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A massive DIT wide sports day will take place early next month. It is hoped that as many as a thousand competitors from across the Dublin Institute of Technology will descend upon the Aer Lingus Sports Complex (ALSAA) by Dublin Airport for an event which is designed both as a celebration of sport and an attempt to impress upon the Governing Body and the directors the woeful lack of sports facilities within the institute.

"What we want to do is that day is to invite every sports man and woman in the DIT to the event," says Joe McGrath, the chairperson of the institute's sports committee.

"We would hope to cater for even the more exotic sports, such as fencing and that the people involved would try sports they may not be familiar with, that those who play soccer may try hurling, using a newly developed plastic harley and disava," Mr. Jack Boorman, president of the GAA, may attend the event.

"I want to impress on the Governing Body and the directors what we want to achieve in sport in the next four years."

Joe McGrath has written a report outlining proposals for increasing the participation in and resourcing of sporting activities within the DIT. It includes proposals for the creation of a dedicated DIT sports facility. According to the report, the minimum requirement for the institute would be: outdoor - two Gaelic pitches, two soccer pitches, one rugby pitch, two all weather pitches for soccer, hockey and training and track facilities. An indoor sports centre with an area of 4,000-5,000 sq metres would also be required. Ideally this would include a main sports hall to accommodate various indoor sports, two smaller sports halls, as well as changing facilities, reception and a social area.

Mr McGrath estimates that the cost of the facility would run into "double figure millions". However, he is optimistic.

My personal vision is that with the right support we could have the facility built in four years. It would have to be built in stages of course. The first priority is to get playing pitches and the second to build the sports facility, which could also be used for conferring ceremonies, drama festivals and so on. It should be a right for students, rather than a luxury." He describes the new governing body as a "window of opportunity" as far as sport is concerned. "It can be a change from the way the VEC thought of sport, which I think was incidental to other activities."

The two biggest obstacles to this ambitious project are funding and the locating of the facility in an area that is accessible to students and staff. A somewhat problematic exercise given the physical spread of the institution.

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This Sporting Life

Sport has been dreadfully neglected throughout the DIT for years. Facilities have been and remain, very poor and this is reflected in participation levels as highlighted in the survey conducted by Joe McGrath, chairperson of the institute’s sports council. With the freedom allowed by the DIT Act and the formation of a new governing body, there are now opportunities for the development of sporting activities within the DIT that should not be wasted. The first step in this will be to convince the people who control the purse strings that serious investment in sport represents a venture that will benefit not only those directly engaged in sport but also the institute as a whole. Dr Brendan Goldsmith has made it clear that he wants to raise the profile of the DIT and sporting success can be very effective in achieving this. The fact that teams from the various sites will be competing as part of the DIT rather than in local colours must help develop a single identity for the institute.

April 6th then is a very important day in the DIT’s sporting calendar for it will provide an opportunity for the likes of Joe McGrath to impress upon the powers that be the importance of sport, the numbers who would take part if proper facilities were provided and, no less significant, the sheer enjoyment of being involved. If the day goes well, it could mark the beginning of a new determination within the DIT to improve the sad state of sporting affairs. The proposed dedicated sports facility will cost a lot of money - no one could argue otherwise - and finding a site acceptable to the North- and South-side locations may well pose problems but if any project is worth pursuing with vigour and commitment, then this is it. Everyone is agreed that something drastic has to be done: the problem will be convincing those with the money that it will be worth the serious financial investment required.

Election Time

It’s a nerve time for those running for election. The work required to run a decent and effective campaign is considerable and for some, during the few quieter moments leading up to election day, there will be moments of doubt: is the effort worth the effort? It is. The DIT is undergoing great changes at the moment and DITSU is part of that change, itself developing and also helping to shape changes at institute level. To be part of that change, to resist and campaign where necessary, can be a rewarding and satisfying experience. Sometimes this is forgotten by the people who cast the votes. DITSU does a great deal more than organise events and deal with issues at a local level, though this is integral work. It is important, therefore, that the elections are taken seriously and that people come out and make the effort on election day. It would be unfair to all the candidates if votes were cast on the spur of the moment, without some thought beforehand. Keep an eye out for the manifestos, ask the questions and work out for yourself who is the best person for the job, what­ever that may be.

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The report states that "ideally the sports centre and field game areas would be on adjacent sites and located in suburban Dublin". At present a team of consultants are looking for a suitable site but even when one is found there is the little matter of money. The current development fund amounts to about £100,000,

"When you look DIT’s budget, you’re not talking about taking a major percentage of that budget to allocate a half a million a year for sports facilities. We need that kind of money to show banks and other lending institutions that we are serious about the facility and that we can afford the repayments. Whatever way we go about it, we’re going to take sports seriously, that’s the major objective of the sports committee and the first shot in getting that funding will be the sixth of April. I’ll have a plan to run by the Governing Body and the directors and the all the VPs outlining the state of sport in DIT."

Mr McGrath believes that an increase in sporting participation in the DIT would be good for the institute as a whole. He points to the introduction of DIT jerseys for major sports.

"I think sport could be very unifying for the DIT, people will think of themselves as DIT players rather than Aungier Street players or whatever. We’ll be getting posters and pennants to give to opposition players next year. If we start doing well, the DIT will be appearing in the papers and the TV and so on and that is in the interests of the institution as a whole."

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Clarifications

Should you encounter anything you feel is in need of clarification in this, or any other issue of the DIT Examiner, please contact the editor and any such matters shall then be clarified in the subsequent edition.
According to Gail Haslam, this year's Initiative director, herself and communications student and film society organiser in DIT Aungier Street, believes that the festival offers students the opportunity to have their work viewed by an unknown audience, including a judging panel of people from the film industry. According to Gail, the response from students was positive, with over 40 films submitted for entry to the competition, an increase on last year's figure.

Peter Volkmann from Trinity Video Society was awarded best comedy for "The Feis", an adaptation of the 'feis' chapter of Flann O'Brien’s The Poor Mouth.

Michael Duffy from University College Dublin won best drama for "Pizzaman", a black comedy tracing the misadventures of a pizza delivery man.

Collette Lewis from Limerick College of Art and Design won best documentary for "Search for X" which documents a student ban from Limerick, interspersed with interviews and live performances. Danann, who is studying English and Irish Folklore hopes to eventually become a film director. He believes that the student film initiative offers a great opportunity to inexpensively build up a portfolio and practical experience.

Merit prizes were also awarded to Jim Mannix from UCC for "Talking to God on the Carrigahode Straight" and to the Young Irish Film Makers from Kilkenny for "Dog".

The festival also included the screening of films not in the competition. One such film was "Kissogram" produced and directed by Pat Hannon, an ex-communications student from DIT Aungier Street, now working part-time in the Communications Department and with local radio. With an interest in documentary "Kissogram" tells the story of Toni and Paul who perform kissograms. Pat wanted to create a fly on the wall effect, travelling with the performers on calls with a hand held camera. His aim was to investigate behind the scenes of the 'face and fortune of the scantily-clad French maid and Tarzan'.

Paul Clarke of SIPTU expressed positive sentiments regarding the student film Initiative and said he would like to see an involvement by RTE in the Initiative in the future as "the students of today are the workers of tomorrow".

To ensure the continuance of the Initiative from year to year, it is organised that members of the host college from one year become members of the steering committee the next. UCC is due to host next year's Student Film Initiative and it is hoped that even more colleges will be involved.

Emer Devery
I arrived ticketless at midnight where there was ne'er a soul in sight! Complete sell-out! After an anguishing wait during which time the queue of other desperate hopefuls waned and were turned away with a "Not a hope!", I met this bloke with a plan...

Touring University with two of the original Muses and an additional keyboard player, Kristin Hirsch is back with a mellow bang. Last time I saw K. Hirsch she was sitting atop a table in Tower Records (pre-holocaust) talking about her kid and bunny rabbits, doing a promo for Hips & Makers. I liked the solo stuff but ached at the thought that the Muses had been thrown. The very 'in form' University (which was actually recorded at the same time as Hips and Makers) happily dispelled this illusion. This from a band who like to play what they like to play and who were on the scene long before. The Pixies et al were out of recording nipples. On stage, this is a cool cookie in 5th gear. No affected rock star here, just a band doing their job well, churning out great songs all the way into the second encore. "Have you guys nothing better to do?" was the response to the calls for more... "Good, 'cos neither do we!" Temp down for the final numbers and home. (what was the plan? - Ed)

Heineken Rollercoaster - The Ormonde
Multimedia Complex

Not as full as one might have reckoned for such bill toppers. The Ormonde is an odd kind of venue, with unfriendly acoustics. How much does Fave Danning actually get paid for his spectacular guest host appearance? And what was the purpose of that mutating Technicolor globule on the wall? Little Sister Sage kicked off the ride to warm up the valves for Mike TV Longford's sprung band (ahem, young D. Byrne shirt and hairdo) who in accordance with the media attention actually have a good bundle of songs tucked into their guitars (what was that one about being born in a launderette?) Moneybox is the title of their current EP on Hunter S Records to whom they recently signed. Next up were Georgia, who are a 2FM drive time friendly band from up North with a few nice tunes via Technological Bridge to Your Heart (a song about a by-pass op., no doubt) but not much to shake the foundations.

The real event of the night for many was The Frames, DC who that day released their single Revelate (very cheap too, go buy!). The experience lacking in many other bands shines through in Glen Hansard and company's songs and delivery. From the "oldest song in the world" (Glen) The Dance to the anthem-like Revelate and Monument, not a punter was left unawed. To go with the single and already legendary video (only cost £2, shot on security cameras), The Frames DC (or not DC) release their impatiently awaited second album which promises to capture the true raw energy of the band.

Blink ended the proceedings with a set which definitely earns them my vote for Ireland's best indie pop band by a good spitting distance. Great live performance (obviously got a decent sound check) with good measures of Carter, The Happy Mondays (starring their very own Ben) and EMF thrown in. Cello is an outstanding song worthy of a ranking among the Indie unforgettables. At long last, a really good Irish pop band. Line of the night goes to Mr. Blink: "I think Glen Hansard is a ride and I'm gonna change my sexuality for him."

Fascinating Aida - The Olympia

Bitter sweet F.A. Dillie, Isy and Adele played to an audience of devotees. I did happen to notice a disproportionate number of women who would if only they were braver. Poking fun at themselves and others in their tyrannical wit and satire which veers from the men crisis .."Back With You, "oh why do the Hell did I go..." through Let's Go to Hotel, about illicit lunch time affairs, to Genetic Murattion, a song about giving birth to a two headed baby at 108. Dille and Tom Watt would stage the most perfect cabaret ensemble conceivable. Isy, the new addition, has a litany of facial expressions that are infectious and Adele has a voice which a male cabaret artist friend envied at both ends of the range! Well adapted set which incorporated localised gags and verses ranging from Brown T's move to Moore Street traders. An hilarious romp.

"Men Without Shadows" by Jean-Paul Sartre, at the Focus Theatre, explores the sense of hopelessness against the background of Nazi occupied France.

It is set at the plateau of Vercors in late July 1944. The play opens with a group of resistance fighters, held captive by the Vichy police, as they await their forthcoming interrogation. The play cuts between the prison cell and the interrogation room. The agonising wait of the prisoners in the cell is set in sharp contrast to the wine consumption and maniacal laughter of the police in the next room.

The utter futility of the prisoners' situation is highlighted by the vain hopes of loyalty to Jean, whom they will not betray to the police. They are prepared to suffer pain and torture for the sake of their loyalty. But when one of the prisoners threatens to betray the group loyalty, his most dreaded doom is brutally realised.

Amidst the fear and despair, fellowship develops among the prisoners as they try to maintain a sense of hope among themselves.

"Men Without Shadows"南 the current affairs of the stage. The play is well directed by Brian de Salvo and a tremendous sense of claustrophobia and despair is created by the sparse, dull prison setting and the bedraggled, dazed characters.

Choice is at the heart of Sartre's existentialism. Man is nothing at birth and throughout his life he is no more than the sum of his past commitments. Existentialist anguish is the acknowledgement that man is condemned to freedom. He cannot escape choosing.

"Men Without Chains" explores the effect of the human condition out of control of its own destiny. The Nazi occupation presents limits to personal freedom, leaving man cruelly condemned to despair.

Sartre joined the French army in 1939 and was taken prisoner by the Germans in 1941. After his release, he became an active member of the resistance in his native Paris. Sartre. Other plays, "Les Mouches" and "Huis Clos" also dealt with the Nazi occupation.

Ener Devery

Heineken Rollercoaster - Scene from Living Without Shadows, by Jean Paul Sartre. Pic. by Tommy Clancy

Attempts at bravery are encouraged by Sarbier, the Greek prisoner, who advises Canoris not to please his tormentors by screaming. Lucie, the only female character in the cast, embodies the role of the maternal comforter, as she strokes the head of Francois as he laments his fear of the unknown ahead.

Clochet the interrogator takes great pleasure causing pain and utter degradation to his victims, he wraps his arms around Henri's shoulders, in an aggressive yet intimate manner, and kisses him on the lips, causing Henri to scream and spit in disgust.

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The Price Was Right

The fixing of a popular game show in America in the late 1950s and the subsequent Congressional investigation into the events surrounding the deception may not have sounded like the most promising pitch for a film. At least some of the audience would know how it turns out, so the suspense value is absent. What about cataclysmic representations? Nah. A feel-good factor? Nope. Some sex, sure? Sorry.

So what’s left, for money’s sake? Actually, what’s left is a film that I have already marked down as one of the best of the year, because from this story, deeper and darker than it sounds, Robert Redford has fashioned a compelling, remarkably gripping film that speaks volumes for the power of television, the lure of money and the desperate need in post-war America to succeed, somehow, in something.

The film opens with the camera lingering over one of the enduring symbols of material success: a shining, new and huge car. It is being admired by Dick Goodwin, a young, aggressive Congressional investigator, top of his class in Harvard as he tells anyone who cares to be impressed. It is he who will later get his teeth into the case, determined to get to the truth, and if it makes a name for him in the process, well boy, these things happen.

We are then shown the nation settling down in front of the TV for NBC’s “Twenty One” a show in which two contestants stand in booths and answer questions for ever increasing amounts of money. The sequence is designed to illustrate just how many people watched this show, and how important it was in their weekly routine.

They watched in their millions and they trusted.

Long time champion is Herb Stempel, a pushy know it all whose life has become defined by his success. Not only does he have money, he is also famous and it is the recognition as has always fed on that need to be seen, to be recognised. To be liked.

Quiz Show is Robert Redford’s best directorial effort to date. Ordinary People won him an Oscar first time out, but this is a more complex film and one that is just as involving without the support of great tragedy that beset the characters in the former film. Redford directs without fuss, allowing the witty and thoughtful script and a number of fine performances to do the work. Stempel is played by John Turturro as a twitty, charming character and though he was in a way hard done by, it is difficult to feel anything for him. Though a powerful performance, it is a weakness in the film; it is offset, however, by Van Doren’s character. Ralph Fiennes looks and sounds every inch the privileged WASPish intellectual, the fresh good looks and stylish manner complemented by a beautifully modulated voice (think of Tom Conti without the sarcasmic lilt). But he is just as weak and eager to be liked as Stempel, though in Van Doren’s case, it is the respect of his poet father (Paul Schofield giving a performance of quiet and dignified) that he seeks. It is a measured, though not mangled performance by Fiennes, one that will raise considerably his standing in Hollywood.

Rob Morrow, as Dick Goodwin, completes the line up of lead characters and if anyone should have been the heroic character in this film, it should have been him. However, his arrogance and naiveté, manifested in his seeming determination to protect Van Doren, serve to make him less attractive. The film suggests that he was impressed with Van Doren and his background and forms a curiously close relationship with him - not convinced by his presentations, his wife calls him “the Uncle Tom of the Jews”. Stempel was also Jewish but the film skirts the anti-Semitic issue, instead concentrating on the good of all those involved. But for a film that needs to encompass so much, and succeeds so often, perhaps that was a wise move.

Leon

From Luc Besson, a director who happily combines Hollywood flash with his own French style comes this, his first American film. Jean Reno plays the laconic, socially useless Leon, hitman par excellence. When the family down the hallway are brutally murdered by a bunch of corrupt cops led by Gary Oldman, Leon reluctantly takes in the only survivor, a precocious 12-year old girl. A curious relationship develops as she seeks vengeance, domesticating Leon along the way.

Was it in the hands of someone who bothered more, the relationship cold have been provocative, disturbing or just plain perky, but Besson is much happier with visuals and the kinetic energy of film. Leon is all style and shoot outs, brilliantly handled, and New York has never seemed quote like this before. No masterpiece, but terrific entertainment.

The River Wild

Second films in jeopardy thriller in a row from director Curtis Hanson (The Hand That Rocks the Cradle), this one is set mostly on a picturesque but dangerous river. Meryl Streep plays Gail, a former water river guide who takes her family on a river trip in an effort to salvage her marriage. She agrees to escort two strangers through the rapids ignoring her husband’s suspicion.

The film looks great and there are some exciting enough scenes of white water rafting but aside from that there’s not much to shout about. Competent adventure yarn.

The Shawshank Redemption

When softly spoken banker Andy Dufresne is sent to the brutal Shawshank Prison for the murder of his wife and her lover, his life seems to be at an end. Even Red, the wisest and most likely of cons, thinks it is so. But Andy has a reservoir of hope and quiet determination miles deep, one that cannot be touched by the brutal prison system. He adapts to the cruelty and the mundanity and surprises everyone, audience included.

The Shawshank Redemption has all the old prison clichés, is shamelessly old fashioned, utterly incredible and about 20 minutes overlong. But it works beautifully - the script is intelligent and quietly insistent and the acting by the two leads (Tim Robbins as Andy and Morgan Freeman as Red) is outstanding. Director/screenwriter Frank Darabont displays the light touch of a man confident in the material and so the film, while occasionally very tough, doesn’t employ the big stick for audience reaction. A really fine and uplifting piece of work.
Once more into the

And so those who can still operate their limbs and are pointed in the right direction bid a fond and fragile farewell to rag weeks 1995. All over the DIT, you can see them, zombified, lost little things wandering the city searching, ever searching for the multitudinous brain and liver cells that have been lost along the way. Others furtively ask passers by have they seen any lost dignity in the vicinity. In both cases, the word on advice is forget it. They're gone. Gone forever.

By all accounts, drunk and sober, the respective DIT rag weeks were a bowling, dribbling success. Sure, there were hiccups along the way, there always are, but fortunately, very few were of the metaphorical variety.

DIT Aungier Street was the first to embrace the annual event which is in aid of charity but is usually dedicated to Bacchus. DIT Kevin Street was the last and in the three weeks bookended by those two there were sights to be seen, and sounds to be heard; we won't see their like again. Until next year.

The DIT Examiner proudly presents for your patient perusal a selection of photos which we hope will give a flavour of what it was like to be involved in the high kickin', foot stompin', beer swilling, dignity crushing event that was rag week across the DIT in this year of our Lord, 1995.

"Do you come here often?" - Wicked Willie makes his move during DIT Aungier Street's Rag Week

Giving it the eye in DIT Bolton Street during the Iron Stomach competition

A helping hand is administered during Mountjoy Square's crazy night while the rest look on in awe

Four-legged creature smiles bravely with all three mouths at the prospect of yet another pint in the Airways - DIT Cathal Brugha St.
Meanwhile, back at The Airways...

Alison Flanagan before the great fall

Dickin' around - Wicked Willie spots a rival and takes offence

DIT Kevin Street's little known sauna

No laughing matter: Serious competition during Crazy Night
It's Election Week in DITSU. There are many positions being contested but the most high profile is that of overall president of DITSU, currently held by Colman. The DIT Examiner spoke with both Mr. Byrne, who is running for re-election, and his challenger for the position, Ciarán Crosbie. They give their views on the year, plans for the future and what they hope to achieve. In this election special, we also present a complete list of every candidate and position being contested.

The Time For Change Is Now

Ciarán Crosbie is the only challenger to the current Overall President of DITSU in this year's elections. He is currently the site president in DIT Kevin Street. No one could argue against the assertion that they are two very different candidates, different in style, manner and of course, views on the previous year.

Ciarán concides that it has been a “fairly good year for DITSU.” but adds "I don't think everything was done that could have been done. There are several major problems facing DITSU, facing the DIT, that have to be addressed, the biggest being semesterisation and the introduction of faculty structures. Both will have serious effects on students, as well as students' unions. DITSU has to come out with a policy on these two things which we don't have now, we seem to be stumbling from one crisis to another, food science being a particular example. That wasn't handled very well. We have to come out with a stance on faculty structures and semesterisation in consultation with the students and if I was elected I'd see that as being my main job for next year, formulating that policy and a plan of action taking into account of what the students want.”

He does not agree with the semesterisation system as it stands, but would not condemn it outright.

"The theory behind semesterisation is good, instead of having one huge exam load, it is split into two and that's a lot of work and good, but unfortunately instead of splitting the exam load, it doubles it. For semesterisation to work properly, it has run hand in hand with modularisation."

An argument can be made that there was so much going on, at a day to day level, and with matters arising out of the blue, that some things had to go on the back burner, so to speak. Ciarán Crosbie sees it somewhat differently.

"The job of the overall presidency is there to see the big picture, not to be involved in the day to day running of a union. He or she should be able to leave that to the local sit presidents and the local executives." He believes the DITSU president should be looking at the long term issues, those that will affect students in five or 10 years time.

It is important, he says later, that the overall president keep in mind that the local sabbaticals run the local union and that a balance has to be struck “between being seen in the college and being seen so much that people think you are the local sabbatical rather than the site president.”

The current president of DITSU has experience in the area and is involved with a committee with the future of the institute; he is campaigning strongly on this fact. Mr. Crosbie has not, at the highest levels, such experience. Surely, this is not in his favour?

"Well I've been here for two years, a year as deputy and this year as president. I don't think that the argument about having experience of dealing with the top boys is a fair one. I've been dealing with them for the last two years and I would not be intimidated by going into a meeting with 30 suits.”

He adds that he deals daily with heads of departments and is currently sitting on a DIT committee dealing with the thorny issue of semesterisation.

"I think people should vote for us on the policies we present, the past work we've done rather than a manifesto saying I've been there so I know what I'm doing, vote for me again. That's not necessarily the case.”

There are those who would argue that the job of DITSU President is so very different from that of site president that some concessions should be made in terms of appearance.

"To be honest I don't wear suits and ties. I never found it a problem dealing with top men here. In a way I think it pandering to them, because I'm a student. I don't see many students wearing suits and ties. I don't want to say that there's anything wrong with it but if I go into a meeting of 15 people and we're all wearing suits then I don't stand out from anyone. It's important that a student representative does.”

He believes that image counts for the first 10 seconds. "After that it's up to yourself; what comes out of your mouth. If you can say the right thing at a meeting and represent the students properly, people will respect you regardless of what you're wearing.”

The change from site president to DITSU president is a big one; responsibilities change as do working styles. It can be a difficult transition for a person used to a set location but it is a vital one.

"That's a problem altogether. I think it's very easy to fall into the trap of being the amicable, friendly president who's always around the colleges but the fact is that the work has to be done and if you spend too much time being around the colleges, you run the risk of letting work slip by." If elected, he proposes to visit a college a day for two or three hours.

This would be a tough schedule, but no less tough than the next couple of days as the election campaign reaches...
**Continuity Is The Key**

Colman Byrne is the current Overall President of DITSU. The fact that he is running for re-election is not surprising. It has after all been a busy and exciting year for the students' unions and for the DIT in general: it's a good time to be involved. Mr Byrne has said in the past that he would like to pursue a career in politics and so his current job is at the very least, valuable experience. Some will say he's had his year, others that a degree of continuity is vital for the work of the students' union. Why does he think people should vote again for him?

"The saying goes that if something isn't broke you don't fix it and this is far from broke so you shouldn't go messing with it." He elaborates.

"The simple fact is that we've come a long way this year, got a lot of things underway. Things are in our grasp that always seemed dreamlike. We're still talking about them but they are about to happen. The executive is working better, each individual union in the college has had a better year than it had in a good few years, on all fronts - the strikes in Aungier Street and Cathal Brugha Street were very impressive, we've had a good year and I'd like to think I played a fairly large part in that."

He points to the impending increase of some of the students' unions' budgets. "I think I played a fairly large part in..."

"I don't think that if someone else had been there we would have got the amount of funding we got this year, we got an extra £15,000 for welfare, closer to £30,000 when you include the hardship grant from the minister; an extra £15,000 for DIT sport. Hence we were able to start to get our own identity: extra money for the optical and dental facilities, which were in train, but I got extra money, and extra £20,000 for the students' union which has made a big difference in the amount of facilities and services we can offer. It took a lot of hard work and they wouldn't have happened unless I was there."

This could be a very different election for Colman Byrne. Last year he had a solid home base in DIT Mountjoy Square and his electoral success was due in no small part to a massive vote there. This year he has had less time to spend in any one place but home as such. He does not see it as a problem, saying that he is better known now in most of the colleges than he was before.

"Obviously you might get that major punch because you're not on ground level but I don't think it should take away that much."

Neither does he see it as a problem that he sits on so many committees and sub-committees which take up a lot of time. He is not, he insists, spreading himself too thinly to be effective.

"Some of them I have no choice, some of them I am invited onto and it would be bad form not to sit on them."

"People have a different perception of dealing with me than they have with dealing with other sabbaticals and that makes it easier for me to do the work; they see me as a member of Governing Body, they see me as someone who can walk along and talk to Brendan Goldsmith [President of DIT] on a first name basis whereas they'd say Dr Golden, eh, they see me on a different plane. That's just the position, it makes it easier for me to accomplish things, people just have more respect for me."

"This is tied to an extent to communication, image and appearance, something Colman Byrne is very aware of. He will wear a suit, which some would argue benefits the job, but may still seem odd to students. These days he carries a mobile phone. He does not think it portrays an unfavourable image to students, believing it to be necessary for the job."

"It's about communication, that's what this job is all about. The President of DITSU is a communication person, that's the ultimate in communication."

Because I made the job different in that I travel around the colleges, no-one knows where I am, it's very hard to try and call round to all the colleges; this way people can always get in contact with me." He says that it is sometimes a pain, but believes it makes him more effective at his job.

If re-elected, Colman Byrne says his first priority would be the remainder of the present year's work. "It always happens that when the sabbaticals are elected, the outings relax, I want to see that that doesn't happen. It's a quiet time of year and that's the time we can use to do a lot." Other plans include the development of the identity of the DIT, the improvement of medical facilities, finding a permanent home for DIT's music students and keeping a close eye on the faculty structures.

If it all goes badly for him, though, would he be happy with his year's work?

"I wouldn't be happy enough with my year. We have accomplished a lot, I could be proud of my year but not totally, but for me there's a certain amount of stuff that I want to get done and I haven't got it all done because other things have arose. Now those things that arose and took up my time have been good things, but if I didn't get re-elected I wouldn't be safe that those things would get through." And contingency plans?

"I have no plans but I'm sure I'll struggle on."
The Candidates
continued from page 9

DIT Bolton Street
Site President: Alison Planagan
Site Deputy President/Welfare Officer: Colin Costello Justin McKenna Marie Wade Rachel Wall
Public Relations Officer: Eamonn Byrne Pat Moore
Irish Language Officer: Noel Whelan
Equality Officer: Paddy Collins
Clubs and Societies Officer: Darragh Hegarty Jason Kenny
Entertainments Officer: Derek Burke Brendan Greene Garret Murphy
DIT Mountjoy Square
Site President: Mark Lee
Site Deputy President/Welfare Officer: Pádraig Staunton Niamh O’Donovan
Public Relations Officer: Pauline Good Paul McElhatton Aidan Peoples
Entertainments Officer: Ken Coates Suzanne Colgan Karen Traynor David McCurry
Part-time Officer: Robbie Whelan
Irish Language Officer: Michael Savage
Equality Officer: Mary Bernic
Clubs and Societies Officer: Fiactha Leane Colm Mallon

The following questions were asked of those running for sabbatical positions in the upcoming elections and the answers can be seen on this page and the next

1. Why are you running for election this year?
2. What do you intend to do if elected?
3. What are you main priorities for the year?
4. Why should anyone vote for you in this election?
5. What particular qualities would you bring to the job of?
6. What do you think of your opponent?

DIT Aungier Street
Sinéad Pidgeon
Position Contested: Deputy Site President/Welfare Officer
The main reason I am running for election this year is because I am very interested in the welfare of all students in the DIT. My main priorities would be the enhancement of student benefits in the college, whether this be by introduction of a welfare magazine, a welfare stand containing all necessary information put up in the main area of the college and the necessary appointment of a resident doctor in the college.

I also intend to ensure fit accommodation for all students living away from home and the introduction of childcare facilities in the college. Finance-wise, I intend to ensure swift payment of grants at all time. The most important aspects of my qualities would be (a) I am truly dedicated, very ambitious and 100 per cent behind all needs and desires of students regarding welfare.

For these reasons I believe I am the most suitable person for the job. I intend to do everything possible to ensure that this is the most successful year regarding student welfare in the college.

Dan Wade
Position Contested: Site President
1. Unfinished work—The move in itself was a very large change. It's time we got back to basics And bring back what was best in Rathmines down to Aungier Street. I feel that there is one overworked, however dedicated, person on the exec. I should do that job.
2. First and foremost, I would like a proper first year orientation. A number of these already exists in DIT Bolton Street. Obviously, the security issue is one that will need to be tackled in a thorough manner even if that means getting our backsides wet (again) from sitting on the road.
3. I suppose that as it is a plebiscite, I could say that I am the only man for the job. However, in reality I think people realise that I have put in the hours and I have done the work.

DIT Kevin Street
Helen Ryan
Position Contested: Site President
1. Last year I was welfare officer and it was a very productive year and this year I want to work on developing the image of DIT through class reps system, meetings and publications and also on the areas of education and entertainments. The only point is, where I can fail them is the Site President.
2. At last I will do is elected...Starting from this Saturday, July 2, I would propose to begin work in class rep training, so at the start of term, most of the work for that has been done and this event can occur early.

Election must be made a priority and students must be told their rights and procedures for appeals and representation of their interests. As President, Ents needs student output and I would set up an exec committee to ensure close monitoring of events. Main priorities (besides above) is making the student more interested in the SU, the place where £50 goes to (or of in it). Because I can do a good job, my track record has been proven over the past 2/3 years of two years in Clubs and Societies and Sabbatical Welfare Officer. I feel that I can make a difference. A vote for me is a vote for dedication, commitment and change. Students should vote for me because they will know who the SU is and what the SU does.

4. I am dedicated and committed to the movement and I believe the way forward is with all students behind us. I have adequate experience for the job. I can show leadership and can delegate well. I feel that I am honest, friendly and with these I can communicate with the student body well.

5. My opponent is a co-worker and very competent. It is a shame we are running against each other. I'd like to see him involved in some way. May the best person win (that's democracy!)

DIT Mountjoy Square
Position Contested: Deputy Site President/Welfare Officer
1. I am running for election this year because I have been in COMAD for three years and I appreciate and admire the work of the students’ union in the past. I feel I can contribute to the union and would like to take an active role speaking on behalf of students and ensure their rights. I would enjoy work with this union and would obtain invaluable experience.

2. If elected I intend to be one hundred percent dedicated to the position and actively fight for the deserts and needs of students in my college. I would like to see college facilities improved especially the introduction of colour, printers, copiers, improved library facilities, introduction of a first aid/stick room for students. I will also, as student welfare officer, be available to all students in all areas of our college and obtain adequate funds to aid needy students.

3. I think people would vote for me as I feel I am the best person for the job. I have always been a "people's person" and I think this an important quality to have as deputy president/welfare officer. I am willing to work hard for all the students in my college and students in general and I will do extremest to obtain what we as students deserve.

4. I am approachable, willing to listen, and never afraid to voice my opinion. I can maintain and display initiative and courage in the face of all obstacles and opposition in the interest of students. I have gained enough experience to enable me to do a good job as president.

5. Having worked with Helen last year, I feel she would do a good job. However, I'd do better!
been accused of being a perfectionist. I possess leadership qualities that would undoubtedly stand by me if I am elected.

I am really looking forward to doing a good job as deputy president/welfare officer. His campaign has shown his dedication to winning the position but since he is only in students as a whole.

He's a slow process and will only come into effect on a twice weekly basis and I will be in Rathmines one or two afternoons a week.

I have worked alongside Ronan in all the campaigns this year, for example we started a campaign to try to improve facilities in the canteen and although some progress has been made, we haven't finished. I think I can follow through on the campaigns until the end and see the developments through. We've also started a dyslexia campaign and I'd like to see a support policy implemented for students with disabilities such as dyslexia. I feel that I will be able to do this to the student body in all aspects of student life.

I am interested in my qualities in relation to the position of deputy site president/welfare officer and its proper fulfilment.

I'd like to see a zebra crossing between linen hall and main college that can be a very busy road at times.

I'd like to see an escalation in the level of activities taking place on the clubs and sports front.

I have a number of goals to set, with which I will be able to help other lives of COMAD students as a whole.

I will be able to help other lives of COMAD students as a whole.

I don't have enough computers. They need a voice within the student body as far as possible which is essential in dealing with any problems that might arise.

My main objectives and aims for the year will be (a) to develop and maintain student services that will help those who are in need such as college security and the whole area of student welfare and student needs and also I feel I am the more capacious candidate for the job.

I will work very hard in the post in an honest, open minded and friendly manner and also to fulfill and exceed the role in the position. I feel I am very experienced to fill the post in a very personal manner, that I will be able to do as well as possible which is essential in dealing with any problems that might arise.

My main priority is to get and try to get a good mark available in the canteen. If there is good mark available and will only come into being through intense lobbying to the administration committee of the Department of Health. Also the establishment of monthly class rep meetings and bi-monthly GQM.

Because there's no-one else: Ah, no seriously, I believe that I have a lot of ideas and energy to put into the job. I don't believe that this year was enough and I don't believe the student body has been fully utilized and shook the shackles of the inter-class rivalry.

I have a nice beard, open arms and a big smile.

Patricia Moran
Position contested: Deputy Site President/ Welfare Officer

I have always been interested in the activities of CBS and I feel that by running for election this year I feel that I haven't completed the changes that I wished to implement. I want to see a continuation of the present high level of enrolls available in the canteen.

I want to work on the problems that might arise.

I'm only interested in my qualities in relation to the position of deputy site president/welfare officer and its proper fulfillment.
I'll bet you didn't know thus avoiding and it is to a point, a very small point. I was also whimpering American. It came from right behind me.

step aside. I was happy, in my element. expectant masses huddled, waiting for the ushers to see, and any encroachment upon this blissful scenario even take your seat.

indeed. is surely to be opposed most stridently. With all this in mind, I now see that last week someone was very lucky otherwise cheesy advertisements that precede it. My extortion posing as a confectionery stand in the favourite is the one for the Royal Dublin Hotel, which, among other delights, exhorts you to enjoy the mouth and

tried; rather, it was what he was saying that caused me with a big cake out of boredom, bear with me. It was

me. "Oh

Well, you know about my recurring vampire dream..." Other people's dreams are always boring. Always, always, always. No wonder Freud took coke. This guy was no different. I won't go into his deranged rubbish here, but suffice it to say that I was soon hoping his dream would come true. But if he'd

...the behaviour of Mr Super Memory was so incredible, so dull, irritating and nauseating at the same time that I was completely unable to respond.

stopped there, I could have recovered easily and got on with my life. But no. He kept it up, developing a new line of self-aggrandisement from an innocuous comment made by one of his guileless companions about The Silence of the Lambs and thus introducing me to a whole new level of horror.

Needless to say, his companions did not get a chance to say "no" or "what?" or "shut up". Without drawing breath he launched into a scene from the film, quoting Lecter and even trying to mimic his accent. It went on for the entire walk up the steps to the cinema and at every turn I kept wishing the good doctor would appear and take great and violent exception to the performance. He didn't and his friends, whose embarrassed faces were dangerously near to setting fire to my hair, said nothing. I, on the other hand, was beginning to lose it. Let him be, I consoled myself, it's a big theatre, hundreds of seats, he'll be miles away. Relax. Enjoy the film. So he sat behind me. I know this not because I looked but because he was still talking.

"I have a great memory. You know what? I can name every single American president in order, in about 26 seconds. You wanna hear me do it?" 26 seconds. Held time it.

Once again his friends were slow off the mark, to slow to stop him, to law abiding to stamp on his head. He may well have listed off all the Presidents of the United States but I couldn't really tell, my concentration being taken up by my attempts to actually get into my seat and hide in the foam. And the swine, ignoring my obvious discomfort - I was also whimpering - continued to drone on.

Now, normally when people disturb my reverie in a cinema, I can spin in my seat (this alone often gets their attention if I do it enough times), fix them with a steady eye, and request that they please 'shut up' or 'put out that cigarette' or 'stop having sex in the seat behind me' - things like that. Why didn't I do so in this case? I simply couldn't: the behaviour of Mr Super Memory was so incredible, so dull, irritating and nauseating at the same time that I was completely unable to respond. Besides, by the time he got to Calvin Coolidge, I was busy trying to break off the arm rest from my seat so as to beat him to bloody death.

What amazed me about this entire episode was that no-one said anything. No-one leaned over or back or came from the building next door and politely informed my tormentor that he and his talent were the two most useless things on the planet. No-one, for God's sakes, shot him.

Finally, of course, he finished. There are only so many Presidents and as he triumphantly wound up with Clinton, the lights went down and the scratchy, illegible censor's certificate came up on screen. Behind me, there was silence. As the film's title appeared I dared to relax, replaced the arm rest, returned to the nice man in front of the clumps of hair I'd ripped from his head, and smiled.

At my right ear, a huge bag of crisps was opened.

THE LAST

LECTURE

STUDENT LOUNGE

UPSTAIRS IN THE JUNCTION

LATEST TECHNOLOGY IN

C.D. JUKE BOX, VIDEO GAMES

SKY SPORTS LIVE ON BIG SCREEN

ALL STUDENTS WELCOME

PHONE 4751931
Flour Power

When the ransom demand was released, there was talk of calling in the professionals. The fact that in this particular kidnap situation the professionals would have been a team of crack bakers (the mind boggles) seemed to phase no-one. The demand came in time honoured style, cut out from newspaper headlines, and carried a threat that the child would be turned into a big cake if demands were not met.

All over DIT Aungier Street, anxious parents clutched their bags of flour to their chests, murmuring reassurances, eyes darting left and right, watching for danger.

It is a situation that was repeated throughout the DIT over the past three weeks - both the carrying of bags of flour and the kidnapings. Participating students were given a bag of flour to look after for a week, treating it at all times with the reverence and love usually afforded small babies. Students who took part had to take the 'baby' everywhere with them, unless they were leaving them in the 'creche', normally the students’ union offices.

Generally, it went smoothly, but there were the kidnapings and the occasional worrying attachment between flour and student. Most reassuringly, there was a serious point to the otherwise bizarre exercise. It was organised to highlight the lack of child care facilities in the DIT. There is a creche fund which runs to a maximum of £30 a week, but according to Helen Ryan, Deputy Site President and Welfare Officer in DIT, this is insufficient.

"It's means tested, and the single parent's allowance, rent allowance and the grant is taken into consideration."

She points out that a creche could cost between £60-80 a week.

"The point of the exercise was to raise awareness among the students of the DIT that there may be people in college who have babies and who are finding it very difficult to manage. They can't bring the child to college and might have to pay whatever amount for a creche. Also there are maybe people in college who are pregnant and who are going to experience these difficulties in college - there are no facilities for maternity leave if the give birth coming up to exams. Thirdly, it was designed to highlight the fact that we might be discriminating against people who have children because there are no facilities."

She accepts that the process will be a slow one and that it will cost a considerable amount of money. At the moment, along with the flour campaign, DITSU is collecting signatures - about 1,000 per site is the aim - and when enough have been collected, a detailed proposal for creche facilities will be presented to Dr Brendan Goldsmith, President of the DIT.

Earth Watch

The opening night of the Environmental Resource Management society took place on February 2nd in Rathmines House.

Guest speakers were Eamonn de Buitléir (?) and Susan Moles. Both speakers provided a slide show and this was followed by a wine and cheese reception, which itself was followed by a trip to the Station Bar where a fine night was had by all.

The Society is currently studying the possibility of recycling facilities throughout the DIT. A careers seminar is planned along with a number of other environmental projects.

Cahirperson John Clarke would like to thank all those who made this highly successful evening a possibility.

Society Committee: John Clarke - chairperson, Tanya White - Treasurer, Tiernan Humphreys - Secretary, Seán Crowley - PRO.

3, South Anne St, Dublin 2.
Ph: 6774339

DIT STUDENT SPECIALS

6" Ham & Cheese + Regular Beverage
6" Tuna + Regular Beverage
6" Subway Club + Regular Beverage
6" Irish Sausage + Regular Beverage

£2.00

Offer only applies on production of DIT Student card
What's goin' on in Mountjoy Sq.

Rag Week:
This year's Rag Week was a resounding success, with all profits going to the Temple Street Children's Hospital. The overall attendance was up on last year's events - especially the boat race competition, which had the highest attendance in three years.

Thanks to the Iarnród Eireann, the Rag Train was a no go this year, so the ever enterprising SU and entertainments committee organised the highly successful DART crawl instead. Wednesday night saw the Rag Ball in Powers Hall where 800 students danced the night away to their hearts' content.

The week was without hassle nor trouble and will be a hard act to follow next year (Rag Week t-shirts are still on sale in the SU shop, price £5.50)

Dress Dance
The annual dress dance takes place this year in the Country Club, Portmarnock, on Friday, April 7th. Tickets cost £2.50 and there is a payments instalment system in operation (full payment by March 31st). There will be a bar extension until 3.30am and the final curtain is at 6.30am. Should ensure a good night for those with staying powers.

Fashion Show
March 2 saw the staging of the annual DIT Mountjoy Square Fashion Show. This year's show, held in the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, was hosted by Head to Toe's Martin Raymond. Designers on show included student from NCAD, Kelvin Feeney (this year's Smirnoff Irish Designer) and Wendy Hoey (former Smirnoff winner).

All shoes were from Korky and DV8 and retail outlets on show included Club Tricor, American Madness, River Island and McKullas. Model Lisa Cummins helped with the co-ordination of the show. All praise to fashion society head Olivia Moran and her team for an excellent show. Afterwards everyone headed to Peg Woffington's for a drink, a bop and of course plenty of mingling, darling, essential mingling!

DIT Mountjoy Square's Art Society exhibited their work in the Irish Life Centre. The exhibition ran for two weeks and was praised and adored by all.

A new national campaign has been launched by Women's Aid to highlight the issue of violence against women. The "Zero Tolerance" campaign will consist of two elements. The first is a national petition against domestic violence. It is hoped that schools, TDs, companies, retail outlets, libraries and the media will participate in the signing of the petition. A protocol with the "Zero Tolerance" campaign message will also be distributed. It will carry the slogan: "blame woman, blame the drink, blame the weather - domestic violence - there is no excuse!"

The second element of the campaign will be an outdoor advertising campaign. The advertisement will be designed to communicate the idea that domestic violence crosses all classes, that it is not a once off act but that anyone can be an abuser.

THE IRISH TIMES
DITSU Simplex
CROSSWORD Competition

PRIZE:
First 3 correct entries drawn will each receive a £20 gift voucher for DITSU Students Union Shop.

RULES:
Only open to members of the DIT colleges. Employees of DITSU and THE IRISH TIMES are not eligible to enter. No Photocopies - Entries close: Monday, March 26th

SEND TO:
THE IRISH TIMES / DITSU, Crossword Competition, The DIT Examiner, (to be dropped into local Union office)

THE IRISH TIMES
THE STUDENTS NEWSPAPER

Last Issue's winners were:
Edward Bateem
(DIT Kevin St.)

Celine Madden
(DIT Cathal Brugha St.)

Eileen Rafferty
(DIT Cathal Brugha St.)

ACROSS
8. Not speaking openly or freely. (8)
9. Say or do again. (6)
11. Petted Ed until he was reduced. (8)
12. Of the mind. (6)
13. Dole road to the golden land. (8)
15. Idol of Venice. (4)
17. Piece £5 together to get a group that are alike. (7)
19. Not clear or easily understood. (7)
22. Mail it to Peru. (4)
24. Ragged, old and worn. (8)
27. Cherry red. (6)
29. Leave mid the Middle Ages. (8)
30. Orders issued by kings or lawgivers. (6)
31. Heavy stick, club. (6)
32. Was way to a group without paying the fare. (8)

DOWN
1. Cured E by telling him to lose weight. (6)
2. Hug. (8)
3. Military bugle call at daybreak. (8)
4. Gained knowledge by reading. (7)
5. Three-legged stand. (6)
6. Come into view. (6)
7. Pale purple, sweet smelling flowers. (8)
8. Machine for weaving cloth. (4)
9. It lies in the sea. (4)
10. Broad level stretches of high land. (8)
11. Fair-like entertainment. (6)
12. He's not married. (8)
13. Objects that are alike. (7)
14. Harsh and hurtful things. (6)
15. Objects that are not living. (6)
16. Say harsh and hurtful things about. (6)
17. Governor of old Persia. (6)

COMPETITION NO. 5
Elections
Polling Day - 15th of March

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!

"Book News is Good News"
Especially for all students and lecturers.
We have now opened our new college bookshop in 3 Kevin St.

Please let us know the titles you require or may be recommending and we will have them on our shelves posthaste / forthwith / immediately or even sooner!

For all text book requirements, look no further or farther than

"Alan Hanna's"
New College Bookshop
3 Kevin Street Lower
Phone: 4751828
Open 'til 7pm Mon - Fri
Sports News

DIT Mountjoy Square's basketball is proving to be the best of the best. They are now champions of the North Division of Irish College Basketball League. They are currently training hard in preparation for the Irish finals. Best of luck from all in DIT Mountjoy Square!

The DIT Swimming team has had its most successful year ever. At the Irish Swimming and Water polo Inter varsities, they were just beaten by Queen's University Belfast. At the recent HEST championships, both the DIT A & B teams cleaned up, winning all but four titles, resulting in overall first and second placings for the teams.

DIT Mountjoy Square's judo club headed off the Irish Judo Inter varsities and a prodigy, Connell Brennan, returned. He excelled, taking the 80 kg title and also lifted the award for the best throw of the competition.

DIT Mountjoy Square's soccer club are through to the quarter finals of the Irish College's League.

Compiled by Damian Pedreschi

The DIT Basketball Teams have been selected -

Men

Kevin Connroy, Keith Maguire, John Clancy - Kevin St
Javier Beccos, Gareth Winders, Peter Planagan - Bolton St
Karl Donnelly, Paul Lynch - Mountjoy Square
Tony Shackle, David Walsh - Cathal Brugha Street

Women

Roisin O Shea, Jean Gorman, Pamela Grogan - Mountjoy Square
Carla Wogan, Eddi Brachan, Karen O'Brien, Jenny Winders, Anne-Marie Carlton,
Mairead Fitzpatrick - Aungier Street

Coach - Ken Coates
Manager - Eoghan Marnell - Sports Recreation Organiser,
DIT Cathal Brugha Street, ph. 8747886

Men's Soccer
Cathal Brugha Street 2 - 1 Dundalk RTC

Ladies Soccer
Cathal Brugha Street 5 - 1 Athlone
Garda College 5 - 3 Cathal Brugha Street

Ladies Basketball
Cathal Brugha Street 79 - 18 McGee College

Men's Basketball
Cathal Brugha Street 43 - 59 McGee College

Tennis Inter varsities
UCG 1 - 4 Cathal Brugha Street
UCD 5 - 0 Cathal Brugha Street

Rugby
Cathal Brugha Street 17 - 10 Bolton Street
Portobello 17 - 0 Cathal Brugha Street

DIT Basketball League
Men's winners - Kevin Street
Ladies' Winner - Cathal Brugha Street

Compiled by Eoghan Marnell

The Shakespeare Bar

160 Parnell Street
Tel. 8740917

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