

Student's Union, St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, Co. Kildare. December 1989

A chara,

As you have probably heard in the media, talks of organising a new student association are being seriously examined by a number of student representatives at the present time.

I am organising a meeting with any student union representatives who want to discuss the possibilities of organising the above mentioned. This meeting shall be held sometime in January.

I would like to stress that this does not mean than a new students organisation shall be developed. It simply means that the possibilities of the above obviously need to be looked into for the benefit of all students in the 32 counties of Ireland.

I would greatly appreciate it if you would let me know whether or not you are interested in attending this meeting.

Is mise le meas,

Pauline Madigan

President

Students Union Limerick School of Art and Design Georges Quay Limerick

15th December, 1989

A Chara,

Just a note to inform you that Limerick College of Art and Design has held a referendum on the right for information as regards whether or not the students wish to have access to phone numbers of abortion advice centres through the Student Union noticeboards.

This motion was passed by a large majority of the student body and we, the Student Union, will be issuing the numbers shortly.

Sinead McCarthy

President of the Students Union

# LETTERS PAGE

#### "Best Short Stories"

College Green Business Centre 36 College Green Dublin 2

**Dear Sirs** 

We have pleasure in enclosing applications for the new "Best Short Stories" writing competition plus complimentary book markers for you to make available to your customers.

All winning entries will have their work published in 1990.

Please note that the overall cash prize fund is £5000 and the closing date for receipt of entries is 31st January, 1990.

There are two competitions: one for adults and the other for students under 19 years of age on 1/1/1990.

There are two categories in each competition: Fiction and Non-Fiction.

Entries must be in English and should not exceed 6,000 words in length.

Thanking you for supporting this worthy literary competition.

Yours truly

Hugh R. Law

Senior Editor

### **Irish Cancer Society**

"Conquer Cancer Campaign" 5 Northumberland Road Dublin 4

9th November, 1989

Dear Students,

It is with much pleasure and gratitude that I write to thank you for sponsoring the recent "Money Mile" organised by

the 3rd year Rural Science Students of Thomond College.

We are indeed most grateful for your support and interest in the Society.

The total amount raised was £440.35, which as you will agree is a most generous contribution, and will go towards our programme in the fields of research, information, care of the terminally ill, provision of hospital equipment and freephone services.

With best wishes and renewed thanks,

Yours sincerely,

**James Cassidy** 

Asst. Director

## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

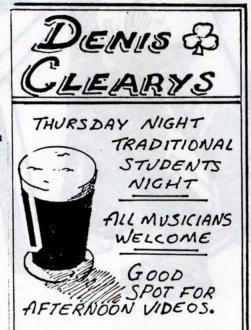
You will be pleased to learn that the bucket collection which was taken up at the University prior to Christmas realised £217.00

We are very grateful to the students for this wonderful contribution to the

funds of the Hostel, and also to the staff of the University of Limerick. As you know, we have 32 old and homeless men in the Hostel at present and the students' support is particularly welcome at this time of year when costs are at their highest.

Please convey our warmest thanks to all concerned and best wishes for the New Year.

G.E. Russell, Chairman Hostel Committee



FEATURE ...
WITH DONAL FAGRAN

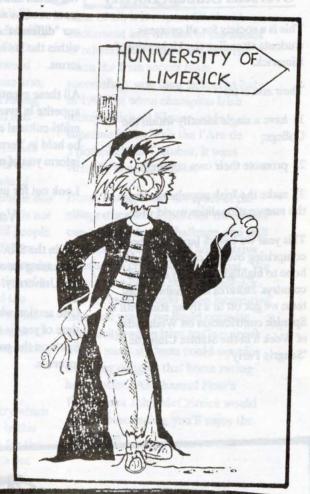
2) What you wanted to know ABOUT the gee-gees

2) S.u. President visited The Big Smoke or was It Smog

4) Letters From our Paris Correspondent.

Some good ones this week.

AND LOTS MORE.





# TOP FLOOR

Snooker, Pool, Darts, Duke Box.
Also available to Students,
Factories, Business etc.
Open 10.30am to 11pm.

# **GROUND FLOOR**

Lunches Mon-Fri 12.30pm - 2.30pm Coffee, Tea, Sandwiches & Snacks available all day. Discount for students.

Cheers welcomes ALL students to Limerick's No 1 Hot Spot
Open 7 nights a week
Art college disco on Wed night
+ Excellent Disco available for functions.

## **Overseas Student Society**

This is a society for all overseas students attending the University of Limerick.

Their aim is to:

- have a single identity within the College;
- 2) promote their own culture;
- make the Irish population aware of the many nationalities world wide.

This year we have a large membership comprising over 20 countries and we hope to highlight as many of these countrys' cultures as possible. Last term we got off to a flying start with a Spanish contribution on Wednesday of Week 8 in the Stables Club: the "Sangria Party".

We would like to report that it was a great success and we intend to have our "different" customs highlighted within the University in the next two terms

All these events are just to whet your appetite in every way for the multi-cultural experience which will be held in Term 3 this year. We will inform you of more as we go along.

Look out for us.

### **Vandalism**

We in the S.U. are noting an increasing amount of vandalism within the University.

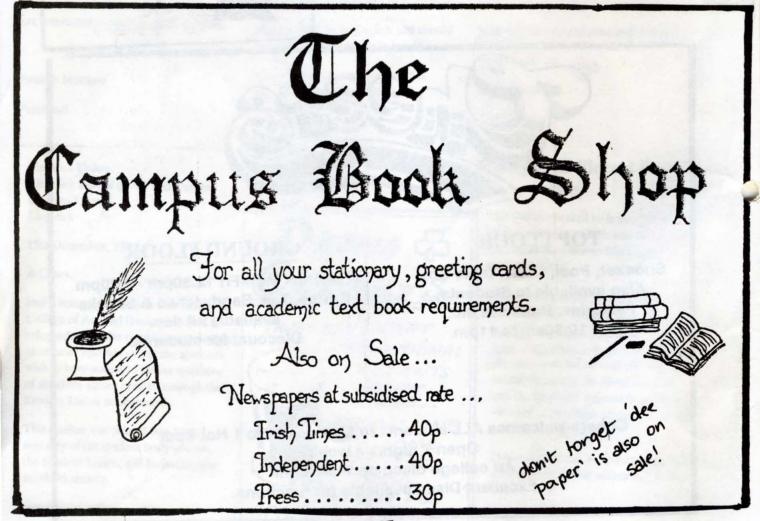
One section which affects us at this time of year is the destruction of the lights on the pathways around the grounds.

The maintenance of these lighting systems is expensive and time-consuming and apart from the financial element, these lights are there for your protection and convenience and their destruction

means that <u>you</u> are the one responsible for the injury done to anyone who suffers because of lack of lighting.

Please consider those who may have to travel these areas alone. Your carelessness and childish behaviour has to be suffered by others. Its not fair.

And if you do see anyone carrying on in such a childish manner, it is your duty to apprehend them or report them. After all, it's for the well being of the majority. Also, please be vigilant around the campus: you watch out for others and others watch out for you.



# THE GEE-GEES

Okay, so how many of you know which horse won the 1981 Epsom Derby by ten lengths at odds of 11:10 on?
That's right, it was the donor of my nickname, Shergar. Now contrary to popular, and I must confess, often polluted belief, my nickname does not spring from any over zealous affection for that pastime of many students after nights of passion in the Granary or the Parkway, ie. riding, but rather, it springs from a genuine love of horse racing and in particular, the famous but ill-fated Shergar.

Horse racing is one of the best loved sports here in Ireland and usually occupies at least two pages in the daily newspapers. The air time of television (I include British channels here too) which is given over to coverage of race meetings virtually exceeds that of any other sport, and yet when I say that horse racing is my favourite sport, I am always greeted with looks of astonishment and even disdain.

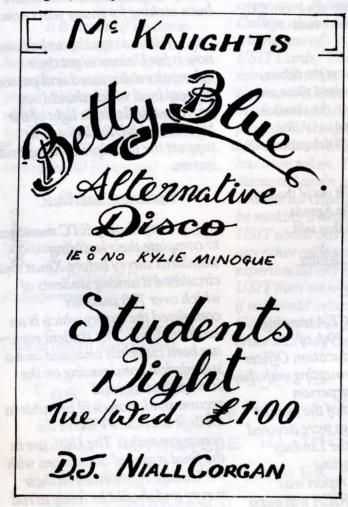
The mythical belief that the horse racing fan, or the punter as he is more

commonly called, spends half his life in a bookies office and the other half in a licensed premises, dressed in the uniform of green cords and a tweed cap, with a newspaper under one arm, is a pure fallacy. I classify as a racing fanatic and while I might spend half

my time in the appropriately names "Stables", the rest of my time is not spent sitting among a mountain of torn betting slips. While betting is one of the lifelines of horse racing, it is not the sole reason why millions of people around the world religiously follow the "gee-gees". Racing is also to many, a sport of beauty, the fluid action of a horse in galloping motion and the unification of horse and rider as one. No half a ton of metal travelling at 40 m.p.h. could ever have the intoxicating splendour of a thoroughbred racehorse in motion.

Horse racing is also an industry which employs thousands of people in this country alone. It is a pastime for the lined pockets of the mega-rich but most of all, it is a sport filled with excitement and dreams of thousands of others. The University cheered when the Irish soccer team successfully won their tickets to Italy in 1990 but when champion Irish jockey, Michael Kinane, rode supreme in the "Prix the l'Arc de Triomphe" this October, it went virtually unnoticed here.

Horse racing is not the sport of the elite; rather it is a sport for those who can appreciate the challenge and skill involved when man and horse strive together to cross the line in front. We have a race course here in Limerick and perhaps it would be an interesting idea next year if we could organise University racing trips to Greenpark so that more students could sample the many delights that horse racing has to offer. As Channel Four's flamboyant John McCrirrick would say: "Come racing, you'll enjoy the difference".



See you in the summer The shouted last farewell.

of gesture of love her son never hears, through the coach's misty pane

The mother turns, was also a dozen others in that lonely Limerick lane.

Must this forever be her lot, And that of thousands warross this land?

Must it forever be "see you in the summer See you at Christmas?

No not forever, for one day he will then it will be just "See you at Christmas"

Then they will marry, there'll be children the roots will go down in some busy and then it will just be "See you sometime"

Bye Ma. MICHAEL NUTTALL

# SU PRESIDENT VISITS THE BIG SMOKE

This weekend, in the Belvedere Hotel, Dublin; the first National Council meeting of 1990 took place. National Council is the group of all officers of Students' Unions within USI. Unfortunately Pat couldn't be with me this week due to a pressing engagement in Ballybunion. However, he did send a personal message to the representatives gathered (> Tell them they're a shower of w\*\*kers! <)

Thus it was that Martin
Tierney, President of Thomomd S.U.
and I bore the awesome reponsibility of
representing Plassey to all those
students who have neither heard of nor
experienced, in their wildest
nightmares, the lights of QCA's and
Co-operative Education (DCU
excluded).

Council was to run from 12-5pm. After starting half an hour late, the best part of an hour was spent on a heated exchange of views between Union representatives from Queens University Belfast (QUB) and the Officers Board of USI.

This ongoing dispute has its roots way back at the National Council of November. Philip Campbell (Deputy President S.U.) sent a letter to the President of USI, Stephen Grogan, on the 29th of November complaining that the QUB delegation of last November were particularly offended at the USI Education Officer's comment (Marty Whelan), "I don't have to speak to the likes of yous". Marty's "condescending attitude, his insulting comments and his refusal to apologise on four requests" were a source of serious concern to the QUB Executive.

During the ever-escalating dispute, it emerged that certain Unionist students in QUB have published a "fact-file" pamphlet with a number of quotes and innuendos regarding provo activities of the QUB Students' Union. The QUB Students claimed quotes from USI officers that

S.U exec was a "cell of Provos" were included in the factfile and that the serious threat of injury or even death to the Exec as a result was unacceptable.

Stephen Grogan, President
USI cintinually dismissed the dispute,
preferring instead to refer it to
recognised procedures, and to push the
meeting towards the set agenda.
Throughout the confrontation, a
definite split emerged between the USI
officers. Karen Quinlaven (Womens
Rights / Ents Officer) and Ann Marie
Keary (Deputy President / Welfare
Officer) both admitted that the claims
of QUB SU were true and should be
redressed immediately.

QUB Exec were demanding an apology from Stephen Grogan for his ineffective handling of the dispute together with public retractions and apologies from USI officers for any statements they may have made to fuel Unionist perceptions of a Provo S.U. Exec which could have fatal consequences.

Throughout the debate,
Marty Whelan remained silent and
when, after one hour, the situation
remained unresolved to QUB's
satisfaction the QUB delegation walked
out.

With QUB out of the way, the procedings of the Agenda began. This is what they said:

## Academic Affairs

#### NCEA

The last NCEA meeting took place on the 19th of December, the Education Officer had a fruitful pre-meeting with the Director and Chairperson beforehand. Most of the time at both these meetings were devoted to discussions on the Lindsay Report. At the meeting acceptance of the report was blocked and the NCEA will put a

short submission into the Government on those sections of the report which deal with the future role and development of the NCEA. The director has asked for another meeting with USI and we have also been asked to make a submission on the report to the NCEA, both of which will take place within the next fortnight.

#### Exam Appeals

At the pre-meeting of the Chair and Director of the NCEA, the USI Submission on exam appeals was discussed. The Director of the NCEA while still maintaining the official NCEA position that it was up to individual colleges to implement a system of exam appeals he did agree to issue broad guidelines of principles of such a system to colleges, which is what USI have been seeking for many years now.

All that remains to be done now is for Unions to get their submissions discussed and passed at local level which should not prove too difficult, in light of the NCEA and NUI's decision to support the pricriple of an appeals system.

## Lecturing Standards

Letterkenny RTC managed to complete their lecturing standards survey before Xmas and circulated it among students of which over 700 students completed the survey which is an excellent total. The student replies are been currently analysed and a submission commenting on the surveys findings and recommendations will be made to College and local VEC in the coming months. The UOL are in the final stages of discussions with the College Authorities on their survey and should be ready to roll quite soon.

#### Teacher Education Sector

The Teacher Education
Sector hasn't yet been convened
this year, however, this has been a
matter of some concern to those
colleges within the Teacher
Education.or. The Womens
Rights Officer will now convene
the Teacher Education Sector
while the Union Development
Officer is off. There will be a
short meeting with the Teaching
Education Sector after National
Council in order to organise a
suitable time for the Meeting.

We would encourage the universities which give out teaching degrees to participate in the Teacher Education Sector by sending along either your Education Officer or a Class Rep with responsibility for students doing teaching degrees.

## Welfare

## Housing Campaign

It is crucial if we are to achieve anything in the area of housing and tenants rights, we actually have to make this a real priority this term. It is too easy for us all to put this on the back burner and postpone action any time something more controversial comes up.

# Plans for Action

- 1. Letter signing campaign to Dept. of Environment.
- 2. Picket of Dept. of Environment.
- 3. Look into setting up student tenant associations.

#### Sexuality Conference

This will take place from March 23-25th. The agenda will be circulated at next National Council.

### Lesbian and Gay Rights

The Lesbian and Gay Rights Roadshow is taking place in the north from the 26th February to the 9th March.

### Choiste na Gaeilge

A special mailing was sent out to Cumann Gealach's in colleges in order to encourage greater participation within USI's Choiste na Gaeilge. This week the meeting is being held on the Sunday after the National Affairs meeting and it is hoped that all college presidents will do their best to send more people to Choiste na Gaeilge.

There has been another complaint, this time from Trinity College about the lack of willingness of USIT to put Irish on USIT Cards. This is a matter of some concern as it is not the first time such a complaint has been made and although USI has passed the complaints on to USIT, it is obvious that no action has been taken. This will be discussed again at the meeting of Choiste na Gaeilge but USI will be making a written complaint to USIT about this in any case. If any other colleges have experienced any problems with USIT then we would appreciate it if you could inform Choiste na Gaeilge of those problems in order that they can be addressed.

A further source of discourse was the acknowledgement of a breakaway from USI by Maynooth recently. The students' union has circulated a letter to selected colleges (Yes we were one of the chosen few!) inviting student reps to a meeting in January. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the possibilities of forming an alternative National Student Organisation. The USI officers recommend that all USI member colleges should boycott this meeting. What do you think? Please let me know at the next General Meeting-WED. WEEK SIX. 2.15 PM

Just when it appeared that the meeting was running at a brisk pace, the right to information campaign discussion made sure that I wouldn't be getting any dinner in the rush to catch the 18.50 to Limerick from Heuston.

Once more a split emerged between the USI officers -the key issue was that given Abortion information is illegal; should USI flagrantly ignore its injunction and continue to give out info - or should they seek to continue to help women re abortion info - but mindful of protecting USI assets, without which USI would disintegrate. The debate was heated and the eventual outcome was that no single view took precedent over another. As a result, an Emergency National Council Meeting is set for 20-21st January to discuss the Abortion Information Plan of action. I'll let you know what happens.

Maura.

FOR ALL YE STUDENTS WHO NEED A HAIR CUT,

AND Believe Me there ARE ALOT.

NOW AVAILABLE IN THE STUDENTS UNION EVERY

MONDAY IS A LADIES AND GENTS HAIRDRESSER.

MONDAY IS A LADIES AND SHE IS FREAT AN SHE IS

# **PROFILE - THE ADVENTURES OF DONAL**

Whose got to look after the needs of over 700 thirsty academics to be on those famous Thursday nights and indeed those even more infamous end of term celebrations? Puzzled? Okay so we'll give you a hint - He's 31 years of age, an eligible good looking batchelor own "car" and a big crop of healthy red hair Still in the dark? Well let's put it this way then - Who do you go to when there is a fly in your soup or special (Is there a difference I hear you ask) - Unlcle Donal

Better known to most of us as Donal Fagan of Stables fame. Well Thursday nights are indeed busy nights and it was last Thursday night that I caught up with the fiery haired gent who was as ever thinking of running back to the relative safety of his bar away from the poking questions of this interviewer.

Donal the smiling happy Barman head of the Glentworth Catering Services Division has been involved with the bar business from the cradle. Although claiming original Dubliner status with his rich jackeen accent, I eventually got him to admit his DunLaoighre origins. Or should that be Kingstown? Donal is one of a family of five himself, the bruver - Michael (He's the fella that walks around the Stables like he owns the place on busy nights and generally puts the fear of God on the faces of the rest of the Stables mandarins behind the bar) and his three sisters grew up in the healthy enviornment of a licensed premises in Booterstownn.

'Growing up as a youngster (most of us don't leave our growing up stages till University!) his listed his interests and passions as, would you believe it? Soccer and Fishing. Rebel Donal really REBEL. When asked if he had any major ambitions as a kid he replied " I always wanted to land a big one".

So after Donal left the cocoon of the illustrious Blackrock College he took his rod and waded into Accountancy in the Capital. However for one reason or

another Donal soon found his vocation in penpushing figures wanting.

Leaving behind the books he proceeded to launch himself into another career -Hotel Management where the word "cooking" does n't involve automatic suspicion.

His first encounter as an eager beaver
Trainee Manager complete in the
Dunnes Store Summer Sale suit was in
the Shannon Shamrock at the tender age
of 19. He trained under the best of them
- Paddy Fitzpatrick of the Silver Springs,
Killiney Castle and Shannon Shamrock
fame was to be his Gaurdian Angel in
his fromative years.

After Five of the best years he went roving - this time off the fair country of clocks, cheese, bank accounts and tall beautiful blondes - Switzerland.

He went under the pretense of learning French or as Donal himself says " De Langwage". Working as a Restaurant Waiter in a joint in the picturesque hamlet of Winterthur Donal applied himself dilligently to the task of pouring coffee and as the Brother would say (Myles na Gopaleen's one now not Donal's) "learning the bit of Parlay"

He thoroughly enjoyed the Swiss experience and can be quoted without fear of repercussion of having learned nothing else other than the language. We believe you Donal, thousands wouldn't but we do!

The one thing he didn't like is that fact that they all went to bed early "Jesus it was ridiculous - everyone was in bed by half nine and muggins here up". If I was there myself I would have told him "When in Rome Donald do as the Romans do! i

Returning in the Spring of 84 the French speaking Manager went deeper into the jungle of this Emerald Isle and opened a life chapter in the town that is responsible for giving Pat Diggan his pin up star of Joe Dolan (and Ber Angley a nervous breakdown evertime Pat wants to organise a Megga Gig!)- Mullingar.

The worldly travelled Manager spent 13 months of his lfe condemned to this outpost as assistant manager in the Greville Arms, before findling solace in a certain Dundrum House in County Tipperary where he no doubt ensured that everyone had their desert spoons and soup spoons for dinner.

He's strangely silent on his adventures in both Tipperary and Westmeath as well as his stint in the Glen Hotel Aherlow where he felt things were a bit too quiet and decided to inflict himself upon the people of the Plassey Community by taking up his current position with the Glentworth Catering Services division in 1987.

Turning his thoughts to Shannon days and his connections with Limerick he revealed that Limerick people were very clannish and found it a while " to get stuck into them".

"So to the meat of the interview" I announced, Donal now begins to look like the proverbial Lamb before the butcher. "What do you think of students ? He laughed - it was one of those "Do you really want to know?" laughs. "Am" he continued knowledgably, " The bulk of them are great, great crack great people but there are the usual couple of bad eggs". He sighed with relief I nodded a reassuring nod that said " you didn't hang yourself there D." Feeling my victim was getting hot around the collar (remeber now it was 8.30 not 10.30 - can't take it off you know) I decided to give him some light relief by talking about his hobbies.

Squash and Squash seemed to be all I was hearing. Surely a member of the managerial proletariat should be playing golf? not for our Donal I'm afraid " I can't even see the ball when it's up in the air". "But you hardly play squash on a table now do you" I argued. " Ya but you don't have bloody grass in a squash court do ya". He won hands down. Bugger this I thought whose supposed

to be asking the questions. This one should catch him I thought "So Donal you're a Batchelor is there a Lady in your life? The poor man gulped " Ah I'll pass on that one" Sorry mate you can't do that ! " Okay Okay of course there is" he conceeded, one all I moved in for the kill - . Anything in the pipeline?he grinned again and raised the old roguish eyebrows - "We'll leave that hanging" What hanging? "The in the pipeline bit" he clarified. Two one. You like jeeps Donal?" Yes, there fun to drive and have loads of room in the back". "Of course I agree you do need the space in the back " "For luggage and the food " he quickly snapped. It was useless - we we going to have do things differently.

Donal went hysterical when I asked did he see himself with a wife and 17 kids in 10 years time. You don't like kids so Donal? "Oh God no - sure look at all my children around me here (the place was filling up!) aren't most of them all calling me Uncle already!" he laughed. Answer the question that is asked Donal "I don't know I'm not a profit\* - I like kids, but not that many". So you will have kids so? "Things change - life changes - everything changes", he replied. Rivetting, Rivetting Donal.

Back to matter business and Donal feels quite adamantly that the service that the campus enjoys in the bar would not be as good if the bar was in Student hands. "It's better this way as we are committed not just to serving drink but to running a business. I think students would not put as much effort into the place if they were running it themselves". He even thinks that if aprofessional manager was hired to run it with student staff he thinks the results will be more or less the same.

He feels that if he was designing the bar again he would make his kitchen an awful lot bigger and cites this as the biggest reason for people moaning as in the first paragraph above about the food." We are very limited as to what we can really do with a kitchen that was designed only for soup and sandwiches". He agrees that the stage can also be a bit of a problem but would

hate to see the courtyard roofed. "Jesus we'd die from claustrophobia, you need a bit of air to circulate through the fire doors. I'd like to see spotlights in the courtyard, that would be a help!"

I asked him a question that is very dear to my heart and a few others too probably dearer to their livers," why does there seem to be such a problem with the taste of their porter for us fastidious Guinness drinkers". " We take all complaints seriously, of course you know yourself chancers can forget about it. Often there can be an offtaste in the actual product itself and we do take the utmost care to enure that this doesn't happen - like last Thursday night for example - I got a few complaints about the Guinness - so we lined up four on the counter and sampled tham but could find nothing wrong". Jesus I said to myself where was I when all this was going on?

Do the Stables staff go out much together I wondered - " Ya we go out as a group about six times a year but we do less damage in teams. The last time we were out at a University gig was the last Halloween Ball in the Savoy - that was a laugh!".

When I got a " no comment" on the question of have you ever smoked dope? I decided to probe further-Would you leagalise it D.? A definite no was the answer. " I wouldn't encourage the use of anything thart would make people totally unaware of their senses". Donal the Crusader of the Common Good, can't let him away with this - "but the Dutch have it leagalised and take it in small doses - anyways sure alcohol does the same thing". He thought about it for a minute and then gave me the quote of the interview " Did you ever see an Irishman take anything in small doses?" He smiled and I smiled back, he thought I was thinking about the Guinness, I was thinking about the jeep!

There's no way that you'll ever see customers walking to a party in Elm Park with anything stronger than your can of Heineken as there is no offlicence licence for the bar and Donal is under the impression that students have "had enough" when they leave the Stables. Incidentially Donal has never yet been to a student party so all invitations by first post on....

"Very competitive" is his quaint comment as regards University talent and no amount of probing will get him to elaborate.

What drives him bannanas? "Stupid students that don't realise the dangers involved in smashing glasses and people who act the maggot when there is no need for it". Good choice of word that D. wouldn't want to offent the feminists - Maggot or worm for all non biologists out there is a hermaphrodite - both male and female!

I asked him if ever, on a Friday night he has a pain in his head listening to sixty jabbering engineers, thirty stocious humanities students all trying to get a pintsh ofsh Guinnesssh and Shantitown pumping decibels into his ear.all the Heineken is out, the ice machine is on overland, a cascade of carrotts has just made a swamplands out of the mens john and Brendan is slagging him while John and Declan are knocking each other down. He askes himself - What the hell am I doing here He grinshis Donal grin as only Donal can -"Sure that happens to all of us in every job" he admits. Okay, so what makes you keep going under those circumstances? " It only happens on a few occasions but usually it's the great crack with the lads behind the bar that keeps me going".

Finally as head of the catering division, that means he is responsible for orgasnising "House Functions" such as Christenings, weddings etc. I asked him if they ever would branch out and provide the service at a special student rate for start and end of term parties?

Donal - an Irishman to his finger tips replies " Oh that would be no problem at all" I look at him blankly surely he's joking, "Oh Ya well I'm thinking of ." " of course it will probably cost you a deposit of at least 500 bloody quid"

Donal as ever has the last laugh!

C.C.

with Special Strategy Dates

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AS ALL
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Filled
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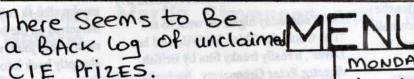
#### **Food Counter:**

Daily Special at Lunch & Tea Hot & Cold Meals Available And All your Favourite Snacks

#### Bar:

Open 8 Days a Week Make the Stables your Rendezvous Spot See you There

From Management & Staff of The Stables



Would Connor Morris Micheal Flynn Andrew o Comor Please Collect Prizes Next Friday





MONDAY 22/1/90 Lunch: - Beef Stew :- Shepords Pie Tuesday Lunch: Lame Risotto Tea :- Spaghetti Bolognese Wednesday Lunch :- Chicken Curry tea :- Lasaque

## Thursday Lynch: - Pork Casserole

Tea :- Cottage Pie

# FRIDAY

Lunch: - Chicken Curry tea :- chilli (ou Carne

+ ALL The old favountes



# The Price of Drink is Something Fierce...

## FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT

Christmas has tastefully descended on Paris, but by the time this reaches home, you'll all probably be back into term, and my counterpart fourth years will be winding up their projects and relaxing over a quiet pint in the Stables, exchanging co-op stories (needless to say, I'm not serious).

It's been another week of cultural indulgence for us starting with a soiree of irish poetry at "Maison de la Poesie" (if at this stage, you're not retching uncontrollably, please continue). After having spent at least half an hour trying to find this place amongst the sex shops and houses of ill-repute in beautiful "Chatalet, les Halles", we eventually stumbled accidentally upon it and were ushered in a warm dark room after the obligatory gigging session we eventually found some seats and settled down to listen to the goings on.

The guest poets for tonight included John Mantague, Derek Mahon and Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill, all slouched and red cheeked (due to, no doubt, the wine everybody else had indulged in while we tried to discern directions from the prostitute population of Chatalet!) and hoping to God the long-winded introductions would conclude before Christmas.

My attention and admiration for the night went to John Montague who, nursing a broken leg and a dose of intense boredom, managed to pull the pretentiousness out from under the evening by cracking a few jokes about the frogs; even worse about the Irish; knocking over microphones; spilling notes and then falling fast asleep intermittently. His poetry was beautiful

and simple while Derek Mahon's swayed towards the deep and profound and Nuala Ni Dhonmhnaill's (as Gaeilge) was, to me at least, completely incomprehensible. Spotted in the audience was Maggie O'Kane (RTE Reporter), back in Paris after the journey to Berlin in which she hijacked a BBC camera crew and brought history into the homes of the Irish (all completely off her own bat and fair play to her!).

The rest of the enthusiasts included the usual French culture vultures, a few exiled Trinity heads living in Paris and some other familiar faces that we just couldn't put a name on. (This wouldn't quite make a social column... would it?)

On Wednesday night, we went to see "The Cook, the Thief, his Wife and her Lover", a really freaky film by British director Peter Greenaway. Basically, the cook is French, the thief is a slob, his wife is beautiful and her lover is the main course. Not for the faint-hearted. There's a lot of dog crap, guts, vomit, blood and, of course, sex! But it is extremely well made with a spectacular set, atmosphere and the costumes made by Jean Paul Gaultier (I don't know who he is either but you must admit, it does sound good!). Ambling home that night, there were sporadic exclamations of "Christ, I'm never going to eat again!". Of course, this new found theory lasted until we hit the first crepe stand where we decided the film was really artistic. As usual, I was punished for all of my socialising the next day when I awoke from a nightmare featuring Gerry Meehan and spent the whole day moping around complaining that too

much emphasis was put on final year projects. Anyway, after appeasing my conscience by ploughing through another chapter of a libel law textbook,

and cutting out a few relevant articles from the two week old newspapers my mother sends me, I felt much better that night. We tried to get into "Comedie Francaise" (a famous French theatre) but all the cheap tickets were gone so we went for a pint in Kitty O'Shea's instead.

The week finished off with a visit to "Le Petit Journal", a haven of some of the best jazz you could ask for, plus its just a few doors down from the foyer, which minimalises the distance of stumbling back in the small hours, settling into the smoky, dim-lit cellar, and patting ourselves on the back for frequenting such a cool joint, we were knocked abruptly back into Parisian reality when the garcon pointed out that the first drink was 95 francs - nearly ten bloody quid! For this atrocity, we ordered the cocktails with the most ingredients and sat there sipping very slowly for the next three hours or so. Still, the music made it all worth while and the clientele were real Frenchies.

On the way out, the patron handed me a poster and asked me what I thought of the place. I said the music was good but the drink was a bit expensive. This left him raising his eyes to heaven and mumbling in French about bloody tourists.....

-DENISE KIRWAN DECEMBER 12TH '89

# ANY INPUT TO LINK-UP Would Really Help.

# IN-TOWN GIGS

We have moved venue to CRUISES and have a most impressive line-up for the weekends.

A disco will support most acts.

JAN. 27th TUESDAY BLUE (farewell gig)

FEB. 2nd AN EMOTIONAL FISH

FEB. 9th THE GOLDEN HOARD

FEB. 10th HINTERLAND (new Island signed)
FEB. 16th BLACK VELVET BAND

FEB. 17th THE STUNNING

FEB. 24th THE DIXONS MAR. 2nd DELA-MITRI

3B)

MAR. 3rd TOU CAN-DANCE

Coming soon... River City People, Ghost of An American Airman, Martin Stevenson and The Daintes Toasted Heretic.

# TERM TWO ENTS. GUIDE

WED. 10TH	LIT AND PHIL SOC DISCO	STUDENT CENTRE	11PM
THU. 11TH	DISCO (S.U. ENTS)	PARKWAY	11PM
THU. 11TH	SHANTYTOWN	STABLES BAR	9PM
FRI.12TH	TOASTED HERETIC	CRUISES	11PM
MON. 15TH	COMPUTERS SYS ETC. PARTY	GLENTWORTH	11PM
TUE.16TH	BASKETBALL CLUB DISCO	PARKWAY	11PM
WED.17TH	CHAMBIO SOC DISCO	PARKWAY	11PM
WED.17TH	SLACK JACK	STABLES BAR	9PM
THU.18TH	AN EMOTIONAL FISH	PARKWAY	11PM
THU.18TH	HI SOCIETY	STABLES BAR	9PM
TUE.23RD	HURLING CLUB DISCO	CHEERS	11PM
TUE.23RD	JOHNNIE AND THE BOOTLEGGERS	STABLES BAR	9PM
WED.24TH	LADIES SOCER DISCO	PARKWAY	11PM
THU.25TH	DISCO(S.U. ENTS)	PARKWAY	11PM
THU.25TH	SHANTYTOWN	STABLES BAR	9PM
MON.29TH	RAG COMEDY WITH JON KENNY	SWIFT	8PM
TUE.30TH	RAG DISCO	PARKWAY	11PM
WED. 31ST GALW	AXRAG WEEK TRAIN TRIP T.B.C.	T.B.C.	T.B.C.
THU. 1ST	RAG BALL WITH BOGUS BROTHERS	TWO MILE INN	10PM
THU.1ST	BOOMBABIES	STABLES BAR	9PM
MON.5TH	WATERPOLO CLUB DISCO	CHEERS	11PM
TUE.6TH	NUTTIN YET	PARKWAY	11PM
WED. 7TH	DISCO (S.U. ENTS)	STABLES BAR	9PM
THU.8TH	SHANTYTOWN	PARKWAY	11PM
MON. 12TH	STAG TALENT COMPETITION	STABLES BAR	9PM
TUE. 13TH	CAMPUS T.V. DISCO	STABLES BAR	8PM
TUE. 13TH	JOHNNIE AND THE BOOTLEGGERS	CHEERS	11PM
WED. 14TH	VALENTINES BALL	STABLES BAR	9PM
THU.15TH	NUTTIN YET	PARKWAY	11PM
FRI.16TH	BOOMBABIES	STABLES BAR	9PM
		STABLES BAR	9PM

# UNIVERSITY of LIMERICK Students Union Entertainments

# ENTS NEWS UPDATE

THURS.11th.....free lunchtime concert student centre 1pm. with...BASIL...
AT 11pm DISCO in the parkway buses stables 11pm. adm. 2.50

FRIDAY 12th....in-town gig with...
ROOTDROPS and disco with d.j. Stuart Clarke
CRUSES AT 11pm ADM ONL3

SATURDAY 13th... In-town gig with...
THE PRAYER BOAT and disco with Stuart Clarke
CRUISES at 11pm ADM 3
P.S Buy tickets from the ladies' soccer club
members, to benefit the club

NEXT THURSDAY 18th... AN EMOTIONAL FISH and disco in the Parkway Advance tickets 3. 4 at door

Good News... The Big Screen is repaired, so we will have late films again this Saturday from 11pm.

Lunchtime Concerts every Tuesday and Thursday in the Student Centre. Student acts and visiting acts.

MUSICIANS: We now have a rehearsal room with P.A (in the old sports store). If you would like to use it, talk to Ber.

Also note, we are looking for student acts to play the lunchtime series. Contact Ber.

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR OWN ENTS BEFORE SUPPORTING OTHERS.



# Egans Fle

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43 Thomas St. act. Limer of 251 961-314560//13 [] ( )
Opening Heurs M. Jack of Green 7.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

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Upon Sirved Days a Week

Hours Monday Colored 9.30 am to 8.30 p.m.

# FLOWE CRALL OCCURRING

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# Egans Flower Centres

43 Thomas Street, Limerick. Tel. 061-314566

Opening Hours: Monday - Saturday 9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

and

Dooradoyle (Beside Regional Hospital). Tel. 061-27904 Open Seven Days a Week

Hours: Monday - Saturday 9.30 a.m. to 8.30 p.m. Sunday 11.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m.

# FLOWERS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

STUDENTS! WHY NOT CALL AND SEE OUR FULL RANGE OF ALL YEAR ROUND ARRANGEMENTS, BOUQUETS, PLANTS ETC. WE SPECIALISE IN WEDDINGS,

So for all your Floral and Plant needs why not contact us at:

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