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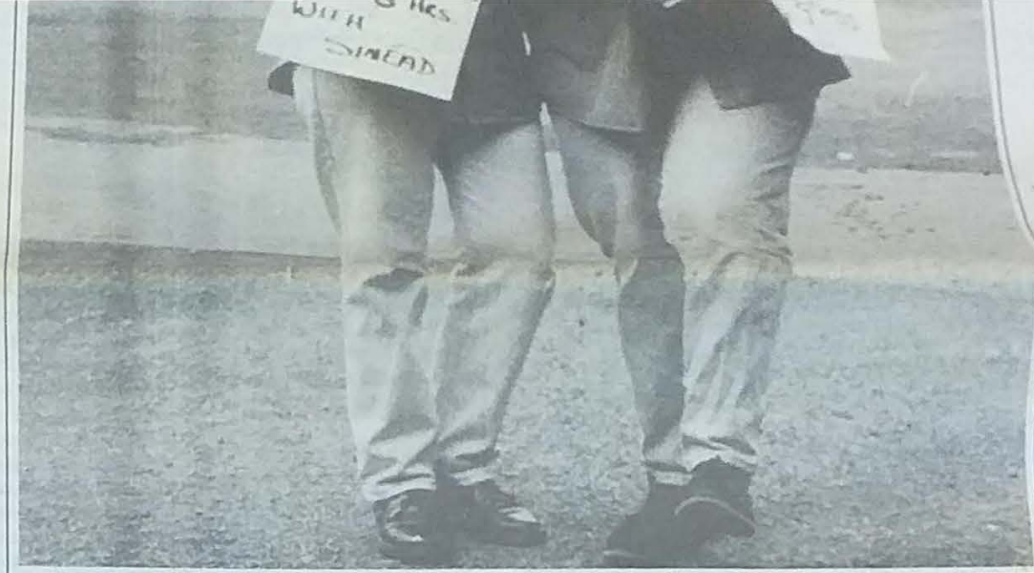


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University of Limerick
Students' Union
Newspaper

Inside:

News
Ents Preview
Clubs and Societies
+ Lots More



**Silence is not only
golden....
It's coppers for a good
cause too!**

Michaelmas : Monday 23 rd November 1992.

News

Abortion Campaign Row

The abortion campaign on the campus has spilled over into a row in the national media.

In a letter published in the Irish Times on Wednesday of week seven, Students for Life Chairperson Gerard Healy said that members of the UL Pro-choice Campaign were responsible for pro-life posters being taken down. Mr Healy says the reason given was that the posters were deemed offensive.

The claim is rejected by SU information officer Keith Pigott. In a letter to the editor of an Focal **Mr Pigott says that pro-life posters were removed because they did not have the SU stamp on them or were 'out of date'. Mr Pigott did not explain in his**

letter on what grounds posters were deemed to be out of date.

SU Deputy President Enda Lonergan refused to comment on the row, saying that no official SU statement would be issued until after a meeting of the executive committee in week nine, the week of the referendums which are the subject of the campaigns. Members of the union are known to have expressed anger at the delay in responding to public allegations of bias on the part of the Students' Union.

Lecturer Releases LP Cassette

Mr Lillis O Laoire, lecturer in Irish, has released an LP cassette of unaccompanied traditional Irish songs from Donegal.

More Suggestions Please!

The University has erected an additional two suggestion boxes in the main building. They bring to three the number of suggestion boxes on the campus.

University president Dr Walsh is a strong proponent of the idea of suggestion boxes, which enable ideas for the improvement of campus environment to come from all members of the University, and not just senior managers.

Suggestions placed in the boxes are forwarded to the manager with responsibility for the area to which it applies, and their response is posted on the noticeboard near student service.

Assistant Registrar, Dr Pat Cashell, told an Focal **that last year was a 'quiet one' for suggestions, with a total of seventeen suggestions received. Commenting on the success of the suggestion box, Dr Cashell cited three examples of actions taken as a result of suggestions received from the box. These were the extension in the opening hours of the**

Computer Hackers warned

by David Newport
New notices have been placed in the Vax and Wang computer laboratories warning students against using other students computer accounts.

A senior member of staff in the Information Technology Department (ITD) told an Focal **that in recent weeks students have been using passwords to access accounts not allocated to them. ITD is considering disciplinary action against these students. Two years ago a student was suspended for a full academic year for similar offences.**

Voters' Buses Organised

The free bus service for voters organised by the students' union has proven popular, with nearly 200 students registering to avail of the service. Students will be bussed to Kerry, Longford, Sligo, Mayo, Donegal, Cork, Dublin, Laois and parts of Tipperary to enable them to vote in the referendums and general election on Wednesday

Students' Union provides "securityescorts"

University authorities have moved quickly to improve security on campus, following attacks on six students since the start of term.

As part of the package, university security staff will work with night-time "company patrols" organised by the Students' Union.

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Transition Officer, Mr Billy Kirwan described five of the attacks as "gropes" of women students, while in the sixth attack a male student was knocked to the ground by a gang and robbed.

According to Mr Kirwan these attacks have occurred along the tree-lined driveway leading to the university's main gate and in the vicinity of the Schuman building. Mr Kirwan said the community garda assigned to the campus had been informed of the attacks.

The "company patrols" will accompany students leaving the campus between 10.00pm and 1.30am. Two members of the Ents Crew - one male and one female - leave the reception area in the main building each half hour and walk the length of the tree-lined drive with students who have been working late in the reading rooms.

Students' Union President, Mr Diarmuid Scully, said that University President Dr Walsh has issued instructions on two

actions which will allviate the situation immediately. Lighting on the campus grounds is to be improved in the next week. Some of the undergrowth along the drive way has already been removed. Both of these suggestions came from SU Deputy President, Mr Enda Lonergan.

Mr Lonergan will also be a member of a committee to review all aspects of security on the campus which has been set up by Dr Walsh. The committee will provided with funding to implement suggestions.

As a long term objective the university will look at the feasibility of supporting a shuttle bus service at night.

The attacks were first publicly reported in the Limerick Leader on Wednesday of week 5.

The patrol is based on a similar service provided on the UCD campus in Belfield, Dublin. In universities in the UK and the United States the provision of a late-night bus service between the university and students housing is common.

Lecturer Releases LP Cassette

Mr Lillis O Laoire, lecturer in Irish, has released an LP cassette of unaccompanied traditional Irish songs from Donegal.

"Bláth Gach Géag dá dTig" is a 45 minute cassette containing 12 songs, including a number of unusual songs which are not well known, even in the traditional singing fraternity.

The cassette has been released by the Gaeltacht company Cló Iar-Chonnachta, which specialises in Irish music.

According to Mr O Laoire, sales of the cassette are going well, with keen interest being expressed among Irish music enthusiasts in the USA. Mr O Laoire told an Focal that he selected lesser known songs to encourage younger singers to learn them. He said that one of the songs - was at risk of dying out as it appeared to be known only to two sisters from Tory Island.

Among the other songs on the cassette are "Ag Cuan Bhinn Éadair" and a version of "An Crúiscín Lán", both of which Mr O Laoire sang when he won the Oireachtas competition for traditional singing in Dublin last year.

the area to which it applies, and their response is posted on the noticeboard near student service.

Assistant Registrar, Dr Pat Cashell, told an Focal that last year was a 'quiet one' for suggestions, with a total of seventeen suggestions received. Commenting on the success of the suggestion box, Dr Cashell cited three examples of actions taken as a result of suggestions received from the box. These were the extension in the opening hours of the Schuman building, which came into use last year; the provision of a shelter at the bus top adjacent to the Stables; and the erection of a second Automatic Teller Machine at the Bank of Ireland branch on the campus

Not all suggestions received have been a successful. Some years ago it was suggested that 'over-ride keys' for the lifts be issued to members of the university who had difficulty using the stairwells. Although the relevant university officer responded favourably at the time, the system was not introduced when the lift in the Bianconni tower was rebuilt.

The two new boxes are located in the main canteen (block C, level 1) and in the library outside the Information Room. The existing box is located outside the student services office on level O, block E.

An Focal has been told that the, er, suggestion to install the two new boxes came from Dr Walsh!

Voters' Buses Organised

The free bus service for voters organised by the students' union has proven popular, with nearly 200 students registering to avail of the service. Students will be bussed to Kerry, Longford, Sligo, Mayo, Donegal, Cork, Dublin, Laois and parts of Tipperary to enable them to vote in the referendums and general election on Wednesday 25th. Buses will leave the UL campus in the morning, dropping people off en route, and will return on Wednesday evening.

JONATHAN SWIFT - HEATING ADJUSTED

Following the Week 4 article published in An focal and numerous complaints from students the heating system in the Jonathan Swift Theatre was finally adjusted during Week 7.

The reason given for the delay was that the job would take time and the theatre was almost constantly in use.

The necessary adjustments were carried out on Wednesday November 11th between four and seven pm.

A student fainted during a contract law lecture held in the theatre on October 6th last.

Vegetarians Object in Restaurant

Vegetarian members of the university's staff have complained about frogs legs being served in the restaurant in the main building.

The objectors are complaining on two grounds. They object to the fact that the meat dish was served in the salad bar, and have also complained about the way in which frogs legs are prepared.

Leader of the protest, Mr Philip Samways said he was 'furious' to see a tray of frogs legs in the salad bar. He wrote to the manager of the Campbell's unit on November 2.

Mr Samways said he felt there was a difference between slices of ham and a

tray full of what he described as 'dismembered animals'.

Mr Samways said that Campbells do not cater for vegetarians on their menu other than through the provision of salads.

When an Focal contacted Campbells the manager was away on holidays. Her deputy refused to comment on the matter of frogs legs on the menu. However, she did counter Mr Samways claim on catering for vegetarians. She said that the restaurant serves three hot vegetarian dishes each week.

In addition to Mr Samways, at least three other members of staff have written to Campbells on the issue.

1992/3 CLUBS & SOCS BUDGET REPORTS

Clubs and Societies Budgets Ratified at Class Reps. Council Tuesday the 10th saw Council examine the list of budget allocations by Executive in the Student Centre. These were ratified, though not

regarding coaching. Their plea for extra green fee money was refused. This is something of a borderline case, and perhaps the efforts of the Golf Club in extracting large discounts from clubs in the region should have been better rewarded. Better

U.L. STUDENTS WIN PRESTIGIOUS IDA AWARDS

Four U.L. students are this years' IDA Student Enterprise Award National Winners.

Michael Murray (Marketing), Norman Foley (Marketing), Veronica O'Halloran (Finance) and Ciaran O'Loughlin (College of Education) scooped the prize on November 10th last in Wilton House the IDA's Dublin Headquarters.

Their project "Glasscycle 2000" is a company that will manufacture and market bottlecrushers to the hotel and bar trade. It proposes to set up a glass collection system to prove the link between the customer and the Irish Glass Company. The product will be easy to

operate, efficient and cost effective.

The three other national finalists were U.C.C., U.C.D. and R.T.C. Lettorkenny.

This is the 9th year of the IDA Student Enterprise Awards and the 7th year that U.L. has reached the final. It is the first win for U.L.

On the same day "Oscar" a discreet rubbish pouch designed to match the upholstery of a car became the IDA regional winner, winning first prize for U.L. students Enda Ryan

(Production Management), Sean Moroney (Production Management), Ivan O'Connor (Marketing) and Gerard O'Sullivan (Economics).

U.L. students were also selected to represent Ireland in Entrepreneurship Awards held in Holland on November 17th and 18th. Three fourth year students John Tucholski, Ben Harnett and Tom Quigley travelled to Amsterdam to take part in The European Student Business Plan Contest - "Young Entrepreneur 92", with their business plan.

Ten projects for ten countries were represented at the finals of which the top 3 prizes were won by Graduates.

clubs. However, 1992/3 capitation is still £2,000 below the 1991/2 projection. So much for our college's reputation for accountancy graduates..... Meanwhile the Cumann Gaelach, Archery, Men's Soccer and Drama Soc's appeals were deferred until Tuesday, Week 9, but no other appeals are being entertained as the deadline for requests has passed.

Allocation for the next academic year:

Societies Budgets:

Amnesty	£121
Campus T.V.	£1,429
Chembio	£239**
Cumann Gaelach	£702**
Donegal	£20
Drama	£470**
ETTS	£481



Hurling £4400 as a separate entity from budgets*

1992/3 CLUBS & SOCS BUDGET REPORTS

Clubs and Societies Budgets Ratified at Class Reps. Council

Tuesday the 10th saw Council examine the list of budget allocations by Executive in the Student Centre. These were ratified, though not without scrutiny, notably of Campus TV, Racing Club, Lit & Phil and Parl. Deb. Soc. Executive replies were led by SU President Diarmuid Scully to the satisfaction of Council and the Submission was ratified unanimously.

This led to appeals by Golf, Hurling, Environmental, European and Chembio. The Hurling Club successfully argued the case for an SU contribution to the Campus GAA Development Officer, which will be one third of the £1000 cost to the club. Environmental Society also won some support, including a revised film allocation, field trip travel and £1 extra for Capital!

Euro. Soc. pleading for hospitality and accommodation for speakers fell on deaf ears however, as this would set a precedent for several other societies, not least the two resident debating societies and the Law Soc. The same answer was relayed to the Golf Club

regarding coaching. Their plea for extra green fee money was refused. This is something of a borderline case, and perhaps the efforts of the Golf Club in extracting large discounts from clubs in the region should have been better rewarded. Better luck next time lads! Chembio's abortive appeal was on a similar basis to Euro Soc and was dismissed after a fair hearing from an attentive Council, and despite the three hour duration all but a few stayed to the end.

An assertion was made at Council that S.U. clubs and societies budget had stayed static this year. However, last years 'headline' figure of £65,000 was inaccurate, the 'underlying figure' being several thousand less due to cutbacks. These occurred because of the massive shortfall in capitation last year. This meant no re-allocation was possible. This year there will almost certainly be re-allocation - watch this space - and total for budgets will reach about £70,000. Provision was made separately at the C & S E.G.M. regarding a jersey fund and there will be a special events fund of £5,000, and two travel funds for Clubs of £3,000 and £2,000, the latter for super travel league

clubs. However, 1992/3 capitation is still £2,000 below the 1991/2 projection. So much for our college's reputation for accountancy graduates..... Meanwhile the Cumann Gaelach, Archery, Men's Soccer and Drama Soc's appeals were accepted until Tuesday, Week 9, but no other appeals are being entertained as the deadline for requests has passed.

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ETTS	£481
European	£247
Environmental	£380*
Film	£2,535
French	£178
Games	£651
Hispanic	£95
Law	£405
Music	£652
Lit & Phil	£668
Overseas Student	£1266
Parliament. Deb	£986

Clubs Budgets:

Archery	£718**
Athletics	£1303
Badminton	£775
Basketball	£3749
Boat	£2743
Camogie	£1025
Chess	£340
Cricket	£684
Social Dance	£208
Equestrian	£1658
Football(men)	£3415
Football(women)	£896
Golf	£1114*
Handball	£443
Hockey(Women)	£1174

Hurling	£4400
Judo	£1287
Karate	£544
Kayak	£1823
Outdoor Pursuits	£2726
Racing	£1005
Rugby(men)	£756
Rugby(women)	£372
Soccer(men)	£1664**
Soccer(women)	£2179
Softball	£686
Tabletennis	£646
Taekwondo	£2188
Volleyball	£1960
Waterpolo	£1507
Windsurfing	£1973

* After appeal
** To be appealed
S.U. President Diarmuid Scully's reaction to the budgets was: "It's important to note that the Club figures do not include £15,000 to be spent on jerseys. This is the first time in three years that the S.U. has bought jerseys. The scheme was formulated at the Clubs & Socs. E.G.M.

as a separate entity from budgets".

"Society budgets are lower than previously, as the S.U. has changed its allocation policy. We are no longer handing out blind money for ideas that are not fully formed. £5,000 is being set aside in a special events fund. All societies are encouraged to apply to this fund when they formulate concrete ideas".

The Executive, who for the previous week lived on a regime of three hours sleep (if you're lucky), caffeine and Italian take-away, were understandably tense during any budget questioning - in budgets it's one out, all out until ratification. However, once the ratification vote was carried, they smiled (occasionally) and the prospect of a better sleep pattern became reality. For harried treasurers, however, it was back to their calculators and bank managers to attempt to balance their books. By Mark Dowling.



Features

ONCE THERE WERE TWO CATERPILLARS VERY MUCH IN LOVE

Once there were two caterpillars very much in love. Ben was by nature a go-getter. He was very much in love with Flo, who was very intelligent with a compassionate nature. They spent many

measured to himself it was his life

Saturday.

The election campaign is in full swing and thanks be to God for it; otherwise we'd have abortion up to our ears and bloody sick we are of it at the moment. Instead it's the election that has everyone retching. Out Taoiseach is being portrayed as an anti-Christ by the media so the whole nation is confused as we always thought the Rev. Ian Paisley had the monopoly on that term of reference or has Albert become Pope. When I arrived at the Pub for work the place was in uproar; there had been some disagreement between the PD side of the house and the Fianna Fail side of the house over the price of the pint over some glib comment either one or both parties to reducing it if they got elected in an effort to make dole payments last until the weekend. I wouldn't budge and charged £1.65 all night long. I was engaging in no exercises in supply side economics - if it didn't work for Reagan, it certainly wouldn't for me and anyway the boss man in charge likes his margins the way they are.

Sunday.

Had the good fortune to be visited by a priest enquiring as to our availability for midnight mass on Christmas eve. The fact that I would be working on the aforementioned night could be said to have annoyed him somewhat. To escape the wrath of God for the time being until I'm dead anyway. I paid my Sunday courtesy call on my 3 year old nephew. I timed my visit well; an apple pie was emerging from the oven and cream was being whipped to cover its golden sweet form. The child looked on with amazement as the cream began to thicken in the bowl. Demanding, as only children of his age can, that he was given the bowl to beat with a spoon which was a good idea at the time, until that is, Babi came along. Babi, a black kitten, up to regular skulduggery and shannanigans decided to pull at his shoe laces. The boy got annoyed at being interrupted doing such an important job

LOG

Monday.

Returning to the relative peace and quiet of University was a prayer answered. This was all well and good but for the fact that it was Monday of week 8 and the first years have taken up residence in the library as if they had work to do. Everyone knows that first years have no physical, psychological or social need to be in the library, most especially during Michaelmas. Third and fourth year is plenty of time to be slaves to A Block and this they will learn in time but alas too late one year. As you may have guessed I've

begun to panic and can't find a place to study.

Tuesday.

Got up at 7.30 to start my 3 week plan towards academic recovery. I read a politics book for an hour before leaving the house to get a seat in the journals room. On passing the bus stop a friend called me to ask if I would go into town shopping. Having done an hours work at home I deserved a break and said yes. Into Limerick we went and shopped for food, birthdays and Christmas. I left more deposits around the shop than a rabbit after a bowl of bran. We returned and as I got off the bus another friend, (yes I've got two) who was waiting to get on asked if I'd walk to the Parkway. I duly said yes; not having been there in nearly two weeks. I shopped again and got home on time for my daily fix of Home & Away. By the time the dinner was prepared, eaten and forgotten, it was too late to study so I went visiting and enjoyed an episode of Beverly Hills 90210 in colour for a change. My great study plans fell to one side but I



ONCE THERE WERE TWO CATERPILLARS VERY MUCH IN LOVE

Once there were two caterpillars very much in love. Ben was by nature a go-getter. He was very much in love with Flo, who was very intelligent with a compassionate nature. They spent many long evenings together talking and sharing their dreams for the future. They were both loved by all their friends for their hospitality, welcome and concern. After many years of loving bliss Ben grew agitated. He wanted to climb the pile. You see the Pile was a huge mountain of caterpillars which grew right into the sky. Everyone in the town, in fact in the land, was talking about the pile. You see it was said when you reached the top of the pile you would have great happiness and success beyond your wildest dreams.

Gradually there was a change in the relationship between Flo and Ben. Flo was happy and content to contend with the adventure of daily living but Ben wanted to enter the pile. So the following morning he said his good-byes to Flo despite her pleading to stay and left for the pile.

Ben started to climb, he never saw so many caterpillars before, all scrambling and fighting for a place on the pile. At first he went gently, careful not to walk on anyone. Looking down the pile, he could see Flo to the side looking forlorn and sad. He felt guilty at the way he treated Flo, but

reducing it if they got elected in an effort to make dole payments last until the week-end. I wouldn't budge and charged £1.65 all night long. I was engaging in no exercises in supply side economics - if it didn't work for Reagan, it certainly wouldn't for me and anyway the boss man in charge likes his margins the way they are.

reasoned to himself it was his life and he wanted to reach the top of the pile. The further Ben got up the pile the more people were falling off. Ben tried to catch them and help caterpillars who were clinging on, but this was time-consuming so eventually he decided it was every caterpillar for himself, so he continued on thinking only of himself. Ben was astonished at his own uncaring attitude, but he reasoned if he was to help he too would fall off the pile. Soon he was not only not helping the others, but he found himself walking over them and even pushing them off the pile if they were in his way.

As days went by and Ben got nearer the top of the pile his determination got stronger to reach the top even though now hundreds of caterpillars were falling off daily through exhaustion and lack of help from others.

Meanwhile Flo was broken-hearted at Ben's decision and continued her daily routine of helping and caring. She sensed the time was coming very soon so she worked with haste. Then one day she crawled under a big leafy bush, curled up and slept. Days passed, then weeks, Flo's striped

in the bowl. Demanding, as only children of his age can, that he was given the bowl to beat with a spoon which was a good idea at the time, until that is. Babi came along. Babi, a black kitten, up to regular skulduggery and shannanegans decided to pull at his shoe laces. The boy got annoyed at being interrupted doing such an important job

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get on asked if I'd walk to the Parleway. I duly said yes; not having been there in nearly two weeks. I shopped again and got home on time for my daily fix of Home & Away. By the time the dinner was prepared, eaten and forgotten, it was too late to study so I went visiting and enjoyed an episode of Beverly Hills 90210. My excuse for a change, my great study plans fell to one side but I

yellow body was soon covered in a grey black cocoon.

As Ben reached the sky he could hear other caterpillars yell as they fell down the pile. "There is nothing there! There is nothing there!" But rather than deter Ben it made him more vicious in his attack to get to the top of the pile. Then suddenly one bright morning Ben was at the top of the pile. Below him were swarming masses of caterpillars kicking, beating and struggling to get to the top. To Ben's horror at the top there was nothing, nothing! His feelings were emptiness and pain. Fluttering around him in the bright sunshine was a most beautiful butterfly, striped in colour he reached out to her, he felt sure he knew her Then WHAM! Somebody kicked him from below and he felt himself falling down the pile. So Ben hurled toward the ground shouting at those climbing "Turn back! There is nothing at the top of the pile! Turn back!"

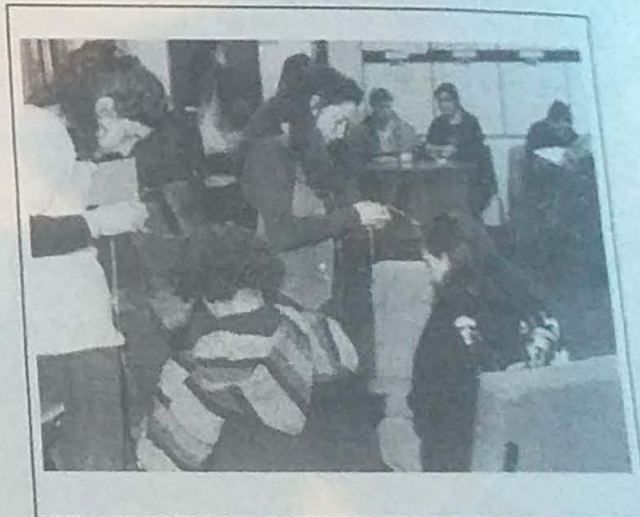
Hope you can make something of this little story I heard recently. Good luck in the exams. Wishing you all a holy and happy Christmas.

P.J.

Chaplain.



Samalithon "Sponsored Ducking" Schuman



Samalithon "Hair Brading, Canteen

COLLEGES ROUND-UP

By Trevor O'Regan

University College, Cork.

The Leesiders are preparing for their annual first term 'Rag Week', which will take place between the 7th and 11th of December (Week 11), so tough luck! This year they will attempt to set a new world record for the Conga dance, and will also conduct a game of 'Twister' with 500 or so tangled bodies (in other words, a big orgy). With regards to the upcoming Referendum on the A-word, UCC's Students Union are urging their students to vote 'Yes', to information, 'Yes' to travel, and to make up their own minds on the 'substantive' issue, according to Union President Mike Muldoon.

they are fighting for a new library. If you think things are bad here, then spare a thought for the 3500 students there who have a library that seats 150, in otherwords 23 to a seat!

If you're ever unfortunate enough to get stuck in Waterford on a Wednesday night, you can check out the weekly Union disco at the Olympus night club.

Letterkenny RTC.

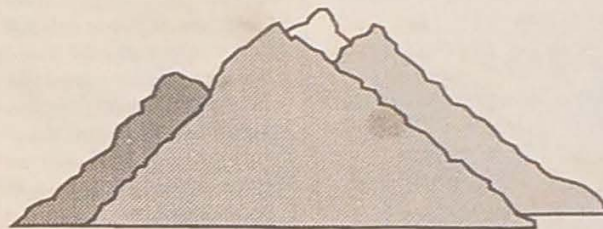
At the other end of the country, Letterkenny RTC have just announced plans to build a purpose-built Ents venue, which will hold 2000 students at any time.

Students' Union president, Colm Keaveney, said that their Union could face closure if their capitation income goes any lower. Colm said it was hit very

badly this year as students entering were means-tested for the very first time. A cry for help from Letterkenny.

Dublin City

ALPS '92 EXPEDITION



UNIVERSITY OF LIMERICK

In the last issue of 'An Focal' the University of Limerick's ALPS '92 Expedition was summerised. The following is an extract from a diary kept during the event.

The return part of the journey proved more hazardous than the ascent. Low air temperatures with little wind were dramatically effecting the quality of the snow as well as recognition of our route taken up the mountain. We moved slowly down a steep section leading onto the Glacier, methodically digging our axes in while feeling ahead with the ski poles. This was how we had done it for the last 3,000 feet and it had worked well giving us forewarning of the quality of the snow ahead. Then disaster struck. I was leading while Dave was some 20ft behind me. My right crampon slipped in

around my wrist had caught me. I lay there looking up at the clear blue sky and spitting snow out of my mouth. Then my thoughts turned to Dave. Where was he? he couldn't be far behind me. I suddenly had visions of him ploughing his crampons into the back of my neck as he came crashing down the slope. I waited.



Features



Tralee RTC.

Down in the Kingdom, Union President Kirk Kelly, tells me that the altruistic students of Tralee have raised £2,500 in the last two weeks to buy an electric wheelchair for a fellow student. Well done Tralee.

On the social scene, The Joshua Trio, and comedian Paul Malone have just completed gigs on campus. While those mad football supporters from Cork, 'The Sultans of Ping FC' are due to play a fixture away in Tralee before Christmas. Definitely worth checking out.

Waterford RTC.

Limerick Lass, Karen O'Reilly, who is N° 2 in command of the Union there, says

badly this year as students entering were means-tested for the very first time. A cry for help from Letterkenny.

Dublin City University.

Limerick's sister college, DCU, staged a sit-in last week to protest against the continuing lack of library space. Union president there, Mike Egan, argued that for the number of students attending DCU they're entitled to

1300 library seats, the number at present is 500.

Athlone RTC.

Our friends up the Shannon tell me that 'Something Happens' are happening this Christmas in Athlone, while 'The Golden Horde' have just completed a very successful gig on campus. Otherwise, as can be expected, all is quiet in Athlone.

Galway RTC.

Finally, we travel to Galway, where the Students' Union are fielding their own candidate in the General Elections. His name is Barry Finnegan who has become Galway RTC's answer to Ross Perot. Well done Barry and may God bless you.

...leading ahead with the ski poles. This was how we found the crevasse. It was about 3,000 feet and it had worked well giving us forewarning of the quality of the snow ahead. Then disaster struck. I was leading while Dave was some 20ft behind me. My right crampon slipped in the slush snow and landed me on my pack. I automatically plunged my ice axe shaft in beside me but it didn't hold. I immediately started to hurl down the slope, pulling the axe after me. A quick tug behind me followed by a release on the rope told me that Dave was unable to hold my fall and was hurling down behind me. Suddenly all events seemed to slow to a snail's pace. I remember being quite calm as again and again I caught the head of the axe and tried to dig in the shaft. Snow and slush were being thrown up all over the place finding its way inside my jacket and into my eyes and ears. The glacier field was hurdling closer when on the fourth or fifth attempt, the ice axe held tight, but the momentum which I had built up however was sufficient to wrench my grip and cause me to let go. I remember shouting out, then yelling in surprise as my arm was pulled back and I jolted to a halt. The strapping on the axe which was wrapped



bracing myself, unable to move. After what seemed an eternity but on reflection could not have been more than ten seconds, I pulled myself up the slope kicking my crampons in to give support. I twisted around in the snow to see Dave sitting up, his ski pole in front of him and his axe dug well in beside him. "You OK", he said, "yea" I replied, "completely lost it". I looked to the front again and sat gazing at a crevasse that was no more than ten feet away. Had we not managed to stop ourselves we would have certainly ended up going over the edge and into the abyss.....

The ALPS'92 Expedition would not have been possible had it not been for the generosity and interest of our sponsors: Jacinta Duffy, the Sports and Recreation Officer, Dermot and Ray at Radar

Stores, Mr and Mrs Clifford at PRO-CLO, Donal Fagin of The Stables Club and the Bank of Ireland. Thanks are also due to Tom 'Gore-tex' Toomey and Adam de Eyto for 'lending' specialist gear.

Footnote. The Outdoor Pursuits Club in the University is planning a major Expedition to Nepal and the Annapurna Sanctuary in 1995. This will be a wholly University of Limerick Expedition for both Trekkers and Climbers. Anyone interested should drop a note to: Paul Butler, c/o The Outdoor Pursuits Club, Students Union, University of Limerick, Plassey Technological Park, Limerick.

EDITORIAL

Sir,

Re. the letter of Mr. Gerard Healy on Wednesday last the 17th. The main crux of Mr. Healy's contribution is that he seems to feel the Students' Union has adopted a restrictive policy towards information.

This is completely untrue. We are firm believers in complete freedom of information in accordance with the Court of Human Rights.

The posters that Mr. Healy referred to were indeed removed but for the following reasons: Due to the lack of notice boards within the college, Union policy states that all notice board material must carry the official stamp of the Students' Union and must be up to date.

The posters which were referred to were without Union stamp and therefore justifiably taken down. Other Pro-Life posters were removed because they were out of date.

Pro-Life have not been discriminated against they are subject to the same rules as all clubs and societies. I find their allegations of discriminations and restrictions on freedom of information contemptible.

Yours etc.
Keith Pigott
Information Officer

Dear Ed,

I am a first year studying at the University. It hasn't gone unnoticed, the abundance of money available to the College, when one sees the huge architectural masterpieces blended into the surroundings by masses of greenery, making the Giants appear quiet amidst the green environment. But, to keep it so, is difficult for the 5000 or so students, and I being one of the population understand why it is difficult to maintain the greenery clean - NO BINS. A small percentage of the cash to go towards bins would benefit all, the college, the students, and the Environment. A little does go a long way.

Phil

they'd be out of business before long.

A number of weeks ago one of the glass collectors threatened to cut my precious parts off (honestly), because he thought that I had been sitting on his precious plastic bin. Although I laughed (nervously!) at the time, in hindsight I feel that it was just another example of the Stables abusing their monopoly position on campus. The concept of friendly service seems to be completely alien to these barstaff. The Union executive inform us that the Stables is 'our pub' - why then should we put up with this treatment?

The Union alone has the power to improve this situation - until then we'll just have to put up with bad pints and bad manners.

John Colivet
2nd Business.

Dear Editor,

It's time someone spoke out regarding the service in the Stables Club. I feel that were they to run a pub in town with the same attitude



18th November 1992

Sir,

I am becoming heartily sick of Pro-Life bringing the S.U. into disrepute. The letters to the Irish Times and the Sunday Press, among others, accusing ULSU of discriminatory tactics (ripping down posters etc.) are not only wrong, but dangerous and futile. I am not a member of either Pro-Life or Choice, but as a person involved in Societies, I recognise the rules regarding posters:

- (1) That they be stamped by the S.U.
- (2) That they be in date.

The smooth running of societies posterings requires that poster boards be regulated. It will not be furthered by incessant pressure group whinge, or by letters to the national press. As a P.R.O., I welcome the stance of the S.U. in the matter of posterings, whether it be club, society or flyer. Pro-Life have a case as have Pro-Choice. neither is served by one accusing the other of dirty tricks.

Yours Faithfully,



Please keep
sending in
material for
an Focal



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Phil

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Yours Faithfully,

EDITORIAL

Dustin Off Yer Brain Cells

My dear brothers and sisters in the grip of panic, exams doth approacheth with the speed of *rap running swiftly through your nearest and dearest duck. Which reminds me, vote for Dustin, if only because

- a. he is yer only man
- b. he is a turkey by birth and therefore by design, unlike the other shower who are merely turkeys by default
- c. he is adept at communicating at length about absolutely sod all
- d. has the good manners to stay well away from Christmas
- e. is acutely aware of how stuffed his colleagues really are

As far as manifestos go, Dustin says vote yes to

- a. burger and chips (turkeys banned from the Stables, management excepted)
- b. hen parties in the dawl
- c. more library books on turkeys, as opposed to libraries as turkeys
- d. Tuesday night gigs in the Stables Club

Dustin says no to

- a. Overcrowding in battery farms, particularly in the Johnathon Swift
- b. Cranberry sauce
- c. the personality tithe necessitated by a steady relationship

In short, vote for Dustin and youse'll pass yer bleedin exams no problem ... ri?

"DOUG ANTHONY ALL-STARS"

- October 20, University of Limerick.

Australian variety-comedy-musical trio, the DOUG ANTHONY ALL-STARS made a short notice appearance at the University of Limerick; and their surprise show was only the first of many surprises. Although the crowd was not capacity - and probably a bit apprehensive considering the Antipodeans' reputation - those there were for the most part converted to the peculiar brand of humour that this triumvirate purvey.

Mixing melodious if somewhat objectionable songs with even more objectionable stand-up, this in-your-face act leave no one in the audience unconvinced of their depravity and poor taste. Yet their tongues are so firmly glued to cheek, that it is difficult to analyse any of their rapid fire routines beyond the first point of interpretation - i.e. that they are hilariously funny. You have no time to take offence to their SPIEL, for the next thing they say is likely to be even funnier and more crass than the last.

"Mexican Hiller", "Stand up and be Counted (or lie down and be mounted)", "Party in Hell" and "I F**K Dogs" are the brand of LIEDER they perform. The songs are expertly sung and played, with comedy routines interspersed with

converting everyone to the "unholy one" by convincing us that the Devil and Santa Claus are one and the same! They then, having achieved their fiendish design, get everyone to run, leap and pretend to have horns - while singing along to the 'hymn' "Running and Leaping (for Satan is Lord)".

This anarchic trio are bound to repulse, shock and delight all but those of the most staid temperament. But they're definitely not for those of strong religious convictions; or the politically correct.

ZEN ZUCCHINI

THE BLUE ANGELS - "THE STABLES", LIMERICK. NOVEMBER 3

For a change, the Stables was packed and responsive for one of the University of Limerick's Tuesday night gigs. But then, Dublin band THE BLUE ANGELS have been in the national eye for some time,

in-your-face attitude to come across somewhere between the DOORS and JANE'S ADDICTION; but the raunchy bubblegum feel of many of the tracks would suggest a ballsier T-REX.

Encoring with a loose but wicked version of the Beatles' "Paperback Writer", the Angles finished as they had started - with lost of noise, strobes and fun. They obviously enjoyed themselves on stage, and their enthusiasm was infectious; motivating the crowd to show their appreciation through many shrill cries and a seething mass of (in ?) humanity on the dancefloor. Already signed in Ireland (to SOLID) they are in no hurry to get inked by a "Major" label. With the slew of Irish bands currently being dropped by their labels, this is probably a wise course of action. More time to hone their songwriting and develop their already impressive live act, should give them a better than fighting chance to not have to say in years to come: "I coulda been a contenda".

ZEN ZUCCHINI

LES SILMARIS

Les Silmaris, a French

LAST OF THE MOHICANS DANIEL DAY LEWIS, MADELINE STOWE

I came to this film expecting to see a kind of "Dances with Wolves" without the wolves - or without the dancing either for that matter. This has to be the first time that my opinions actually differ from the Sunday Press's which I am sometimes 'inspired by' (what do you mean I don't see all the films I review) because I loved it. Okay, so the characters are a bit shallow and the Indians do end up using ridiculous pigeon English (you know "Me, Big Sitting Bull stick fire stick up Grey Hairs' arse", and the like) but the action is excellent and the camera work spectacular.

I couldn't tell you how much the screenplay adheres to the original novel, but I was surprised at the amount of violence in it. The sound effects alone, with audible crunches, etc. when people get their heads staved in with tamahawks suggest that the film should be at least 15's and not have the 12's rating that it has. I'll tell you this much, whoever makes those plastic wounds for it must have made a fortune.

have been playing together since 1988, have already made a name for themselves in France by sharing the stage with famous other bands. It was not their first time in Ireland, as they made tours here before, in May and October of

1991. Mixing many different influences and styles (rock, funk, reggae, ska), they achieved a great success thanks to their great communicative energy and cheerful nature. Silmaris, please come back!

poor taste. Yet their tongues are so firmly glued to cheek, that it is difficult to analyse any of their rapid fire routines beyond the first point of interpretation - i.e. that they are hilariously funny. You have no time to take offence to their SPIEL, for the next thing they say is likely to be even funnier and more crass than the last. "Mexican Hitler", "Stand up and be Counted (or lie down and be mounted)", "Party in Hell" and "I F**K Dogs" are the brand of LIEDER they perform. The songs are expertly sung and played, with comedy routines interspersed with satirical lyrics that lead to convulsions of laughter. They abuse and hector the audience, running through the auditorium while performing immaculately rehearsed set pieces.

Throughout the show, they ply their dementia and some bizarrely perverse demonic evangelism. Constant attempts to convert the audience to the worship of "The Dark Lord" and "Horned One" puzzled at first, but led to an outrageous finale. Much maligned (and frequently assaulted) straight-man Richard plays guitar while the diminutive and demented Paul and the lithe, suave (and frankly, insane) Tim take it to the people.

A mock lesbian-feminist poem recital and occasional, random visits to Narnia are capped by an absurd version of "My Way". They confused everyone by doing a straight rendition of "The Auld Triangle" which was probably the best I've heard.

Have you ever heard the entire song done in three part harmonies?

Paul (who exhibited an amazing voice) then spent five minutes simulating Satanic sodomy of a reindeer, while

THE BLUE ANGELS - "THE STABLES", LIMERICK. NOVEMBER 3

For a change, the Stables was packed and responsive for one of the University of Limerick's Tuesday night gigs. But then, Dublin band THE BLUE ANGELS have been in the national eye for some time, and it is hardly surprising that such well known artists should attract a sizeable crowd. Mixing tight performance, good songs, excellent sound and a very good stage-show; THE BLUE ANGELS surely merit attention.

Frontman Shane O'Neill has developed since his BLUE IN HEAVEN days, and has himself quite a hot band to make a push for the top with. Opener "Lucifer" was a hard rocking number that set the tone for the evening. The group was full of energy and moved well occupying the eye as well as the ear. Tuneful grunge might be an apt description for the Angels' repertoire; grabbing you by the throat with its immediacy, and then forcing you to listen to the well structured songs.

The well known songs such as "Candy" and "Get it Back" are more commercial, and sound incongruously lightweight in comparison to the rest of the material. "Over the Edge", "Loose", "Elvis" ET AL show commitment and poise, while "Shooting Star" offers a change of pace. They combine a psychedelic quirkiness and

linked by a "Major" label. With the slew of Irish bands currently being dropped by their labels, this is probably a wise course of action. More time to hone their songwriting and develop their already impressive live act, should give them a better than fighting chance to not have to say in years to come: "I coulda been a contenda".

ZEN ZUCCHINI

LES SILMARIS

Les Silmaris, a French band, were playing at the Stables on Tuesday, October 27th. It seems to have been one of the most successful gigs, one of the most appreciated bands that performed since Week 1, according to the enthusiasm of the audience. These 6 musicians, who

have been playing together since 1988, have already made a name for themselves in France by sharing the stage with famous other bands. It was not their first time in Ireland, as they made tours here before, in May and October of

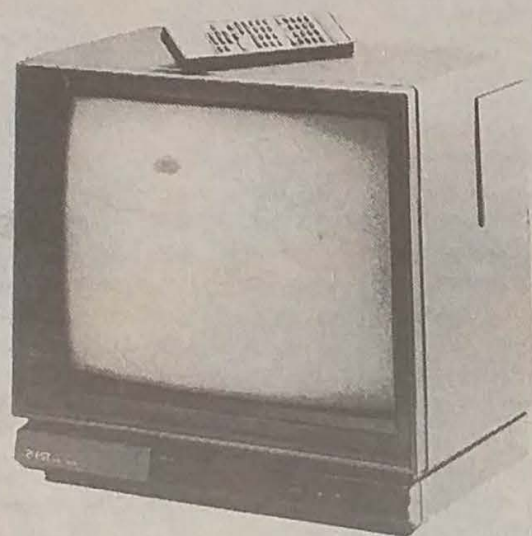
1991. Mixing many different influences and styles (rock, funk, reggae, ska), they achieved a great success thanks to their great communicative energy and cheerful nature. Silmaris, please come back!



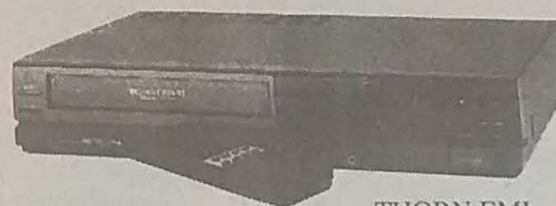
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Students' Union Ents**

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Reviews

that Bateman is handsome, charming, sophisticated and intelligent. he's a likeable character. I envy his lifestyle of restaurants, couture clothes and money. Yet it becomes

powerfull evil is a symbol not lost on us. Bateman is a misogynist. A vain and conel-eted monster.

I cannot reccomend this book enough. It does not pull

tin foil, generally have as much fun as possible gave them a place in the archives of their native Bristol. By now the music has developed into a gut-wrenchingly heartfelt mixture of soul, reggae

Reviews

American Psycho - Bret Easton Ellis. reviewed by : John Maguire.

Picador 1991 about £8.99 paperback.

About 5 years ago, Bret Easton Ellis caused a sensation in the literary fiction world with his first novel, *Less Than Zero*, which was subsequently made into a cult film. A subsequent novel, *The Rules Of Attraction*, dealt with the issues of student sex, and life in an american university. This latest novel, *American Psycho*, is one of the best novels I have ever read. Nothing has repulsed me, enthralled me or interested me as much, ever. The novel chronicles a lifestyle alien to most but familiar to all through the media of film, television and the written word.

This book is about a psychotic killer. It contains scenes of pornography, mysogeny and repulsive physical abuse. It's a book about a young (26) executive, Patrick Bateman, rich beyond imagination, who dresses in the finest couture, and his life in the New York of the nineties. There are scenes of the blackest comedy, where Pat shows us how fruitless his life has become. He lives to

kill girls. Throughout the book he tells his friends about his life as a psycho, dropping hints, as it were. They don't listen. This motif is used constantly throughout the book. Nobody listening.

Bateman is a lunatic. His life is one of misery and the author gives fascinating insights into madness. The first line of the book is "Abandon hope all ye who enter here." It seems as if Bateman epitomises the weltschmerz of a nation. It's a depressing and repulsive book, a disturbing novel, yet the writer writes from the deepest purest motives. He is recognising the earthquake society. Ephemeral. Vacant. We are being forced to look at material that repulses us, intolerable material. *American Psycho* is black comedy, but the laughter seems to be coming from the book, as you read it. Manic, insane laughter. It's a disturbing portrait of a madman, a subtle send-up of the blatant behaviour of the '80's and a grotesque nightmare of murder and insanity. The problem is

that Bateman is handsome, charming, sophisticated and intelligent. he's a likeable character. I envy his lifestyle of restaurants, couture clothes and money. Yet it becomes ridiculous when he tells us, "Courtney is wearing a wool jacket and vest from Armani, a wool jersey T-shirt and wool gabardine pants by Bill Blass, crystal enamel and gold-plated earrings by Gerard E. Yosca and silk-satin pumps from Manolo Blahnik. I am wearing a custom made tweed jacket, pants and a cotton shirt from the Alan Flusser shop and a silk tie from Paul Stuart. I wave to a beggar on the corner of Forty-ninth and eight, then give him the finger." This is a constant feature of the book. He describes everything that everybody is wearing. Obsessively.

The book is a chronicle of the life of somebody impressively evil.

The "pornographic" aspect of this novel weighs heavy. Easton Ellis has gone into intricate detail in narrating the sex-scenes which are sadistic, brutal and usually murderous. I cannot make any excuse of rational for the sadistic and stomach-churning passages in this novel except to say that it is a vital and important part of a novel about a society that breeds evil and sadism as a part of it's existence. Sex as a commodity and a means of achieving a greater and more

powerfull evil is a symbol not lost on us. Bateman is a misogynist. A vain and concieted monster.

I cannot recommend this book enough. It does not pull any punches, and so few books do that any more. The scene where he murders the little boy in the zoo is a classic of the black comedy genre. The only other book I can think of that follows this central motif is Dostoevsky's "Notes from the Underground". Pictures from the black underbelly of society. "and as things fell apart. Nobody paid much attention Talking Heads.

Easton Ellis has attempted to bring to our attention something that, as fiction, has remained hidden from the main. He (Patrick Bateman) has appeared in our midst and we must deal with him as we can. Thank you to Jack Murphy for assistance.

MOONFLOWERS - SHAMBOLIC MESSERS

Shambolic, anarchic but at times inspired, bands like the Moonflowers have to exist. Their record label 'Pop God' proudly claims to be 'The Home of Divvies'. by maintaining the best of the original hippie ideals the cause grows day by day.

Antics such as impersonating aliens on radio, letting people into gigs free if they wore flowers in their hair, setting fire to their equipment, painting their bodies, covering their instruments in

tinfoil, generally have as much fun as possible gave them a place in the archives of their native Bristol. By now the music has developed into a gut-wrenchingly heartfelt mixture of soul, reggae and rock, drawing upon the works of Bob Marley, Jimi Hendrix, Iggy Pop and Jim Morrison. "It's music done for the right reasons", stresses vocalist Sean, "We all love music and believe in spending our time creating it. A lot of the things we do, we do because we see them as being for the right reasons. We might be completely wrong but at least we're doing what we believe in, which is more than most people do".

Sean started his own record label, Pop God, from Moonflower resources, to which he has signed up Praise Space Electric, i.e. Moonflowers Jessy, Sam and Tobias. "The trouble with the music industry", says Sean, "is that all the people involved within it aren't musicians. They're just salesmen. Major record companies sign up bands that are obvious, who can sell and people will like without thinking. Our music doesn't cause any destruction or harm to anyone. It's all positive energy".

Such a vibrant unusual, powerful honest and entertaining band with philosophies that rub against the grain, seem misplaced in the nineties. When, as Sean says the record industry is geared to market dress what chance have the Moonflowers got? Ailish and Hilary.

HARP ARTS DAYS 1993

Week 3, Term 2 - January 18 - 22



The University of Limerick's 8th annual Arts Days will take place from Monday, January 18th to Friday, January 22nd.

You are cordially invited to get culturally pissed, courtesy of HARP, in song, dance, music, visual art, drama, debating, film, literature, comedy - all art forms and yet-to-be-invented forms.

Visual Art



Past readers at the University of Limerick Days include Brendan Kennelly, Paul Durcan, Theo Dorgan, Michael D. Higgins and George Macbeth.

This year we aim to present some talent, for a change in the persons of lyric poets Leo (the Saws) Moran, Steve (Stunning) Wall, and Kevin (Mirrors) Brew, among others yet to be confirmed.

UL Societies

- European Society presents *European Week 1993*
Invite your friends from around the world who are into debating, drama, drink... Seriously good ideas always succeed.

- Arts Days Intervarsity Debate 1993 presents UL and invited university student speakers just returned from winning the World

UL Hispanic Society presents Helen Holohan (soprano) with Collette Davis (piano). [Fri Lunchtime concert to be confirmed].

Monday Evening: Concert Hall - *UL Chamber Orchestra and choir*: Inaugural joint-concert performing Vivaldi's Gloria
Tuesday Evening: Concert Hall *The Vogler String Quartet*, (Germany): Innors of the International Music Critics' Award 1986 and the prize for the best interpretation of a 20th century work

Wednesday Lunchtime: Schrodinger Building

Irish Folk Trio: UL students give it a lash

Wednesday Evening: Jean Monnet Theatre

Nicholas Ross: Student of piano at the University of Twente in Holland with which the University of Limerick in partnered Sponsored by the Vice-Consulate of the Netherlands
Music and comedy
Monday Stables Club

7-9.30pm - *Jazz Band*
Monday 8pm - *Jon Kenny / Pat Shortt*: two Limerick blokes what makes us laugh Monday 9.30pm Band (tbc)

Tuesday: Canteen 8 - 9.30pm *Les Sinerles* (Official opening of Multicultural Food Fair): We could HARP on for ages about French rhythm .. just sit back and let it roll over you.

9pm - *HARP Comedy Tour Sharon Shannon*: tbc 9.30; European Week concert with Sharon playing Irish, Scottish, French, and Portuguese music on her tiny Italian accordion.
Music And Comedy

Wednesday: Canteen 8 - 9.30pm *Celtic Airs*: Christy and friends (UL's Christy that is!)

Stables Club 9.30pm (Wed): *Stockton's Wing* (tbc): plenty of HARP, lots of trad fused with original music and song
Thursday: Johnathon Swift Theatre 8pm

Dave Gibbons - Gibbo goes native

Stables Club 9.30pm: *They Do It With Mirrors* - UL rock band made good

Late Night Gig: *Bad Manners* (venue tbc) - make Michael Jackson's Bad look like a squeedgy

Friday: Stables Club 9.30 - 11pm *ABU DHABU DERBI* - Reggae Disco with Adecula Gomez Where the HARP humps never run dry
11pm Bar extension

Friday, January 22 January **HAPPY HOUR IN THE STABLES CLUB...**

Late Late Breakfast Show
Poetry, music, chat, a hearty breakfast...all at 5pm in the Stables Club. You could do verse....

Visiting societies from other Planets:

UCG Drama Society presents *FAMINE* by Tom Murphy
An Cumann Gaelach UCG presents *THE FIELD* by John B. Keane

UCC Traditional Music Society
Kevin Street College of Technology

GUB Music Society

- 20 *UL societies* including

debating, drama and film

- *UL Chamber Orchestra*

- *UL Choir*

- *Limerick Music Association* - concert / touring visual arts / performance programme

- *Daghda Dance Co.*, resident dance-in-education

ARTS

co.

- *National Self Portrait Collection*

- *O' Malley Collection* (Sculpted bronze heads)- Hunt Museum

- *National Water-Colour Collection*

- *Contemporary Art Collection* (incl. public sculpture

- *UL Foundation Concert Hall*

- Bachelor's Degree programme in the Liberal Arts
- Gluckman Chair of Contemporary Literature

BELLTABLE PRESS RELEASE

'The Fantasticks', which had its first performance at the Sullivan Street Theatre in New York in 1960, and is still running there, will have its Limerick Premiere in the Belltable on November 23rd.

'The Fantasticks' is a love story set to marvellously melodic music and has toured worldwide. The musical director for the Belltable production is Brian O'Neill and the show will be presented by Vincent Prendergast. The cast includes Ollie Hayes, Tommy Drennan, Dick Wood, David Griffin, Janet Woods, Paddy Madden, Pat O' Sullivan and Arthur O' Leary. The show runs until Saturday, November 28th. Early booking is advisable.

Christmas 1992 sees the dawn of a new era in Christmas shows for both adults and children of all ages. The wide variety of music and dance

Visual Art



- **National Gallery of Ireland**; a celebration of Children's Art
 - **Adrian Pilz**: Photography; European Summer: an exhibition by this member of the UL Photography Society
 - **Evan Petty**: Woodturning; an exhibition by this UL professor of the Dept. of Materials Science and Technology
Mary Mackey: Stained Glass exhibition by renowned Cork artist
Martin Folan: Mural; UL artist-in-residence will direct the painting of a Clubs and Societies mural during Arts Days 1993

Limerick Arts Project

1993 presents UL and invited university student speakers just returned from winning the World
 Wednesday Evening: Jean Monnet Theatre
Nicholas Ross: Student of piano at the University of Twenty in Holland with which the University of Limerick in partnered Sponsored by the Vice-Consulate of the Netherlands
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 9pm - **HARP Comedy Tour Sharon Shannon**: tbc 9.30; European Week concert with Sharon playing Irish, Scottish, French, and Portuguese music on her tiny Italian accordion. Music And Comedy

Debating Championships in Oxford (January 1993).
 - **An Cumann Gaelach** presents Sean Fhear an Mhill
 - **UL Drama Society** presents one act: Brian Friel's "Winners"
 - **UL French Society** presents Arts Days Fashion Show, Wednesday, Canteen
 - **Overseas Students Society** presents Multicultural Food Fair 1993 Tuesday and Wednesday, Canteen 7 - 9pm
 - Film Society presents Saturday Cinema: Director's Retrospective
 - UL Choir and Chamber Orchestra hosting visiting musicians e.g. QUB Choir and Chamber Orchestra
Music: Classical
 Monday Lunchtime: Schrodinger

HAPPY HOUR IN THE STABLES CLUB...
Late Late Breakfast Show
 Poetry, music, chat, a hearty breakfast...all at 5pm in the Stables Club. You could do verse...
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Kevin Brew : They Do It With Mirrors

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Christmas 1992 sees the dawn of a new era in Christmas shows for both adults and children of all ages. The wide variety of music and dance can only be described as ideal seasonal entertainment. Contact the Belltable for further details at 061-319709.

'Artsnotes

So this fortnight....Belltable: 4th-6th December: The All-Ireland One Act drama finals. Also at the Belltable "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. 12th December. The Limerick Philosophy Society presents a lecture on Poetry, Politics & Society by Claran O' Driscoll. 26th November in Mary I. Visual Art : From 14th-31st Nov. in the City Gallery of Art an exhibition of recent works by Victor Sloan entitled Acts Of Faith. Also from the 3rd to the 31st December Magical Embroidery by Saidhbh O' Neill. Music: Mucho Importante concert in the Jean Monnet presented by the Limerick Music Association, Torleif Thedeon cello and Stefan Bojsten (piano) on the 6th Dec.

Opinion



SICKENED OPINION Simon Snodgrass

*To-morrow, and to-morrow, and to-morrow
Creeps in this petty pace from day to day,*

(Beware! I have decided to dust off my Macbeth quotes. These will appear periodically throughout the article.)

Presently I am sitting in my writing desk in my bedroom. It is late Saturday afternoon and I am staring out my window at the desiccated leaves which have fallen on own front lawn. Twilight has set in and I am in poor humour. "A heavy summons lies upon me."

There are many fine learning institutions in this country I could have attended.

*so why I ask myself
did I chose UL. ?*

the University of Limerick requires too high a work rate from us students. It drags them from the comfort of their beds in the morning to attend dreary lectures. Then there is one bothersome process of sitting exams three times a year which leads me back to my initial point about the outrageous workload we have to shoulder. As regards my own study "I dare do all that may become a man who dares do more is none."

*Is it then ULs function to
order a course in Furry
bunnyology?*

Worse than the workload though is the stress. "O full of scorpions is my mind." This type of system cannot be good for young bodies and souls. It is a system that makes unnatural demands and of course "unnatural deeds do breed unnatural troubles". With the help of Avonian Willy I think I have shown up UL for the horror house it is. There are some other points to be considered though.

I am not a believer in the idea of providing technical courses in College to help people slot into the workforce later. Surely it is an employers job to train his workforce not that of the state. If for example a large firm were to open in Plassey, manufacturing

handmade furry bunnies. Is it then ULs function to order a course in Furry bunnyology? (If you think the answer is yes slap your head against the wall.) The state should aim to provide students with a broader more rounded education.

Another reason why the state should drop this premise of technical education is because it doesn't work anyway. What you need in life are near relatives in high places not qualifications. Put simply, if your father is a prosperous old geener you are certain to procure gainful employment in later life. If however your only crutch in life is a university education then it is a case of welcome to the live register. Never be so stupid as to think the caste system operates exclusively in India. Why then should UL burden and harass students with informations that most will never use?

But now to elaborate in that broader more rounded education. Under this system one lecture per day would be held, probably around noon. The main function of this would be to stop students sleeping all during the day. After the lecture had ended they would sit around, drink coffee and think great thoughts.

*What you need in life are
near relatives in high
places not qualifications.*

Occasionally they would amble in and out of society meeting if the mood took them. "Halt" Ed Watsh might say if he reads this "That is a recipe for sloth and degeneracy". "Be silent old goat" I would reply "we are the minions of our race, born to think great thoughts, not for menial trifling labour."

At night of course the degeneracy would consume intoxicants and indulge in the basic pleasures. All this of course just to get it out of their system so that they can go back to thinking their great thoughts during the day.

But UL stifles the dream. It leaves no time to self-actualize (whatever that means). On a personal level it hasn't allowed me the time to complete my most important project yet. An essay which illustrates convincingly the fact that Thomas Harris based his character Hannibal Lector on Peter Ciohessy.

*Let's stop the bloody
slaughter!*

Dedicated to the memory of
William Shakespeare

poor man. A heavy summons lies upon me."

There are many fine learning institutions in this country I could have attended.

*so why I ask myself
did I chose UL. ?*

to shoulder. As regards my own study "I dare do all that may become a man who dares do more is none."

Is it then ULs function to order a course in Furry bunnyology?

people slot into the workforce later. Surely it is an employers job to train his workforce not that of the state. If for example a large firm were to open in Plassey, manufacturing

probably around noon. The main function of this would be to stop students sleeping all during the day. After the lecture had ended they would sit around, drink coffee and think great thoughts.

Hammond lecturer on Peter Clohesy.

Let's stop the bloody slaughter!

Dedicated to the memory of William Shakespeare

DEMOCRACY MY HOLE!

On entering the Jean Monnet theatre a number of weeks ago, I was delighted to discover that the 'debate' in session was to my taste, and then to my utter distaste.

Democracy, the topic of discussion was both floundered upon anded about, so much so as to leave us, the mere audience, totally disorientated as, to the true meaning of the "Word". Although, this is to no particular fault of the debaters who are most definitely entitled to their freedom of speech, opinion and expression, and who are most probably using this public arena as a platform to enhance their future political careers (the thought both rupturing and rumbling my little man and stomach respectively to an incessant extreme - bloody fascists galore!) I found two points particularly irritating.

I mentally frowned upon which method I would utilize to scratch away these irritations, concluding that nicotine would be the most obvious stabilizer. And so, as a dock leaf obliterates a nettle string, my B+H likewise did a similar job to my irritation.

The first point concerns the infinite tendency of one young lady to repeatedly refer to "Greek villages". Well, my dear, it may be just a slight difficulty with demography but to the ancient Greeks, Athens, the birthplace of "Democracy", was hardly to bring to mind

the image of a minuscule village. If that said lady were to persist with her "what does it matter what Greek villages dreamed up" syndrome, I would thereby demonstrate that if a baker comes up with a new recipe for an apple crumble pie and then "patents" the recipe under the word 'crumble', who better to demonstrate the creation of 'crumble' than the baker ie. if anybody was going to know a damn bloody thing about "Democracy" it would have been the ancient Greeks. If Marxism could be said to derive from Mr. Marx, then I would say that democracy was derived from the Greeks. "Derive obviously" implying an aftermath of evolution to the said theories but if one is to talk of the meaning of fabricated and commercialised words it might be an idea to look at the original idea behind the words.

Just as Fascism is a national and not an international doctrine, Democracy in its truest form can best be operated through a system of local and not central government hence the litany of 'Greek villages'. 'Power to the people' being the democratic syllabus, not for instance its descendant PRSTV (in Ireland) but actual power in the

peoples hands not those of 'politicians'.

if there had been a student of U.L. in our Oireachtas then we would have had cigarette machines in the canteen and urinals at the bar of the Stables, nevermind an actual library or an actual repeat system, long ago.

Impossible as it may seem, the Greeks did just that. How? Simple. Members of parliament were elected by lot! None of this election campaign bullshit with empty promises and such back-stabbing coherent to the 'Dolschtoss myth'. Your average everyday unemployed person might get a say on the unemployment problem (he'd certainly want something done about it) likewise if a teacher or student happened to pluck the right straw they may put forward the measures needed to revamp the education system (for instance) if there had been a student of U.L. in our Oireachtas then we would have had cigarette machines in the canteen and urinals at the bar of the Stables, nevermind an actual library or an actual repeat system, long ago. Maybe I'm in Won-

derland with Alice but it's nice. Only Utilitarians say 'Never Wonder'.

Boring you? I don't give a fuck. It is purely for a personal satisfaction. My second point. A prim and proper gentleman put forward - his way forward. Stating his opinion extremely well he ascertained that some people are more intelligent than others and these by right of intelligence should rule nations. Something similar was scribbled by a pig (Stalin) on the wall of an animal farmyard -

'everybody is equal but some are more equal than others'.

If Stalin could do that then why couldn't this young gentleman or one of his cronies do likewise. For instance, some people are more intelligent than others, and they should rule domains, and eat cake, and drink sparkling Ballygowan, while the people eat bread, and drink tap-water, or more to the point, drink themselves stupid to forget they ever tasted cake, for a while. The theory of this young gentleman has however been thought of before. The 'Superman theory' of Nietzsche, erratic as it may be, has been administered by both Benito and Adolph.

Robin Hood, 2nd Euro Pub. Affairs

From the Triangle

What do you call us?

by Cathal Kelly

A year ago, in Cork, there occurred one of those rows that appears to mean the world to those involved but seems relatively trivial to everybody else.

The Lesbian and Gay Support Group in UCC voted to change its name to 'Queer Soc and Fan Club'. The change was resented by quite a few lesbian and gay people on the Leaside campus, and they resigned their membership of the organisation. A century ago the word 'homosexual' entered the English language, as a translation of a German word. It emerged from a young and unsteady science - which later grew to become psychiatry. The emergence and changing use of the words 'homosexual', 'gay', 'lesbian', and 'queer' - reflects the development in how those named by the words are seen, both by ourselves and others. The word 'homosexual' classified us as a separate group in society. It went further than the previous English word 'bugger' which merely named an act which was criminal, and could be performed by any male. In *Homosexuality in Renaissance England* the historian Richard Bray points out that buggery between the servants in a household would not have been regarded as unusual. For many it was seen as a normal form of sexual activity prior to marriage. Although, as

Bray reports, words had previously existed to name us, the coining of 'homosexual' by scientists put the distinction between 'us' and 'them' (you?) on a formal footing.

On the other hand, 'gay' was for a long time a code word used by those who knew the secret language of an underground subculture. With the widespread use of the word today, it is easy to forget that its emergence into ordinary language is quite a recent phenomenon. The compilers of the Oxford English Dictionary waited until 1972 until they added the definition "Of a person: homosexual. Of a place: frequented by homosexuals" into a supplement. They were careful to qualify that entry by noting that the term was "slang".

Gay was only one of a set of code words. In the 1930s two men could converse in mixed company and establish that the other was homosexual without an eyebrow being raised by any of the unknowing third parties who were present. References to a gay party could be met with a responding question enquiring about the presence of royalty (queens) or asking if 'chicken' was served were strong indicators that both speakers were privy to the underworld that homosexual men constituted at the time. Writers could sometimes use the word gay in a joke directed at the general public. I wonder if the joke has been deliberately repeated by those who

produced the advertisement for jeans in which a very attractive man strips off his t-shirt, walks across a series of back gardens and dives into a swimming pool, all accompanied by the song "Mad About the Boy". That song was written by Noel Coward, who was himself gay, and in it Coward says of the boy "He has a gay appeal".

An event which was seminal in bringing the word gay into the open was the Stonewall Riot in New York in 1969. In a regular 'clean-up' the police raided a gay bar. The patrons - many of them in drag - responded by attacking the police. The event has been mythologised to such an extent that many younger gay people are unaware that organisations lobbying for gay people existed before then.

The Stonewall Riot came at the end of a decade in US history in which the demand for racial equality took to the streets under the leadership of Martin Luther King. In 1980 - eleven years after the riot - the writer Edmund White in his essay in *The State of the Language* reported that the shout "gay rights" from a member of the crowd outside the bar drew nervous laughs. At the time White wrote his essay the call had been answered by an active political movement. A further twelve years on, the gay vote is a vital element of Bill Clinton's attempt to remove George Bush from the White House.

'Queer' has emerged as a reaction against the perceived changes in the meaning of 'gay'. It is argued that as gay issues moved up politicians' agendas, it lost much of its radical edge. Many lesbians complain that, in the US at least, gay is

now synonymous with male. For that reason they no longer see themselves included in the term, gay. Queers point to the failure of governments across the western world to respond to the AIDS crisis until long after it became clear it was not merely a 'gay' disease. Queers are angry with the response of many people who, they claim, have adopted an attitude

which says "we've legalised your right to have sex and stopped closing down your pubs - what more do you want?" The list of 'what more' queers want is long. A lengthy legal battle has been waged in the US courts over the last few years. A woman fought against her incapacitated lover's parents for the right to care for her lover. If the case had been one involving a husband and wife instead of two lesbians the question would not have arisen. Queers see this as the kind of issue which still needs action. Why was it necessary for somebody to go to court to defend her lover's right to be cared for by the one she had chosen? The debate about the word queer will probably continue for some time. Because it has been a perjorative term, its use is confrontational. This is a deliberate choice. If it reminds people that gays are not satisfied with quietly having a pint and taking somebody home without shocking the neighbours, then it will have served a useful purpose.

Opinion

REFERENDUM - THE LEGAL POINT OF VIEW

Editor's Note: In the light of the considerable number of submissions to An Focal related to the upcoming referenda regarding the amendments to the constitution, we asked lecturer Ray Friel to give us an objective legal opinion of the issue by means of an introduction to this section.

There are no less than three referenda or amendments to the Constitution to be decided upon by the people on November 25th. All aim to add to the existing Article 40.3.3 with respect to Travel, Information and the Substantive Issue.

The result will in no way alter the existing 8th Amendment to the Constitution as expressed in Article 40.3.3.

The net effect of this is the State continues its commitment to a Constitutional right to abortion in limited situations. The limited situation being outlined by the Supreme Court in the X case is one possibility only. Others may arise through further jurisprudence of the Court and require additional legislation/referenda.

There is no option to impose an absolute ban on abortion on offer on the 25th. Moreover, people are free to accept or reject all, some or none of the amendments on offer and the net result will be compatible with Art 40.3.3.

Each of the referenda carries with it a baggage of doubt and uncertainty. None of them is free from difficulty, e.g. the travel right is not permissive but prevents it from being limited and that begs the question to what extent is that right available at present. Moreover, it still requires the Court to balance the competing Constitutional rights of not limiting travel and protecting the right to life of the unborn. The information issue would revert back to the legislature for additional elaboration and no party has announced the form such legislation should take. The substantive issue is unclear as to issues of definition of such broad terms as "health", "life", "real and substantial" and "self destruction" to mention but a few.

It is abundantly clear that the one thing people can be certain of is uncertainty. The alterations to the Constitution may not be given absolutist definitions other than by the Supreme Court itself. This has been

obvious from the decision of the X case itself. Guarantees of certainty as to interpretation by lawyers betrays their profession.

Voting to approve the referenda will not permit abortion to be introduced to any greater extent than it is already legitimised by the 8th Amendment. It will be an attempt to direct and guide the Courts in interpreting that Amendment. Such direction carries with it no guarantee of success. Interpretation of these alterations may yet again prove as surprising as that given the 8th Amendment by the Court in the X case.

Voting to reject the referenda will not have a negative effect. In other words rejecting the Travel proposal will not deny individuals whatever rights to travel they may have had. Rejecting an amendment will allow the Supreme Court to continue developing existing case law with respect to these issues, such as the X case, Grogan with respect to information and so on.

There is no impact with respect to European Law. Given the right set of facts, it might well be that membership of the Community could have implications for any of the provisions being dealt with by way of the referenda. Art 29 of the Constitution was amended in 1973 to permit us to join the European

Communities. This article therefore gave supremacy to any European Law, even if it was in conflict with the constitution. This is so under our terms of membership even if we altered that constitutional provision. To remove this threat would involve withdrawing from the Communities, an unlikely scenario given the resounding approval recently given to the Treaty on European Union. The amendments concerning the Irish abortion provisions to that Treaty and their significance is not a matter for either the Irish people or Courts but for the European Court of Justice alone.

Finally, it may truly be said that the Pandora's box of the 8th Amendment which was opened with casual innocence may not be so readily put away with retrospective sagacity. Any referenda will serve only as a signpost. In that sense it is a signpost whose existence may not in fact greatly alter the journey being undertaken by the Supreme Court in search of a nation's soul. The referenda will not end the journey, irrespective of the outcome.

Opinion

PRO-CHOICE ALIVE AND WELL IN U.L.

With reference to an article by Saeah McCurtain in the last issue of An Focal I would like to express apologies to all and sundry for the apparent delay in getting a high-profile Pro-Choice group up and running within the University.

However, the U.L. Pro-Choice Initiative is alive and well (has been since last year) and meets each Wednesday at 1.30pm in EG0005. There are a number of active members and while attendances have not been poor they could be improved.

Sarah was quite correct in stating that 'apathy' seems to be the order of the day regarding this issue. We cannot allow this to continue! In the end of the day however, it is up to us as Urich men and women to recognise the gravity of the situation, get up off our tired little arses, and make our voices heard!

By failing in this respect we are in fact creating a third class of citizen; a class to be populated entirely by women. By failing we are inflicting irrevocable harm upon the lives of many Irish women. By failing we are endorsing the fact that this country of ours is trapped in the Dark Ages.

Travel and the right to information are basic human rights and we should recognise them as such. It is in the third clause of the referendum that confusion lies; due entirely to the ineptitude of the Irish Government.

The third or 'substantive' issue seeks to make a distinction between the life and health of the mother. It explicitly excludes the threat of suicide. It states that termination of a pregnancy must be necessary to save the life of the pregnant woman. It implies that the pregnant woman's life must be at risk during the pregnancy itself. It denies abortion rights for women pregnant as a result of violence - rape, abuse, incest.

So what are the implications of the wording of the 'substantive' issue?

- It will diminish the right to life of pregnant women.*
- It confirms that the right to life of the unborn will (in specific circumstances) be given primacy over that of a pregnant woman.*
- It is profoundly anti-woman.*
- It shows an absolute contempt and disregard for the very real and life threatening situation of suicide.*
- It does not resolve the issue, which will inevitably end up back in the courts again.*

The U.L. Pro-Choice Initiative calls upon each and every one of you to vote:

YES to the right to travel YES to the right to information NO to the substantive issue.

Maurice Patterson, U.L. Pro-Choice Initiative

THE ABORTION MYTH by Fiona Wingrave Timms

In the current abortion controversy, one concept keeps coming up time and again in the arguments of those opposed to a woman's right to choose. Since their argument that it is morally wrong does not seem to deter the thousands of Irish women making their way to England every year, they bring

So - why is there this one standard party line? Why aren't we shown different viewpoints, differing reactions?

The answer can only be that women are supposed to feel bad about it. Now there must be some women who do feel pressured into it or who actually want a baby but have to abort it due to a handicap, and so do feel bereft, but on the whole I think this is a myth, the Abortion Myth, which basically states that

thought having children was the only purpose of a woman's life; Erik Erikson actually says, "Emptiness is..... standard experience for all women. Such hurt can be re-experienced in each menstruation; it is a crying to heaven in the mourning over a child".

Standard abortion myth again - since having children is the purpose of a woman's life, and every woman must therefore want them, the

Power to be free and get on with our lives, rather than dragging around for years atoning for the great sin of not wanting to be a mother.

These women who publicly confess their regrets for this 'sin', and obligingly manufacture their own penance in guilt and shame, are rewarded and forgiven. We must now refuse to do this, refuse to collaborate in the Abortion Myth, by choosing abortion freely and without guilt

Sexual cells

In the fertile years sexual cells grow: the male spermatozoon and the female egg or ovum. Only one egg matures in a woman each month and it must be fertilised within 24 hours, otherwise it decomposes and results in menstruation. The ovum is the largest cell of the human body because it carries within itself the nourishment for the initial needs of the new individual. It is fair to say that

In the current abortion controversy, one concept keeps coming up time and again in the arguments of those opposed to a woman's right to choose. Since their argument that it is morally wrong does not seem to deter the thousands of Irish women making their way to England every year, they bring forth another idea, that it is harmful to the woman. This is a strange one. Why should abortion hurt women? After all, you don't see self-help groups called Women Hurt by Appendix Removal, or people sobbing on radio that they weep for their murdered tumours.

But then, abortion is constantly presented to us by the Church, the Government, and especially SPUC as being essentially a moral choice, i.e. murder, that we will regret all our lives - a huge thing that will overshadow us always.

But is this the truth? Ronald, a practising English G.P. says, "All this about abortions making women depressed and neurotic is absolute nonsense. Every single one of the women I've referred has told me they feel nothing but an overwhelming sense of relief". My own research bears this out, interviewing different women: I've never heard anyone say she felt guilty or regretted it in any way. My friend Tina spoke for many women when she said "Thank God! Now I don't have to live on the dole for the rest of my life, picking out baby clothes at the Oxfam shop". After all, the only sure way to make certain you live in poverty for the rest of your life is to have children.

So - why is there this one standard party line? Why aren't we shown different viewpoints, differing reactions?

The answer can only be that women are supposed to feel bad about it. Now there must be some women who do feel pressured into it or who actually want a baby but have to abort it due to a handicap, and so do feel bereft, but on the whole this is a myth, the Abortion Myth, which basically states that abortions hurt women, and indeed *should* hurt women.

For we are taught, as women, that to abort is to murder. We learn that every life is more valuable than our own and that our lives get value only through motherhood, a kind of benign contamination. When we are children, we are given dolls to look after, when we start to think of careers, we are steered toward the "caring" professions, nursing and social work, so we can learn to be mothers not just for our own offspring, but for the world. All men expect women to nurture and love them, they see us all as mothers, actual or potential. So abortion turns us into murderers; we kill our allegiance to Motherhood first. This is a crime. We are guilty, of not wanting a baby.

Men don't object to abortion because of any question of murder, or human souls, but simply because it sets women free from them.

Because men don't see women as people in our own right, they see us only in relation to themselves. The Abortion Myth is therefore the myth of emptiness - the myth of a woman being unfulfilled if she is not either carrying or nurturing a child. Freud

thought having children was the only purpose of a woman's life. Erik Erikson actually says, "Emptiness is... standard experience for all women. Such hurt can be re-experienced in each menstruation: it is a crying to heaven in the mourning over a child".

Standard abortion myth again - since having children is the purpose of a woman's life, and every woman must therefore want them, the decision not to have one can only be taken in great anguish and suffering. The idea that a woman may decide casually or with out even thinking about it is anathema to the Myth.

Freedom for a woman is predicated on, and cannot exist without, her own absolute control of her body in sex and in reproduction i.e. not to be forced into sex or into having an unwanted child. When a woman says no to reproduction, she is also saying no to the Church, the Government, male supremacy, and everything she has been taught to regard as "feminine" and appropriate to being a woman - putting men before ourselves, nurturing them, not competing with them, devoting our lives to them. Having an abortion is a woman slipping away from male control - the ultimate saying no, refusing to be colonised, invaded, used for the benefit of another being. Asserting her right to first of all please herself.

Men don't object to abortion because of any question of murder, or human souls, but simply because it sets women free from them.

Women aren't meant to get away with anything, and demystifying the Abortion Myth would give us far too much power - power over our own bodies, and our own minds.

Power to be free and get on with our lives, rather than dregging around for years atoning for the great sin of not wanting to be a mother.

These women who publicly confess their regrets for this 'sin', and obligingly manufacture their own penance in guilt and shame, are rewarded and forgiven. We must now refuse to do this, refuse to collaborate in the Abortion Myth, by choosing abortion freely and without guilt if we wish, and to tell the truth about how we really do feel. Refuse to accept the script we are given, and start to write our own.

HUMAN LIFE - THE FIRST WONDER

Who am I?

Who am I and where did I come from? Why do I have dark hair while yours is perhaps red? Why is he lazy, while his sister is all-go? Yes even within families there are distinct hereditary differences. From the moment of conception that first human cell, which was you or I then, possessed the very same unique genetic code as the millions of cells of which we are composed now.

However, many things have changed since then. I shave now, and I did not do that in my mother's womb. I can read, think and express myself with an ability which I would not have been able to do twenty years ago. But I was not wasting my time twenty years ago either. I was working very hard at preparing my body and mind for survival in this crazy world, so far I have managed quite well. I hope I can keep it up. But now let us study scientifically how you and I started to be.

Sexual cells

In the fertile years sexual cells grow: the male spermatozoa and the female egg or ovum. Only one egg matures in a woman each month and it must be fertilised within 24 hours, otherwise it decomposes and results in menstruation. The ovum is the largest cell of the human body because it carries within itself the nourishment for the initial needs of the new individual. It is fair to say that from the first instant the mother's nature thinks about it and provides for her child.

Sexual intercourse

During sexual intercourse million of sperm cells travel through the woman's body in an attempt to fertilise the female egg, a journey which takes about six hours. At most one of these will be able to penetrate the wall of the ovulum cell. When this happens the wall immediately becomes thicker and keeps all the other sperm cells outside.

The cells which are prepared for fertilisation, that is, the egg and sperm, differ fundamentally from all other cells; in fact, when they join, they lose - each time at random - half their chromosomes, and therefore, half their characteristics. Thanks to this, the newly conceived one cell child will have a normal quota of 46 chromosomes: 23 furnished by the mother and 23 by the father.

Conception

Upon penetration of the ovum cell the fusion of male and female nuclei takes place. Maternal and paternal chromosomes brush against each other, uniting their genes. Behold a new human life has begun. There will never be another like

her, never. Not even from the same parents.

No one can explain how it is possible that one microscopic cell can reproduce millions of cells identical to itself with the same genetic nucleus and give rise to tissues so different, almost contradicting each other, such as muscle and brain, liquid blood and solid bone, limbs and eyes...

The first month

From the second week, along the entire length of her back a groove opens where the thread of the spinal cords begins and from which the entire nervous system will develop. A short stem (the umbilical cord) attaches her to the placenta.

By the end of the 3rd week the eyes are appearing; the nervous system has formed, as have their lungs, intestine and stomach. Her heart beats.

After a month and a half brain-waves can be monitored. When she is only two months old the formation of all her organs is complete. Her hands already have fingerprints.

Between three and five months

At three months fingernails grow in hands and feet, the spinal cord becomes bony, and the genitalia are now complete so that the baby can now be identified as a boy or a girl.

Mothers do not usually feel their babies moving until about 16 to 21 weeks after conception, although the child starts making spontaneous

listens once more to her mother's heartbeat.

It has been proven that the newborn baby becomes quiet at the sound of her mother's voice because she has already heard it and it is dear to her; yet normally the little one also recognises her father's voice, even among the voice of other family members.

Lastly, it is obvious to all that the baby has a profound need for love, that irreplaceable nourishment for a child who, out of love, came into the fullness of existence from the depths of her mother's nature.

J. Hurley

(Drawing extensively from "Human Life: the First Won-

WOMEN: VICTIMS OF ABORTION

Women are victims of abortion, as well as their unborn children. Women are hurt by abortion in body and soul, and very often it is men who benefit, financially and otherwise. In many parts of the world abortions are done in private hospitals. For these hospitals abortion is a business and the same rules apply to selling abortions as to selling other things: the more sales, the greater the profit. That explains the huge growth

For example, in England and Scotland and Wales the number of abortions carried out on single women has increased, not only in absolute terms, but also as a proportion of the total number of abortions. They now account for just over two thirds (67% or 130,319 abortions in 1989) of the total number. Another 10% approx. or 18,363 abortions of the total number was carried out on women who were widowed, divorced or separated. That means that only 23% approx. or 42,723 abortions were carried out on married women. (cf. Legal Abortion Examined, Robert Whelan (ed), London, 1992).

In the U.S.A the percentage of abortions among non-married women is 81%.

Abortion has been legalised in many countries to solve the problem of unwanted pregnancies, which are especially difficult for non-married women. What in fact the legalization has done is to increase the number of unwanted pregnancies among single women. The "Sexual Revolution" has been a bloody one. It seems to have victimised mother and child and has clearly failed to liberate single women.

Many women are often lonely after an abortion (without the father and without the child). Grief for the loss of the child may be the other characteristic that best describes the emotions of many of these women.

make their presence felt. Problems then like unwanted pregnancies will have to be solved at home rather than exported abroad. Women will demand this.

A rising of ethical standards in public and private life can only be of benefit to all in society, and that is perhaps one of the first and most valuable contributions that women can make when they get their rightful place in our society.

The pro-choice philosophy

The question now is whether the pro-choice lobby or initiative, as they call themselves, is going to help society to raise its ethical standards.

They certainly use expressions such as: "Abortion is the lesser of two evils", or "Abortion is a necessary evil". This would seem to indicate that they are reasonably concerned with ethical standards. But if abortion is an evil, what do pro-choice groups do so that it is less necessary as time goes by? Why do the number of abortions keep growing the world over?

An example may be helpful. Economists say that unemployment is a necessary evil, since the main thing is to get our economy in order. Later, they say, we will tackle the unemployment problem, once the economy is on a sound basis. But if the government uses the economic factors as

whether to have an abortion or not? So at the end of the day what the pro-choice philosophy demands is abortion up to the ninth month of pregnancy on any grounds. Once that has been established in the legislation of a country, then and only then will each woman be free to decide whether she wants an abortion or not, and when is the best time to have it. The pro-choice initiative may be slow to spell this out with such clarity for political or strategic reasons, and also because not many of them would want abortion on demand at that scale for their own personal or ethical reasons. But what principle can they refer to for curtailing a woman's right to choose. If you grant that she has the right to choose, then she can decide at what point of pregnancy she wants the abortion. The question of

nervous system has formed, as have their lungs, intestine and stomach. Her heart beats.

After a month and a half brain-waves can be monitored. When she is only two months old the formation of all her organs is complete. Her hands already have fingerprints.

Between three and five months

At three months fingernails spinal cord becomes bony, and the genitalia are now complete so that the baby can now be identified as a boy or a girl.

Mothers do not usually feel their babies moving until about 16 to 21 weeks after conception, although the child starts making spontaneous movements at about 7 weeks, the child squirms and makes both sharp and rhythmic kicks.

At five months she sucks her thumb, practising for the time when she will eagerly suck at her mother's breast.

Final months of pregnancy

Between the 5th and 7th months she responds to different noises and often wakes and sleeps with her mother. She continues to develop during the final months of pregnancy exercising the respiratory muscles in preparation for life outside the womb.

Birth

Finally the moment of birth arrives. When the walls of the womb squeeze against her, eventually expelling her from her warm happy world into a totally new environment, the child experiences fear. Then when her mother gathers her tenderly against her breast, the little one relaxes as she

WOMEN: VICTIMS OF ABORTION

Women are victims of abortion, as well as their unborn children. Women are hurt by abortion in body and soul, and very often it is men who

otherwise. In many parts of the world abortions are done in private hospitals. For these hospitals abortion is a business and the same rules apply to selling abortions as to selling other things: the more sales, the greater the profit. That explains the huge growth in the "industry" in many places. For example in the U.S there were 100,000 abortions a year before it was legalised. Now we are near 2,000,000 abortions per year. An abortion can cost around \$300, this will give you an idea of the size of the business.

Some men are having too good of a good time to oppose abortion. They enjoy sex the same as women but it is the women who are left pregnant, alone and having to find a solution to their problem. These men want to know very little about the financial, ethical and social responsibilities of fatherhood. Here are some facts to back up this statement.

*in the U.S there were
100,000 abortions a year
before it was legalised.
Now we are near
2,000,000 abortions per
year.*

Abortion has been legalised in many countries to solve the problem of unwanted pregnancies, which are especially difficult for non-married women. What in fact the legalization has done is to increase the number of unwanted pregnancies among single women. The "Sexual Revolution" has been a bloody one. It seems to have victimised mother and child and has clearly failed to liberate single women.

Many women are often lonely after an abortion (without the father and without the child). Grief for the loss of the child may be the other characteristic that best describes the emotions of many of these women.

The betterment of women's position in our society is inextricably linked with the defence of the rights of the unborn. Some feminists seem too have been too influenced by the male oriented culture and values prevalent in our society. They seem to think that a woman can deal with a problem pregnancy as many a manager negotiates a business deal: without ruthlessness and without asking too many questions about the ethics of it all. But don't they realize that without ethical standards their own struggle for equal rights has no foundations? How could women argue for equality of rights in our society, when they (together with men) may be denying a basic human right to unborn children through abortion?

As long as we think of abortion as the "solution", we fail to focus our attention on more caring long term solutions for women and children. Let us make sure that women are fully involved in all levels of our society, and that they

women is 81%,
ive, as they call themselves, is going to help society to raise its ethical standards.

They certainly use expressions such as: "Abortion is the lesser of two evils", or "Abortion is a necessary evil". This would seem to indicate that they are reasonably concerned with ethical standards. But if abortion is an evil, what do pro-choice groups do so that it is less necessary as time goes by? Why do the number of abortions keep growing the world over?

An example may be helpful. Economists say that unemployment is a necessary evil, since the main thing is to get our economy in order. Later, they say, we will tackle the unemployment problem, once the economy is on a sound basis. But if the government uses the economic factors as an excuse for not tackling the growing unemployment problem, does it not deserve to be sacked?? Has it got too used to this necessary evil?

*the basic principle of the
Pro-Choice philosophy is
"give every woman the
right to choose whether to
have an abortion or not"*

Isn't this what happened with abortion? It has been legalised in many countries to "Solve a Problem", but then it has been accepted as a fact of life and certainly the pro-choice lobby is not particularly concerned about curtailing it. In fact the demand for wider availability of abortion is present in every country which allows only for limited abortion.

This is to be expected, given that the basic principle of the Pro-Choice philosophy is "give every woman the right to choose

day what the pro-choice philosophy demands is abortion up to the ninth month of pregnancy on any grounds. Once that has been established in the legislation of a country, then and only then will each woman be free to decide whether she wants an abortion or not, and when is the best time to have it. The pro-choice initiative may be slow to spell this out with such clarity for political or strategic reasons, and also because not many of them would want abortion on demand at that scale for their own personal or ethical reasons. But what principle can they refer to for curtailing a woman's right to choose. If you grant that she has the right to choose, then she can decide at what point of pregnancy she wants the abortion. The question of grounds or reason for the abortion is not really important. The main reason is that she wants it. And that is justification enough for the abortion.

So I am not too sure that with such justification the pro-choice lobby is going to help us to raise our ethical standards. In fact I suspect it is undermining the bit of decency we have left. I would suggest that real feminists would separate themselves from this lobby, so that their own claim for equality is not undermined by the inconsistencies on human rights issues of the pro-choice initiative.

Miranda Brown.

Clubs

BASKETBALL UL V's QUEENS

After a closely contested match UL were eventually pipped by an impressive Queen's team in their opening league match of the season on a 74 - 71 scoreline.

While at one stage UL briefly held the lead at 12-11, Queens dominated the first half and due to some fine outside shooting from P. McGrattan, they opened up a 27-17 lead. UL were rushing their offence against Queens' aggressive man to man defence and were further hampered when guard Dan O'Donoghue collected his third foul midway through the first half. However the introduction of Declan Browne gave Limerick much needed help on the boards and by the interval UL had narrowed the gap to 37-33.

Within three minutes of the resumption the home side had stretched their lead to ten points (43-33) as UL continued to turn

scores for a UL team that made only half of their fourteen free-throws in the second half were Stephen Foster (25), Damian Karjane (17) and Dara O'Donnell (14).

UL V's DCU

UL bounced back to beat Dublin City University 63-55 thus avenging their 35 Trophy defeat. Dara O'Donnell and Declan Browne were injured that day but returned to make significant contributions in UL's first win of the season. Dara made some nice outside shots and picked off points from some offensive rebounds. Declan also helped on the boards and found leading scorer Stephen Foster with some lovely assists. Damian Karjane and Dan O'Donoghue defended excellently for UL.

DCU fought bravely and were in contention up until the last minute. They were only 21 - 26 behind at the break and in fact were 38 - 34 ahead at one stage. However, they struggled to counter the switching defences employed by Seamus Woods and his men. Best for DCU were Adrian Nulty's Frank Dillon and Cathal Elliot.

UL FOR THE DOUBLE

It was a double for UL since the Ladies team also overcame DCU in an exciting match. Although UL won the Trophy 35 game comprehensively, this league clash was always close. In fact the sides were level on eight occasions in a first half that ended with DCU enjoying a 27 - 25 lead. This lead was stretched to

Ursula Kyne played a captain's role with 18 points while Marie Hayes (8), Joan Nolan (7) and Loyola Getherty (6) were next best for a UL side that conceded only three points in the last ten minutes. Olivia Fallon on 15 and Ann McLoughlin with 14 did the bulk of the scoring for a gallant DCU team.

GAELIC FOOTBALL CLUB

The Senior team began their League Campaign with an away game against the Sigerson Cup Champions UCG on Wed week 4. In a closely fought match a goal in the last minute by D. Hannon from a rebound off the post secured UL an excellent draw 1-6 to 0-9. The Intermediate team also played and were well beaten.

On Saturday week 6 DCU were the visitors to UL for our second league game. Unfortunately they were unable to field an Intermediate side. In the senior game, UL dominated the match for long periods and with goals from Seamus Murphy and John Barry secured a good victory with the final score being 2-17 to 1-4. Best for UL on the day were K. Carey, S. Murphy and C. Kirwan.

On Saturday week 8 we travelled to Kerry in the final round of the league against Waterford RTC.

The Freshers team played CRTIC in the 1st league match in Cork they found CRTIC, who

A FIRST FOR THE WOMENS HOCKEY

Despite encountering unhockeyish activities such as puking, boxing, slagging, drinking, plate launching and rude awakenings of the roaring-train-kind, the UL Womens hockey team managed to return home victoriously from this years intervarsity competition. Having only been beaten once throughout the tournament, we became proud owners, for the first time ever in the history of the college, of the 'Plate'. Also for the first time ever in college history, UL beat DCU in the 35 Trophy earlier this term.

Indicating the standard of hockey UL has risen to, under the expertise of coach Carmel Vekins, is the fact that two of our players, Noreen Ryan 2nd P.E. and Deirdre Ni Chroinin 1st P.E. have been put forward for the Irish team, and another two, Wendy Keenan and Corrairie O'Keefe who have been put forward for the Munster Intermediate Interpro team.

Mondays 5.15 -
6.00 Training for all
Wed. Week 2 of
next term - 5 aside hockey
tournament

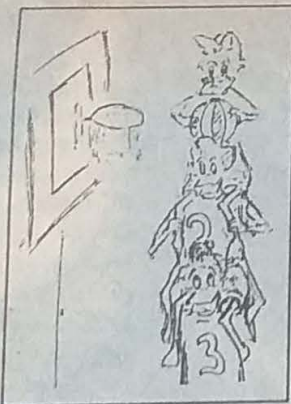
VOLLEYBALL INTERVARSITIES

On the weekend of week 6 UL Volleyball Club played host to a very successful Volleyball tournament. Participating teams travelled from all parts of the country to take part in this sporting extravaganza.

With the play commencing at 10am (almost) on Saturday morning, balls were still being hit until went out at 9.30pm Saturday evening. A different kind of play was enjoyed by all teams at our night-time venue - The Ark Tavern. Towards the end of the night a diving competition was held and the general consensus was that the more you drank the farther you dived and eventually after many a flop, Matt Menhencotte (from the Limerick City VC) was victorious.

On Sunday when play resumed all semi-finals in both mens and womens Plate & Cup were held. Contesting the Womens final were Maynooth and RTC Galway with Maynooth emerging as victors. In the mens competition DCU beat Cork Volleyball Club.

At 2pm the Womens cup final commenced. Both Aer Lingus and Culchie had proven themselves so far and after a good opening set Aer Lingus began to dominate and finished off the match with Lillian Gorey voted as Most Valuable



up a 27-17 lead. UL were rushing their offence against Queens' aggressive man to man defence and were further hampered when guard Dan O'Donoghue collected his third foul midway through the first half. However the introduction of Declan Browne gave Limerick much needed help on the boards and by the interval UL had narrowed the gap to 37-33.

Within three minutes of the resumption the home side had stretched their lead to ten points (43-33) as UL continued to turn the ball over.

However Limerick began to take a more patient approach on offence and as Damian Karjare started to find the basket they clawed their way back. A Stephen Foster lay-up gave UL a 59-58 lead but again they held the advantage for less than a minute. Although they had curbed McGrattan's effectiveness, keeping him to only five points in the second half, UL could not contain F. McEl-downey. With four minutes remaining Queens were once more in the driving seat, holding a 66-61 lead. This was an advantage they maintained, due to excellent free-throwing, particularly from B. Killeen.

McGrattan had a game high 26 points for the home side, followed by Killeen on 13 and McEl-downey on 12. Leading

however, they struggled to counter the switching defences employed by Seamus Woods and his men. Best for DCU were Adrian Nulty's Frank Dillon and Cathal Elliot.

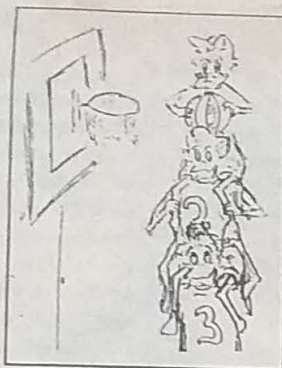
UL FOR THE DOUBLE

It was a double for UL since the Ladies team also overcame

DCU in an exciting match. Although UL won the Trophy 35 game comprehensively, this league clash was always close. In fact the sides were level on eight occasions in a first half that ended with DCU enjoying a 27-25 lead. This lead was stretched to 34-25 as UL

were held scoreless for five minutes. However, UL stepped up their defense and with four minutes left DCU led 42-41. Both sides wasted several possessions before an Ann McLoughlin basket gave DCU a 45-41 lead with just one minute remaining.

However, Marie Hayes and Ursula Kyne scored three free throws between them to reduce the gap to 45-44. Another DCU turnover gave UL possession. Ursula Kyne scored with eleven seconds to go to give UL the lead (46-45) for the first time since the eighth minute. With two seconds to go in this tense encounter DCU's leading scorer Olivia Fallon was fouled. However she missed her free throw, thus giving UL a victory which seemed beyond them.



from a rebound off the post secured UL an excellent draw 1-6 to 0-9. The Intermediate team also played and were well beaten.

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On Saturday week 8 we travelled to Kerry in the final round of the league against Waterford RTC.

The Freshers team played CRIC in the 1st league match in Cork they found CRIC, who have won the Freshers Competition, too snug for UL in conditions that were far from suitable for good football. In the end CRIC ran out deserving winners; 2-12 to 1-6. In their next match UL played UCC who had the benefit of a number of county minors and Seamus Moynihan the Kerry midfielder. UCD pulled away in the second half and ran out convincing winners.

On Wednesday week 9 UL travel to TRIC to play their four matches in the league.

Hugh McGovern - PRO

ever in the history of the college, of the 'Plate'. Also for the first time ever in college history, UL beat DCU in the 35 Trophy earlier this term.

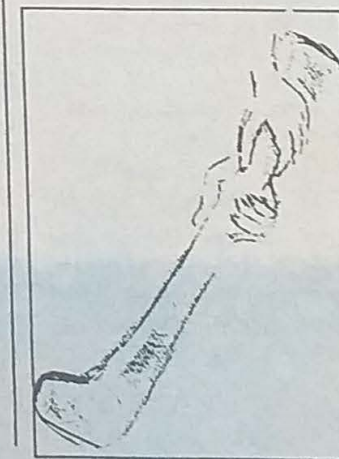
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Mondays 5.15 - 6.00 Training for all

Wed. Week 2 of next term - 5 aside hockey tournament

(the winning team of this tournament will go forward to challenge a staff team in an exhibition match!)

Matches against Maynooth, Oxford and Galway are planned, but as of yet, no dates have been confirmed.



was held and the general consensus was that the more you drank the farther you dived and eventually after many a flop, Matt Menhencotte (from the Limerick City VC) was victorious.

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At 2pm the Womens cup final commenced. Both Aer Lingus and Culchies had proven themselves so far and after a good opening set Aer Lingus began to dominate and finished off the match with Lillian Gorey voted as Most Valuable Player (MVP) for them.

In the cup final, which lasted almost 2 1/2, Culchies eventually oversaw the challenge of UL1 to emerge as victors in a very exciting high standard competition. UL1 had some consolation though, when Willie O'Brien was voted as MVP for the mens tournament.

All in all a great weekend was enjoyed by everyone both on and off the court.

RC & CB - PROs

LIT. & PHIL.

This debonair individual is the new mascot of the Lit & Phil. Unsurprisingly he will be presiding over a hectic period in office. UPCOMING INTER-VARSITIES AND SPECIAL EVENTS will ensure that the society continues in Top Gear.

In terms of competition, the Lit & Phil will spend week 9 immersed in the trials and tribulations that are the Irish Times Debating Championships. Monday and Wednesday are to be spent debating in Cork, while battle plans for Thursday centre on U.L.'s Parl. Deb. Soc. at 7pm. The Lit & Phil itself hosts one of the first rounds on Friday at 7pm in the John Holland Theatre (D1050). A boisterous, large and highly impartial crowd is demanded for both U.L. rounds. The Lit & Phil will also be represented in the Observer Mace and World Championship Competitions.

Moving to Lit & Phil events for next term, one has the enticing prospect of a European flavoured debate on the Wednesday of Arts/Europe week. The Cieran Tracey Memorial Trophy is another highlight and one must not forget Term 3's Don Reddan Perpetual Trophy.

This term the Lit & Phil has somewhat been a victim of its own success. The large crowds it attracts when exams are not looming large do result in new speakers being intimidated out of speaking. The society will seek to rectify this by means of coaching, a seminar and, hopefully, a regular maiden speakers prize. The message will ring out to all maiden speakers: The Lit & Phil Needs You'.

Matthew Hamilton



The Belfast Trip of Week 6

Friday morning at eleven, fifty people of the OSS departed for Belfast. Some of us had a nice hangover because of the very good windsurfing disco. So the fifty people were still in a party mood. They were singing and they prevented the others from sleeping during this long long long journey. 7 hours later, we arrived in the youth hostel in Belfast. After a typical Irish McDonalds, we went to a Student Union's party in Queens University. The party was not very good because we were the only ones there. Fortunately we created some atmosphere around the live band. After it was impossible (except for the Italians!) to go to a disco because the youth hostel looked like a prison: in fact, it was very difficult to enter into it after 11.30. Instead of the disco, we organised a party in a room. It was good fun but we found it difficult to get up on Saturday morning to go shopping in the center. When we arrived we were surprised by the military "welcome". We created a new 'erasmus fashion': everybody bought padded shirts. In the afternoon we had planned to see the Giants Causeway. Irish students from Belfast told us to go there along the coast road. In fact it was lovely, but it took too long and when we arrived it was dark. I understand that some people were angry because the whole afternoon was wasted in a bus.

The evening was very much the same as Friday evening: we went to the Crown pub (the oldest pub in Belfast), at 11.30 most of us (except the Italians, Gerome and Wildfriedo, the new Belgian-Italian) returned to the Youth Hostel and had a quiet evening.

On Sunday morning we were free. A lot of us went to the west side of Belfast. We found it like a war zone. Impressive! I even exchanged addresses and phone numbers with an English policeman who was asking why I was taking a picture of him. Lousy guy, I didn't know that I was not allowed to take photos.

Finally we left Belfast at 1.30 and we had to travel another 7 hour journey. Even though there were some faults with this trip, Dominique and Volker apologised as it was their first time organising a trip and they were confused about what to do. According to me, I think it was a good trip and most people enjoyed themselves. I want to forget the few problems that we had because it was not necessarily the fault of the organisation as they hadn't enough time to enjoy themselves. I want to forget the few problems that we had because it was not necessarily the fault of the organisation as they hadn't enough time to do it - 2 days and because the good points far outweighed the bad.

Socs



PARLIAMENTARY DE-
BATING SOCIETY

TERM 1 REPORT

Focal wk. 9

First off, competition times -

22 Oct. UCC Law Soc. D.

Sheahan, S. O'Keeffe 24 Oct. UCC
Philosophy M. Dowling

5 Nov. UCD Law Soc. M.

Strong-Smith, M. Dowling

Irish Times: All week 9: Mon.,
Tues., Wed., @ UCC

Fri @

UL Lit/Phil

Sat @

UCG.

Thursday Wk. 9 UL Parl. Deb.
Soc. host "Limerick, you're a lady"
in the Holland @ 7pm. Lots of
"foreign" teams - if you wanna
study, bring your books.

Observer Mace: Week 12(ish).
Probable: J. McElligott & M.
Dowling

& D. Scully

N. Lyons

World Championships begin Jan. 3rd at Oxford. This is our first "international" outing as a Soc., so the best of luck to John & Derek and Niamh & Diarmuid. Full report (of everything) in next term's Focal. Best of luck also to our six all-first year teams going for the "Times".

Recent debates included: Wk. 8 (Abortion), Wk. 6 (Bish. Casey), Wk. 5 (Articles 2 & 3) and Derek's baby, the Seminar. Thanks to all the speakers at Tuesday's Abortion debate, especially the guy from the Soccer Club who go so, well, emotional.

Mark Dowling, P.R.O.
Parl. Deb. Soc.

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LAW SOC.

Humungous numbers of the Law Faculty tumbled in to hear Justice Reilly's speech on:

the role of the district court in the judiciary, and its powers, which are quite extensive even though it is only a court of local, limited jurisdiction.

He outlined the way he has structured his three days of court in Limerick and issued a warning to all students to avoid getting a criminal record through fighting, drugs, etc., if they ever want a Visa. He provided figures for the number of students who were convicted of drug offences at Feile '92, to substantiate his argument. Justice Reilly concluded by expressing the future changes he would like to see in the district court, among those of which, was the establishment of a separate family court. The talk was very informative and was enjoyed by all, as it gave personal insight into the functioning of the court system. Next term includes a trip to U.C.D. to see their forthcoming mock trial - this should be of particular interest to the third years, who have to prepare their own mock trial in term three. There is also a trip planned to U.C.C. to see their mock trial, which will be presided over by one High Court and one Supreme Court Judge. Finally following last years success another trip to the Four Courts is being organised. So don't say you haven't been warned, join the Law Soc. now, if you want a decent social life next term.

Noticeboard

The Stables Club Wishes All Its Patrons a very
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.



"Christmas" Day - Cash Lotto, Promotions, Music, Prizes, Disco etc.

New Years Eve Gig - £6.00 for U.L. students, £8.00 for all others.

The Glentworth Hotel and Castle Oaks House Hotel both give special discounts to U.L. staff and students booking parties, balls, bar-b-que's etc.

The Stables Club will be closed from _____ to _____

Now that we've started the wind up to exam time and the Christmas holidays we can start the countdown to our "Christmas Day" celebrations (at the time of going to press it looks as though Wed. Week 10 is D-Day! - enjoy!)

STABLES CLUB ENTS.

Week 9 - Thursday - Shantytown

Friday - DBC

Week 10 - Thursday - In Phrase

Week 11 - Friday - Kevin

New Years Eve Gig - £6.00 for U.L. student, £8.00 for all others - watch the Club notice board for more details.

REMINDER

Please carry your I.D. card with you at all times while on Stables Club property - the Club is a members only venue.

The easiest way to prove your membership is to show your I.D. card, without it you can be refused entry/asked to leave.

Don't be left out of the Christmas celebrations.

FOOD

If you have any suggestions, ideas, improvements or new recipes you'd like the Stables Club to try then you can either have a chat with Donal, Declan or Brendan, or put pen to _____ paper and leave your suggestion with any of the barstaff.

Finally the Club's management would like to wish all of their patrons a very
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR and GOOD LUCK to everybody going on co-op.



Are you looking for a co-op placement?

The Students' Union is looking to appoint students for 6 month placements, commencing in January. If you enjoy working with students and have a particular interest in clubs, societies, publications or marketing why not apply to work in the SU.

Each position involves a mixture of project work in the field together with general administration work behind the desk in the office.

A summary of the current duties includes:

- General office duties-telephones, messages, exam papers, mail
- Assisting in the compilation of accounts
- Selling and collection of advertising
- An Focal and publications administration
- Working with Societies or Clubs
- Assisting specific Union and Clubs/Socs projects

The new demands on the financial administration with business starting in the shopping mall, together with the development of advertising for An Focal are key new areas which we are looking to address as well.

For further information contact the Union or the Co-op Office who can furnish you with detailed job descriptions and background information. Alternatively why not have a chat with one of our current students Val (societies), Clare (information) or JJ (Clubs)?

U.L.S.U. SHOP

New Opening Hours for the End of Term

8.30 - 9.30; Week 9

8.30 - late; Weeks 10 & 11

Exam Timetables are now available outside Student Services and in the Students' Union Office. Please be sure to note times and venues carefully and to check again in week 10 as some changes may be made in the meantime.

Don't forget that Wednesday Week 10 is Christmas Day on Campus. Full Christmas dinner will be served in the Canteen and Restaurant throughout lunch time, accompanied by an array of carroll singers, competitions and other festivities. Ber and Billy have some special surprises lined up for the day and Donal (in the Stables) will certainly look after you with some bottled beer and other promotions. Watch for flyers!

Credits

Editor: Billy Kirwan
Sub-Ed: Clare
Design: Caroline
Arts: John Hargaden,
John Maguire, Elaine
Vaughan,
Owen O'Sullivan
News: Cathal Kelly,
Maria Casey
Welfare: Enda Lonergan
Opinion: Fergal
Societies: Mark Dowling
Ents: Ber A.
Paste-up: S.U. Graphics

Thanks for Contributions From Everyone
who Helped Out
Printed by the Limerick
Leader