

COLLEGE TRIBUNE

THE DIFFERENCE IS WE'RE INDEPENDENT

ISSUE 9 / VOLUME 19

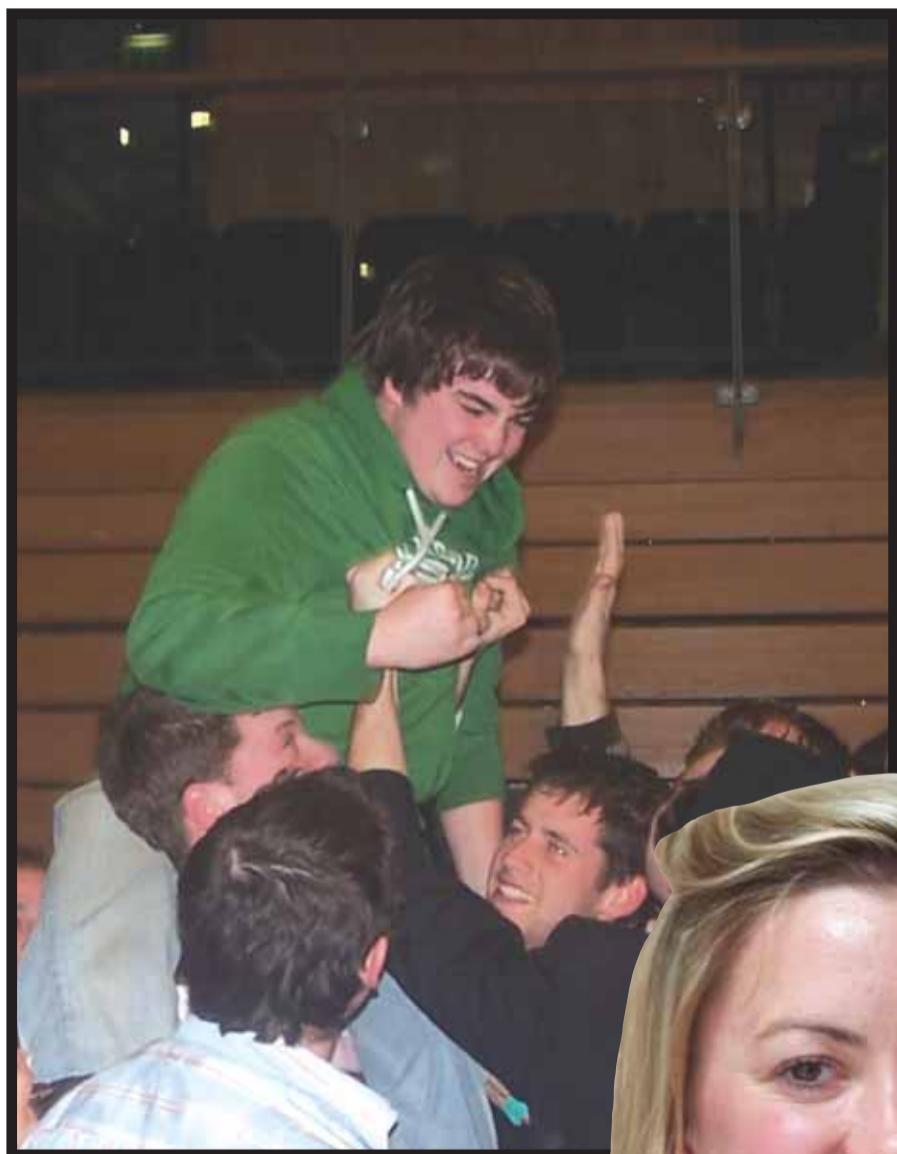
05.04.06



INSIDE **ESCAPE** 4 PAGE TRAVEL SUPPLEMENT

THE ECSTASY...

THE AGONY...



...AND THE ENTS OFFICER



Holly Irvine snatched victory from the jaws of defeat after a month of recounts and appeals to be elected Ents Officer with a narrow victory of just four votes.

Irvine ultimately prevailed over favourite Dave Redmond, who although winning the popular vote, and the first two recounts, lost out on the large amount of transfers in the six candidate election.

SU Returning Officer, Morgan Shelley, after an arduous recount process, reflected that the election itself had "been won by fifth and sixth preferences".

ALAN TULLY

On Friday's final recount it was decided that she be announced as the winner by a margin of only 4 votes between them.

This was a dramatic shift from the 22-vote difference on the day of election, March 3rd, when Redmond had been in the lead. Shelley allowed a re-count as 22 votes out of a total of 4,400 was seen as a very tight margin.

CONTINUED
2>

05.04.06

The final countdown

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

The subsequent recount had then brought the candidates to within 0.2% of the total vote separating them, before the next one ended in a remarkable stalemate, with Redmond elected by virtue of the fact that he had won more first-preference votes.

However, Shelley commented "as the result was so close, the Returning Officers were asked to review all of the contentious ballot papers. After a six-hour hearing that Saturday, where over 180 contested ballot papers were reviewed, the rulings on three of them was overturned, with the result that Holly Irvine was now ahead by one vote.

"Understandably Dave Redmond asked us to perform additional recounts until we had two consecutive results that were identical. He appealed our rulings [to the Independent Appeals Board] in relation to three specific ballot papers. The board, which only met after a long delay, upheld all the decisions of the Returning Officers, and we started the third recount within an hour of its ruling. The results of the third and fourth recounts were identical to each other, with Holly Irvine being declared elected by a margin of only 4 votes."

It would appear that spoilt votes played a significant part in the overall outcome. As the counting team had to obey the rules on ballot spoiling, Shelley observed, "if five people who spoiled their votes had instead validly voted for Dave Redmond, the result would have been different."

The newly elected Ents Officer, Holly Irvine, was delighted that the election process had worked out her way. She says that during the counts she had never thought it would drag out to three recounts.

"Myself and my campaign manager, Michael-Pat, were naturally hoping for a change in the result, but we didn't think changes in numbers would occur on each count, never mind on 4 counts, nor did we foresee a turnaround of this size."

She claims though that had the result been the other way around and the nature of the results been different she would have conceded after Friday's recount. But since the results were swinging in the first and second recounts she felt that it was the right of both candidates to appeal.

"If the result wasn't consistent I would have pushed for another recount. The results changed with each count until the last two and that's what we needed to see, a consistent result. If Dave had been clearly winning the last two, as I had, I would have done the same thing as him and conceded gracefully."

On working as Ents Officer next year Irvine commented, "I'm really looking forward to next year and working in the Students Union. I want to build on the success of this year's Ents Office, this must sound like I'm just reading off my manifesto!! I definitely

want to see a wider variety of music, coming to UCD in order to satisfy all tastes. I plan to organise an all UCD trip away, a Rag week, pitting UCD Clubs and Societies against each other in a bid to raise as much money for charity as possible. And most importantly continuous fun and entertainment throughout the year."

Irvine also had words of sympathy for Redmond. "My heart goes out to Dave, I know how awful it must be for him, to lose by so few votes. He was awarded the position three times and then it was taken away. Myself and Dave have remained friends since the race began and I hope it stays that way, he's a great guy and I hope he'll still be willing to get involved with ENTS next year."

A spokesperson for Dave Redmond said that he wished Holly all the best as Ents Officer next year.

Morgan Shelley commented that this experience should act as a lesson for future student elections. He commented that the whole process of the initial count, recount, review of contested ballots, appeal to the IAB and final two counts should be possible to complete within ten days.

"I think I'd use that second format straight away in the first recount of any other election that was this close in the future. I'd also insist on the IAB meeting on time for appeals on ballot papers. If the IAB had sat in time, we would have had the last two recounts eleven days earlier."



Best student centre in
ion in relaxation
e-art facilities for
rama, Society Rooms,
ns, Cinema, Media,
C
udent Health Service

3 NEWS

A victorious Holly Irvine brings an end to a month of indecision. Bebo won't be banned. Referendum on a new student centre plus ambitious plans to revamp the campus. Plus a good deal more

10 ESCAPE

It's that time of year again when the impending exams and the library gets you down. See our travel supplement for some much needed stress relief



16 DISTRACTIONS

Apparently Broken Social Scene are pretty good, so we interviewed them. We also did the usual load of music and film reviews. We've also got pictures of pretty girls in our fashion section

24 SPORT

Shockingly it looks like UCD's soccer team could be thrown out of the league no matter how well they do. Also see report from their draw with champions Cork as well as an AIL review, some Hockey & a bumper Sport in Brief



REGULARS

NO. 22 / MEDIUM

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NO. 23 / HARD

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Bebo is A-Ok says UCD Authorities

[Sign in](#) →

CAITRIONA GAFFNEY

Contrary to rumours of internet social network Bebo's impending closure on campus the college authorities have confirmed that they have no plans to block access to the popular site.

Access to the Bebo pages has already been blocked by other colleges around the country. CIT, UL, Sligo IT and UCC have all taken action to restrict students from logging on to the ubiquitous site.

Communications Officer for UCD Computer Services Niamh Milne revealed that there are no plans to ban Bebo from the UCD computer network at the moment.

"It is not part of the college policy to restrict access to websites. If it's Bebo one day, it would be another website the next," Milne explained.

UCD Computer Services run the computer network in line with the College, but UCD is an open education university and refuses to deny students the right to use of the internet.

However, all students are expected to observe the University's Acceptable Use Policy, which requests that users of the IT facilities behave reasonably in their use of the college computer resources.

Students are also reminded that the abuse of internet privileges such as the deliberately wasteful use of resources



Home

Schools

Colleges

Register

Help



1

Sign in

2

Build Profile

3

Get Friends

Member Sign in

Username or Email Address

Hugh Brady

Password

Lost your [password](#)

☐ Sign Me in Automatically [Learn more](#)

Sign In >

Not a member yet? [Register Now >>>](#)

and time could lead to a withdrawal of services or severe disciplinary action.

One irate student vented to The College Tribune over the lack of available computers in the library claiming that with a looming essay deadline to be met, every single computer was in use, with most computers logged on to Bebo.

"I skipped my lunch to put the finishing

touches on an essay that was worth 33% of my summer exam. When I reached the computer area, there were no computers available. I checked every single floor and even went the computer lab in the lower Arts block. It made me so angry to see that every second computer was logged onto Bebo, especially since I had genuine work to do."

Although the college policy on students' use of the internet states that students are not to use the computers for anything other than academic purposes, it is clear that this rule is abused on a regular basis.

Officially launched last July, Bebo has already established more than 22 million registered Bebo profiles world-

wide. The social network enables users to stay in touch with friends and family.

In previous years MSN Messenger was removed from the tool bar on College computers, however this was the result of updating computer facilities, and was not a case of denying students the right to internet communications.

When telephoned for comment, Bebo's head office in San Francisco did not return The College Tribune's calls.

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UCD + Horizons = up 10%

■ CAO 1st preferences up 10.42%

UCD's ambitious aim to become Ireland's leading university and one of Europe's top 25 has been given a boost with Central Applications Office 1st preferences rising by 10.42%.

In addition total applications for the college rose by 3.95% despite total CAO applications for honours degrees decreasing by 0.55%.

Director of Communications, Ellis O'Brien, put the upsurge in interest down to the "introduction of UCD Horizons, which involved a complete revision of the undergraduate curriculum and a restructuring of study into modules."

1st preferences for UCD had been falling by a rate of around 4% for the last three years.

The new Horizons programme was heavily advertised throughout January in the run up to applications with radio, outdoor and 2 press ads in the CAO supplements which appeared in the Irish Independent and the Irish Times.

It is estimated that the extensive advertising campaign cost around E 200,000.

O'Brien did however state that the increase was not all due to advertising "[it] was certainly effective, but it could only work if the underlying educational offering was of interest and benefit to students."

EOIN MAC AODHA



This view was echoed by Vice President for Students, Mary Clayton, who felt that the results were very encouraging and was a "combination, Horizons, it's the fact that there are new degree options coming on stream, it's the advertising. I think it's everything coming together. I think the word of mouth in UCD is that is an exciting place to be, that there is a lot going on here."

Clayton went on to state that she hoped the interest could be sustained in the long term.

In Figures

- Business & Law: +7%
- Engineering, Mathematical and Physical Sciences : +4%
- Human Sciences: +76%
(note: 6 new programmes in this area)
- Arts and Celtic Studies : +16%
- Life Sciences: +13%

Throwing it away



A competitor at the heats for the Red Bull Worldwide Paper Plane Contest on Monday. The final will take place in the Sports Centre this Friday



Mulrooney: Victorious in Lawsoc contest

Mulrooney defies the odds ■ Overturns constitution to become Lawsoc auditor

Newly elected LawSoc auditor Richard Mulrooney declared himself "delighted" after winning the race he initially wasn't allowed run in.

Mulrooney was controversially informed before the elections that he was not entitled to run for auditor due to a constitutional infringement. It had seemed that a two euro subscription fee had been paid too late to the society by Mulrooney for him to be considered eligible for election.

Whilst a long time member of LawSoc, he was informed he no longer had the right to run for election as the LawSoc constitution stated that in order to be auditor one must be a fully-paid up on time member of the society.

Mulrooney, using a relatively public campaign, managed to

LAURA GREENE

appeal this decision to the members of the society and was reinstated into the race for auditor. After weeks of uncertainty the law student's efforts paid off.

Out of two hundred and one votes counted, 2 of which were spoilt, opponent Sean Tracey received fifty-three and another rival, Barry Hickey, received thirty-five.

One hundred and twelve votes were cast for Richard Mulrooney.

The clear winner stated that he is "ecstatic" with the news and is "looking forward to the year in his new position", that he "worked so hard to stand in".

Another constitution on the table

Another constitutional referendum is to be held to overhaul and reform the current Students' Union constitution, which was amended as recently as the UCDSU Sabbatical Elections.

The new constitution will replace what SU president James Carroll described as the current "obsolete" one and to fix the amendments passed during the sabbatical elections in March.

Carroll described the amendments as creating a "constitutional mess" and stated that the new constitution would "deliver a better, more coherent, more representative Students' Union."

The amendments passed in March created new "programme" officers and the creation of a full-time sixth sab-

EOIN MAC AODHA

batical postgraduate officer proved problematic.

According to Carroll the amendment did not describe what a "programme" was; nor who exactly programme representative officers were."

The current SU President described the proposed new constitution's aims, claiming that the purpose is "to deliver a better, more coherent, more representative Students' Union. To bring the constitution up to date as it talks in terms, faculties, departments etc. These are now obsolete. Finally, to fix the amendments which were passed in March 2006."

With regard to the new sabbatical position Carroll stated that it "only al-

lowed post-grad diploma students to vote for it, not evening students, not mature students, not post-graduate degree students!"

Students will be asked to vote on two separate ballots. The first will regard an entire new constitution for the SU. The prime changes will be the creation of a paid postgrad officer, the creation of a bigger SU Council with a Class Representative for every 100 students, with a Mature Students' Officer, Environmental Officer, Post-graduate Officer, Gender Equality Officer all to be directly elected. The IT and Communications Officer and Outlying Faculties officer will also be abolished. It is felt that the creation of programme officers and more Class Reps will leave no need for these officers.

The second ballot will replace the current role of Women's Officer with a Gender Equality officer.

Carroll believes that "a Women's Officer is both patronising and outdated. And went on to say, "There are so many male issues out there (i.e.) mental health, suicide. Testicular cancer is the most common type of cancer in young males."

As of yet there does not appear that an anti-new constitution campaign will be run but Carroll welcomed the prospect of one claiming that he "believe[s] the 'Yes' people will walk any debate on the proposed changes."

The agent for the amendments passed in March, Pierce Farrell, welcomed the new constitution commenting "it's nice to see an effort on behalf

of the Union President but it would be my opinion that's too little too late in terms of the reforms while being welcomed are possibly not going far enough to review the constitution."

Farrell did however, state that he felt it was unlikely enough students would get out and vote. Only one thousand students voted in last year's elections with 15% of the electorate (over three thousand) needed in order for the constitution to be passed.

This concern was shared by the leader of the 'Yes' campaign Peter Doris who admitted that the issue of numbers is "a big concern, we'll have to push hard". Doris did hope that the referendum on the extension of the Student Centre would entice students out to vote.

Referendum to be held on new €35million Student Centre

■ Student Levy to be increased by €15 ■ No concrete plans for the project

Plans to build a new Student Centre are to go ahead, despite reaction against the cost by students, with a referendum due to be held to increase the current student levy from €63.50 to €78.50.

The venture is to be funded entirely by UCD students and will see the present Student Centre levy rise by €15 at the beginning of the 2006 academic year, and once again rise by another €25 at the start of the following academic year in 2007. By 2008 the Students' Union levy is expected to have reached €150.

At a cost of €35 million, the proposed new Student Centre, or "Student Centre Xtended" will be an extension of the existing one, with the two linked together by a tunnel, similar to the one that links the Arts block and the Library building.

The multi-million euro project will be three storeys tall and is intended to be the largest and most advanced student centre in the country. It will house state of the art facilities for debating, drama, societies, presentations, cinema, media, meetings, as well as an extended student health centre. A 25 metre swimming pool has also been confirmed.

Although students will be asked to vote to increase the levy no concrete plans have yet been drawn up for the

CAITRIONA GAFFNEY

project. The college is required to comply with the European Union's Public Procurement Policy to ensure fairness, transparency, equality and non-discrimination as enshrined by EU law. For this reason the college is obliged to advertise in the EU journal and put the contract up for tender.

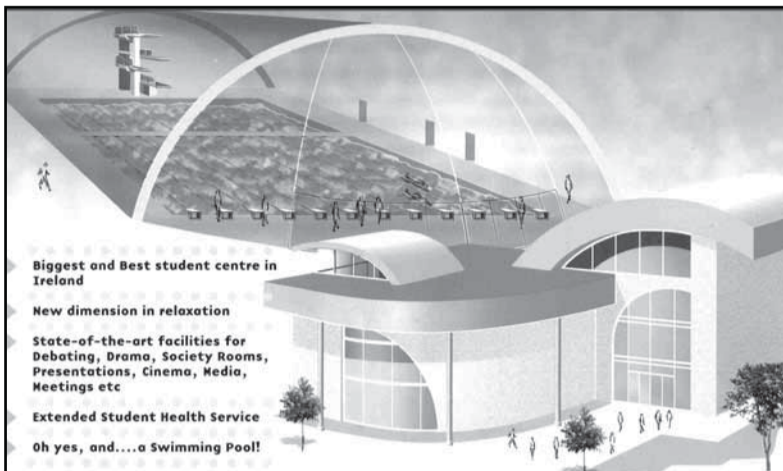
However, building is expected to commence in June 2007, and if it all goes according to plan, the new Student Centre may be completed by June 2008.

The increase in the Student Centre levy has been met with opposition from all corners of UCD's student population.

Conor McGowan, Class Rep for 4th year Mechanical Engineering, voiced his concerns over this hike in student charges.

"The Students' Union should be campaigning against all increases in charges and fees against students. They should be more careful and more sceptical of this proposed project," McGowan said.

In defence of this rise in the charges incurred by the SU to fund the Student Centre, Project Manager for the proposed new centre, Dominic O'Keeffe raised the point that the €15 increase



Potential plans for the 'biggest and best' student centre in Ireland

next September costs less than the average student's night out on the town.

"I think this is a very positive project. The current budget for the venture is €35 million, but the overall cost will depend on the demands of the students. The more the students want, the more the final cost will be. The students have great ideas, but these ideas cost money.

"The increase on the Student Centre levy is to pay off the cost of the mortgage on the Student Centre," O'Keeffe added.

The existing Student Centre is only six years old. Responding to concerns that the opportunity was there to build

an ultra modern Student Centre back in 2000, O'Keeffe stated that budget restrictions prevented them from doing so. "The student levy was increased to an amount deemed sufficient by students at the time."

According to SU President, James Carroll, "It is up to the students of UCD to decide whether they will pay an increase in the levy which they currently pay anyway."

There will be an SU referendum on the matter, with Carroll confirming that "Thursday, April 13th is the main day of voting on it. All students can vote."

Carroll shared his initial reluctance towards the planned extension. "I have always held back support until I got assurance on certain things which I have now secured. The pool building, Student Centre extension and current Student Centre will all be one joined complex i.e. the pool won't be transported to the front of campus to service the needs of commuters coming off the N11.

"This will be a student facility paid for by the students of UCD," Carroll asserted.

The students themselves, through the Union, will be picking the architect, and all decisions will be made by the students through the SU President and the Chair of the Societies Council. The SU will also be involved as direct and popular elected representatives of the student population.

With concerns over the placement of the project at the rear of the current Student Centre it is believed that a multi-storey car park will be installed in the vicinity of the water tower, as the Buildings Office will no longer be permitted to put a car park on a grass field in Belfield. This potential car park will also facilitate visitors to the Belfield Bowl in addition to the revamped Student Centre.

Why you should vote NO 9>

nine

one

one

A little help
to get a healthy
start to 2006

€1.00

Off any large fresh
Fruit juice or
Smoothie

On presentation of
this voucher expires
end May '06

fresh juice bar

Fresh Juices & Smoothies

UCD set to have a Ball

This month will see the fulfilment of a long awaited and ambitious project for the Students' Union: the first ever UCD Ball.

Until now such an event has been no more than an empty promise on the manifestos of prospective Ents officers at election time.

However, with support from the college authorities, MCD, Spin 103.8FM and numerous

high-profile acts including Tiefschwarz and Bell X1, tickets are selling well and it is expected that they will not last till the confirmed date of 21st of April.

Current Ents officer Anthony Kelly is positive in the face of such a large scale organisational project.

"I'm really happy with how it's going so far I mean the response we've gotten off the college has been great, expectations are really high.

"I think of all the acts I'm most looking forward to seeing it's got to be Bell X1 because they're on such a high after the album and to see how that comes across live, I didn't go to the gig in the RDS and also of course Director whose first single ['Reconnect'] is actually out on the same day as the ball."

Concerns have been raised amongst the student body as regards funding for the night, with critics looking to Trinity's long running yearly black-tie event which nearly bankrupted the

RONAN DEMPSEY

TCD Students' Union two years ago, as an example.

Security for the external perimeter alone, which encircles the entire campus of the college, will cost the college an extra €15,000 while the inside area is the responsibility of promoters MCD. On top of this, the presence of the emergency services is a requisite for all such events. Kelly commented "legally, for that amount of people [about 5,000] you have to have a certain amount of security. I mean they're not being extreme it's just the law that you have to have that much security. It's a massive operation."

Although much of the cost will be shouldered by the Union itself, it is known that Vice President for Students, Mary Clayton, has ensured a sizeable donation towards the running costs for the evening. As well as this, the involvement of MCD, the largest promoter in the country, ensures strong financial backing.

"We kind of learned from the Freshers Ball and years gone past from these sort of events. Having them [MCD] on board; they're the most experienced concert promoters in the country, really helps. [The college] also gave us a generous contribution toward the event too, it being the first year" said Kelly.

Irish acts feature strongly on the line-up for the evening, spread out over



Soaking: Ents officer Anto Kelly poses after taking a trip through the lake to promote the first UCD Ball

three stages which will be located in different points of the college campus.

Director of Communications for UCD

Ellis O' Brien wished the event every success "the Ball is a student event so the University is not directly involved

in the preparations, but we are very supportive of the idea and hope it is a great success."

Dramsoc go down a storm at ISDAs

JACK CANE

The Irish Student Drama Awards were again dominated by UCD's own Dramsoc, which took home five awards and twelve nominations from the festival hosted this year by University College Cork.

The yearly awards, which were hosted last year by UCD, honoured the two plays sent by Dramsoc with Best Director and Best Overall Show for Harold Pinter's The

Homecoming, with Hannah and Martin winning Best Actress, Best Supporting Actress and Best Costumes & Makeup.

Outgoing auditor of Dramsoc, Rowena Burke, hailed UCD's performance as "fantastic", declaring herself "absolutely ecstatic, the vibe was incredible. Both of the shows [sent by UCD] had full houses and it was as much about people coming down and getting involved as much as the people up on stage."

Burke reserved special praise for the "between 40-50 people" who travelled down to Cork in order to see the festival, even though they "were in no way involved", calling it the highlight of her year. Cork were acclaimed as excellent hosts by the auditor, who said that the "facilities were great and the fringe was amazing. And the awards too, they were fantastic of course" she added.

Stephen Jones, joint winner of Best Director with Simon Ashe-Brown, declared The Homecoming's success as "a testament to the work we put into it" and added that the "competition here to even get to ISDA is fierce", commenting that the rivals at ISDA were generally of good standard.

Burke largely agreed with the director, agreeing that "Cork put on two



Awarded: Bairbre-Ann Harkin win Best Actress at the ISDAs

great productions and although I didn't see it, I heard Trinity's The Pitchfork Disney [which won three awards] was amazing. I think the smaller colleges don't yet realise the standard at ISDA but it's great experience for them."

Bairbre-Ann Harkin, the previous recipient of two Best Supporting Actress awards at ISDA, won the Best Actress award for her portrayal of Hannah Arendt, calling it "a great way to finish". Harkin warned that she "wouldn't see it as a springboard into professional theatre, it looks good on the CV, but you're not going to get spotted at ISDA" but admitted that having won "will help with making my decision on whether to pursue it as a career as it is lovely to win." Her director, Fionn Dempsey congratulated

her performance and added he was happy the "people involved got some recognition for it". Dempsey was "surprised – in a good way – how many awards we won" adding "there were people who were at ISDA who I can see progressing in this field and those people were duly recognised by the judges."

With the festival moving north to Queen's University Belfast next year, the value of ISDA was underlined by Burke, who claimed that ISDA is "very important, because without competition we don't know how good we are. Also the way it is adjudicated by people who work in [professional] theatre who critique us and let us know whether what we're doing is worthwhile at all."

Shambo shambles

JACK CANE

The popular sandwich bar O'Briens has not had its operating license renewed after the Sports Centre moved to introduce a new franchise operator in the building.

The new operator will move in to the area vacated by the closure of the Sports Bar early in the academic year, dispelling previous rumours that the space would be used to place a new gym.

Michael Moyles, the operator of O'Briens, commented "the lease of the upstairs unit to another food outlet means that presumably the Sports Centre don't want O'Briens to compete with the new outlet upstairs" adding that UCD are "entitled to deal with us as they please. Every operator on campus is very much on the grace and favour of UCD, we have



no security of tenure."

However Moyles, who invested between "€85,000 and €100,000" in the site, said the rent on "the high street would be between 50 and 90% higher than that of UCD".

The Sports Centre asked Moyles to move his operation out of the building when his licence expired on December 6th, but was given just a month to do so. Moyles appealed and was given until the 12th of March, which gave him "a snowball's hope in hell" of closing the business.

Although the Sports Centre branch has closed, Moyles has won a contract for the Health Sciences building and continues to run franchises in Richview and Rathmines.

Brady unveils new 400m Belfield

- Plans include Conference Hotel and Swimming Pool
- All funding to come from private investment

Hugh Brady has revealed extensive plans to radically alter the complexion of the campus over a ten-year period as part of the College's ongoing development plan.

The plans, which were revealed to Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown county council in an address by the President last week, are estimated to cost UCD between €300 and €400 million.

Elements of the plan include a 300-bedroom conference hotel, a public plaza, shops, cafes, offices, a new road network surrounding the college, a cultural centre including a theatre and cinema, a swimming pool, and a doubling of the number of student residences to around 5,000.

The ambitious plans are likely to be funded by private investment as UCD has stated it does not want to charge the taxpayer for these developments, which will be part of the College's previously stated "front of house" plans aimed at making the entrance to UCD more "imposing".

Planned development is necessary, according to UCD's Director for Communications Ellis O'Brien, who asserts that "the transport infrastructure is creaking at the seams", "land use patterns

JACK CANE

are inefficient and costly", "the amenity and commercial base are undeveloped" and the "physical orientation of the campus is inward rather than outward" with all of the above a detriment to UCD's growth.

Unlike the much maligned architecture of the centre of UCD, it is hoped that the College will "be able to develop these facilities in an architectural style that is iconic and visually aesthetic, creating an environment where people will enjoy spending time."

The planned development has a substantial "student and community services proposal" which will allocate one-third of campus lands to sports facilities with the clustering of an athletics track and key sports facilities around the current Sports Centre. In addition the Belfield Bowl is to be upgraded to a 4,500-seat arena, and a swimming pool is to be added next to the Sports Centre.

Building works next to the lake are not a major part of this development, with the extension of the Administration Building (Tierney Building) a facility for the Vice-President for Research, not part of the "Gateway" or "front of house" plan.



University College Dublin
An Coláiste Ollscoile, Baile Átha Cliath

UCD School of Politics and International Relations

Postgraduate Open Evening - Wednesday 19 April 2006 (6.30pm - 8.30pm)
Venue: UCD Quinn School of Business, University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4.

The School offers several integrated graduate programmes, with options for a 12-month MSc, a 2-year MLitt, or a 4-year PhD. These reflect UCD's commitment to innovative 4th level education and are coordinated through the UCD College of Human Sciences Graduate School.

Applications are now invited for the following programmes:

Graduate Programme in International Relations (MSc, MLitt, PhD)
Students acquire the theoretical and empirical background as well as the methodological tools to analyse the contemporary international system.

Graduate Programme in Human Rights (MSc, MLitt, PhD)
Provides the skills and theoretical tools needed to analyse the nature, limits and implementation of human rights in both the international and national context.

Graduate Programme in Nationalism and Ethno-Communal Conflict (MSc, MLitt, PhD)
Provides the theoretical and methodological tools to analyse nationalism and identity issues, conflict and settlement processes throughout the world.

MSc Development Studies
This unique 15-month interdisciplinary programme provides a deep understanding of the global political and economic factors affecting development and its management.

MEconSc European Economic and Public Affairs
This interdisciplinary programme focuses on the business, economic, legal and political aspects of European integration. It includes two intensive research visits to Brussels and the European University Institute in Florence.

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Students undergo rigorous training in a variety of areas in political science, delivered in a flexible and innovative format. They may specialise in British-Irish Studies, Comparative Politics, or Political Theory.

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Email: spire@ucd.ie or write to UCD SPIRE,
University College Dublin, Dublin 4, Ireland.

www.ucd.ie

FAUSTUS

SODOMISING THE PAST, ERASING THE FUTURE

Faustus has spent some time mulling over the Students' Union elections, and reached some depressing conclusions about today's crop of students.

A warning sign was apparent this time last year, when a report into the health of Irish students was published. 96% of students had never taken ecstasy, 94% had never taken magic mushrooms, 95% had never taken cocaine. A shocking 62% claimed never to have smoked cannabis. Worst of all, 72% could boast "three or fewer" sexual partners!

In other words, there's a debauched avant-garde in UCD surrounded by a mass of dreary tea-drinking moderates. This silent majority found its voice, as the virginal hordes turned out to vote for their champions – Captain Eunuch and his premature sidekick Dave Wanger.

Dan's impassioned yet insipid display at the election count augurs ill for the coming year. If Hugh Brady's sinister plotting can't stir the student body into revolt, maybe they'll find the egregious metrosexuality of the SU incumbents too much to tolerate and take a stand in defence of traditional gender roles. It's a slight hope but it's all we've got at the moment.

*Note from the editor: some distasteful remarks about Dan Hayden wrapping his legs around Shaun Smyth's head during the election count giving Smyth plenty of practice for the year ahead have been removed.

Wanger slithered back into office after a year of nothingness. Having performed a comb-over job on his threadbare record by borrowing someone else's work, Wanger conned the electorate into giving him another year out from life. But what will Dave do next year, without Jane's work to claim the credit for? He's already having trouble patching over the bald spots.

The only note of real controversy in a dreary election came when Abey Campbell produced CCTV footage. Is Faustus the only one outraged by the fact that Abey Campbell has access to CCTV cameras? All this time, we thought he was just waddling around campus, forgotten but not gone, surrounded by his loyal but dwindling bunch of minions who are glad to belong somewhere, anywhere.

But now it seems that Abey spends his time looking at us all! Have his posse tired of hearing the same old story about the time Abey MADE OUT with a CHICK in 2002?

Over on the hard left, it seems nothing can go right (geddit). Endas's attempts to drown his sorrows in peace were crudely interrupted by an axe waving lunatic. It remains unclear whether this was in fact a member of Dan's army. Instead rumour has it that it was one of Brady's minions attempting to scare the Duffster off running again and exposing the shame and degeneracy of his regime.

Finally a word of consolation for poor Dave Remond, who won, won, won and then lost, lost the election. In Fausuts' book that counts as 3-2 to the dynamo for Wexford. The vagries of PRSTV have yet again been exposed with Holly's photogenicness see her sneak in from behind.

At least with Machiavellian Redmond in office we would have had something interesting to write about. Judging by some of the backbiting about him during and after the election it wouldn't have been surprising to see Disco Dave hold a diabetic Red Bull competition where the first glucose intolerant student to drink themselves into a coma would win a crate of sugar free of the heart attack inducing liquid gold.

In the meantime, be prepared for a dreadful year. The Students' Union has been many things over the last five years, but it's never been dull. Surely there must be a challenge to the decaffeinated half-and-half turnips ready to emerge from some quarter?

Otherwise the future will be like a cup of tea being poured on a human face – forever.

FAUSTUS



Spoiling for a change

Dermot Looney argues that Seanad Éireann needs major reform – and UCD graduates can lead the way

I'm not sure of the origins of the phrase 'graveyard' shift to refer to late night television, but it seems truly apt for the Seanad section on the post-midnight Oireachtas Report.

Rather than a trenchant and erudite defender of liberty against the hurly-burly of Dáil business, Ireland's Senate is by now institutionalised as a kind of elephant's graveyard for toupee-headed politicians. And despite so many promises of reform, the upper house, so long past its sell-by date, strikes rigor mortis at the very heart of Irish politics.

Bicameralism means that having a directly elected parliament isn't enough to ensure checks and balances are fully met. Therefore, as well as a 'lower house' of parliament – such as the House of Commons in Britain, or the Dáil here – there should be a differently comprised upper house to hold the main chamber to account.

It's not a concept which applies across the world – Denmark, Croatia and the faux-parliament in China only have one house, while history has recorded tricameral and even tetracameral legislatures. But modern parliaments have tended to opt for the bicameral approach. It's a structural ideal which stretches back to ancient Greece but which began to be developed in the Lords-Commons model developed in medieval times in Ireland, Britain and elsewhere.

The US Senate – to which each State elects two senators – was developed along James Madison's ideals as "a necessary fence against...the fickleness and passion" of the directly-elected House of Representatives as outlined in the famous Federalist Paper No. 51. Plenty of other federal countries use that US model to ensure representation for the 'states' within the country.

In Britain, bicameralism, despite recent reforms, is still based on the stupendous notion that the aristocracy deserves representation separate to the commons. Different again are the French Sénat and the Eerste Kamer in the Netherlands, which are elected by their equivalent of county councillors.

The basis of Seanad Éireann is more convoluted than most others. Its historical predecessors were many, varied and mostly useless. There was an aristocratic House of Lords which sat in what is now the Bank of Ireland in College Green from the Middle Ages to 1800; a British-imposed 'Senate of Southern Ireland' established in 1920, which met only three times and was boycotted by nationalists, labour and the Catholic Church; and a Free State Seanad which met between 1922 and 1936 under a system of unusual appointments and electoral quirks.

De Valera's Bunreacht na hÉireann of 1937 decided to continue with bicameralism but based the new Seanad on the Catholic social teaching outlined by Pope Pius XI in the Quadragesimo Anno encyclical from 1931. Pius XI had attempted to halt the rise of socialism by putting in place a system of cooperation between

the various sections of society entitled 'corporatism.' In practice it means very little – although it does put de Valera's Constitution on a par with that of Mussolini and Portugal's quasi-fascist Salazar, who were just about the only other leaders to implement such changes.

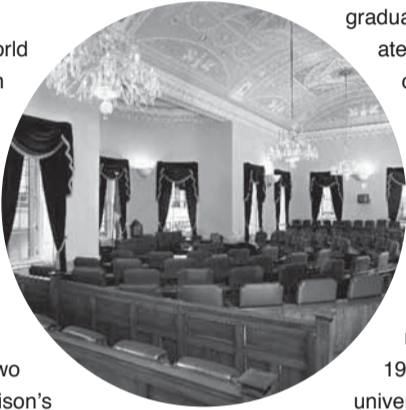
Supposedly, the majority of seats in the Seanad – 43 out of 60 – are elected by vocational panels 'representing' culture and education, agriculture, labour, industry, administration and commerce. Those nominated for these panels – who are supposed to have an actual attachment to these areas but rarely do – are then elected by a mixture of TD's, outgoing Senators and city and county councillors. The Taoiseach of the day nominates 11 Senators, the vast majority of which have tended to be political cronies.

The remaining six seats are elected by university graduates – 3 by Trinity alumnus, and 3 by graduates of the National University of Ireland, comprising UCD, UCC, NUI Maynooth, NUI Galway and some smaller recognised colleges. This scandalous elitism is a vestige of a previous desire to represent some vague conglomeration of Protestantism and Unionism, and a bizarre political notion that graduates deserve more votes on the basis of their achievement stretching back to John Stuart Mill. A 1979 referendum allowed for change in the universities provided for, a change that no Government, astonishingly, has yet made.

As a graduate of this college I find it offensive in the extreme that I am given a right to vote in Senate elections whereas those who have graduated elsewhere are not given such a right. Far more importantly, the notion that a graduate should have a vote over a non-graduate is itself ludicrous. So what if the university graduates elect good quality Senators? We shouldn't have a vote over non-graduates and other graduates in the first place.

I registered to vote in the Seanad elections this week by going to www.nui.ie and filling in the postal form. When the next Seanad election occurs – likely to be 2007 – I intend to spoil my vote in protest at this nonsensical elitism. I encourage others who feel this way to do likewise. Not voting is not enough – it is vital to register first and then spoil by writing a message of protest on the ballot paper. As a broader political campaign, this might just put Seanad reform back on the agenda.

If we are serious about bicameralism let's start from scratch with a Senate that is inclusive and reflective of a new, progressive Ireland – let's look at having representatives from the North, from our emigrant communities abroad, from the new communities here, from the Travelling community, etc. We need a radically-different but still democratic house if we are to have one at all. And everyone should have a say in that – not just a small proportion of graduates and politicians.



QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"If five people who spoiled their votes had instead validly voted for Dave Redmond, the result would have been different."

Returning Officer Morgan Shelley commenting on the result of the Ents race

"My heart goes out to Dave, I know how awful it must be for him, to lose by so few votes. He was awarded the position three times and then it was taken away."

Newly elected Ents Officer, Holly Irvine, commiserates with her opponent Dave Redmond.

"It is not part of the college policy to restrict access to websites. If it's Bebo one day, it would be another website the next."

Communications Officer for UCD Computer Services Niamh Milne assures addicted students that there are no plans to block Bebo from campus computers

"We've had two good performances now, although it was well due after the abysmal shambles we had against Pat's"

UCD Manager Pete Mahon on his side's stalemate with league champions Cork City

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Telephone: 01 - 7168501 / E-mail: tribune@campus.ie

COLLEGE THE DIFFERENCE IS WE'RE INDEPENDENT TRIBUNE EDITORIAL

VOTE NO

Does it not seem ridiculous that students will be asked to vote for a Student Centre that they know little about?

As of yet there are no concrete plans for the centre. We have only been told what it will probably include.

How then can students, in all good conscience, vote for something that in reality is an abstract ideal?

Truly, all the facilities planned for the centre sound good and would be of some benefit to some students but are they really needed?

Do students really need a parliamentary style debating chamber? Or will it just perpetuate the clique that surrounds societies like the L&H.

What's wrong with Theatre L?

There are plans for an extended medical centre but where will the money come from to pay the staff.

At a time when discussions took place to introduce a charge for the existing medical centre where will the money come from to pay staff to fill 17 consulting rooms, double the number of nursing rooms and a new counselling area?

There are also plans for a cinema. Yet the Astra Hall in the current student centre is certainly suitable for that means.

This new centre will serve the needs of the few and not the majority of current students. At the moment ordinary students really only use the current student centre for the Grind, Mick Donalds and the comfy couches.

The new centre will also have a reception area where students can lounge around. But is that really worth 35 million?

Finally, there are plans for a swimming pool. It will probably be 25-metres as heating a 50-metre pool is considered prohibitively expensive.

Why not simply build an Olympic standard pool and discard the rest of the unnecessary and superfluous plans.

To add to the uncertainty, students will have to pay to use the pool. No definitive price is yet on the cards. Perhaps it might be E2; therefore an avid swimmer who used the facilities three times a week for nine months of the year would be paying over E200 for the use of the pool.

There may be some sort of membership deal worked out but the point is that all the intricacies of this project will only be worked out after students have voted to hand over their money.

In all honesty, it is unlikely that the referendum will not pass. On glossy paper this new centre looks ideal but when costs are counted and reality hits, it is hard to see it being a success.

Do not throw your vote away towards something that has the potential to become a serious white elephant.

If the drive behind this new centre is serious then surely proper and concrete plans can be brought to the students before they are asked to vote.

LETTERS

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

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Dear Sir,

With regard to the last issue of The University Observer's insert on the new student centre, I have a few points to broach.

Firstly, what's this going to cost the proletariat student body? I don't want to see any more "student centre levy"-like charges on my fee form. They screw up my calculations when I'm figuring out what to put on the fee transfer form from my research group's account.

While we're on the topic, why are we still being charged that levy? The student centre is long finished. It's the considered opinion of my fellow students and I that it's going toward lining the pockets of wannabe-bourgeois union heads and producing glossy propaganda.

Where is the proposed location for this sink-hole for my hard-earned, tax free scholarship money? Does the Union and it's tool, the Observer, plan to consume another of we persecuted car owners' increasingly rare car parks to build this ugly and unwanted folly?

The current student centre serves well enough as a gathering place for the common man; I'm sure the majority will agree that we don't want them to impose this monument to student disenfranchisement on us, we would prefer our money was spent on doubling the grant and other more realistic uses.

Yours respectfully,
David Marsh

Do You Like Small Balls?

with...

18th Empire

Alan Tully

Dermot Looney

COLLEGE
THE DIFFERENCE IS WE'RE INDEPENDENT
TRIBUNE

The Tribune is run BY students FOR students and receives all its funding from advertising and goodwill. Please come along and support YOUR newspaper.

Small Ball FUNDRAISER

STUDENT BAR WEDNESDAY 19TH APRIL

Stalling Around In Blackrock

Alexandra Byrne spent a day at the Blackrock Market talking to the various stall owners and finds a friendly welcome that you just don't find in the world of High Street shops.

Arriving at the Blackrock Market on a Sunday afternoon, it was fairly busy despite the drizzle. On sale here are products as diverse as Belgian waffles, beanbags, dolls houses and fishing tackle.

There is a tarot card reader in the basement promising to accurately predict your future for the next six weeks and an internet café that's open seven days a week.

Nick Roche, who has been the owner of the market since it began fifteen years ago, tells me that it has suffered since the opening of the Dundrum shopping centre. Families that had previously spent their Sundays strolling around the market now go to Dundrum for a days shopping. It seems a shame for at the Blackrock Market you have the chance to chat to the stallholders and buy unique products such as meteorites from Argentina or candied fruit from Provence.

Even regular purchases like books and CDs are a lot more reasonably priced than in the shops. Roche informs me that the market is trying to attract the Polish and Chinese communities, and in fact I encounter two Chinese stallholders. Both are students trying to support

themselves in Ireland.

Ji, who has been living in Ireland for three years and attends our very own UCD, runs a jewellery stall. She says that she is studying business and running the stall gives her useful experience.

Other stallholders have different reasons for choosing this way of making a living. Phillip, who runs a stall selling books and CDs, tells me he is "incapable of working in a nine to five situation. I've a bohemian way of thinking and a bohemian way of living."

Austin Scally is an artist who uses his stall, called 'Odd Art' as an outlet for his huge, vibrant paintings, finding the rent in shopping centres too exorbitant. So far he has been very successful. Other stallholders have turned their hobbies into businesses.

James has been collecting stamps, coins and postcards of Dublin for over 25 years, and began running his stall when he was forced to give up sports after fracturing his spine. A business and IT consultant during the week, he finds running the stall on weekends is a great stress reliever. His postcards and pictures have been featured in many local history books as he doesn't charge

royalties.

Chandra, from Sri Lanka, has similarly turned her passion into a money-making opportunity-she sells her own homemade Indian food on her stall. She informs me that she has been living in Ireland for 20 years. Both her children are grown up so she 'thought it was a good idea to do something' with her spare time. She gave me a free onion, garlic and ginger samosa which was delicious.

All the stall-holders seem to be united in their desire not to be tied down to a regular job. John Conaty, who runs a bead stall with his daughter Velda, tells me that in the next month alone he and his daughter will travel to China, Hong Kong, Czechoslovakia and all over the United States in search of beads to sell on their stall. They recently had a consignment of meteor rocks from Argentina which sold well.

Laetitia, a French woman who has been living in Ireland for 3 years, is fulfilling her dream of importing the traditional products from her childhood in Provence to Ireland. She sells fabrics with traditional Provencal patterns, French food, glass jewellery and cards she makes herself.



Blackrock: Home to many a bargain

BLACKROCK MARKET (INDOOR/OUTDOOR)

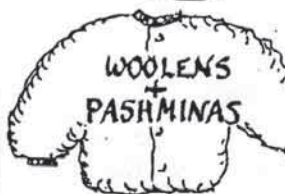
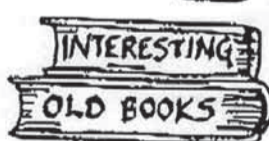


HOW TO GET THERE:

- * DART TRAIN - 150 yards - ask for Blackrock
- * BUS - 50 yds. - 7,7A, (also 5, 17, 45 & 114)
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ESCAPE

The Hands That Build America Every Summer

J1 Summer survivor **Alan Tully** re-opens a collection of memories so traumatising that sometimes when the moon is full and the night is quiet, on the haunting breeze he can still hear the words “Beer Bong! Chug! Chug! Chug!”



The first important point to note of the J1 experience is that if you are going there to absorb a sense of American culture, you might as well go to Disneyland Paris.

Upon arriving in the unassuming town of Wildwood, New Jersey, our group was greeted by a posse of what one would assume were the locals. When asked about the town, they replied, “Sure we’re all from Dublin. We just got into town yesterday. We have no visas, no house, no job but we’ve found plenty of Irish bars around.”

Our group had arrived in early June 2003. In the summer time the population of Wildwood seasonally tripled from 50,000 to 150,000. Of course an American population could not be expected to fend for itself and so the service industries and entertainment complexes along the shoreline were manned by Poles, Brits, Russians and of course many, many Irish students.

With clubs named ‘The Shamrock’, ‘The Fairview’ and ‘Hill 16’ you can imagine how genuinely American this place was for the average Irishman. Being a shoreline tourist town though, this was perfectly suited to the invading hordes from New York, Philadelphia and Washington. They seemed to come just to gawk at and ask obvious questions to the strange talkin’ foreign folks.

Such great conversations could amount to:

“Are you Irish?”
“Yes, and I bet your Granpappy was too!”

“You know my Granpappy was too. I think it was Bristol he was from. Is that in Tipperary?”

“Piss Off.”
“Oh is that Gaelic?”

So you are not going for that dose of American culture. Instead though what is really in store is a summer of working in the very crappiest of jobs, drinking to unknown proportions and living without any sense of responsibility for three months.

On the job front you may think you’ll find an easy number in an office and so pack fifty CVs and reference letters. In reality you are destined to become a waiter or waitress on \$3 an hour (the rest being scrounged from tips), a painter, a slot machine attendant, a stall-keeper on some shit-hole pier in Atlantic City, or selling newspaper commissions all over San Diego.

This writer was a lifeguard in a water-park. It was not quite Baywatch as it involved standing in the same position for an hour at a go and trying to ignore the drowning kid beside you as you work off the hangover that has turned your skin green.

Of course such a minimal wage job

has its benefits. Since everyone else employed by the company was Irish you had a hundred instant drink buddies. When our house had a ‘keger’ (famed from every teen-comedy ever produced) and the cops showed up to shut it down, the company informed them that if they arrested the many party-goers then the amusement park would have to remain shut the next day. Since the tourist economy rested critically upon this, we were granted a certain degree of immunity for the summer.

With clubs named ‘The Shamrock’, ‘The Fairview’ and ‘Hill 16’ you can imagine how genuinely American this place was for the average Irishman

A word of warning about the party life though. If you are under 21, the police will try to bust your ass. They have a tendency to raid clubs and do passport checks and set up officers in liquor stores to catch any unsuspecting students. Hint: Get to know the regular guy who serves at your off-license and if you see someone else working there stay away. For those persuaded by the more illegal substance of weed, it is ironically more freely available in the land of the free than alcohol. Simply ask your neigh-

bour or any teenager, anywhere.

Despite the probability of working a fifty to sixty hour week. You will find plenty of time for adventuring across the land. Some cities like Philadelphia and Washington can be seen in a couple of days while the bigger ones would need a week. The best thing to do is take three weeks at the end of your summer and devote it to travelling through a stretch of America. This is where the American culture experience comes in. Try and take in two or three cities properly and you’ll be amazed at how rich the US can be.

New York for example is really somewhere to get lost in, whether looking for the greatest nightclubs on Earth, exploring the East Village haunts of Kerouac, Dylan and countless others or going down into the sewers to find your childhood heroes The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. Or how about renting a car with some friends and crossing the continent in two weeks?

The practicalities of organising a summer like this have to be considered though. Firstly make sure you know the people you are going to be living with well. Fights over every little thing will ensue from buying the drink for the night and bringing weird people home to who is going to do the dishes. Also make sure you live in comfort.

We’ve all been told about people who

lived in one room apartments with twelve others, but after about two weeks of that situation, you will go mental. The best bet is to invest your money in paying off three months rent on a house with five or six others. Depending on where you are in the States the cost would probably work out at about \$1000 for the summer. That’s about \$80 a week. In our first week each of us invested all the money we had brought with us in a summer house and were forced to live of 20c noodles and used tea bags until the first pay-check came through. But this freed us up for the next three months without worrying about the landlord threatening eviction and actually managing to save a bit of money on the side, as crazy as that sounds.

This year it would be wise to bring \$2,000, just in case anything goes wrong. You don’t want to be crying home to your parents after just a few days and returning after a month with your tails between your legs. Remember your parents want you to bugger off for a few months just as much as you want to be gone.

Finally wherever you end up this summer in the States, be prepared for the slugging you’ll get when the following October back in UCD you tell friends about “the trash can you totalled on the sidewalk last night after chugging twelve beasts!”

The Railway Children

Christina Finn looks at a summer of travelling Europe by train, getting lost in brothels and taking advantage of Eastern European economies



Summer is just around the corner, and the only thing getting you through studying for your exams is the idea of escaping this hell hole when they are over. So what are your options? America, Australia, New Zealand or perhaps South America, all these being fine ideas, but they come at a hefty price. So if you want to keep this summer to a budget, interailing is the holiday for you.

Europe is right on our doorstep, and the majority of us haven't seen half of it. Most destinations are easy to get to, a lot of places are cheap in comparison to our Rip off Republic, and there is plenty of crazy places to visit. So how do you go about doing it?

Both Usit and Sayit offer interailing deals, prices depending on what zones in Europe you intend on visiting and how long you want your rail ticket to last.

Usit and Sayit prices are the same, ranging from €195.00 for sixteen days, €275.00 for twenty-two days and €385.00 for one month for those under 26. Your ticket will come into action from the first train you take and depending what duration ticket you choose each day subsequent will be a countdown until it expires.

These options are still rather expensive once you add your flights onto that, especially as we are broke struggling students seeking to find a good time for next to nothing! These companies are there to make money and I would suggest these train tickets are not worth your while. From my experience on my interailing adventure, the Usit or Sayit ticket charges you for the maximum amount of money you could possibly spend on trains.

Majority train journeys cost between €15-20, with perhaps €10 euro extra if you want a sleeping carriage. So if your only intending on taking five train journeys that only adds up to €150 with a friend. Try and travel with a small group, travelling with sixteen is a major hassle, believe me! It will make it more difficult to get accommodation, and also tables in restaurants.

The trains are fine, don't believe all the stories you hear, you won't be gassed in the middle of the night and have your stuff stolen, although it is a funny prank to play with a deodorant can on your paranoid travelling companion. Having said that do keep your wits about you, especially on night trains. Lock your doors and sleep with your backpacks on your bed and keep all your valuables such as wallet, passport etc in your bum bag (practicality over fashion).

Night trains are an adventure in themselves and well worth it as you save the money you would have spent staying in a hostel that night. Don't get freaked out either if you hear loud banging on your door while you sleep, as you pass through other countries, they will stop the train for passport control, and they do tend to have guns!

One thing for sure is to pack lightly. I know ladies, it's hard to decide which skirt to bring to match that top, but really carrying around a 70 kilo bag is no fun and since you are going to look like crap for most of the trip, why bother? Book your first hostel before you leave and after that just play it by ear, book as you go along. Generally look for one in a central area. One with a bar downstairs is a good laugh as you get to mingle with other backpackers over a jug of large beer.



After living out of each others pockets for weeks little arguments with the people you travel with may arise, especially when they leave you in a brothel

Don't be worried about sharing a room with strangers, it's all part of the experience, by the end of the trip they'll be your best buds and you will end up meeting them everywhere else you travel, it's a small world. However, if you are more cautious, rooms generally come in even numbers if you want to fill them with just friends.

So, where to go? Do you feel like living it up in Paris and Rome, or

spreading your wings a little further from home? If you are on a budget you must keep in mind that the popular capitals of Europe are expensive, and let's face it they are all the same, they have art and architecture, but sure we probably can't afford to go see that type of stuff anyway.

Eastern Europe is the way to go for us students, and it's not downsizing, these places are genuinely the best up and coming destinations, they don't have the euro yet so you get the sort of value for money you can only dream of at home.

Meriel Hayes, 3rd year Arts, who travelled to Eastern Europe last summer said "It was an experience! Totally worth it. Far cheaper than Western Europe and way more fun. Czech Republic, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Croatia

Herzegovina are the student filled countries of Europe. While your parents stroll through western Europe you can be knocking back vodka shots in Eastern Europe for 5cent a go! Don't worry it's nothing like that movie Hostel either!"

Interailing is a must have experience as a student. When are you ever going to see and experience these places again. After living out of each others pockets for weeks little arguments with the people you travel with may arise, especially when they leave you in a brothel in Poland, but ultimately you will become friends for life.

This trip is really all about slumming it, but you'll have some crazy fun while you're doing it. And don't worry if you are a bit of a girly girl, I travelled with a girl who brought a big pink suitcase and she survived, just about!

THE UCD BALL

UCD CAMPUS

FRIDAY 21ST APRIL

Bell X1

Tiefschwarz

Damien Dempsey

Republic of Loose

The Stone Roses Experience

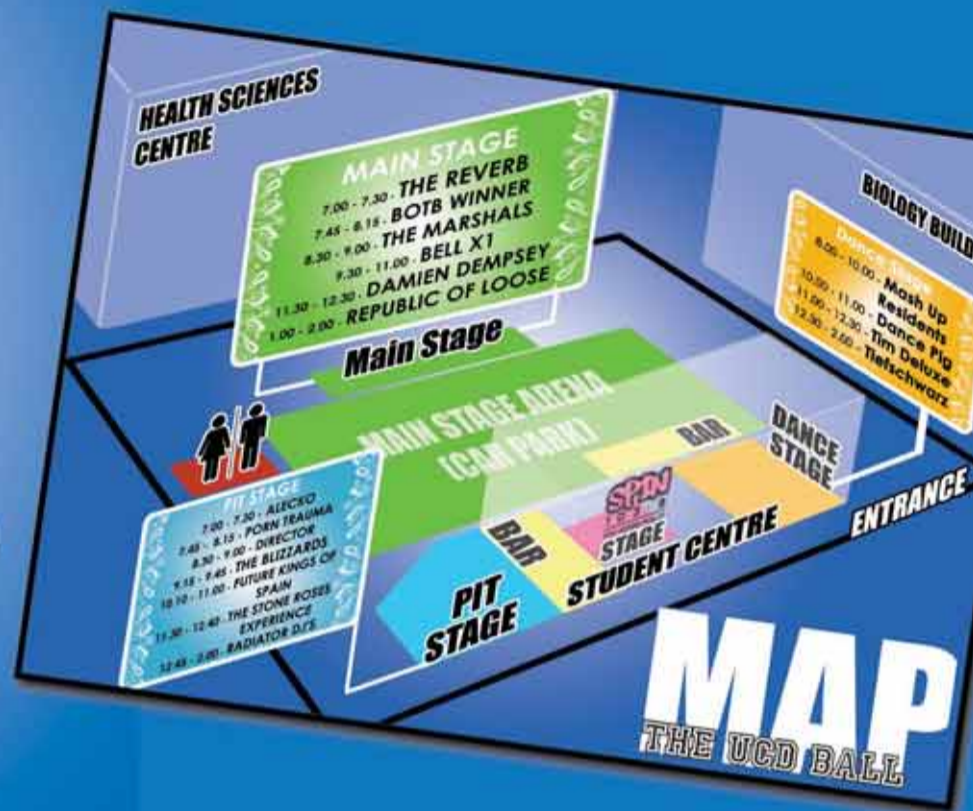
Future Kings of Spain

Tim Deluxe The Blizzards

The Marshals Director

Dance Pig, Alecko, Porn Trauma

Tickets on sale NOW from all SU Shops



BELL X1

With their current record (Flock) having debuted at number 1 in the charts, their inclusion on the OC soundtrack and a sold out nationwide and US tour, there couldn't be a hotter Irish band at the moment than Bell X1. Dubbed by many as Ireland's equivalent to Radiohead, Bell x1 will be a highlight of this summers Oxegen festival and The UCD ball is their only other Irish date this year.

DAMIEN DEMPSEY

Damien Dempsey has to be one of the most prolific Irish Artists of recent times. Damien's second album, "Seize the Day" entered the charts at No. 5 and has since achieved double-platinum sales. Recently awarded best Irish male at the meteor awards, his third album Shots entered the Irish album charts at no. 1 and has since achieved platinum status.

REPUBLIC OF LOOSE

Republic of Loose have been wowing audiences around the country with their live performances, their last two singles "Comeback Girl" and "You know it" have both become anthems. Their new album Toilet Songs is out on April 7th.



future kings of spain



Future Kings of Spain released their self-titled debut album in 2003 to rave reviews. Since then, word of mouth has spread quickly, as the band's reputation grows apace. Future Kings of Spain are that rarest of things, a band who are equally as impressive on record as they are mesmerising on stage.



The Marshals

Merging the '60s rock of The Beatles with the grunge rock of Nirvana, the Marshals began making waves on the Dublin music scene with a few blistering live performances, notably a show stealing performance at the Oxegen Festival. After releasing 3 critically acclaimed EPs, their first first single, "Make her cry" is out now



PORN TRAUMA

Porn Trauma have emerged as one of the hottest new talents in Irish music. Their debut single Sunrise reached 21 in the Irish charts, and spent several weeks in the Top 40. Hot Press described it as 'the most infectious rock song you'll hear for the future, and for now.

THE UCD BALL

Blizzards

Harnessing the patina of Ska, Reggae and punk with a smattering of pure unadulterated pop the Blizzards are steadily gathering a fan base the length and breadth of the country. The Blizzards' debut single rocketed up the charts and into the top 10. They've recently signed a huge record deal with Universal and are releasing their debut album.

The Stone Roses Experience

The Stone Roses Experience are the number one tribute band on the live circuit. They have an uncanny ability to recreate the sound of this legendary band. Their gig in Dublin's Olympia was a complete sellout.



DIRECTOR

Director has to be the most exciting new band on the country at the moment. Having signed a deal with Atlantic Records, their first single Reconnect is due out the same day as the first ever UCD Ball.

Tiefschwarz

Tiefschwarz, which is German for 'deep black', is a mixture of their last name, Schwarz, and their love for deep house. As DJs, Tiefschwarz have gained a reputation on the international house scene. Following 2 sold out gigs in the POD this year and last year, Tiefschwarz are a dance act not to miss.



TIM DELUXE

Tim Deluxe is one of the worlds most respected DJs and producers. Stemming from the success of his monster track, "It just wont do", Tim has gone on to release his own solo project as well as remixing classic songs such as Kyllies, "Cant get you out of my head".

Dancep!a

Dancep!a's unique blend of italo/electro/techno influenced tracks have been causing a stir world-wide. Dancep!a's debut EP is eagerly anticipated.



AROUND THE WORLD IN 180 DAYS

Feel like just one country isn't enough? **Ruth Collier** looks back on the adventure that saw her circle the globe, leaving her inner-bohemian behind on the way

Thinking of setting out to see the world but not quite sure how to go about it? You could challenge the oceans on a one-man boat, catch the Orient Express and head East or pedal your way down through China and trade in your bike for an elephant at the Thai border.

Or you could take the easy option, particular suited to those with a limited time to travel and a good sense of timeliness and buy a one way ticket around-the-world.

Impulsive maybe, even a little cheeky perhaps, but then so are all adventures. Do not be put off by the potential price either, tickets can be found for surprisingly good value. Four continents that include 20 flights excluding inter-continental, can be yours for the handsome sum of about €1200, give or take a cent or two.

If you like to have everything planned in advance then an around the world

ticket is your best option. All flights are pre-booked, so there is no need to give time to the conundrum of how to get from deepest Peru to the Patagonian coastline for sunset. A word of advice to anyone travelling from South America to New Zealand; as the only possible route is from Santiago de Chile to Auckland, flights must be booked well in advance.

Be warned though, if you are the type of person who prefers to wing it, living every day in blissful ignorance, there are disadvantages to such finely organised adventures. The nature of travelling in such a manner means that you have to decide in advance how long you want to be in any one place. No getting lost or drunk or wandering off, it's all about timing and a dash of organisation.

Apart from such self-inflicted problems, you could easily find yourself on a broken down bus miles from anywhere

remotely resembling the international airport you were originally aiming for. Or, as is most common, find that travelling over land, whether by jeep or on camel back, is by far the most interesting way to see the country.

The longer you spend travelling, the less enthusiasm you're likely to generate for rushing for that connecting flight. The roaming bohemian within will more than likely take the philosophical viewpoint; 'I'm happy here and I've taken a shine to my camel so I should stay a little longer.'

Unfortunately, the sensible student who booked such a timely based ticket will be guilted into not wasting the money spent and the inner-bohemian is, as ever, suppressed.

Despite this, having a round-the-world ticket does not limit your travel options entirely. You will still have ample opportunity to test the local forms of transport, which are a lot of fun and

definitely recommended for those looking for a little thrill ride.

The rows of tuk-tuks found on any given street in Thailand or Cambodia are a sight equal to any Buddhist temple. Those specific to Cambodia look like they were designed by a slightly unhinged man who robbed the passenger-carriage from a children's train in a playground, then welded it to the side of a motorbike. Amazingly, they maintain balance even when loaded up with four travellers accompanied by over-sized rucksacks.

Obviously a slight lift of the front or rear wheels is to be expected when taking a sharp turn to avoid on-coming vehicles. But fear not, such life-threatening moments will be looked back on fondly in years to come.

If you are more inclined towards the Ewan McGregor style of travelling, then you're in for a treat in Vietnam where the local form of taxi is on the back of

a motorbike (clearly not in McGregor league, but a motorbike nonetheless). If tempted by these machines though, hold on tight and always exit from the left side. Ignore this advice and you may burn the crap out of yourself. On second thought, maybe it's best you kids stay away from such hazards all together.

Travel, by whatever means you personally prefer, is by far the best way of breaking free from the oppressive concrete surrounds of UCD and student-life in general. For those of you who want to see everything but have limited time in which to do it, a round the world ticket is indeed worth considering. It's a great ticket for first time travels.

The question is though, having been around the world in a hundred and eighty days, would I buy another? I think not, I've grown to believe the bohemian deserves a little bit more respect. But everything should be done once.

The College Tribune's Marco Polo, **Derry Nairn**, looks back on his travels in Japan and gives more than a few reasons why the Irish student should look to the rising sun this summer for adventure. Just beware of the Sake

The rising sun, Mount Fuji, green tea, sake, Toyotas: for most people these things can conjure up images of only one country; Japan. One December morning last year, all five of them bizarrely combined to give me the most enduring memory of the country I was lucky enough to be studying in for a year.

It was dawn. The second day of a road trip that myself and some friends had been meticulously planning for weeks. Up until now, everything had gone well. We had excitedly packed our rented car and left Tokyo behind us. We were a motley crew. Besides myself, there was a Finn, a Tunisian, two Italians and two Canadians. Then, for some reason, in the back seat beside me there was also a plastic, four-litre container

of sake (rice wine) and a large Japanese radish we had recently christened Isaac.

Between us we just about held a proficiency in Japanese and one valid international driving license. Our appetite for adventure was keen after our first term in college. So we headed south, for the Kansai region. This is an area steeped in the living history of the old capitals of Kyoto and Nara, but which also boasts the modern metropolises of Osaka and Kobe. Its people are renowned throughout Japan for their distinctive dialect of kansai-ben and their friendliness.

The ancient route between Edo (as Tokyo used to be known) and Kansai was known as the tokaido. Long ago, riders used it to gallop between emperor to samurai and back again. Fifty-five famous





The Orient Express

views along it were famously depicted by the artist Hiroshige. Today, however, the original route is a path in the hills while the modern traveller uses a six lane motorway paved in black tarmac, resting himself in neon-lit truck stops along the way. On our journey, by midnight, we were stopped in one to rest for the night. Predictably, it was there that boredom set in, the sake was opened and our troubles began.

The crack of a golden dawn the following day found a strange scene unfolding in a tea field near a truck stop roughly halfway along the tokaido. Our trusty Toyota was perched dangerously at the top of a steep ditch at the edge of the field. Two of its former occupants stood beside it arguing over how best to lever it back out while, above them, the first rays of sunrise caught Fuji's snowy cone, hovering magically above the low clouds. The rest of us stood amongst the straight, dark green rows

of tea, our necks craned, dumbfounded by the awesome first sighting of this sacred mountain, a memory I hope never to lose.

Thankfully, we convinced our Canadian friends not to try and tug the Toyota out of the ditch all by themselves. A tow truck was called and any tricky police questions were avoided. We ventured on to Kyoto, hungry for breakfast. Luckily, the area has a rich culinary tradition.

'Our trusty Toyota was perched dangerously at the top of a steep ditch at the edge of the field'

Its most famous delicacy, now to be found all over Japan, are mochi. These are balls of pounded sweetened rice, usually filled with azuki sweet bean paste and wrapped in a tea leaf. They have the consistency of old chewing gum, and oddly enough, are quite delicious and addictive. Other Kansai 'I'll try anything once' dishes to be savoured or regurgitated - the choice is yours - are fried squid balls and barbecued sparrow.

Having explored ancient Nara, populated by tame deer and boasting the world's oldest wooden structure, we decided we'd had enough austere culture. So after a raucous bout of all-you-can-drink karaoke, we rang in the New Year in traditional style at a Buddhist temple where people traditionally go on December 31st.

The air was filled with the delicious smell of barbecuing meat as families crowded the enclosure to ask the spir-

its for good fortune. We were faced with endless gifts of sweet plum wine and smiling inquiries as to our nationality. Another testament to that famous Kansai warmth of character came at our Japanese inn, or ryokan, where we slept on futon in a straw-matted room with paper screens, just like in 'Memoirs of a Geisha'. There, we were hosted by a charming old lady who ignored our rampant alcoholism

'Kansai dishes to be savoured or regurgitated are fried squid balls and barbecued sparrow'

and instead welcomed us with gifts on the first night and breakfast every morning.

We spent five nights in total in the Kansai region, and loved every minute of it. Our rental period nearly up, our four litres of sake now drained and Isaac the radish now compost, we reluctantly began to make our way homeward. But time was left for a quick visit to another sacred mountain, this time the peak of Hiei.

This is the highest of the hills which ring Kyoto, and one of the reasons why it was a convenient first-choice as bombing target for the Enola Gay in 1945. As I took in the stunning view at the summit which the Buddhist monks share in snowy solitude with wild monkeys, I found myself thankful that the city's cultural heritage, both ancient and modern, was spared by bad weather, and now lives on for visitors such as ourselves to enjoy.

'Pretend to spot a book and lean across her, tongue coiled, ready for action'

The Lunge 23>



'Pitchfork is what Rolling Stone Was in its prime'

Broken Social Scene 19>



DISTRACTIONS

FASHION 18 | FILM 20 | MUSIC 22 | HEALTH 25 | REGULARS 26 | THE TURBINE 28



BAG it

THE LITTLE BLACK DRESS

Every girl should have a sexy black number in her wardrobe ready to be pulled out at the first sign of any formal occasion. It's so versatile, capable of being dressed up or down depending on the event. And with the UCD Ball around the corner a black dress is a must have for any girl who loves to be understatedly sexy and glamorous without the fuss.

STRIPES ALL ROUND

Stripes are a must have this season for both male and female. Whether its pinstripe or horizontal they are out in an array of funky colours and set to be this season's hottest trend. A piece of advice, stay away from those big black and brilliant white woolly jumpers, they're just plain ugly.

NAUTICAL

The nautical aka sailor rig out, has hit many of the high streets shops with force and has appeared on catwalks across the Europe, from cute little pumps to navy and white accessories. Ahoy Matey!!

BIN it

BLONDE

First of all this is not a dig at all those beautiful blondes out there, it is merely an observation. The once vast sea of blonde hair is dwindling in exchange for sultry brunettes. Reese Witherspoon, SJP and Brittany Murphy, are among a vast range of stars that have alternated blonde for brunette. So girls, ditch the high maintainance peroxide look and opt for the natural mahogany look instead.

KEIRA KNIGHTLEY.

Admittedly, actress Kiera Knightley is extremely beautiful, young and minted. But her recent Oscar nomination for *Pride and Prejudice* has raised some questions as to what she was actually nominated for, come on she already has the accent!

DESIGNER OVERKILL.

The word 'Chav' comes to mind when you see another celebrity or wannabe Z-list 'celebrity' kitted out from head to toe in designer gear, think Colleen McLoughlin and Louis Vuitton, The City Boys and their Burberry you get the idea.



Icon: Catherine Deneuve
Lisa Hubendik
Politics

Icon: Angelina Jolie
Lorina Mahapata
B & L

Icon: Scarlet Johansson
Holly Irvine
Arts International

Icon: Sienna Miller
Michelle McCoy
2nd Economics

Icon: Kate Moss
Ciara Cronan
3rd Arts

Icon: Kate Moss
Rosalyn Moran
English

STYLE ICONS

Rape and date rape

For most it is a worst nightmare, but for some it is a reality. Caitrina Cody sheds light on the delicate subject of rape and date rape, abolishing myths that exist in relation to the issue.

Rape is a horrific experience that can leave a victim psychologically and emotionally traumatised. It is defined as the crime of forcing someone to submit to sexual intercourse without consent. The effects of the experience can be depression, anxiety and even suicidal tendencies that can remain with the victim for many years if help is not sought.

It is usually associated with the idea of shadowy alleyways, deserted parks and dangerous strangers prowling in the night. Most of us feel relatively safe on the other hand when in the company of companions and acquaintances, leaving bars and restaurants, having coffee in friends' apartments.

However, a terrifying fact is that many of the perpetrators of rape are known to the victim at the time of the attack. This disturbing factor means that many cases of rape are never reported to the police by the victim. When a victim knows his or her attacker the typical feelings of violation and distress are compounded by feelings of betrayal, fear and even guilt.

The idea that rape happens to an unfortunate few is false. According to Rape Crisis Network Ireland, one in five women and one in ten men have experienced sexual violence. The Dublin Rape Crisis Centre received 10,944 genuine calls to the phone line in 2004. This places the issue on an unfortunately large scale and has huge implications for Irish society. Changing outdated attitudes towards victims of rape and placing the focus on improved support systems and increased government funding to crisis centres is essential if we wish to help the huge numbers of rape victims in Ireland.

Date rape is a term used to describe a sexual attack on a person by someone known to the victim socially. The rape can be committed by a friend, casual acquaintance or even a current romantic partner. This is one of the most controversial forms of rape as in many cases it can be non-violent. Society can send out mixed messages about this form of rape with many people feeling that it takes place more as a result of miscommunication than from any criminal intent.

However, the law remains clear and makes no distinction between a rape committed by a stranger and rape committed by an acquaintance of the victim. If the sexual activity was non-consensual, then it remains a sex crime in the eyes of the law, regardless of any prior circumstances. **Anything but yes means no.**

A victim may blame themselves for provoking the rape by flirting with the rapist or even engaging in some sexual activity but it must be emphasised that engaging in such activity does not invalidate the right for anyone to refuse

sex. In simple terms, 'no' means 'no'. A person has the right to refuse sex at any stage, no matter what their behaviour prior to this has been.

In their defense a rapist may claim that the victim provoked the attack by wearing provocative clothing or by agreeing to accompany the rapist to a secluded spot i.e. an apartment or parked car. This is not an excuse. 'Victim blaming' refers to popular attitudes that certain behaviours by a victim may encourage rape. Victims may be said to have 'asked for it' by not behaving in a demure manner.

These attitudes are extremely outdated and irrational, and in the criminal system provocation is not accepted as mitigation for rape. Rape is always the rapist's fault and the victim is simply not to blame. Men must be alert and aware to the refusals of a companion to engage in sex and must immediately cease any effort to coerce them, emotionally or physically.

Certain social misconceptions may discourage victims of sexual attacks from going to the authorities. Fearing their stories may not be believed or from a sense of shame, victims may suffer in silence, withdrawing emotionally from the world and becoming depressed as a result. Victims can often feel that they deserved the attack and some may even be subjected to emotional blackmail by the perpetrator. Rapists may threaten the victim, claiming that nobody will believe his or her story, or even deny that any such incident took place. Therefore it is important that a victim of a sex crime inform either the gardai or the Rape Crisis Centre immediately.

Date Rape Drugs

The subject of date rape drugs such as Rohypnol has received much attention in the media over the last few years, with increasing numbers of calls made to the Rape Crisis Centre and to the gardai from people believing themselves to be the victims of drug-assisted rape.

Rohypnol is a powerful sedative, available only on prescription in Ireland. It is colourless and odourless and when dissolved in liquid it is virtually undetectable. When ingested, the drug may incapacitate a person without the person knowing that they have been drugged. In fact, the effects of the drug may seem similar to the effects of alcohol intoxication. In this manner, a rapist may take advantage of the insensible victim, perhaps offering to escort them

'Anything but yes means no'



home. The ability of the victim to resist an attack is hugely decreased by sedative drugs and many victims will retain no memory of events that happened over the five or six hours that the effects will last.

In response to this trend, men and women have been warned against the dangers of leaving drinks unattended in bars and at parties and are encouraged to never accept drinks from strangers and to stay with friends at all times. However there have been relatively few proven cases of drug-assisted rape in Ireland.

Engaging in sexual intercourse with someone incapacitated by alcohol is considered rape

Most victims of rape tested for substances such as Rohypnol have only shown excessively high levels of alcohol in their blood. Taken in large amounts, alcohol can produce very similar effects to sedatives, causing unconsciousness and memory loss and can also lower a person's ability to resist rape.

Victims unsure of what they have experienced perhaps would prefer to blame their incapacity on a drug rather than admit to consuming copious amounts of alcohol. However, **engaging in sexual intercourse with someone incapacitated by alcohol is considered rape according to the legal definition of the term.** A person that is powerless to say no is in a similar position to a victim that says no and is ignored. Men and women should be warned that drinking to excess places us in positions of danger and that realistically, it is alcohol, not Rohypnol that is the most dangerous date rape drug.

Male Rape

Traditionally, rape is seen as a crime exclusively committed by males against females. In fact there is a high number of sex crimes committed against male victims and according to the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre, 12% of calls to their hotline are made by male callers. Male victims suffer trauma from rape and sexual assault just as females do. In addition, there can be feelings of shame and self-loathing experienced, resulting in many male victims being unwilling to report the crime. Such victims may consider the shame of disclosure as worse than the crime itself and like many female victims, choose to suffer in silence.

The high number of unreported male rape crime contributes to the difficulty of compiling information on the subject. The Dublin Rape Crisis Centre emphasise that all callers are welcome, regardless of gender, and counselling is available for both male and female victims.

The issue of rape is relevant to all

areas of Irish society but is of particular importance to college students. In an environment that is often associated with binge-drinking and student parties, extra vigilance is needed to ensure one's safety from sexual attacks. It is extremely important for students to ensure that they do not wander the campus alone at night and that they remain with trusted friends while socialising. Above all, it is essential that students stay in control while drinking and do not place themselves at risk with both strangers and acquaintances.

For victims of sex crimes, the Rape Crisis Centre is an invaluable support. Callers to the 24-hour hotline are encouraged to share their horrific experience with the trained counselors and members of the centre will accompany victims to the gardai to give statements. It is essential that victims receive counselling in the aftermath of their experience to help them to resolve any issues of guilt or shame they may feel.

The Dublin Rape Crisis Centre offers free counselling and support for friends and family. They provide information and statistics to the public and work hard to abolish myths that exist in relation to the issue of rape, such as that it is a primarily female concern. Above all, they offer a supportive ear to the many victims that blame themselves.

The Dublin Rape Crisis Centre, 70, Lower Leeson Street,, Dublin 2.

Office Hours:

Mon - Fri - 8.00am to 7.00pm

Sat - 9.00am - 4.00pm

Phone No: 01 661 4911

Email: rcc@indigo.ie

Website: www.drcc.ie

The Statistics

- 1/5 women experienced Sexual Violence
 - 1/10 men experienced Sexual Violence
 - 12% of calls made by male callers
 - 10,944 genuine calls to Dublin Rape Crisis Centre in 2004
- Figures according to Rape Crisis Network Ireland

AURAL EXAMINATIONS



DIRECTOR RECONNECT

Director are one of those bands that actually live up to the kind of hype Irish ‘music’ publications dole out over any half-wit that can stand in the vicinity of an instrument; provided of course they are wearing appropriate clothing.

Any ‘next big thing’ label here is fully deserved if it is applied over the coming months. They don’t so much write as craft the kind of pop songs that not even the most credible of anti-mainstream heads both here and abroad could claim demonstrate a lack of talent.

‘Reconnect’ is simply great, and greatly simple; at least that’s the first impression you get. ‘Simple’, but only in the same sense as the Beatles, Randy Newman or Steely Dan: steadily and confidently simple.

With Director the beauty lies in the details and in the arrangement: those lyrical moments where you can’t imagine anything fitting better or communicating themselves so precisely, the bass line in general, the subtle but crucial fills on the bass tom before the crescendo, those lightest of touches on the guitar to add effect, even the pronunciation of the words...I could go on. The b-side ‘She’s Saying Things’ is great too.

Magnificent.

8/10

RONAN DEMPSEY

MEL BROOKS THE PRODUCERS

Reservations are oft expressed about the practise of remaking successful films from the past.

Typically, the more successful or well-loved the classic, the more vehement is the outrage when plans are announced to remake it, complete with younger, ‘more fashionable’ stars, and a complete lack of sensitivity for what made it great in the first place.

The Producers was one such film. There exists a quagmire of conflicting affirmations and denunciations of the 2006 remake of the 1968 masterpiece, amid which it is hard to know whether the film made an improvement on its predecessor, or was put to shame, or simply managed not to offend anyone.

Of at least one thing we can be sure. The soundtrack is neither any better, nor any worse. All the old favourites are here, recorded in clear stereo, and with appropriately faithful adherence to the original formula. Newcomers Will Ferrell and Uma Thurman acquit themselves appreciably. Even if you were a fan of the original movie, and dislike the newer film, it is hard to see how you might dislike this offering, so comparatively indifferent is this type of music to questions of taste.

Those who find insipid the out-of-context musical-number, however, need not apply.

8/10

FIONN DEMPSEY



JOSH RITTER THE ANIMAL YEARS

Ritter, in TAY, concentrates on three grand themes, Love, War and Religion, combining them with a human voice.

On ‘Girl in the War’, the opening song, he questions why, if God allows war, would he hate man, and claims he’s no God if he does.

The epic ‘Thin Blue Flame’ is Ritter completing these meditations, as he comes to view God as a comic figure. Then war and religion seek each other for a passionless embrace, trying to find comfort in their meaningless partnership. Ritter’s sound is the mellow folk of guitars and pianos, somewhere between Springsteen and Iron & Wine. It’s occasionally beautiful, and often tiring. Ritter is telling stories for us to draw our own conclusions, though he can be too preachy.

‘The Animal Years’ begs us to question our relationship to authority, the powerful are seen to be ridiculed because they allow suffering, but it’s the joy of love and the beauty of life matters to Ritter.

He bristles with rage on ‘Thin Blue Flame’ but clearly the divisive power of war and religion for him is destructive. ‘Idaho’ is a lament for his native state. It sounds like a eulogy to a dead land.

8/10

KINGSLEY KELLY



ALEXANDRE DESPLAT SYRIANA

I’d like to know how Alexandre Desplat was asked to soundtrack Syriaana.

I imagine writer/director Stephen Gaghan pitching the movie to Desplat excitedly. “It’s a movie about the complexities of oil politics between America, the Middle East and China.” A blank face greets him. “It immerses the viewer in the ambiguous and convoluted moral atmosphere of the international free market.” Silence. “It’s got George Clooney in it?”

It must have been a successful pitch though. Experienced soundtracker Desplat has made a good stab at this. Opting for the atmospheric approach, his soundtrack uses stripped-back synths and frugal, minor key piano motifs over middle-eastern rhythms and frame-drum styled electronic beats, reminiscent of Peace Orchestra’s work on the Animatrix soundtrack.

Minimal orchestral hits and ornamentation help to fill out the sound while subtle, frantic strings lend a recurring, uneasy ambience to a record which gravitates effectively between cinematic moods; from a sombre, reflective serenity to an urgent, driving menace.

As with most cinematic soundtracks this music works best as aural decoration, but there is enough interesting material here to endear it to the less-than-casual listener too, and it will reward repeated playing. And, furthermore, George Clooney doesn’t get to sing on it.

7/10

FIONN DEMPSEY



SEMIFINALISTS SEMIFINALISTS

This is not an album for everyone but thought has clearly been invested in it. Semifinalists obviously had a definite sound in mind while recording and, listening to it, you can’t help but feel that they got what they set out for: there is a sense of achievement about this album.

After a poor start with opener ‘Origin Song’, which is, in essence an irritating melody with what sounds like an out of time drum beat and that horrible Pixies aping high pitched shrieking, the album improves drastically.

The beautiful polyphony of a clear, rambling guitar, a sleepy synth and a sad female voice on standout track ‘Lets Kill This’ slowly builds up to a crescendo of Godspeed proportions with not even half the instruments.

The Flaming Lips, Radiohead, the entire lo-fi scene at the moment, and of course Sigur Ros all get a look in here as apparent influences.

If you like these bands, Semifinalists are worth checking out. If you don’t, don’t rule them out. They have managed that rough, unpolished and disjointed sound you get from unmixed tracks while at the same time achieving a distinctive overall clarity from the ensemble. Check them out on myspace first.

7/10

JAMES FOLEY



STEREOPHONICS LIVE FROM DAKOTA

Dakota is a nice enough place. It is situated in the western north-central region of the USA and was ranked 16th in size of all of the states until it was split, in 1889, for clarities purpose, into North and South Dakota.

The main employment opportunities are to be found in agriculture, manufacturing and tourism. Topographically, travelling around Dakota (North and South) you are most likely to see prairies, hills, or cities, which is interesting.

The nickname for North Dakota is the ‘Peace Garden State’, the nickname for South Dakota is ‘Mount Rushmore State’ because the cliff face carved into the faces of four revered presidents of the country is located there.

Some would say that South Dakota has a better nickname than the North, others would disagree but admit that the North has a more feminine nickname.

There are universities in both regions. Coyote are in plentiful supply in both North and South Dakota. The climate in the area is cold in the winter and hot in the summer, this is similar to Ireland.

As regards trees, if you like White Spruce, or Picea Glauca, the chances are you will appreciate Dakota.

Worth a visit.

DAKOTA/10

RONAN DEMPSEY

GIGWATCH

Thursday 6th April Arts Day

■ Afternoon events include 5 a-side soccer tournament at the Sports centre, comedy debate, screening of 40yr Old Virgin, Whose Line Is It Anyway. The evening’s festivities kick off at 6 o’clock in the bar and end up with Shindig in Crawdaddy.

Wednesday 12th April

■ National Student Music Awards Final. TBMC. €9.50. 7.30pm

■ Prizes include Featuring The Reverb, Bravest Kid in School, Lost, Lotus Lullaby, Autobahn, The Roll Models and Roper. Also featuring special guests Turn after the competition.

Thursday 13th April

■ 20:00: Battle of the Bands Final. Student bar. Adm. Free

■ With €1000 and a slot at the first ever UCD Ball up for grabs this should be a good night. Featuring Bravest Kid In School, The Internet, The Musical Show, Travega and Morning Hush.

Friday 21st April: UCD Ball

■ You all know about it, first of its kind in UCD and all that, featuring Bell X1, Tiefschwarz, Damian Dempsey and many more. Tickets are on sale now at SU shops about campus.

Breaking into the Scene

Broken Social Scene are the greatest band in the world at the moment. Their recent gig at the Temple Bar Music Centre was one of the best I've ever seen, which is saying something.

As if that wasn't impressive enough, they did it with four band members playing a separate concert that very night in America; unfortunately one of the problems of a collective comprised of many different musical groups. A fact that ensures much diversity as well. "We've got Stars and Metric who need their space to tour. We've got Raising the Fawn, Apostle of Hustle, Do Make Say Think all combined in this one band. It also helps that we have some very multi-talented musicians in the band. I'll play guitar and second drums as well as some of the vocals. Or Lisa (Lobsinger) will do vocals for a song which would have been Emily (Haines)." Stars are an integral part of Broken Social Scene and Emily Haines of Metric and Leslie Feist have provided the most soulful and beautiful lyrics for their past

two albums. These were all missing in action on the night.

Not that it phased the band in the slightest; BSS, are a well-oiled terrorist cell of a band. The head honchos: Kevin Drew and Brendan Canning were the sole contributors to the largely instrumental first album 'Feel Good Lost' back in 2001 and largely dictate the sonic directions of

It's really exciting: the response to the new album, it's just taken us to a whole new level

the band.

Producer David Newfeld magically brings the whole ensemble together from a massive collection of cuts of all fifteen members (and some extras) on their respective instruments. This leaves the

artists themselves to concentrate on their roles in the vast collection of bands signed to their own indie label Arts and Crafts label.

Yet when brought together as Broken Social Scene, they are a rock solid musical unit. John Crossingham, one of six guitarists, is refreshingly honest and down to earth. His own band, Raising the Fawn, just released 'The Maginot Line' which they are currently touring following the close of the BSS tour; one which managed a whopping three continents in just a month.

"Well yeah, for a lot of the crowd the new record is like it's our first record. We'd been prepared to write off Europe and the U.K. But then Uncut and MOJO were hailing the album as fantastic. The crowds in the U.K. were insane: we sold out the Astoria. I was looking out at this sea of two thousand people thinking; 'is this for Real?' It's really exciting: the response to the new album, it's just taken us to a whole new level."

That's one of the most important things; Broken Social Scene owns their particular label and run things their way. Which is probably why the band works

Kingsley Kelly meets the impressive Broken Social Scene collective for a chat about their new album and the difficulties associated with working in such a large group

as it does. It would be nearly impossible to run this band with the red tape of a major label. They aren't a typical band and a huge problem for independent bands is attracting any interest at all. To say the latest indie music craze isn't related to the internet is to deny hearing any awkward reports by respected news presenters on why those Arctic Mon-

I was looking out at this sea of two thousand people thinking; 'is this for real?'

keys are doing so well.

If I get told the internet is a powerful learning tool one more time I'll scream, but no-one in the music industry likes to admit that they're having to accept that if you want to sell music, then we want to know if it's good.

Zines (that new word for a music crit-

ics blog) have had an incredible affect because holy shit; you can choose music based on something other than advertising. Pitchforkmedia.com is the most famous of these, it's generally held for launching The Arcade Fire. Broken Social Scene have also been their darlings since they were found in a box of embarrassingly named bands that were obviously going to be crap emo. "It's no exaggeration to say that after "You Forgot It In People," got 9.2, we broke. We're never going to make an album thinking is this what Pitchfork would want, but at the same time we were glad they didn't hate our new album. Pitchfork is what Rolling Stone was in its prime."



FILM

A thug called Thug

Tsotsi 9/10

Tsotsi is a heart warming story with a redemptive theme running through it. Set amidst a backdrop of economic hardship, it portrays the realities of life in decaying townships of post-Apartheid South Africa.

The film is located in the sprawling Johannesburg township of Soweto where survival is the primary objective.

Tsotsi played by Presley Chweneyagae is a moving portrait of an angry young man living in a state of extreme urban deprivation.

The film traces six days in the life of a ruthless young gang leader. Tsotsi the most feral of his small pack of thugs; when the gang silently robs and murders a man on a crowded Johannesburg subway train in the movie's

opening minutes -- a shocking if not quite believable sequence -- not only is Tsotsi unbothered by stirrings of guilt, he brutally beats a gang member (Mothusi Magano) who feels they've gone too far.

Or is his vicious reaction a manifestation of long-dormant conscience? A few scenes later, Tsotsi steals a car from an upper-class black woman and leaves his victim screaming in anguish in her driveway. For good reason: Her infant son is still strapped in the back seat. Rather than finding a way to return the child or disposing of him in ways not fit to contemplate, Tsotsi takes him home to his shack, cradling the baby in secret. In the days that follow, as Tsotsi struggles to hide his new charge from prying neighbors, the police, and his hard-case friends.



Tsotsi's granite exterior begins to crack. Memories of his own childhood seep in -- both the domestic trauma he ran from as a boy and the unforgiving homeless existence to which he fled.

Desperate to feed the child, he barges into the home of a nursing mother named Miriam (Terry Pheto) and forces her to breast-feed the kidnapped infant at gunpoint.

Out of this gruesomely one-sided

arrangement rises the first chance at human connection Tsotsi has known.

Adapted from acclaimed South African playwright Athol Fugard's novel was originally set in the 1950s, Tsotsi's story was updated to the post-apartheid present to prove a sharp point: For many black South Africans, little has changed. Disenfranchised, both from Afrikaners and the black minority who found a successful place in their

country's future, South Africa's poor are besieged by crime, poverty and the scourge of AIDS, whose bitter legacy is that kids like Tsotsi are left homeless, orphaned and utterly without hope.

A worthy winner of the best foreign film Oscar, Tsotsi is a modern day look at the violence, poverty and contrast of South Africa through the heartbreaking story of one citizen.

■ Karen O'Connell



Absolutely Shite

Failure to Launch 0/10

That 'failure to launch' has been top of the American box office for a number of weeks now is a sadder reflection of that country than their President.

Even the girliest of girls would have to admit that the 'chick flick' does for film what 'mills and boons' do for literature, that's sweet FA. Whatever, they don't have to admit anything, but it's the truth. The genre is, as a rule, degenerative, mind numbing filth which robs viewers of more brain cells than sniffing aerosols.

Even exceptions to the rule, films like 'Ten things I hate about you' or 'How to lose a guy in ten days' are good not because the chick gets flicked but because they have some other quality, such as wit or humour. A film is never good just because it's based in a wonderful world where things work out exactly how you want them to. For the love of all that is brown, that's the lies we tell children so

they can remain blissfully ignorant for a few happy years. We're adults, and reality sucks, but not as much as this film.

Only in the States would you believe that Paula's (Sarah Jessica Parker) job could exist.

She, on being hired by the nominees for worlds most messed up parents, goes around making men fall in love with her so that, rather than reveal to her their embarrassing little secret, they'll move out of their parental home. Oh boy!

Enter Tripp (Mathew McConaughey), this playa is a too cool for school, boat salesman who still lives at home with his weird ass, sexually liberated parents.

He, like everything else in this movie, is about as deep as a paddling pool, who 'just wants to have fun' with his girlfriends, rather than risking self exposure by actually forming a meaningful relationship with someone. The fact that all this insecurity stems from

the death of an ex makes things sooo much deeper.

So anyway, stud central likes living with his mum and dad but dad wants to turn his room into his very own sanctuary of nakedness, so the obvious option, they hire Paula. Now she never sleeps with clients, but for Tripp, she makes an exception, just this once of course. Shockingly, the two fall in love, have a bit of a tiff, but miraculously are reconciled to eternal devotion and blah blah bloody God awful blah.

SJP found fame by telling the world about her numerous sexual partners in 'Sex and the City', and to be fair that show had its merits (good for a toss). However, it also had a shelf life, which has well and truly expired, so if she would just get the boat, and crawl back into her little shallow pool of obscurity that would be great. Hannibal Lector wouldn't eat her.

Another thing, only relevant to blokes who are dragged along to this monstrosity by their ball and chain, is that the female lead, as far as eye candy goes, looks a bit too much like a donkey for comfort.

McConaughey is the bigger disappointment however, because this guy has been in some quality films, 'A Time to Kill' being the most noteworthy example. Accepting roles of this sort won't do him any favours with good directors when they're casting for real movies. Lets hope that when he sees the finished article he realises that he's let everyone down, not least his parents, and that it's a once of event.

The films flaws could fill this paper, but another one that deserves particular mention is the portrayal of Kit (Zooe Deschanel), Paula's roommate. As far as can be told, her alcoholism is intended to provide some humour but instead

it's just pathetic.

Us Irish, we drink when we go out with friends to have fun, she drinks alone while her friends play paintball. That's just not funny.

There's also some ridiculous subplot about a mocking bird which keeps her awake at night. The nightmares this film gave me is what keeps me awake. The saddest thing is that while great films such as 'Crash' which recently picked up the Oscar for best picture, are largely overlooked at the big screen, this will do well on the back of the popularity of the 'chick flick' genre as it has done elsewhere already.

However, UCD students will not be fooled. This is excrement of the most potent variety and at this time of year, you'll be happy to know, that there is something you'll enjoy less than studying and 'Failure to launch' is it.

■ Barra O'Fianail

VOLUME XIX ISSUE VIX

STILL ONLY
31p



Gay Byrne arrested for giving one to everyone in the audience

Joseph McCaul – My night of passion with Gary Glitter

Harney promotes “A stitch in time saves nine” policy

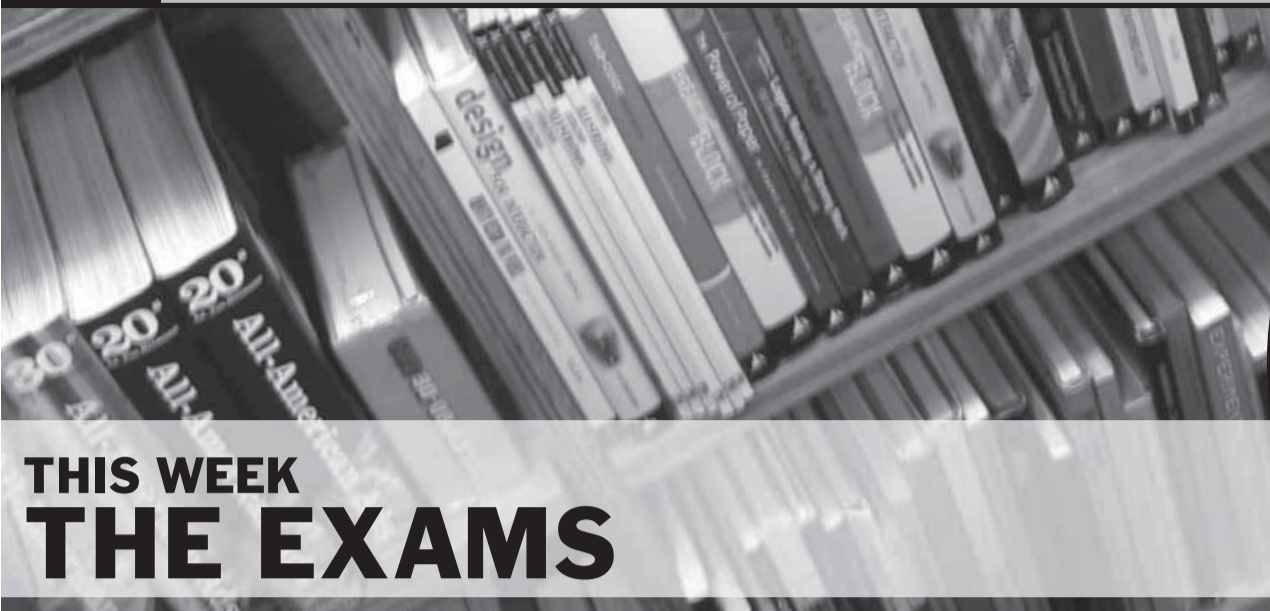
Skeleton orgy on corrugated iron roof broken up due to noise pollution

New survey reveals no T in China

Iraqi dies of natural causes

Steven Reid - I'm good enough to play for Man Utd

Stephen Gately refused to comment.



THIS WEEK
THE EXAMS



You can't open a national paper without something jumping out at you about Leaving Cert exam stress, the right topics to pick and all the rest of it. Pages upon pages dedicated to seven exams in June, hyping an already difficult period in young people's lives.

The Leaving Cert, it seems, sells newspapers and with this in mind, I've decided to dedicate this Rud's World to the topic of your end of year exams. It's not to help you, the poor, stressed out student who despite facing exams that require more than just an ability to learn things off doesn't have a 200 page pull out in the Irish Times to help you. No, no, its far more strategic and self centred than that. There's a corner of the market there to be gotten into, and any self respecting aspiring journalist must try his fist at an exam guide.

So here we go, the three week break is over, there's a stretch in the evening and you're probably reading this in library, coming from the library, on your coffee break or on the bus home from the library.

Your columnist, thank Christ, doesn't have any exams. He finished with the damn things years ago. He has a fond regard for them. The smell of the RDS, the horrible feeling at three am when you realise you've still only prepared two of your three topics and that sneaking suspicion that even though everyone you talk to seems to say, "Oh my god, I'm SO Screwed!!", they're really not and that they've really been spending their time in the library when the rest of us were in the bar.

Generally, exam tip articles come far too late. Largely they're irrelevant and don't relate to a student's situation. I'm sure this one's no different and I hope that the witticisms and writing flair cover up the scant nature of the subject matter.

For you poor unfortunates who've been enjoying your College year, exam preparation starts now. It's not too late at this stage to get going and the fact that you did less work than the Football Association dipped in honey in the last three weeks matters not a jot.

You're cutting it fine, but it's very doable. It's always been a firm belief of

mine that exams are a sprint and not a marathon. They'll never be an accurate reflection of your intelligence so you need to optimise your time, get a decent start and finish strongly.

A wise man once told me to never read the questions and always panic. This advice, while seemingly perfect and awfully humorous, is unfortunately deeply flawed.

You're cutting it fine, but it's very doable. It's always been a firm belief of mine that exams are a sprint and not a marathon

Throughout the past couple of years you'll have had it rammed down your neck, the study techniques, the es-

say plans but the conclusion hits after a while that there is no right technique, that trial and error is the best way and that no one can tell you how to do an exam except yourself.

People are different. We're told throughout our Leaving that if you listen to music while studying you're not really concentrating and that it won't come back to you. This is rubbish. Sure, some people can't study while listening to Push the Button on their I-Pods, but others find it a help, it fills the silence and eases the boredom.

Some people swear by flash cards, I was always a fan of the old fashioned A4. I never felt the need to put things on smaller pieces of paper, I still don't. It doesn't make sense to me.

Lecturers can often have some of the most bizarrely interesting advice. One of mine had a regime that involved several walks and glasses of brandy. I'm sure it worked for him, but certainly it wasn't my cup of tea.

Some friends and myself made it a tradition to stop by the bar for a pint

on our way home from the library, it took our minds of things. It worked well. Another tactic, the old going outside and kicking a ball around helped too.

This is because exercise is the key to good study. Fresh air relieves boredom. Getting away from the books and doing something that preoccupies the mind for even ten minutes works wonders.

The morning before one of my finals, my flatmate and I went out and threw a rugby ball about Merville at 6am. It worked wonders. While, this column doesn't claim that it's found the key to acing exams is throwing a rugby ball about, it does aid and abet the exam process.

The onus is on you. You're the one who takes responsibility, but exams aren't that hard if you don't let them be. Not having any, it's easy for me to say but as long as you start now, don't coup yourself up permanently in the stuffy library and actually study, you'll be grand.



THINGS I HATE ABOUT...
EVERYTHING

BY EILEEN
O'MALLEY



JOB HUNTING

It is never fun. Ever. The lucky ones are gift wrapped a job in daddy's firm – well done. (Who's bitter?) Whether it is a part-time job or a grown-up career you're on the search for, it may prove to be a monotonous and disheartening road to travel. The rejection can be hard – though I hope you know you were too good for those capitalist pigs anyway.



LITTLE MISS
KNOW IT ALLS

I say little 'miss' because they usually are. There is nothing they don't know, or don't have an opinion on. Both of which is usually wrong, patronizing and pointless all wrapped into one



PEOPLE WITH A CHIP
ON THEIR SHOULDER

No the world is not conspiring against you. But

it should be



RIP-OFFS

They have become the bane of all our lives. Forking out six squids for a sandwich is sick and wrong. Throw down your wallets and refuse to give in. Nicely ask Mammy to make you a packed lunch and let the boycott begin. I'm sure we've all noticed the unbelievably de-



NASTY IRISH
WEATHER

pressing rain that has cursed us for weeks. I love this island as much as the next leprechaun but at times like these I'd gladly give up my nation for warmer shores.



THE CURRENT
STATE OF UCD

Mr. Brady's grand plans to revamp UCD now

include building a 'conference hotel' and public plaza, among other things. Heaven forbid that money be spent on education. Bring back the Socialists.



MICHAEL
MCDOWELL

His complete failure to sort crime out aside, the insanely whacky idea to create a volunteer police force is one step too far. Who has the time on their hands to be a Gardai for no salary? I'll tell u who; crazies. The crazies versus the psychopaths...sounds like its going to be a great little human experiment Mr. McDowell.



THE 17 BUS

Also known as; 'The Devil Bus or 'God's punishment to students for being lazy ugly bums.' It never fails to disappoint. Though years spent waiting for it has afforded me plenty of 'me time,' left alone with my thoughts to pon-

der life...something people don't do enough, aye?



JUNK E-MAILS

Do I look like I want to a bigger penis? (Ok maybe I do.) Such random offers of Viagra or free porn always get through the junk detectors. If I wanted Viagra I'd go find it, I don't need an email about it Mr. Internet-marketer to get me interested.



CHUCK NORRIS

Bebo has brought to my attention a growing-number of misguided boys who have found in Chuck Norris somewhat of a hero figure. Let's remind ourselves people that his first name is Chuck, that he now sells Ab machines on infomercials aired on TV3 of all places and least we forget that critical drama that was; Walker Texas Ranger. Now MacGyver, there was a real man.

Dear....

BECAUSE A PROBLEM SHARED IS A PROBLEM DOUBLED

TRIBUNE

Dear Tribune,

I've been reading Bash magazine and I'm disgusted about the fact that I'm not in it. I'm a socialite with lots of hot friends and recently I've been frequenting Bondi and 92, trying to get my face onto those glossy pictures, However, the night's I've been there, the bloody photographer doesn't show. I even went out to some nightclub in Blanchardstown and to no avail, although some skanger put his hand up my skirt for a cheap thrill. How will I ever be popular without getting my face in Bash? Can you help?

Mandy, 2 BBLs.

Dear Mandy,
You are a spa

Dear Tribune,

I noted with dismay that you seem to publish a lot of problems laced with sexual innuendo.

I find this completely unacceptable, particularly the level of homophobia so prevalent in these pages.

As a gay man myself I believe you are as bad as the Mullah's of Iran or the Catholic Bishops of Ireland in setting back equality and civil rights.

I am asking you to desist in your stereotypes of gay men. We are not all nonces, just as not all straight men are weight lifting bodybuilders.

I'm sure you're nerdy, geeky little fools who spend all day locked in a dark office staring at you're computer screens and guffawing at internet chat rooms.

In essence, open you're minds.



Yours truly,
Mitch Butch

Dear Mitch
You're right we are sorry.
If you'd like to meet up to air you're concerns we'd be happy to discuss the matter while you cut out hair.

WARNING: LUNGING CAN BE DANGEROUS



THE TRIBUNE GUIDE TO THE LUNGE



8: TOP 5 LIBRARY LUNGES

It's a different time now. Lungers everywhere are having to cut down their nightclubbing hours and hit the library in the pursuit of academic excellence.

Don't let this be a hindrance, it's always important to adapt to new surroundings. Just because you're surrounded by books rather than disco lights doesn't mean you can't get some action. Its' never stopped Librocop so it shouldn't stop you.

As always, The Lunge is here to aid and abet, to help and not hinder. We bring you an inspirational coup d'etat of an article. We throw the rule book out the window and teach you how to lunge in the library.

That's right, we bring you the Top Five innovative library lunges.

The Over the Shoulder You're standing behind a lovely lady, she is struggling with her work. You point out something you can help her with. Be sure to graze your stubble on her shoulder, tilt and lean.

The Photocopier It's simple, you see a hottie is next in line for the photocopier. You leave your card in the machine. As soon as she's reached the machine turn around and put your hand to her's as she reaches to put her card in the slot. The electricity will spark a reaction with the lovely lady and you make your move with the traditional lunge.

The Drop of the Notes - Walk up to a good looking girl and surreptitiously knock her notes onto the ground. Be stealthy. Don't use a broad sweeping motion. Perhaps rest your hand on her table, make a little small

talk and gently slide her notes onto the ground.

Don't immediately bend down to pick them up. Pause for a moment. Just as she bends over to pick them up, make your move. She will at this stage be a little flustered. Get your head as close to hers as possible. Apologise in slow and dulcid tones.

Now's your chance, look into her eyes and just lean in, game ball.

Due to the close proximity of your heads at the crucial moment make sure your breath is minty fresh. Stay away from garlic/onions/ any food from the restaurant during lunchtime to avoid embarrassment.

Oh look at the time! All those hours in the library will leave you tired and in need of some invigoration. As the days get on and the essay-swapping race begins you'll begin to make friends with girls from your class you never knew existed.

Pick one you find particularly decent and looks a bit gamey. Engage in a bit of harmless flirting. Note, this lunge is probably best executed over a couple of days, after all you want to lull her into a false sense of security.

On around the third or fourth day step the flirting up a notch. Wait til late in the evening, say "its getting late isn't it ?" let out an almighty yawn and strike. Yawning is after all contagious, so her mouth will be open. Bobs your uncle.

The aisle squeeze It's tight between those lines of books, not much space. Squeeze past your target and stop. Pretend to spot a book and lean across her, tongue coiled, ready for action.

DOWN THE LINE



Honest men humble Galacticos

The hard-working, honest man is being left behind in sport, for those who are preceded by a reputation and the ability to make money, writes **Colin Gleeson**

As the rain cascades down on the tiled roof, the resulting din is deafening. The wind is howling as it swirls around while the bite in the air is sharp. Those inside the dressing room are grimacing as they tie up the laces on their boots.

As they step onto the grass outside, they struggle to hold their footing as the grass underneath begins to come unstuck. The rain and the wind tears through them. The only man in tracksuit bottoms begins to bellow at them. Laps of the pitch before the warm-up.

It's a grueling ascent to the summit of a professional sport. Always training. Always struggling through the snow. Visibility hindered. But such is life. In the past at least, the rewards were there for those who put the work in.

But it would seem that times are changing. As they inevitably do perhaps. More and more these days, an already unfair world is becoming engulfed in a climate that is hazardous for the honest man.

The recent revelations regarding the revamp of the eircom League and Pete Mahon's comments regarding his doubts about the future of UCD's participation in the competition is just the latest example of the ordinary, hard-working man, losing his place in the sporting arena.

Mahon spoke about the way he was raised. About working hard and performing on the pitch. About the things that are supposed to matter. But it seems that times are indeed changing.

John Delaney is to introduce a new eircom League under the cloak of the Genesis report. If it materialises that he is to hand pick the teams who he believes are big enough to play in Ire-

land's Premier League it will undermine the basic principles of sport.

It will raise few eyebrows if Shamrock Rovers are playing in the country's top-flight again next season, despite the fact that there is no relegation/promotion in this year's league season. The FAI was always likely to find some way to accommodate the country's most successful and historic club. And of course it will be the little guy who loses out. Life is cruel that way.

It seems that football nowadays is more concerned with the reputations of clubs and players rather than the quality of what happens on the pitch. And this is a tragic turn of events.

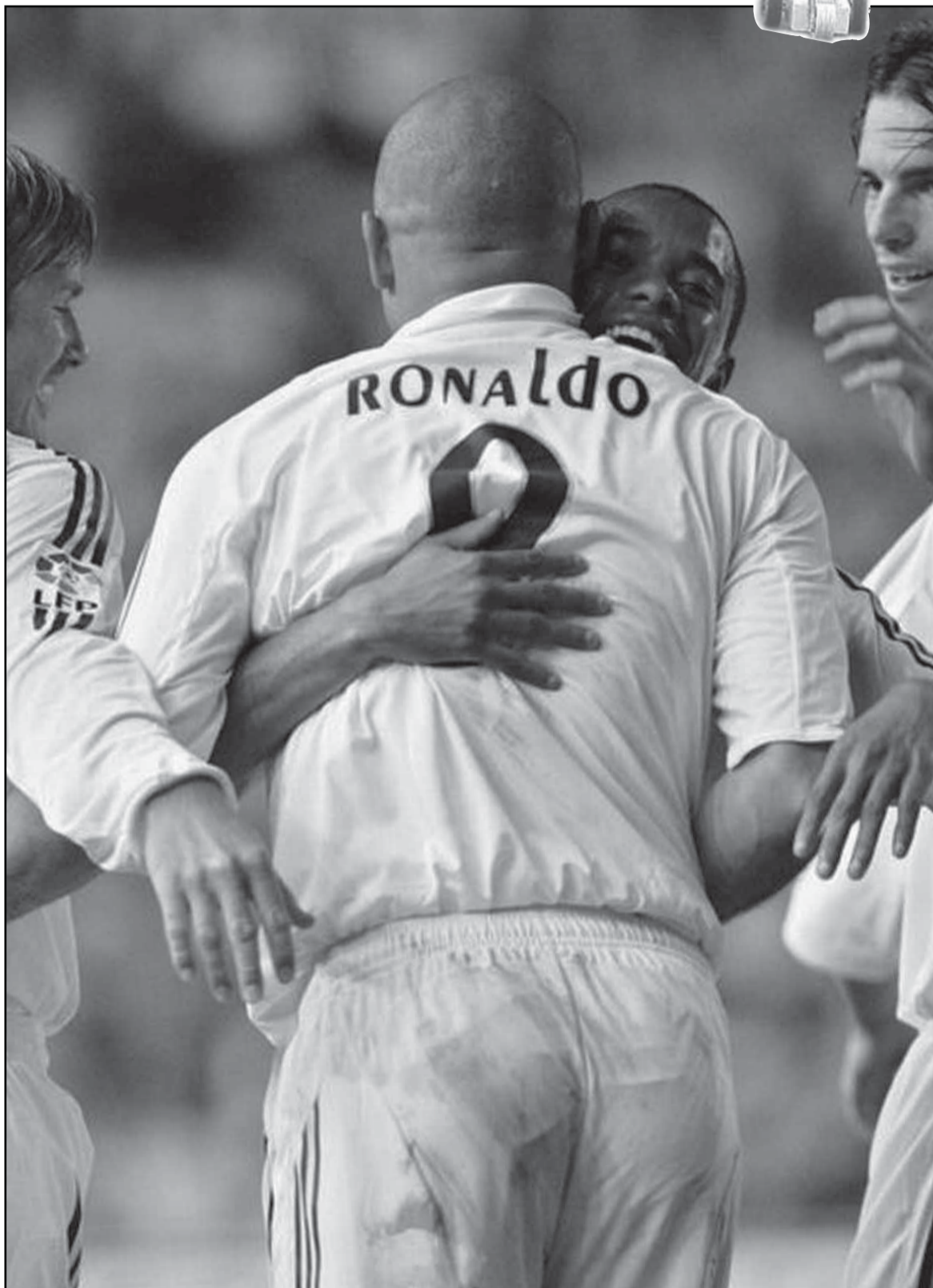
This is a trend that can be seen right across the spectrum of world football.

As the Galactico-era of Real Madrid draws to a close with the departure of club President Florentino Perez, the people of Madrid will be hoping that the days of a Real Madrid team sheet, assembled at a cost of €350 million and failing to win a trophy for three years, will be coming to an end.

It is a club that has hired and fired coaches and sporting directors through a constantly revolving door. It has a line up of stars without cohesion and seemingly no collective desire to earn their position every week.

Ridiculously, players have been

Mahon spoke about the way he was raised, working hard and performing on the pitch. About the things that are supposed to matter. But it seems that times are indeed changing



Galacticos: In happier times before their reputations superseded their ability on the pitch

picked because they sell shirts and because of the reputations that precede them, rather than what the formbook consists of. The saddening situation that football finds itself in is being compounded by a club who once claimed that Ronaldinho was "too ugly" to play for them.

The irony of Madrid's decision-making lies in the fact that it became their undoing. Once a major force in world football and indeed universally respected and recognized as such, the club decided to sell Claude Makelele in order to make way for more of Perez's Galacticos. It turned out to be the worst transfer decision in the club's recent history, as the club has yet to win a trophy since the Frenchman's departure.

While the problem stems from the crusade of one man in the case of Madrid, it generally comes about as

a result of the weaknesses of men in positions of power. Sven Goran Eriksson was widely criticized for his failure to drop the likes of Michael Owen and David Beckham during periods of stagnation for the pair.

Certainly in the case of Beckham, many would argue that he was played in the England team as a result of his reputation rather than his ability on the park, especially during periods where

The saddening situation that football finds itself in is being compounded by a club who once claimed that Ronaldinho was "too ugly" to play for them

Shaun Wright-Phillips had earned the right to be given a chance in the national side after a string of impressive performances for Manchester City.

The problem is leading to rising prices in the transfer market also. Players are becoming over-priced and already inflated egos are becoming more and more extreme. An example of this is Gianluigi Buffon costing Juventus a staggering E48 million. Intriguing when you look at the fact that Shay Given, a world-class goalkeeper, cost Newcastle a paltry €1-5 million.

It is crucial that the atmosphere that has emerged is not allowed to fester in the heart of what sport is all about. Pete Mahon and all followers of Real Madrid will be hoping that reputation is put to one side, and performances on the pitch are put in the driving seat.

Croke “happy” with mid-table mediocrity

After what has been a reasonably successful season for UCD’s rugby team in the AIB League, **Richard McElwee** speaks to captain Kevin Croke about the past year

As the end of a season where College look set to finish mid-table in the AIB League approaches, a place where they would have been expected to reside from day one, UCD captain and recent representative in the club international against Scotland, Kevin Croke, remains positive as regards the past year in the top flight.

“It has been a good season, we may have lost a couple of games that we should have won but we’ve also managed to win others without playing our best rugby. Initially our minimum expectations would have been to ensure our place in the division for another year, but once that had been achieved then we would have set an eye on getting into the playoffs.

“By right all teams would aim to be in the top four of the division, we are no different. We would feel that we are a strong enough side to be competing with and also beating the top sides in the league, so therefore a top four slot would always be a goal.”

Despite a decisive victory over Carlow on the opening day of the season, College subsequently succumbed to three straight defeats at the hands of Lansdowne, Belfast Harlequins and St.Mary’s College respectively; three sides deemed as potential scalps. One might suggest that this perhaps rocked the college outfit and dropped them into the doldrums of the league relatively quickly.

“I think that overall we are sitting in the right position in accordance with our performances, yet I don’t think that we have fully played to our potential on a regular basis. Early season wins are hugely important in a successful season. However, last year we were unbeaten at Christmas but still ended up 6th. I do think that we should have picked up more wins away from home. There was only one match where perhaps we didn’t deserve to win; otherwise we could’ve emerged from those games as worthy winners.”

The pattern that emerged throughout the season for College saw the team struggle away from home. Throughout the past six months, UCD have failed to pick up more than just one win outside the realms of the Belfield Bowl. On the other hand, home form has been impressive, with Carlow, DCU, Galwegians, Dungannon and Buccaneers all failing to pick up points from respective trips to the Bowl.

Indeed the current state of the game in UCD is far from dwindling. With this impressive home form, coupled with the strong influx of under-age talent currently coming through the ranks of the club, expectations are high ahead of the 2006/2007 season, which may yet prove to be a more than fruitful campaign.

With two games remaining against two sides in pole position to reach



Heave: UCD apply the pressure in a mediocre season that lacked that final drive

I don’t think that we have fully played to our potential on a regular basis

the league semi-finals on May 6th, UCD will most certainly be bereft of a gentle climax before the summer break affords rest to the boys in blue. “We’ve got Shannon at home and Garryowen away, but we would

want to come away from those with two wins from two and be happy with whatever position that may leave us in. It has been an enjoyable campaign, personally a bit up and down but I’m happy with it.”

COMPILED BY COLIN GLEESON

SPORT IN BRIEF.

Gaelic Games:

UCD ladies captured the O’Connor Cup for the fifth time in six years as they overcame a resurgent Sligo I.T. side by 1-9 to 1-3 in the final of the O’Connor Cup the weekend before last at Dundalk I.T.

Ladies football has continued to move from strength to strength in UCD as a result of the work from a strong management team, many of whom were involved as players in the team who won the cup six years ago. The management for the 2005/2006 squad were Billy Sheehan, Lorraine Muckian and Treacy Lawlor.

Marie O’Connell captained the team and Aisling Doolan won the “Player of the Tournament” award.

Basketball:

The UCD’s men’s basketball team was triumphant in the 54th intervarsity tournament at the University of Limerick last weekend.

The team, which consisted of a fifteen-man panel, won all seven games over the weekend. UCD also had Eddie Crudden, Chris Doyal and Kevin

Foley selected to the all-star team with Kevin Foley winning the most valuable player of the tournament.

The trio were highly influential throughout the course of the weekend, but it was a total team effort that brought the basketball varsity championship back to UCD.

Athletics:

UCD Graduate and former Sport Scholarship student, Derval O’Rourke made history in recent weeks as she became the first Irish female sprinter to become world champion by claiming gold at the World Indoor Athletics championships.

The UCD graduate qualified safely from her heat in 7.93secs. Continuing her significant progression this season, Derval eased through to the final as the fastest qualifier in a national record of 7.87secs. In the final, the UCD graduate lined up in lane three, between Spain’s Glorie Alozie and Susanna Kallur of Sweden.

Showing great maturity, the 24 year old Cork woman led from the very beginning and came home in style as

she smashed the national record with a time of 7.84secs.

Soccer:

UCD crashed out of the league cup in dramatic circumstances last Monday week as Dundalk successfully claimed their first scalp of the competition at a wet and windy Oriel Park.

The students finished as runners-up in the cup last season after being defeated by Derry City at Belfield Park. In a similar vein to their defeat of Shelbourne in the semi-finals last year, the boys in blue were slain by two injury time goals.

As expected, UCD rested several first team players as David Last and Mark Clohessey made their debuts. Gary Dicker and Alan McNally returned after missing the win in Waterford due to injury. There were also appearances for Aaron McEniff, Ronan Finn, Derek Doyle and Kieran Harte.

The home side took the lead shortly before the break through Niall Hudson, but UCD gained the advantage in the second half and equalized through a superb goal on 75 minutes from Paul

Byrne, who drove home from all of 35 yards before being booked for taking his shirt off in celebration. It was Byrne’s fifth goal in 426 minutes of senior football for UCD.

UCD were cruising towards the next round as Conor Sammon struck with his first goal for UCD five minutes from time. Dundalk responded by throwing everything at the students with four strikers leading from the front.

It was a former Belfield Park stalwart in the shape of Philip Hughes who pegged College back as the tie drew to a close and the night looked set for extra-time. But just as at Tolka Park last September, there was to be a final sting in the tale. Paul Marney grabbed the winner to seal Dundalk’s second victory over UCD in the last ten years.

Rugby:

The future of UCD rugby has brightened in recent weeks, as a record number of UCD players were selected to various representative sides both at interprovincial and international level. On Tuesday 28th February, the AIB

Club International Irish 22 man squad was announced at a media conference in Dublin. Both Stephen Grissing and UCD club captain, Kevin Croke have been named for the clash against a Scottish side on Friday 10th March in Donnybrook.

There was one particular inter-provincial fixture that took place, in which UCD was heavily represented. College had no less than eight players on the Leinster Academy squad who played a Welsh-touring side in Stradbroke on the Saturday afternoon.

Boxing:

For the second successive year, the UCD amateur boxing club has dominated the Irish Universities Senior Boxing Championships. The boys in blue claimed three Irish Senior Titles and were represented in six finals.

It was Peter Taylor who claimed the first of College’s Senior Titles, before being followed shortly after by Nicolas O’Brien and Joe Norton respectively. The other three finalists were Kevin O’Hagan, Stuart Alexander and Colm Deeney.

No leeway for Leesiders

A superb display from Darren Quigley in the UCD goalmouth was enough to dislodge league champions Cork City from the top of the eircom League table last Friday night, and clinch a point for the students at Belfield Park.

In the wake of a somewhat shaky start to the season, College went into the game as under-dogs with the influential Gary Dicker on the bench due to a knock he picked up during his side's 1-0 defeat to St. Patrick's Athletic a fortnight ago.

Squaring up to a team that is still unbeaten in all competitions after ten games, a lack of penetration up front always looked likely to prove a stumbling block to the boys in blue hopes of registering their first home points of the season.

In contrast, Cork made the journey north having already scored thirteen goals in all competitions and having yet to concede a goal in the Premier division.

Cork City manager Damien Richardson spoke before the game about the importance of his team's attitude going into the game. "I don't believe in bogey teams or anything of that nature. The only problem you can have in that sort of way is if your attitude isn't correct."

BELFIELD PARK	
UCD	0
CORK CITY	0
COLIN GLEESON	

After the game, Richardson conceded that perhaps his team were found wanting at times in this department. "In the first half, it left a little bit to be desired I have to say because there's no atmosphere here and with the fatigue as well, it becomes not just a physical fatigue but also a sort of mental malaise because it's so hard to generate an atmosphere.

"So once we got back in the dressing room at half-time, we worked at creating our own atmosphere and then the second half performance was much more Cork City. I know we still didn't score, but we were much better, we were business-like, we moved the ball quickly, we created opportunities to create chances which we didn't maybe utilize enough, and then when we did create chances we didn't take advantage of them."

The home side successfully consolidated their impressive record against the leesiders as they frustrated the



Free Kick: UCD prepare to launch another long ball in a game that saw little invention from either side

southerners' game plan from the early stages. The quality of Cork's passing meant that the UCD side were working overtime from the off, as they attempted to gain a foothold in the game.

The first real opening came courtesy of Cork's playmaker on the night, Roy O'Donovan. The winger skipped past central defender Conor Kenna after fourteen minutes and whipped a cross towards Billy Woods, before defender Alan Mahon made the vital interception.

College's chances were few and far between and the home side seemed content to play route one, counter attacking football as they soaked up the

Rebel onslaught. It was Pat McWalter on the left wing who instigated the more significant chances that came their way.

The Leesiders looked uncomfortable in dealing with the high ball at times and some hesitant defending allowed the students in for the odd glimmer of a chance, but the final piece of the jigsaw seemed ever elusive.

Cork City traveled to Belfield Park in the absence of centre half Alan Bennett and last season's FAI eircom League Player Of The Year George O'Callaghan. It was clear as the game wore on that the visitors were missing the influence of the duo.

Damian Richardson spoke about the influence of O'Callaghan in particular. "I think we definitely missed him. This sort of game was made for George, when you've got a crowd in the middle of the park, George can go past two or three people and create something out of nothing, that's his great talent, his great gift.

"But having said that, I wasn't disappointed with the midfield play, I thought we played very well. It's just that maybe from wide, I'm a little bit disappointed we didn't get better quality balls into the box, and more of them."

As the game wore on, it seemed that UCD were clinging on to some

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extent and the traveling Cork support were brought to their feet as striker John O’Flynn was introduced with fifteen minutes to go.

The former Ireland Under-21s star scored a hat trick in Cork’s demolition of UCD in the corresponding fixture last season, but was unable to shake the foundations of a resolute College defense on this occasion.

This was another game in which the boys in blue failed to score however, and UCD manager Pete Mahon has made no secret of his desire to bring a proven goal-scorer to Belfield Park. He was forced to start with two young guns up front last Friday, as Paul Byrne, who was recalled following his goal against Dundalk last week, partnered Connor Sammon.

“It is a big concern but we knew that before the season started and we did try to address the situation in the off-season but it’s very difficult to get players to come here. You know some players have a sort of a stigma about here and plus the fact too that we wouldn’t be offering them the money that some of the other clubs are. But in fairness to our two lads up front, they won’t be playing against a back four like Cork’s again.”

The game finished with chances for both sides, the most notable of which produced a remarkable save from Quigley after a powerful Dan Murray header from a cross that was swung into the danger zone from the right by Neal Horgan. College’s chance to snatch victory came from a one-on-one with Devine for McWalter, which the keeper ultimately snuffed out.

Mahon was optimistic after the final whistle with a result that sees his side climb to seventh position and to the top of the second tier of the eir9com League table, a position he hopes to consolidate during the coming season. “I’m very pleased. We’ve had two good performances now, although it was well due after the abysmal shambles we had against Pat’s two weeks ago here.

“We’ve got back to something like our own selves the last couple of games, against Waterford last week and now tonight against Cork, who are an excellent side. But now we’ve got to concentrate on a very big game we have here next week against Bray, a real six-pointer.”

	P	GD	Pts
Drogheda Utd	4	3	10
Cork City	4	2	8
Derry City	3	3	6
St. Pat’s Athletic	4	1	6
Sligo Rovers	4	-1	5
Dublin City	4	-1	4
UCD	4	-2	4
Shelbourne	3	0	3
Longford Town	3	0	3
Bohemians	4	-1	3
Bray Wanderers	3	-1	2
Waterford Utd	4	-3	2

UCD - Quigley, Mahon (Matthews 88), Ryan, Kenna, McNally, Hurley (Dicker 57), Cawley, C Byrne, McWalter, P Byrne (Doyle 75), Sammon

Cork City – Devine, Horgan, Murray, Lordan, Murphy, O’Donavan, Gamble, O’Brien, Woods, Beehan (O’Flynn 75), Fenn

Bigger stage beckons for Quigley

COLIN GLEESON

UCD’s star goalkeeper Darren Quigley has drawn the gaze of both Steve Staunton and Alan Kelly in recent weeks.

The young goalkeeper has repaid the faith shown in him by manager Pete Mahon with a string of man of the match performances, including an outstanding display against league champions Cork City last Friday night, since his arrival two seasons ago at the age of seventeen.

The UCD man has become a regular feature in Don Givens’ U-21’s side and has recently stated that he feels he is in with a significant chance of making the leap to the senior team as a result of Steve Staunton’s appointment to the post of national manager. “Steve Staunton is really taking an interest in the underage players and you feel that you have a chance.

“He came out to Madeira to watch the U-21s in the tournament that we won, and I have had chats with both Staunton and Alan Kelly. I even got to train with Alan Kelly and Shay Given before the Sweden game, that was a brilliant experience and I learned so much. Hopefully I can keep progressing with UCD”.

The Dubliner has also stated that he harbours aspirations to one day follow in the footsteps of Kevin Doyle and complete a dream move to England. “My first go at it in England (with Manchester City) didn’t work out and I would love another chance and maybe UCD could be the stage for me to do that.”

It has been reported that Quigley has drawn interest from a number of cross-channel scouts after clocking up fifty consecutive league appearances for Mahon’s side. “You look at what Kevin Doyle has done since leaving Cork City and you know that things can happen for you if you’re good enough and you work hard.

“I have heard whispers about scouts watching the games



Darren Quigley: Aiming across the water

but I’m not worried about that, I’m just concentrating on doing well for UCD and getting points on the board. My contract is up at the end of the season so we’ll see what happens then, but I would love to go to England if the offer was right”.

UCD manager Pete Mahon spoke after his side’s draw with league champions Cork City and admitted after that the students would miss the young Dubliner should he be tempted away from Belfield. “Well I’m not surprised there are scouts on to him. Anyone who saw him here tonight, his handling was impeccable.”

Mahon was also adamant however that “Darren Quigley is under contract here until the end of the season and he’s still a young lad, learning and getting the best of tuition here from Eddie Wallace. He’s after coming on leaps and bounds, I mean you must remember he’s still only twenty so he’s in pole position now with the Under 21 team as well. Alan O’Neill (Ireland U21s Goalkeeper Coach) was watching him here tonight and he had to be impressed.”



College suffer Leinster Cup hangover

A heavy away loss to Alexandra College last Saturday afternoon did little to spoil what was a wonderful season for the UCD Ladies Hockey team who won heir first Senior Cup in 50 years.

In a game that noticeably lacked a real competitive edge, the home side’s more clinical manner in front of goal proved the difference in the end.

After the game, Coach Tom O’Donaghue announced his resignation from his position after two years at the helm. Speaking after the game, an emotional O’Donaghue paid tribute to the entire panel and back-room staff but felt that the time was now right to move on.

“I was very lucky to be over such a talented and motivated bunch of girls and

MILLTOWN	
OLD ALEXANDRA	3
UCD	0
COLIN BREHENY	

I have really enjoyed my stint in charge. The commitment is a lot though and we all still have the day jobs to think about. The family have to come first too and I’m looking forward to spending more time with them”.

In a game that was to have little bearing on the league table either way, Alexandra College struck first blood on the half hour mark when Anya Bowers scored a highly dubious goal from a penalty corner. The

Alex captain’s attempt looked to be higher than the allowed eighteen inches when it beat Pamela Smithwick in the UCD goal, but the goal was allowed to stand despite protests.

UCD were outnumbered by four to three across midfield and their formation made it very hard to feed a good quality of ball up to Fiona Braddish, Roisin Flinn and Eimear Horan in the danger area. This, combined with their reluctance to hold on to the ball and attack the opposition, was probably to be their downfall in the end.

When Alex’s second goal came just after half time from the stick of Gillian O’Shea, the Milltown outfit could look forward to their pints in the local Drooping Well with greater ease. Amidst a deluge of rain, O’Shea latched on to a great pass from Ann Marie Cullen to rifle the ball to the net. And on the cusp of full time, Jan Perrin added a third goal to wrap up proceedings.

Coach Tom O’Donaghue concluded that he was not too disappointed with the result and felt that there was still plenty to come from the girls in the future, “I don’t think the final result gives a fair reflection of the game as a whole. They took their chances, we did not. We have the Senior Cup in our possession which is the most important thing. And we have finished

well up in the league as well which is also nice”.

	P	GD	Pts
Loreto	17	23	39
Hermes	15	26	38
Pembroke Wanderers	17	19	33
Old Alexandra	16	24	31
Railway Union	15	22	31
UCD	13	7	22
Corinthian	17	-13	11
Three Rock	17	-27	10
Dublin University	17	-43	7
Clontarf	16	-38	5

UCD: P Smithwick; H Jenkinson, F Flinn, N Herlihy, S Gleeson; J Burke (capt), C Quinlan, A Keating; F Braddish, R Flinn, E Horan. Subs., E Balbirnie, L Jacob.



SPORT

THE LOSS OF HONOUR | MID-TABLE SUCCESS
DOWN THE LINE PAGE 24 | AIL REVIEW PAGE 38FAI to
give
UCD the
boot

The FAI are preparing to implement a rapid restructuring of the eircom League, which could see UCD kicked out of the top-flight as early as 2007.

UCD manager Pete Mahon has attacked the new plans. "It will be cloak and dagger stuff, whatever way it goes. I recently spoke with the Chief Executive of an eircom League club, who told me he had been contacted by another club. It was suggested to him that if it was to come down to a vote on who would stay in the Premier Division, UCD wouldn't get the vote."

Mahon's revelation that a degree of collusion between clubs is taking place leaves College with little chance of succeeding in his view. "It's all about politics today, not football. I was brought up to believe that it is about what you do on the pitch, not in boardrooms or offices that counts."

Obviously discomforted by the actions of those at the top, namely the Association, Mahon had harsh words for the FAI and their Chief Executive. "The FAI would want to get the finger out, because they are being left behind. They can list off statistics, that so and so numbers of children are participating in the sport, but in reality, we (football) are playing catch-up to Rugby and GAA."

"Take this weekend and Munster (rugby) for instance. This is one province. Their fans will easily fill

BEN BLAKE

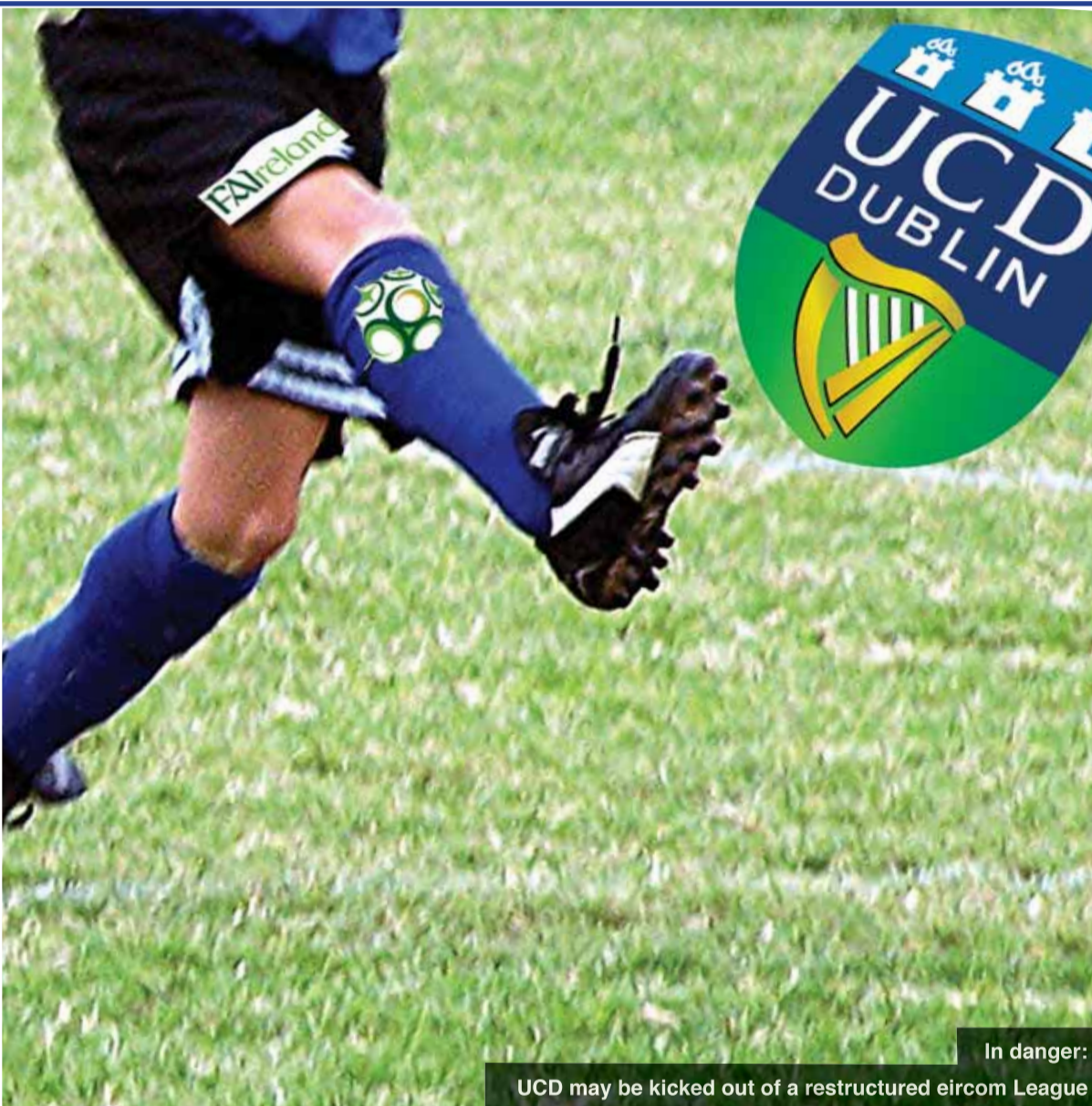
Lansdowne Road while the game will also be shown on national television. They are run and publicised professionally. The FAI would want to take a leaf from their book, because they are only coddling themselves." Television coverage of the eircom League is limited to an hour slot every Monday night as well as the odd league or Setanta Cup game.

"Getting back to our situation, we are very vulnerable. We are going to have to finish so high up in the league to prevent them sending us down." Whether or not a top-half finish in this season's campaign would be enough to secure a spot remains unclear, which is something that Mahon is furious about.

He is determined to do what he feels is best for the club, and if necessary, he will fight his corner. "I've heard Dublin City may take the case to UEFA and the courts. If push comes to shove, UCD may be pursuing that path. I'll tell you one thing, we won't be found wanting when it comes to legal power."

FAI Chief Executive, John Delaney, however, is adamant UEFA clearance is not needed for the go-ahead. "I don't think so. What happens here is that the eircom League is winding up as an entity and the FAI is taking the step of asking clubs to be in an FAI Premier League."

The scheme is part of the Genesis

In danger:
UCD may be kicked out of a restructured eircom League

Report, which issued a plan of action in 2002 with several suggestions aimed at aiding the organization's goal of fulfilling its full potential. Among them was the merging of the FAI and the Republic's premier divisions, including the eircom League.

In January, a proposal was released on the setting up of a new national league. In order to combat the continuous rotting of the second tier, namely the First Division, and make the two financially successful, the league format was to be altered. To the surprise of many, the new structure would be in place for the start of the 2007 campaign.

Details of the move are at this point unclear. What is known however is that the current 22 eircom League clubs will be assessed under headings such as

structural, financial, club licensing, geographical and historical attendance figures. Those complying with the criteria will then be invited to a Premier Division. Speaking recently, John Delaney was giving little away.

"I think when we map out the criteria; the clubs will understand what I mean. The FAI will ask for a number of clubs to be in a FAI Premier League or whatever the terminology may be."

As the FAI appear to be playing their cards close to their chest for the time being at least, there is much confusion as to what exactly is going to happen. The issue is certainly not as black and white as Delaney puts it, and many people are insisting that questions should have been answered before the beginning of this season.

For example, Shamrock Rovers

have been touted as a "big club" who are probable to receive an invite. The most successful club in Irish history, Rovers dominated the league and cups throughout the last century. But that is in the past. Now plying their trade in the First Division, the Hoops presently remain homeless as the dispute over a move to Tallaght rumbles on.

Just last week, six local GAA clubs began a protest to push for the pitch to be built to accommodate Gaelic football and hurling. An inclusion in the new national league's top flight would surely spark outrage in clubs such as UCD and Dublin City, who look like losing out. While their fan-base may measure as relatively low in comparison to others, UCD possess their own home ground, and unlike Rovers the two look to be in financial stability.

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