TORCH '86



TORCH 86

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COVER DESIGN & MAGAZINE LAY-OUT

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

On behalf of the Torch Board, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the following people who contributed to the magazine this year:-

Fr. G. Bluett, Fr. Frank O'Connor, Mr. P. Ryan, Fr. Pat O'Connor, Niall Egleston, Michael Murphy (Kilmallock), Pat O'Connor, Jeff Punch, Shay Fitzpatrick, John Foley, Brian McCarthy, Joe Hayes, Peter Tomany, Leo Morrison, Thomas Graham, Declan Edwards, Eamon Doody, Armel Whyte, Francis Dalton, Paul Barry, Seamus Laffan, Diarmuid Ryan, Niall O'Connor, John O'Neill, Thomas Guerin, Gregory Tynan, and special thanks to Miss Mary Bowen, and to all our advertisers.

Paul Buckley.

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LDITORIAL

the time the magazine is published. same would have been out of date by remembered). Another reason is that

few poets amongst us. .erutuf There seems to be quite a aubmit it to the magazine in the who wrate it continue to do so and to humauraus to complex. We hope those poetry varies from simple and poems, which is surprising. We received a large amount of

one to send in essays next year. standard and we would encourage every that we did receive were of good indeed disappointing. The essays response to the Essay Competition was Against this however, the

.enizepem edi vojne beer lorch' was founded. I hope you will not just this year, but since 'The of work she put into the magazine, School Secretary, for the great amount special thanks to Miss Mary Bowen, any way and I would like to give like to thank everyone who helped in bluow I , niegA , the students. more co-operation and enthusiasm from achool production if there was a little say that this could be a fantastic In conclusion, I would like to

Paul Buckley.



AzeM nebnasa

sympathy to Brendan's family and We wish to express our sincere .6861 ,IlingA dda Brendan Nash who died tragically on This magazine is dedicated to

*spuataj

price! typeset it ourselves and, raised the order so we re-designed the magazine, We decided a change was in Better! ,86 Magazine - Bigger, Brighter and Welcome to the new-look 'Torch'

Denis O'Brien, contae, thanks to our own photographer, To ,bne redgerpolodq fencisesTorq e much improved, thanks to our employing Photographic standard is .bevorqmi The standard this year is greatly

money as freely again. I don't think the magazine will donate ever, we learn from our mistakes and nobody wants or needs the money. How-The only conclusion we can draw is that so, the response was very poor. Why? Yet, even for each article published. throughout the year and promised money We announced various competitions stricles and from the committee itself. this magazine from those who write the A lot of effort goes into .Loodas worse, which is a disgrace for the this magazine couldn't possibly be Student support for . Ji AJIOW BBW money which explains the price, but it We decided to spend a little more

thould be given to it! year's activities. More support the school and is also a record of the megazine is important as it represents you're in with a good chance. This - Tesy Jxan niege (Ti Jud (Yilos m'l If you did not get an article published and the time given to writing them. articles we thank them for their effort To those bib onw ainabute send of

boarder amongst them. with just five members and not a of the smallest there has ever been warth noting that the committee was one work throughout the year. of the 'lorch' Committee for their I would like to thank the members

(This is a point which should be Life itself or the pupils in general. relevance or interest with the school extremely good, they have no specific the fact that, though they are тье тевзоп мћу зоме did not go in is poems, jokes, crosswords, sports, etc. varied consisting of short stories, The articles themselves were

The Other Ten Commandments

- him, shalt thou serve, The President is your Lord and Master; Him only, and angels delegated by
- thing own sake). Thou shalt call Teachers by their real names when addressing them (for H
- Thou shalt volunteer to attend all Munster Sentor Rugby Cup Games (or else!).
- Thou shalt NOT be caught "on the Go".

ΛI

- Thou shalt NOI be caught "disciplining" first Years. 1
- Thou shalt NOT be caught consorting with persons of the opposite sex.
- and paper for those wishing to roll their own, are available. Thou shalt smoke only in the 'Cubicles' provided, where fire extinguishers, IIA
- .Tuodrigian vit no "sastp" fon flade worll TITA
- IV Thou shalt NOT cogeth thy neighbours Homework (if you can't explain it).
- Thou shalt cogeth thy neighbours Hamework (if you couldn't do it).
- THOU SHALT NOT BE CAUGHT BREAKING ANY OF THE ABOVE.

.II pniveal initiand semon!

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"AAGI TSITARAGA B HT"

The teachers' dispute gave birth to an increasing awareness among second-level students of the action that can be taken to highlight their grievances. However, it must be remembered that moderation is the key to success in these ventures.

been joined by a battalion from 5t. from here down O'Connell Street, having suspended. The march continued windows to join us and were subsequent who climbed out their classroom support those pupils of Laurel Hill reservedly, and without apology, which they were lacked. fines of their own classrooms, in Clement's was restricted to the consupport of Laurel Hill and St. Unfortunately, the .0.9.0 and od bred bank opted to lead their own merry typically, the young ladies from Fern better support for our cause but, Clement's and Laurel Hill to get Ais and ourselves to march to St. Diob it was agreed between Ard Scoil followed by the Salesians. Join us but, more importantly, when we saw Ard Scoil Ris coming to There was great commotion in the ranks Bildge we had our own police escort. By the time we got to Sarsfield

On Tuesday morning, 15th April, rumours circulated that a student protest was about to take place. At 10.15 a.m., following many small meetings, the student body of 5t. Munchin's College was rounded up and told by Leaving Cert. II students to told by Leaving Cert. II students to Munchin's College student protest against the teachers and the governagainst the teachers and the governagainst the teachers and the govern-

What followed was perhaps the most unusual day in the history of St. Munchin's College in recent times. Students left the school grounds and marched from the gate to Sarsfield Bridge. The students left behind them a bemused and astonished teaching staff.

The march into town was extremely well controlled by sixthyear students and great credit is due to them for their effort.



Mary's, and eventually, converged on *
Sarsfield House. A letter was
handed in voicing our protest to the
Department of Education. Following
this, the protest ended and the pupils
returned to their schools.

The following morning we were all surprised to find an estimated five hundred pupils marching up the avenue with banners proclaiming "Give Youth a Future". The majority of the students of St. Munchin's College and other schools taking part in the protest were appalled to find out that a left wing political organisation called "Labour Youth" had infiltrated certain schools and had subsequently tried to use the students of Limerick for their own political ends. We would like to thank Canon Lane and the teaching staff for their understanding attitude to these disruptions. This attitude reflects the unique spirit of co-operation that exists between teachers and students in our College.

St. Munchin's College

Stamp Club

This year, John Gallagher and Kevin Reardon have taken over from Michael Kennedy and Thomas Kelly. In all the time Michael and Thomas have been in the Stamp Club they only lost the 'Windsor Cup' once.

Since we have taken over from the boys, we have been getting questions from many pupils about Stamp Collecting. What fun can one gain from collecting Stamps? and some even asked, "Can you gain money?"

Thousands upon thousands of people all over the world collect stamps. People get enjoyment collecting stamps from other countries which have stamps very different from our own.

Some people like to show off their stamps by doing stamp entries for exhibitions and competitions. A Stamp Entry is a group of stamps on the same subject and placed on sheets of paper in different categories. One would talk about the meaning of each stamp, e.g. if one was doing an entry on transport, one would start off by writing about the first bicycle, who invented it, etc. and show a stamp with a bicycle; then, move onto locomotives and carry on until you reach the shuttle.

Can a person earn money from collecting stamps? Yes, one can earn money from collecting stamps and collecting First Day Covers. Many people collect stamps from all over the world and then, in years to come, they get valuable. A First Day Cover is when 'An Post' issues a new stamp; the stamp is placed on an envelope with the details of the stamp on the inside. A special mark is placed on the stamps and the envelope is then posted back to an individual's house: so these are the first stamps in it's line to be published, so they go up in value, not down. But, I stress, we don't go out to collect stamps for money; we do it for fun and the enjoyment of collecting stamps.

At the end of the year, we hope to hold an Exhibition for dayboys and Boarders in the Assembly Hall.

This year the Stamp Club got off to a great start by winning the 'Windsor Cup' again. Having won the cup so many times we were allowed to keep it and they introduced the new 'Windsor Perpetual Trophy'. St. Munchin's Stamp Club had its usual meeting with 'Stella Maris Convent' (Mount Trenchard). We took the overall prize and 1st in the three categories. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, with plenty of food and laughs.

John Gallagher and Kevin Reardon would like to take this opportunity to thank Fr. Frank D'Connor for all his help; only for him, the Stamp Club wouldn't be where it is today.

Kevin Reardon.

A Very Short Story

The gigantic ship moved slowly into orbit above the planet, it's main bulkhead causing darkness over one of the Southern Hemisphere continents. Noiseless booster jets moved the ship into a perfect orbit around the planet.

"Yes, a perfect planet", said Commander Terran "ripe for colonising. How high is the oxygen content?"

"21.36%, sir", barked an atmospheric operative from his bank of consoles – carbon-based life forms on surface."

"Excellent - makes a change from silicon", murmured Terran, "You may send a colonising party down now."

Through the plexi-glass, a shuttle could be seen descending towards the planet. Five minutes later, the shuttle was back on board.

"Oksy, let's go. Warp six" ordered Terran, "Who did we send down anyway?"

"Commander's Adam and Eve, Sir."

The ship pulled away from the planet; there was a brief flash and it was gone.

Labour under Afflictions

1. Moren.. Leaving 1.1

Why does she cry? Why do tears of endured pain

Why does she hurt? Why do feelings of rage Through her body hurtle?

The answer cannot be found, It is at the bottom of the well of her tears!

The Bucket

There was an old man from Nantucket; Who kept all his cash in a bucket; But his daughter named Nan, Tan away with a man, As for the bucket, Nantucket.

 Π

Pa followed the pair to Pawtucket (The man and the girl with the bucket). And he said to the man, "You're welcome to Man", But as for the bucket, Pawtucket.

Conleth Dillon & T.J. Bluett

I paives!

Stalag Munchin

Brought to Stalag Munchin, In the year 1981. Tried to escape But there was no where I could run.

"Forget it", said an inmate "Just get a decent plan." And when it comes to '86 I'll do the best I can.

Operation Leaving Cert.
Will probably take a while.
But when it's finally said and done,
I'll probably run a mile.

Joseph Jackson. Leaving Cert, 2.2

Riocht Diose

Caora bán 's aghaidh dubh air Ag seasamh ar cnoc ard Cosúil le flaith uaibhreach, Ag féachaint ar a ríocht,

Críoch díosc is ea é Ag thabhairt beo le biorrach, Cludaithe le foras feasa Ag fás le gach giolcach,

этр Мочетрет

After lunchbreak, Fr. Bluett evacuated the corridors of the College in his own inimitable fashion. The police checked on a bomb scare in the building. As expected, no bomb was found.

тем Мочемьег

God bless the teacher's unions another strike.

20th мочемьег

The U-18 Hurlers were defeated by Sextons in the Keane Cup Final. The referee was led off the pitch some minutes later, apparently thinking that the game was still being played.

убра ресемрет

To the eager applause of the student body, the teachers again go on stilke.

6th, 7th & 8th December

"Joseph and his Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat" with Joseph Lillis and his Amazing Technicolour Dreampupils, runs three nights in the Assembly Hall.

1111 Оесемрет

The Under 15% Hurlers defeat Tipperary C.B.S. and trudge back with the first Munster Cup of the school year for the Munchin's mantlepiece.

18гр Бесешрет

We were viciously attacked by the Christmas exams who had just sneaked around the corner and pounced upon us.

20th December

The exams proved to be even easier than picking up mercury with a fork. We turn the corner on 5t. Munchin's College for the last time in 1985.

3rd September

Creaks and groans resound through the empty corridors as the ancient wheel of 5t. Munchin's begins to turn. For the first time in ten weeks, Fr. Lane is given a dusting, and the side door slowly swings open.

9th September

The fifth years return to the usual blaze of indifference from the rest of the school.

11th September

The stately Rugby ceremony begins.

хоги гергемрет

At about 10.30 a.m., dozens of bloodshot eyes scan pieces of official stationery. The rest is a happy blur in the minds of most Leaving One students.

28гн бергеврет

The world ends, but St. Munchin's College goes on.

15th October

Having a temporary lapse of sanity, the teachers go on strike.

17ги Осторы

Much jumping around the place heralds the victory of our Under 18 Hurlers in round one of the Keane Cup.

25th October

Even more jumping sround the place heralds the arrival of the midterm Break.

тадшалом изь

St. Munchin's opens her jaws again, and tales of wild Parisian adventures involving a party from St. Munchin's, trickle back to the College.

6th March

Much weeping and gnashing of teeth informs the casual observer th St. Munchin's have lost their chance of winning the Junior Cup.

7th March

The Pre-Inter, and Pre-Leaving exams begin to unleash their horribl tortures behind closed doors.

11th, 12th & 13th March

Wails of impotent despair from the student body were callously ignored as Mr. Ryan led the teaching staff out to picket a certain school in the city.

14th March

The only students let in today were exam class students.

Zlat March

The happy students trundle away home for Easter.

TingA div

A reluctant flow of students refills the College.

15th April

An event more thrilling than a double C.D. class, more exciting the walking around the Rugby pitch in the drizzle, more colourful than Neil finglish's hair, happened today; we, the students of St. Munchin's Collegand other students, left our respective schools and swam into to tespective schools and swam into to the protest at the proposed boycott to protest at the proposed boycott the Leaving and Intermediate Cert.

16th April

Examinations.

A repeat of yesterday's perfor ance was attempted, but the teacher were ready.

the year 1985/'86 in St. Munchin's.

And so ends the lorch Diary to

UOTEN UO

14th January

On the first day back incredible tales of Mr. McNamara and Mr. Reid "boogying on down" on New Year's Eve in Switzerland with unknown numbers of young women cannot be confirmed, as the two teachers don't seem to have any memory of New Year's Eve.

19th January

St. Munchin's senior seconds defeat Christians in the semi-final.

Ylst January

A space age interpretation of 'Othello' keeps Leaving I and Leaving II students hanging on the edges of their seats.

Znd February

The Munchin's senior seconds team return to Cork and defeat Pres. 18-8 in the 'Barry Cup' Final. This seemed to please everybody (except Pres.) rather a lot, so Fr. Lane gave the school a half-day.

Sth February

In a fit of religious zeal, the Leaving II students go on a retreat. In a fit of adolescent lust, a group of boarders go to the Stella Maris Convent, thinly disguised as Stamp Collectors.

16th February

The Senior Cup, bulky though 'tis, slipped through Munchin's fingers today as all hope of winning it was coughed.

19th February

The fifth year students follow the sixth year example and trot off to their retreat, eager to be born again.

20th February

Munchin's faced Rockwell in Thompnd Park. The superior side beat them 9-6.

School Days The Happiest of our Lives?"

"School days - the happiest of our lives!" "Rubbish!" "Absolutely untrue!" Who ever said that must be on a day pass from 'St. Joseph's' - and a hoat of other unpublishable remarks, would make up the expected reply from our student population. But now, perhaps for the first time, what they are saying is true. Undoubtedly, students of yesteryear had their problems, what with canewielding teachers and bully-boys, but these are only minute when compared with the severe pressure and bully-boys, but these are only minute when compared with the severe pressure and bully-boys, that many had to find an escape in the stachool and, so great is this pressure, that many had to find an escape in the form of drink, drugs and, most saddening of all, suicide.

But what are these problems and why are they having a greater effect on today's student than they did on those in the past. The greatest worry facing a student in Leaving I and II is his results. This reality is a terrifying one and is always at the back of one's mind and, as a result, exerts pressure and worry, which, if not released in the proper manner, through sports clubs and the like, can have serious consequences. Students can entitle of deep depression during

as these results will determine his future life. This reality is a terrifying one and is always at the back of one's mind and, as a result, exerts pressure and worry, which, if not released in the proper manner, through sports clubs and the like, can have serious consequences. Students can enter periods of deep depression, during have serious consequences. Students and dangerous. This fear of doing badly can make people study hard - it can mean they spend ten to twelve hours, five days as week, studying; this is a very large part of anyone's week and is enough to make

students hate school and all the anguish and upset it brings.

This problem has only come into it's own in the last five or ely years.

This problem has only come into it's own in the last five or six years,

mainly because of the shortage of jobs, which has resulted in greater competition between students, in turn resulting in greater pressure being put on them, by parents and teachers, to do well.

The over-emphasis on examination results has made school life un-

bearable in a different way for a certain group of people; these are outcasts, fellows who, for some reason or other, find it hard to make friends and, as a result, are condemned to an existence of being bullied and unhappiness. The emphasis on examinations means that a greater percentage of classes are exam-orientated, which means that subjects such as P.E., C.D., Irish Culture and Civics are being left out. These subjects gave the pupil a chance to relax, discuss and get better acquainted with himself and with others; now, out of a total of forty-two classes, only three are non exam-orientated.

Another reason why a person's days at school may not be his happiest

is because of bullying from fellow students and even teachers. It is a joke going into achool everyday, knowing that someone, sometime, is going to pick on you; that someone, to prove how tough he is, is going to push you sround or, even worse, tridicule you in front of your class and friends; this applies not only to students but also to teachers.

Although this problem has been faced down through the years by most

school-goers, the social tensions and problems, coupled with the pressure of preparing for exams, have had their affects on teacher and pupil alike, leaving them short-tempered and, at times, unfeeling in their treatment of others.

In conclusion, while recognising that school does have its happy

moments, for many it is not a particularly joyous period of their life and, for the unlucky few, it can be a living hell which will leave deep scars on their personality and their growth as a human being.

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'Ode to the Ecstasy of seven tragic, harmonious Rhynchobdelliads in search of those few who sustain their nourishment.'

"Stalk, twitch, 1.
Again stalk,
Watch, twitch
And stalk again.
Absolute unicen, all pounce together. 5.
Munch,
Crunch. Yummy Schizopods:
Walk away belch!
Contract Rhinopharyngitis
And all die away." 10.

Written, engineered, created and produced by -Thomas B.M. Graham and John Declan Edwards (L.C. 2.3)

Explorations

- Did you extract tremendous excitment and pleasure from your study of this poem?
 Clearly state why you did so.
- This poem concerns the eating habits of the leach. Through this simple fact
 the co-authors seek an explanation to the imperfect condition of Humanity
 in relation to his surrounding environment. Discuss, with clear reference
 to the poem, how this statement is perfectly correct.
- 3. It has also been suggested as a possible sub-theme that the poem actually deals with the futile struggle of man's intestines to adjust to the ever-changing structure of his society. Giving your full agreement to this theory, support your answer with reference to line 6 only.

Glossary

Rhynchobdelliads: A rare group of coleopterous insects distinguished by the front of the head being prolonged into a long snout or rostrum, at the end of which lies the mouth. However, within the context of this poem, the poets are referring to the common leach.

Schizopods: A tribe of long-tailed decapod crustaceans which are believed to be totally blind & deaf. They are distinguished by their unique strawberry flavour and very short legs, thus making them an easy and rewarding prey for their many preditors (the number of which is said to be infinite).

Rhinopharyngtis: Disease which arises from the digestion of the seemingly harmless Schizopod. A roundish, hard, ugly, unequal, scirrhous tumour grows in the glands of the preditor, which usually ulcerates and becomes extremely painful. Usually fatal.

Unicen: All the boys jump together.

School Play: "Joseph and his Dreamcoat"

The usual and much renowned punctuality of St. Munchin's College was very much in evidence when the play started a full ten minutes late. Fr. Lane was the first star of the show imparting such vital information as the location of Fire Exits and Lavatories.

After an unsteady beginning, the Band fell back on the old reliable "Amhrán na bhFiann". Fallowing much gossip from the stage, a sudden clatter of curtain rings heralded the beginning of this musical extravaganza. Armel Whyte, in the unseemly guise of Jacob, commenced singing, while at the same time struggling to keep his night-shirt on and remember his lines. Unfortunately for Jacob, someone forgot to turn on the microphone. Following the quick departure of Jacob, his talented son, Joseph(Frank Guiry) wandered aimlessly into centre stage. Guiry's fashion sense was terrific, adding a unique sense of femininity to the show. However, Joseph redeemed himself by displaying his outstanding Enter the brothers, all ten of them, trying to keep up with the vocal acrobatics of Rueben (Liam Murphy). It was evident from Rueben's performance that this was one person who would dearly have loved the leading role, and was doing his utmost to outshine Joseph. Liam Murphy acted well as the evil older brother - his treatment of Joseph (Guiry) might not have been all fantasy; indeed, the other members of the cast joined in the maltreatment of Joseph with the vigour and enthusiasm uncommon to a mere school production. One wonders might there have been an ulterior motive!

One must admire though, the skill and talent of James Cronin, who added, in his role as narrator, a focal point for the whole production.

And so ends Act One!

Act Two held an exciting opening, with Joseph being pursued by the delectable Diarmuid Ring, who showed his true talent as a new Danny La Rue. A little spice was added at this stage to the amazement of the Reverend members of the audience - Joseph, having been caught with his pants down

(metaphorically speaking, of course) was promptly thrown into jail.

Joseph's brothers turned up again in Jail, as the Baker and the Butler; (surprisingly enough, he didn't recognise them) - having interpreted their dreams, met the Pharoah himself (Dan O'Connell).

After another of Joseph's wonderous interpretations, the Pharoah drops his quilt and reveals the King (Elvis). Having found a microphone, he reeled off some of Elvis' old favourites – totally unsuitable to the play, but seemingly, appreciated The remainder of by the audience. the play continued on reasonably then the rendition of Band Aid's 'Feed The end of the musical the World'. resembled a U2 concert with frantic students and nuns clamouring for the Exits, but we were stopped dead by the voice of Fr. Lane who rendered his assessment of the night's performance. As well as the usual salute, he complimented the audience (but we all know he meant the production team) on their professionalism. production team and cast showed their true professional grit by coping with a troublesome sound system.

It was an enjoyable and thoroughly entertaining night, one of the best productions this school has seen.

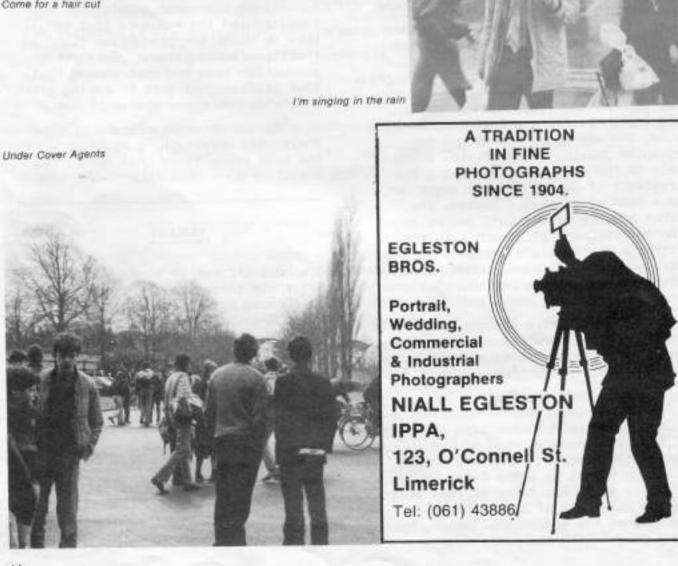
TRAGEDY

I wander through my mind questioning Yet there is no reply, Love cares not for personal existence, My soul it does destroy.

To sit, to think and to contemplate Alone amongst a crowd, The state of my personal existence, A moan becomes my shroud.

I wonder why it's there, God's curse on man, on me! Love's tears overflow my heart, My cup is like a sea.





Aware & Caring

During 1985 130 million people in the Third World experienced the greatest famine ever. 2% of the world's population went to bed hungry each night. The scenes of disaster were brought into our homes by the medium of television and many in the Western World were made aware of this horrible famine. For some people, being aware simply wasn't enough. Bob Geldof was one such person.

The Dublin-born rockstar was deeply moved after watching a programme depicting one of the greatest natural disasters ever. He sat down to try and figure out a way he could help relieve the suffering. Towards Christmas '84, he hit upon the brainwave of bringing his fellow popstars together to record a single "Do they know it's Christmas?", all the profits of which would go towards famine relief. 'Band Aid' was born. This single made over £8 million and this saw the beginning of the 'Band Aid Charitable Trust', which was to grow from strength to strength over the coming year. It was to become the greatest ever campaign for famine relief. In January '85, prompted by the phenomenal success of the English 'Band Aid' and, aided by Bob Geldof, leading American rockstars calling themselves 'U.S.A. for Africa' came together to record "We are the World". This record was even more successful, making £40 million for the Third World.

Through the first six months of the year, the tireless Mr. Geldof was working in every waking hour to set up the greatest event of the year and perhaps, the decade. Working more than 14 hours a day, the Irishman succeeded in securing 45 of the world's top acts to appear, voluntarily, in the Greatest Show on Earth. 'Live Aid' was to have the largest audience ever, for any event - over one billion people worldwide. On July 13th, the whole world was rocking to the greatest rockstars, performing in Wembley and Philadelphia. While the multitudes were watching the great event on T.V., various fund-raising activities were taking place in almost every country in the world. Bob Geldof appeared on T.V. imploring people to give more. He said - "If you don't do anything, you are an accomplice to a massive organised crime." The world did not turn a deaf ear to his plea, since 'Live Aid' and that which followed, earned in excess of £52 million sterling for the 'Band Aid Trust'. It is worthwhile to note that the generosity of the Irish was astounding. In our little country alone, we earned £5.5 million sterling more per head than any other country in the world. Bob Geldof was, and continues to be, the driving force behind 'Live Aid'. Following the success of 'Band Aid', he took a fact-finding trip to the famine area and was shocked by the scenes of horror that he experienced. It, apparently, resolved his decision to help, since he returned to England to play the key role in organising 'Live Aid'. Not content with raising the money, Mr. Geldof decided to take it upon himself to make sure the funds were implemented in the areas most in need. He met with, and criticised world leaders for their lack of concern and their unwillingness to help. When he met with Mrs. Thatcher he attacked her on the question of the E.E.C. butter and grain mountains. Mrs. Thatcher replied that butter wasn't much use in Africa: "but butter oil is. It's one of their main supplementary foods." Geldof quickly retorted.

For his trouble, Geldof was given various awards and was nominated for the Nobel Prize but his nomination was turned down on a technicality. He was given honorary degrees by several universities and was invited to dinner at Buckingham Palace. Even after all these, Bob Geldof retains the principles he had at the beginning of the year and believes we should go on helping the Third World - "It is not enough just to keep them alive, we must now give them a life." Looking back, we can see that the ordinary people of the world have succeeded where politicians have failed. They have succeeded in making life better for their fellow man. There is no doubt but that 1985 will go down in the history books as the year the world discovered its conscience.

Eamon Doody. Leaving I.













Introductions to Profiles

Jeff Punch: Jeff doesn't come from Patrickswell. His only contribution to Munchin's, an Apathy Club (The Dotty Band) failed due to lack of interest. He likes Guitars and cars and hopes to become another unemployed Astrophysicist.

John Sheahan: 'Bubbles' hails from Banogue, Having been a boarder for six years 'Bubbles' is beginning to show signs of it. After the Leaving Cert, he hopes to arrange a coup for the takeover of "Carrolls" or "Guinness", either sufficing his needs.

John O'Neill: This hulk is a prime example of what the human race should be like. John finds it very hard to study and overcomes this by his unique ability to ask very intelligent questions in class. John hopes to host 'Mastermind' in the near future,

Joe Haves: Joe is a boarder from Askeaton. He is an athlete; he likes swimming in really cool water and hopes to become a deep-freeze fridge when he leaves St. Munchin's College.

Pat Fitzpatrick: Pat is an up-andcoming barman and hopes to pull Bet Lynch's pints and also to become a Bus Driver for St. Munchin's Rugby Teams in future years. Pat is known by

'The Torch', spends most of his time traipsing around in green 'leggins' (so he calls them) and a raincoat. Never without a smile on his face, Paul is Head of a notorious gang called "The Happy Gang" and his ambition is to conduct the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra soon.

Brian Bryce: Brian is the perfect example of an Applied Maths student, always attentive and inquisitive on matters involving graphs and pulleys. We all believe that his questioning tact would have even disabled Einstein. It has certainly disabled Fr. Fitzmaurice and Mr. O'Shea.

his 'freaky' hair. Hang loose, Pat!

Mike Murphy: An avid supporter of the "Bring back the crew-cut" group, this likeable student from Bruff hopes to take over from 'Sylvester' in his father's successful quiz. Mike's motto is: "A fag butt is better than a head butt".

Pat or 'Bomber', Pat O'Connor: managed to scrape his way onto the third's senior panel this year and got on the Munster Team because of it! He was this year's 2nd prefect and his bell punctuality was remarkable. St. Munchin's College must be the only school which begins at 8.50 a.m. Pat hopes to leave St. Munchin's and then go home. What an ambitious guy!

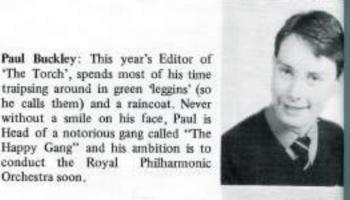
Brian McCarthy: Brian or "Sid Vicious" is one of our more rowdy pupils. Very much into Heavy Metal, Brian hopes to join his heros "Black Sabbath" after the Leaving Cert, or else become a bouncer for any Nite Club.

John Foley: Big John was a member of this years senior team. Apart from Rugby, John also loves his English classes. John has an interest in fishing, knitting and growing, and is renowned for his self-knitted school jumpers. John can only go one place when he leaves St. Munchin's, and that's up!

Diarmuid Ryan: 'Derm' is easily recognised by his large tackies and well-groomed hair. After joining us in fifth year, he proceeded to monopolise the Guitar industry in Munchin's, He is currently forming a society for the prevention of cruelty to oversize runners.















Shay Fitzpatrick: Shay comes from Drombanna and is a keen sportsman, being a member of this year's senior 'B' Rugby Team. Easily recognisable by his Senior Jacket. He hopes to further his education by going to third level. Anthony Coleman: This year's 3rd prefect, Anthony must be our worst bellringer to date. You see, he gets so engrossed in his books, he often does not realise the 40 minutes are up. Noted for his meek manner and shy personality, Anthony hopes to pursue a career in Lion-taming.





Aiden Barry: Aiden comes from Clonlara and is a member of the Senior Panel, his exploits on the playing pitch have been well recorded. Aiden has often been compared to Rambo and hopes to be a ballet dancer.

James O'Mara: There have been various claims that James is a Rambo like but he says he models himself on Producer 'Sylvester Stallone'. Noted for his precarious driving on footpaths, James hopes for a bright future.





Tim Finnin: Tim, a native of New Zealand, is easily recognisable by his fashionable boots. He has ambitions to go to third level but, failing that, intends to do a study of Kiwi's.

Ger Tuite: Ger, who hails from Granville, is an avid snooker player but, he faults in that he models himself on Eddie Charlton. Plays many sports; he hopes to study nothing after the Leaving.





George O'Grady

Conor Ahern: This slim-line sex symbol from Corbally was not a member of this year's Senior Panel. A very diligent worker, Conor is a fine cyclist in his own right,





perfect girlfriend, the female version of Rambo.

Brian O'Shea: Brian is from Parteen, He is cool, intellectual and has many other assets, but these are destroyed by the fact that he is an avid Neil Young fan - how could he? Brian played Bass Guitar in the school presentation of "Joseph". He hopes to become as boring as Neil Young when he leaves

school, Quite a test,

Paul Barry: Paul is rumoured to be conceited, but he denies this; however,

he does admit to being absolutely

perfect. Paul hopes to become a

teacher a sadist with a degree.

Paul also hopes to take up swimming.

Failing this, he hopes to take up gen-

etic engineering in order to build his

Thomas Daffy: Tom, as he is known to his friends, has a keen awareness of everything around him and will tell you all about it, if you ask him. He was on this year's Senior Rugby Panel and hopes to further his abilities by pursuing a third level education when he leaves. Failing that, he wants to start a gossip colum in 'The Torch'.



Joe Morrissey: Joe is a boarder who is just crazy about American Football. He played Hurling in his day too (didn't we all - I certainly didn't). He hopes to study biochemistry in N.I.H.E., or else he hopes to pursue a career in making round American Footballs. We



John O'Donoghue: This likeable character from the Dublin Road startled us all with his magnificent posters during Cup campaign. John was an unofficial cheerleader at this year's cup match and he hopes to pursue a career in testing wool-less sheep if he fails the Leaving (no chance!).

Conor Gilligan: 'Gilly' was a member of this year's senior XV, and has been rumoured to have been recently seen negotiating with a little mysterious person to try and join the ranks of "Young Munster's" Rugby Club. We wish him luck with his new venture.





Kieran Bradshaw: Kieran hails from Castleconnel. His pastimes are Rowing and Soccer. Kieran would like to follow a career in Medicine as he has a keen interest in Body-snatching. Declan Edwards: This swashbuckling individual hails from Castleconnell and hopes to row about the world in his bath-tub but, failing this, he hopes to take over Sonny Crockett's role in "Miami Vice" for he certainly has the clothes - or so he says.





Michael Murphy: Michael is a member of (wait for it) The Stamp Club. He is an avid guitar player and he has strings all over the L.C. 2 corridor. He comes from Kilmallock (where?) He enjoys his room. He hopes to pursue a career in guitar tuning and picking when he finishes school. Ian Rainsford: Ian is unique; a man noted for his academic and social achievements, he hopes to join the Progressive Democrats Party as Dessie's hatchet man or, failing this, he hopes to follow his hero's steps and form a new Party - "The Democratic Communist Party".





Pat Donovan: Pat joined us back in 5th year from Askeaton.... I bet he's sorry! Pat is one of our more studious characters, although it is rumoured that he leads a very boisterous social life. After completing the Leaving Cert., Pat hopes to go on to 3rd level education.

Jimmy Kelly: This mean looking character is a whiz-kid with Electronics. He was disappointed this year not to be on as Sub on the Third's Team. Jimmy has no ambitions after he leaves school.





Armel Whyte: Armel is in contention for this year's "Lick of the Year" competition; he really is an expert in this field. He hails from somewhere on the Ennis Road and he hopes to pursue a career in helping rugby trainers or, failing that, hopes to become a Lollipop tester.

Thomas Graham: Tom, who amazingly looks like the spitting image of his identical twin brother, Emmet, hopes to become a military advisor to Colonel Gadhafii or, failing this, to Fr. Lane, our beloved President and Commander.



Sean de Bhulbh: This flamboyant character, whose beerbelly has been developed over the years due to his active social life, hopes after the Leaving Cert. to pursue a career in modelling for Playgirl'. Conor McNamara: Conor, who hails from the Abbey, is an avid fisherman. Conor stunned us all this year with his exploits floor. He has an ambition to be a Gym Instructor.



Don Coffey; Don hopes to go to East Germany this summer and, when he gets there, he says he will claim political asylum. This shrewd farmer from Annacotty has high hopes of importing crocodiles, for domestic use of course.

Mike Cantillon: Mike is interested in Snooker and Boxing. Mike hails from Garryowen and would like to become a Pilot; the only problem is that he can't see without his glasses.





John Doody: John, who is never at home, unless seen at Dublin Zoo, is always to be seen hanging around the place. After finishing the Leaving Cert. John hopes to become a banana tester. Failing this, he hopes to go amongst his own..... as a primary teacher.

Vincent Moloney: Vincent hails from Ballyagran (never heard of the place). Vincent is an exquisite cross-country runner, Vincent's hobbies are Soccer and Rugby, Vincent would like to become an electrician as he is a very bright student (joke).





John O'Neill: This popular student is noted for his love of the school uniform and should be an example to us all. Responsible for Profiles in 'The Torch' this year, John has hopes to be a draughtsman in the North Pole, when he drags himself away from school. Derek Ryan: Derek comes from St. Mary's Park, His hobbies are Soccer, Rugby and G.A.A. Derek is known for his spikey hair. His main ambition is to conquer the Umbongo warriors single-handed.





Ian Sheppard: Shep, who is into bodybuilding and weightlifting in a big way, has a massive interest in Hair-dressing and also, this up-to-the minute trendy is deep in leather. Seamus Laffan: Seamus's feet are really big. That's why you can hear the whole corridor scream when he walks down it. He loves life and so do his feet. Seamus hopes to farm his way to Johannesburg when he leaves school. He also hopes to pass the Leaving. Well, we're sure his size 16's will be there every inch of the way to help him.





Eoin Cleary: Eoin is from Corbally and is an inspiration to us all with his sarcastic remarks. His eyesight is bad and that is probably the reason for his massive glasses. Some people say Eoin is a bit of a square, but we don't agree. He hopes to go on to 3rd level after St. Munchin's College.

Leo Morrison: Leo or "Jaws" as he is commonly known to his friends is well known for his organisational ability and after the Leaving Cert, he has plans to make even more profits for one of our leading hotels.



Mike Sheehan: Mike, a cool clean hero, is never seen with a hair out of place. He has wild ambitions to pursue a political career by becoming Prime Minister of Uganda and, failing this, intends to rewrite the entire works of Shakespeare. Maurice McNamara: Maurice is the gentle giant whose farming abilities are famous and smelled all-over Limerick. We reckon the teacher's strike was due to his lavish deodorant, but cannot be sure. Maurice hopes to pursue a career in making crisps. (Rumour has it that he's already achieved it, but Maurice is remaining silent).



Eamonn Moloney: Eamonn was this year's senior prop. No-one is sure where he is from but his accent has a hint of an upper-class Englishman in there somewhere. He is the youngest member of the L.C. 2 boarders, and also the biggest. He hopes to invent a shrinking formula when he leaves school.

Diamuid O'Hanrahan: This down-toearth character still claims to be taller than Mr. O'Friel. Noted for his diligence in English class, Diamuid hopes to be a jockey and the horses hope he won't.





David Mulqueen: David is known for his 'Bono'-like features and sings 'Bad' powerfully as he has already proven to many. David is a versatile Rugby player until sickness caught up on him this year. Dave hopes to become an Electrician and his ambition is to kill off all the snakes.

Timmy Spratt: Timmy, from King John's Castle, is the last of the great debators. This great athlete is well known for his popularity with the students of St. Mary's. Timmy has aspirations of becoming a mechanic.





Michael Walsh: Jim is a new-comer to the Limerick social scene, having come from Foynes where he acquired his natural tan, After completing his Leaving Cert., he hopes to retrace his roots in the wilds of the Amazon. Gerry Liston: This year's first prefect and also a member of this year's Senior Team, Gerry hopes to pursue a career in Bell-ringing or else he would like to join a Kissagram Agency or, finally, to teach other students how to avoid certain teachers when not wanting to train for Athletics.





Kenneth Barrett: Clean-shaven and sophisticated sums up Ken to the core. Regarding himself as every girl's dreamboat. After leaving the school, he hopes to carry on his tradition of posing while pursuing his chosen field of business at N.I.H.E. Thomas McCarthy: Identical twin of Brian McCarthy, he is the nucleus of the sixth year form - He is known for his punctuality and attendance at school. Torn comes from the Ballysimon Road and improves the ecosystem with his presence.





Liam Murphy: Liam, the last of the renowned Murphy clan from Kil-mallock, is a L.C. 2 boarder. He sings with the cult band "Between Us". He tells me they're very good and, I must admit, they are brilliant, especially the guitarist. Liam seriously (yes, seriously) wants to be a Postman. We wish him all the best with his ahem...... career.

Joe Jackson: This bully, and loudmouthed extrovert would have joined the army this year but for the strict regulations on tight haircuts. His popularity among the St. Mary's fraternity is household info. Joe has an ambition to design parachutes.



Kieran Delaney: Kieran, who is rumoured to be older than his years. In case we forget, "Happy Birthday" is one of our super-cod individuals and hopes after the Leaving Cert, to take up a career in Ballet Dancing. Kieran O'Gorman: One of our more social and athletically-active members, Kieran is in actual fact, the complete all-rounder. Munchin's answer to Steve Ballesteros and Corbally's answer to Alex "The Hurricane" Higgins, Kieran is fantastic at everything he lays his hands to. Oh, my God, I think I'm going to be sick.



Gerry O'Brien: Ger is from somewhere in Co. Limerick. He likes everything, from music to admiring Christmas decorations. He was this year's 4th prefect and, I'm sure all will agree, he was never on time ringing the bell for classes. One of the best prefects the students have seen in years, Fr. Lane didn't think so! May Ger rest in piece,

Kevin Hedderman: From Ballybrown, Kev is the only student to ever have a good word about food, He hopes to receive a scholarship somewhere in America but first has to run 100 metres in under 1 minute 30 seconds. (I'll get ducked for this one). Kev models his hair on Eddie Grant. He is a fine sportsman in his own right,





Gerard McCarthy: Ger, or 'Sage' as he is known for his photogenic ears which he hopes to use after the Leaving Cert, when he hopes to take up a career as a plastic surgeon, using himself of course as a model for the ideal finish. Tony Ryan: "Lance" as he is affectionately known, was unlucky not to be included in this year's senior panel because he was too young. He hopes to repeat Leaving Cert. 2 for three years and, after that, to become a stills model in Roches Stores window.





Hugh O'Donnell: This 6th former comes from Lifford Avenue and has a keen interest in all sports, especially Handball. Once completing the Leaving Cert., Hugh hopes to go on to 3rd level education or, failing this, make a career selling Ice-cubes to the Eskimos.

William Boohan: This stud from Fedamore is reputed to be Co. Limerick's answer to Cassanova. After leaving Munchin's, Billy hopes to open a school to give others the benefit of looking like him. We wish him luck.





Alan Morrissey: Alan joined us this year and he hails from Rosbrien. One of our quieter students, he has the proud record of being the only student not to be in Thomond Park on Feb. 16th. John O'Connor: John has revealed the secret of good accounting and economics by means of the 'silvas method'. He is into slimming in a big way. John's ambition is to play hoola-hoop in a polo mint and to have an incredible physique like Mr. Quinlan or, failing in that, one like Ian Sheppard.





Barry Coffey: Barry is well-known in the corridor for his liveliness every morning. Barry hails from Monaleen and plays Hurling and Gaelic Football and anything else that doesn't require much effort. Barry would like to follow a career in Bed-Testing. Gregory Tynan: Greg or "Macho Man" as he is so often called, is into Basketball in a big way, especially the girl's teams. After the Leaving Cert. Greg hopes either to become Mentor or Messenger to the Trotter's Ladies' Team or a roadie with Bananarama...... God help them!



Diarmuid Ring: Diarmuid, who boasts to be closer to seven foot than six, blames it on Mr. Madden's stretching exercises. Diarmuid was a member of this year's Senior Panel. He hails from Bruff and wants to be a crane when he leaves school. Pat O'Neill: Pat is a favourite to all his teachers, as he is the most hard-working in all of Leaving 2. His hobbies are Ice-Hockey, Head-Banging and Weight-lifting. He would like to follow a career in outer-space for his main ambition is to find new life-forms on the planet Mars.





Liam Lynch: When Liam last shaved the L.S.P.C.A. accused him of cruelty to a living organism; he hasn't shaved since. He is a member of the F.C.A. and also he feels it's his mission to revive the Hitler Youth. After the Leaving Cert, he wants to pursue a career in designing Army underwear. Paul Hogan: (Big, rich & thick), Paul is one of the quieter boys in Leaving 2. Paul can be seen playing for the Senior Team (that is, when he has nothing else to do) and, when he is really bored, he might make an appearance on the Munster Team. His ambition is to pass the Leaving Cert, and he hopes, someday, to take over from his father as Petrol-Pump attendant.





Frank Mulqueen: Frank is one of our brighter students. His hobbies are Handball and Tennis. Frank hails from Raheen and he would like to follow a career in Accounting. Frank Guiry: Frank is one of our Mungret Boarders. His pastimes are Soccer and Rugby. Frank is best known for his lovely voice. Frank would like to follow a career in Technology.





Niall Lawlor: One of our quieter pupils, Niall hopes to follow a career in Modelling. Niall likes wild animals and his favourite is the 'Moose', Niall hails from Parteen. Pat Fitzgerald; Pat is otherwise known as Pauric by his fellow students and Mr. Lillis. His good looks and chann should see him into a good job after school; otherwise, he says he will remain to terrorise the teaching staff for another year.





Emmet Graham: Emmet, illustrious brother of Thomas, is an ardent Disciple of Southern "Deep Fried Hot Ass Boogie" and hopes to justify his existence to mankind by saving the world on numerous occasions. He maintains a good start would be the sending of Disco Royals 5-star into ultimate oblivion. Brian Wilmott: Brian, this year's 5th prefect, is this year's chairman of the "Munchin's against cruelty to animals Society" and can always be heard vociferously attacking the cruelty of one sport in particular - Coursing. Brian, after the Leaving Cert., hopes to go on the road and tour, or else find the missing Cookstown sausage, in his private caravan.





David Lonergan: Dave is known for his witty jokes and imagination. He is keen on Status Quo, as can be seen by his hairstyle. Dave lives in Ardnacrusha and would like to become a Pilot; the only problem is that he can't see without his glasses.

Simon Maher: One of our anglo-lrish students, Simon is another of the Bruff brigade. He was No. 2 Cheerleader this year. Simon wants to study the art of silent amplifiers if he does the Leaving,





Brian Harney: Brian is one of the most well-liked students in Leaving 2?? Brian has an avid interest in Soccer as he is not so bad himself. Brian can be seen driving the Passion Wagon with the chosen few. Brian hails from Dooradoyle. David Barry: Dave hails from College Park and his interests are Soccer, Snooker and Mods. Dave would like to become the world's Heavy-Weight-Lifting Champion, Dave would like to follow a career in Bone-collecting.





Donal O'Keeffe: Donal hails from Kilfenora, A repeat student, he joined us at Christmas. Well known for his love of football, he was on the Clare Minor Football team last year. He hopes to become a beer taster.

Eoin Kirwan: Eoin hails from Caherdavin and was No. 1 Cheerleader this year. His ambition is to be a roadie for Denis Allen, Eoin is noted for his impeccable punctuality each morning.



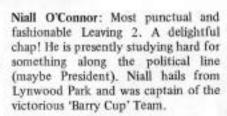
Ivor O'Keeffe: Whatever is written would undoubtedly be an injustice to this man. A man noted for his photographic skills and also his photogenic looks. After completing the Leaving Cert, Ivor hopes to take a degree in hairdressing. Francis Dalton: Fra, who at the moment has just started to take swimming lessons, is very much into cycling, after acquiring a new bike during Christmas. He is thinking of entering the "Tour de France", having the advantage of being able to use his mouth instead of a pump.



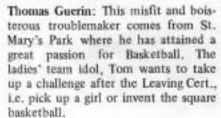
Adrian Ryan: Adrian or Ado as we know him, has Rambo-like features. This red-head can be seen floating down the corridor in his moon-boots, Adrian hails from Caherdavin and would like to follow a career in Interior Design. Brian Creamer: Brian is credited with the discovery of the square wheel, and is noted for his bullying of 5th and 6th years. He has high hopes of being the first man to blow a hole in the Ardnacrusha dam.



Declan Kerins: One could say a lot about Declan, but we shall refrain. Declan likes to play Hurling and Soccer and likes a good debate too. Declan would like to become a Zoo-Keeper as he has a keen interest in snakes. Declan hails from Caherdavin. John O'Neill: This hulk is a prime example of what the human race should be like, John finds it very hard to study and overcomes this by his unique ability to ask very intelligent questions in class, John hopes to host 'Mastermind' in the near future.



Fearghal O'Sullivan: Fearghal is also a member of this year's senior team and is noted for his quickness on and off the field. With his slight stature, Fearghal's life-long ambition of being a Jockey seems likely among other things.



Michael Minihan: Mike, one of our better Rugby players, has a keen interest in Snooker, Soccer and Sport in general. Mike wants to go to N.I.H.E. and follow a career in Technology. Mike hails from Granville Park.



Martin Leahy: Or 'Smiler', as we all know him, is studying hard for he wants to follow a career in Cottonpicking. Martin hails from Abbeyfeale and his main ambition is to become a clown, Tadgh Foley: Tadhg is renowned for the way he drives cars and erects lamposts. He has ambitions to become a Panel Beater and, failing this, drive Stock cars.



Essay

"Nock's"

Nocks belong to one of the aldest and most distinct tribes in the history of civilisation. Directly descended from the various barbarian strains which terrorised Europe, the Nock tribe encompasses such colourful characters as "wasters", "thuga" and various other "hards". Ever since the dawn of civilisation, or at least since the construction of the first corner in need of support, Nocks have faithfully rendered their services to humanity as alternative structural props; thereby emulating the God of Nocks, Atlas.

It was suggested recently, with the resurgence of the term "Nock", that the expression was originally derived by the Romans from the word for night - "Nox, noctis" - as a description for the invading barbarians. However, a less intellectual friend of mine pointed out a more fitting origin; the verb "to knock", with specific reference to it's meaning "to destroy". In this respect, Nocks have lent an adjective to the English language - "Inoccupied", describing the vocation of the Nock.

A true Nock (not merely your pseudo-Nock - a mockery to Nockery) has an irrepressibly destructive nature. It is insufficient for a true Nock to support the corner which eternal Providence, in all it's wisdom, has ordained him to uphold; he must also tatoo it with the mark of his character (via the mark of his spray can). As an insrticulate tribe, Nocks actively detest all forms of communication, especially telephone boxes.

As a tribal hierarchy, Nocks have their own initiation rites, known as innoculation. Funnily, Nock expulsion rituals are also characterised by a trip to hospital. Once admitted, a novice Nock must conform to the rules and assume his position at the base of the caste system. Ascension is attained by head-butting — thus the higher the Nock, the flatter the face. A Nock's duties are to defend his corner from intruders and to look menacing and foreboding at all times.

The most fascinating characteristic demonstrated by Nocks is their language, a form of speech loosely

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based on English. Linguists know it as Nockspeak but it is commonly referred to as "the Vernocular". Nocks have the unique linguistic ability to condense sentences to a minimum and adhere strictly to the maxim, "Brevity is the soul of it" (wit does not enter into it) - and also speak through the nose.

Brief examples (and translations) of the Vernocular:-

"Gussafagullah, youngfellah?" - May I relieve you of a health-destroying cigarette, o thou diminutive colleague of the human race?

"Giv's twobobbullah?" - May I irretrievably borrow ten new pence, please?

Nocks, basically inarticulate, fervently believe that actions (especially head-butts) speak louder than words.

How to recognise a Nock

The easiest way to recognise a Nock is to look for the easily distinguished "Nockwalk", surely the oddest form of perambulation. A Nack walks with his head "knocking" to and fro (rather like a pigeon), his feet placed perpendicular to the direction of travel and his hands shoved deep in his pockets. Even a reformed Nock cannot conceal his gait. A Nock's quise demonstrates a fathom-deep frown, as if permanently perplexed by the profoundest problems, perhaps reflecting his eternally nocturnal mental state. Nocks have a unique style of dress; a very long pair of short pants, "gammy" socks and huge shoes or docks.

Psychologists have found the study of Nocks extremely difficult, having been deterred by such self-conscious retorts as: "What are you lookin' at? Seen enough, 'ave you, mister?" Yet, it has been postulated, that Nocks are basically nihilistic, anarchistic and apathetic. An interesting biological fact is that Nocks respire on a mixture of Nicotine and Oxygen, candidly known as 'Noxygen'.

Though they may seem innocuous and whimsical, Nocks are at the base of one of the most sinister conspiracies of all time. Motivated by some insane and obnoxious farce. manically devoted to the destruction of civilisation and the promotion of anarchy. Nocks have sworn to complete the campaign commenced by the Goths and vandals; the "annoxation" of Europe, referred to as the "Noccupation". The stealthy pursuit is now in such a state of advancement that it is now certain that Europe will be lost. The world is doomed. It's inoxerable. Jeff Punch.

A MORNINGO...F CONFUSION IN CORBALLY

I start with fright and disbelief, but a bell rings on, no relief. My sight, still blurred, visions see, a dor come to life, or a Christmas tree of light through panes and stony grey walls. Through the darkness a lone bird calls.

I strive to move from under clothes, my will strong, my intention shows. I stumble into blue black shapes, still dark dawning my body rapes of all rightful warmth and mortal fight.
A bulb glitters so wild and bright.

I raise a facecloth to my cheek, observe a carcase dark and bleak. I wash a hand no toil has seen, I grind my teeth, and wipe it clean of worldly weakness and foul desire. To bed once more I'll not retire.

I reach for clothes damp air surrounds, a voice echoes - "he's on his rounds". Trousers, then shirt, jumper, then tie, everything ready, now I must dive into a mass of busy movement. Night over, one more day of improvement.

> Joe Hayes. Leaving 2.1

" Success"

Up to £15 for a good article. Could come in handy - a new Peig would be exciting, eh!

But what to write an article on is the big problem. I mean, I could write pages on, but who's interested in, a motion to have Canon Lane's famous pipe (whose presence can always be detected in the corridor despite a mysterious fog which often accompanies the object) erected as a monument to all of his students, who have taken up such a study of "Major" importance as Fagiometrical Technology. Son of a Gun!, that might not go down too well with those above either.

How about a wee spiff on the assets of Co-Education in a boarding school. I believe it would generate in us a deep regard for fellowship - we could play Mammies and Daddies in contrast to dangerous games like Rugby or Hurling, and we Guess not, eh!

Well, if at first you don't succeed, try, try again! Maybe a revealing essay on the acts of cruelty carried on behind the locked door of the Computer Room. I'm sure the pitiful and pleading echoes of terror and pain have assaulted all of you too on your wanderings about this vast building. It is believed, though I must admit, not yet proven, that these Micro-brained and sadistic computer experts engage in such obscene and brutal activities as letter-punching, not to mention the ultimate dot-killing. These animalistic sessions must stop.

I wonder would there be any support for the theory of Leaving Certs. employing the free labour of First Years for the carrying out of their more menial tasks, such as Shoe-Polishing, Bed-making, Physics problems, Floor-sweeping, etc. No?

I have it, of course! A topic of college-wide controversy. The phenomenal problems of a boarding poser. Snatched from his natural habitat - (Bus Stops, Todds Corner, etc.), given only the bare neccessities to survive, how can such persons rise to full glory? How can they prove to their less-talented mates the amount of

satisfaction which accompanies such an awesome undertaking.

One may observe these creatures of wide renown in all corridors - recognisable by their bleak, yet unrelenting eyes and total disrespect for the school uniform, which, I believe, they view as a serious threat to their position in society.

I propose to raise money for these poor fellows, and arrange for day trips to Todds now and again. I believe these less fortunates deserve some time in their natural surroundings in order that they peak like ripe, red roses.

Such a proposal is already in writing and addressed to our superiors and only awaits further student signatures.

I implore you to support your local P.A. (Posers Action)Group. Would all concerned please contact me.

Joe Hayes. Leaving II.

DISPENSING, COSMETIES AND PHOTOCRARHIC ENEMISTS



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FR. GARRY BLUETT

AN EXCLUSIVE

NTERVIEW .



What do I think of teenagers today?

Well, I think they're more concerned about others than they were in my day and they're more open to learn and to question, but, they do need direction and training to cope with life and its situations. is the experienced view of Fr. Garry Bluett, life-long member of St. Munchin's College. Born in Effin, Co. Limerick forty-nine years ago, he received his secondary education in the old St. Munchin's Callege, Henry Street. Unlike many of his classmates Fr. Bluett was destined to return to St. Munchin's, first as Dean and later as a member of the teaching staff.

As Fr. Bluett lit his first cigarette, we asked him what he thought of student smoking in the College.

"I'd rather that students didn't smoke" said Fr. Bluett, lighting his second cigarette, being a reluctant, habitual smoker himself. "I didn't start smoking until I was twenty-five and I'm sorry now that I can't give them up."

When I was Dean I adopted a

smoking students, provided, of co they kept well away from junior students and didn't give them a b example. (Haven't things change "What about smoking in your day?" "Well, there was less smoking pro in our day, simply because no one money to spend."

In between teaching five or classes a day, cutting the grass, being Chaplain to the Christian Brothers (which entails rising, a days a week, at the crack of dawr Fr. Bluett also finds time to run financial side of the school. F Bluett is the College Bursar. Wasked what on earth he does as Burked what on earth he does as Burkeep and maintenance of all the buildings, grounds, etc. and also the financial day-to-day running the College."

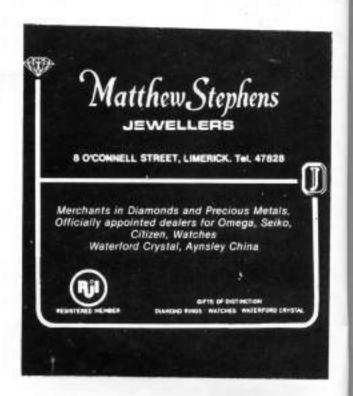
Fr. Bluett does not have an life, having to teach and help retthe College as well as doing nor priestly duties. We asked what possessed him to enter the priest maybe he was slightly influenced the fact that three of his uncles priests! "No, not really; I was attracted to the ideals of the priest."

priesthood very much.

When asked about the role of C.D. classes in the school curriculum, he said: "C.D. need not be irrelevant and boring - the spiritual side of man needs to be catered for to insure the development and education of the 'total person'. We thought, that needs no further explanation. Moving along, we asked about the subject he teaches - Latin. Fr. Bluett admits that it can be boring, but the new syllabus now being studied is less boring than the older one. noticed that Fr. Bluett seemingly compensates for this by mentioning some humourous stories about his past life and his travels. No doubt everyone knows where Fr. Bluett has visited by heart, but we asked was humour important in school? "Humour is very important in life" he said, and he finds it very helpful to look on the funny aspect of life in school and elsewhere. The spirit of the school is very important; it is important that school life is pleasant and that students work in pleasant surroundings. Fr. Bluett believes this - "Only recently, someone came up to me to comment on the atmosphere of the school". While talking about spirits, we thought we might mention other kinds of spirits - drink! Bluett expressed his concern on the problem of student drinking, Moderation was the central message of his sermon on the subject - "Moderation and selfcontrol are essential if a young person wants to drink."

Curiously enough, Fr. Bluett expressed stronger views on smoking than drinking. He expressed his reason for this by saying, "Drinking is not as simple a subject as smoking and, I would prefer, if young people wouldn't drink until mature enough (but knowing this is an impossible dream) he said, "but at whatever stage they decide to drink. I would advise caution." found that, throughout the interview, 'discipline' was a major concern of Fr. Bluett's. He believes discipline and improving a person's character through sport is one of the most important aspects of student life in St. Munchin's.

"Sports activities play a very important role in the life of the



students and the school. If kept in their proper perspective, they can be very beneficial to students." With the importance of school sports, we wondered why P.E. classes were dropped after Inter. Cert. "Yes, P.E. is important, but, unfortunately, the program doesn't allow for this, as it would mean a longer day for senior students."

With that subject quickly cleared up, we moved onto the question of Co-Education. There was a notable reluctance on Fr. Bluett's part to answer this question and the answer was - "We've enough problems as it is." No more needs to be said on that subject in this school anyhow - end of story.

What does the future hold for Fr. Bluett? - a nice parish, perhaps - how long has he left in the College? Perhaps he'll become President - we'll have to wait and see.

... AT THE FEET OF GAMALIEL

Crowds like shrouds envelope me, Voices saturate the senses Croesus lauds egotistical erudition Vehemently silencing sagacity.

Cries of simplicity evade them, Gangrels at the feet of Gamaliel. Gallants leading an energumen Goading sacrosanct silhouettes.

SPORT SECTION

RUGBY (Part 1)

Senior Rugby has always been one of the most interest-arousing features of St. Munchin's College and this year was no exception. On beginning school in September the year ahead promised to be unusual and enjoyable for those concerned with the Rugby world. I say unusual, because of the fact that the present team had never before beaten any of the other four main Munster schools. This was definitely the year for results and certainly we achieved these, with the help of our dedicated Coach, Mr. Madden and assistant Coach, Mr. Declan O'Donoghue. We decided both to enjoy the game and to try and raise our standard of playing, and this we achieved with some sound advice. With all troubles behind us, we proceeded to reap the results of our efforts. One game which stands out in my memory was that against Dungannon.

DUNGANNON

The match was held in the College grounds during the November break. Dungannon arrived down by bus and were somewhat out of energy after a seven hour journey. This was truly a fixture eagerly awaited by all the Munchin's panel, since it was to involve an entertaining match as well as a catching-up on social activities over the three days. The most important point was that the Dungannon panel were hosted by the Munchin's players and thanks to those who obliged for, without their accommodation, the fixture would not have been fulfilled. This fact was also important in that it brought the two panels closer together, resulting in more friendship and socialising between individuals, which truly is an important factor in Rugby and in the world today.

On the first night it was a case of getting to bed early, but the new day brought about the full advantages of the fixture. At 10.00 a.m. on the Friday morning the two panels went on an educating and interesting tour to Bunratty Castle. I can certainly say that it was a first visit for a lot of the Limerick lads as well as the Dungannon lads.

The match itself was played at 3 p.m. and it was a battle to the very end, with Munchin's being defeated 6-4. Nevertheless, the match was thoroughly enjoyed by all. After the match both panels, Coaches and the referee were treated to a superb meal in the College refectory. It definitely wasn't the typical boarders meal. After the wonderful meal there were various speeches from different people and the two captains ended the occasion with the exchanging of ties. The Coaches were also presented with different articles of interest.

A good night was had by all on the Friday, and Saturday morning brought the fixture to an end. It was truly an enjoyable and worthwhile fixture and I hope the fixture between the two schools is a permanent one for years to come.

May I avail of this chance to thank all involved, especially Fr. Frank O'Connor - the College Gamesmaster, and Mr. Dermot Madden, Coach, for arranging the fixture and for making it such a memorable one. I would like to thank the referee, Mr. Eoin McCann, for doing an excellent job and for joining the company for the meal. I would sincerely like to thank Fr. Garry Bluett also and the catering staff for a well appreciated meal.

To the lads of Dungannon, I say thank you for coming, and I hope their stay was a memorable one.



SENIOR CUP

Cup fever was in the College once again after the Christmas holidays. with only one month before the first round against Christians. It promised to be a cracker since Munchin's were. with difficulty, defeated by Christians earlier in the year by 9-7. On the day, Munchin's were not to win and, playing with the wind in the first half, we found it difficult to play to our ability. Christians led by 6-3 at the interval, but there was half of the match yet to play. luck was definitely with the Christians boys, since they received five kickable penalties of which they scored three. These penalties came within the last fifteen minutes and, up to that, it was anyone's game with Christians leading 9-6. Munchin's seemed to fall apart though in the last quarter and Christians took their chance. The Munster Cup had avoided Munchin's yet again, but thanks must be given to the supporters who were brilliant throughout the match. There's no doubt but that Munchin's have the best and most disciplined supporters in Munster.

The last competition of the season was now to be played and tha was the City Cup. Munchin's disposed of St. Clement's in the semifinal with a 10-6 victory. The final was played on 23rd April at the Garryowen Rugby Grounds against the Munster Cup holders, Crescent College Comprehensive, with Crescen emerging victorious with a 13-3 win

Finally, I would like to thank our trainers once again for a year' enjoyment; special thanks to all panel members for their commitment dedication and I wish them all the best in the future.

> Pat O'Connor. (Captain)

Team Photograph (above)

Back Row: (L.to R.) G. Doyle, S.Two C. Gilligan, J. Foley, P. Hogan, D. Ring, M. Walsh, & M. McNamara.

Front Row:(L. to R.)J. Forde, G.Har S. Liston, G. Liston, P. O'Connor, N. O'Connor, & K. Barrett.

Hurling

U-16 HURLING

The Munchin's U-16 team had a very successful year, winning the Munster(8) Cup. It is the first time that Munchin's have won this fine cup. There was great celebrations in the College after winning it, and we even got a half-day! We had to beat a few very good teams. The first to fall were Tulla. This, excluding the final, was probably the hardest match we had to play, but we played and beat them on their home ground. St. Brendan's of Killarney were next on the list. We played them in Quaid Park and beat them well. The semi-final was played in Mitchelstown V.s Youghal. They were a strong team and, though they led coming out for the second half, we came back to beat them. The Final was played in Bruff. Our opposition were all out to win the match; they even brought three busloads of supporters. This was by far the hardest match we played. We were up against an extremely good side. Ten minutes into the second half we were down four points, but we managed to pull back in front and hold on until the final whistle went. We received the Cup afterwards.

I would like, on behalf of the team, and myself, to thank Fr. Fitzmaurice for training us.

Gerard Galvin (Captain). Leaving I.

SENIOR HURLING

Even though we did not have much success this year in the Senior Hurling, we did quite well considering we had a very young team. In the semi-final of the Keane Cup we played Doon C.B.S. in Doon. It was a tough game but, despite this fact, we had eight points to spare at full time. We now reached our second consecutive final with Sexton Street C.B.S. as opposition. The game was played in Mary Immsculate Training College, but age and skill were the two deciding factors. We were no match for a very strong C.B.S. team and when the final whistle was blown we had failed to retain our title as Keane Cup Champions. C.B.S. were the victors by a 3-9 to 0-6 scoreline. The team was as follows:-

Gerard Galvin; Barry Coffey; Kevin Hedderman; Emmet Graham; Cathal Cremen; Leo Morrison; Seán Haugh; Thomas Graham; Niall O'Connor; Pat O'Connor; Michael O'Connell; Michael Kennedy; Niall Monahan; Kieran O'Gorman; Larry Bluett.

We played Ard Scoil Ris in February in the first round of the Munster Championship at Monaleen. It was a very hard game between two evenly-matched teams, even though some of the Senior Rugby players were unable to attend. Ard Scoil Ris had a two point victory, after they scored a last minute goal.

Leo Morrison (Captain).

THOMAS O'NEILL

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(Part 2) Barry Cup

Second Senior's

Due to the announcement of a Munister Cup for Second Seniors, numbers for training were high all year. From the beginning, the Senior squad showed great enthusiasm towards training and, as the weeks progressed, it was clear that we had a strong panel. After a good run of success in 'friendlies', we were quietly confident as the Cup-date approached.

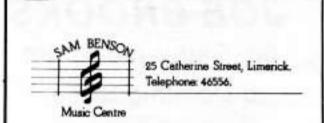
On Sunday, 19th January, we set out for Cork to play C.B.C. in the semi-final of the Barry Cup. After a tough game we ran out, victors, by 12-10. We had fought well against a heavier Christians pack and some resolute tackling saved the day. Michael Walsh opened the scoring with a penalty but, from there on, Ken Barrett took over. He added another penalty and a try, after a superb break by Pat Ahern, which he duly converted. Christians retaliated with a try and two penalties but luck was on our side. as they missed a last minute penalty. As the final whistle blew, history was made as Munchin's had won their firstever Cup match in Cork. The final was fixed for February 2nd against P.B.C. at their home ground in Cork, the same venue as the semi-final. The Barry Cup was presented by the P.P.U. of P.B.C. so they were all out to win it.

After a two week wait we travelled to Cork but there were a few team changes. Kevin Hedderman replaced Conor Gilligan and Maurice McNamara took over from Anthony Coleman who played in the centre alongside Aiden Barry, who replaced the injured Pat However, within five minutes of the start, Eoin Cleary was injured and Brian Wilmott came on in the centre with Anthony Coleman moving to wingforward. By half-time scoring was low as both sides tried to settle down. As the first half progressed, we began to slowly gain control in the line-outs and scrums. Finally, we were awarded a penalty which Ken Barrett converted and, when half-time arrived, the score was still 3-0.

progressively stronger. However, a lapse of concentration allowed Pres. in for a try. But we fought back and were rewarded by a drop-goal from Barrett and a try by Fergal O'Sullivan. We maintained the pressure and Maurice McNamara scored a great opportunist try which Barrett converted. But, with five minutes to go, Pres. got a consolation try; however, we held on to win 18-8. We are the Munster Champs! Captain, Niall O'Connor, accepted the Barry Cup and we all received great trophies.

However, two events must be acknowledged. The first is the magnificent support we received for both matches. It was very encouraging and played a major part in our victory. Secondly, and more importantly, great credit is due to Mr. Dermot Madden for training and producing this team. His great faith in us also played a major part in our victory. Last, but not least, credit is also due to Mr. Declan O'Donoghue, whose encouragement during the matches was very heartening; mention must also be made of his "easy" training sessions which really enticed more to come out training.

Shay Fitzpatrick.



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ATHLETIC'S

The Track and Field season is ith us again. The North Munster chools' Championship will be held on Oth & 11th May at Plassey. chool fared well in this competition ast year in winning the all-round boys' track and field trophy for the 4th time in its' 16 year history. hose athletes who won medals in the orth Munsters' went on to compete n the Munster championships at the egional Technical College in Cork n 26th May. We had quite a uccessful day, with many competitors ualifying for the All-Ireland finals n Belfield. The highlight of the unster championship was the Senior elay team snatching the gold relay n the 4x100 metres event. Athletes ho did well were Joe Hayes, Pat 'Connor, Seamus Twomey, Seán Liston, ommy Moran, Seamus Liston, Brian ryce and Dáire Nolan. Athletes rom the school who are expected to o well in the track and field events his year include:- Seamus Liston & ommy Moran in the Junior section; tephen Murphy, Seán O'Connor, Seán iston and John Forde in the Inter. ection; Pat O'Connor, Joe Hayes, eamus Twomey and Brian Bryce.

St. Munchin's had quite a uccessful cross country season this The school won the boys section f the Mid-Western Schools' Crossountry League for the second time in In the Munster Schools' Cross ountry Championships in Killarney, ur Intermediate team took third place nd qualified for the All-Ireland hampionships, where they came in th place overall. This team onsisted of Stephen Murphy, Seán iston, Seán O'Connor, Declan Walsh, ergus Johnston, John Broderick, homas Carroll and David Ryan. thletes who did well in the crossountry this year were Vincent Moloney nd Giles Barrett.

Under the guidance of Mr. Declan 'Donoghue the school should have ontinued success in the track and 'ield meetings this year.

Anthony Murphy.

S.M.C BASKETBALL

This year has been a fairly busy year on the Basketball scene. Our basketball season got off to a pretty bad start - we were beaten by St. Clement's in our first U-19's match 32-30. Last year we beat them 50-29 and 75-32. The U-15's however got off to a slightly better start than anticipated, this being the first year of the U-15's. They were only beaten by two points by a very experienced St. Nessan's team -Our U-19's team avenged the 22-24. 15's defeat by beating St. Nessan's U-19's by 28 points to 19 on the same day. The U-19's then ventured to Pallaskenry to play in Pallaskenry Callege where we won 46-6, a decisive The next match played victory. was an under 15's match in St. Enda's where Munchin's won, only after a close contest 31-29. The win was the first by the deserving and The U-19's diligent under 15 panel. then returned to St. Clement's for a re-match which we won only by two points 40-38. However, the 19's did not do so well in the Blitz Tournament after Christmas where they lost by only eight points (4 scores) to a superior Sexton's team. under 19's do not have a sufficient number of older players to pick a good Under 19's team; I would ask all those interested to please go training (Wednesday - Friday).

Much of the credit for the team's success must go to Fr. Lane and Fr. Frank O'Connor without whom Basketball would not have survived.

> Gregory Tynan. Leaving II.

HANDY ANDY

There was a young Scotsman called Andy Who went into a bar for a shandy. Whatever he spilt, he mopped up with his kilt '"Well God" said the barman "that's handy".

> Conleth Dillon & T.J. Bluett. Leaving I.

Junior Rugby

U-13 RUGBY

The U-13 Rugby team got the season off to a fine start by beating Bohemians 32 to nothing. They drew with a strong Enda's side O-O, but were beaten by the Crescent U-13 team. Barry McConkey was captain and Pearse Ryan led the 'B's. Once again, thanks must be given to the ever-consistent and patient Fr. McNamara for putting a strong U-13 team through their paces.

George Daly.

U-14 RUGBY

There was a good turnout at the training sessions for the U-14's throughout the season. In our first match we played 5t. Enda's and beat them 12-4. Thing continued in this way throughout the rest of the year. Some notable victories were an 8-0 win over Ard Scail Ris, a 7-6 win over Young Munsters and a 16-0 win against Crescent, with our 'B' team beating them 32-0. The rest of the players, and I, would like to thank Mr. Declan O'Donoghue and Fr. Frank O'Connor for all their time and effort.

Pádraig Keane. Inter. 2.2

JUNIOR RUGBY

This year saw the Junior Cup team defeated yet again in the semi-final and also by P.B.C. It was an unlucky defeat though. This year's team, who weren't very promising at the start of the season, losing to many sides including Crescen and St. Clement's, finally began to show promise as the months progressed and were, thereafter, regular winners of matches against the above-mentioned teams. Mr. Cross' enthusiasm and training helped the team go from strength to strength. Also, Mr. O'Kane's influence was seen in the scrummaging in the first cup match against Rockwell. The team was plaqued with injuries throughout and many did we to return to fitness after being out of the game for a while. On the whole, it More's the pity that there aren't rewards to reflect the man was a good season. fine performances during the year. Our thanks to Mr. Cross and Mr. D'Kane who gave up so much of their time to train the team, and to the many loyal players wh even though they may not have actually played very often, were responsible for building up a team spirit and provided tough competition for places on the team. Good luck to next year's Junior team.

Kieran O'Connor. Inter. 3.2

U-16 RUGBY

On November 12th the St. Munchin's U-16 Rugby team played their first match

in a bid to regain the 'Bowen Shield' which we last won three years ago.

Our first match was against our rivals from Cork - Pres. This match was a complete change about from the Cup Match in Cork last year. The game was scoreless until two minutes from the end when Pres. scored a try which they failed to convert. This was the one and only score in the game.

Our next game was against local Limerick team - St. Enda's. This was anoth enjoyable game with both sides coming out with a point each. The score was 3-3.

And then, on December 12th, it all went wrong. Munchin's travelled to C.B. on a wet and miserable day to be beaten 20-3. This was the final match in our campaign, Rockwell, St. Clement's and Scoil Stiofáin unfortunately not fulfilling the fixtures.

At this stage, I would like, on behalf of the whole panel, to thank Mr. O'Ka for taking the time to train us.

Seán Liston.

Rugby Action





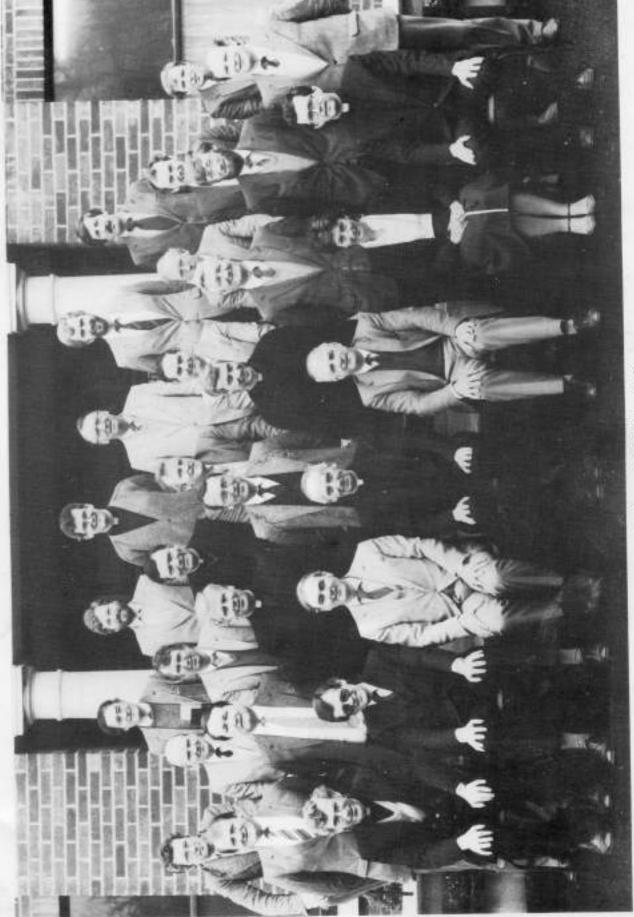










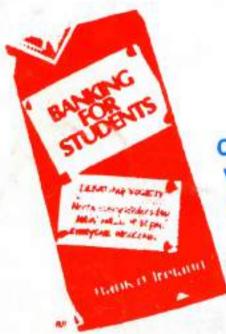


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