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DIT:Students Union

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Students pack streets for march

By Thomas Felle and Margaret Donnelly

STUDENTS from across the country formed under one banner on October 27 to march on the Dail.

DIT students were also out in force, with some estimates putting the DIT attendance at about 3,500. Students from the five campuses and a number of the annexes across the Institute downed tools at lunch time on the day and made their way to DIT Mountjoy Square where the march got underway shortly after 2pm.

According to Garda sources, an earlier march to the northside site by students from Kevin Street and Aungier Street had caused traffic panic as gardaí were forced to police the marching students. "We were not informed that students would be actually marching from the southside colleges just to join the march," admitted one garda.

More than 1,700 students from the two southside colleges joined on Aungier Street and brought lunch time traffic to a standstill as they paraded to join the rest of the marchers.

DITSU President Sarah McGovern said she was delighted to see so many of the students who earlier gave the mandate to the students, union to strike had come out in support of their own issues.

"USI's demands are very realistic. Students have been living in poverty for too long and the time has come for the Government to listen to us. Student accommodation and student grants are hugely important issues," she continued.

The students, union president also, commented that DITSU were constantly lobbying both DIT management and public representatives to invest in student accommodation. "We have to start buying, leasing or at least looking at the situation. Grangegorman is coming online, but it is going to be a couple of years before anything is built on that site. We have to start doing something now," she added.

In his address, USI President Philip Madden said that students have the same basic rights as every other Irish citizen. "They have the right to a roof over their head, adequate, financial support and access to education which is not limited by their ability to pay.

"Our educated work force is the direct cause of the Celtic tiger phenomenon, and yet some people cannot afford to go to college and many others drop out because they can't survive on the disgracefully low grants," he added.

Cathal Brugha student Paul Devoy was at the march. He was marching because he says he can hardly afford to go to college. "Marches like this are someting every student should get involved in. We can't expect to be taken seriously if we aren't prepared to do whatever it takes to get what we deserve," he added.

Graduation ball

ONE OF DIT's most respected directors is to resign. The DIT Independent has learned that Dr David Gillingham, the Director of Academic Affairs, is to take up a new position as the Pro-Vice Chancellor in the University of Coventry.

DIT President Dr Brendan Goldsmith said he had learned with disappointment of the decision. "David was a close colleague and a wonderful ally. He brought a wealth of knowledge to DIT and was broad ranging in his academic experience.

"He had an in-depth knowledge of the international dimensions of the Institute and had a broad understanding of what higher education was all about for DIT. He will be greatly missed." It is expected the Director will leave the Institute early in the new year to take up his position.

DITSU President Sarah McGovern said she was saddened by the news. "I have had a wonderful relationship with the director in my time as a sabbatical officer. He was hugely in favour of getting class reps involved in quality assurance of courses and he will be greatly missed," she added.

In his time at DIT, Dr Gillingham sat on a number of European Universities boards, including the Kolding Business School in Denmark and the Regents Business School in London. He was also a member of the Open University's validation board. A spokesperson for Coventry University said they were delighted that Dr Gillingham was joining their academic directorate and were looking forward to working with him.

Earlier last month, a group of DIT Kevin Street lecturers voted a motion of no confidence in the DIT Directorate including Dr Gillingham. However Dr Goldsmith dismissed the motion.

"He was uniformly regarded as being one of the most helpful people in DIT, and this in no way tarnished his reputation," added the DIT President.
AIB on Campus

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Julie Martin - DIT Kevin Street and Aungier Street

Ciara Toomey - DIT Mountjoy Square, Cathal Brugha Street and Bolton Street

Opening Hours

DIT Kevin Street: 10am - 12.30am daily
DIT Aungier Street: 1.30pm - 3.30pm daily
DIT Mountjoy Square: 3.00pm - 4.00pm (Monday)
10.30am - 11.30 am (Tuesday)

DIT Cathal Brugha Street: 2.15pm - 3.30pm (Thursday)

DIT Bolton Street: 9.30am - 11.45am and 1-2pm
(Monday, Wednesday and Friday)
10.30am - 11.30am and 1-1.30 (Tuesday)
9.30am - 12.45pm (Tuesday)
Defending your life as a student

Opinion by Elaine Larkin

Sometimes admitting to being a student can be a bit embarrassing. You know the scenario. You’re in a bar and that friend of a friend, working in that large multi-national financial institution, somewhere on Baggot Street, roars across the crowded room and asks you, “What are you doing?”

“I’m doing ... course in DIT,” you answer. The pub is a bit noisy, your voice isn’t heard, but you can see the look on their face. It’s one of those looks that is nearly more degrading than what happens next. The total stranger sitting right beside you strikes up a conversation, “Yeah I’m pasting it to a company to DO a multi-national COMPANY, so I’m doing a TAXI JOB,” then a shake of the head and another dirty look, mutters, “STEW-DENTS”.

End of conversation. With everybody. For the rest of the night. To the people in the suits who already have their BScs or whatever, you are the scum of the earth. They see that you had to pay for your education; “no free education in my day”, they bluster. They have a million and one ways to describe students as such embarrassing terms as “gratuitous anchors,” “spongers,” “weasels,” “no-hopers,” “lazy-good-for-nothings,” and “tight-fisted” ranking as the most popular.

Don’t bother trying to explain that no you don’t get the grant and that your parents pay tax too, and that you have to pay £278 just to register. You don’t really know what it is or where it goes, but it’s collect a damn fee. People living in the real world just don’t understand you may have to pay that £278 out of your own pocket, £278 that used to be a munson £150 in 1996, when fees were done away with. They don’t care that the government has increased the fees from £278 in 1996 to £300 in 1999 and £500 in 1999. That’s nearly double what it was three years ago. Won’t be too long now to fill itself up into the triple-nought bracket.

At least you got the grant, the people in the real world think worse of you. All they see is how much you get, not how little. The government coughs up, the less respect people may have for you. They don’t care that the £47 and a few pence per week isn’t nearly what it was three years ago. They don’t care that £150 jumped to £250 in 1997, to £260 in 1998, and now is worse of you. All they see is how much you get, not how little.

I’m sure they would be shocked if they knew about the student who had to work 30 hours a week to pay for college, “no free education in my day”.

Many students end up whiling away their college years in a pub. A DIT student I know is looking for more, way more. Admit you’re actually having a quiet drink after work, but you feel a tad guilty having missed class, just so you could pay that £278 off your own pocket. £278 that used to be paid in 1996. £278 that used to be a munson £150 in 1996, when fees were done away with. £278 that used to be paid in 1996. £278 that used to be paid in 1996.

"There is so much legislation on food safety, building, environmental and health safety, a course like this would give graduates a better understanding of the entire dimensions of this complex area.”

The masters programme includes an assessment in risk management, management, operational safety and health, food safety and hygiene, environmental and environmental health.
The Overall View

CAN 99 film festival revived

By Natasha Reid

A SHOWCASE of short films produced by film students in DIT were aired to a capacity crowd at DIT Aungier Street on Wednesday, October 13, which included dignitaries from the film and broadcasting industry as well as current and former DIT students.

The film festival was launched in 1998 after a lapse of several years.

It was organised by Graeme O’Rourke, manager of the Media Production Unit in DIT to establish links with industry, arts organisations and film institutes.

“Putting their work on the wide screen helps enable students to find future employment and to encourage co-productions with industry,” said the unit manager.

Speaking at the event, Dr Ellen Hazelkorn, Director of the Faculty of Applied Arts, said the event was an attempt to get the students interacting with the media industry.

“CANN9 is a confidence builder for graduates. It is important to accredit their hard work and dedication,” she added.

According to Hazelkorn, the idea for a film festival started in the early 80s, during the formative years of the then communications diploma.

“It was the start of the development of DIT’s diverse level, bringing a range of courses together in one school. The festival creates publicity, promotes good feeling and a knowledge about what is going on. The students are meeting people with whom they might be working in the future,” she added.

Shelagh Pratschke, Director of the Film Institute of Ireland officially opened CANN9.

In her speech, she said the current film graduates because they were producers at the beginning of their careers. “It’s a good time to be launching a career in film in Ireland with more opportunities than ever before. Some of the films being shown have already been screened on our own ‘1st Cut’ series at the IFI.”

Seamus Dooley, Irish Organiser with the National Union of Journalists was one of the first graduates of the film course in the early 80s and was also at the festival launch.

Personally, I see myself as a survivor of the course. I cringe when I compare the productions I attempted with tonight’s. In the early 80s, we didn’t have the resources.

We started in Room 10 of the old town hall in Rathmines and moved to Lago House, which is now a doctor’s surgery, getting money for a double adapter was a huge achievement!”

So, what about the films? A mix of drama, comedy and documentary, they catered for all tastes. Themes like fate and mortality were dealt with in the MA production, ‘Coffee Spoons’, written and directed by Eoin O’Connor.


The theatre filled with laughter again during her three-minute animated comedy, ‘Vampires on Ice’. Already screened on RTÉ, ‘One in Four. Adult Literacy’, an intriguing documentary, directed by Maureen de Barra and produced by Ciara Hardy.

The black comedy, ‘Hostile Takeover’ was produced by Isca O’Sheas and directed by Martina de Barra.

A selection of work from Media Production students was also screened.

A scene from the short film First Communion shown at the film festival

Night at the Arts

APPLIED Arts students from across DIT were treated to an evening of cultural entertainment in Rathmines on October 29.

The event was organised by the faculty as an orientation evening for first year students, according to lecturer Padraig O’Cuinneagain.

“That was an attempt to introduce the students to a variety of cultural themes and ideas from right across the whole spectrum of what DIT has to offer,” he continued.

The evening included performances from music students in Chatham Row, who gave a recital and acting students who performed a scene from a play.

The event was organised as a social as well as an orientation evening, according to faculty sources, and was a tremendous success.

This was the first year the evening took place and the organiser says they plan to continue running it in the future.

Unions to cause headaches for DIT

By Thomas Felle

AS THE latest rounds of talks between the social partners begin, a DIT union official has warned staff in the Institute would be looking for substantial improvements in pay and conditions.

The union official told the DIT Independent that up until now relations between staff and management in the Institute have been strained under the Partnership for Competitiveness and Work Agreement (PCW).

“Up until now relations have been strained at the best of times, between management and unions in the college, however things are going to get better,” added the union official.

There is a wide distrust among all members of staff and there are serious issues of staffing that the Institute have ignored.

“These are areas we will want addressed in the coming year,” added the representative.

Earlier this year porters and general maintenance staff threatened strike action over pay and conditions, and last month a strike was narrowly averted when the Labour Relations Commission intervened in a dispute.

There has also been some speculation recently that following the nurse’s strike, teaching unions may mount a challenge to the Government for further pay increases outside the PCW.

At a meeting of TUI members in DIT Kevin Street last month, lecturers voted a motion of no confidence in the DIT directorate.

Currently, the Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU) and SIPTU, both of which are affiliated to the ICTU,

It is widely expected, however, that there will be more social partnership agreements.

Teachers may mount challenge for further pay increases

Sarah McGovern

NOVEMBER is upon us and with the arrival of the new term, the member of the DIT Independent. We hope you like the new look of the paper and we welcome any comments you may have.

In the aftermath of Freshers Week all I can say is I’m sure you had a good time. If however, you didn’t please let your local union officers know and make some complaints.

I am very happy to welcome all the new part-time officers who were elected in October to the students’ union executive. A special welcome goes to the new welfare officer, deputy president James and the new sabbatical officers who were elected to the full-time sabbatical officers on issues which affect you.

The UMTU went well and we were glad to see that over half of the total number of students were from unions.

To those who marched thankyou very much, to those of you who didn’t we will be expecting your support later in the year for campaigns of our own.

This week saw our first meeting of DITSU council which is the supreme policy making body of the union.

All the councillors are either elected officers or class reps or are officers of the union. If you would like to get involved and get a closer look at the politics of the union contact your local SU office. DITSU council is a worthwhile body and if you are not coming along to a meeting that is taking place have a look at what kind of work the sabbatical officers do. You might even see some of them later.

Bye for now - Sarah

 Classical music festi­val

By Rachel Devlin

A MAJOR celebration of classical music is to take place in DIT

The Frederick Fennell Band Festival will be held at City Hall in DIT Kevin Street on November 4 and 5, and is the first event of its kind in Dublin.

Chatham Row lecturer William Halpin is the main organiser of the event. According to Halpin, the cream of American conductors are keen to coach and conduct during the Festival, giving insight into the little known world of the Wind Band.

“Frederick Fennell, founder of the Eastman Wind Ensemble and conductor of the Tokyo Kosai Wind Orchestra, Jeffrey Remshaw, conductor of the University of Connecticut Wind Ensemble, and Thomas Duffy, composer and conductor of the Yale University Wind Ensemble and Dublin Concert Band, hopes to reveal everything there is to know about a classical genre,” he added.

This will be the first time the Wind Band of the University of Connecticut will tour in Ireland. According to Halpin, the chance to coach such an ensemble is a “privilege”.

“At his ripe old age Dublin Concert Band is only a generation away from a second chance,” he added.

The weekend’s intensive training programme will feature concerts, workshops and lectures, also feature some of DIT’s most talented student musicians.

William Halpin will perform at the Gala Concert opening on Friday night. The event will be conducted by William McMahon, the University of Connecticut wind conductor, as well as the Fenell, Remshaw and Duffy trio.

On Saturday, ears will be treated to the musical delights of the Wind Symphony. Other bands performing during the festival include the Balloncolding Concert Band, Argon Concert Band, Dublin Concert Band and the Rathfarnham Concert Band.

For the budding conductors there is a master class in Sunday with advice and tuition of Doctors Fennell and Remshaw. This is a unique opportunity for young and as well as more experienced conductors and people who have a love of music,” added Halpin.

Tickets price for the over 80s on Friday night at £30, to a £5 day ticket, but excludes the performance of individual and collective concert admission.

All tickets are available from the Conservatory of Music in Rathmines, and from the Theatre at the University of Dublin, and the organizers are encouraging students to go along and take part in one of the many workshops, visit the exhibitions or simply enjoy the music.
**Students win PR award**

**By Tom Tuite**

A TEAM of five public relations students from DIT Aungier Street has won a top European public relations award.

The award, the CERP Communications Challenge, which is run by the European Public Relations Federation, aims to create a cross cultural campaign for the EU to demonstrate the advantages of the Information Society. The prize for the winners was EUR10,000 (£7,785).

The five students, Karen Cunningham, Sandra Hogan, Maurice Kelly, Sinéad Ni Mhiall and Kathy Tynan all come from the MA class in public relations. The course leader is Francis Xavier Cathy.

In taking part in the award, the students made a presentation on videotape to their peers and PR experts in Brussels at the start of October.

Their entry to the CERP Challenge dealt with the benefits that the information age has brought to the farming community. The PR students were motivated by their feeling that the agricultural community throughout the EU is missing out on the benefits of the information age as much of Europe embraces new technologies. The farming community is lagging behind. There is a genuine risk of a two-tier society developing within the EU that would further entrench economic and social differences that goes against the very essence of the EU, said student Karen Cunningham. Each team had to prepare and submit a 25-page proposal document with illustrations and a 20-minute presentation on videotape or CD.

In their proposal, the DIT team proposed many strategies whereby farmers could be made aware of what modern information technology could do for them. They also examined how this could be accomplished. They recommended that an extensive PR campaign should be undertaken to show farmers the benefits of modern information technology. This could be done through a comprehensive media campaign to bring the issue to the farming community’s attention.

"Political and economic lobbying should be conducted at all levels and a quality branding scheme be awarded to farmers who use the information society to increase efficiency on their farms," their proposal said.

"This," the proposal concluded, "would provide an incentive to farmers who are not aware of the advantages of information technology. This would also offer a reward to those who already avail of these facilities."

According to the preliminary jury in Brussels, they were impressed by the content and presentation of the proposal. CERP, founded in 1959, is a confederation of European national public relations associations.

The Public Relations Institute of Ireland joining CERP in 1968.

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focus on...elections

AUNGIER STREET -
SABBATICAL ELECTION,
DEPUTY PRESIDENT
Total Poll: 605
Spoils: 91
TVP: 514
Quota: 498
Alan Coleman 333
Niamh Pakenham 76
RON: 5

Alan Coleman deemed elected, having reached the quota.

ENTERTAINMENTS
Deirdre Stapleton
Total poll: 601
Spoils: 107
TVP: 514
Yes: 409
No: 92
RON: 4

Candidate deemed elected.

BOLTON STREET
ENTERTAINMENT
Candidates: Stephen O'Byrne, Emma Byrne
Total Poll: 232
Spoils: 11
TVP: 221
Yes: 153
No: 42
RON: 15

Candidate deemed elected.

ARTS AND DESIGN OFFICER
Fergus Cannon Elected
Total Poll: 397
Spoils: 8
TVP: 381
Yes: 376
No: 161

Elimination of Passi
Mark Greene 142
O’Lochlainn +26 127

Waters elected having reached the quota.

KEVIN STREET
Pho - Caithriona De Chaumont
Total Poll: 190
Spoils: 13
TVP: 182
Yes: 161
No: 29

Motion passed by 75.25%
... elections...

New procedures to ensure greater security

By Thomas Felle

This year for the first time in DITSU elections, a completely independent body of students was gathered to run the count.

Chief Returning Officer, former DITSU President Colin Joyce said this move was made to take away any doubt that there may be any interference in elections.

"It is a move forward for DITSU and removes any doubt that elections are not completely impartial," he said.

There is no suggestion that in the past there were any irregularities in the election supervision process.

Currently, a group of students are elected each year to a high level election supervisory committee, made up of the chairpersons of the site class representative bodies, the overall DITSU President and other elected members.

No student who is running for election may sit on the committee.

The main change this year however is that an independent Chief Returning Officer has been appointed.

In the past this position had been filled by the General Secretary of the organisation.

In his official statement, the Chief Returning Officer, said he was very satisfied with the election process.

"We have a new counting staff this year and I would like to be able to use the same staff again in the future.

"It will mean they will be more proficient and will be able to get through the job more quickly," he added.

Counting in the sabbatical by-election and the part-time officer election began shortly after 9am on October 21 in the count centre in Gleeson Hall, and much of the counting had been completed before lunchtime.

DITSU President Sarah McGovern, commenting on the low turnout in the elections in some sites, said she was disappointed more people did not use their democratic right not use.

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Students screened for TB as ‘precaution’

By Aedin Donnelly

MORE THAN 150 business studies students and staff in Aungier Street underwent “routine testing” for TB last month, following a discovery during the summer that a business student had the disease.

Altogether 130 final-year DBS students and 20 staff were identified as having had contact with the student, who was confirmed as having TB last month, following a discovery during the summer that a business student had the disease.

According to a DIT spokesperson, “there is no cause for alarm. The tests were routine and were being carried out as a precautionary measure.”

DIT were just “covering themselves,” added the spokesperson. They do not expect anything to come of the results.

At the end of August it came to the notice of medical staff at Aungier Street. The tests were carried out as a precautionary measure. As the EHB are under statutory obligation to carry out “routine testing” for anybody who has come into close contact with an infected person, the tests were carried out on all students and staff who were in close contact with the student.

The tests were carried out on all students and staff who were in close contact with the student. The results were negative for all.

Students screened for TB

by

Mary O’Neill looks at the root causes of the disease

TB is usually an infection of the chest (or lungs) but can sometimes affect other parts of the body. It is caused by an invisible germ known as the Tubercle Bacillus. About 600 people get TB in Ireland each year.

Three different strains of TB exist, only one of which is infectious once it has become airborne. Because it develops slowly, it can take weeks or even months to display itself through symptoms, and can often reappear even after the sufferer has been cured.

TB is spread through the air from someone with the infectious type of TB. It can also be caused by drinking unpasteurized milk from cows with TB. It is not a particularly infectious disease, the chance of developing it are only about one in 10.

The most common symptom of TB is a cough which lasts for a few weeks, which can be accompanied with phlegm which contains blood. Other symptoms are breathlessness, loss of weight, loss of appetite, night sweats or general tiredness. TB can be treated with antibiotics and only requires admission to hospital in serious cases.
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Trainspotting

Etain McGuckian tells how she survived three weeks inter-railing across Eastern Europe, experiencing the horrors of a German concentration camp and the beauty of fairy-tale cities like Prague along the way.

Hamburg by night

The sun shone the following morning and we knew we were over the worst. We landed in Warsaw the next day after sleeping on a night train to Poland, which was jarsy, and made the loo a little bit more hassle than it was worth.

When we arrived we didn't know what to expect. Misconceptions of a war-torn communist country plagued our minds, but having not washed for days we could think of only one thing - Shhhoooooowwwwwweee.

Our journey from the station to our youth hostel was debatable. The city looked shabbily compared to Hamburg, but it was so sunny and warm that day it looked 'a nice kind of shabby'.

Our youth hostel was a kid's orphanage during the school term, and the little old lady that answered the door was like an angel sent from heaven. She showed us to this really nice room decorated in kids drawings and McDonald's happy meal houses. Paradise.

The old town of Warsaw was just full of character and architecture. It was a Saturday and as we arrived, which set brides and grooms loose all over the city.

Couples would just line up outside the Roman Catholic churches waiting to be wed; it was such a merry little place. Everybody was out celebrating.

Kids watched street plays while grown-ups roamed through the market stalls, all set on a backdrop of beautiful nineteenth century buildings untouched by the war. The fact that everything was so picturesque we were in our element for the next couple of days.

We visited all the usuals - Charles's Bridge, Prague Castle, The Powder Tower, St. George's Basilica, churches, pubs, clubs, and more pubs. It was a dream and just what you need to work up an appetite for Berlin's Love Parade.

Another completely outrageous event that lifts your spirits and puts your energy into a humungous crowd, dancing free to the sound of a love bug, buzzing down very well.

The most amazing street performance took place outside our youth hostel that night. Fireworks and bright lights were used to capture the audience's hearts and minds in an illustration of good and evil, with powerful modern dancers screaming to the sounds of classical music. You will encounter nothing like it in your life.

Krakow was two hours away on the train in the south of Poland, another amazing city that had a younger spirit than Warsaw, but older in architecture.

We braved Auschwitz that was another two hours away, and took a train that reflected the type you'd see in WW1 documentaries.

It was so hot that day that the doors of the rusty train were left open. Auschwitz was a ghost town with two shops and a pub. We walked up to the concentration camp feeling nauseous from the horror of what we were about to see.

The feeling of horror and bitterness almost screamed when you entered. It was just horrific, especially the furnaces.

It was definitely a shocking experience that doesn't really hit you at the time, but later becomes more of a reality. Running out of money fast we had to decide our route for the next week.

Prague was a definite maybe, and filled all our expectations. Cheap beer, good nightlife and so cheap was an added bonus so it was time to loosen the budget.

Our first meal in days was a refreshing change from sandwiches and the beer went down very well.

I t all started when we wandered out of the coffee shop. Myself, D, Jean and Karen were lost in Amsterdam.

The first night of our travels and we couldn't find our way out of the red light district. Scary. The place was full of families out window shopping at two in the morning. That sounds a bit funnier than it actually was at the time.

So I pretended to know where we were going, just to keep things together. I knew the youth hostel was southwest, but I found it hard convincing the rest when places became unrecognisable, so Jean offered to take control. From then on that was it, Jean was our guide.

I was the language interpreter. D understood the rail timetable and Karen did all the worrying. We thought we were ready to travel across Europe.

We were heading east. Denmark seemed too North at the time so we decided to visit the Germans. We landed in Harrow for about five minutes and got as far as the tourist office, when the lady there convinced us that Hamburg was much better. So we hopped on a train and spent two hours investigating the possibilities of Hamburg with our outdated guidebook called 'Katie'.

Hamburg was a beautiful city, with many impressive Germanic buildings that we viewed, mainly from the outside due to our skin-tight Germanic buildings that we called 'Katie'.

The feeling of torture and bitterness almost screamed when you entered. It was just horrific, especially the furnaces.

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It was so hot that day that the doors of the rusty train were left open. Auschwitz was a ghost town with two shops and a pub. We walked up to the concentration camp feeling nauseous from the horror of what we were about to see.

The feeling of horror and bitterness almost screamed when you entered. It was just horrific, especially the furnaces.

It was definitely a shocking experience that doesn't really hit you at the time, but later becomes more of a reality. Running out of money fast we had to decide our route for the next week.

Prague was a definite maybe, and filled all our expectations. Cheap beer, good nightlife and so cheap was an added bonus so it was time to loosen the budget.

Our first meal in days was a refreshing change from sandwiches and the beer went down very well.

The most amazing street performance took place outside our youth hostel that night. Fireworks and bright lights were used to capture the audience's hearts and minds in an illustration of good and evil, with powerful modern dancers screaming to the sounds of classical music. You will encounter nothing like it in your life.
SMOKERS DIE YOUNGER
Irish Government Warning
Music Oscars in Dublin

By Elaine Larkin

It has now been over a week since the Tall Ships departed from Dublin, and the atmosphere in the city is still electric.

Tickets for the awards of course are gold dust, except for those who have entered all the competitions for free tickets about 40 million times, and the likes of me, a member of the press.

There have been many laments of late about tickets, and needless to say as happened with the Po*/ig at Slane, no last minute tickets are going to be released.

Many a Dublin club may have found their dance floors full over the last few weeks, with the news that talent scouts would be prowling the corners of the dance.

The连接 to the MTV awards? The prize for the winner, which will be announced at the end of the ceremony, will be a prize of $1 million, or $500,000 for the runner-up.

Tune in to MTV between 8 and 10 pm on Thursday, 10 November, and if you don't believe me, it's handier than my ass.

To mark the occasion MTV in the UK & Ireland will be broadcast live from Derry, a town famous for its Viking History.

Awards will be presented to the winner of the award for the best Eurovision performance, the winner of the best album, and the winner of the best single.

Of course, you'll have to wait until the ceremony is over to see who wins, but you can keep your fingers crossed for your favourite artist.

And if you don't believe me, try watching MTV at home. It's handier than my ass.

Features

ON AIR

As another local radio license is granted, Ray Foley looks at what's on offer for those listeners who like to listen while they work

Music shows, though aimed at young people, and in the evening, during a youth-orientated talk show. Is there a Chris Barry out there? Apparently not, but the show will deal with issues relating to young people.

Spin FM will now pose a threat to the larger stations like FM104 and 98FM, and will take in their programming output with the hope to see over the next few months, before the new station comes on air.

Will FM104 go 'oldies' to try and gain over 19-year-old audience? Will 98FM go young and take Spin FM head on? The theories are plentiful in radio circles.

Since Radio 2000 are behind both Spin FM and 98FM, they may try to seize the youth market with Spin FM, and then adapt the 98FM programming output to cater for the older over-35 audience.

This summer, a number of the larger pirates closed down, as was required of them if they wished to be in the running for the youth license.

The most prominent of these were Pulse FM, the firm dance favourite, and Phantom FM, the alternative music station.

However, since neither were awarded the license, it is expected that they and a number of others who went off the air in the run-up to the awards will soon be back as pirate stations, as it is thought that there has been no sign of a re-launch on the part of Pulse FM or Phantom FM.

Spin will begin broadcasting the first of February 2000, and will be targeted at the 15-25 age group market for the first youth licensed station in the country.

They plan on having a zoo format breakfast show, the regular daytime shows, though aimed at young people, and in the evening, during a youth-orientated talk show. Is there a Chris Barry out there? Apparently not, but the show will deal with issues relating to young people.

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Sp
Grant run out? Always strapped for cash? Have an alcohol dependency problem that you really need to fund? Looking for a job? Rachel Collins takes a look at what jobs are out there.

The time has finally arrived. All the money you’ve been saving over the summer has disappeared in a flash of smoke. In order to further your career as a student you need money, and fast. The solution? GET A JOB!

O.K. so maybe it sounds easier than it actually is to find employment (the type that pays top dollar, yet doesn’t interfere with social life)

But fear not, the DIT Independent has done all the hard work for you in finding a number of jobs to suit all student types.

Right, so you’ve settled on the idea of life in the workforce. Now it’s time to look at what jobs you’re suited to.

Inevitably you’ll find yourself eying up all the old faithfils - McDonalds, Dunnes Stores, the local pub and restaurant. Not a route to go down if you have visions of part-time work grandeur, but accessible, flexible jobs nonetheless.

Many of Ireland’s finest graduates would have been cast from the ‘social life wayfairs’ had it not been for the odd Friday night dishing out Big Mac’s to the horde on Grafton Street.

While working in some ultra-tip nightclub or pub in the city centre sounds like a job to die for, you have to remember a few things.

These places are great to go to on a Friday night, the service is great, the atmosphere is electric, the punters in great form. But put yourself on the other side of the bar before you race in for an application form.

The pay is usually pretty good - anywhere from £4 to £5 per hour (depending on whether you opt for a 24 hour opening)

The work depends greatly on the type of shop, the shifts you work and the area the shop is located in. But beware, due to early closing, earlier starts are necessary, so shop work is not really suitable if your lectures finish late in the afternoon/evening.

Clothes shops fall into the same deceptive category as pubs and clubs. Yes, the clothes may be fabulous, but when you’re folding them for the umpteenth time in an hour, they lose much of their appeal.

Many clothes stores require their staff to wear the store’s clothes to work - sounds nice, but you usually have to buy them yourself, which will eat away at your earnings in no time. (Although staff discounts generally help to cover some of the cost).

The Spar and Centra brigade have been taking over every street corner in Dublin over the last few years. They are very receptive to student applications and offer flexible working hours, with pay falling into the £3.50 - £5 category.

Uniforms are provided in most outlets (always a bonus!) and the work itself is pretty easy. D and n e s, stor es, with oodles of outlets all over the city is a great way to make extra money for students.

Think of all the thousands of shelves that need packing every day!

Again, the work is basic and you’ll be trained into whatever position you need.

The pay isn’t great. I was earning £3.70 per hour, with an extra £2.50 per hour if I turned up. They wanted me to work a minimum of 25 hours a week, which was a bit much, especially with college, but I needed the money.

On my first night I went in and was met by someone from the restaurant. They led me into the restaurant and right out again. I was told that everyone was too busy to train me, so I’d have to stay there for a while, I thought a white meant half an hour!

I spent the entire shift wearing dirty dishes (5 hours) and only got a 10 minute break during the night.

Another girl working with me told me that the only way to get out of working there was to do a really bad job, they couldn’t leave you there.

After getting a job as a waitress I was expected to wash dishes for 25 hours a week.

I went into town the next day and got a job in a newspaper’s earning more than £1 extra per hour. That was the last they saw of me.

The pay depends greatly on the number of shifts you do and on the area of the city you work in. The hours are usually pretty easy.

The work can be physically strenuous (especially after a taxiing day doing in lecture theatres) and the pay is not always top notch (some of Temple Bar’s more popular haunts are paying staff a mere £3 an hour) but tips can bump up your wages considerably (Tip: Kafe Moka is great for big tips)

Most restaurants will be tucked up in bed by 12am, so are quite suitable for all those 9am lectures!

So, if you’ve been lamenting the death of your healthy bank balance, there’s no excuse for you not doing anything.

Why not follow your mother’s timeless advice and “get off your lazy arse and go and get a job!”

A great way to find jobs near to your college is on the jobs notice board in your Students Union, or alternatively, DIT have a great website called jobsin.dit.ie which is changed weekly and keeps you up to date on job offers for students and graduates alike.

Find it on www.dit.ie/admin/careers/so_become.html

The job from hell

Some Design student got a job as a waitress in a city centre hotel.

Louise, a first-year Interior Design student got a job as a waitress in a city centre hotel.

Working in a hip nightclub sounds like a job to die for, but you have to remember a few things.

I went for an interview that ended up lasting over 40 minutes. It was really in depth and over the top - he was asking me what books I read out. I mean, I was only going in for a job as a waitress and he was so interested in the hotel industry. I went for an interview that was basically housekeeping, and waitressing and I couldn’t leave you there.

The atmosphere is electric, the punters in great form. But put yourself on the other side of the bar before you race in for an application form.

Put yourself on the other side of the bar before you race in for an application form for a nightclub or bar.

The job from heaven

Ronan, a third-year Engineering student has been working for ‘Thirsty’ car rental in Dublin Airport since August.

I initially earned a salary of £200 per week, for full time work, including a free car for his trouble, Ronan now works part-time in order to “fit in his studies”.

Three shifts a week see him coming out with over half his full time pay and (here’s the sickening bit) he still has his free car!

“It’s a great job really. Especially now that it’s part-time. I earn £120 per week and still have my car.

The work is easy - I just drop cars off, pick them up and show people to their rented cars.

Obviously, a driver’s license is essential, but other than that, you only have to be polite and willing to drive all over Dublin!

And if you think that you need to pull hundreds of shingles to land a job like this - think again.

Ronan found his job “just walking in and asking if they needed anyone.”

Pretty nice, huh? Not that I’m jealous...
Mary O’Neill samples some of the more interesting clubs and societies that DIT students can join

High Society

Mary O’Neill samples some of the more interesting clubs and societies that DIT students can join.

THE BLUE POLES

Bolton Street students have a vast range of original and wacky clubs available to them, from auctioneering to being an Irish OJ. "People are still talking about the Blue Poles," explained Peter, "and they’re going to make a big difference to Bolton Street." The Blue Poles was formed by students who saw a need for a club that would attract new students. The club has now grown to over 50 members and is planning to expand its activities.

The Beer Appreciation Society

The Beer Appreciation Society is a new society formed by students who have a passion for beer. The society is based around the idea of popularising the Irish craft beer scene and encouraging students to try new beers.

Ray Foley gives a blow by blow account of college nights out

"DIT really does know how to throw a party" Cathal Brugha St:
The gang from Cathal Brugha St are famous for their wild nights in the Back Gate. It is a tell-tale sign that there are some great parties going on.

The Beer Appreciation Society

Although the idea of the society is to promote the Irish craft beer scene, the society is also planning to organise trips to other cities to see what other clubs are doing.

FINDING THE CASH

It is rumoured there have been a number of reports to the police in the past few weeks with regards to Bolton St students disappearing on Wednesday nights. These people are usually last seen on Temple St, in the vicinity of the Temple Theatre. The police have been asked to investigate these reports and ensure the safety of the students.

All these forms of entertainment, alternative or otherwise, have one common and vital requirement: cash. Where does it come from and how is it allocated? Robert Burns, Head of the School of Management, is responsible for the allocation of funds to clubs and societies in Aungier Street. He explained that there were a number of factors that influenced the allocation process.

The Beer Appreciation Society

Although the society is still in its early stages, it is already planning to organise trips to other cities. The society is also planning to organise trips to other cities to see what other clubs are doing.

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Des Bishop (MC)

A native New Yorker exiled to Ireland in the latter years of his adolescence, Des’s attitude towards his adopted country has been described as “aggressively observational”. Having performed in the BBC New Comedy Awards at Dublin’s Gaiety Theatre in 1997 and Channel 4’s “So You Think You’re Funny?” competition at the 1998 Edinburgh Festival, Des recently travelled home to perform at New York’s premier Comedy Club “Carroll’s Comedy Club”.

Bob Reilly

At just 23 years of age Bob Reilly has already amassed an impressive collection of comedy silverware. Voted best newcomer at the Dublin Comedy Awards in 1996, he was also a winner in the Tetley’s Tea Comedy Competition in 1997, and appeared in the finals of the “So You Think You’re Funny?” Competition at the 1998 Edinburgh Festival. In 1998 Bob starred as one-third of the highly-acclaimed, best-of-Irish amash “Young Gifted and Green”.

Paddy C. Courtney

Described by The Scotsman as “looking suspiciously like Gary Oldman after a few months spent on a crash diet of bangers and chips”, Paddy has brought his endearing mix of charm and sarcasm to three Edinburgh Fringes, the Kilkenney Cat Laughs Festival, various Murphy’s Unzipped spots, and the Dublin Fringe Festival. He has also just taken over the job of resident MC at the Comedy Cellar in Dublin.

Mark Doherty - Headline

The man whom the Sunday Times has hailed as Irish comedy’s “brightest spark” has certainly been busy since he first came to prominence by winning the Dublin Comedy Cellar’s Best Newcomer Award some seven years back. In the past 12 months he’s brought his “deliciously off-kilter and surreal approach” to stand-up venues all over Ireland and the UK, pausing only to write and perform in the second series of the RTE sitcom “Couched” with Barry Murphy.

Planet Murphys
ADMISSION: FREE

WEDNESDAY
24TH NOVEMBER

BOOKING NUMBER 1850 374 643
Website: www.fringefest.com
The Out-of-Towners

Steve Martin and Goldie Hawn team up again in this remake of a Neil Simon play. They play a couple who take a trip to New York in an effort to put some spark back into their 24-year-old marriage. However the trip is jinxed with bad luck and misfortune. Also starring John Cleese. Released November 12th.

Fight Club

This controversial violent drama stars Edward Norton, Matthew McConaughey and director David Fincher. Released November 12th.

Office Space

During a therapy session an office worker is reborn and decides that he wants to fulfill his dream of having absolutely nothing to do. As a result he loses all sense of responsibility. This office comedy stars Ron Livingston, Gary Cole and Jennifer Aniston. Released November 12th.

EdTV

Matthew McConaughey plays Ed, an ordinary man whose life is put on television 24 hours a day. Things get complicated when he finds himself becoming attracted to his brother's girlfriend. Also starring Woody Harrelson, Jenna Elfman, Martin Landau and Elizabeth Hurley. Released November 19th.

Brokedown Palace

This drama sees two American teenagers, played by Claire Daines and Kate Beckinsale, end up in a Thai prison on a drugs charge. Bill Pullman is the American lawyer trying to secure their release. Released November 19th.

Random Hearts

Harrison Ford plays a police sergeant who ends up having an affair with a Republican congresswoman (Kristin Scott Thomas), after their respective spouses, who had been having a secret affair, die in a plane crash. Released November 19th.

The World is not Enough

This movie needs little introduction. Pierce Brosnan returns as James Bond in the 19th film about the super spy. Robert Carlyle plays the villain Renard. Denise Richards plays Bond girl Christmas Jones. Also starring Sophie Marceau and John Cleese, the film is directed by Michael Apted (Gorillas in the Mist). Released November 26th.

Experience in the Third Dimension @ IMAX

THE IMAX large screen theatre on Parnell St must be a complex alternate dimension: everyone knows where it is, but no one has ever been there to know exactly what it is. Well, it's a cinema with a really big screen, and a really big speaker system.

Up until recently, the IMAX has been screening movies in 2D, like 'Everest' and 'Back to the Cretaceous', which are simply 30-minute films on a big screen. You can go to the cinema for twice that time for the same price, and you won't have to crane your neck to see the entire image.

Recently however, the IMAX has presented two movies in 3D format, allowing the images to leave the screen, and come toward the audience. 'Experience in the Third Dimension' is their second 3D movie after 'Into the Deep', a 3D documentary about sea life.

The trailer for that one is quite impressive, with a shark swimming out of the screen right up to your nose. 'Experience in the Third Dimension' is the history of 3D film making, and the science of its roots throughout this century presented in a fun way.

It's another documentary about a subject very few of us actually care to learn about. MAV the robot and the Professor take you on a 3D journey of the history of this art of filmmaking. They give you the daft glasses to wear, and the movie is in 3D for the full 50 minutes, which is really impressive. However, who really cares about the history of films?

Give us a horror! Going to the IMAX will tear you back and that's before you ever pay for the popcorn.

Film Critic Deborah Condon takes a look at the upcoming releases on the big screen this month.

"Out of Town" in town

"Out of Town" in town

Film Critic Deborah Condon takes a look at the upcoming releases on the big screen this month.

Theatre/The Abbey

Dolly West's Kitchen, an original play from Frank McGuinness, is set during the second World War in the small town of Buncrana in Co Donegal.

The action takes place in the kitchen of a small house where two American GI's, a British army captain, and the West family all share meals and battle it out over the war, the social structures of the day, and the place of the woman in the home.

They fall in and out with one another and in and out of love, kiss and make up with one another until they are finally reconciled.

The most notable of the performers are Pauline Flanagan as Elma, Donna Dents as Dolly, and Lucianne McEvoy as the maid, Anna.

The odd idea of an alien taking over the bodies of the teachers in a small-town high school is explained away by Wood, as he tells his co-star "They'll strike where we least expect it. Then they'll take over the world."

There's not much to it, but the frights are very effective, the who is the alien leader? theme is quite cool as we all try to work it out, and we get to see Salma Hayek as a school nurse.

What more do you need? 7/10

Video Review/The Faculty

The Faculty is yet another movie in a long line of 90's horror flicks where we have the pleasure of seeing gorgeous girls and well-built guys being "gutted like fish" for our entertainment.

Starring Shawn Hatosy, Laura Harris, Josh Hartnett, Jordana Brewster, Clea Duvall, Elijah Wood and Salma Hayek, it boasts lots of lovely girls and guys and plenty of screams and gore.

The odd idea of an alien taking


All guys are pigs. The end. They were the words of wisdom from a DIT male transport management student, when I quizzed about male affairs of the heart.

Stunned at the sheer conviction of his statement, my head swirled, my hopes shattered.

Hold the wedding alterations - dowry negotiations temporarily suspended.

An Aungier Street inquisition was in order. Off with the moustache, mammoth look being passé, and in with the Revlon Stayon All Day make-up.

To the canteen with me, to find out were all men really pigs.

My first encounter was with a hair deficient Colm Brophy; yes he's not a religious person, he retorted.

"Well that's a very broad question, I mean does she make the bed, a dedicated follower of fashion, oh yes he is.

Gingerly, I approached, in hope that he could restore my faith in mankind.

"No I'd never, ever, ever do the dirt", but before my sigh of relief was complete, he continued, "if she was standing here beside me". His lunch buddy added.

"'Tis an utter disgrace" pause, "unless she's an absolute stunner."

All hope was lost, noise tightening by the second, when suddenly a voice soared from the crowd.

"Hold the wedding dress alterations, is when you know you've met the right person"...

Enter Cyndi Lauper's True Colours, and a warm fuzzy feeling in my tummy.

"When you don't run away the next morning, is when you know you've met the right person"...

Sharon Commins dishes the dirt on what DIT students think of doing the dirt.

Sure variety the spice of life.

On one occasion a Mr. Greg Davey vehemently stated, "My advice to you - never let a woman read you poetry!" Cheers for the advice, did I mention I'm straight?

Several Beverly Hill Brandon wannabes commented.

"A blonde voluptuous chick like? Who wouldn't like man like", or adjectives to that effect, and "yeah baby I think they're shagadelic".

My first encounter was with a hair deficient Colm Brophy; yes he's a dedicated follower of fashion, oh yes he is.

When I quizzed his faithfulness to pastures, he retorted.

"Well that's a very broad question - I mean does she make the bed, serve breakfast on her body? You gotta be more specific burd."

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"Well that's a very broad question - I mean does she make the bed, serve breakfast on her body? You gotta be more specific burd."

Gulp, gulp, lip quiver. I scanned the crowd of chewing vultures desperately seeking a "non-male pig" when an angelic looking, pale male shone from the left corner.

"When you don't run away the next morning, is when you know you've met the right person"...

Enter Cyndi Lauper's True Colours, and a warm fuzzy feeling in my tummy.

"When you don't run away the next morning, is when you know you've met the right person"...

"Well I wouldn't be going out with a guy in the first place if I intended doing the dirt" and "I'd break up before I'd resort to that sort of thing."

One Emma Dunne explained to me how in three years she had never been unfaithful, despite the fact that she knew her boyfriend continually was.

When I challenged the sincerity of her boyfriend's affection for her she ignored me completely. Further coaxing, bullying and eye-gouging proved futile.

The aspiration: to restore faith in men. The outcome: all men are pigs. The end.

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**Irish Independent Crossword Challenge**

**Fancy yourself as a wizz on the crossword?**

Well pit your brains against this Irish Independent crossword, and you can win tickets to HQ at The Hot Press Hall of Fame, Dublin’s newest venue.

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**A Few Good Men?**

Sharon Commins dishes the dirt on what DIT students think of doing the dirt.

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**Two-speed Crossword**

You can choose to do either quick or cryptic clues, the answers are the same.

---

**ACROSS**

1. The kind of clubs that go with a swing (6)
2. Sects needing new order - I don't mean Sion (13)
3. Bikini, maybe, showing what is levied (5)
4. Variety of plates provided for this sort of diet (6)
5. Solar turning-points are the hottest regions (7)
6. Coming to blows over a purse (5-8)
7. Eastern country disposed of in a will (6)
8. Occupied by people in an acting capacity (5)
9. He's perfectly eeking a "non-male pig" (6)
10. Interval (4-3)
11. Ancient Peruvians (5)
12. In motion (5)
13. Attain (7)
14. It's specially built for the services (6)
15. In motion (5)
16. Hot areas (7
17. Public speaker (6)
18. Minor problem (5)
19. Small church (6)
20. Metal fastener (6)
21. Cinema worker (13)
22. Leant (6)
23. Loose-limbed entertainer (9)
24. Asian (6)
25. Radio Opera singer (10)
26. Quirk (6)
27. Circular reef (5)
28. Religious groups (13)
29. Attain (7)
30. Incompetent (5)
31. Enter Cyndi Lauper's True Colours, and a warm fuzzy feeling in my tummy. (6)
32. Hold the wedding dress alterations, is when you know you've met the right person (13)
33. A blonde voluptuous chick like? Who wouldn't like man like? (6)
34. And he proves himself the bravest by second, when suddenly a voice soared from the crowd. (6)
35. Gingerly, I approached, in hope that he could restore my faith in mankind. (6)
36. My first encounter was with a hair deficient Colm Brophy; yes he's a dedicated follower of fashion, oh yes he is. (6)
37. My first encounter was with a hair deficient Colm Brophy; yes he's a dedicated follower of fashion, oh yes he is. (6)
38. When I quizzed his faithfulness to pastures, he retorted. (6)
39. Gulp, gulp, lip quiver. I scanned the crowd of chewing vultures desperately seeking a "non-male pig" when an angelic looking, pale male shone from the left corner. (6)
40. When you don't run away the next morning, is when you know you've met the right person (13)
41. Gingerly, I approached, in hope that he could restore my faith in mankind. (6)
Soccer stars strut their stuff

Stars triumph at annual sports day

By Sean Fay

DIT Aungier Street may have struck the first blow of the soccer season, when triumphing at the Annual Sports Day, but the serious business of the Irish Technical College's Football Association (ITCPA) groups has yet to begin.

DIT have been recently holding trials in a bid to discover new talent. Overall DIT manager Mickey Whelan (Bolton Street) will be watching freshmen closely this season in the hope that he can improve on the squad that performed so credibly in the Institute's first attempt at The Collingwood Cup.

The Cup is the most prestigious competition in Irish Third-Level soccer and was in the past restricted to Universities. However DIT were granted a place in last year's competition and held their own.

After finishing second in their group the Institute went on to compete for the Collingwood Plate but were forced to rent out pitches and buses just to be able to compete in competition's which dries up funds that should be spent on equipment.

Recently DIT players found themselves in the embarrassing situation of being the only college competing in the Collingwood Cup without a team track suit.

Trevor Tilley, a striker with DIT Aungier Street admitted "although better facilities would not necessarily attract more people to DIT it would encourage more students to take part in DIT Sport". He added that potential players used the constant trekking around the city for matches and training as an excuse for their "business".

Many footballers of exceptional abilities would often have chosen to study courses at UCD, with the college playing in the National League, but it has been proven in recent years that players need not abandon their ambitions of playing at a higher level when choosing a course at DIT.

DIT students John Martin (UCD), Damian Deasy (Bobemnians), and Brian Ricard (St Francis) are all attached to National League Clubs while Colin Kelly of Aungier Street has recently returned from a trial at English Premiership Club Coventry City.

This year the ultimate ambition for all DIT players must be to be picked for the ITCPA's international side which is made up of the best players from the countries ITs.

However such thoughts will have to be put to the back of players minds for now, as they concentrate on competing for their various campuses, before the institutes join together for the united team early next year.

Rugby to take greater focus

By Margaret Donnelly

THE DIT Sports Officer responsible for rugby has promised a shake up of the inter DIT colleges championship this year.

After last years disastrous turn out from colleges, Niamh O'Callaghan, Sports and Recreations Officer based in DIT Mountjoy Square, has said she plans to run the competition off in four weeks, beginning early November.

"The problem with the Gleeson Cup is that some of the colleges are now semester and some are not. Last year we had matches scheduled for December and January, when students were doing exams, which meant that matches had to be postponed. The whole thing dragged on too long and in the end it was a disaster.

This year we aim to do thing differently. All the league matches will be played off in November, when it doesn't clash with exams or DIT games. A final would then be played in February."

The Sports Officer also confirmed she plans to hold a seven-a-side tournament in March to keep interest among the colleges going. This years fixtures for the DIT rugby teams kicked off with the DIT sports day on October 6. The first week of November sees the Gleeson Cup start up again and continue until the second last week of November.

The Ascent Cup's third, fourth, and fifth rounds take place on December 1, February 1, and February 9 respectively.

February is a busy month with the Gleeson Cup finals taking place and the season ends with the finals of the Ascent Cup, but no dates have been set for either match yet.

Players admit their facilities remain sub-standard

The DIT's rugby stars taking part in the annual sports day

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Sporting calendar

DIT has already started planning its sporting year and to date there are 13 events planned.

This year sees a wide variety of Inter College events scheduled for the next two months. The basketball, volleyball, and badminton cups are now underway with the first of the league games as is the Gleeson Rugby Cup. The calendar for the rest of the year sees women's five-a-side kick off in November.

The swimming gala for freshers, Kevin St and DIT will also be held in November and sports will be suspended for the Christmas month.

The sports new year will begin with the martial arts open competition due to take place during January and February in the Sportlink Sports Centre.

The mixed indoor hockey cup, men's seven-a-side rugby cup and women's seven-a-side rugby cup will all take place in March.

The tennis and golf championships are being left for the summer sunshine of April and the final sports event of the year will be the DIT Sports Awards also scheduled for April.

Watch individual sports notice boards for venues and any changes.
Sports day far from impressive

This year's sports day was blessed with good weather and student enthusiasm but not much else.

More than 2,000 students arrived by the bus load to the ALSAA sports centre in Santry to be greeted by the lack of organisation that seems to hover around DIT sports events.

For students arriving on the first buses, which were running almost an hour late, the complete lack of organisation became apparent. Students were hanging around for another hour before anything was even ready to begin. Finally, audible voices on the PA system tell where and when each event was to be held.

When the games finally kicked off, the crowds swelled towards the soccer pitches to the extent that many were unable to even get a game. To be fair, such participation in the game was unprecedented and organisers on the day could do little but power ahead as best they could.

People were encouraged to partake in other events, and rightly so. There were enough events laid on by DIT to satisfy even the least interested sports enthusiast.

However, the problem here lay with the layout of the day's events.

If the events of were spread out better, students would have had a much better chance to show their interests in other sports.

But as it was, it would not have been possible to get involved in more than one event with for example soccer, GAA, and rugby all taking place at the same time.

However, there are valid arguments against this hypothesis.

In reality it is the minority that will have an avid interest in more than one sport and it is even a smaller minority that will actively pursue a number of sports at club level.

The sports day is not designed to cater for such enthusiasts.

These people are going to play sports whether or not there is a sports day. Sports day does however serve the purpose of introducing such talented individuals to the relevant sports officers involved with the particular disciplines.

But what about the rest of us? DIT sports day is after all a day of sport and recreation. It is designed to encourage people to get involved in sport, any sport, and to have fun.

Without doubt the fun events were a big hit with the non sporting enthusiasts as sumo wrestling, velcro wall climbing, and gladiator-type games drew a constant stream of students who were out to enjoy themselves.

No doubt, sports day was a huge success if crowds count but next year organisers should plan the day a bit more carefully bearing in mind that one game of seven-a-side soccer does not keep the average sports fan happy.

Students take part in some of the sport's day events.

This month's Heineken Sports Star of the Month is U-21 hurling captain, Mark Murphy. Mark wins the award for his outstanding display against Erin's Isle in this year's U-21 semi-final, where he scored 2-4. 21-year-old Mark is from Wexford and plays club hurling there. He has been studying engineering in Kevin Street for the last three years. He has played underage hurling for his native county, Wexford, and this year is hopeful of making a breakthrough into senior hurling for his county.

By Tony Kinsella

DIT 3 - 11
ERIN'S ISLE 4 - 7

DIT reached the final of the Dublin U21 hurling championship by the closest of margins when they beat Erin's Isle at O'Toole Park. Victory over Erin's Isle in the semi-final secured a place in the final, which takes place on November 6.

DIT were by no means handed their place in the final on a plate and came up against a very strong and determined side when they met with Erin's Isle.

The opening 10 minutes was a nightmare for DIT and it was not until Aidan Hanrahan opened the scoring for the college side with a clever point that DIT made their first dent on Erin's Isle lead of two goals and a point.

Colm Buggy then continued the DIT comeback with a point from play. Hanrahan added a second point to his personal tally, and captain Mark Murphy added another to drag DIT back into contention.

Joe Cullen, who looked over midfield, put over the fourth DIT point on twenty minutes but Erin's Isle still held the lead.

The interplay between Buggy and Murphy saw Murphy raise the white flag while Buggy, with a magnificent side line cut from 50 metres, did likewise.

Cleary then collected and delivered a Buggy pass to put DIT ahead by a point.

Hanrahan can justifiably complain about the referee's decision that he had over carried when he had the goal at his mercy.

Erin's Isle, who had failed to score for twenty minutes, equalised on the half time whistle.

In the first minute of the second half, Murphy called and Paul Finnerty delivered a great ball which ended up in the net. An Erin's Isle point was answered with another goal by the in form Hanrahan.

Two points by the Finglas team brought them to within a goal of DIT.

Buggy then showed his opponents how to score a long range point from play. Hanrahan's delivery to Murphy resulted in a scrambled goal which provided the cushion for DIT that was badly needed in the final quarter of the game.

Murphy added a final DIT point with 12 minutes remaining during which every Erin's Isle attack foundered on the rock solid DIT defence.

While a dubious penalty led to an Erin's Isle goal which was followed by a second from play DIT hung on to reach the final.
All right, go if you must, but don't come back here pissed.

The one with the atmosphere

THE PALACE NIGHTCLUB