGES
HAIRSTYLE/
MANAGER**

**GAY WIZARD
DISAPPEARS
WITH A PUFF**

**APPLE NI LAUNCH
I-PROD ORANGE**

RTE UNCLEAN

The Turbine has learnt that a deadly strain of the Avian Flu Virus has begun to rapidly spread throughout RTE headquarters.

Security officials within RTE have stated that "it's that fucking turkey." When prompted on this remark, the official in question went on to describe Dustin as the offending carrier despite some confusion from reporters regarding Eamon Dunphy's involvement.

Dustin initially refused to comment but when prompted he stated that this was "a bleedin' joke. Just cos' Rosanna Davidson and that other bird from Six One are all over me doesn't mean I'm carrying every disease in this hole. It's Pat Kenny trying to frame me. He's always been jealous of my good looks."

Dustin then rocked RTE by stating "fuck this, I'm off to TV3."

In a desperate attempt from RTE chiefs to "hold onto the most talented bloody presenter we have," they attempted to shift the blame away from Dustin, stating that "we have been noticing some irregularities with Eamon Dunphy during the add brakes on the



PHOTO: FILE

DUNPHY: MAY BE CARRYING AVIAN BIRD FLU

Premiership. At one point he climbed onto the table and simulated the 'flap-flaps' in front of Bill O'Herlihy while at the same time shouting 'caw caw' in the direction of John Giles."

Dunphy has strongly refuted these

claims, telling the Turbine that "I am NOT the carrier of the bird flu! Sniff! Wait until I tell Roy Keane what you're saying about me. You'll be sorry then. Oh yes. Just you wait!! Waaaaa!!!"

FAI: I HATE YOU KERR

The Turbine can exclusively reveal that the FAI are not happy with coach Brian Kerr,

The news comes after Kerr's controversial appearance on the Late Late show where he rocked the tranquil world of Irish football.

Merrion Square top dogs are shocked with their manager's outburst particularly after all the support they have given him.

The shock was compounded by the fact that the FAI is normally such a tranquil and pleasant environment.

It is believed that Kerr has risked his position. FAI Chief Executive,



John Delaney, is reportedly incredulous with his subordinate. Delaney has gone to significant lengths to support Brian Kerr and feels that his manager has let him down.

A source close to Delaney stated "John's awful upset, he treated Brian like a brother and he's just really shocked. What makes it worse is it's so out of character from the way the FAI normally does business."

The association is known for its transparency and cases of clandestine meetings or backstabbing are unknown.

Kerr's comments that he couldn't go out on the field and do it for the players have sparked the unrest. One FAI blazer retorted "That's where we went wrong, I told the lads we should have got Ronaldinho. We'll know better next time."

A spokesperson for Brian Kerr exclusively told the Turbine "What did you want Brian to do. We tried every trick in the book even taking off all strikers and it didn't work. At the end of the day Gary Doherty just wasn't up to it and you can't legislate for that."

It remains to be seen to what extent Kerr's outburst has upset his employers. It is unlikely that the patient FAI will sack Kerr, particularly as there is no viable alternative apart for Stan Staunton, something not even John Delaney would consider.

MYSTERY

The government's payroll system is continuing to pay out millions each year to non-existent civil servants, the Turbine can exclusively reveal.

Hot on the heels of the PPARS controversy and the revelations of overspending at all levels of government, the Turbine has been shown secret reports which show members of a high-level group, known only as the "Cabinet," are in receipt of millions each year from the taxpayer.

Extensive queries by the Turbine have shown that these "Ministers" are supposedly responsible for substantial programmes of work at most, if not all, Government Departments. They include a "Minister" for

Health, a "Minister" for Justice and a "Minister" for Education, amongst others.

Our queries established that these Ministers are paid between 150,000 and 200,000 a year for their so-called work, even though no-one in any Government Department could tell the Turbine who they were and what they did.

When asked if the "Minister" for Health was responsible or accountable for any of the problems in the health service, a churlish receptionist called Mary said "of course not, she couldn't possibly be, whoever she is. Or he."

Opposition politicians were quick off the mark in criticising the electronic flaw which allowed pay-outs to these non-existent phantoms. Sinn Féin said something rude

about the Greens, Labour leader Pat Rabbitte sucked in some air, tutted and said "well," while Enda Kenny may also have spoken.

Minor Irish celebrities were also quick to criticise the payments in a cynical and pathetic attempt to garner media attention. Disgraced TV presenter Don Conroy noted that "the state's money could have been used so much better, for example to fund my latest project, the extermination of Ireland's owl population."

TV3's Trevor Welsh was equally vehement, claiming that "of course, that money could have been used to fund my extravagant range of shirts and ties on tonight's eircom League Weekly," while the Carter Twins refused to comment.

DOWN THE LINE

JUDGE KERR-FULLY



In the wake of Ireland's failure to qualify for the World Cup, Colin Gleeson argues that the media's treatment of Brian Kerr is a disgrace particularly in light of the standard of his predecessors

It wasn't supposed to happen like that. The shrill utterance of the whistle. Intrusive. The players just stop. They look helplessly toward their comrades. Despondent. Lost. Looking for a cause. A reason to exist. That numbness inside beginning to overwhelm the senses as disbelief takes hold. The tears already welling up. The dream over.

It was a day for leaders and a day for heroes. We had neither. Nobody can fault the commitment of those men. The hunger. It was with an absolute pride and esteemed honour that the Irish watched men like Richard Dunne and Matt Holland fight back the tears as they trudged off the pitch. Devastated and distraught because the World Cup has gone. That kind of passion has been the cornerstone of Irish football for many years.

Last Wednesday was the end of an era for Irish football. Post-mortems and recriminations are in full swing. The vultures are circling overhead. It is looking increasingly like the end of the road for Brian Kerr. The Irishman has been subject to abuse in the past month that has been nothing short of a disgrace. Hard times were upon us. People should have rallied around Kerr and his team, if nothing else but to maximise this country's chance of success.

The harsh reality is that Ireland are not good enough to be at the World Cup. The players are simply not there. Unfortunately for Kerr, success is relative to what has gone before. Kerr took this job at a time when the country was used to qualifying for World Cups. To emulate the success of the men who preceded him with a team that is nowhere near as talented was nigh on impossible.

The fact of the matter is that while Brian Kerr is not a great manager, he is as good a manager as any of his predecessors. This country has seen some great times. Times that should have been so much greater but for the right man at the helm.

Take Jack Charlton and his treatment of unquestionably one of the greatest Irish internationals of all time. Liam Brady. A pacey, skilful, strong midfielder who had the capacity to play at the heart of undoubtedly the most talented Irish team in the history of international competition. The man who dismantled the aristocrats of world football.

Whispers run through the Irish crowd at Lansdowne Road. An air of disbelief lingers around the stands. They're here. The fans blink



MICK MCCARTHY: THE MAN HAS A LOT TO ANSWER FOR

and squint and rub their eyes as the maestros of world football march onto the field. It's not just any other game. It's Brazil.

Thirty-three minutes gone. The ball breaks for Liam Brady. He's twenty yards from goal with the defence of the world's greatest team in his path. The crowd rise to their feet. This suffocating ambience of hope, belief and absolute reverie just hangs in the air.

Brady feigns to cross and suddenly cuts inside. The entire Brazilian defence is left for dead. The reflex, the speed, that callous killer instinct. It took over for that split second and Brady was in. He unleashes a mighty shot low at the near post of Carlos and Ireland are on the brink. It's one-nil.

Alas his manager would prove the foil. The Irish squad that Jack Charlton took the reins of in 1986 would mature into a team that had all the potential and opportunity to cut it amidst the cream of world soccer. Players like Liam Brady, Frank Stapleton and Kevin Sheedy were men who possessed that

embryonic will to win. That little bit extra that makes a great player. Such a shame that this potential would go unfulfilled.

Jack Charlton failed to see the Promised Land to which these players could steer the country. Charlton to his credit took a risk. He endorsed a style of football that was different to the flair and finesse of most other European countries. Sadly he took this risk ignorant to the fact that he had players at his disposal who were capable of playing football the way it is supposed to be played.

Charlton's direct style of football led to the isolation of the Irish midfield and subsequently players like Brady were left out in the cold. His system had a place only for the towering brutish centre forward such as Niall Quinn or Tony Cascarino, as opposed to the player who wanted to put the ball on the ground and play.

It is with a heavy heart that the romance of what Charlton achieved should be criticised. A sea of green bellowing 'You'll never walk alone' at

Anfield. Those moments that make everybody that little bit prouder to be Irish. That despite defeat people will still stand and muster the words of great songs from our history. Overcome by the emotion of what those players have done for their country.

The Englishman will always be recalled with a certain fondness amidst the Irish. He will be remembered as one of the greatest Irish managers of all time. The man who led Ireland to its first ever World Cup. A man who hauled the nation to the dizzy heights of world soccer. The harsh reality remains. Charlton's failures to maximise the ability of his team by playing the football that his players were built for, are behind the collapse of this country's progression above and beyond the bounds of expectation.

The post-Charlton era has seen new faces, but with them they have brought new problems. Namely Mick McCarthy. The hopes and dreams of the Irish team under his stewardship were borne on the shoulders of one man. Ireland's Commander in Chief. The man who interprets the equations of the game and is there without fail to find the answers. To pick the lock. Arguably the greatest holding midfielder of all time. Roy Keane.

Keane was a man who played for Ireland under Jack Charlton while Mick McCarthy captained the side. His frustrations at what he perceived to be incompetence in the FAI and on ground level boiled over on occasion as neither McCarthy nor Charlton chose to raise the issues.

This led to tensions between McCarthy and Keane that would ultimately come to a head in Saipan in 2002. McCarthy's envy and abhorrence to Keane drove him to provoke his captain in a way that was thoroughly unprofessional and inhumane when he questioned the principles of his skipper in front of the entire squad.

Keane's subsequent actions left him as the scapegoat for Ireland's World Cup. Had McCarthy sought to look past his differences with Keane, this country could potentially have been left with silver medals from the competition, bearing in mind the teams that progressed on our side of the draw.

Leaders are supposed to be strong men. The leader of a country has an obligation to do what is necessary in order to further the prospects of that country. Whether the problem be sheer incompetence or a total lack of professionalism, it is fundamental that these issues be dealt with and subsequently eradicated if this country is to compete with the best at the apex of world soccer.

the diary of a... superleague captain

by Gordon Tobin

The Superleague is now well under way. Nearly all teams have at this stage played two games and the various tables have begun to take shape. With the first couple of matches done and dusted, the usual suspects seem to be pulling away.

In the first week of the Premier Sunday, most of the games went as expected, but there were however some interesting results. Last year's champions, Football United, had a convincing opening game as they despatched with Sunday Premier veterans, Milltown F.C. by a scoreline of 6-3.

DCU Dyslexics recorded a comfortable 4-0 win over league new boys Spottin em hot birds. The team who scored the most goals in the opening week was Daniel Beddingfield.

They put an impressive 10 goals past league minnows A.F.C. Belfield, but they did however concede four, and thus missed out on the cov-

eted top spot. Belfield Athletic, managed by yours truly, opened with a comprehensive 6-0 victory over another new side Blackrock United.

On the Old Merville Pitch, veteran Sunday Premier side, the B-Sharps gave a quality performance against Fr Romeo Sensini XI, who despite their Superleague pedigree and experience only managed to fight back with a single goal. The game finished 4-1.

The following week saw Bayern Munich show great resolve to come through a very stiffly contested game against another debutant side XXX Freeview, a team perhaps to keep an eye on.

Also in the second week, Milltown got their first points on the board with a comfortable 4-0 win over Fr Romeo Sensini XI who would appear to be a spent force. Blackrock United also got their first points against Spottin em

hotbirds in what turned out to be a 3-0 ego massaging result for the league newcomers, while it was a baptism of fire for their opponents.

Belfield Athletic turned over a resolute Silchester United to seal 3 points and help consolidate their position at the top. Bayern narrowly won their first game to XXX Freeview who would appear to be an emerging force in the league.

AFC Belfield suffered another defeat, a 4-0 drubbing at the hands of Kenneth Noisewater. DCU Dyslexics and the B-Sharps contested the best of the action at the weekend as DCU just about managed to turn over the B-Sharps by a 2-1 scoreline in an epic encounter with two of the old school teams from Superleague.

After two weeks, Belfield athletic are top.

winner, Football United. Only 1 goal separates the two sides. Hot on their heels are DCU, who are 2 goals behind the defending champions. With division newcomers and surprise package Daniel Beddingfield lying in a precarious fourth position.

The league is now delicately poised as Belfield Athletic are set to face Daniel Beddingfield with Football United also preparing to play DCU this week. The scant goal difference separating the teams is sure to make next week an exciting affair.

The league should take greater shape, as this would appear to be the most important set of games yet. It will also give the teams who have not taken all six points in their opening fixtures a chance to play catch up with the top sides.

SCALING THE HEIGHTS

Rising Leinster star and UCD student Robert Kearney speaks to **Richard McElwee** about Ireland, Leinster and how he has gotten where he is today

Following Ireland's heroic journey to Triple Crown glory in the spring of 2004, some said we had finally entered the golden era that we had perennially threatened to achieve. The team-sheet boasted names of huge international commendation, which reinforced our standing amongst the elite of world rugby.

However, 2005 saw Ireland overtaken by the Welsh and outclassed by the French in Dublin. Subsequently the British and Irish Lions provided just three starting places for the Irish on a mediocre first XV, which came to be truly overwhelmed in New Zealand. Inevitably questions were asked and queries arose. It appeared that the team of 2004 had already reached its sell-by date.

Robert Kearney is currently preparing for his second season at UCD while enjoying his maiden season with Leinster with his sights set firmly on international rugby. Last season saw him excel at the U-20s level with both the Corry Cup team and the JP Flanagan league team, both of which won the double. He is now a member of the senior squad.

Kearney is an extremely level-headed individual. In the midst of a blossoming career, one can only imagine how easy it would be to allow your ego get the better of you. Yet Kearney, in a fashion similar to his performances on the field, is supremely calm, collected and focused. Such a mentality can only be aided by his desire to keep a low profile during this sudden period of plausible interest in him.

"The amount of things that have happened to me over the past few weeks will never happen as quickly again. I'm just trying to keep it low-key, not allow myself get distracted and keep my feet firmly on the ground, all the while trying to maintain a conscious effort to continue and improve from where I'm at."

At just 19, Kearney's ascendancy is nothing short of remarkable. Born in County Louth, Kearney's childhood was spent primarily with a gaelic football in hand and is better known at home for being a Louth minor footballer.

"I started playing rugby at the age of 8 with Dundalk Rugby Club, yet at the time gaelic football was my main sport. I was always playing gaelic and I suppose I stuck with it until I went to Clongowes."

Clongowes Wood College, nestled in the peaceful surroundings of Clane, Co.Kildare, came to be Kearney's home

from home for much of his teenage development. It was here that his rugby skills were nurtured and his prodigious talent was duly noted, albeit not as a grafter in the back-line.

"I actually started out as a flanker and stayed there with the forwards for both my first and second years in Clongowes. I only moved out to the backs halfway through third year for the Junior Cup."

His fledgling career progressed along a predictable path, comprising five cup squads and culminating in the Senior Cup final of 2004 against Blackrock College. Throughout the campaign the full-back was immense. Kearney, at this point, was already a household name within the realms of schoolboy rugby, but essentially it was his role in Clongowes' march to Lansdowne Road that validated a rapidly growing reputation in wider circles.

"The Senior Cup, especially to a kid, is very special. It's something they all aspire to if they've had some experience of the occasion. I was no different really. It was a great time, no doubt something good to look back on. I have great memories and the feeling before the final itself was something I'd never had before. But I'm here now. I've had to go beyond that."



ROBERT KEARNEY: POWERING THROUGH FOR IRELAND SEVENS

Of late Kearney has been keen to enhance his name on the professional stage, and thus far he hasn't had too much to complain about. Back in August, Kearney was thrust into his first senior provincial start in a friendly against Italian outfit Parma in Naas, and emerged with a fine hat-trick.

This was followed by another try in the narrow defeat to Neath-Swansea Ospreys in the first Celtic League of the season, before he notched a superb effort in Donnybrook a week later against the Dragons, bringing the placid Leinster following to their feet. Deservedly Kearney earned the Bank of Scotland (Ireland) Player of the Month award for September.

"That was a fantastic bonus to what had already been an amazing few weeks. There were three or four lads who easily could've been awarded the honour ahead of me, so I was really grateful. It's always nice to be rewarded. Yet, that was September, I was delighted with it, we're now in October. I can't dwell on the past, it's essential that I keep focused and look ahead rather than behind."

In more recent week's Leinster's Lions contingent have returned to training as the provincial side's season threatens to take flight once more. Of the travelling quintet, Shane Horgan and Denis Hickie will both be competing with the youngster for a place on the wing in the prestigious Heineken Cup, whilst at Kearney's favoured position remains the ever-present Irish international Girvan Dempsey.

"This is my first time out on the wing. Full-back is my preferred position but at this level you go wherever you are put. Besides Girvan (Dempsey) has been brilliant recently, he's had some superb Celtic league games. So as I already knew coming up here anyway, I just have to bide my time in the hope that I'll return to full-back eventually."

Playing in a claustrophobic atmosphere can often have limiting implications on players, Kearney however is enjoying the experience. "It's been absolutely fantastic. Everybody has been great. Not once have I felt out of place. This made me immediately feel quite comfortable and at ease and so allowed me to play my own game. Particularly players such as the old Clongowes lads, Gordon (D'Arcy) and Des (Dillon), and Girvan (Dempsey) have all helped me along, because of course you're going to need the bit of advice."

"Apart from maybe my very first time with the squad, when I had to take a step back, I've never been completely intimidated by the whole set-up either. When you realise that this is your chance and that you have to take every opportunity you're given, you know that you have to get stuck in and that there is no time to try and enjoy the moment. You can't afford to get caught up in the situation."

But Leinster's new found star is well aware of the dangers posed by his own new found success, as fellow Clongowes past-pupil Gordon D'Arcy knows only too well. Barely a year out of boarding school, the continually promising D'Arcy was catapulted into World Cup action against Romania in September of 1999. Hailed as something extraordinary, the pressure began to mount. Soon the novelty of freedom took control and nights out on Leeson Street began to take precedence. D'Arcy vanished into relative obscurity for several years and learned that it takes more than burgeoning talent to succeed at the level he has now attained.

"It's good, I think, that I'm in a position to learn from Gordon's mistakes, though, as I'm sure he discovered, you can't predict the future. It's just up to me to keep my head down from here on in. Of course it can be annoying when all the lads are heading out, but at this stage I'm used to ignoring the many distractions. You have to make the sacrifice."

Sacrifices have also been made with regard to study time in UCD. As a 2nd year Arts student he must find the time for both aspects of his life at the moment. "Being a full-time rugby player and a full-time student does complicate things a bit. It's pretty tough to maintain a balance. There are times when my studies get slightly neglected, then there are times when my rugby is slightly neglected. Nevertheless I have, all things going well, two years remaining in my course. In time I can fully concentrate on the rugby whilst having a solid qualification to fall back on."

Over the coming weeks, Kearney is scheduled to train with the senior national squad for the first time, ahead of the November internationals. Despite being a veteran of schools and u19's international competitions it is clear to him that this will be an altogether different experience. Though he may not feature he realises that he has time on his side.

"I just have to keep working and working away. If the chance were to come that would be fantastic and obviously I'd take it, but at the moment it's all about Leinster for me. I'll keep plugging away with it. The thing is, I mean, I've only just started out. I've only played three or four games with the senior Leinster squad. I can't afford to jump ahead of myself."

Shooter McGavin, as his friends affectionately call him, is destined to enjoy a prosperous career with Lansdowne and perhaps emerge as the missing piece of the Irish jigsaw. Something only he can decide.

Full-back is my preferred position but at this level you go wherever you are put. I just have to bide my time in the hope that I'll return to full-back eventually

It's good, I think, that I'm in a position to learn from Gordon's mistakes, though, as I'm sure he discovered, you can't predict the future

CARLOW CRUNCHED IN THE BOWL

PHOTO: COLIN GLEESON

BELFIELD BOWL	
UCD	36
CARLOW	19
JAMES MOUNTJOY	



UP FOR IT: ONE OF FEW SUCCESSFUL LINEOUTS FOR CARLOW

UCD opened their AIB League Division 1 season with a comfortable 36-19 win over Carlow at the Belfield Bowl last Saturday afternoon.

Carlow were fastest out of the blocks and looked the more dominant side in the early stages. Left wing Thomas Bonnefoy of Carlow intercepted a stray UCD pass and, to the delight of the travelling support, sprinted in at the corner for the first score of the game.

More pressure from Carlow yielded a penalty from which they kicked to the corner. From the ensuing lineout Carlow initiated a rolling maul from which Tomalie Tosala scored the games first. Greg Jacob then converted from the sideline.

Things looked grim for the home side as the Carlow full back Chay Rauai tried grubber kicks through the UCD defence and the scrum half Stephen Gibbons attempted the odd sniping break from the base of the rucks. However, the UCD heads never went down and half an hour into the first half they got their first score.

An incisive break close to the line from UCD centre Stephen Grissing brought the home side back into the game and was well converted by Eoghan Hickey. Soon after though, they were rocked by ill discipline as flanker Simon Crawford was shown a yellow card by referee Simon McDowell for dropping his knee into Pdraig Brennan's lower back. This was accompanied by a blood injury as John Lee took a blow to the nose.

Carlow failed to capitalise on the extra man and it was the hampered UCD who scored during the ten minutes Crawford spent in the bin. Out-half Eoghan Hickey burst through the defence on the half way line and was left with two to beat.

His pause could momentarily have been mistaken for hesitance but he then delivered a weighted kick into the corner, which was fumbled by Carlow's last man. UCD's Darren McKenna pounced on the loose ball to bring things level at half time.

UCD went into the break with the momentum on their side and despite some scrappy kicking at the start of the second half they firmly reasserted their presence on the game after just 10 minutes.

Another chip through the Carlow defence from Hickey sent Stephen Grissing in at the corner, which Hickey proceeded to convert impressively from the halfway line, thus breaking the deadlock.

A darting run from Ken Kennedy from halfway to just short of the try line brought sustained pressure to the Carlow defence who at times were absolutely bombarded as College pushed forward. This period of play culminated in a try, spread through the backs and polished off by Michael Fanning in the corner.

Eoghan Hickey's conversion caught the inside of the post to stretch the lead to fourteen points and give UCD the bonus point. A forty-yard penalty from the UCD out-half five minutes later closed off the game for UCD.

The Carlow faithful were however given something to cheer about before the end as Thomas Bonnefoy added another try in the corner, which was converted by Jacob.

Bonnefoy's try was cancelled out almost immediately by a short period of attack when Ken Kennedy caught the Carlow defence off guard and sauntered in under the posts. Hickey scored the easy conversion to leave the Belfield boys reeling at the Bowl.

This emphatic start to the season for the Belfield brigade is sure to mean high morale and confidence emanating from the ranks.

UCD: Ross McCarron, Darren McKenna, Stephen Grissing, Ken Kennedy, Michael Fanning, Eoghan Hickey, Cillian Willis, John A. Lee, Conor Geoghan, Brian Hall, Peter Callanan, Richard Mandeno, Simon Crawford, Kevin Croke (c), Kevin McLaughlin

CARLOW: Chay Rauai, Thomas Bonnefoy, Cian Moore, Greg Jacob, Ross Jackson, Barry Hurley, Stephen Gibbons, Pdraig Brennan, Alan Galvin, Keith Corrigan, Alex Mikajlavic, Wes Whitten, David Cox (c), Paddy Syrne, Tomalie Tosala

AIL LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

	P	PTS
Shannon	1	4
UCD	1	4
Garryowen	1	4
Lansdowne	1	4
Clontarf	1	4
Blackrock College	1	4
Dungannon	1	4
Cork Constitution	1	4
UL Bohemiens	1	0
Buccaneers	1	0
Galwegians	1	0
Dublin University	1	0
Ballymena	1	0
Carlow	1	0
Belfast Harlequins	1	0
St. Marys	1	0

SPORT IN BRIEF

COMPILED BY HARRY SMYTH

HOCKEY

The UCD men's hockey team recorded an impressive 5-0 win over Suttonians last weekend. The victory was the perfect response to their 2-1 defeat at the hands of current Division 2 table toppers Clontarf in their opening match. They lie in fifth place after their opening two games.

The UCD ladies Firsts had a less than promising start after being defeated by Railway and Pembroke but as with the men's team, they bounced back in good style to beat Corinthians 4-1 last weekend.

The ladies' second team have begun tremendously with a victory over Skerries by three goals to nil which was followed by an emphatic 5-1 win over Alex.

This impressive string of results has propelled the Ladies to the top of the table. They will be hoping to build upon their recent form when they face Loreto in their next match.

CAMOGIE

UCD's Ciara Lucey played a crucial part in Dublin's recent win in the Junior Camogie All-Ireland Championship. They secured an emphatic 2-9 to 1-4 replay win over Clare in Birr. Another talented young sportswoman is UCD's Rena Buckley, a first year philosophy student, who played a part in both of Cork's recent championship victories in both football and hurling.

LADIES' SOCCER

The UCD ladies suffered an away defeat at the hands of Inchicore in their opening Premier League fixture. They will be optimistic of putting this result behind them in their next match against NUIG tonight in Belfield. It is expected that two of the scholarship students will return to the fold, a boost that is sure to bolster the squad.

HURLING

Champions UCD beat Kilmacud Crokes at O'Toole Park in the Senior Dublin Hurling Championship quarterfinal last Sunday morning. The multi-talented students will now face Ballyboden in the semi-final at Parnell Park where they will be hoping to reach the final in order to retain the title.

MEN'S NIVEA SUPERLEAGUE

NORTH CONFERENCE	P	PTS
Merry Monk Ballina	3	4
UCD Marian	2	2
Shamrock Rovers Hoops	2	2
Roma St. Vincents	2	2
DART Killester	2	2
MDS Star	2	0
SOUTH CONFERENCE	P	PTS
UCD Demons	2	4
Limerick	2	4
Tigers	1	2
Gleneagle Lakers	2	0
Neptune	2	0

CORK DUNK STUDENTS

UCD Marian suffered a 108 points to 93 defeat in the Men's Nivea Superleague against league champions UCC Demons last Sunday evening, at the Mardyke Arena in Cork.

UCC DEMONS	108
UCD MARIAN	93
COLIN GLEESON	

In what was a high scoring opening quarter, UCD battled hard to finish on level terms at twenty-one all, before Demons rallied in the second and took ten points to go into the break with a four point lead.

The momentum appeared to be gathering behind the Cork effort as they went from strength to strength in the third quarter before allowing College to stage a fight back of sorts as the end of the game approached. It was too little too late however, as Demons hung on for a fifteen point victory.

UCD were oftentimes wasteful with possession and were guilty of an uncharacteristic thirty three turnovers in the game. An on form UCC were on hand to pick up the pieces and punish College's

mistakes.

The students failed to defend as resolutely as their opponents and were unsuccessful in gathering possession from the Demons' rebounds and were thus hampered in their attempts to cut the supply of the Cork forwards. In contrast, the UCC outfit defended as a unit with a verve and aggression that College lacked throughout the game.

The turning point in the game was the introduction of Colm O'Reilly for Cork, who took the game by the scruff of the neck and controlled matters from the back of the court along with Gary Johnson.

The Belfield boys were largely dependent on Damion Morbley for points who was at the heart of

the student's effort. Morbley was the only UCD man who could leave the court with his head high after contributing an impressive thirty-four points to College's fight back.

UCD Coach Mark Keenan said afterwards that "they deserved to win but not by fifteen points. It was a closer game than the score line suggests. Damion (Morbley) had a big game. We struggled to score and relied on him too much at times."

Keenan was adamant that there were positives aspects to be taken from a game that saw a marked improvement on the performance in the same fixture last season.

"UCC are the team to beat. We were confident even after losing to them on three occasions last year, but I felt that we were better this year. There are still lots of games to be played and we'll be hoping to improve on last year's final standings and maybe move up to first or second place at the end of the year."

SPORT



UCD RUGBY
COLLEGE PUSH
FOR HONOURS
AIB LEAGUE - PAGE 26

ROBERT KEARNEY
UCD, LEINSTER
& THE FUTURE
EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW - PAGE 27

UCD GET OUT OF JAIL

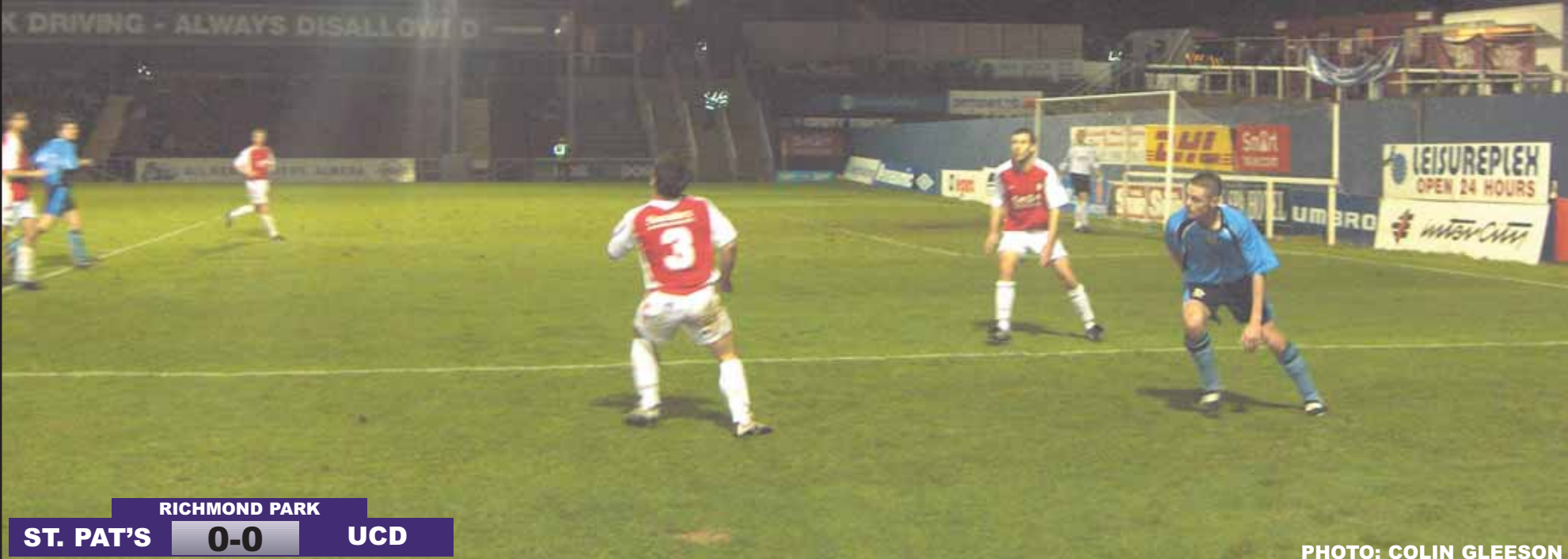


PHOTO: COLIN GLEESON

RICHMOND PARK
ST. PAT'S 0-0 UCD

HEADS UP: UCD ON A RARE COUNTER ATTACK AT RICHMOND PARK LAST FRIDAY NIGHT

Pete Mahon's UCD side will count themselves lucky to have salvaged a point from a damp Richmond Park on Friday night. By the same token, luckless St. Pat's will be wondering what they have to do to score.

Deep into injury time, a Robbie Doyle corner was headed down by centre half Darragh Maguire. Barry Prenderville spun and shot but somehow managed to aim it straight at Darren Quigley who did well to parry.

It was a microcosm of a match that UCD never really got a foothold in but somehow gained a point and kept a clean sheet. They rarely threatened Barry Ryan's goal but on the one occasion they did, the former Belfield keeper was equal to the task, parrying Coman Byrne's shot after a fine

RUAIDHRI O'CONNOR

through ball from the impressive Gary Dicker.

Dicker was UCD's outstanding player and it's not hard to see why Don Givens has included him in the Under 21s. The midfielder competed well, got on the ball and always looked to create.

The game began at a furious pace with Pat's fighting for their lives at the foot of the table. Ex-College striker Robbie Doyle, here deployed on the wing, was lucky to escape censure for a raised arm in the first minute but on the whole it was a fairly contested affair in front of a poor home crowd.

The early sparring was even but after twenty minutes the home side took a stranglehold. Barry Prenderville, a right back who found himself in goalscoring positions three times missed his first

chance after good work from Robbie Doyle. Striker Ger Rowe was the next Pat's culprit, blasting over following some neat build up play.

UCD captain Tony McDonnell saved his side's blushes when he cleared a Rowe shot off the line. Once again, the UCD defence was carved open and Vinnie Perth cut the ball back to Rowe who did everything but score, steering the ball past Quigley but it was McDonnell who stuck out one of his long legs and hooked the ball back to the striker who put the rebound into orbit.

In an almost exact move only two minutes later, Rowe chose to dummy Perth's cut back but Stephen Brennan misread his intentions and the chance went a begging.

It seemed College were living on borrowed time but they made it through the break and well into the second half without much action at either end.

Pat's stepped up their efforts in a bid to garner the three points but Quigley showed he would not be easily beaten with a stop from Doyle's fee kick.

Prenderville then missed the second of his golden opportunities, heading into Quigley's arms from point blank range with the goal at his mercy.

It is little wonder St. Pat's are languishing at the bottom but it does not stem from a lack of effort. This was a game they deserved to win, and UCD's Pete Mahon will be working hard on his defence in advance of the end of season run in.

St. Patrick's Athletic: Ryan, Prenderville, John Frost, Caffrey, Maguire, Brennan (Quigley 84), Doyle, Reilly (Foley 64), Larson (O'Connor 74), Rowe, Perth.

UCD: Quigley, Mahon, O'Donnell, Kenna, Hurley, McDonnell, Gannon (Murphy 65), Dicker, Martin, Doyle (Byrne 65), McWalter.

POST MATCH ANALYSIS

"We battered them. There was nobody else going to win the match only us. We were the better team on the night."

These were the words of John McDonnell, manager of St. Patrick's Athletic, in the wake of what effectively turned out to be quite a good nights work for both sides despite the frustration at not claiming all three points at this crucial stage of the season.

UCD manager Pete Mahon is well aware that last Friday night's result has brought his team another step closer to safety this season. "In spite of what a lot of people say, we don't feel we're safe yet. I reckon we need another win and maybe a draw. Obviously with the results going the way they did, tonight helped us as well but that was a very important point for us."

Mahon knows however, that while the point was well earned and crucial to College's chances of avoiding the drop this season, the performance left much to be desired and will have to improve in the coming weeks.

"I'd be happy with the result but not with the performance. Certainly not because even our set pieces, they were embar-

COLIN GLEESON

rassing. We put so much time and effort into them and I think every ball went through to Barry Ryan, he could have had a cigar in the goal there tonight with some of our set pieces."

UCD captain Tony McDonnell spoke after the match and described the result as a point picked up rather than two points dropped. "All the teams below us got beaten tonight with the exception of Bray so it was a good result for us. We showed our inexperience at times, a lot of young players on the pitch and as a team we didn't hold on to the ball, so that was the disappointing thing tonight.

"Probably Pat's created more chances than us but I thought we were very strong defensively. We battled very well and showed great character so we'll be happy with the point the way the results turned out.

"You can't fault the commitment and the desire to get something out of the game and that point probably takes us one step closer to safety. I know you don't want to be talking about safety but at the end of the day we want to consolidate that seventh position. It was important to get something out of tonight's game. And we did that."

eircom League Premier Division

16.10.05

	P	W	D	L	GD	PTS
Derry City	28	19	6	3	27	63
Cork City	26	18	6	2	30	60
Shelbourne	28	16	6	6	26	54
Drogheda Utd	28	9	12	7	6	39
Longford Town	28	10	9	9	1	39
Bohemians	27	11	6	10	-1	39
Bray Wanderers	28	8	6	14	-14	30
UCD	27	6	11	10	-11	29
Shamrock Rovers	28	9	7	12	-13	26
St. Patrick's Athletic	28	5	10	13	-9	25
Waterford Utd	27	5	5	17	-23	20
Finn Harps	27	4	6	17	-19	18

*Shamrock Rovers deducted eight points