

COLLEGE TRIBUNE

THE DIFFERENCE IS WE'RE INDEPENDENT

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COLLEGE TRIBUNE
THE DIFFERENCE IS WE'RE INDEPENDENT
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with AIB



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Brady issues blanket ban on new protocol

- UCD sign poaching protocol
- College refuse to comment

UCD President Hugh Brady has put a blanket ban on all comment from his staff regarding the recent poaching controversy. Communications responded to queries from the College Tribune by stating that they could not go against the president.

After immense political pressure and comments made by Minister for Education Mary Hanafin, UCD last week signed a long awaited protocol agreement with the other six heads of the country's universities, and brought an end to the poaching fiasco.

The pressure that Brady has come under during the summer months was based around allegations from other universities in the country that UCD was poaching members of staff from other colleges.

The protocol that has been signed is effectively a watered down version of the draft that Brady refused to sign in the past number of weeks. But the president has now refused to answer questions posed by the College Tribune about the ramifications of this new protocol to the college.

Brady stated prior to the new agreement that his problem with the draft stemmed from the fact that "essentially a phone call between two university presidents could block a member of staff from moving from one university to another." While Brady declined to comment on the issue, The College Tribune understands that this particular issue has been resolved.

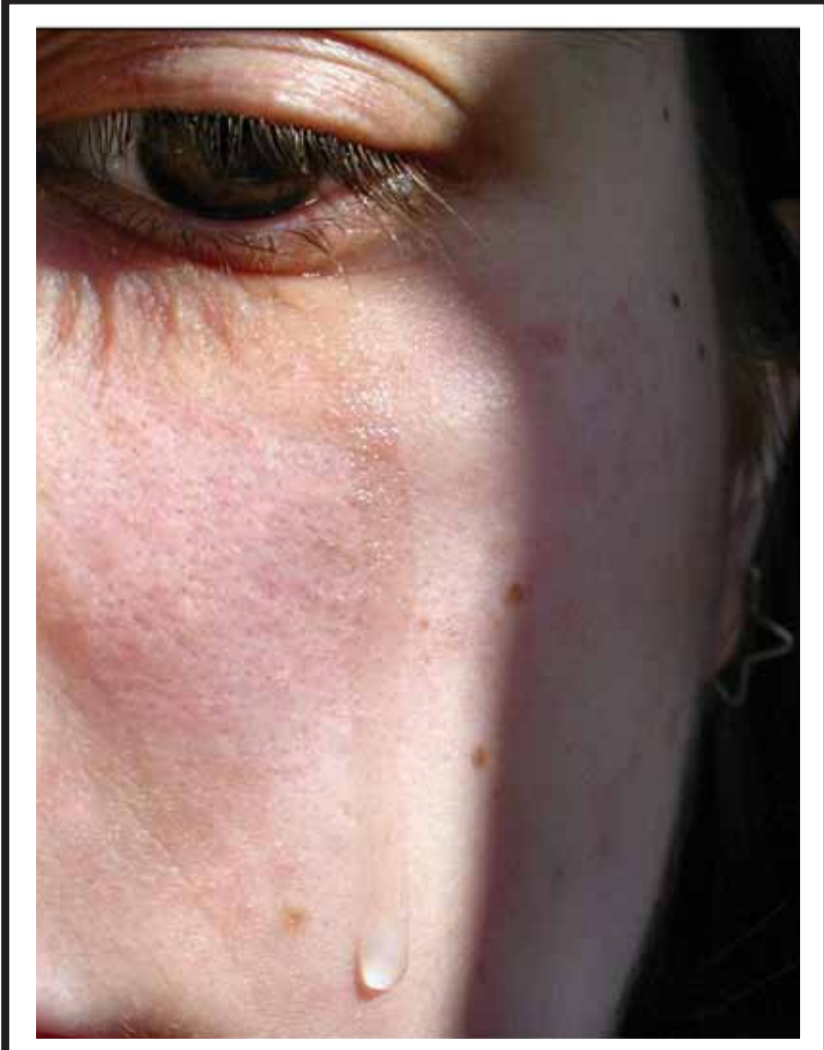
Colin Gleeson

The president also stated that the protocol should "ensure that there is an appropriate amount of mobility (for staff)." He also declared, "six months ago we launched a major recruitment drive in UCD to ensure that we could compete and win on the international stage." When asked if UCD could still compete internationally as a result of the new protocol, the college refused to comment.

The protocol states "recruitment of academic staff shall be open and transparent and on the basis of international best practice." According to international best practice, universities are obliged to advertise for positions they wish to fill. However, Brady stated before this protocol was signed, "UCD does not poach. UCD advertised nationally and internationally about six months ago."

This is contrary to comments made by the president of NUI Galway, Dr. Iogáid Ó Muircheartaigh, who stated overtures were recently made to encourage a research team at NUI Galway to move to UCD, though no public advertisement of any kind was involved.

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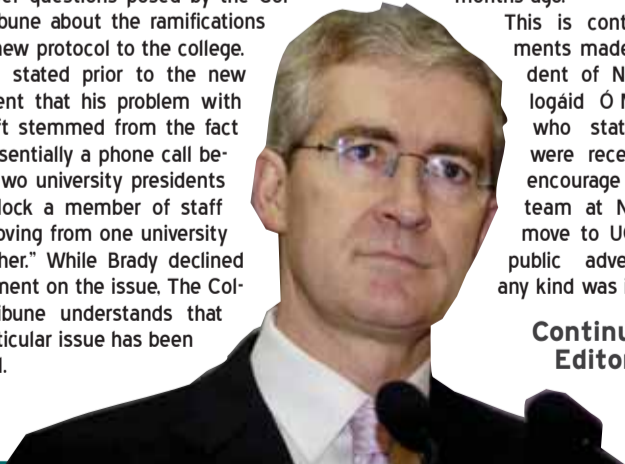


"If you say, 'These are the evil people', and then you indulge in satisfying your intelligence or your security by making people scream and whinge and wish they had never been born, you're a dead man. You're finished."
Robert Fisk makes the case against torture. Page 20

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Colfer resigns over B&L coke deal

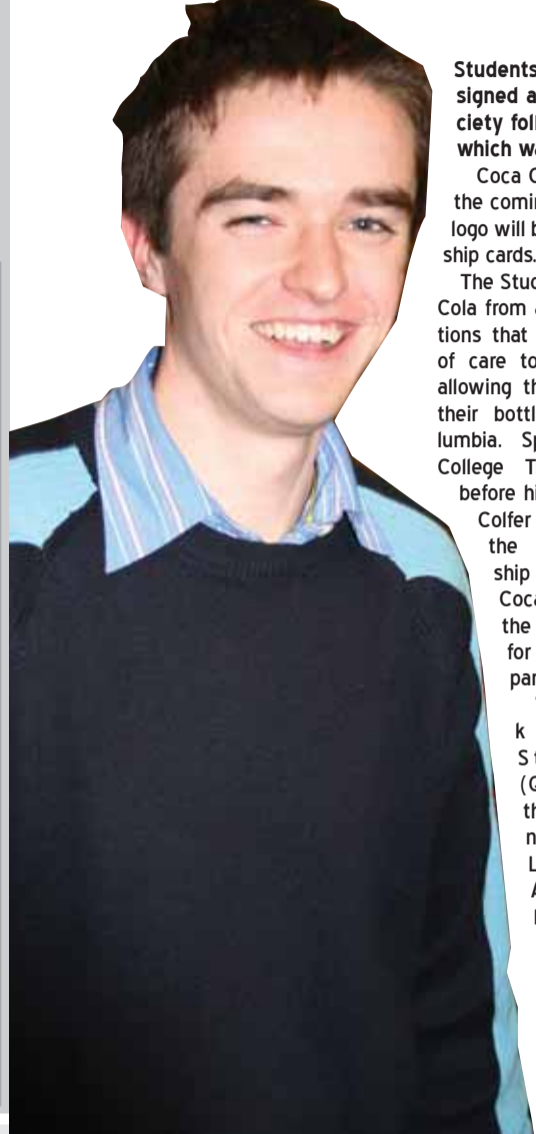


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Barry Colfer: Stood down from B&L following Coca-Cola involvement

Students' Union Welfare Officer Barry Colfer has resigned as Secretary of the Business and Legal Society following a sponsorship deal with Coca Cola, which was struck for a fee of 1500 euro last week.

Coca Cola have become a membership sponsor for the coming academic year, which stipulates that their logo will be present on all Business and Legal membership cards.

The Students' Union holds a mandate that bans Coca Cola from all Students' Union shops because of allegations that Coca Cola neglected their duty of care towards their employees in allowing them to be attacked in their bottling factory in Columbia. Speaking to The College Tribune shortly before his resignation, Colfer highlighted the sponsorship deal with Coca Cola as the reason for his departure.

"I've known Stephen (Quinlivan, the Business and Legal Society Auditor) for a long time and I've been involved with the society for a long time. I do love it and I've always gotten a lot out of it. I was elected secretary at the end of last term, but unfortunately, this is one point on which Stephen and I don't agree.

"And it's with great regret, that this evening there will be a committee meeting which will be my last committee meeting. I sent a letter to Stephen last week asking



Colin Gleeson

him to respect my wishes that the ties (with Coca Cola) be severed. He wasn't in a position to do this, so unless the situation is resolved, I'm going to have to hand in my resignation this evening with immediate effect.

"And I don't have a great problem doing it, because there is a very strong committee there. Obviously, my initial worry was that after the work, we put in over the years and the good thing we had going, I didn't want to be letting down my friends and fellow committee members.

"For me anyway, it wasn't a question of money (regarding the acceptance of the sponsorship). I feel I wouldn't be able to be Vice-President of the Students' Union and uphold its constitution and policies and also be the secretary of a society that has anything to do with coke."

Speaking to The College Tribune, Quinlivan stated "Barry feels that we shouldn't accept the money, and I've taken that on board, but at the same time, he is only one member of the committee and there's thirty-five of us who feel we should accept the sponsorship. So while I respect Barry's wishes, I still do not feel that we can turn down the sponsorship."

President of the Students' Union, Dan Hayden, stated that he understood Colfer's decision to step down and that his membership to the society was "of no concern to me. It's his own personal decision."

Triboku

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CTN set to grace the airwaves

This Freshers week finally heralds the arrival of Campus Television Network to our screens.

The television network which was introduced to the campus in the development stages last year has reached maturity and is set to grace screens all over campus sometime in the next fortnight.

Head of CTN Pamela Newenham couldn't give an exact date just yet but insisted everything was ready to go. She said she is extremely happy with the progression of the project and thanked all those who stuck with it.

She went on to say that "CTN was and still is a long term project. I think people expected it to just pop up on their screens but that's not how it works. It takes time and effort, camera crews, editing times, insurance and broadcasting licences, the list is virtually endless but luckily I had such a great crew around me."

When asked whether she felt any obstacles were put in her way in the past year, she said that she had received tremendous support from the college. Her only complaint was that despite having gotten the go ahead from them, CTN were still awaiting the money promised to them, and in turn the licensing and insurance brokers among various others were waiting on her to be paid.

She assured the College Tribune that the station would be "up and running in no time at all and everybody was very excited about it."

All of the filming that was done during the past academic year and was composed



Broadcasting House: CTN has been filming yet no programmes have aired

Owen Priestley

mainly of student designed and produced shows as well as events such as the Freshers' Ball and other events.

CTN will also make its online broadcasting debut around the same time and all the footage will be available. They are also moving towards making all of the footage Podcast accessible so students can watch their college friends during their lectures.

The station will be available for viewing anywhere on campus including the residences and student centre. A national newspaper recently hailed the Campus Television Network as a large contributor to the attractiveness of UCD.

Don't see a good name wasted

The summer months again saw the issue of corporate funding in the public educational sector raising its head in relation to UCD.

This time, the debate has broken out between a leading alcohol specialist and the drinks corporation Diageo.

Dr. Thomas F Babor, head of the Department of Community, Medicine and Healthcare at the University of Connecticut has asked UCD to return the 1.5 million euro it received from Diageo to conduct research into the hazardous drinking of young adults.

The academic made the comments in the respected journal Addiction. "We do not think that UCD wants to diminish its well earned reputation for academic excellence by taking money for research that will inevitably raise suspicions as to its reliability and objectivity," he wrote.

Diageo, the large drinks multinational that owns Guinness, Smirnoff and Baileys among others has fervently denied the allegations. Speaking to the College Tribune, the company's Corporate Relations Director Michael Patten rejected claims that Diageo will be using the findings for any form of advertising or public relations venture.

Mr. Patten stressed, when asked

about Dr. Babor's comments, that they were "Regrettable because they were uninformed" and categorically denied that Diageo would have any influence over the design or findings.

UCD claims that the research programme will be exploring health-related behaviours, particularly excessive alcohol consumption, and how people process risk and how this impacts on their subsequent behaviour.

Two professors, Colm Harmon of the School of Economics and Patrick Wall of the School of Public Health and Population Sciences will lead the program.

Questions have been raised by Dr Barbor as to why this reasearch is being funded now, considering that the Department of Health and Children has already issued two very detailed and extensive reports on Irish students drinking and advertising in the recent past.

The controversy has again raises questions about whether the lack of public funding for Irish third level institutions has left third level education increasingly reliant on the corporate world, with potentially serious repercussions for the independence and credibility of any research carried out and funded by big business.

Enda Duffy



Dr. Babor called for Diageo money to be returned



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Registered Chaos



Computer system taken down during first week enrolment

The first week of term brought frustration upon freshers and returning students alike when the system designed to make the registration process easier crashed.

The computer system had to be taken offline due to mass confusion over how the system worked. One first

Owen Priestley

year arts student said, "I'm just so confused and no-one seems able to help".

The system was taken offline early last week as the amount of students logging on caused the system to not function properly. It was down for numerous hours and contributed to a growing sense of angst among the students that they would not be able to get into the class they wanted.

The college said "the actual system was ready on time but there were issues around class capacities. Timetable clashes is a perennial problem and not so unique to this year. The college representative went on to say that the "the primary driver behind the early enrollment facility was to provide a system that would let students view a cross-university timetable so that they could select their modules subject to class sizes and timetable.

Too many users were not the only problem however. The system was not responding as designed, because it failed to inform the students when they were unable to take a class causing even more confusion when students were told they had to go back and start all over again.

The system for many students recorded only 55 credits when 60 credits were required and all available options were exhausted. The fees section of the website failed to respond to when fees were paid hindering the completion of the registration process with some students receiving numer-

ous bank giro in the mail.

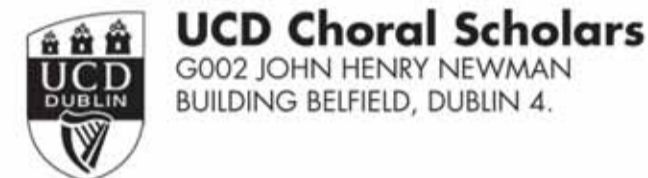
Rodney Thom head of the School of Economics in UCD told his students to just "wait until the entire system is fixed and remain going to the classes you wish to attend in the coming semester."

The system received criticism campus wide for its inaccessibility, especially when it was impossible to log on to Student Information Services for most of Monday and Tuesday. However, final year students, who although equally affected by the glitches, recognised that the college was moving in the right direction, hailed the idea.

These students said they much preferred the new system regardless of the flaws that had yet to be ironed out. They saw the system as "a welcome alternative to spending half of your first day lining up around the Tierney building" where in recent years registration was done manually and was extremely time consuming.

The new registration system now in use at UCD involves students enrolling for their classes online, choosing electives, paying fees and applying for accommodation. It can be accessed through your SIS account and initially through www.ucd.ie.

The process is available until the end of this month for first years and up until 22 September for all returning students. Any additional help is available at the help desks located outside Theatre O and P. The system is up and running properly again and the college have reassured students that the problem has been resolved.



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Application forms can be downloaded at www.ucd.ie/choralscholars
Closing date for return of applications to UCD School of Music(J301) is
5pm on Friday 22nd September



Continued from page one

Brady issues blanket ban on new protocol

Much of the public dissatisfaction with regard to Brady's recruitment techniques were down to the fact that he was issuing general advertisements to build up certain sectors of the university, rather than advertising specific posts. Criticism was centred on the fact that UCD advertised various levels of appointment.

The protocol goes on to state, "universities shall undertake to safeguard public investment in strategic research programmes." As a result, the seven university heads must work to ensure that public investment will not be wasted as a result of one university poaching a member of staff and offering to pay them a higher salary, and thus offer no additional value to the country's investment.

It also states "universities shall be mindful of the areas of strategic importance of each university...universities in seeking to develop new or existing research areas shall critically examine the potential for collaboration with other institutions currently active in these areas and collaborate where there is distinct added value to be achieved."

Put simply, the protocol states that universities must develop centres of



Happy: Mary Hanafin

research by collaborating with each other rather than attempt to poach staff.

The protocol was warmly welcomed by Minister for Education Mary Hanafin, who stated "Collaboration between universities in areas of strategic development is a vital part of our efforts to develop world-class teaching and research excellence within the Irish higher education system.

"The relatively small size of individual Irish higher education institutions in international terms means that a collaborative approach is imperative if we are to achieve the full potential of the government's investment in higher education."

SIPTU stand down

The proposed industrial strike by SIPTU members has been averted for the time being.

On Monday September 11, the unionised staff of UCD was planning to abandon lecture plans and confront the college over issues ranging from fixed contracts to previously dismissed members of staff. The strike would have had maximum effect in disrupting schedules on the first day of term.

Members of the Student Union were concerned and contacted SIPTU officials and asked that the strike be postponed. SIPTU acknowledged how difficult the strike would be for the student body and recognized the importance of the students on Campus.

Following this in a recent meeting of SIPTU members in UCD held to acknowledge that SIPTU had made "major gains in creating permanent jobs for members who were on fixed term contracts and will use this precedent to create further permanent jobs." it was decided that the strike was to be postponed.

The reason given by the SIPTU officials for the turn around was that the Union members had received great concessions from the college authorities and that pending the

Owen Priestley

meeting of promises there would no immediate further talk of striking.

The workers union will now enter a two-month negotiation period with the college with the full committal of College President Hugh Brady and gave a commitment to the labour relations committee to honour the agreement.

It was stressed that if the college were not to live up to their responsibilities over the matters discussed then the threat of further strike action would be put to the SIPTU members immediately. Further general meetings will be scheduled to discuss the progress of the negotiations.

According to the SIPTU website "the industrial action has been deferred for two months. During this time, UCD will have to implement changes regarding the hiring and treatment of fixed term workers. If SIPTU members are not happy with the pace of change, the strike will go ahead in eight weeks' time." This could potentially cause more concern, for UCD students,



SIPTU: Rallying the troops

as this come shortly before exams are scheduled to begin.

The website went on to note that "SIPTU had referred 21 individual cases to the Rights Commissioners regarding workers who were being kept on fixed-term contracts but where the Union believed a permanent position existed. The majority of these workers have now been given permanent positions. Four remaining cases will go to through the normal industrial relations process."

A college spokesperson commented that the UCD human relations team was "already working with SIPTU on the issue of fixed term workers before the threat of industrial action was announced." She

went on to say that the Labour Relations Commission aided them in the conciliation process. She said the result was the formation of a "joint working party to provide a mechanism for consultation with the unions in relation to the elucidation and interpretation of the university's fixed term contract policy."

The SIPTU representative went on the offensive, stating that the unionised staff of UCD was dealing with a "quite cut throat neo liberal management who want to accomplish their goals at the staffs expense. If we want to rectify it we can go into management and say this is not on."

However he went on to concede, "We don't have that level of organization to accomplish this. We don't have the depth

in coverage in terms of shop stewards to carry through such a plan of action."

The union was unanimous in its decision to defer strike action and called on its members to encourage other members of staff to join the union and get active in pursuit of a better working environment for all staff at UCD. The college replied concerning further industrial action that both sides had agreed to follow the normal industrial relations procedures.

In other college SIPTU related news, SIPTU's Education Branch Organiser, Chris Rowland, welcomed on the 16th September the decision of the Irish Universities, in particular UCD, to use international best practice in recruitment of academic staff.

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UCD Students' Union

Q soc wrestle back society status

Q Soc return subject to strict conditions

Q Soc are set to make a return to campus in time for Freshers' Week, so long as they abide by strict conditions.

The society is now rushing to get their house in order before Freshers' week begins.

Since its formation almost a year ago to the day, Q Soc have faced tough times as a result of trouble thrust upon them by the recognition committee. Rumours circulated that the society based in the Quinn School of business wouldn't even be returning for a second year.

The Society Auditor Mike Pat O'Donoghue said that the society was "completely defunct." However, the society has been granted a reprieve at the eleventh hour, on condition that it abides by strict conditions laid down in advance of Freshers' Week. Societies officer Greg O'Neill was appointed by the recognition committee to draft up the rules after the committee had met during the year to discuss the future of Q Soc.

After being ratified by the committee and Head of Societies Richard Butler, it was put to Q soc, who stated that they were "more than happy to accept the conditions rather than not exist at all."

The strict conditions outlined stipulate that the society must hold at least five academic events before Christmas.

The society can only run two social events during the year. There must be elections in October for all committee positions and it was stipulated that none of the previous year's committee would be allowed to run this year.

The recognition committee will review the status of the society on three occasions during the year. O'Donoghue hopes that by the time Q Soc are reviewed, the society will have shown that they have become the academically focused soci-

Owen Priestly

ety they were aiming for when it was founded.

He hoped that if they were able to show this, that there would be a possibility that the condition of having only two social events a year would be relaxed.

Nightclub events are a huge source of revenue for societies in UCD. The only complaint that the Auditor had about the conditions was that with only two social events during the year, it would be very difficult for the society to pay for all of the academic events.

He went on to say that the society would be specialising in class parties and academic debates, which are synonymous with losing money. He also stated that they needed the nightclub events in order to make the society as strong as possible and were "aiming to be in the top of societies in the college."

The Q soc committee has taken this giffhorse and has started frantic work of organising a last minute Freshers' week campaign. It is a huge task, which other societies plan for weeks and months in advance.

There were numerous problems that needed overcoming, such as membership cards and t-shirts arriving on time. He stated "realistically most of the Freshers' week gear has a turn around of two weeks and we need them now. I am expecting our membership cards to arrive on Monday night when last year Monday was our busiest day."

It was last years Freshers' Week campaign that solidified Q Soc in the minds of students as a big player in the society circle.

O'Donoghue went on to state that the finances of the society were his



most significant worry. He claimed that sponsorship was a huge issue, and that months and months were required to organise it properly.

And whereas the likes of the Business and Legal Society and the L&H have people working from the beginning of May on securing key sponsorship funds, we started last Friday."

According to an anonymous source within the society, they were extremely concerned about the situation, to the extent that the confusion over whether Q soc would return may have a negative effect on their sponsorship ambitions, which are vital to the well being of the society. "Sponsorship was affected but the founding sponsors have stood by the society this year" and Q Soc were extremely grateful to this regard. Ernst & Young and AIB are the returning sponsors for the society.

UCD Culls development course

UCD's School of Psychology has been forced to cancel a certificate course aimed at involving people with intellectual disabilities in university life due to funding constraints.

The course in Citizenship and Advocacy was launched in order to allow

students with a developmental disability to learn more about communication, advocacy and their rights as Irish citizens in a university setting.

Students participating in the course spent two days per week attending UCD and studied six diverse modules, incorporating wide-ranging disciplines such as Horticulture and Information Technology.

Although only two years old, the Centre for Disability Studies initiative had received wide-ranging support and praise from both students themselves and NGO's involved in working for social and economic inclusion among

Jane Horgan-Jones

people with disabilities.

In addition to its educational value, the course had provided students from a non-traditional background for university entry with the opportunity to experience college life, both social and academic. Earlier this year, the course had also earned UCD the O2 "Ability Award".

However, despite the initial success of the course, prospective students were disappointed to hear over the summer, that the course was not to be continued. Dara Duffy from 'REHAB', which saw three of its members graduate from UCD last year, expressed her disappointment that the course was to be discontinued. "It's a terrible pity, and we would be very supportive of the course being run again in the future."

Although the School of Psychology declined to comment on the matter when contacted by the College Tribune, the University have confirmed that the problem arose due to unforeseen funding issues.

Communications Officer Ellis O'Brien stressed that although she was aware of the significant disappointment at the cancellation, "the school had been faced with a scenario in which the course was costing over twice the amount of money provided for it in funding by FS."

Operating on a limited budget, the School had been forced to prioritise funding allocation and readdress what they should prioritise as their "core business". The University have confirmed that there are no immediate plans to reintroduce the course

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Interviews will be held on Wednesday September 27th and Thursday September 28th.

See www.belfieldfm.ie for further details





Baptism of fire for Quinlivan

Following the B&L sponsorship deal with Coca Cola, Colin Gleeson gauges the reaction from all parties

The news that the Business and Legal Society have decided to accept an offer of 1500 euro from Coca Cola for sponsorship has been greeted with something of a frosty reception.

The Students' Union holds a mandate that endorses a boycott of all Coca Cola products as a result of allegations that Coca Cola neglected their duty of care towards their employees in allowing them to be attacked in their bottling factory in Columbia.

Students' Union President Dan Hayden has expressed his dismay at the decision of Society Auditor Stephen Quinlivan to accept the deal. He stated that "as regards to the Coca Cola sponsorship of the B&L Society, obviously the ban doesn't apply to them and they elected an auditor to make their own decisions.

"But I wish that societies would keep in mind that the mandate is there and that student's don't want Coca Cola sponsored events. They don't want Coca Cola sponsored societies and I would hope, that in future, societies are more mindful of these things. At the same time, we have to respect their processes. But I'm not especially happy about it at all. It was negligent and opportunistic and not with the spirit of what was done."

Speaking to the College Tribune, Quinlivan stated "We're not directly affected by the ban as a society; it just applies to the Students' Union so as far as I can see we are entitled to accept the sponsorship. While the Students' Union has the resources to turn something like that down, we as a society don't. It's a lot of money for us and it does go a long way toward our kicking off the start of the year."

The Coca Cola referendum three years ago was a fiercely contested issue. Speaking to the College Tribune at the time, Richard Waghorn explained that he was running a campaign against the boycott of Coca Cola on three issues. "That Coca Cola are completely innocent of all charges, concerns about the student's right to make a moral decision and also the effects of the ban on the Students' Union revenue."

Asked to elaborate on his claim that Coca Cola were innocent of all charges, Waghorn referred to a court-case in Miami in which Coca Cola were dismissed from a lawsuit brought against them.

Independent research by the College Tribune at the time uncovered records of the case, which culminated in a ruling that Coca Cola could not be held accountable for the activities or wrongdoings of their subcontractors, and thus had no case to answer for.

Finbar Dwyer, however, who was the instigator of the boycott Coca Cola campaign three years ago, stated at the time "people are dying and Coca Cola are accountable." He outlined the details of three alleged murders, two of which he

"I wish that societies would keep in mind that the mandate is there and that student's don't want Coca Cola sponsored events".

Dan Hayden

said occurred within the Coca Cola bottling plants in 1994. He explained that letters were written to Coca Cola about the actions of the paramilitary group, but that nothing was done.

Dwyer went on to claim that in 1996, Coca Cola were written to by Sinaltrainal Trade Union, outlining the

fears they had regarding trade union leadership and, in particular, a man whom they believed was in "specific danger". Dwyer claimed "Coca Cola did nothing substantial and two and a half months later this man was killed on his way to work after being shot ten times."

Contacted by The College Tribune in the past week regarding the fact that Coca Cola have secured sponsorship of the B&L Society, Dwyer declared "They're obviously entitled to do it. But I think for a student organization to do it when the students have quite emphatically said that they don't want to endorse Coca Cola products into the Students' Union is wrong. You'd imagine that such a mandate would be accepted by all societies because they are effectively part of the student body and the Students' Union is the overall actual body of all students.

"It's obviously not going to aid the situation in Columbia that Coca Cola can now claim to be represented in UCD again, when they're clearly not welcome. I think it's a rather callous thing for a society to do because of the fact that this is a human rights issue and they have sought sponsorship from an organization that is banned from the Students' Union. They will obviously pay money to sponsor the society, but it's an incredibly callous way to get money when they're banned for violations of human rights, assassination of trade union-

ists and supporting paramilitaries in what is already quite a dangerous country.

"I think the society are allowing themselves to be used so that Coca Cola can get back in, which is clearly against the students' wishes. I think that one issue that's really important to highlight is that the boycott of Coca Cola has worked because during the years in the run-up to it, several trade unionists had been killed in Columbia, but since the boycott was initiated, no trade unionist has been killed, and the campaign of intimidation has

"The referendum took place three years ago. Anyone in first, second and third year in UCD has never had a say on this issue. I don't think the ban reflects the feelings of the 22,000 students in UCD"

Stephen Quinlivan

calmed down."

Quinlivan pointed out "The referendum took place three years ago. Anyone in first, second and third year in UCD has never had a say on this issue. I don't think the ban reflects the feelings of the 22,000 students in UCD. That referendum had a very small turnout. People who feel strongly about it will vote no, but the general populace doesn't vote. Put it this way, if the 22,000 students did vote on the issue, I think it would be a very very small percentage that would vote to ban Coca Cola."

Dwyer responded, "The referendum took place and there hasn't been a subsequent referendum, so what he's talking about is a hypothetical situation. All you can do is go by the facts, and the facts are that there was a referendum and that referendum clearly stated that students did not want to endorse Coca Cola products."

Quinlivan also declared "My feeling on the ban is that students should not be mandated regarding what they

can and cannot buy, it's a matter of consumer choice. If people don't agree with Coca Cola or what they've done, they don't have to buy it."

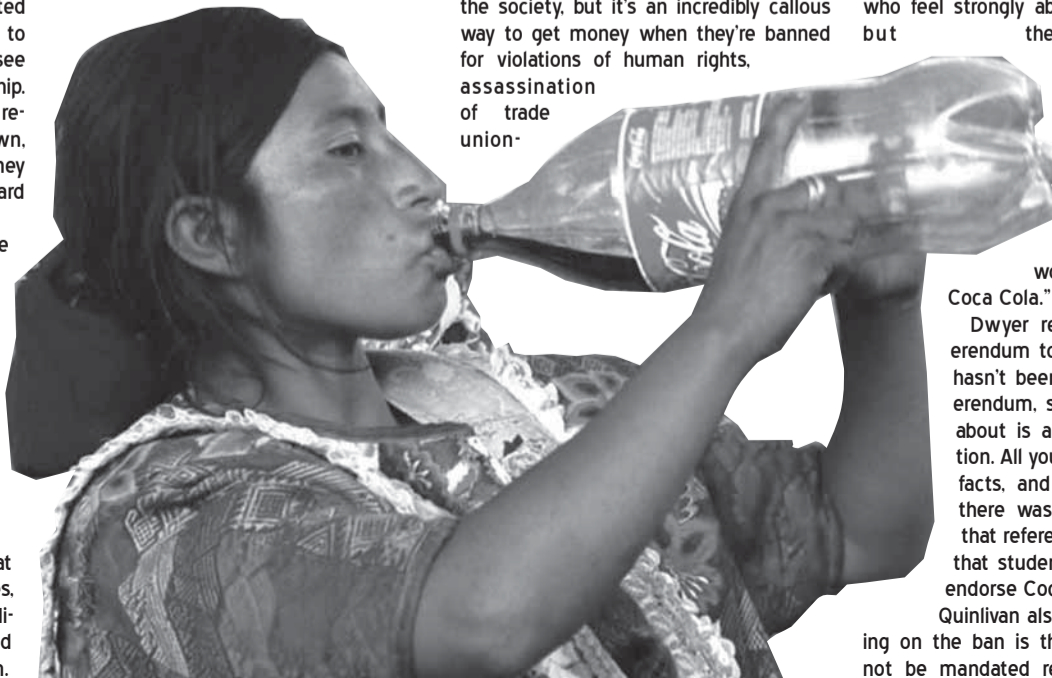
Dwyer was angered by these comments, claiming "This was a huge issue at the time of the referendum, but students in UCD voted that this wasn't a matter of consumer choice but a collective issue. The boycott doesn't say that people can't drink Coca Cola, but it certainly does say that as an institution of the twenty thousand students in UCD, they would collectively boycott Coca Cola. The points about individual choice, in my opinion, are therefore null and void."

There has also been speculation that Coca Cola may attempt to use sponsorship with a UCD society as a means to gather support for a new referendum on the Coca Cola mandate. Quinlivan also explained his feelings on this issue, "It's something I was a bit suspicious about," he stated, "but from my dealings with them, there's been absolutely no mention of that at all.

"And there was a lot of speculation on the newswire that Coca Cola were looking for a society to run another referendum for them. And I was a bit suspicious when they got back to me after I wrote to them, but there has been no indication of that whatsoever."

With regard to this aspect of the issue, Dwyer declared "That's a very hypothetical situation and I'm sure the B&L Society aren't so naive to think that they're not going to be used by Coca Cola. Because of the fact that they can't get in through the Students' Union, they're going to use a society. But I just think that it's an incredibly callous thing to do, to accept money from a corporation that is indicted across the world, not only in Columbia, there are huge question marks over their role in water supplying in India at the moment.

Speaking to the College Tribune with regard to the sponsorship, Coca Cola stated, "Coca-Cola Bottlers Ireland receives a significant number of requests for assistance/sponsorship from a large number of third level clubs and societies on an ongoing basis. The company attempts to meet as many of these requests as it can. We are happy to be able to support students in this way, and that includes the students in UCD."



OPINION

SIPTU still matters

SIPTU plays an integral part in UCD life, argues **Paul Dillon**

The UCD branch of the SIPTU Trade Union has done the UCD community some service.

Their recent success in extracting considerable concessions from the UCD authorities could, if the opportunity is seized, prove to be something of a turning point for those of us concerned about the future direction of the University. As a result of their threat of industrial action, the union made considerable progress around key issues like pensions and job security. But by doing so, they have not only enhanced workers rights in UCD but have provided good example and some inspiration to students who have concerns about the current UCD management.

The issue, which led to the ballot for industrial action, was the UCD management's abuse of fixed term contracts. The ballot for a strike action, supported overwhelmingly by SIPTU members, led to planned action for September 11th. The action was averted when UCD management caved in to the Unions key demands.

However, the SIPTU campaign action has the potential to resonate beyond their recent victory. It is proof that the policies of the Brady administration are not inevitable. The campaigning which led to the administrations cave-in also suggests that issues effecting students - from the scandalous registration

The lack of transparency and democracy in decision-making at a senior level is one obvious area of concern

process through to high prices on campus - can be tackled effectively if we are willing to unite and work together.

Perhaps the most exciting aspect of the recent SIPTU action is the scope that is now there for co-operation between students and staff in UCD. At a packed Union meeting on the 9th of September, where Union members discussed the progress that had been made as a result of their campaign, SIPTU education branch secretary Chris Rowland informed those attending that the Union branch was now seeking closer links with the student body. The SIPTU branch have asserted their authority and proved they are a force to be reckoned with. They can now act as a powerful ally in efforts to tackle issues that effect students.

There are many potential areas of co-operation. The lack of transparency and democracy in decision-making at a senior level is one obvious area of concern. A genuine effort to establish co-operation - between the UCD students union and the SIPTU branch and between grassroots members of both organisations - is perhaps the only way to bring the university management to heel.

Part of campaigns of co-operation between students and staff must incorporate the development of an alternative narrative on Education to that offered by the current UCD management. In all the hype and spin about the university's future, there is danger that the real meaning of life in the UCD learning community will be lost. The language used by the Brady administration - often unchallenged by a compliant media - reveals an agenda that appears hostile to the concept of education as a public service.

The vision is presented as of one of "modernisation". However, the agenda which priorities competitiveness between Universities rather than cooperation, is sceptical of democratic structures and is increasingly reliant on funding from major capital interests for its realisation, is not modern at all. It is in fact a throwback to a distant era where Universities saw their role as promoting an education that was to support the interests of the elite in society and was divorced from concerns around the common good.

There is a real potential now for the development of an alternative narrative. Equally, there is huge scope for joint student-staff campaigns. If this were to be achieved, we can be confident that substantial progress can be made on the issues that affect us all here in the UCD community.

Paul Dillon is a former president of the UCD Students' Union



Evocative: Kevin Carter's Pulitzer Prize winning photo depicts the horrors that exist in Sudan

Sudan is already our Rwanda

While the gaze of the world is fixed on the Middle East, the true crisis of our time is unfolding unnoticed writes **Eoin Mac Aodha**

By the end of this month the rape, slaughter, mutilation and murder of black Africans by the government sponsored militia is likely to start again in Sudan.

By then the precarious and motley conglomeration of seven thousand African Union troops who are trying to sustain a four month old cease-fire will be expelled.

The US sponsored ceasefire saw the AU provide a barrier around the effected Darfur region of Sudan. However, government officials are now eager to have a free hand in suppressing rebel groups.

While the Middle East takes up most of our international news coverage, Sudan is perhaps the biggest tragedy of the new millennium.

The current conflict dates back to 1955, when the country gained its independence from the yoke of Anglo-Egyptian colonialism. Civil war soon broke out between the Arab dominated South and African North when the Arab led government reneged on promises of enacting a federal system of government.

The conflict lasted intermittently until 1972 when the Khartoum government promised a level of autonomy to the South.

After just ten years of peace the conflict erupted again in 1982 when the government attempted to impose Sharia law on the country as a whole, including the largely Christian south.

The civil war then escalated three years ago when African tribes, mainly from the Darfur region, began attacking government buildings. The government responded both with their own troops and by engaging the services of the janjaweed, an Arab militia responsible for some of the worst crimes in Sudan.

While obtaining accurate figures is difficult, over two million people are now refugees with a similar number if not more in need of aid. The same number have died as a result of the conflict, the majority due to disease and starvation with around two hundred murdered.

That adds up to entire population of Ire-

land either dead or displaced.

The roots of the conflict are largely ethnic, with serious divisions between the Arab dominated government who want a strict Islamic state and the African tribes who largely live a rural and pastoral existence.

The Khartoum government have ordered the withdrawal of the African Union troops to allow them a free hand in Darfur. They have argued vehemently against allowing UN troops into the region and have begun a concerted propaganda campaign among its support base to this end.

This has amounted to training local militias to oppose any intervention and drawing similarities with Hezbollah's "victory" against the similarly interventionist Israeli force.

The reality, the really dreadful reality, is that Sudan is just not important. It has minimal natural resources and is strategically unimportant.

Commentators claim that government officials determination not to allow the UN in comes from their fear that once the true scale of the is revealed the UN will be forced to refer them to war crimes trials tribunal.

Finally, in a country starved of natural resources Darfur contains 75% of the countries oil fields.

Thus far the international community have stood by and allowed this to happen with the UN infamously and to their eternal shame previously declaring that what was occurring did not amount to genocide, leaving them free not to intervene.

The reality, the really dreadful reality, is that Sudan is just not important. It has minimal natural resources and is strategically unimportant. And while it is claimed the government has some links to Al Qaeda, and was home to Osama Bin Laden for a while, in the current 'War on Terror' it's small

fry.

Scant consolation for the two million dead, the two million displaced and the countless generations yet to come who will continue to be affected by the actions of a brutal, draconian and racist government and a Western World that was too busy to stop Darfur from burning.

Articles like this can often be abstract, forgettable and too short to do true justice to a complex and horrific conflict however, please consider this case as reported in the New York Times of the 'Rwanda' refugee camp, named after a similar case of western intransigence:

"Mariam Ibrahim Omar buried her son Ismail in a graveyard near here Wednesday. She was not sure what had killed him, only that he burned with fever, heaved and vomited. She took him to a clinic run by the aid organization Relief International in town, carrying him on her back swaddled in rags, only to find its doors locked and its doctors and nurses long gone. The lone aid organization still operating here is the United Nations World Food Program, usually the last to go in even the direst situation.

"We bought medicines in the market but none of them helped him," Ms. Omar said, her face swathed in black. "He died yesterday and we buried him."

Ismail was 21 months old. They buried him in a growing graveyard on a small rise above the camp. Two bricks stood atop his grave, indicating where his tiny head lay, pointed toward Mecca, as Islamic custom demands.

"Next to his fresh coverlet of earth, men in white robes dug a new pit, deep and wide, to hold the camp's latest casualty. No one was sure how old Halima Batwal was - some said 80, others 90. They dug the loose sand with shovels until they hit hard-packed earth, and then switched to pickaxes to carve a narrow trench for her slender, wasted body."

Eoin Mac Aodha holds an MA in International Relations and is a former editor of the College Tribune

LETTERS

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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.

Enrolment Difficulties

Dear Sir,

I am writing this letter to bring to your attention the huge dissatisfaction many UCD students are feeling toward our college. It began a month or two ago when students began pondering when they were going to be able to enroll in their classes for the coming academic year.

The day was Monday August 28th. At this time, I was away in a remote part of Italy with no internet access. So I figured I would ring home in the meantime and get somebody to do it for me."

"However they were unable to, and only after searching extensively did they find a small paragraph explaining that the date had been pushed back to the second September. I, and a rather large portion of my class-mates were starting to get very irritated at this point. We're not happy about the situation.

Regards,
Anon.

COLLEGE TRIBUNE

THE DIFFERENCE IS WE'RE INDEPENDENT

— Editorial —

Poaching protocol

The poaching protocol, which has been signed by the seven heads of universities, will have ramifications for UCD. As regards to President Hugh Brady's decision not to allow comment on the issue, the College Tribune feels that while there has been a whole summer of media frenzy around this fiasco, it is ridiculous that the college refuses to comment regarding the consequences of the protocol for the college as an entity.

It is understandable that the college wishes to put this issue behind them, especially in light of its resolve, but the fact remains that the way in which this college operates has changed. And the students of UCD have a right to hear from them regarding exactly why Dr. Brady decided to change his mind about protocol, and what this protocol means for the college. Especially in light of the political and public pressure UCD has come under in recent months.

As regards the protocol, the fact of the matter is that very little stands to change regarding the way colleges' acquire staff. As far as the practice of poaching members of staff from other universities goes, colleges are still in a position to do so, providing they are smart enough to do it in a particular way.

The protocol stipulates that recruitment of staff be done in accordance with international best practice. Effectively, it is necessary for a university to advertise a post if they wish to recruit for it. But, as UCD have done in the past, it is possible to put out a general advertisement for a certain sector, rather than an advertisement for a specific post, and still be in accordance with international best practice when appointing staff.

It is important to get to the bones of this issue however. As the head of any university in the world will tell you, poaching is part and parcel of running a university. Every university in the world is in competition and every university in the world poaches. The matter at hand is simply regarding how a university goes about it.

The bottom line with regard to this issue however, is that the protocol has been signed by all seven heads of universities in the country and as a result must be to the satisfaction of all seven universities, thus bringing the fiasco to an end.

Coca-Cola

The issue of the Students' Union mandate against Coca Cola is obviously a highly contentious, and emotive issue. It is also an issue that is somewhat shrouded in propaganda from all sides.

The issue, when it comes to the Students' Union at least, comes across as black and white. People are either Pro-Coca Cola or Anti-Coca Cola. This seems somewhat confusing. In itself, the diversity of opinion on the issue indicates that it is in fact a grey area and anything but black and white, which doesn't make a lot of sense when the allegations that are being made are brought into the equation. This is not an issue that should be a grey area when the allegations, be they true or false, are considered.

There is a real need for transparency with regard to Coca Cola. The fact of the matter is, that the average student in UCD knows nothing about the allegations against Coca Cola, and probably doesn't even notice that Coca Cola are absent from the shelves of the Students' Union shops. It is important that the views of the crowd on this issue do not suck students along but that they make their own minds up based on hard facts.

Therefore, it is necessary for unbiased, independent and indeed comprehensive research of the issues to be made and presented to the students of UCD.

www.ucd.ie/tribune

WRITE FOR THE COLLEGE TRIBUNE

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Fabien Spacca
Money Broker, Interest Rate Options

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THE DIFFERENCE IS WE'RE INDEPENDENT

FRESHER'S GUIDE



**KNOW
YOUR
BARMAN**

PAGE 14

**MY
FIRST
YEAR
BY RTE'S
FINEST**

PAGE 12



WELCOME

First and foremost, welcome to UCD. As the largest and ultimately most daunting university in the country, there are undoubtedly many of you here for the first time and already weak at the knees at the prospect of finding a place for yourself in such a college.

The transition from secondary school to a university is one that is faced with doubt and unease for some time. But have no doubt that this is also a time of new beginnings. A time of opportunity. And a time during which you will develop into the person you are likely to remain for the rest of your life.

So yes, you are absolutely right to feel daunted, but fear not, the College Tribune has put together this short Freshers' Guide in order to ease that transition. Have a leaf through it and decide what you are going to do with this time that has been given to you. The most important thing you can do is remember to get involved in something, because the last thing you want to find yourself doing is heading toward the library just because there's nothing better to do while you wait four bloody hours for that five o'clock tutorial. Bottom line, make the most of it.

DIVE INTO UCD

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



Halcyon Days

We talk to some of RTE's finest personalities to who attended UCD to recall their...

PAT KENNY
LATE LATE SHOW
PRESENTER

"There was no library, no restaurant, no bar, no arts block, absolutely nothing"

My memories would be rather different to the memories of anyone in the post-Belfield era, because I went to Merrion Street to the College of Engineering. So, my first year was divided between three places, Earlsfort Terrace, Merrion Street and the Science blocks in Belfield, which were the only blocks that had been constructed at that stage.

So, if you compare the Belfield today with the Belfield of those days, they were just the chemistry and physics blocks and that's it. There was nothing else on the campus: some playing fields but there was no library, no restaurant, no bar, no arts block, absolutely nothing.

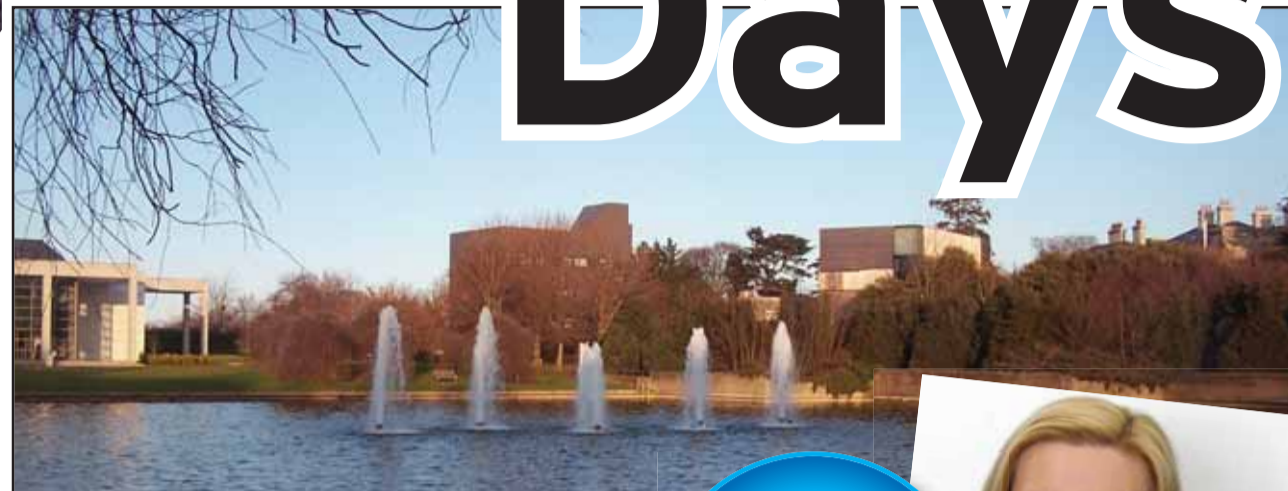
For me, going to college was a massive liberation. I found school to be a bit of a pressure-cooker, and I had watched my brother, who was a year ahead of me, go in to do commerce in UCD and he the life of Reilly. I mean, he had something like eight hours lectures a week and he spent most of his time drinking coffee and meeting girls and all the rest.

It was still a marvellous time though, because of the academic excellence that the Christian Brothers had pushed into me, I actually didn't have to work very hard in first year, so I used to take time off from lectures and hang around with the humanities students in Earlsfort Terrace quite a lot. It was really the beginning of the formation of personality I suppose, a broadening of the horizons that were severely limited in a Christian Brother's school in those days as you can imagine.

Something that dawned on me during my first year in college and I think it's something a lot of people will come to realize, that's that although you decide to do x y or z, you realize very early on that really you can do anything. University education is not the be-all and the end-all, it's only another step towards deciding what you want to do.

A far as drinking goes, there was no bar. But drinking wasn't big on the horizon I can tell you, for a number of reasons really. One was money. People just didn't have the money that seems to be floating around these days. Part-time jobs were scarce, this was a period of relatively high unemployment. What we tended to do was become either postal sorters or postmen at Christmas time and earn a few bob delivering Christmas cards. But money wasn't rife and drinking wasn't a huge part of our culture.

So my advice to anyone going in is to join as many clubs as you can afford to join, and then within two months, you're going to find out which ones you're going to keep on and which ones you're going to let go. If you're sporting, go and do things that you've never done before. If you've never rowed, join the rowing club. If you've never fenced, try fencing, but get involved in college activities because there's nothing worse than sailing through college and your only extra curricular activity has been the Belfield Bar, the lecture theatres and the library. That's no way to enjoy college. College is about forming life-long friendships.



"I remember feeling 'God I've arrived, I'm independent now.' It was a great feeling"

My memories are that I enjoyed every moment of it, from the time, I hit the place until I left. I did Arts and studied French, Irish and German. I remember we went in and we were addressed by the president of the Students' Union, and I'm constantly slugging him ever since, because that was Joe Little who basically told us, 'it's all here for you lads, get up off your arses and go out and find it.'

That there are all kinds of societies and if you're feeling lonely, if you're feeling lost, get up and do it yourself, and once you make the effort, there'll be lots of people here to help you. And he was in his trademark Aaron sweater at the time and we were all hugely impressed by him, and we did just that.

I remember coming home feeling 'God I've arrived, I'm independent now, I'm out on my own and there's no one to hold my hand', and it was a great feeling.

I joined the German society and the French society, but the German society was actually quite good fun because we were quite a small group you know. I was in Dramsoc for a while but did nothing major there.

I spent time in the bar, but I didn't actually drink at the time. I had my first drink on the way to France. So certainly my first couple of years in college, I didn't drink. We were there because they had music and parties there and then we all used to gather in it. There

was a dance on Saturday nights and we used to come over from Clontarf.

You didn't have to bring anyone now; it was just like a disco. They had it in the restaurant. There would be a band on one floor and a disco on another floor. It was great craic.

'Spud' was the great group at the time. They used to have concerts in Theatre L as well. Again they would have featured at lunchtime too, they were huge on the college circuit at the time.

EILEEN DUNNE

RTE NEWS
PRESENTER



"I think the same barman has been there for four hundred years or something"

The memories are good from the point of view that I had an easier time of it than a lot of people. I lived in Fosters' Avenue all my life, which is obviously very close to UCD. I lived there for eighteen years before I even went in. A bunch of people from around me came in so it was easy.

I knew every field and every tree and every part of Belfield. I knew what was there before the building sites. I used to play in the field where the Arts block is. So I knew it backwards. So I was lucky compared to a lot of people who have to come from God knows where, places not even on the map, people trying to get digs and so on, so I can see how easy it was for me.

I knew how to play sports. I loved it and I had a great time, and my house was used quite a bit, it was sort of like 'Oh my God, there's a queue at the restaurant, let's go to Dave's house,' so it was great.

I joined the film society. I wasn't heavily involved in terms of organizing stuff but I went to all Monday night screenings in Theatre L. I saw movies that I wouldn't have seen anywhere else and stuff so it was great. I just paid my money and went to be honest, I never got involved in the running of it.

I would have spent quite a bit of time in the bar. Again, it was just a walk in the woods for me to get home. I was literally only five minutes away, I mean the nearest

bar to my house was the Belfield Bar.

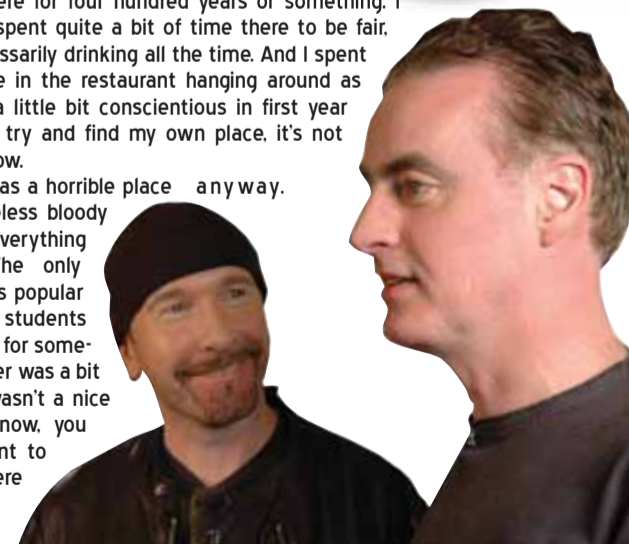
I was there in the early seventies when the bar was directly opposite the restaurant but I don't think the place has changed much. I think the same barman has been there for four hundred years or something. I would have spent quite a bit of time there to be fair, but not necessarily drinking all the time. And I spent a lot of time in the restaurant hanging around as well. I was a little bit conscientious in first year but I had to try and find my own place, it's not easy you know.

The bar was a horrible place anyway.

It was a useless bloody building, everything about it. The only reason it was popular was because students were looking for someplace the beer was a bit cheaper. It wasn't a nice place you know, you wouldn't want to be going there too much.

DAVE FANNING

2FM DJ AND
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Giving it socs...

If you're an innocent fresher, expect to sell your soul for €2 this week says **Jane Horgan Jones**

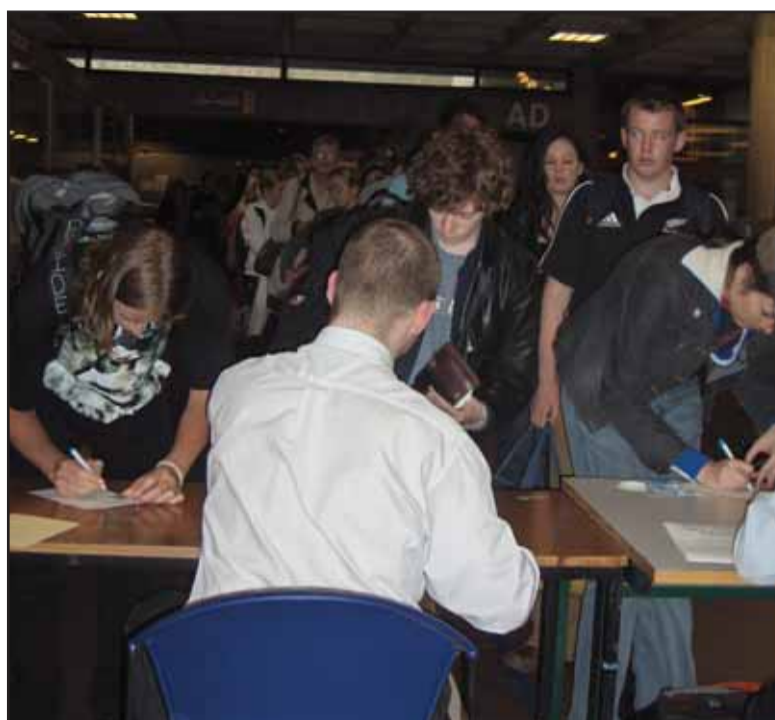
They say that hindsight is twenty twenty vision. And in the case of UCD societies this cliché definitely applies. By the time you reach your final year, you will realise that, like most who have passed through the hallowed gates of Concrete City, your belief that you were immune to the wiles of debating clubs and ways of political societies was misplaced.

You were convinced that, rather than frittering your precious two euro coins away on wild promises and mouldy free Mars Bars, you would calmly, maturely pick one or two societies that held your interest and dutifully attend all events and functions therein. However, what you will eventually come to accept is that making crap decisions in Freshers' Week, wasting perhaps tens of euro, and vehemently cursing those who wronged you for the rest of your time in college is a veritable UCD rite of passage.

Societies in UCD can be divided into three broad categories, although some crossover does occur. In general however, there are societies who just don't give a shit about you, societies who give far too much of a shit about you, and societies who achieve just the right balance of shit-giving.

The first group may be recognised on sight, immediately identifiable by their flashy cards and huge, oversized committees all wearing diamond studded hoodies made of golden spun yarn. For a majority of first-time joiners to these societies, the only tangible evidence of your membership will come in the college media following Freshers' Week, when you see "Membership : 723.468" written beside the name of your chosen society. When you slowly, painfully come to realise that you have just purchased the most expensive roach material of your young life, just consider yourself lucky if they haven't laminated the bloody thing.

"There are societies who just don't give a shit about you, societies who give far too much of a shit about you, and societies who achieve just the right balance of shit-giving"



Start me up: Societies are a great way to spend college life

While understandably frustrating, the experience of a first-time punter with Group One societies becomes almost relaxing when looking at the comparison with the victim of a Group Two attack. UCD is filled with stories of people who, having consumed upwards of twelve cans of Dutch Gold, thought it prudent to make their society choices when the foremost issue in their mind was how to avoid wetting their pants in the middle

of the Freshers' Tent.

Although Group Two specimens are harder to spot than their Group One comrades, their effect is unmistakable. Unfortunately, this will only become totally clear when you're collecting your (second) PhD from the President and are still being emailed by the Trigonometry Society about their "How well do you know your Theorems?" table quiz upstairs in the Forum Bar. Unless theo-

rems are the subject of that PhD you're collecting, it's unlikely you'll be too enamoured with the nice-looking lad who took your money at the stand all of eight years ago. And if they are the subject of your thesis, then you're probably MC'ing that table quiz.

The third group are the most elusive, and usually seem incredibly unlikely contenders for a successful society choice when faced with a thronged Freshers' Tent full of students peddling their wares. Inevitably however, it will be that society you joined on a whim, or the one you never dreamt of joining but got dragged into by a friend, that you remain involved in during all your time in college. You might even reach the dizzy heights of being known as a (insert society name here)-head, and devote thankless hours that might be better spent doing any coursework at all to putting up poster after poster for your chosen society.

However, the most important thing to understand about society life in UCD is that nobody can make these mistakes for you. Realise in advance that you will join some unspeakably shite societies in Freshers' Week, but do it anyway. Sing the praises of those who offer value for money, and use your experiences of being ripped off as material for your expletive-filled diatribes in later years concerning the relative merits of whichever random society happened to fall short of your expectations. Above all, remember in your darkest hour that although you've lost two euro to the bollox with his collar up, he's lost the best years of his life to the furtherance of some shite society.

Sleep, drink, be (very) merry

Belgrove

If you've just moved into Belgrove, congratulations on your arrival at Party Central. 'The Ghetto', as it has become known, is UCD's most exciting residence. It might be a good idea to include 999 on your phone's speed-dial once you've settled in. The stories about Belgrove, which you may or may not have heard, are mostly true.

The most brilliant synopsis of what life in Belgrove is all about dates back two years to UCD's 150th anniversary celebrations. One particular Belgrove bunch decided it proper to celebrate the festivities by doing 150 shots in 150 minutes. This resulted in at least one member of the group hurling himself out the window of his top floor apartment before gingerly picking himself out of the flowerbeds below.

The great perks of living here include the fact that everybody seems to get along. There is a wonderful sense of community. As far as the food in your kitchen and the drink in your fridge goes, people seem to think it belongs to



Cultured: A piece of modern art, Belgrove-style

everybody, so why not tuck in. The best thing you can do is crack open a pack of six dutchy-

g, sit back and enjoy the ride.

Jason Timmons

Merville

OK so the annual on-campus lottery has lumped you into one of Merville's helpfully colour coded blocks. Not to worry it could be a lot worse.

Sure, it is not as classy as your towering neighbour's Glenomena - but that is for stuffy post grads, who have become tired of the frivolous life college all too often lends itself to.

Just thank your lucky stars you haven't been squeezed into the eye-sore that is Belgrove aptly christened the ghetto, or even worse still, pokey old Roebuck where there is barely room to swing a mouse.

No, no, be thankful you have landed a relatively cushy deal at pebble dashed Merville. Ok it may lack a few creature comforts stretching out on the couch in front of the box for an evening is ill advised lest you want to endure severe back problems.

And yes the furniture may be sparse but it is adequate - four beds and four chairs for four people what more do you need? The cooker was picked up on the cheap when the Soviet Union collapsed and boasts a whole spectrum of grotesque stains that have been welded on after years

of neglect by the average amateur student-cook.

But they do contain two functional showers, a godsend when you and your flatmates are late for a nine o'clock lecture. On the whole Merville apartments are comfortably spacious and cosy although tacking a few posters on the wall is recommended to give your apartment that all-important lived in feel a perfect antidote to those homesick blues.

As for the craic, well it features quite high on the mighty stakes. It may not be as boisterous as the ghetto, which can be a blessing at times but the space lends itself to a few good old shindigs over the academic year and the RA's are not as active.

The amount of enjoyment you get out of your year on campus hinges on the overall soundness of the three flatmates. Pray you get at least two on the same wavelength, if so, the year is yours for the making.

Just try not get lumbered with a gay guy who has a penchant for collecting condoms and sketching half-naked men things just get too weird.

Ciaran McIntyre



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Know your



Harry 'the bastard' Perry

Age: 32
Worked in student bar since: 1996
Latest injury: "Broken arm."
Best thing about working in the student bar: "Throwing people out."
Worst thing about working in the student bar: "Having to let them back in."
Funniest Memory: "In 2004, some students managed to put a life size mannequin on the roof of the student bar. The staff along with every-

one else was convinced it was a real person crouching over the edge. The ladder came out and there's me, with hurley in hand, and with a swift "guurup outta dah" realised I had been at the wrong end of a hoax. Presently, the ladder was removed, leaving 2 members of staff on the roof."

How to get on Harry's good side: Respect his authority.
How to get on Harry's bad side: ...

Declan 'the main man' Hyland



Age: 35
Worked in student bar since: 1988
Best thing about working in the student bar: "The party atmosphere that the students bring, and organising the big events with the ents crew is always fun. Getting to see Nigel on the door and having conversations with Noel every day is just another perk!"
Worst thing about working in the student bar: "The summer months when all the staff are climbing the walls because there's no one around."
Funniest Memory: "In 2001 Shane Mc Gowan played the student bar, needless to say"

the place was packed and the man himself looked as if he was at death's door. After a brief visit to the facilities, he perked up, and didn't miss a note. He also didn't as much as flinch when a size 9 boot that some drunken student had thrown, hit him directly in the head! There was also an occasion at Christmas involving students attempting to climb the big Christmas tree and bringing it down with them when they fell."

How to get on Declan's good side: "Be patient."
How to get on Declan's bad side: "Be ignorant."
What Declan needs most: "A cable car running from the Student Bar to the Centre Club."

Gary 'rent boy' Clarke



Age: 28
Worked in student bar since: 2004
Best thing about working in the student bar: "The brotherly love between the staff."
Worst thing about working in the student bar: "Cleaning up after everyone, especially at Christmas! That's always the messiest day!"
Funniest memory: "When it's been raining all day, and at the

end of the night when everyone is outside, students won't listen or move on, then the canapés are pulled in and everyone gets drowned."
Latest injury: "Shot in the leg with a cross bow."
How to get on Gary's good side: Money up front.
How to get on Gary's bad side: Play 'Fairytale of New York'.
What Gary needs most: "More tenants. And that restraining order to be lifted."

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quite a few hours down the student bar. Laura Greene helps you...

barmen

Keith 'hungover' Warren

Age: 30

Worked in student bar since: 2004

Best thing about working in the student bar: "You don't have to work weekends."

Worst thing about working in the student bar: "You have to work weeks."

Funniest memory: "All the favourites are already taken! Last year, some students tried to set the freshers' tent on fire. There were altercations with an extinguisher. Laughing at Harry cleaning toilets is always fun too."

How to get on Keith's good side: Smile, be pleasant and nice.

How to get on Keith's bad side:



Whistle at him and call him Dave.

What Keith needs most:

"Less hours, more smoke breaks."

Noel 'the smart one' Dunphy

Age: 36

Worked in student bar since: 1994

Best thing about working in the student bar: "New people arrive every year so it's never boring."

Worst thing about working in the student bar: "People expect too much at times."

Funniest memory: "In 2005, while the bar staff were cleaning up after closing, some students ran by and tried to enter the bar by breaking the fire door in. So a few of the lads ran after them. The funny part was when the four students found a quite slender tree during the chase back to their student residence and thought that they could hide by simply standing behind it. Four perfectly visible people standing there saying 'shh'."

How to get on Noel's good side: Be respectful and civil.

How to get on Noel's bad side: Pretend to ignore him. "Feet off seats means feet off seats!!!"

What Noel needs most: "A parking space."



Cuisine de shite

Picking the right campus eatery is a like treading through a farmyard - you have to avoid the crap writes **Simon Ward**



If you're anyway human, food is probably something you're going to require during your time in college. Thankfully, UCD is well endowed with a smorgasbord of eateries to satisfy all your culinary desires.

Sadly, this is rather removed from the truth. Campus eateries are greater in terms of quantity than quality.

Perhaps the most obvious place to consider a bite is the rather arrogantly titled 'the restaurant'. Indeed you are presented with a choice the First Restaurant or the Time Out Cafe, or 'Upstairs' or 'Downstairs' as our highly cultured student population refer to them. Generally this is a lose-lose piece of decision making.

Downstairs is a hotbed of varied cuisine - goujons, pizza or 'the dirty great big fry'.

The choice is yours, but the fry up with extra grease is your only man

following a night on the beer. A little higher up is the restaurant proper. Its undoubted highlight is the toast you fix yourself in the corner. Perhaps the fact that you cook it yourself is the key to its success.

You may be tempted by the 'students' special', but be warned, once the clock strikes five in the evening, all chips in the restaurant transform themselves from adequate sustenance to unholy nastiness.

If you wish to venture a little further afield, you could take on the student bar, or curry sauce heaven, as it should also be known. All forms of palatable nosh can be served up, provided it is accompanied by a large dollop of said sauce. On an adventurous day, you might encounter some paella, but more than likely you'll be tucking into a chop of some kind. Which is good. Altogether, their heart is in the right place.

Moving closer to the self appointed campus nucleus - the Arts Block, you can discover Hilpers. Don't let the sign above the door tell you it's the Arts Caf, they're wrong, we're right (and some of

us have been here longer). It's a place where incredible things happen.

Most typically it'll be how fast you're lower jaw will crack against that hard floor when they demand the best part of a fiver for a rudimentary sandwich. The coffee is far from being a tour-de-force, but thankfully it is caffeine laced and strangely addictive.

911 is reheatable chicken central, famed for it's service with smile....born out of confusion. Come here for your wrap/sandwich/roll/deli needs etc. Just leave the coffee for elsewhere.

The best eatery on campus was once O'Briens, the little sandwich bar with a big personality. Based in the sports centre, it was admittedly at the arse end of campus but the lure of a triple decker made the windy soujurn all worthwhile.

Sadly campus Nazis decided to eradicate every human replenishment facility of merit from the sports centre (the sports bar suffered this same fate). Luckily this shambo shambles has been averted with a new O'Briens opening in the fledgeling Heath Service Centre. Marvellous.

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What a scoop

Owen Priestly is your guide as he shows you Dublin's premier hotspots

For a few crusty pints:

For those nights when a skull-crushing beat is not what your body craves, and you don't want to grace the couch for another hour in front of Ryan and Marrison, Lucas and Nathan, Kate and Sawyer, something different is in order.

The city centre is littered with joints where young people can relax and take in the surrounding atmosphere without having to attack the dance floor in some crazy drink-filled frenzy. It's also in the interest of your sanity to steer clear of the dance floors for at least one night of the week.

On campus, of course the Student Bar and Centre Club (Forum Bar for the old fashioned) are more than adequate with everything you need for a quiet drink. If, however, you want to venture off campus, then Dakota tops the polls for one, two or ten not so quiet, but not so raucous drinks.

With a large selection of drinks, this is a great place to relax or start your long night on the tiles. The bar is longer than it is wide, but not so much so that it becomes restrictive like Zanzibar on the quays.

It has a mix of sofas, chairs and tables in the front section of the bar. Towards the back doors of the establishment, there are more seats by a smaller bar and plenty of standing room which still maintains the laid back atmosphere of the trendy South William Street hangout.

It provides a perfect location if the mood changes and you decide to turn it into a bigger night. Located just behind Grafton Street, the list of pubs and clubs in the vicinity is too long to list.

To dance the night away

In a capital city, you will never be short of nightclub spots. The list is endless. So what tops the list in nightclubs to keep you going all night long? The answer is not close to simple.

With students coming from all over Dublin, the two main student clubs are on complete opposite sides of the city. Barcode versus Club 92 is an epic battle that has raged during recent years. Who wins? The answer is neither.

There is one nightclub, which at the minute has everything a student needs for a great night out. Crawdaddy, located on Harcourt Street, has been reinvented in recent years so to become a budding hotspot.

The best thing about Crawdaddy is the lay out. With numerous rooms, it encompasses many moods and this is essentially, what makes the club so accessible to so many students. Division is the key. Each room has a different atmosphere and a

different tempo.

One room is comforted by cushions and couches. The next room is more sparsely decorated with a small dance floor. For those clubbers, out for a great musical experience, don't worry. There is a room there for you as well. The music matches each room well and as there is a bar in each room, there are rarely any complaints.

Drinks offers are always on tap and a night at Crawdaddy is rarely, if ever, a disappointment. With a comfortably sized smoking section for friends of Nico, it is hard to find something wrong with

Crawdaddy. A critic may find fault with the overall size of the club, but to be fair, the versatility of the layout with three rooms and a separate section for bathrooms, entirely out of the way, makes such a complaint redundant.

The location is perfect. A short walk from the city centre (to finish off any 'bottled water') which puts the club in an ideal location for taxi ranks, Nitelinks and Luas stations.

For a cheap night on the tiles

We have all been there. And no matter how much money with which you start college, it will be gone by the end of Freshers' Week. And you, like the rest of us, will lose a battle within yourself to be responsible, stop leeching off your parents and get a job. You will lose.

One thing you won't lose however is a great night on the tiles. Only in the past few years has a relatively cheap night in Dublin become possible. No matter where you are though, it really is up to you to keep your credit card in your pocket.

And anywhere there are cheap drinks to be had, there's also a plethora of students. Great, you think. Drinking buddies, great tunes and an onslaught of good-looking guys and girls. These things are all true but unfortunately the catwalk of girls and boys in their Saturday night best won't find you so attractive when you are dripping in what some like to call two euro drinking water, otherwise known as sweat.

Cheap nights are typically packed to the door with punters, and the fact that the line usually extends halfway around the city doesn't do much



MESSRS



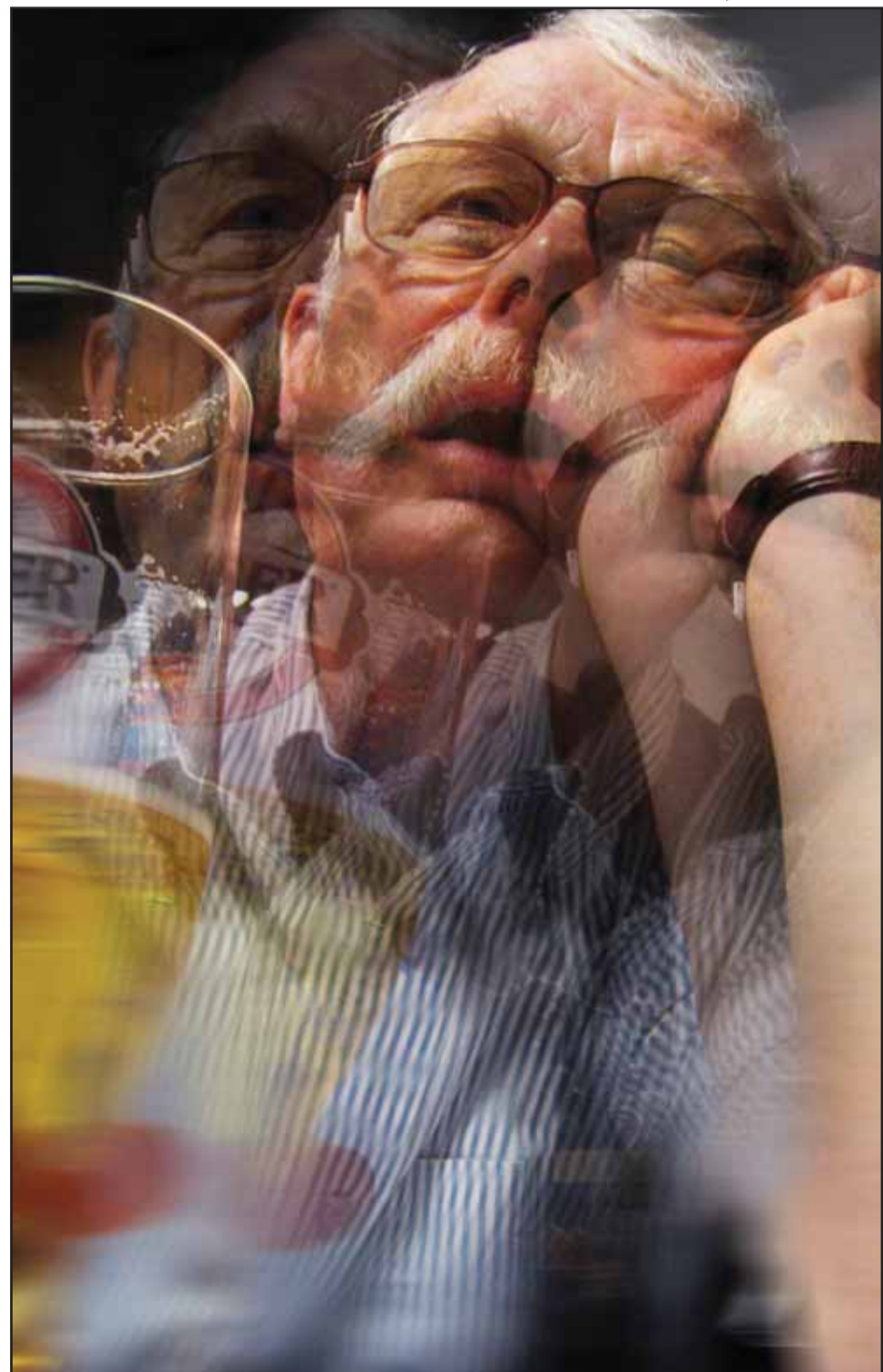
Q-BAR



COPPERS



HOGANS



Keep it crusty: Some crust getting locked

to heighten your mood. If forced out, Redz on O'Connell Bridge or Rio's on Leeson Street might be an idea.

Watch your step though. Just because the drinks are three euro does not make it a good deal, nor does it guarantee you a good night out. You are more likely to find yourself huddled under a graffiti'd bus shelter covered in sweat, with the drinks of four not so attractive girls

split down your new designer jeans (the pair you thought you could afford as you would only be ven-

turing out for a cheap night) wondering how your night went so awry.

So, what is the solution? If you want a cheap night, do it properly. Get the boys and girls in, shoot down to Tesco, and pick up your poison. Whip out the jacks, queens and kings and drink yourself to whatever level of stupidity your silly little heart desires. Then pat your new jeans down and head into town for a proper night-out experience. A quality bar that is still affordable is Messrs, also on O'Connell Bridge, next door to Q Bar.

The city centre is littered with joints where young people can relax and take in the surrounding atmosphere without having to attack the dance floor in some crazy drink-filled frenzy. It's also in the interest of your sanity to steer clear of the dance floors for at least one night of the week.

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So what is the real thing?

Paul Dillon points out the rather numerous accusations against the Coca Cola corporation

Students new to UCD will notice that Coca Cola Products are absent from the Shelves of the five Students' Union shops. The decision to remove coca cola products was a choice made collectively by UCD students in October 2003, in a campus wide referendum. In November 2003, the referendum was re-run and the mandate against the coca-cola corporation was strengthened.

So why did UCD students take the decision to boot out Coca Cola products?

The reason lies in a call made by the Columbian trade Union, Sinaltrainal, which represents workers in Coca Cola bottling plants in Columbia. In 2003, the Trade Union put out a call for a global boycott.

The basis for this claim was centred on allegations that Coca Cola were attempting to wipe out the Sinaltrainal Trade Union. The case against Coke has been well documented by Human Rights organisations as well as the Sinaltrainal Trade Union themselves.

The 'Killer Coke' campaign, as it has become known, has alleged that Coca Cola neglected their duty of care towards their employees in allowing them to be attacked in their bottling factory in Columbia, and that since 1994, eight workers at coca-cola bottling plants in Columbia have been murdered as a result.

They allege that Cokes anti-Union campaign has not been restricted to the workers themselves. It has extended its reach to the workers' families and the wider community in an effort to put the maximum amount of pressure on the workers

to leave the Sinaltrainal Union.

They have alleged that Coca Cola want to eliminate the Sinaltrainal Union and that the reasons for this trace back to the early 1990s when Coca Colas Columbian subsidiaries moved to cut costs by hiring temporary workers in place of full time staff who earned up to three times as much. As the main Union in the plants, Sinaltrainal led the campaign to protect workers' terms and conditions.

The campaign against Coca Cola also alleges that Coca Cola's anti-Union campaign does not take place in a vacuum. It alleges that since the mid eighties, 3,000 trade union members have been murdered in Columbia and claim that the British based Justice for Columbia group estimates that between three and five trade union activists are murdered a week.

The Students' Union boycott that was based around these allegations was subsequently passed and was the first college-based campaign in the world to boycott Coca Cola. Since then, more than 200 colleges have followed the example, including Trinity College and the National College of Art and Design.

Following a UCD motion put to its annual congress in 2005, the National Union of Students in Ireland also supports the Sinaltrainal call for a boycott. The campaign is not of course restricted to students and includes many Trade Unions including the Teachers Union of Ireland and the Northern Ireland Public Service association.




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Grab it by the balls

With a proud history of success in the various playing fields and a proud tradition of producing top-class international athletes such as Derval O' Rourke and Brian O' Driscoll, it is no wonder Sport is an essential component of UCD's make-up says **Ben Blake**

One of the many advantages to embarking upon life at Belfield is that students are presented with an unrivalled opportunity to partake in a wide range of quality sporting activities as they please. With a level of diversity that is second-to-none (a total of 58 clubs from Aikido to Wrestling all registered by the Athletic Union Council, right on one's doorstep), it would be a crime to let this once in a lifetime chance to slip by unnoticed.

In association with Bank of Ireland, the Club Energise Sports Expo will be taking place in Hall B of the Sports Centre this week, until Thursday 21st September. Doors will open at 10a.m. and close again at 5pm. All the clubs will be participating in this year's event.

which club officials will be on-hand to provide relevant information on their respective sports. There will be a number of competitions as well as demonstrations of a range of sports taking place over the duration of the four days. All students are welcome to come along. Admission is free, and there is no obligation to join a club.

Speaking about the Expo, Sports Development Manager of UCD Suzanne Bailey commented "The sports expo provides the ideal opportunity for both new and existing students to find out about the sporting opportunities available at UCD."

If you're a sports enthusiast who has little or no previous training or experience, don't feel put off, as novices are just as welcome as experts. "All ability levels are catered for in UCD clubs, so whether a student wants to try out a new sport or continue training in a sport they are already familiar with, UCD sports clubs cater for all needs."

Facilities available to the student body and staff of UCD are superb. Already mentioned is the Sports Centre, which is in many ways the beating heart of sport in this college. Home of the UCD Sports office, it contains 25 changing rooms, a climbing wall, a handball alley, 5 squash courts and racquetball facilities.

Upstairs you will find the Crunch Fitness Gym. Going into its seventh year, this ultra-modern centre contains a number of treadmills, ergo metres, resistance equipment, cardiovascular machines and free weights, as well as a fitness studio, which caters for sessions in abs

classes and the popular spinning classes. Members also have the use of saunas and tanning rooms in the assigned dressing rooms. Check out notices or drop in to the Sports Centre to find out about reduced membership rates.

Two halls capable of facilitating basketball, indoor-soccer, volleyball, badminton, aerobics and martial arts, a sports injury clinic, a sports shop, a café and a barbershop complete the Sports Centre.

There is a rifle range in the basement of Clinton House. Next to the building, an Olympic-sized running track is free to use for students, staff and the general public during opening hours.

On top of all this, UCD also boasts the National Hockey Stadium, which was built in 1994 for the Ladies' World Cup

finals and the Men's European Championships. Playing host to last year's Ladies' European Championship, it holds 510 people at full capacity and has a synthetic grass, water-based pitch. This, along with a number of rubber-based, water-based and Poligras pitches are available to book. Otherwise,

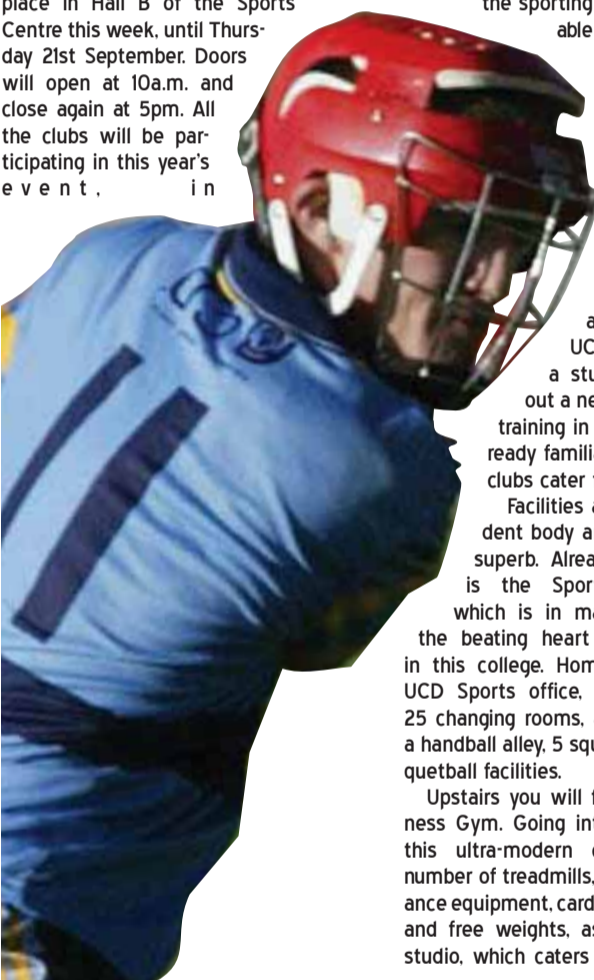
the many natural grass pitches for GAA, rugby and soccer are free to take ad-



UCD Success:

Plying their trade in the AIB All-Ireland League the Men's Senior Rugby team will commence their campaign in October, where the Belfield Bowl will play host to home matches.

UCD's soccer team compete in the eircom League Premier Division and are the only university side in Europe to compete at such a level. Games generally take place on a Friday evening and students are encouraged to provide their support. The Ladies' summer team has also recently won their fourth consecutive DWSL Premier Division title.

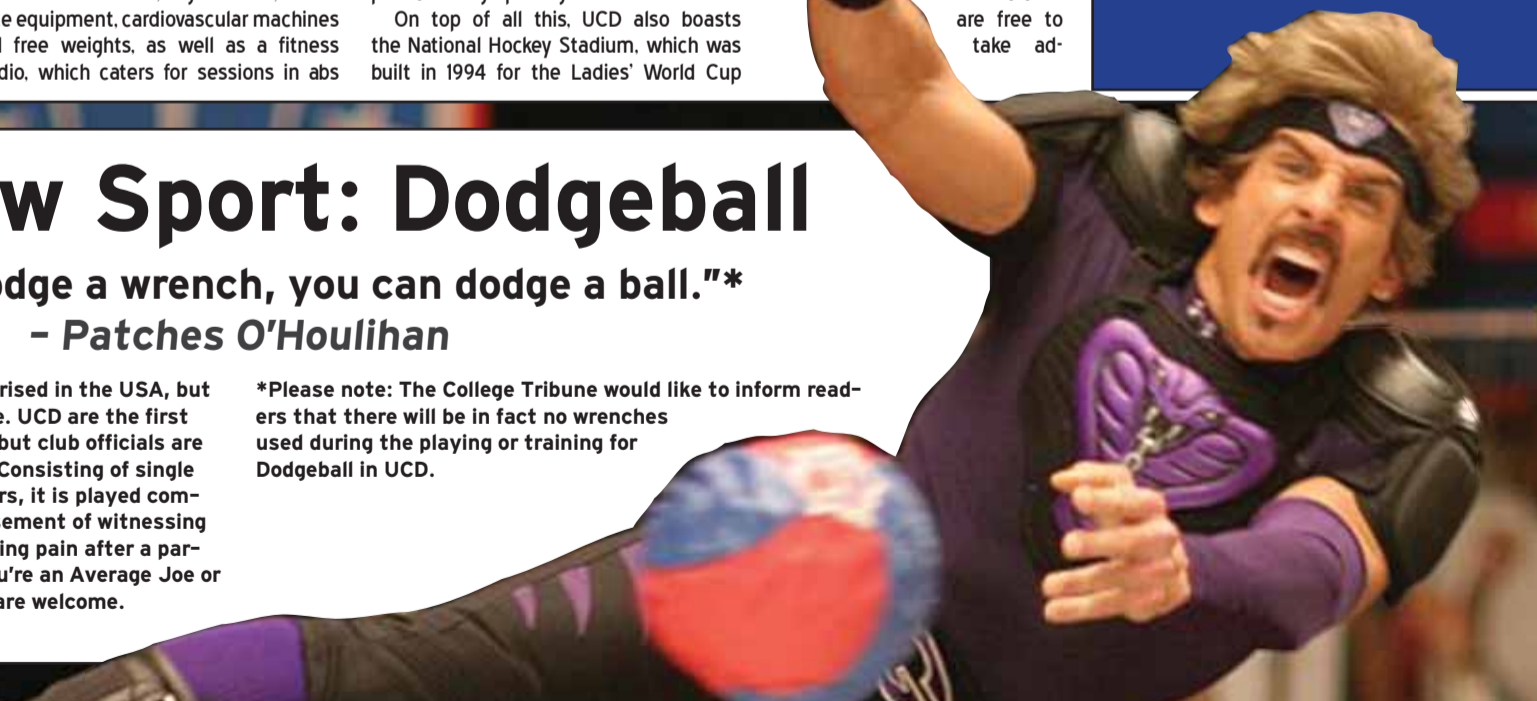


Best New Sport: Dodgeball

"If you can dodge a wrench, you can dodge a ball."*
- Patches O'Houlihan

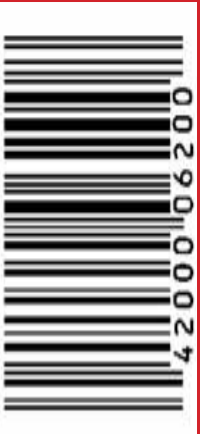
This newly emerging game was popularised in the USA, but is now spreading rapidly across Europe. UCD are the first Irish university with a dodgeball club, but club officials are positive it will become an instant hit. Consisting of single sex or mixed teams with 6 or 10 players, it is played competitively, but also for the sheer amusement of witnessing an opponent sprawled out in excruciating pain after a particularly forceful shot. So, whether you're an Average Joe or a committed Globo Gym wannabe, all are welcome.

*Please note: The College Tribune would like to inform readers that there will be in fact no wrenches used during the playing or training for Dodgeball in UCD.



College Tribune Freshers' Guide,
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THE TURBINE

VOLUME XX ISSUE I

IT'S SATIRE, STUPID!

STILL ONLY 31P

INSIDE

HEATHER MILLS BREAKS DOWN AFTER FAILING TO GET LEG OVER

ALCOHOLIC FAITH HEALER TO GIVE UP THE SPIRITS

COLONIC IRRIGATION PATIENT: I'M SHITTING MESELF

MAYO SANDWICHED

QUINN MERGES WITH ARTS TO FORM Q & A SOC. FIRST MEETING QUESTIONABLE

HARNEY GATHERS SUPPORT: BUYS COMFY CHAIR

KERRY WINS GOLD: LOCALS BUTTERED UP

INDEPENDENT IN TALKS WITH PARTNERS

PLANS TO DEPORT THE POOR

New Tanaiste Michael McDowell is set to reveal dramatic new plans to issue all 'povers' with biometric ID cards, according to a memo seen by the Turbine.

The new plan, set to be unveiled as part of the PD's election strategy, will see everybody on social welfare and on the lower tax bracket issued with the cards.

McDowell recently unveiled plans to issue bio-metric cards to all non-EU residents in the country. Under the scheme card-holders can be deported for various misdemeanours including traffic offences.

Now the scheme will be extended to what the leaked memo has described as "povers" or those earning less than 32 thousand year.

The average PD voter earns considerably more.

In addition, membership of any Trade Union will lead to automatic deportation. The memo states that IBEC will be not considered to be a Trade Union but rather "integral to continuation of the progressive keep the poor people down policy."

The rationale behind the plan is believed to appeal to the PD's core voters who are tired of 'povers' claiming

social welfare and 'leeching off the system'.

According to the memo the scheme will "keep the 'povers' on their toes and keep them in check. However, povers being povers, they'll get themselves deported and we can continue to reduce taxes and cut back on public spending and before you know it we'll be the only party left in the country."

The scheme has come in for severe criticism across the country with opposition leaders uniting to describe it as "disgracefully draconian" and as "the most blatantly elitist legislation this country has ever seen".

McDowell was believed to be delighted with the comments.

While the majority of PD supporters are believed to be enthusiastic about the plan some concern has been raised regarding potential teething problems.

Michael Binchy-Harrington, a constituent of McDowell said "we're obviously delighted that Michael has decided to keep the povers on their toes. However, I think the plan needs to be finetuned.



"For example our youngest, Quentin, is currently on like the graduate placement scheme with a major financial institution and they're obviously capitalising on his desperation to be rich in later life by paying him peanuts at the moment.

"I just don't think its fair that someone from our background should be subject to the same rules as everyone else."

A PD spokesperson indicated that some from of means test taking into account parents earning power and perhaps political donations may be used.

It is not clear where deportees will be sent to although it is believed that an available tract of land in Darfur, Sudan, is being considered.

LABOUR YOUTH PROTEST TAKES FLIGHT

UCD has been rocked in the past week with regard to news that promises to shake the student body to its very foundation. The chicken nuggets that have been served at lunchtime in the Student Bar for the past 150 years of UCD history have been changed.

Labour Youth member Enda Duffy declared that he was "shocked and appalled" by the fact that there was no consultation with students with regard to the issue. He assured the Turbine that he would be sure to organise "a hasty protest". Duffy stated, "The Students' Union has a mandate against changing the nuggets in the bar and I am horrified that the Student Bar has failed to honour it". He went on to brand the Student Bar management as a bunch of chickens without a nugget of sense between them. This couldn't have come at a



OLD NUGGET NEW NUGGET

worse time for the student bar who face fresh allegations that they have a stash of original recipe chicken nuggets cooped up at a hidden location.

"Labour Youth will be setting a stand up outside the bar, where they will be selling live free trade chickens, so that students do not have to subject themselves to the horrors of those nuggets" Alongside

this Labour Youth have vowed to go on a political hunger strike which would mean they won't attack the Students' Union until the chicken nuggets are returned to their former glory.

A SIPTU representative who has taken up the case on behalf of the chicken nuggets has threatened industrial action and that no deep fat fryer

would be left unturned until all the Students' bar dirty greasy secrets were exposed. Unfortunately due to their comrades disappearance the remaining original recipe nuggets have gone into hiding leaving only a solemn note explaining how they were terrified of getting battered. Unfortunately for the time being it seems that Birds of a feather won't fry together.



"Sadism, pure and simple"

*In light of the President Bush's admissions to having interrogation camps for terror suspects overseas, and also the lingering issue of Guantanamo Bay, **Matthew Parkinson-Bennett** spoke to Robert Fisk about the issue of torture*

Robert Fisk is based in Beirut and has been Middle Eastern correspondent with the London Independent for three decades and is the author of several books, including most recently *The Great War for Civilisation: The Conquest of the Middle East* (2005). President George W. Bush acknowledged in recent weeks that secret CIA prisons exist overseas to detain terror suspects as tacit approval of torture. Human Rights groups have demanded they be shut down immediately. Fisk is adamant that the use of torture can never be justified, regardless of the ramifications.

Torture, it seems, is as provocative and emotive a word as terrorism in the post-9/11 years. And it was with emotion that Fisk responded with regard to this issue. "Never, never, never, never, never. The moment you employ sadistic violence, you have lost the

war. You've thrown it away. If you say, 'These are the evil people', and then you indulge in satisfying your intelligence or your security by making people scream and whinge and wish they had never been born, you're a dead man. You're finished. It's over. The project is finished."

Fisk delivered the keynote lecture entitled "Guns & Cancer" at the Advanced Rheumatology Conference last Thursday in the O'Reilly Hall. The hour-long lecture had little connection to the theme of the conference, but Fisk's invitation is a testament to the respect he has accumulated for his work in wartime Middle Eastern states, as well as the universal interest in that very area among the politically aware of today.

The College Tribune interviewed Fisk in the same week as George Bush attempted to rekindle the American public's aware-

ness of the importance of domestic security, delivering a series of speeches on the anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, which were undermined by rebellion within his Republican party.

In reaction to his attempts to push through new legislation allowing for the continued use of "alternative techniques" in interrogations of terror suspects, many, including former United States Secretary of State, Gen. Colin Powell, have voiced their concern that these practices may be in contravention of the Geneva Convention on the laws of war.

Speaking to Fisk in the O'Reilly Hall before his lecture as he prepared film footage he was to use during his speech, there were images projected onto a large screen on the wall. Scenes of horrific wartime violence from Iraq, the Lebanon and Yugoslavia were

featured.

The footage included the recorded deaths of wounded civilians, parents weeping over the bodies of their slain children, and, most disturbing of all, footage stolen from an Iraqi administrative building of soldiers of Saddam Hussein's regime brutally beating half-naked fellow Iraqis. Fisk, by now well used to such sights, seemed unmoved by the footage, explaining the background to each clip as he continued.

Used as he may be to such images after so many years of reporting direct from such war zones, numbed to their horrific nature he is not. He is a man driven by his passionate belief in the importance of his role as a journalist exposing Western audiences to the graphic realities of wars fought by their nations in other parts of the world. He frequently introduced clips, which he explained

"If it's OK to torture...let's put the torturers on television. Let's see the torturers. Let's watch them having their fingernails taken out, let's watch them having broomsticks shoved up their anus. Let's watch it on television, live in colour please. And then let's see what the people think about it."

had failed to be broadcast on television. While speaking with him, his passion shone through. He grew increasingly emotional and red in the face. He questioned the lack of media exposure regarding the real nature of war.

"If it's OK to torture, we're in the 'War on Terror' so it's OK, let's put the torturers on television. Let's see the torturers. Let's watch them having their fingernails taken out, let's watch them having broomsticks shoved up their anus. Let's watch it on television, live in colour please. And then let's see what the people think about it. Let's interview them: 'Tell us about the torture. What's it like? How long does it last? Do you have a doctor with you? Where was he trained? Did he go to Trinity or UCD?'"

It was clear at this point that a chord had been struck with him. However there could surely be situations, encountered by those bearing the responsibility for the safety of millions of people, in which the infliction of pain on individuals might be justified? When probed further regarding that if it were to emerge that the use of torture might have prevented the terrorist attacks on New York, London or Madrid, would it not then be regrettable that the awful decision, to inflict extreme pain on individuals, had not been made in the name of the greater good?

"It is sadism, pure and simple. And all these guys, elderly men long past it, to put it frankly, who go on about torture, they're sick. They're sickos. Rumsfeld's one of them. Rumsfeld's one. 'Oh', he says, 'why should they be only six hours [standing], I stand at my desk twelve hours a day', but not naked, with dogs round him yapping and people threatening him and people pretending they're smearing menstrual blood on him, which is what one woman did in Guantanamo. No, the torturers are sickos, and if we're employing sickos, it's finished, it's over, the War on Terror is finished."

But what if that element of enjoyment were to be removed? "It is unremoveable. Do you want to build a torture machine? You have a machine that takes out fingernails, you put the person there? No, you can't do that because the machine doesn't learn anything from you. Look, is there ever an imaginable situation in which I can kill your wife? Or your children? Or your parents? Is there ever an imaginable situation? You must say no, mustn't you? You don't know. If you're torturing someone, you're torturing someone to find out something, not something

you know.

"If you torture [at this point Fisk points at the few people sitting in the hall, who have drifted in early to take their seats] him, or him, or me, we'll say anything you want. We'll say we're going to blow up the moon tomorrow. And you can send it to London. 'Oh, they're going to blow up the moon tomorrow, call in Squad B, Bravo 5'.

"That's the practical side of it - you're not going to learn anything through torture. September 11th, above all else, was a massive, total, absolute defeat for US intelligence. Why do you think the Israeli intelligence is no good? Why do you think Syrian intelligence is crap? Because it's all based on torture. Why do you think the Americans don't have the slightest idea what's going on in Iraq? Because they use torture, and you don't find out anything."

And there's the major practical concern so frequently raised by those who condemn the concept and practice of torture. Some officials within the CIA have reacted publicly to the practices within the secret detention camps operated by their organisation, questioning the reliability of torture as an interrogation technique.

At least one terror suspect, al Libbi, has been known to give false evidence to CIA after he was subjected to "water boarding", a technique designed to convince its subject that they are being drowned. Al Libbi's false statements influenced the US belief that Iraq was involved in the training of Al Qaeda members to use biochemical weapons. Bush refuses to recognise this technique as amounting to torture, but according to John Sifton of Human Rights Watch, it "amounts to a mock execution, which is illegal under international law".

Such practical problems alone, however, cannot amount to an argument against the use of torture, as there are always conceivable hypothetical situations in which they might not apply. Fisk prefers to argue that torture is an absolutely indefensible practice on moral grounds.

He is also highly critical of the intelligence organisations for whom the use of torture is only one flaw, both a cause and a symptom of their overall "sickness". And they themselves may be simply examples of a broader malaise within nations with regard to attitudes to other nations and cultures:

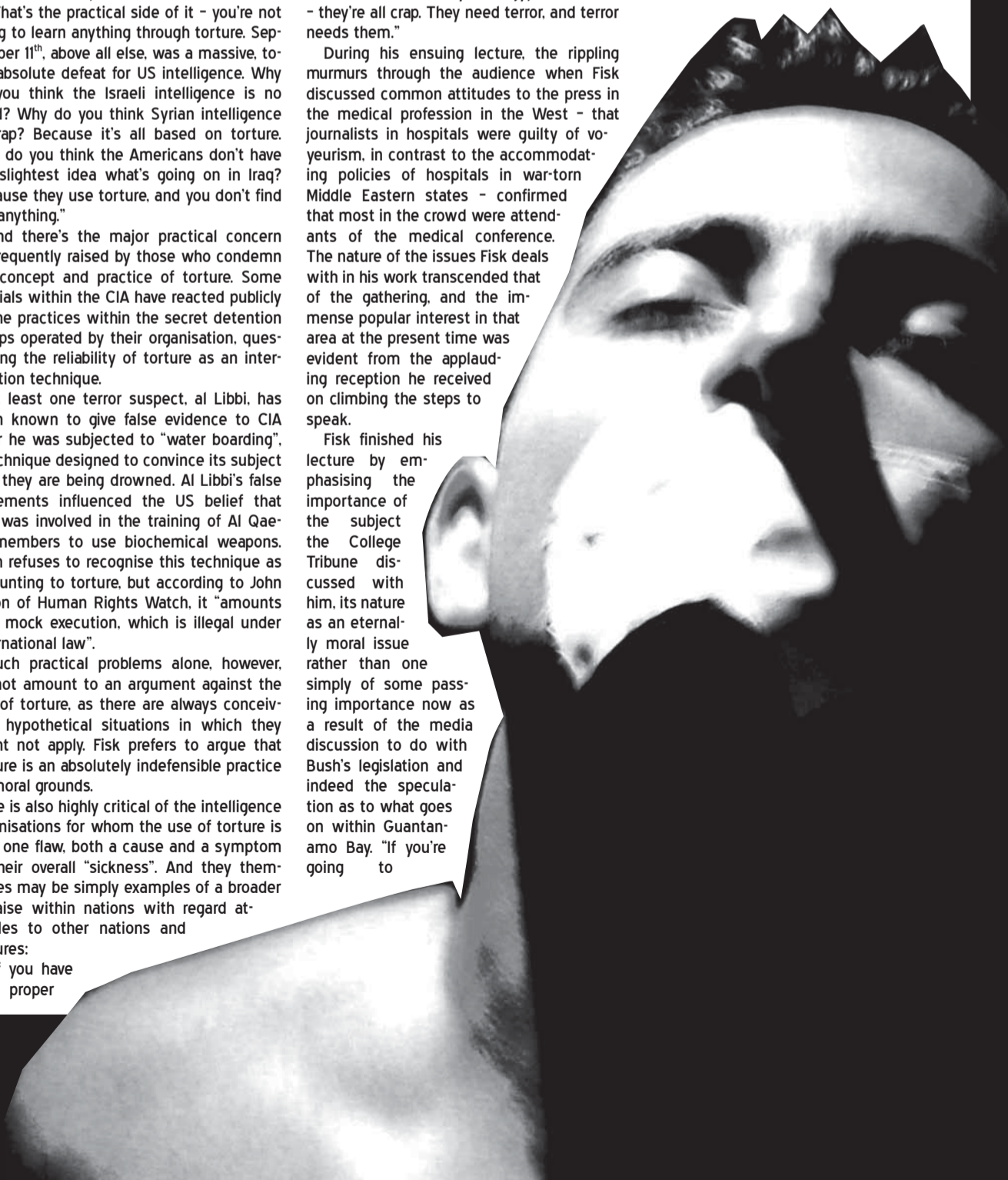
"If you have a proper

intelligence operation, which means it's interested to understand the other person, then you'll learn things. But the American intelligence system doesn't want to learn about the other people, it wants to impose its own ideology... and then draw from what they say, what they want to hear. Look, my experience of the intelligence authorities - American, Israeli, Syrian, Egyptian, Iranian - they're all crap. They need terror, and terror needs them."

During his ensuing lecture, the rippling murmurs through the audience when Fisk discussed common attitudes to the press in the medical profession in the West - that journalists in hospitals were guilty of voyeurism, in contrast to the accommodating policies of hospitals in war-torn Middle Eastern states - confirmed that most in the crowd were attendants of the medical conference. The nature of the issues Fisk deals with in his work transcended that of the gathering, and the immense popular interest in that area at the present time was evident from the applauding reception he received on climbing the steps to speak.

Fisk finished his lecture by emphasising the importance of the subject the College Tribune discussed with him, its nature as an eternally moral issue rather than one simply of some passing importance now as a result of the media discussion to do with Bush's legislation and indeed the speculation as to what goes on within Guantanamo Bay. "If you're going to

say, 'I am better than this person', you bloody well got to be better. Torture is the opposite of justice, and if you believe in justice, you do not believe in torture. If you believe in torture you do not believe in justice. Which do you want?"



PUB TALK

WITH OWEN PRIESTLEY



A new year, a brand new group of freshmen, and the same old mistakes.

Now to everyone who reads this, thinking it will just be another Freshers' Week article, wait. Read this and think back to your first few weeks in college and see if any of it rings true. Remove your rose coloured glasses, remember back to when you and another first year huddled under the nitelink bus shelter and get a little... fresh, but try to remember the rest of the year also.

This is not about telling you how great your first year will be. This is not going to tell you how this is the beginning of the greatest year and years of your life. This is not going to tell you that the worries are all gone away. What it will do is give you a warning, and one that I hope you take quite seriously and remember in the coming weeks.

Take your time. It may be a simple message, but it rings true from experience. College is a long journey and every day of it an experience. Take your time.

There is an immortal conundrum that emanates with the freshmen and women of University College Dublin. During your first week you will feel an insurmountable urge to be the guy that drinks the most, gets the most numbers, does the craziest tricks and has the worst, or what you will undoubtedly think the best, attitude.

Don't be THAT GUY. Take your time. Yes it's true that girls are more likely to talk to you and

give you their number in the first few weeks of college before the furor of freshmanhood subsides. Yes, everyone will cheer you on and laugh heartily as you sing 'The Wild Rover', standing on the hood of a police car. Yes, you can be the guy who takes a girl home every night of Freshers' Week and yes, you will think that you are the biggest legend in the world. You're not. If you were so great a personality, you would realise that college is not a one-week festival.

You may not be recognized the next day, but by the end of first year, I can guarantee that you

Take your time. It may be a simple message, but it rings true from experience.

College is a long journey and every day of it an experience. Take your time.

will have a label name to 90 percent of your fellow freshmen. You will be known as the guy who hits on everyone. You will be known as the girl who gets messy drunk. You will be known as the guy who people can't rely on because you can't make it to your lunch date because that hilarious stunt of mooning the nitelink driver got you run over by the 49N.

You will be known as the girl who could never be a good friend because all she does is go after boys. So take your time.

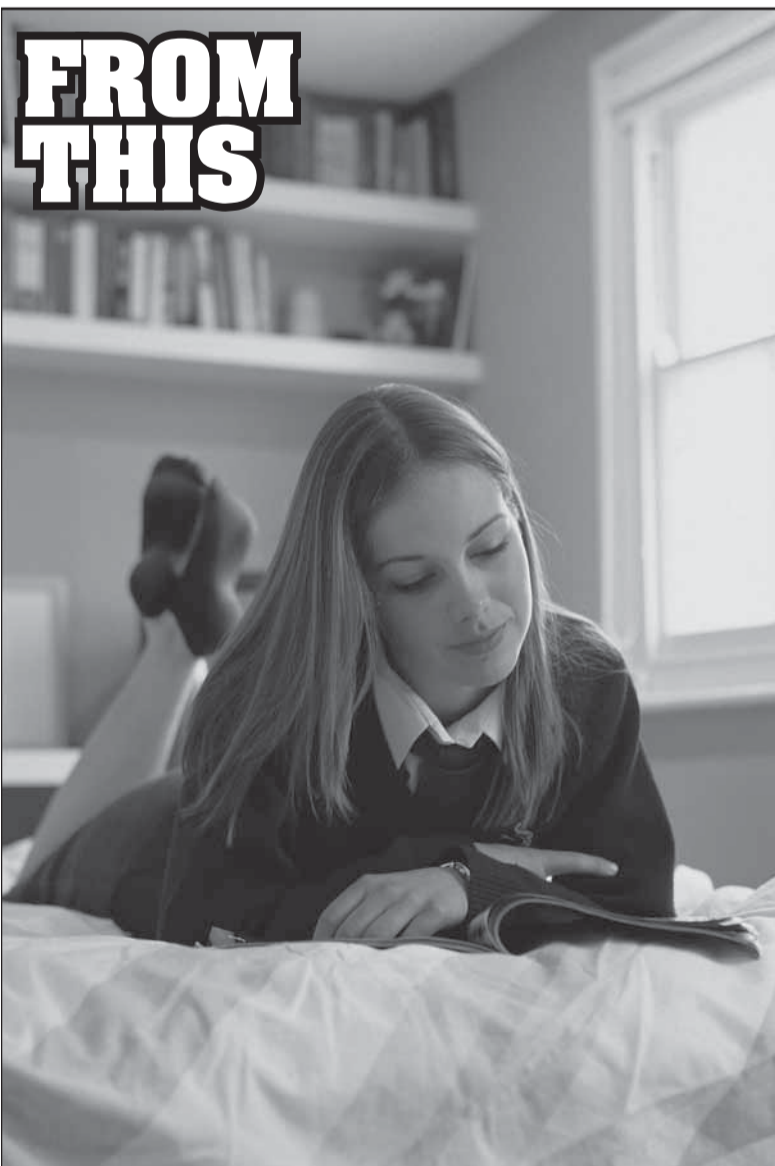
I am not saying that you shouldn't experiment. I am not saying that you shouldn't rock the night away for as long as your body will allow before exhaustion sets in. You should go out

and have the time of your life, and you will. What you should do though, is when you are dancing like a shook barrel of redbull, and you think the world is now at your feet, you feel invincible and life can't get any better, stop, walk to the side of the bar and order a glass of water. Nobody will notice you slinking off the dance floor.

Who will notice you though is that cute girl or boy who reaches over the bar beside you and notices that you may be covered in sweat but you are able to go mad whilst still keep your head screwed on. What they will want to see is that you are fun and stable and racked with personality. What they don't want to see is that person climbing out of the back seat of a taxi unable to form coherent sentences. Take your time.

You will hear so many champion stories in UCD about the experience of Freshers' Week, and for everyone who reminisces, it will be one of the greatest memories of their lives. Who you won't hear rejoicing are the numerous students who left UCD because they couldn't handle the label they gave themselves and blamed everyone else for.

Guys who felt they couldn't talk to girls anymore because everyone just thought he was hitting on them. Girls who couldn't make friends with other girls because everyone knew that she was the girl who would do anything to get her man, even though he was actually yours. Take your time. Build your own label. The one that you want to wear, because as senior school as it sounds, its very hard to get rid of it once it sticks. And there's a lot of glue floating around during Freshers' Week.



PARALYSIS ANALYSIS

This year sees the return of paralysis analysis. This feature finds the drunkest of the drunk and puts the serious questions we are all pondering to them. In this issue, we put some tough questions to a group of final year students who are stumbling outside of the well known hotspot, Tramco in Rathmines.

This week's victims are Mark, who is sporting a yellow t-shirt, (tastefully stained from the night's festivities), his friend Tony who you might suggest has more beer in his belly than your average keg, and their friend/love interest Hannah, who seems on top form compared to her mates who can barely spell their own names. In saying that, we did pick her up from the wall for the interview. Here's what they had to say anyways.

What do you think about the current mandate banning coke in the UCD Students' Union?

Mark (whilst picking at his stains): To be honest I doubt the lads banning it have given it a shot. I say give it a go and if it sends ya buzzin then what's the harm. Coke is a personal choice. Sure everyone does a bit of this a bit of that I don't see any harm in it as long as you're sharing. A few lines never hurt anyone.

What do you think of McDowell becoming Tanaiste?

Tony: Well my old man will kill me for telling you this, but my dad actually formed the Progressive Democrats. I remember when I was younger and old Charlie (McCreevy), Mary (Harney) and me Da would sit around and talk about the future.

Well anyway, my da set up the PD's and this one time when they were all in my gaff skulling the Jack, Charlie said something a bit derog about Mary and my old man was having none of it. So out they went to the back garden and had it out there like men. My Da beat the shite into Charlie for Mary's honour.

Hannah: He's a knob

Mark: Never should have invaded Iraq for one.

So anyway, are you having a good night?

Hannah: Yeah B&L put on a great night. It was a bit packed on the dance floor but that's what you expect at these things. It wasn't overly packed.

Tony: Craicin

Mark: Drinks were a bit steep.

What do you think of the girls of UCD?

Mark: Quality, love 'em, cracking, come on the B&L; Stevo [Quinlivan] is a legend.

What's annoying you right now?

Hannah: Pervy boys who think that just because they bought an American Eagle shirt that you belong to them, and their bleached locks just look fucking stupid.

Mark: Hold on it's not my fault that girls find me attractive.

Ha ha What?

If you happen to find yourself in a position like this, feel free to send it in to us. If its your mates, then even better. We can make a good show of them, expose them for the drunken tyrants that they are. Send any ideas into tribune@campus.ie the best comment sent in every issue wins a half-price copy of the College Tribune.

Mark: Well its true. Me and Tony get loads of hot birds, not the dirty looking ones like Hannah here, like second Psychology hot.

Hannah then proceeded to walk off and so we thought it best to end the interview there.





The cat who

In his first interview following retirement Kilkenny hurling legend DJ Carey speaks intimately to **Colin Gleeson** about his youth, the end of his career and the changing aspects of life as he knows it

As the summer continues it's hasty retreat into autumn and the leaves again begin to crunch underfoot, the sunlight is little more than a glimmer as the schoolchildren begin their journey toward the schoolhouse. There are three young children walking together. Treading that path for the first time.

For many, that journey heralds new beginnings. It is a journey that will ultimately teach them to find a sense of purpose in life. A place in the cosmos. Thirty years later, those three children have grown up to be three of the greatest inter-county hurlers of their generation. They found purpose alright. Charlie Carter, Pat O'Neill and the great DJ Carey.

"I was four or five or younger maybe when I started playing," DJ recalls fondly. "I suppose it was when we started going to school. It was fantastic really because there was a bunch of us who were all the one age and who all had this big thing for hurling. And most of that class is still actually around on the Kilkenny senior team to this day."

It's somewhat difficult to imagine the doyen of Kilkenny hurling sitting in a classroom with half of his County's hurling panel, cramming for an exam of some sort. As it happens, he jumps to dismiss such a thought. "No, I went to school to play hurling. I did what I had to do in school. And I was pretty decent in school; it wasn't that I was only there for hurling. I was pretty good and reasonably smart, but I suppose I didn't do an awful lot except enough to get me by you know."

It's sort of a clichéd image of rural Ireland, that during such periods, kids would go on the mitch from school in order to go out playing the game they all loved. But again DJ is quick to dismiss this, and in doing so gives us an insight into why this particular boy would grow into the man who would dominate Inter-County hurling for so long.

"No I didn't actually. I wasn't that way. But if there was any chance of a half opportunity now I did. But I certainly wouldn't have mitched.

I would have been too afraid to have got into trouble anyway because if I'd got into trouble at school, I'd have gotten into trouble at home. I just didn't want to be in trouble you know. I always liked to be disciplined as much as I could."

When school was out however, the three boys would venture into the rolling hills of the Kilkenny hinterland before delving into the spectacular valley of the River Barrow. Tangled in the thickets and the gorse. Always with a hurley in hand. "It was great because we weren't on our own, we were always puckin' around, always playing the game. And that's all we had, we didn't know anything else, just to play hurling."

I'm actually very comfortable with it. It hasn't cost me any thought even though Kilkenny are in the final now. I'm happy that they're in it and I'm very much a big supporter, but not disappointed that I'm not there myself

Of course, those days of carefree hurling and laughter would soon be left behind in those hills and that valley. Time goes by and things change. That's what life is all about in many ways. Dealing with those changes. "Gowran is changing a little bit," he confides, "there's a lot of new faces, a lot of buildings going up as well. There are big changes but then again the parish priest is still the same man there for ten or twelve years, the guys around the hurling club are the same guys, the schoolteachers are by and large the same, but there are big changes."

Carey is experiencing a period in his life now where a lot of things are changing around him. A star-studded career spanning the guts of twenty years has drawn to a close. The spotlight is still there but perhaps is also beginning to move on. Kilkenny are in the All-Ireland Final and the dodger has had no part to play. "I'm actually very comfortable with it. It hasn't cost me any thought even though Kilkenny are in the final now. I'm happy in it and I'm big support-disappointed not there

enough."

It has become known in certain circles that DJ has developed into quite a decent golfer over the years. Many wonder aloud if he might try his hand professionally at some point and the Kilkenny native doesn't altogether dismiss the idea. "I like playing golf and if I got better, it would be great. That's something I'd look at down the road but for now I'll just play it and I'll enjoy it. I'll take it as it is for now."

Carey intriguingly goes on to explain the ways in which golf and hurling are connected. "They probably compliment each other in so far as eye-hand-coordination," he begins, "but certainly they don't compliment each other in so far as one is a very quick-wristed sport that requires very little body movement. Whereas the other is a little bit the opposite to that, where it's the bigger muscles that do the turning and the swinging and then the wrist and hands come into it reasonably late. In some ways, they probably compliment each other in that they make you pretty strong. But it doesn't help you

hit the ball that straight," he jokes.

Having spoken at length with DJ about many different things, it has become clear that he is an ordinary man with extraordinary ability. He is a man who has never been anything less than a gentleman. Almost baffled by the hype that has constantly surrounded him for the past twenty years. Hype that has come at a price for the

that they're very much a er, but not that I'm myself. Happy



got the cream



Gowran man. His difficulties with the media have been well documented over the years. He has been mistreated and badgered about affairs that concern nobody but himself. But typical of the man, he remains diplomatic.

"Ah, I've always had a very good relationship with almost all sports journalists but there's always the one or two guys who have stood up, but they're no different to the one or two, and maybe more than one or two, who don't like people no matter what they do, you know. So, I always had a few guys who didn't like me whether I scored ten goals in an All-Ireland final or didn't. They'd be always waiting for the time you don't do it.

"Unfortunately with the media, in some guys eyes your great, and in other guys eyes they want to knock you. And in a lot of cases they say what they actually like to say, sometimes the press really can be very unfair to the general public all round about most things they say, because a lot of it is untrue. Everybody can stand up and take it on the chin if what they say is actually true, but a lot of what they come out with is made up stuff. Something that was said or a rumour that they've got and then these guys come out and they take a chance."

Much of DJ's troubles with the media have come with very poor timing. Famously, the Sunday Independent printed a front-page story regarding the breakdown of his marriage on the day of the 2003 All-Ireland final. He concedes now with hindsight that such put a strain on both his hurling and his family.

"Ah, I'm sure it did. It probably did. But that's part of being up there with a big profile. I could have chosen not to speak to papers. I could have chosen not to speak to television. I could have chosen not to do what I did and just played my game and left it at that. But when you take a different direction, your going to be open to criticism. Yes it put a bit of pressure on I'm sure, but

I've done it and I've no regrets.

"I don't know who doesn't like to be praised, who doesn't like to a little bit of spotlight every now and again. I think we all do. We all like to be praised for our good work, whether that be in business or in pleasure. So I suppose I've had a high profile for a long time now. And I needn't have had such

Sometimes the press really can be very unfair to the general public all round about most things they say, because a lot of it is untrue

a high profile if I didn't want it. But I have had it and I think that for all the bad that was done to me, I got a lot out of it as well. I've my own business going and certainly my hurling helped and whatever media attention I got helped me with that."

With his hurling days behind him now, Carey recalls his captaincy. He talks about the concept of captaincy, about leadership versus ability in a Kilkenny captain, and about his heavy heart as the honour was bestowed upon him. "I probably think it's not a huge leadership thing in Kilkenny. I think managers would like to see it as more of a leadership role but in Kilkenny it's the club champions who have the captaincy and unfortunately it has brought a lot of controversy to Kilkenny over the last six or seven years.

"I think if I was changing something about Kilkenny, I would change the captaincy role. I would change that it goes to the County Board or to the management rather than the County champions. And I think in my own situation, it came to me, and I'm absolutely thrilled it came to me and it's one of the greatest honours I've ever had to captain Kilkenny, but we nominated Charlie Carter that year. I was one of those people

that nominated Charlie to be captain and for the reasons that we all know, it didn't work out for him so it fell back to me, but I think that the captaincy should fall to the person that the manager wants rather than to the County champions.

"I've often heard of people saying that we didn't get on, well Charlie and myself always got on. I'm 35, he's the same, and I'd say that we've never once, never once, had a bad word to each other. Not once. You

know I'm sure many people have asked Charlie about me and many people have asked me about Charlie and I'm sure we're the very same. Now unfortunately we have people around us who would say differently but we've always had a great relationship. Now I'm not a guy who goes to pubs or anything and Charlie does so from a social point of view, we may never have socialised together but certainly from a performance point of view, we would have."

Carey is quite a private man. It is clear that he is a model professional. But it must have been difficult as a sixteen to twenty year old young man growing up in the manner in which he did. He never drank and he never smoked. His incredible discipline seems to have been the cornerstone of his remarkable career. And he dismisses the pressures that many young people today would experience as teetotalers.

"No not one of my friends ever put me under one ounce of pressure. Anyone who knew me knew I was pretty solid about what I thought and I had my own ideas and I think I got very

much respected for that. And I think anyone who doesn't respect a guy for his own thoughts need to look at themselves and maybe they're a bit insecure in what they do themselves.

"And vice-versa I would never condemn or say anything against the guy who has a couple of pints, that's totally their own business. The only thing I'd be against would be a guy having a few pints, getting into his car, and going home. My parents didn't drink either. I always had in my head that if I wanted to be a good sportsman I shouldn't drink and I stick by that."

Carey's discipline is something that seems unique in the midst of modern day sports stars. There is an interesting comparison to be drawn between DJ and others of his stature in professional games. "I'd have a bit of a problem in terms of a guy who's ill disciplined

in terms of the guys he's playing with. So, if you're a soccer player or a rugby player, you do the same as everyone else and if you don't do the same, just get out.

"When it comes to being playboys, some guys market themselves and that's fine, and they make a career out of it. But some guys let themselves down very badly, whether it be taking drugs or leaving themselves wide open, and that's up to themselves. When it comes to footballers, I would have a problem with a guy letting his teammates down, if he doesn't train or doesn't perform on the pitch because of his off the field behaviour. Whatever he does off the field is his own business but I have to say that guys do let themselves down. Everyone at that level is a role model and whatever way he applies himself will influence the kids coming on."

Meanwhile Carey's own children watch their father's spotlight finally beginning to dwindle as they find themselves in a different world from the one a certain three boys found themselves in all those years ago in Gowran. A different world certainly. But the journey ahead, as DJ will teach them, is just as hazardous but perhaps all the more rewarding.

"At the moment they're into sport and I'm very happy with that because they're running around, they're pretty healthy and they're pretty handy with sport. Whatever will be will be. I would love to see them being top-class at any sport, but it will be difficult because they'll always be compared to me whether that's right or wrong. I would absolutely love to see



The eircom league has begun to take a similarly commercial direction to that of the Premiership. **Ben Blake** examines the consequences

DOWN THE LINE

Gypsies decide that it's time to move on



The first sod of turf is overturned at a Greenfield site in North Dublin. The completion of the project may be a few years off yet, but this symbolic act represents the beginning of a bright new chapter in the history of one of Ireland's most famous football clubs.

In an overwhelmingly one-sided vote, Bohemians FC members earlier this month chose to up and leave their home in the heart of Dublin City in exchange for €40m and a purpose-built 10,000-seater stadium in Harristown. Property developer Liam Carroll (reputed to be worth over €1.5bn) will make annual payments of €3.2m until the stadium is ready (estimated 5 years), whereby the remaining balance will be handed over.

All this is sure to have Gypsy fans falling over themselves with anticipation. Making the club the richest in the country's history, possibilities would seem endless for the Phibsboro side. Along with a new home, they will soon appoint a manager to fill the position left vacant by the departure of Gareth Farrelly. This should in turn result in the arrival of a number of new playing staff, quite possibly of Eircom League-winning ability, due to the club's new financial power.

In an attempt to predict the future for Bohemians, some may look to our closest counterparts for a comparison. Take the recent big-money takeovers of a number of clubs in the English Premiership, and in particular the story of Chelsea FC. Since the beginning of the Russian Revolution three years ago, the London club have won two of the last three domestic titles. While there are several obvious, significant differences between the situation of the two clubs, at first glance at least, it would look as though the immediate future of Bohs is an extremely exciting one.

In a perfect world, such a superior level of wealth would lead to instant success at home and possible improvement in European competitions. This would then filter through to issues off the field, attracting greater numbers of gate receipts, filling their new home near Ballymun week-in, week-out and improving the League as a whole by bringing glamour to Irish football.

But, wait. Empty promises of hope? All this has a feel of familiarity about it. Maybe we should take a look at similar cases from the recent past. In 1997, Shamrock Rovers FC, homeless since 1987 when their ground in Milltown was sold, proposed to build a top-quality stadium in Tallaght, South Dublin. Rovers' schoolboy sides moved to nearby Kiltipper, as this would be a club for the community, Tallaght would now have an Eircom League side to follow, while the Hoops could benefit from the massive potential to attract a large fan-base and young players.

Nearly a decade later and after endless legal disputes with developers, the County Council and local GAA clubs among others, an isolated pitch surrounded by what can only be described as a building-site, stands in the proposed area.

Shelbourne Football Club during the early part of this century, dominated Irish football. Winning the league in 2002, 2003, and 2004, the North Dublin side invested heavily in players. Under the guidance of Chief Executive Ollie Byrne, they brought in the likes of Irish International Glen Crowe and the prolific Jason Byrne. The height of their pow-

ers was witnessed in 2004 when in a Champions League Qualifier, they held La Liga big-guns Deportivo La Coruna to a scoreless draw in front of an electric atmosphere at Lansdowne Road. It hasn't been all good news since then however. Just two weeks ago, the High Court finally withdrew a winding up order imposed on the club after they managed to clear a €104,000 debt to the Revenue Commissioner. Shels may still be one of the top three teams in the country, but there is no doubt that their work on the pitch has suffered because

of actions off it. Rumours continue to circulate that manager Pat Fenlon is ready to jump ship and join rivals Bohemians.

If this did materialise, what would it say for loyalty in sport? Bullying, back-stabbing and money-grabbing are all too evident in the Premiership currently, with the case

of the Ashley Cole /William Gallas affair a perfect example. But are we that bad?? If Fenlon crosses enemy lines, would top players like Byrne, or Owen Heary follow suit?

And even if we say for the sake of the argument, that such a crime did occur, whose to say that Bohemians are guaranteed legendary status. It is well-documented that the eircom League lacks the infrastructure to succeed as a commercial product. Although governing bodies have done everything in their powers to pull in the crowds (Summer football, Saturday matches changed to Friday evenings to cater for fans of the English leagues etc), attendances remain considerably low. The introduc-

tion of Setanta television and TG4's decision to show live coverage cannot be a bad thing, but it's certainly not enough. The eircom League is currently bent on the idea suggested by the Genesis Report, which is the merging of themselves and the FAI. Re-structuring the league will follow, but with this season in full-flow, that still hasn't as yet, been finalised.

We all witnessed what can happen if one becomes too ambitious, too fast. Ronan Seery had a dream, and that was to take his club Dublin City FC to the top of the eircom League and beyond. On two occasions he led his side into the Premier Division (sending Rovers to the First Division last time around), but this summer, due to increasing financial difficulties, Dublin City were forced to disband as an entity.

Analysing UCD in the same manner, one would conclude that the college side are at a polar opposite to the previously discussed. Working with a measly budget, UCD manage every year to balance the books. Through a method of concentrating on talented youth and grooming these prospects to become better players, Pete Mahon and his team have survived at the top. Some may say they are simply here to make up the numbers, that they lack the desire to evolve and grow. These are the same people who are making it their business to omit UCD from the Premier Division. These are the same people who look to the actions of Drogheda United (currently beginning work on a new stadium), Shelbourne and Bohemians as the future.

Whether those who dream this dream are realistic in their ambitions or whether they are insanely naïve to fantasise of a day when the Irish League will rub shoulders with our European counterparts, only time has the answer.

"Bullying, back-stabbing and money-grabbing are all too evident in the Premiership currently"

UCD student achieves All-Ireland glory

After Cork's All-Ireland Camogie triumph last week, **Harry Smith** caught up with player of the match **Rena Buckley**

The smog on Leaside has been dense in recent weeks. With the senior hurlers left to lick their wounds after a tense but heart-breaking defeat at the hands of arch-rivals Kilkenny in the All-Ireland final, Cork badly needed to lift the gloom from the banks of the Lee.

That onus fell on the Ladies Senior Camogie

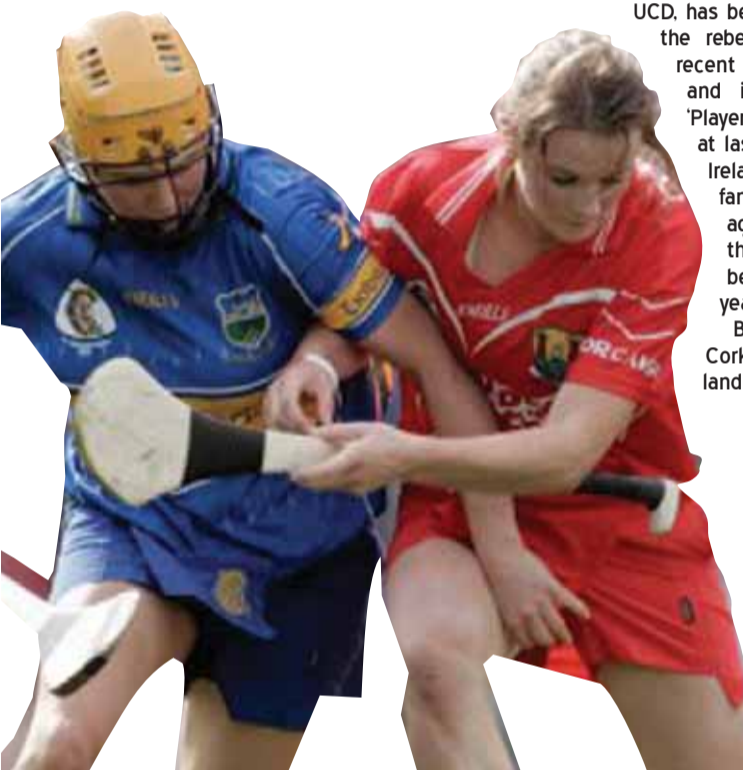
side who were pitted against the might of fellow heavyweights Tipperary. Expectations were high in the rebel camp after clinching the All-Ireland last year, but they came through the media storm to defeat Tipperary 0-12 to 0-4 in a one sided final in front of a crowd of 20,000 in Croke Park.

Rena Buckley, a physiotherapy student in UCD, has been a key member in the rebel army during their recent period of dominance, and indeed clinched the 'Player Of The Match Award' at last Sunday week's All-Ireland Final. "It was a fantastic feeling to win again especially with the added pressure of being champions last year," she muses.

Buckley was also part of Cork's triumphant All-Ireland football campaign last



Winning ways: Cork Senior camogie side who saw off Tipperary



The ambitions for this year would have to be trying to win the National Cup in camogie after the disappointment of losing in the final last year

year which culminated in a victory over Galway. They have successfully maintained their excellent form into this season and face Armagh in the upcoming championship decider in October.

The physical demands of both sports make it particularly difficult for her to combine the two. This clearly amounts to a very busy schedule for Buckley. "The managements have been excellent in getting us prepared.

"The pre-season training is always difficult but

towards the latter stages of the championship, we are able to get more rest with more time between matches." Both the camogie and football teams of UCD have enjoyed successful seasons with Buckley instrumental to their success.

"The ambitions for this year would have to be trying to win the National Cup in camogie after the disappointment of losing in the final last year and also regaining the O'Connor Cup in football".

With her many sporting commitments, it is difficult to understand how Buckley is capable of balancing her many commitments. "I find that the secret is to have goals and apply focus which I find I'm able to do in both my studies and my sporting interests." Of course there is no greater enemy to oneself than ones own potential.

UCD suffer the blues in RSC dogfight

SPORT IN BRIEF

UCD	0
Waterford Utd	0
Ben Blake	

UCD were held to a scoreless draw at the RSC on Friday night, as Waterford United climbed off the bottom of the Eircom League Premier Division.

While both sides battled tirelessly throughout and a point apiece seemed a fair outcome, the students will be kicking themselves they didn't make the most of a number of clear-cut opportunities, particularly in the opening half.

The visitors spurned a great chance to take the lead 25 minutes in. Gary Dicker received the ball in the middle of the park and managed to thread a pass to winger Derek Doyle with his accurate through-ball. Finding himself inside the danger area, Doyle failed to keep his effort down, and could only watch on as the ball sailed harmlessly over the bar.

On the half hour mark, Doyle turned provider and split the Waterford defence open to pick out Conor Sammon. With the goal at his mercy however, the front-man shot straight at stopper Ben Spicer, who seemed surprised to find the ball nestled in his arms.

Waterford hit back before the interval, as



Ger McCarthy should have done better when he headed off-target from close range. Then McCarthy and College keeper Darren Quigley collided as the latter won the race to clear the ball away. Thankfully, Quigley's injury was not serious and he resumed play after some treatment.

Making a swift recovery, the Irish Under-21 International then reacted well to smother Alan Cawley's low strike.

Play after the break was stop-start, as the second-half proved less uneventful than the first. Doyle saw another effort rebound off a defender, but the ball was thumped clear before anyone could capitalise. The result sees Waterford United move off the foot of the table for the first time all season.

Waterford United: Spicer, Flynn, Hedderman, Kealy, Hayes, Grant, Chambers, P McCarthy, G McCarthy, Cawley, Kavanagh (Brosnan '32)
UCD: Quigley, Mahon, Ryan, Kenna, McNally, McDonnell, McWalter, Dicker, Sammon, Byrne (Purcell '86), Doyle. Referee: Mark Gough (Limerick).

	P	GD	PTS
Shelbourne	21	30	47
Derry City	18	18	40
Cork City	21	11	39
Drogheda U	20	9	37
Sligo Rvrs	22	0	35
Bohemians	23	-1	27
St Pat's A	23	-2	27
Longford Tn	22	-2	25
UCD	23	-5	25
Waterford U	23	-29	11
Bray Wndrs	22	-29	10

Ladies' Soccer:

The Ladies' Senior Summer side have won the DWSL Premier Division for the fourth consecutive year, and did so with one game to spare. They claimed the title at Belfield Park with a comprehensive 9-0 victory over Dundalk Women's F.C.

Meanwhile, they have progressed safely through to the second round of the FAI Women's Cup with another high scoring annihilation, this time the victims were the Wexford League. Keeping a clean-sheet yet again, College had four scorers in the game as Waldron, Cullen, Kelly and Jenkins all grabbed a brace each to set themselves up nicely for the next round.

Superleague:

It's that time of the year again attempting to put together a team of 16 lads who actually play like Carlos Tevez, and don't just resemble a colony of trolls. There is also the issue of a name. After much deliberation, you will probably go with something like "Red Star Belgrove", or "Locomotive Mer-ville".

The ever-popular Budweiser Superleague begins at the end of the month, but application forms must be handed in to Diarmuid McNally in the Sport Office by 5p.m. on Thursday 21st September. Forms are available from the Sports Office, the Sports Centre, and the Soccer Stand at the Sports Expo. Registration is 50.00 euro per player for the season, and the first captain's meeting will be held in Theatre Q of the Arts Block on Tuesday 26th September.

Women's Hockey:

The Irish Hockey Association brought a youthful squad to France for this year's Le Touquet, France. This was done in order to aid the development of inexperienced players, giving the more senior members a chance to rest. UCD Sports scholarship student Lisa Jacob profited from this policy as she gained her first Irish cap in their one-nil win over Scotland.

SPORT



WE TALK
TO ALL-
IRELAND
WINNER
RENA
BUCKLEY
PAGE 27



EXPULSED

UCD to take no part in Dublin or Leinster C'ships

The College Tribune can reveal that UCD will not compete in this year's Dublin Senior Hurling Championship, and will also miss out on the subsequent Leinster and All-Ireland championships.

Having been crowned County champions for the past two consecutive years, UCD will this year be forced to make the most of their Walsh and Fitzgibbon Cup outings. Developments to this regard began last year when a number of clubs threatened to boycott the Dublin Hurling Championships if UCD were included in the draw.

The reasoning behind this move was that UCD were a college side playing in a club championship, rather than a universities championship, and that UCD subsequently had access to players from all over the country, which could also go and play for their respective parish clubs.

Subsequently, UCD have pulled out of the Dublin Hurling Championship after immense pressure from the County Board and clubs across Dublin. The issue was then handed over to a committee known as the Club Championship Task Force, who declared that ideally, UCD's involvement in the Senior Hurling Championship should be continued. However, the Dublin County Board since affirmed that UCD were too strong a side and for this reason should be thrown out of the competition.

Director of GAA in UCD Dave Billings claims the college's omission from 2006 Championship is down to a clash of dates. "The round-robin

Ben Blake
stage was arranged during the exams. We asked the board to move the match from Sunday 8th May I think, to the previous Wednesday, as the exams were starting on the 9th. Unfortunately they (the Dublin Board) couldn't accommodate our request, and that's the reasoning."

The Task Force, taking account of the Dublin Board's reluctance to admit UCD, decided a path into the Leinster Championship could be feasible. In an attempt to make room for the inclusion of a college team as a wildcard, they have reduced the number of participants from

12-6. The remaining teams will now take part in either the Intermediate or Junior Championships. This college wildcard would go straight through to the Provincial Championship to meet the winners of each county, and therefore would have been ideal for UCD.

With neither the college nor the County

UCD Director of GAA Dave Billings (R), and Dublin Manager Paul Caffrey



Board following up the option with adequate action, this year's Congress in Killarney came and passed without a solution being resolved, leaving UCD absent from the country's most prestigious competition. Liam O'Neill, the current Leinster Council Chairman, and the Chairman of the Task Force on Club Championship Eligibility outlined events to the College Tribune: "They lost it by not getting the rule changed last Congress. If they were to be in the Championship next year, something would have to change between now and the next Congress. It's now that the work should be done for next year."

So, without a major title to challenge for, UCD must compete solely in the intervarsity competitions. Whether this will be a major blow for the club, who attract top hurlers through their reputation for success in recent years, is as yet, unforeseeable. O'Neill sees a light at the end of a relatively short tunnel, in which UCD will swiftly pass, in his opinion. "I'm disappointed for various reasons, obviously for the fact that they (UCD) won't be there. I don't think it will be an on-going story. Dublin college hurling is no doubt on a high at the moment, but that won't always be the case. Leinster promotes the involvement of 3rd level teams; I think they will come back."

Billings, amongst the confusion, was also adamant that the issue be resolved as soon as possible: "Hopefully in the future, the situation will rectify itself."

the **SIREN**

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the summer of music

we review a packed
festival season

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brian dillon

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inside September 19th reviews



Justin Timberlake's latest offering promised to show an artist unrecognisable from his boy band days, but it fails to deliver

plan b



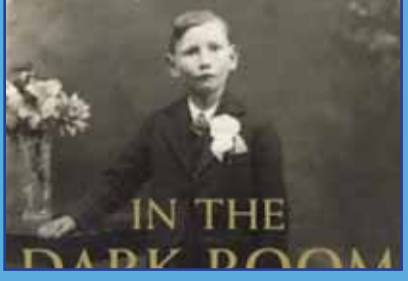
"I don't need an award to tell me my music is good"

fashion



"These women are extremely successful at the boho look"

brian dillon



I didn't know that peoples' jaws actually dropped

They're far too loose...

His watch is ticking. Not too worried yet. He takes a long drag on his smoke and sits back to admire the lake. Takes in the scenery. He looks at the can of Dutch Gold in his other hand before taking a healthy swig. Time to go.

Republic Of Loose (ROL) front man Mick Pyro was spotted just minutes before being due on stage at a gig in UCD last year. He was chilling by the lake with a smoke in one hand and a can of Dutch Gold in the other. Funny that services didn't move him on. It's then that you know you've hit the big time.

Perhaps it was the 2005 hit single "Comeback Girl" that sent ROL on the way to such prominence. That massive summer hit was followed up in 2006 with the solid album "Aaagh", which proves that ROL is here to stay.

After all, any band that loses out only to Christy Moore for top spot in the Album charts can be pretty happy with themselves. As front man, Mick Pyro says himself "Christy's a legend, its not as if we were beaten to number one by West-life".

It all started for The Loose in 2001, formed on the back of a band called Johnny Pyro. Mick and his brother Dave joined up with Brez, Coz Noleon, Benjamin Loose and Deco and began creating music, fuelled by the powerful mix of the odd glass of whiskey thrown in with inspiration from every North American Influence imaginable, from The Stones to James Brown.

Prince to Jeff Buckley, Outkast to Clapton, and beyond.

As for the sound that resulted, it can't really be pigeon holed: words like sleaze, grumpy, funk and grime, fit any attempt to describe The Loose's music, but so do phrases like 80's pop, slinky R'n'B, or retro reggae. Quite a confusing mix, but it works somehow. There's no point in trying to understand the music by pinning it to a genre, its simply good music.

When asked about what had changed since the band's success, Mick said that although its true the crowds might have grown, and that he

The Loose are sticking to what they know best... writing about what they got up to on another wasted weekend, something that many students can relate to.

does get recognised a bit more around town. The Loose are sticking to what they know tbest. That's writing about what they got up to on another wasted weekend, something that many students

can relate to. At the same time these tunes are winning over younger fans, just enjoying the unique sound that mixes together just about every style and taste of music out there at the moment.

The recent album 'Aaagh' has something for everyone. Whether you like listening to Jay-Z or Snow Patrol, you'll find at least one song on 'Aaagh', which you won't be able to get out of your head all day.

Republic of Loose play the Student Bar in, this Thursday September 21st. www.republicofloose.com

The Republic of Loose are drawing in the crowds, but they remain true to themselves, writes **David Connolly**



The Loose: Numerous influences but a distinctive sound





Fringe Worthy

John O' Flynn checked out the Dublin Fringe Festival and found many an artistic gem away from the mainstream

Dublin's Fringe Festival has been part of the city's summer events for 12 years, and continues to grow in scope.

This year, the organisers have brought contemporary artists from all over the globe, for what is their most ambitious programme yet. The Fringe's director, Wolfgang Hoffmann, aims "to transform the city, to change its pulse and to inject mega wattloads of creative energy into its veins."

For these 2 weeks of September, various venues in Dublin: Dundrum, Ballymun and Dun Laoghaire, will host group and solo performances of dance, theatre, visual arts and music.

With 116 different events taking place between Saturday 9th and Sunday 24th, (many free of charge) there is a lot to take in, and certainly a show to suit everyone's taste.

Theatre

In the words of **Graham Main**, the festival's programme manager, the festival's aim is to present it's audiences with "experiences that range from dark to comic and easy to enjoy... drama that will make people stop and think".

There are dozens of theatrical performances taking place over the 16 days of the festival, and the following is only a brief overview.

The opening show "Experience" is a project created entirely by youth groups from Ireland, the UK, Germany and Latvia, featuring artists working in dance, music and circus performance. Working with the theme of New Europe, they have composed a performance that combines their skills and disciplines as well as reflecting the diversity of their cultures.

"John Moran and his Neighbour Saori" is one of the eagerly anticipated shows that are taking place. Moran is an eccentric musical composer and performer who has written operas with sampled television snippets, about topics such as the Manson family, starring Iggy Pop and Uma Thurman. In his new piece of music-theatre, he performs with classically trained Japanese gymnast and dancer Saori Tsukada.

This should prove to be quite a strange ordeal. For an equally intense experience,

look no further than the Norwegian show "hold me" which focuses on the experience of being a teenager, trapped between the world of child and adult.

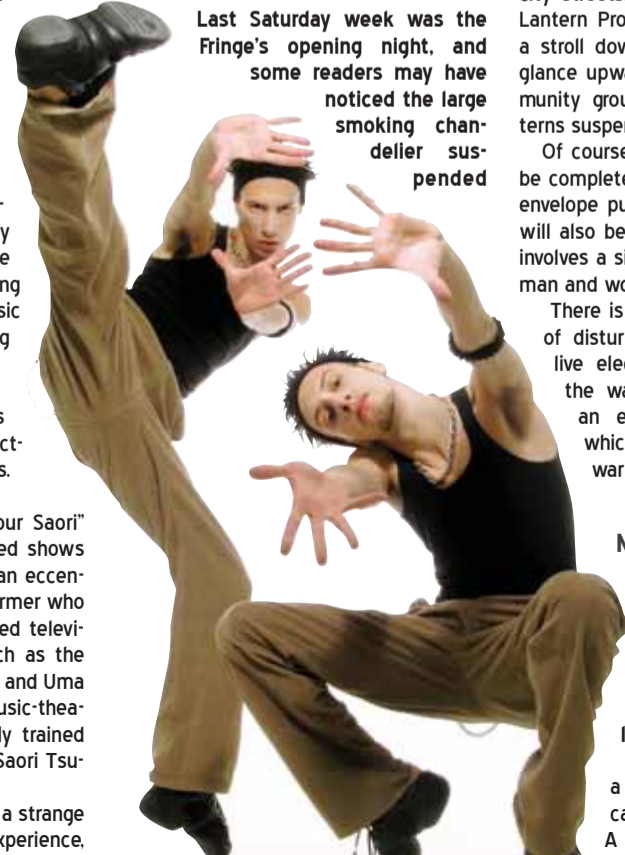
On the lighter side of the programme, there is much to choose from. "Duel: Sons of Liberty II" takes place in a low budget soft-core porn studio, and will feature fruit fights, dancing, massages and Mel Gibson in a hilarious piece mocking stereotypes and popular culture.

"Filth" is an award-winning satirical cabaret show, taking place in Pravda. "The Comedy Jesus Show" portrays Jesus as an improvising stand-up comedian, answering the audience's questions about life, the universe and everything. In the Dundrum Mill Theatre, "Why Men Cheat" does exactly what it says on the tin.

If you're looking for something more traditional, Moliere's "The Impostor" is playing at the Samuel Beckett theatre, in an adaptation that mixes theatre and music. There is also a modern version of the Antigone legend, titled "Antigone Interactive", where the audience will decide the heroine's fate.

Live/Visual Art:

Last Saturday week was the Fringe's opening night, and some readers may have noticed the large smoking chandelier suspended



out over the Liffey around George's dock, a fiery beacon to lure passers-by to the fire installation that decorated the docklands.

The French Compagnie Carabosse transformed the docklands, using burning fire pots, stoves and floats as decorative sculptures. The entire IFSC area was bathed in the glow of hundreds of open fires, offering those who walked through, warmth for their hands and a spectacular show for their eyes.

Some of the most interesting acts of the Fringe are to be found in the Visual Arts field. "Food for Life" sees Michelin chef Kevin Thornton imparting his love of food to the audience with live cookery, followed of course by live audience tasting.

"It's an Audio De-Tour" is a headphone-guided adventure-for-two through the city streets. Stuck for time? Then "The Lantern Project" is for you. Simply take a stroll down the Liffey boardwalk and glance upwards, where artists and community groups are displaying their lanterns suspended from the trees.

Of course, the Fringe Festival wouldn't be complete without some experimental envelope pushing. Ample chin scratching will also be provided by "Inexhib", which involves a silent performance by a naked man and woman.

There is also "Clone Factory", a cycle of disturbing images combined with live electronic music, which carries the warning "Contains material of an extreme and graphic nature which may offend". You have been warned.

Music

Most of the music acts at the Fringe perform in the Spiegelent, an elegant circular venue, constructed from wood and mirrors, which floats on the artificial lake of the IFSC.

The screening of "Man with a Movie Camera" was a magical event for all who attended. A live band, hidden behind the



projector screen, played their self-composed soundtrack to this 1929 experimental Russian documentary.

Trams crossing, women getting haircuts, machines turning, children playing... everyday scenes became visual treats, accompanied by 3epkano's instrumental soundscapes, reminiscent of Sigur Ros and 66e. By the end of the film, the audience was in a trance.

There is a great variety of music this year, with Disco Brasil opening the festivities, which featured live Capoeira and samba drumming. Other countries represented include Argentina's Pequena Orchestra Reincidentes, Czech electrified folk band Czechomor, Portuguese old-school rock band Wraygunn and the great Tony Allen, from Nigeria.

However, the Fringe has also managed to unearth many unique Irish acts for the line-up, such as cabaret diva Karen Egan, the Dublin Gospel Choir, and northside klezmer group 'The North Strand Klezmer Band'.

That's traditional Jewish party music, for those of you who haven't had the pleasure of seeing them. They play energetic, irresistibly danceable music at their regular gigs in Dublin.

This year, there are many famous names in electronic music to be enjoyed. Dublin band Autamata, who mix techno beats with pop lyrics, will be playing on Wednesday. Fourtet (aka Kieran Hebden) will bring his organic folk-electronica in a live show with jazz drumming legend Steve Reid on Thursday. The legendary



dfakjf

Mr.Scruff will be Djing a mix of reggae, soul and hip-hop to entertain the crowd next Friday, all of which takes place in the Spiegelent

If this isn't your sort of thing, then perhaps you should take a stroll down to the Temple Bar Inn this week. There you can enjoy a live performance of Mozart's first opera "Bastien & Bastienne" from a comfortable seat in a pub, and wash all that classical music down with a pint of Guinness.

Dance

There are 11 different dance acts presented at the Fringe this year, including work by many cutting-edge Irish choreographers.

"I Can't Handle Me" is a solo performance depicting a woman's struggle with issues of identity, love, sex, drugs and inner demons. "The Flowerbed" is loosely based on the tale of Romeo and Juliet, narrating the conflict between two neighbouring households in a humorous and violent show.

Other highlights include "Beaute Plastique" is a duet between a female dancer and a female mannequin, exploring "the eternal battle between woman as object and woman as person". This is paired with "Silvery Snot", where three male dancers explore the spectrum of movement styles between hardness and fluidity.

aural examinations



justin timberlake
futuresex/lovesounds

Four years on from his debut album, *Justified*, and Justin Timberlake's latest offering promised to show an artist unrecognisable from his boy band days.

Futuresex/lovesounds however fails to deliver. An uncharacteristic parental advisory sticker and an impressive array of collaborations with some of the biggest names in hip-hop suggests we might see something fresh from Timberlake.

The first release off the album, *Sexy Back*, is new and different; the electronic voice distortion and hip-hop influence of Timbaland work well to create a great

track.

While this should have been a good indication of what the rest of the album had to offer, in reality it is where the album peaks. The disappointing number of filler songs like *Love Stoned*, *All Over Again* and *Until the End of Time* are reminiscent of the sounds on his last album.

The few decent tracks feature artists like Snoop Dogg on *Pose* and Will.I.Am on *Damn Girl*. Unfortunately these songs are not enough to carry the album and serve only to show that when he is left to himself, Timberlake will keep producing the same old pop songs and ballads.

The attacks directed allegedly towards Britney Spears should also have been let die on his last album. *Cry Me a River* featured on *Justified* created scandal and speculation but was arguably a good song.

What Goes Around Comes Around can be seen as his latest attempt to create sensation, however the seven and a half minute description of karma is tedious at best. His high profile break-up is used again to create publicity and it is disappointing that his celebrity lifestyle demands more attention than his music on this album.

Ruth Davey



kasabian
empire

Really? That's it? After all the hype? As well received as their first album was, *Empire*, Kasabian's second album, is simply a perfect blueprint of why most Brit rock today is the same flavour, plain old vanilla.

From the pomp(ousness) of title track *Empire* to the dull contrived chaos of *Apnoea* not a single song looks to have the pull of the 2004 smash *Club Foot*, the whole album has no real highs or lows, creating an experience that feels hollow. Mediocrity has never sounded more average and monotone in the shape of Tom Meighan, whose risible voice fails to stick in the memory at all, adding to the sense that this album is ultimately lacking.

However, you'll be hearing this album, whether in the charts or in adverts, songs like *Stuntman* and *Shoot The Runner* (with a bizarre glam stomp) destined to linger around our consciousness for weeks to come. To be fair, Kasabian do try and widen their range on this album, with the introduction of the aforementioned glam along with electronica and vaguely North African flavours, with some success, before departing back to more predictable territory with *By My Side* and *Sun Rise Light Flies*.

It's hard to sound too bad when you throw this much money and effort at production after all, especially as Kasabian resolutely keep the toys in the pram and their finger off the button, with risk taking at a minimum.

With an ending that didn't include the misplaced British Legion and the self-indulgent *The Doberman*, Leicester's finest might have produced an album that doesn't leave quite a bitter - and disappointed - taste in the mouth.

Jack Cane



sharam
dubai gu 19

Sharam has already appeared twice on the *Global Underground* CD series as one half of the popular DJ duo *Deep Dish*, but this time he ditches his partner in crime *All Shirazinia* for a solo set.

The mixed album starts off with *Dyad 10's 'sugar'*, which is a deep house track the like of which *Deep Dish* are best known for. The mix livens up with some funky synths on *'Passing Light'* and a very bouncy bassline on the Felix remix of *'Bliss'*.

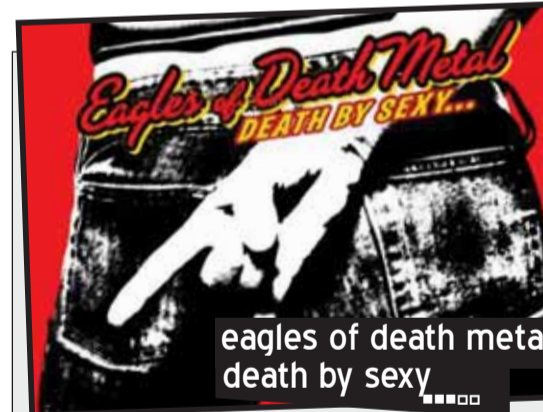
There are a few overindulgent, drawn-out breakdowns that would have techno-heads cringing, but when the beat comes back in, it's usually good enough to keep you interested. The last track on the first CD *'Eiffel Nights'* is a corker, and it's by far the best track on the whole album.

The second CD is a lot livelier than the first, and it appears that Sharam is driving for a more upbeat sound in the absence of Ali. Bouncing funky electro bass-lines push things along in the form of *Def E's 'Ape Stalking'*, featuring vocals that rhythmically compliment the bouncing bass-lines and *'Magna'* has a nice *New Order*-esque 80s flavour.

Several tracks make effective use of vocals reminiscent of *Delerium's 'Silence'*, but some tracks are definitely on the cheesy side (*Deep Breath Sedna & Who's Watching*).

Things do become a bit harder and more techno-ish towards the end of the second CD. (*'Alyon'* & *'If You Love Me'*) but then on the last track it suddenly loses its direction with the totally out-of-place *'Everyday'* cheesefest, which spoils what was otherwise a pretty coherent and well-put-together mix. On this CD, Sharam mixes various styles of dance music with varied success. This is not an outstanding mix by any means, but there are certainly a few gems in there.

Hugh Fowler



eagles of death metal
death by sexy

This is the 2nd album by the duo of Jesse 'Boots Electric' Hughes and Josh 'Baby Duck' Homme, and has nothing to do with death metal.

With the help of many famous friends, including Jack Black, *Eagle of Death Metal* have written an album of funny, ass-kicking rock 'n roll songs, right from the opener

'I Want You So Hard'.

Josh Homme's production echoes *Queens of the Stone Age*, with plenty of distorted guitar, eerie backing vocals and false endings. Added to this are Hughes' attention-grabbing falsetto voice to create a hot forty minutes of kicking little riffs (exemplified on *'The Ballad of Queen Bee and Baby Duck'*) and sprinkles of bluegrass flavour (*'Solid Gold'*) along with Frank Zappa-like voice-overs. Some hilariously dark moments are included, as on *'Eagles Goth'* and even some bluesy finger-picking gospel on *'Bag of Miracles'*.

This album captures the energetic, fun-loving spirit of rock'n'roll, the kind of band you'd imagine playing a rowdy roadhouse on *Route 66*. Hughes explains his attitude best: "Shocking this day and age is to go up on stage and actually smile because you're having a good time and actually not bullshit about the fact you're trying to get laid. It's about dancing and having fun and just kinda not taking everything so seriously".

John O' Flynn



james dean bradfield
the great western

It would be fair to say that the expectations for *Manic Street Preachers'* front man James Dean Bradfield's first solo album aren't exactly sky high, seeing as the group haven't exactly achieved much in the past few years.

At least Bradfield makes an effort to put together a collection of songs that compare with his group's best work,

and, thankfully, this album is a world away from the dreary pomp rock the *Manics* have been knocking out since the turn of the decade.

The album starts well with the first single release *'That's No Way to Tell a Lie'*. In place of Bradfield's trademark emotion-heavy guitar playing, come an array of harmonicas, xylophones and soaring vocal harmonies.

As well as writing most of the lyrics himself, Bradfield plays most of the instruments on the album too, and the variety of instruments gives the music a fresh sound. Though the next two tracks *'An English Gentleman'*, and *Nicky Wire's 'Bad Boys and Painkillers'* continue to impress, Bradfield then seems to run out of steam.

Jacques Brel's *'To See a Friend in Tears'* sounds like something from a *Chick-flick* soundtrack, and the rest of the songs sound like you've heard them all before.

Quite Simply, if you're a *Manics* fan, you'll enjoy *'The Great Western'* - If not, you'd be much better off spending your money in the student bar.

Kevin O'Dwyer

Time to turn to Plan B...

He's known as "that white rapper with the guitar." Conor Doyle takes a look at Plan B, one of the most original hip-hop acts to emerge in years.

"Alright, you fucking cunts!" The first thing one hears when listening to Who Needs Actions When You Got Words, the debut album from Plan B, London's latest urban hip-hop export.

To say this man demands your attention is somewhat of an understatement. At just 22 years of age, Plan B (real name Ben Drew) has crafted an original and controversial sound that has already garnered him two nominations for this year's Moby Music Awards, due to be held tomorrow night (Sept 20th).

"The only reason I give a shit about it is because it's voted for by the people," commented Drew. "I'll go to the awards, drink some champagne and have a good time, but I don't expect to win anything, so fuck it. I don't need an award to tell me my music is good."

On 'Sick 2 Def,' Drew is armed solely with an acoustic guitar rather than the usual beats that are employed by so many other hip-hop artists. It's an idea The Fugees tried in the early nineties, but only here is it so impressively (and explicitly) executed.

Whilst violently strumming the guitar Drew raps over the top with a lyrical dexterity and vocal tone reminiscent of Roots Manuva: "I talk so foul, I talk so coarse, I show no regret, I show

no remorse. Like a necromaniac raping a corpse up the anal passage while contracting genital warts."

The lyrics are so blatantly crude it's almost laughable. However, as the song progresses the listener begins to realise that Drew is playing a character and actually condemning rather than condoning such violent behaviour.

In the final verse, we observe a murderer listening to music in his bedroom, who before committing his crime "takes the CD out of the player, puts it back in its case. It has my name on the cover, along with my face."

This climax demands the listener to consider just how much the younger generation are influenced by what they see, hear, and listen to. Other tracks on the album prove Drew to be one of few rappers who are currently out there that actually possess an impressive singing voice.

On his new single, Mama, Drew's soulful voice croons with R'n'B inflections over guitar once again: "Mama, it's so black and white. While you're sitting at home, he's out smoking crack tonight." This is not your typical hip-hop artist.

Being white and having a penchant for controversy has brought Plan B many comparisons to Eminem, but Drew has little interest in his songs sounding like American hip-hop.

"I think my music could crossover but I'd never be as big as 50 Cent or anyone like that because I'm not pretending to be a gangster. Over there

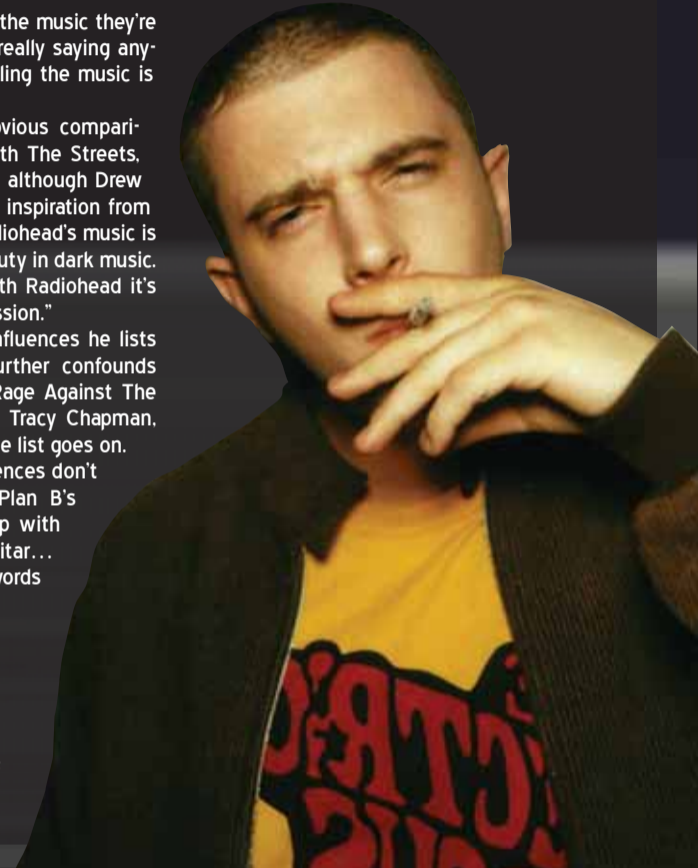
everything is about image, but the music they're churning out is shit. Nobody's really saying anything. The only thing that's selling the music is the fact the guy's been shot."

A more appropriate and obvious comparison of his music would be with The Streets, who Drew is label-mates with, although Drew himself says he draws a lot of inspiration from another British act: "I think Radiohead's music is very spiritual. I find a lot of beauty in dark music. It's an addiction really, and with Radiohead it's about being addicted to depression."

A quick look at the other influences he lists on his MySpace page only further confounds someone new to his music: Rage Against The Machine, Nirvana, The Prodigy, Tracy Chapman, Stevie Wonder, Johnny Cash, the list goes on. Such unlikely and diverse influences don't help much when describing Plan B's original sound. "It's like hip-hop with honesty, and some acoustic guitar... and a lot of swearing," in the words of them man himself.

by Conor Doyle

Plan B plays Spirit on Sept 29th.
"Who Needs Actions When You Got Words" is in stores now.
www.time4planb.co.uk



artist of the fortnight



The Gorgeous Colours

The Gorgeous Colours are indeed both gorgeous and colourful in terms of their musical output and live shows. The Dublin based four piece (Geoffrey McArdle, Neil Smyth, Tim Groenland, Glenn L'heveder) have a sound that mixes the tempo changing psychedelic pop meanderings of Architecture in Helsinki with the groove and infectious melodies of the Talking Heads.

This mix of styles is most apparent in the track "Hunting Something." Playing live, the "Colours" take on a communicable, joyous hue. The sheer pleasure the band take in playing, combined with the energy and jubilant nature of the music translates into one of the most enjoyable live bands in the country at the moment.

The Colours have already played to a packed Whelans and at the Castlepalooza festival in Offaly as well as recording a live session for "The Open Mic" on FM 104.

By Donal Casey

www.myspace.com/thegorgeouscolours
The Gorgeous Colours play in Crawdaddy on October 6th.



Gig Watch

From 19th September

- Sep 19th Tue: New Band Tour: The Chapters, Cowboy X, The Flaws- UCD Student Bar
- Sep 20th Wed: Republic of Loose - UCD Student Bar, With support from Last Tycoons and Bravest Kid in School
- Sep 21st Thu: Captain- Whelans
- Sep 22nd:Fri: Mr Scruff- Spiegelent **don't miss it**
- Sep 23rd Sat: Justice- Temple Bar Music Centre
Numark- Pod/Crawdaddys
Jurassic 5- Tripod **don't miss it**
- Sep 25th Mon: UCD Rising- The Musical Show, The Internet, Travega, Morning Hush, UCD Student Bar. **don't miss it**
- Sep 28th Thu: DJ Dexter (The Avalanches) UCD Student Bar
Papa Roach TBMC
747s-Whelans.
Legowelt Live- Wax.
- Sep 29th Fri: Plan B- Spirit **don't miss it**
- Sep 30 Sat: Goldie- TBMC
Bookashade- Pod/Crawdaddys
- Sep 2nd Mon: UCD Rising- Bravest Kid in School, Vic UCD Student Bar

health & fashion



Autumn Essentials

- Large squishy bags
- Over-sized jumpers
- Stompy boots
- Wide-legged trousers

Fresh to UCD?

The first week of college can seem like being thrown in at the deep end for many first year students. Disorientated? **Caitrina Cody** comments on the health and well-being of new students.

For those students who are encountering university life for the first time, confusion is probably one of the most dominant emotions they are feeling. Many of the new students have left home for the first time, are living with strangers and grappling with the complex registration system, while attempting to grow accustomed to being one among thousands of people. Excitement is everywhere and opportunities for new experiences are emerging but with this come conflicting emotions of fear, loneliness and isolation.

The most important thing for a new student feeling overwhelmed by the vastness of UCD to remember is that they are not alone. Most students initially feel daunted by the task of forming new friendships, taking on new subjects and dealing with their changing lifestyle. Because the lifestyle of every student is different from what it once was, especially if students are responsible for their own nutrition and housekeeping.

The whirl of social activities and the buzz of Fresher's Week leave many students convinced that college is as much about developing socially as it is about developing academically. Going out, once an event strictly confined to the weekend becomes an almost daily event and students find time between lectures to drop into the Student Bar for a refreshing pint. Once the initial exhilaration has faded though, new students find themselves struggling to settle into a routine. Here are some guidelines to surviving with the largest amount of brain cells intact as possible.

There's no point in pretending that alcohol doesn't play a prominent part in the social lives of most UCD students. The bars are hubs of activities and alcohol can help to soften the inhibitions of the most reserved students. It greases the wheels of social interaction and is an inevitable feature of college life. However, as much fun as it is to go wild and throw

caution to the wind every now and then, waking up in a ditch every second day is not something to be desired. Alcohol is a depressant and negative feelings of loneliness and isolation can increase during a hangover. Drinking excessively leads to poor concentration, health problems and also an empty wallet.

Avoid burning out by taking care of yourself. Drinking plenty of water both

Suzu is a first-year student doing science. Delighted to be finished with the monotonous routine of secondary school, she was initially a little overwhelmed by the magnitude of UCD and found it very easy to get lost in the enormous campus. She remains upbeat however insisting that 'I'll get used to it eventually. Its totally different from my old school where everybody knew each other but I'm hoping to get involved in societies and make friends that way. It can be a little bit scary but I still prefer it to the Leaving Cert!

before and after a night out can reduce the symptoms of a hangover considerably. Drinking a pint of water before going to sleep after consuming alcohol helps to flush out toxins while you rest and leaves you feeling far more human in the morning. Take it easy on yourself occasionally. While it may seem vital that your night out on a Friday night is swiftly succeeded by another night out on Saturday, it doesn't have to be so. Give your body a rest- and your liver. Sometimes staying in the odd night with a DVD or a book can be oddly enjoyable.

Depression is a huge factor among college students who find it difficult to fit into a new social group. The size of lecture halls means that the boy you had the meaningful conversation with

on Thursday is nowhere to be found on Friday and while acquaintances are plentiful, they sometimes are slow to develop into fully formed friendships. Societies are a great way of making friends with common interests and there will be plenty of opportunities to join up this week, so don't hang back. Get involved, whether it be through politics, music, sports or debating. Remember, there are thousands of students who are just as intimidated as you and are probably as eager to make friends.

Nutrition plays an important role in making the life of a student a happy and healthy one. For many students, especially those living in rented accommodation, meals become less of a priority and nutrition is often sacrificed in place of quick, cheap microwave dinners, devoid of any nutritive benefit. Fruit and vegetable simply go by the wayside. Do make an effort to consume the recommended five portions a day of fruit and vegetables- smoothies are a convenient and delicious source of all those vitamins. This will keep your immune system going the cold winter months when you find yourself standing, shivering at bus stops.

Please remember that if any of these problems become overwhelming that there is help available. Your student advisor can help you if you feel at any stage that you are struggling to balance your studies and your social life or if you are having personal problems that are interfering with your work. There is on-campus counseling available to students at the Student Centre and appointments can be made through your student advisor, chaplain or student union welfare officer.

Student Medical Centre: 01) 7163133



There's beauty in the lack of detail

Autumn '06 is all about comfort and wearability and above all, keeping it simple. **Caitrina Cody** comments on the current back-to-basics trend and its key elements.

You're flicking through the latest issue of *Heat* magazine and admiring the new photos of Sienna Miller and Kate Moss. Women who embody everything that is chic and trend setting, they possess the knack of combining seemingly bizarre articles of clothing (mini-waistcoats, black ankle boots, oddly-shaped hats) to produce an effortlessly elegant look.

You study the pages for a while imagining a parallel universe in which someone like you would ever wear such an ensemble. You picture yourself strolling into the Student Bar, a trilby hat cocked cheekily over your forehead, a men's tie noosed around your neck, your pirate-style waistcoat perfectly complimenting your numerous strands of beads and chains. You laugh, sigh, throw the issue in the recycling bin and set off for TopShop to purchase clothes that while not vintage and 'interesting' won't provoke the laughter of all who see you.

If like the average person, you are simply unable to create something magical from attic remnants combined with a few killer designer pieces and you have suffered through the last few sea-

sons of bohemian chic, do not despair you are not alone. I know that when I don a pirate-style waistcoat I would simply look like a pirate, which is not a look I want to aim for. Combine that with ankle-boots and ropes of beads and I would be committing fashion suicide.

Some women possess the enviable talent of impeccable judgment when it comes to the over-the-top look. They know just how far to push it without over-stepping the boundaries of taste and ending up looking like something from *The Pirates of the Caribbean*. Thus, Kate Moss's outfits all appear casual and spontaneous but never absurd.

These women are extremely successful at the boho look because it is a look that is all about casual, almost eccentric elegance. A crazy combination of many-layered vests, strings of vintage necklaces,

ettes. For once, we can be stylish without sacrificing our dignity. And for those of us who are less than delighted when we feel obligated to emulate Moss and co. and drag the dressing-up chest out, there is hope. On the catwalks this season the mood was noticeably subdued, layering was still noticeable but in a decidedly more grown-up way. There were long woollen jumpers in evidence, wide trousers, sturdy boots and comfy parkas, all in a subdued palette of neutral grays, blacks and tans. With flashes of electric colour and bright glimpses of tartan thrown in there was nothing dreary about the collections and the ultimate impression was of clothes created with real three-dimensional people in mind, for a world in which weather would be a factor.

This back-to-basics approach has breathed fresh air into the claustrophobic and cluttered atmosphere of the recent season. Tunics will be big, worn over straight-leg trousers or tights with belted waists to add definition. Flowing skirts retreat into the distance as trousers - both skinny and wide - regain the prime position. Wide-legged trousers are paired with glamorous tops and bags are roomy and soft.

These UCD students demonstrate their own unique approach to fashion this fall, proving that you don't have to slavishly follow trends to look good. Using a variety of high-street choices, they've each created a coherent style that they feel best portrays their tastes and personalities. The importance of the individual in the world of fashion cannot be over-emphasised and it is essential that we learn to wear the clothes and don't let the clothes wear us. Blindly obeying the dictates of fickle fashion is a recipe for disaster because although this season's trends are surprisingly wearable and grounded, it is ultimately up to each person to take what they like from the current look and adapt it to suit

floral tea-dresses over multi-coloured tights- the look is all about excess and being able to carry it off. For those of us who do not possess these razor-sharp instincts however the look is more reminiscent of someone who simply can't choose between her jeans or her dress and so must wear them both, who chooses to wear all her beads through simple indecision and is simply at sea.

However, this season thankfully sees a return to such old-fashioned notions as simplicity and straightforward silhou-



IN

Animal instincts

It's the look we all love to hate... and its back with a vengeance on shoes, bags and trimmings. Yes, folks, leopard-print is in but please keep it to a minimum!

The new Arts block bathrooms

Females from sociology to linguistics heave a sigh of relief...No more dark and dismal bathroom breaks for us.

Full eyebrows

It's time to throw away the tweezers and let it all happen! At last the lazy option is celebrated.

Big Trousers

While skinny jeans haven't gone away, those of us who detest them can at least find solace in the deliciously roomy 'boyfriend' jeans of this season.

Girliness

I know, you love your pearls but put them away because Autumn is all about unleashing the no-nonsense Warrior within ourselves and that warrior has no time for lace and frills.

Big hair

We've had enough of the 80s-style perm...time to whip out the straighteners again as we see a return to smooth, sleek tresses.

Tiny bags

Yes, they're cute but when you're forced to make a choice between your mobile and your purse its time to up-size.

OUT

One fest to rule



This year, the organisers of Electric Picnic expanded the festival in many ways: a third full day of entertainment was added, more diverse acts performed on a greater variety of stages, and a crowd of 30,000 made their way to Laois for a weekend of madness.

Having a full schedule of acts on Friday meant that there was a mass migration of festival goers making their way down after work on Friday evening, and this delayed many people's arrival to the festival.

Massive Attack were Friday night's headline act, but their dreary music didn't create much of an atmosphere, and the crowd seemed restless.

Damien Rice opened his Big Tree stage early on Friday afternoon, and this quirky stage was an excellent feature of the festival overall. Because many acts playing here were also playing another set on one of the main stages, the Big Tree Stage allowed people to overcome timetable clashes by catching either one performance or the other. With branches of nearby trees extending over parts of the crowd, this stage proved to be one of the more intimate venues of the festival, with performances by

The Red-neck Manifesto and the Dublin Gospel Choir among the highlights.

DJ Shadow's cinematic trip-hop sounds were on display in the Electric Arena, and although hip-hop fans might have marvelled at his turntabling skills in cutting up tunes such as Organ Donor, many found his more laid-back tone difficult to get into given the raw energy of other performances over the weekend. On the main stage 80s legends New Order drew a large crowd, and the timeless classic 'Blue Monday' got the ecstatic reaction it deserved.

Pendulum provided the perfect start to Sunday with an evil drum and bass remix of The Prodigy's 'Voodoo people'. The ridiculously dressed Carl Craig's set built up from deep house grooves to a high of jackin' tech-house, while Saul Williams' mix of energetic rapping over pounding beats blew the roof off the Crawdadddy tent.

Basement Jaxx created a carnival atmosphere on the main stage with their collection of colourful dancers and charismatic singers. After warming up with material from their recent album 'Crazy Itch Radio' the crowd exploded in reaction to the popular numbers 'Rendez-vous' and 'Where's Your Head At?'

The grand finale of the entire festival was legendary French DJ Laurent Garnier. All the other arenas had

finished when Garnier took to the stage and the crowd were rearing to go. Garnier is well-known for playing quality DJ sets mixing techno with all sorts of everything, but this was a serious let-down. It was a 'Live' performance, with most of the set being jazzy minimal down-tempo chill-out music. It was good music, but it was definitely not good music to play at 12am at a festival. Even when things would finally seem to be building up into a decent groove, the beats would stop and another break would come. That said, the last half an hour was brilliant, and the masterpiece 'The Man with the Red Face' was possibly the highlight of the weekend.



The emergence of Electric Picnic as a major festival has posed the question as to whether or not it is the country's number 1 festival. Hugh Fowler investigates.

THE VERDICT

Comparing the music at the festivals, there isn't much in it, but comparing the two festivals overall, there is no competition: The atmosphere at Electric Picnic is, without a doubt, way ahead of Oxegen. It's not just the musicians you go to see that make the festival great, at Electric Picnic it's everything else that's there that makes it so special.

Random art was dotted all over the place, patterned sheets and Christmas lights led the way through the forest, colourful flags were flying high in the campsite. The Lost Vagueness tent was a bizarre mix between a twisted cabaret show and a hedonistic madhouse.

The Body & Soul enclosure offered an array of alternative experiences, from full body massages to live performance art, and at night the enclosure's subtle colourful lighting and relaxing chill-out tunes created the perfect place to get away from the all of the madness for a few moments.

At Oxegen, the non-musical entertainment is limited to say the least. A big screen in the campsite showed the World Cup final, while at Electric Picnic the Ireland V Germany match was shown in a sheltered tent complete with bean bags and singsongs.

But the best treats at The Picnic were found where you'd least



le them all....

oxegen

Electric Picnic as a
posed the question
Oxegen is the
festival. Detective
stigates...

CT



expect it, from a giant canvass
where anyone was free to paint what
they liked, to a bouncy-castle church where peo-
ple can go through a bizarre bouncy wedding ceremony, to
a rave in the carpark that kept going until the sun came up.

Finally, that the overall organization of Electric Picnic
makes the whole thing much more enjoyable. At Oxegen it's
as though the crowd are cattle being herded through check-
points, from carpark to campsite, filtered up to the stages
and then back to the campsite.

Everyone plods past security staff hiding their cans and
showing their wristbands, whereas at Electric Picnic there's
much more of a feeling that you can do what you want.
Once past the front gate, there is no hassle from any secu-
rity, about anything. The campsite flows into the festival
area, and you can carry a big bottle of coke and vodka right
up to the front if you want, whereas in Oxegen they'd be
queuing up to confiscate it from you.

Despite all of this, it has to be said that Oxegen is still
great craic, its just that there's so much better craic to be
had at Electric Picnic. Hopefully next year it'll somehow be
even better, with more wacky sideshows, more all-night
parties, and constant sunshine. Oh, and it'll be a month
long.

If
you include its previous incar-
nation (Witness), Oxegen has
been running for a total of
eight years. This year, the line-
up featured many musical heavy-
weights, and tickets sold out in less than 12
hours. 80,000 people each day make Oxegen
the biggest music festival in Ireland, but does
bigger necessarily mean better? The
most horrendous rain Oxegen has seen
in years turned Punchestown into a total
mudbath, but rain was never going to
dampen an Irish crowd's spirits.

Crews from South Korea, France and the U.S.
wowed the crowd with some spectacular acro-
batics in the Red Bull Break-in stage, where an
international break-dancing competition offered
a diversion from the regular Oxegen entertain-
ment.

Later on, the Mercury Music Prize winning
Arctic Monkeys proved to be one of the high-
lights of the weekend, still riding
on the wave of success that
followed their massive de-
but album "Whatever Peo-
ple Say I Am, That's What
I'm Not".

The stalwart rock band of
the nought-ies, The Strokes
were next, but they didn't
manage to generate the same
buzz in the crowd as the Mon-
keys before them. That said,
'Last Night' had the entire place
hopping as everyone chanted
along with the chorus.

For many, it was The Who that pro-

vided
something special for the weekend.
Easily the most influential performers on
the bill, they did not disappoint their fans.
Opening with 'I Can't Explain' they worked
their way through their greatest hits, before
returning for an encore with tracks from the
'Tommy' album.

Finishing off on the main stage was the legen-
dary James Brown. 'The godfather of soul' may
be 73 years old, but he still managed to put on
a show with enough funk to get the massive
crowd grooving to his jazzy trumpet melodies
and funky slapped basslines.

He could still whoop and scream just like he
did when he was at the height of his powers, but
his dance moves were a little bit lacking- you
felt like his hip would have split in two if he at-
tempted one of his trademark 'splits' moves.

In the dance arena, the awesome Vitalic tore
the place apart with a pounding set, although a
mistake on the official timetables meant many
people missed out on the popular DJ/producer's
performance.

As usual
the dance
arena was
situated in a
massive sweaty
warehouse.

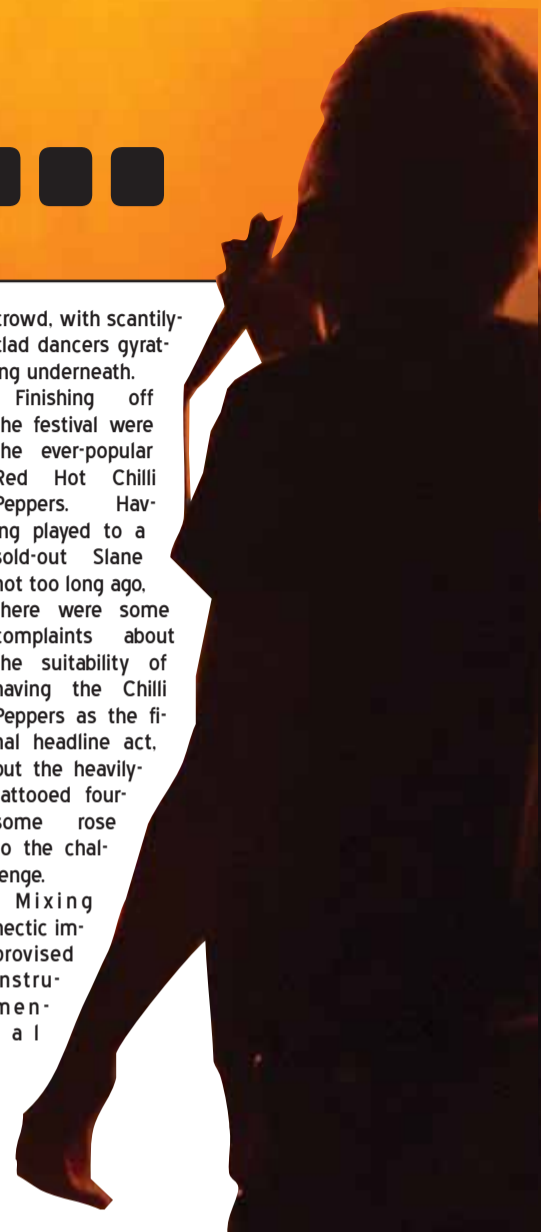
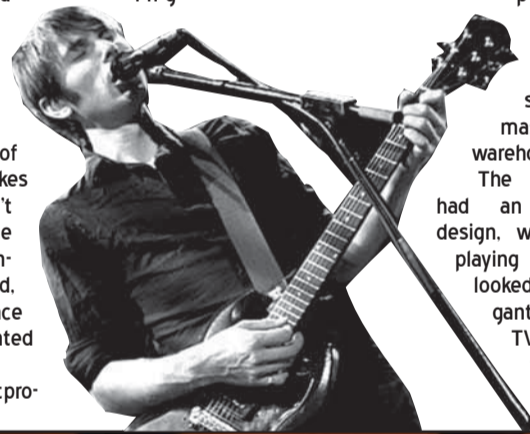
The stage itself
had an impressive
design, with the DJs
playing inside what
looked like a gi-
gantic elevated
TV set about
thirty feet
above the

crowd, with scantily-
clad dancers gyrat-
ing underneath.

Finishing off
the festival were
the ever-popular
Red Hot Chilli
Peppers. Hav-
ing played to a
sold-out Slane
not too long ago,
there were some
complaints about
the suitability of
having the Chilli
Peppers as the fi-
nal headline act,
but the heavily-
tattooed four-
some rose
to the chal-
lenge.

Mixing
hectic im-
provised in-
strumen-
t a l

sections with well-known
classics like 'Under The
Bridge' and 'Scar Tissue',
the band rounded off Ox-
egen with a bang, leaving the
80,000 strong crowd buzzing
all the way back to the camp-
sites.



Moore genre jumping to ponder

Fourteen years after writing 'Children of Men', P.D. James' excellent book has been adapted for the titillation of the greater illiterate public.

The plot, both book and film, centres around a miraculously pregnant woman in a desert of barrenness in anarchic 1927 London. The world's youngest citizen has just died at a fleetingly post-pubescent 18 and it seems that the whole of mankind is destined for a brief flirtation with infertility before ultimate extinction.

For some reason unbeknownst to us all, the world's women just can't get pregnant and although this may seem like a dream for the average male student, it has rather serious implications for the world.

Never fear however, as amid nationalist rioting in London, Theodore Faren (Clive Owen) and his revolutionary ex-wife Julian (Julianne Moore) bolt into action and attempt to transport the little saviour to safety.

You won't win prizes for observance by stating that films are subjective things and if you like the sci-fi / world-is-definitely-maybe-going-to-end type genre, it may well be possible that you will enjoy this latest effort from Director Alfonso Cuarón of Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azcaban fame.

While the film may seem superficial and threadbare at the outset, it raises a number of more serious ethical issues that affect us in our everyday life.

While obviously we don't live in a world of fateful impotency, it raises serious issues relating to our attitudes towards reproduction today, such as abortion or artificial means.

It is refreshing that such deeply philosophical and moralistic arguments are at least introduced in a current mainstream movie.

And while these undertones may be a little far-fetched, particularly given that the book was written in the relatively innocent days of 1992, the biblical comparisons cannot be overlooked.

The whole Adam and Eve scenario mixed with the Virgin Mary carrying mankind's saviour resonate into a hotchpotch of religious symbolism.

Innately, this is more than just another drama set in the future. It uses something that we as a society, not as individuals, take for granted and displays that it is quite obviously the core of our existence.

It's well worth a look, if only for the head-trip.

Eoin Mac Aodha



children of men

■■■■□



Have Marshall arts films kicked the bucket?

It is no coincidence that martial arts movies are becoming more and more a thing of the past, writes **Barra O'Fianail**

Notwithstanding the touch of class lent to the genre of martial arts movies by relatively recent films such as *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, they really don't tend to be that great.

Bruce Lee was an exceptional man, who is now dead. Both of these factors help his films command the reverence

they do today, but in practice do many people really watch them? Is it often that a martial arts movie is featured in a prime time slot on television? Generally speaking, the answer is that you don't see martial arts movies in prime time slots because people won't watch them.

Perhaps their most hideous subspecies of this genre are those which originate from computer games; these really are mankind's lowest ebb. The hideous offspring of parents that were never really up to much themselves.

Admittedly, the films continue to be made so some people are watching them, but this doesn't necessarily mean the movies have any merit. They're like porn, as films they're not very good, but they still satisfy some of our most basic of instincts. They appeal to the gorillas in us, if you will. These inner gorillas tend to be most prominent among adolescent males, and adolescent males tend to be the ones who watch martial arts movies.

Hopefully, the fine fellows of UCD are well past this stage in their development, at least to the point where they won't actually bother going out to see *Dead or Alive (DOA)*. *DOA* is a very appropriate title. It is the latest computer fighting game to be humpty-dumptyed into a collection of extremely unlikely scenarios on the big screen.

It started with *Street Fighter*, never has a computer game done so much for so many. Here comes the movie and once again it's rubbish.

Now *Mortal Combat* had its critics, even as a game. But to be fair it was wildly popular. Here comes the movie, shock horror, it's rubbish. *DOA* is *Street Fighter*, it is *Mortal Combat*, its every fight film that should have had the better sense than to leave our computer screens. It's rubbish.

To be fair, the females are fit. Holly Valance is in there, and the wit occasionally touches on average. All this does however, is turn a bad film into a dangerously bad film, because they have enough to make it look very cool in the trailer. Lads, don't buy it. It will hint, it will imply, it will pull you along by the short and curlies, but ultimately, this film is a boobless as we are.

If you still want to know what its about, picture a luxurious island in the Pacific ocean where every year the best fighters in the world are invited to come and do battle in order to ascertain the world's greatest. There are certain other sub-plots, and the term 'sub-plot' is to



Bruce Lee: The ultimate kung-fu cult figure

be used very loosely, but that is basically it.

Despite the fact that the token hunk is played by Matthew Marsden, and apparently he used to be in *Cornation Street*. That's pretty amusing considering how suave his character is in *DOA*, and no offence to the guy, but it's also testament to the calibre of acting right across the board in the movie. Sarah Carter, who plays Kristen, is one who perhaps should have known better but she's in an upcoming movie with Holly Valance and Paris Hilton so it may be too late.

Holly Valance's first feature film will provide a platform for her to get similar roles in similar semi-erotic movies. That her next role see's her starring alongside Paris Hilton says a lot. If she keeps accepting roles like these she could well find herself back in *Ramsey Street*, not that she deserves anything better. She is hot though.

Given the director's comprehensive career as an actor, starring in such classics as *'Attack of the kung fu girls'* and *'Hero of the wild kung fu challenger'*, it's surprising he should produce such filth here.

Some of you will perhaps get excited because you love the game and want to put personalities to the characters. You'll also probably be interested in the features which the film has borrowed from the game, including your standard fighter introductions and the *Kill Bill*-esque cinematography. My advice however, is that if you like the game, just stay at home and play it.



Not a misterman in sight

Headed by a stellar cast and supported by the script-writing abilities of the talented Michael Arndt, *Little Miss Sunshine* has captured the hearts of audiences everywhere, grossing almost \$42 million in the box office.

At first glance, the story line says little to recommend it. A dysfunctional family embarks on a road-trip, which will ultimately change their lives and relationships forever. It's not like it hasn't been done before and with varying degrees of success.

Little Miss Sunshine breaks the traditional model however, by steering clear of sickly sweet sentiment and instead retains a sharp and at times satirical perspective on the hilarious and poignant events that take place.

Toni Collette and Greg Kinnear star as Richard and Sheryl Hoover, a jaded married couple attempting to make sense of their disappointing

lives. Their teenage son Dwayne (the extremely talented Paul Dano) is a devotee of Nietzsche and has taken a vow of silence until his parents agree to let him join the air force.

Seven-year old Olive (Abigail Breslin) is being tutored in the arts of the Beauty Pageant by her heroin-snorting Grandpa (Alan Arkin) and when Sheryl's brother (Steve Carell), a deeply depressed Proustian scholar who has attempted suicide in the past comes to stay, tensions in the family escalate.

Add to this mix a cross-country quest, and the scene is set for a nightmarish portrayal of family dysfunction that mostly takes place within the confines of a large yellow mini-van.

The cast is excellent with Collette perfectly epitomising the role of the burnt-out wife and mother who wants her family to be happy, but whose energy is being drained by the financial

and emotional strain of her middle-class life in suburbia.

Greg Kinnear is convincing as an unsuccessful motivational speaker whose favourite sayings include: "Don't apologise, it's a sign of weakness." Steve Carell shows us that his abilities are not restricted to playing the funny man and his quiet misery for the first part of the film is very affecting. There is real pathos in each family member's attempt to understand the others, and the result is a bittersweet portrayal of a family on the verge of a complete breakdown.

Thrown into this are some moments of true comedy that help lift the film, directed by wife and husband team Valerie Faris and Richard Dayton, out of the doldrums of despair and give the film an upbeat, heart-warming feeling.

Caitrina Cody



little miss sunshine

The journey down memory lane

Brian Dillon
In the Dark Room

Very few people will admit to having expected to win an award, but when Brian Dillon says he wasn't anticipating picking up the Irish Book Award for Non-Fiction last year, you're inclined to believe him. "I didn't know that peoples' jaws actually dropped", he muses now.

Dillon's modesty is perhaps misplaced as his debut book, 'In the Dark Room' is quite an achievement. The book, both stylistically and in its content, is refreshingly unique. "What my publishers original-

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wanted was not a memoir at all, but a cultural history of memory", he recalls. What Dillon has come up with however is a powerful presentation of his rather troubled past.

The book is not written in the traditional blow-by-blow biographical account, rather Dillon uses specific objects from his past to evoke specific memories to

paint a very sketchy picture and give the reader isolated insights into Dillon's dark past. "There are plenty of memoirs around now and I didn't want to add to the pile," jokes Dillon.

"I suppose what is missing in the book is the fact that all this was happening in a context of me having friends etc, but I didn't want to include that because I didn't want to write a book about growing up in the eighties."

As Dillon himself comments, "It's a very crippled autobiography." This however only adds to the harrowing story he tells, centring on the author's dark childhood, and ultimately the death of his parents when he is still in adolescence.

The text is repeatedly drawn back to the present, as the author describes a photo to the reader, and the memory it evokes. He explains "I have it in front of me now." It's an interesting method that makes the reader feel he is exploring the author's psyche first hand. The honesty of it is compelling, which encourages the reader to re-

spect the bravery of the author in a way that a traditional biography would not.

One of the interesting aspects of his work is that Dillon constantly draws from the works of other artists to explain and add to his own feelings. He doesn't just do this because others "may very well have said it better" but rather explains these artists "are absolutely completely tied up with my sense of who I am."

Dillon arrived in UCD at a dark time for himself. "My mother had died three years before. I look back now and realise I spent those three years basically depressed, not just grieving, but really not well. And I suppose I did sort of come out of myself. It was a sort of turning point in terms of finding out who I was.

"By all accounts I was an exceptionally noisy baby, screaming my way through the first year, then promptly shutting up for the next eighteen," and the college was a release of sorts.

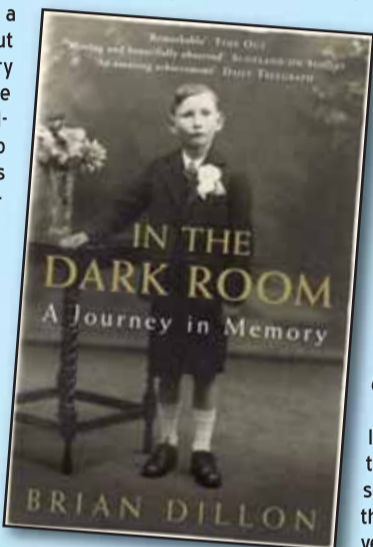
The reader also gets the sense that the book was therapeutic for Dillon himself, a full stop in a mourning process that has take over a decade. "I always used to think of myself in terms of my parents ages. I would think: what am I going to be like when I'm forty, the age that my dad got married. What am I going to be like at fifty, the age my mother died. I have found that in the last couple of years, I don't think like that anymore and maybe that had something to do with putting it on paper."

This book isn't going to satisfy people looking for a 'good read' in the traditional sense because not much happens. The book is a journey into one mans memory, and to that extent it is an amazing achievement as the cover boasts. It is a book-lovers book.

Despite the books generally dark nature, there is a slight element of humour, although again, it is very dark. The author's hypochondria, although rooted in his mother's tragic illness, is funny as Dillon acknowledges. "What sort of idiot, I have often wondered since, spends the best part of a decade convinced of his own imminent attack."

The ex-UCD man is based in London at the moment and the fact that his work has been endorsed here clearly comforts him. "I haven't lived in Ireland for ten years and it was great to be back and feel that people were paying attention to the book and that it meant something to people." If Brian Dillon continues to produce works of the standard of his fist novel, people will certainly continue to pay attention.

Barra O'Fianail



A master of his craft

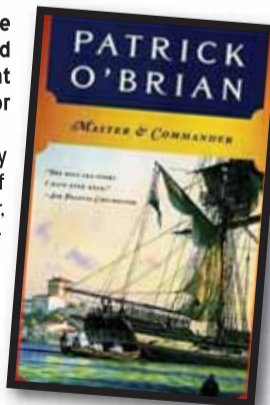
Patrick O'Brian's epic novels will have you wanting even more

"The music room in the governor's house at Port Mahon, a tall, handsome, pillared octagon, was filled with the triumphant first movement of Locatelli's C major quartet."

This begins an amazing literary journey that has been undertaken by thousands of Patrick O'Brian fans worldwide. Together, with the characters, the reader will circumnavigate the world over and over, will suffer the intolerable boredom of a sea captain being laid up on land with no chance of a ship, and experience the absolute exhilaration of a sea battle between two tall ships.

The story centres on a friendship between Stephen Maturin and Jack Aubrey, two men of contrasting extremes and identical ideologies. Both are incredibly principled, but inevitably and apparently human. The development of this friendship is perhaps O'Brian's greatest achievement and could be the product of a proud sociologist's study rather than that of a novelist.

Stephen is a tiny man, qualified as a doctor from Trinity College. A proud Irishman, a hater of tyranny in all its form, a constant proponent of Irish independence, and an intelligence officer for the English navy, although the latter is only to the end



of defeating despised Napoleon's tyranny in Europe.

Jack is a giant of a man with long golden hair, and a seaman through and through. He was raised in tall ships and can never be truly comfortable on dry land. As our story opens, Jack is receiving his promotion to a commander of HMS Sophie, and by the end is on his way to take up a post as admiral. It took twenty books but he got there.

O'Brian's historical accuracy has made him famous. We are given, not directly but through our protagonist's adventures: not only a precise history of the Napoleonic wars but also actual critical involvement in specific events therein. This provides an interesting contrast to Tolstoy's War and Peace, which is also set during this period.

O'Brian is also a stickler for detail and these books do have an awful lot of ref-

erences to staysails of all sorts that are perhaps a little over the top. They are just references, however, so they'll keep the sailors happy but won't wreck the heads of the casual reader either.

Although the book is based in the 'stiff upper lip' era in English history, and this is accurately apparent, O'Brian is not afraid to get his hands dirty. Both of the main protagonists have their imperfections. Maturin is an opium eater for the greater part of the reader's relationship with him, and Aubrey's episodes of unfaithfulness expose his flaws. This is of particular contemporary interest, given that the sea captain's love of his wife was put beyond question.

The absolute variety of experiences, and the changing pace they bring, is another factor that makes these books special. You really feel the frustration of the characters as they spend weeks locked in the doldrums with no wind to power their travels, and the rushes on occasions of continuous and unexpected events are truly felt. O'Brian draws you in, he makes you care.

Twenty books is a daunting task to face, but give them a chance. You'll want twenty more by the end.

Barra O'Fianail