

*Dick
Murchan*



The Torch

St. Munchin's College
Student's Magazine

No. 11

1988



CREDITS

EDITOR: Edward Stanley

FEATURES: Edward Stanley

TORCH BOARD: Hugh Place

Dan O'Mahony

Liam Gleeson

Philip Smith

Brian Corr

PHOTOGRAPHY: Conor Ahern

Clark Clifford

Joe Haslam

TYPE SETTING: Miss Mary Bowen

Pat Hannan

LAYOUT: Edward Stanley

Tommy Moran

Kevin Moloney

ADVERTISING: Edward Stanley

Hugh Place

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: It is a long time ago since the students of this College published their first magazine. Over the years it has continued to grow and to flourish. I congratulate the Editor and the staff on their initiative and hard work. 'The Torch' has proved itself to be a great success and I would ask all the students to give it their full support. I wish it every success and hope that next year's issue will be special.

I wish the Leaving Certificate classes success in their exams and in their future lives. I thank them for their loyalty to the College and its' ideals, and hope that this loyalty will always be there.

Very Rev. Fr. G. Bluett.
President.

EDITORIAL: Welcome to this year's school magazine. This is the 11th issue of the published 'Torch', but the tradition goes back to 1962 when John Reidy produced the first magazine, using stencils. We have advanced a long way since then, and I hope you will enjoy this year's 'Torch'.

In producing this magazine, I was met by widescale apathy on the part of the students. It must be stated that this is a students magazine and, if student interest dies, I am afraid there will be no 'Torch'. This year's 'Torch' lacks fictional essays, simply because we didn't receive any. I hope that, next year, a lot more enthusiasm for the magazine will be apparent.

Edward Stanley - Editor.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: On behalf of 'The Torch' Board, I offer my sincere thanks to the following people, without whom Torch '88 would not be a reality:-

Mr. Pat Ryan, Fr. G. Bluett, Conor Ahern, Fr. Murphy, Fr. Fitzmaurice, Fr. P. O'Connor, The Limerick Leader who supplied the front cover picture of the Debating Team, Liam Gleeson, Ken O'Grady, Ivan O'Connell, David Hofler, Diarmuid Long, Andrew Hartnett, Jamie Mackey, Dan O'Mahony, Philip Smith, Paul Connolly, Cathal O'Donoghue, Kieran Foley, & Brian Corr.

We would also like to thank all those who advertised in Torch '88, and especially Miss Mary Bowen for giving her time to type out this year's magazine.

PROMOTIONS

Rev. Fr. G. Bluett

Fr. G. Bluett, our President, was born in Effin during the late thirties. He received his primary education in the National School there and then progressed to St. Munchin's College for his secondary education in 1950. He received his Leaving Certificate in 1955 and went from there to Maynooth as a clerical student.

Fr. Bluett was ordained in 1962 and was immediately sent to the newly-opened St. Munchin's College. During his teaching career he taught English, Maths, History, Geography and Latin. He was also appointed assistant Dean on his entry to the College. Fr. Bluett hopes "to maintain the high standard of academic excellence in the College, and to train our students to be mature young men, responsible and capable of making a worthwhile contribution to society. We are proud of our students and we hope that it will always be the same."



Rev. Fr. M. Murphy

This year saw the addition of Fr. Murphy to the clerical staff of the College. Little is known of this mysterious and enigmatic character. The only concrete facts are that he received his secondary education in St. Munchin's, and he was ordained in 1986. After his ordination, it has been rumoured that Fr. Murphy was sent to America. His trip was cut short, however, when he received word of his daunting task to come here. One of Fr. Murphy's greatest ambitions is to see the St. Munchin's College/Doon Convent Discos revived, as he himself remembers them so vividly.





A Ballet



Daffodils were already in bloom, arriving earlier than usual because of the mild weather and, at no time, looking more welcome than they did on that morning. They peeped from the neat suburban gardens of Corbally, from the narrow beds which bordered the square centre lawns. With Spring in the air and in our step, we were off to see a special performance of the Irish National Ballet Company in the Belltable Arts Centre.

Though totally illiterate in the art of Ballet and with a certain amount of cynicism, I must admit, still, no Pied Piper of Hamelin ever led more willing students than us, the students of class 2.1, on that bright morning as we ventured forth to spend a morning of freedom away from the classroom.

Ballet and us boys had a bad press. We had been conditioned for years to see that Ballet and Rugby or Hurling didn't mix. Everything about it was redolent of the indoors - fairylike, gentle, unearthly creatures dancing on the stage. Irish dancing was different, there was a certain ruggedness about its rhythm. But we carried with us an innate dislike of ballet and, at best, viewed it with suspicion. The make-believe world bore little resemblance to the world we knew. Our views were deep-seated and entrenched.

So it was no wonder when our English teacher, Mr. Ryan entered the classroom complete with the 'Merchant of Venice' to announce the 'thrill' he had in store for us, that he was treated with such outbursts of "Was he mad?" "Were we dreaming?" "We would be the laughing stock of the school." His own love for it was apparent. He had even attended a performance of the Bolshoi Ballet in Moscow. He insisted our education had to be a broad one, embracing all the arts. Still we continued to treat his dissertation with a mixture of good humour and disbelief. He too must have sensed our total indifference and he ended by appealing to our better natures - one member of the troupe was a past pupil of St. Munchin's. Well, in that case!! The more reflective and less vociferous among us listened carefully and nodded approvingly. They saw in the outing the great diversion to combat the

boredom of the classroom - a whole morning to ourselves - only fools would turn that down. We all thoroughly agreed.

On arriving at the Belltable we surveyed the audience and were relieved to find that we weren't alone. Soon the house lights went down. The curtains swung wide apart, the music started and the pace quickened. The stage came alive with a maze of colour and sound as the ballerinas began to spin and pirouette to the haunting music. Their graceful steps came so naturally to them. The programme comprised six different compositions ranging from high, classical ballet to one depicting an everyday story of a seafaring people. Through the music and dance we saw the part played by the ocean in their daily lives. We liked that best.

All in all, it was a rewarding experience. We enjoyed it very much and we were very glad we went.

Declan Edwards.

Inter. Cert. 2.1

JOE BROOKS

60, Catherine Street



FOR VIDEO - T.V.

Phone: (061) 42037

A TRADITION
IN FINE
PHOTOGRAPHS
SINCE 1904.

**EGLESTON
BROS.**

Portrait,
Wedding,
Commercial
& Industrial
Photographers

NIAL EGLESTON
IPPA,
123, O'Connell St.
Limerick

Tel: (061) 43886



POETRY

Summer Heights

Thomas Coleman - L.C. 1.1

I

Before Summer comes
I can feel it in my veins
sweet heat from a shiny summer star
gives freedom to spirits, near and far
lo, rejoice and be merry
Let the vines of France be crushed into sherry
the boundry of happiness extends, more and more
before too long we'll visit the shore,
the edge that steals the hearts of so many
but without this freedom there wouldn't be any
hope to combat day by day
or forget troubles in any way.
Let the mind drift with the tide of time
before too long its rhythm will compose a rhyme.
Let the dashing of the waves control your tone
lay down now and revive flesh and bone
until newly you take flight like birds of the air
to the land of your dreams, and rest you there
no burden of life or strife,
no sorrow of tomorrow as sharp as a knife,
in this land where time is your own
the one to which you have flown.
Build the dreams of your life to come
before heavenly choirs sing different tunes for everyone.

II

Before summer comes
I can feel it in my veins.
I'm getting fresher now
like land under the influence of the plough
sown for a new start.
By the casting of the hours, I grow stronger at heart.
Endless is nature's powers
it enrapt the simple with love
that enkindles the senses to rise
so that we don't look back to the Christmas stove
to the time of deadly surprise.
I'm stronger now and older too
wisdom comes with age, that's true.
Imagine dew-washed grasses of a fresh, passionate day-break
or things rare in beauty which we give and take,
thanksgiving for wingful kites
silently passing like days into nights.
All the boasting of the sungod
of miracles and dependancy
"I am the life behind the immortal sod
I have given you more than infancy."
Oh! Summer come and never go,
I beg your presence, please some mercy show,
that I may live and simply grow.

Exercise

Ronan McDonagh

I

Forget all this business
this worry of school
Get out on the rugby pitch
and start acting the fool.

II

Maybe you think it's stupid
doing this sort of caper
But I suppose it is better
than being with pen and paper.

III

So off you go
Over the top
Running and jumping
around non-stop.

IV

Running and jumping
soon makes you tired
but with a few more sessions
you'll soon be inspired.

School Is Cool

Ronan McDonagh

I

School is cool
No one can deny
If you go on the doss
the teachers you'll defy.

II

Up each morning at eight o'clock sharp
Suffering the hangover from the bottles
of Harp!
Try it once, never again
When you find there is nothing to gain.

III

When you get in
Straight to your place
If you don't obey
You get a dig in the face.

IV

When school is over
Off goes the bell
Each student screaming
Like a bat out of hell.

V

All is over now
For yet another day
Everyone doing their homework
To keep the teachers at bay.

That Bloody Sunday

Thomas Coleman - L.C. 1.1

Sad, cold shades of the sun
seem to dissatisfy all, but one,
this time of year, heatless decay
when November-labelled plight passes this way.
Rank misery it brings, and wrapped up things
of the redolent memories of youth.
In cold blood it doth shoot
down the barrel of a Godly fashioned gun
at the bullseye "Paradox of Life", Oh! what fun!
There's too much to bare at hand,
from the cradle to the grave you understand.
So hark the evil time of year
when mortal realisation draws near.

STUDY:

A Chant by Plantagenet Witherington

Leaving II

I can't go out no more
My Parents are watching the door
I tell you I can hear them
Watching, timing, checking.

Just study they say
Under the buzz of thought-controlling
fluorescents
Installed 17 years ago
With lifetime guarantee
To promote study in me
They think I don't know
But I can handle it
And everyone knows the C.A.O.'s in
Galway.

I am studying.

My brother's with them, did I tell
you?

His wife is civil service and he
keeps asking me to fill out forms
I have it in my head though
STUDY.

STUDY.

DO STUDY: YOU MUST STUDY.

Relatives have discussed me
In whispers they talk
He's going to be a surgeon you know
I wait for the post each day
The greeting cards are N.U.I. numbers.

I tell you I study.

But,

I tell you I can handle pressure
I don't sleep no more
I study my 500 books
from 500 shops
And 500 notebooks
With 500 pages in every one.

I am prepared
I don't answer my friends now
Have I told you that?
I tell you, man, I study.

Last night a strange man
Tunnelled through the garden
To surface at my window
Watching, to report to my elders
I saw his muddy hand prints
On the windowsill.

And only my toes know.

Did I tell you I can't go out no
more?

My parents guard the door ...

That, as it stands, is the final
statement of Plantagenet, brutally
cut in mid sentence as total brain
shutdown, undoubtedly caused by
severe pressure to study, set in.
When contacted, Mrs. Witherington
admitted that recently Plantagenet
had been studying for 12 hours
nightly, but felt this was totally
normal behaviour.

At the time of going to Press,
Plantagenet's condition was still
flat line catonic and tragically
showing signs of deterioration and,
in many other hospital beds, lie
Plantagenet's monuments to the
futility of study and the cruelty of
the educational system.

The Staid Student's Stanzas

Oscar Wilde.

Burn that duster
along with anything else that you
muster,
for they're incapable of believing
the destruction we do before our
Leaving.

Stab the pious priest,
and our revolution will need no yeast
The Munchin's grass is no longer
green
'Garry's on the Guillotine'!

We finish and head for a new land,
leaving behind a life so very bland,
and five years of demoralising
depression
impaired by the Government's
recession.

There's more to life than books, you
know!

But not much more.

The Plight of a Latecomer

Monday morning
It's half past nine
Of Mr. McGrath
there is no sign.
Up the stairs
A bit too late
He saw me come through the gate.

Out with his black book
and down I go
I'm down nine times already
so the finger points
and down the long, straight
driveway I walk slow.

Cormac O'Sullivan
Inter. 3.1

A Night To Remember

I

I'll never forget the first time we met
And the dance we had on the floor.
Ah! 'twas a night to remember,
and you so slender,
You captured my strings to the core.

II

Your gown was of lace, perfected with
taste.
And the black suited you down to the
ground.
Ah! 'twas a night to remember, your
cheek so tender
Mine own heart pines to be crowned.

III

May your marriage be blest and soon may
it be
May you cherish the moments you shared
with me.
For I know now that we must part,
But I'll clasp thee forever embraced
to my heart.

Michael O'Sullivan
Leaving II


CLANCYS
RECORDS
For a large selection in
Irish, Classical
Popular
Records, Tapes
Compact Discs
45 O'CONNELL ST
Crescent Shopping Centre
Phone (061) 49511

**O'Driscoll's
Corbally Bar**



*Congratulations St. Munchin's on
your success with both the
Athletics and Debating teams.
Best wishes in the future.*

PICTORIAL



F=MA Teacher and Student



Frank and the 1st year Mile Winners



Mary behind the Mag.



The Y.C.S. Weekend



"To sleep perchance to dream"



The Tea Lady

Y.C.S. WEEKEND

Y.C.S. Weekend was up to its' usual standards this year in providing entertainment for the students. The students showed their enthusiasm in coming out in great numbers to compete in the organised events. This year all proceeds went to relief workers in the 'GOAL' Organisation working voluntarily in the Ethiopian-Sudanese Border.

Great thanks is due to Fr. Fitzmaurice who organised the weekend, with the help of his hard-working employees - Michael McCormack, Dave Hunt, Tom Coleman, Ed Wingfield, Vincent McLoughlin, Michael O'Connor, Paudie Dowling, Clark Clifford, Con Murphy, David O'Brien, Dan O'Mahony, and Kevin Reardon.

All kinds of sporting activities were included in this year's agenda, including Cycling, Basketball, Soccer, etc. Some novelty acts were performed by Seamus Liston and his associates. There was also some less energetic activities such as the 'Fast', which got a great response.

In the evening, entertainment was provided with a Table Quiz and a Concert in the Assembly Hall. The Table Quiz was up to its' usual high standards and the eventual tie-break proved a nerve-wracking experience for the contestants. However, things turned out well as there was, in fact, a group of winners at the end of the night.

To finish off, there was an intriguing performance by the infamous 'APPEARANCE' Band. They truly showed us what great potential they have and we wish them all the best in the future.

Clark Clifford.

McGovern's William St. & Crescent Shopping Centre



*No Matter How
You Try.....
You Won't Beat Us*

THE DEBS BALL

The St. Munchin's College Debs made a welcome return to the fray, at the 2nd attempt, on Friday, Oct. 30th, 1987. The tickets read commencing at 8 p.m. but, after returning from the brink of joining the Yuppie set, the majority of the Leaving Two student body joined the castaways before entering the front porch at 9 p.m. (very approx.).

After receiving clearance from the white collared 'bouncers' no time was wasted as we made heavy going of a surprisingly above-average meal (nobody got food poisoning at any rate). The congregation of 63X2 students plus guests were then treated to some drivel from Messrs. Smith, Murphy, and to some words of wisdom from Canon Lane. At this stage we were joined by a group who had, ahem! forgotten what time we were to start. They were seen wandering down the refectory at 9.30 p.m.

With the formalities completed we headed for the Assembly Hall where we found out why the band 'The News' charged so much. But, nonetheless, they were worth it, as we strutted some funky stuff until the wee small hours of Saturday. In the course of the morning some new approaches were noted, particularly the 'foot massaging' technique of Mike O'Sullivan.

When 'The News' finished up we were supposed to be entertained by the tones of 'Dr. John Moloney'. He failed to put in an appearance but instead some bloke called 'Sharkey', whom we didn't hire, appeared and gave a perfect demonstration of how not to conduct a Disco. However, nobody objected too much - some were otherwise engaged, while others were too tired!! (It was way past their bedtime). The revelry continued into the early morn and 3 a.m. formally ended the Munchin's Debs, by which all others will be judged.

It took the majority an extraordinarily long time to get home as the chorus of Eddie Cochran's "C'mon Everybody" was lead by certain individuals from Ardnacrusha, Corbally and Castleconnell, and as a result, a lot of people did.

Sorry to Tom Quigley about the footprint on the front of his white Tony Connolly's shirt (John Wall did it); also apologies to Aidan Devine about the house. At this stage, on behalf of myself, Stephen Murphy, and Jamie Mackey I would like to thank most sincerely everybody who made Debs '87 possible namely Canon Lane, Fr. G. Bluett, Fr. P. O'Connor, Mr. Casey, Mr. P. Cross, Edward Stanley and staff. everybody who came, the people who helped with the setting out of the hall and, especially, the people who gave a hand in tidying up. I would also like to thank the bloke with the large mouth, the people who removed refreshments from the vicinity and last, but by no means least, Mr. Green, of the Greenhills Hotel for keeping our £100.

The rest is history but I hear that some people were seen in the vicinity of Robert Street (no doubt for the early morning market bargains) at 7.30 a.m., while others were done to the tune of £3 for a cup of coffee and a slice of toast in Cruise's Hotel.

That's it due to pressure of censorship, and down in the Leaving Two corridor the rumours are once again rumbling of

Philip Smith.
Leaving II.



REBELS WITH A CAUSE

One of the myths most prevalent in this country about the beginning of illegal radio in Ireland is that it was due to 'The Dubliners' and a bawdy song of theirs "Seven Drunken Nights". The song was banned by R.T.E. and the B.B.C., much to the disgust of the more earthy public, who then, the story goes, decided to do something to break the monopoly in broadcasting here in Ireland. However, the truth is that illegal radio was flourishing for quite some time before 'The Dubliners' released the song.

The first real pirates, however, are generally recognised as being two Swedish stations - Radio Nord, which broadcast from a ship off the Danish coast, and Radio Sud, which broadcast from the coast of Sweden. They began to transmit in 1962 and were closed by the Swedish Government in '63. But, the seed was sown, and the demand was there.

Back at home, even back in the forties, there was a station called 'Killeen Road Home Service' in the Santry area of Dublin. In the '60's, we had the arrival on the scene of many new stations, Radio Galaxy probably being the most successful. A.R.D. was set up in Cabra in 1970 and broadcast until 1981.

Then there was Big D, from which the Limerick equivalent derived its' name, and set up in '80/'81. Radio Leinster, also based in Dublin, closed voluntarily, anticipating a new law in 1983, after 2 years in existence. I.I.T.R., the city's only specialist music station (Country/Western) came on air in 1981, while the 'Super Pirates' came on stream with Sunshine in 1980, Nova in 1981, and Q102 in 1984.

One of the most successful bigger stations in the country is Radio Carousel in Dundalk, which has been on the air since 1979. In Cork, E.R.I. retains the majority of listeners, despite the setting up of Cork Local Radio by R.T.E.

Locally, pirate radio is in its' 10th year. Stations like Radio Limerick Weekly Echo, BIG L, Radio Amanda, Capital Radio and C.C.R. are just names now but, undoubtedly, one of the pioneers of local radio in this city John 'The Man' Frawley just goes on and on.

The relationship between R.T.E. and the 'Pirates' is a very murky one. Officially, the national body says it wants no association with the illegals. But, the truth is that, if you look at the Radio 2 line-up, only 4½ hours a day (out of 24) are presented by D.J.'s that were not once pirates. R.T.E. continue to quietly poach the pirate staff, borrow their better ideas and, in many cases, to co-exist in harmony. In one episode, R.T.E. authorities actually entered into a very civilised correspondence with a Dublin pirate concerning his request to be allowed to 're-broadcast' R.T.E. Radio's 1.30 News bulletin live on his own station. R.T.E., apart from their jamming attempts in 1984, had made no serious effort to finish the pirates.

If the proposed local radio bill comes in, it looks as if pirate radio is about to meet its' end. Now, soon, it will all be totally legal and perfectly professional and, hearing somebody stumbling through the weather forecast as if he were suffering from the onset of a nervous breakdown, will just be a faded memory.

I'm sure the new stations will be great, but few of us will be lucky enough to continue to grace the airwaves. However, we have had our fun and our moment of glory.

Wolfman Jack - Leaving II

THE APPEARANCE

St. Munchin's Y.C.S. day came to an exciting finish with the Pioneer Concert. The doors of the Assembly Hall opened at exactly 8.00 p.m. and the crowds continued to pour in up to about 8.01 p.m. There was much excitement as the lights went down and on came the very much awaited 'CREATION'. These, a four-piece band which hails from Castletroy, were looking forward to their first gig. They tried to glide from song to song under the guidance of Hugh Mulqueen - head guitarist. A very unusual version of 'Dirty Old Town' finished off their three song set. Some encouraging comments from the crowd after their set were - "Have they finished tuning up?" "Have they started yet?" and they were also compared to 'The Bangles' and 'Bananarama'.

After that 'shot' of entertainment there came the very reverend 'Fr. Applied Fitzmathematics' to host the Table Quiz. An hour passed and the feeling of boredom seemed to settle in. Seconds later, the lights went down to a massive cheering and applause from the audience. A synthesiser could be heard in the background as the band was introduced. Suddenly, the curtains opened and the 'APPEARANCE' burst into 'Where the Streets have no Name'. The roar increased as Diarmuid 'Edge' Galvin flew around the stage with his guitar, while the versatile Brian Corr produced accurate sounds from his bass. Liam 'willie' Banks gave the crowd something to cheer about with his superb drumming, while the crowd went totally wild to the voice of Kurt Divito. The 'APPEARANCE' then did their version of 'C'mon Everybody'. Even the priests recognised this one, as someone spotted a smirk on the Dean's face. Versions of 'I Will Follow' and 'Message In A Bottle' were soon to come, with Brian and Kurt making a good effort on vocals. However, the best song of the evening was the Cry Before Dawn song 'Gone Forever' with Kurt giving an excellent performance at the mike. 'THE CREATION' were soon forgotten about as Liam Banks began his drum solo on 'Sunday, Bloody Sunday' to the delight of the crowd. The high point of the night came for the Boarders as 'THE APPEARANCE' played their rock version of 'The Fields of Athenry'. The audience appreciated very much the change to female vocals on the band's original song. The set also included 'Pride' and 'Every Breath You Take'. For the finale, both bands were brought on stage for 'Whiskey In the Jar'. That night, the boarders went to bed, not with Eurovision songs ringing in their ears, but with the songs of 'THE APPEARANCE'. 'THE APPEARANCE' would like to thank the Dean for help with equipment, Larry Quinn on the lights, and anyone else who helped to make it a good night.

A LETTER

Dear Editor,

We have come to the end of another school year, a year in which the relationship between the student body and the school authorities has been exemplary. The Authorities have proposed that the annual 'King of the Jax' might be abolished.

What sets St. Munchin's apart from other schools is its respect for tradition, whether it be the behaviour of its students, attendance at Thomond Park, or sportsmanship on the playing field. Unlike other schools who recklessly loose control on the advent of the summer holidays, we have a tradition of 'organised' celebration which allows students to 'Let their hair down' without threat to person or property.

Unfortunately, the cogs of subversion are already in motion, with the banning of the boarder anthem "God Save Our Gracious King". The Christmas carols will probably be next to go. It is unreasonable that an event which takes up 0.034% of the school year should be banned.

Signed: A Loyal Subject

P.S. 'God Save Our King.'

SR. REGINALD

On 16th April, 1988, Sister Reginald celebrated her Diamond Jubilee, that is to say, 60 years of being a Nun. Fourteen of those years have been spent here in St. Munchin's College, where she has acted in an almost mother-like role as Nurse for the boarders. In an exclusive interview, we take a look at the life of the lady who has, through her commitment and care, won the respect of students, both past and present.

Sr. Reginald belongs to the 'Sisters of Mercy' Order. She spent several years working as a nurse in Croom Hospital and the City Home in Limerick. The last post she held before coming to St. Munchin's was as Matron in Croom Hospital. In 1974, she retired from hospital work and took up residence in the College. Sr. Reginald has described her days in St. Munchin's as "the happiest of my life". She is quick to emphasise that it is "my knowledge of the students, past and present, and, added to that, the courtesy of the priests and teaching staff" that has made her life in the College so pleasant.

Sr. Reginald rises each morning at 6.30 a.m. for Mass, and she doesn't stop working until 7.30 that evening. In addition to her clinic, she is also in charge of the dormitories and rooms. However, despite her work, she still finds time for her hobbies, mainly Needlecraft, Embroidery, and Reading.

During her stay in the College, Sr. has noticed many changes, not least of which is the change in the type of student in the College. She maintains that students today are much more mature than in yesteryear. Two well-known people who have passed under her supervision are the Dean, Fr. Pat O'Connor, and the Vice-Dean, Fr. Murphy. When asked about Sr. Reginald, Fr. Murphy said that she was "a very polite person, who was very committed to her boys". Fr. Murphy, however, refused to comment on certain escapades with Sr. Reginald's swimwear during his time in the College.

The question on most people's minds concerning Sr. Reginald would be her exact age. However, when we asked her that million dollar question, we were quickly informed that it was 'classified information'.



"Congratulations Sr. Reginald"

SKIING TRIP

At 7.00 a.m. on 30th December, 1987 a coach with 24 students and 7 adults was on the road to Belfast. Our great adventure in the Alps was beginning. By 3 o'clock we were taking off and heading for Austria. Many were anxious as the weather forecast on the News had reported a lack of snow, but the plane trip took their minds off this. We arrived in Salzburg and from there proceeded to our resort at Mulback.

We entered the hotel and got settled in, and also met a familiar face from the year before at Gosau. We were well treated and professionally equipped for skiing. The next morning we climbed the mountains in search of snow. The scenery was breath-taking and the air pure. We began skiing whole-heartedly with the beginners being helped by their colleagues who had previous experience.

The days were long with plenty of fun from crashing and falling. The only fault was with the food, but this was only a minor detail; anyway, the boarders could afford to fast after the Christmas season. Nighttime activities were badly handled but the hotel did have a Games Room. The end of the week saw all of us able to ski and so we returned home after a memorable holiday.

The adults gave good guidance both day and night and we followed their 'Examples'!

Special thanks is due to Mr. B. McNamara, Mr. A. Reid, and Mr. J. Lillis as, without them, the trip would not have been possible.

Martin Roche
Leaving 2.3

SAM BENSON



SAM BENSON MUSIC CENTRE

Music Centre 25 Catherine Street, Limerick. — Tel: 46556.

MUSIC

TUITION. GUITARS. DRUMS.

KEYBOARDS. BRASS & WOODWIND

EFFECTS, SOUND EQUIPMENT
FOR HIRE

ENROLL CASIO KEYBOARD SCHOOL NOW!

WARNING: BUYING GEAR FROM OTHER SHOPS CAN SERIOUSLY DAMAGE YOUR

Some of the
huge range of
brand names
in stock!

FELT

ARIA

CASIO

Fender

CUSTOM SOUND

SIMMONS

BOSS

PROFILES

Paul Connolly
only Mr. AP. Doran

Paul Connolly: Paul is renowned for his fear of women. He is great with anything round and bouncy and that is why he is into Basketball. Eventually, Paul wishes to model himself on Mr. Hilton and become a Career Guidance Teacher.



Frank Gallagher: Frank is the terror of Leaving II. A qualified bully and sadist, Frank is known for his acute alertness in Applied Maths class. After the Leaving, Frank's ambition is to go to Paris and design trendy socks for a top fashion house.



John Gallagher: This brilliant mathematician from Foynes has this year mastered the art of Bell Ringing. John is known for having by far the dirtiest nose in Munchin's so, if the Dean is still wondering where all those missing toilet rolls are, now you know - they go on cleaning John's runny hooter.



Fergus Johnston: Fergie is one of Munchin's most vicious bullies. He and his hoods can be seen everyday savagely assaulting either the tea-lady or the College Nurse and he sometimes even pushes first years around. He is also an avid snooker player but gets tired of people putting chalk on his head and using him as a cue.



Stephen Murphy: A member of this year's All-Ireland Cross-Country winning team, Stephen hopes to get to America on an Athletics Scholarship but, failing that, he would like to become a fully qualified speech therapist. Murph is also sick and tired of being picked on by first and second years.

to MONA! Stephen Murphy



Niall Monahan: Niall hails from somewhere called Clonlara and cycles the long journey to school every morning. In his spare time Niall excels in playing rugby and hurling in order to prove to the County Limerick boarders that the Banner County can still produce 'em big and strong.



Darrin Gardiner: 'Chips' as he is known to his buddies, has been seen to do great things in Handball Alleys and on Snooker Tables. When he leaves school he would like to get a part in the next 'Top Gun' movie or, failing that, he would be honoured to go as a pool cue in 'The Colour Of Money II'.

TO UICL Base of Luck Darrin Gardiner



Kieran Chambers: This trend-setter from Pennywell Road is a self-confessed gambler and regularly travels to all the big race meetings. After the Leaving, Kieran would like to begin modelling for Helené Modes and, on Saturday nights, brighten up 'The Olde Tom' with his male strip act.

Kieran Chambers



Michael O'Sullivan: By day Mike is a quiet, secluded, peaceful person but, at night, with a full moon shining, he is changed and transformed into a mad, deranged beast capable of doing anything. After school, Mike wouldn't mind emigrating to Australia where he would hope to find plenty of Sheila's.



Pat Fitzpatrick: Pat is unique in being the only victim of Apartheid in the school and has therefore been involved with such kinky things as whips and chains. After school Pat would like to go on and play the part of 'Spock' in the next 'Star Trek' Movie, or else fight for his rights as leader of the A.N.C.

Rory Kirwan: 'Doca' is the model student for all sixth years due to his general attentiveness and love of learning, especially French. Rory shows his true worth on the rugby pitch where the man in him is exposed and he often has to be taken off faking injury for fear that the opposition may get mutilated.

Michael McCormack: A member of the boarder community and also honoured as a Prefect, Mike hails from Bruff and describes himself as one of the more mannerly and moderate individuals in the College. On leaving school Mike would like to become a jockey, but will settle for a 3rd level education.

Tom O'Farrell: Tommy would like to officially announce that he is no longer in mourning over the closure of 'The Pink', and has since moved residence to 'The Stand'. Tommy is noted for his sharp features and is so in love with the College, that he decided to return for the Leaving in '88.

David Hofler: 'Hof' is heavily into 'Romeo and Juliet' balcony scenes (at four in the morning) and is presently trying to set up a Limerick Nazi Youth Club. The true fascist in Dave is revealed in Irish class where he demonstrates his aggressiveness and control by getting the seat near the wall.

John Bussoli: John's ambition in life is to spend a Saturday afternoon around town dressed in pink clothing but will only do so when Des Ryan becomes a priest. John's size is no indication of his strength - he's weaker than he looks, but it is rumoured that he is a martial arts expert.

Des Ryan: 'This charming man' is one of our more shy and timid students and can often be seen praying alone in the school chapel. He has the misfortune of never conversing with the opposite sex and so wishes to join the priesthood. Des is presently involved in arranging cheap package holidays to Lourdes.

Nicky Rainsford: There's not much we can say about this guy except for his involvement with older women and his late nights. Nick is as cool as they get and even has his own personal servant with a tight haircut from the Llama lands of South America. After school, Nick would like to go to 3rd level but we reckon he's guaranteed a place on a stud farm.

Jim Franklin: Big Jim is the wild man of Munchin's to whom women seem to flock. He has often been dragged off his bike on his way to school by mobs of St. Mary's girls who have just one thing in mind - to rob his bike! Jim hails from Ballysimon.



[Handwritten signature]

Rory Kirwan 'DOCA'

Tommy O'Farrell - Best of Luck!

What a piece!

Louise Dan AT THE DEC

*To Nick! May your
Quadrants
turn out
as good as
you
Jim Franklin*

Vike Mark
Joe Sheehan

Joseph Sheehan: Joe hails from Corbally and is a member of Fergus Johnston's notorious bullies gang. After school he would like to study or, in failing that, take over the acting role of Adrian Mole on whom he bases his image.

Thomas Carroll: This Tom Jones lookalike hails from Corbally and was a member of this year's All-Ireland winning Athletics team. Although normally a quiet bloke, Tom got a name as being a bit of a party animal after holding one of Munchin's most talked-about Debs parties at which big studs like Mark Hickey could be seen. Tom hopes to receive a degree in Human Nutrition after leaving Munchin's.

Pat Dillon: Pat is one of Munchin's most trendy farmers. He is also renowned for his outrageous behaviour in class, especially in Economics. Pat hails from Clonlara and relishes the fact that he enters the school in time for morning prayers and is sometimes mistaken for a Boarder.

Adrian Marsh: Nicknamed 'Sid Viscious', Adrian is known throughout sixth year for his outlandish hairstyle. It must take hours of his time and bottles of gel to keep it in place. 'Sid' hopes to study Industrial Chemistry in N.I.H.E. or, failing this, he hopes to go into the field of Hairdressing.

Aidan Devine: Nothing gives this guy more pleasure than to see his friends tearing his house to shreds at his regular all-night parties. He is noted for his fluent German and also for his animal-like behaviour in the presence of red leather mini-skirts. After school, he wants to do Accounting in O'Connell Street.

Edward Wingfield: 'Windy' is Dan O'Mahony's sidekick from Kilmallock and is one of the more popular students in L.C. II. A lover of Latin, he regards it as being the only true way to come to terms with one's inner spiritual self. Windy hopes to replace Don Johnson in a couple of years; failing this, he feels he would make an excellent Pope.

David Hunt: This boarder who hails from Adare is an avid golfer. Dave is a quiet chap and is often referred to as the last bastion of sanity in Leaving II. An excellent example of studiousness, he believes in Ballet Dancing as the career of the future. Failing this, he wants to study at NIHE.

Mark Hickey: Mark is from Corbally and hopes to follow a career in Acting. He hopes to get the leading role in "Revenge of the Nerds II"; failing this, Mark will lead a life of total obscurity.

Fergal Doyle: Fergal is from the North Circular Road and is Munchin's only Trainee Yuppie. He can be seen standing outside the 'Brazen Head'. Fergal hopes to become a fully-fledged Yuppie; failing this, a Sanitation Technician.



Fergal Doyle

John McCarthy: John is from Ballingarry. This spruce, refined guy was a member of our Senior and Munster squad this year. He hopes to become a rep for Carling, Harp, or Smithwicks

Mark Curley: Mark is from Ardagh and is Munchin's leading Sumo Wrestler. Mark hopes to become a member of the 'A Team'; failing this, the Easter Bunny. All the best, Mark.

Barry Cronin: Barry is one of our brightest students. His likes are Granary and dyed hair. Barry hails from Corbally and hopes to become a Professor of Theology, or a Monk!

Kurt Divito: ~~I~~ am sorry to say that Kurt is one of our sickest students. He is well renowned for his dog jokes and red appearance. The lad seems to be permanently embarrassed. Upon leaving Munchin's, he hopes to follow in his hero's footsteps - Al Capone.

Fergal Lawlor: Fergal or 'Lal' to his friends is not one of our brightest students but, if there is a Leaving Paper in posing, he has an 'A'. Fergal hopes to be in Todds window next Christmas.

Kieran Cross: Kieran, aka 'Boss', is one of our louder students; he can be heard roaring and shouting between classes, and bullying 1st years. Kieran hopes to become a prop for Ireland. Failing this, he wishes to play the tuba.

John McCarthy: John is from Ballysimon and is Munchin's leading weight-lifter. His appearance will show you why. Those rippling muscles and dark body have driven girls in Ballysimon mad. When asked his secret, he said "I eats alot of cabbage." WOW!

Michael Payne: Michael is from Shannon Banks and is one of our foreign exchange students. Michael has joined the R.A.F. and hopes to become a pilot. He has joined the airforce so he can fly over his countrysides with a friendly, smiling face and drop bombs on them. Good Luck, our Top Gun Tom, I mean Michael.

Jamie McKillican: Jamie is one of Munchin's smaller L.C. students but is still taller than some first years. His likes are bananas and the Chipmunks. On leaving Munchin's, he wishes to play Basketball for the Harlem Globe Trotters.



*Red
Kieran
R077
25/5/88
in Math
good
luck*

*Richard
Payne*

Philip Fitzpatrick: Philip, aka Aceface, is from Ballysimon. Philip is one of Munchin's nicest people, or so he thinks himself. On leaving Munchin's he wishes to become a model for Vogue; failing this, to open a beauty salon.

Joe O'Shea: Joe, aka Gurka, is from Clare Street and is noted for his pleasant accent and nice laugh. Joe is one of our fun-loving students. He never stops making a fool of himself. Joe is also known by his complexion - well, you can see why!

John O'Brien: John is from Corbally and is one of the pupils who enjoys coming to school. John has a great crack. John's pastime is reading Fairy Tales and one day he hopes to meet Little Red Riding Hood.

Austin Hannan: Austin is one of Munchin's Agricultural Advisers. His quick thinking and sharp wit have him in the top of his field. Austin hopes to pursue a career in Rally Driving.

David Fitzpatrick: This diligently hard-working student has great ambitions. He is a patron of the Arts and also likes to listen to Chamber Music. He hopes to become a frogman; failing this, the Pope.

Ger Grant: Ger is from Clareview and is Munchin's trendiest person; his cool look and greased hair are well-known. Ger would like to become a Ballet Dancer; failing this, he will become a drug pusher.

Donal McGrath: Donal is a budding musician, if only he can learn how to play. Donal also hopes to become Mister Universe; failing this, he hopes to work with Reptiles.

Liam Mulcahy: Liam, Mul, or Sheila, hails from Granville Park. On leaving school, Liam would like to become the lead singer in either The Communards or Soft Cell. Failing this, he will become a Harry Krishna Missionary.

Trevor Walsh: Trevor is one of St. Munchin's academically gifted students. His only two faults are everything he says and everything he does. Trevor is famous for his resemblance of Paddy Reilly and his tapes of the Kilfenora Céili Band. On leaving school, Trevor hopes to take the Kilfenora Céili Band into the Top Ten.



Thomas Quigley: 'Squid' is the little ice-cube of Munchin's. Rarely do you hear or see a reaction from this man of steel. A member of this year's senior team, Tom hopes to go on to third level. He hails from Woodlawn Park.

James O'Sullivan: James' talents as a rugby player were discovered a few weeks after we lost in the cup and he might have had a place on the team, if he had trained. He is a quiet bloke and can normally be found sitting on the radiators staring into space during lunch.

Mark Hurley: Don't let those boyish looks fool you. Behind that exterior is one of Munchin's most regular party animals. Mark's greatest ambition is to design an effective sprinkler system for chemistry labs; failing this, he hopes to become a fireman. *Mark Hurley 25.5.80*

Diarmuid Long: Whatever is written would undoubtedly be an injustice to this man. Let's just say he is every woman's dream boyfriend. He hails from Ballinacurra and hopes to go on to third level after school.

Brian McInerney: Mac, as you can see for yourself, has one of those faces that only a mother could love. He is known throughout sixth year for his seriousness and dryness in class. His reward for this good behaviour though can be seen by the special treatment he gets from his favourite teacher, Mr. Cross.

Mark Tierney: Mark, with that highly original hairstyle which he cuts himself, is a big fan of the Beatles and claims to own all their albums. He also claims that the Beatles stemmed from his introduction of John and Paul. He hails from Parteen and hopes to go on to third level after school; failing that, go to Japan to train as a Sumo Wrestler.

Denis Keane: Denis, who was unlucky not to get the scrum-half position on this year's senior team (there were only four other players ahead of him), is known for his short, snappy answers in English class. He joined us from Roscrea in fifth year and I'd like to thank them for sending us this popular, fun bloke. *Edoche Phelan*

Eddie "Muscles" Phelan: This happy-go-lucky bloke from Parteen takes pleasure out of the simple things in life. A good pint, a Mars Bar, and an argument and he will wet himself in satisfaction. Eddie also enjoys smiling and making pathetic comments at debates. After school he hopes to become everyone in Limerick's friend.

Philip Smith: Philip, who is Munchin's answer to Maxi, was captain of this year's highly successful Debating Team. Although a quiet lad in class, it is plainly obvious from that razor-sharp stubble and those bloodshot eyes on Monday mornings that what Philly gets up to on weekends is far from the norm. He was also involved in organising the Debs Ball and trying to swindle the D.J. out of cash. Philip hopes to study electronic engineering in N.I.H.E.



Jew Callanan

Seán Callanan: This charmer from Ballysimon is well known for his dashing good looks - that immaculately groomed hair and his hunky masculine figure. Although he has been attacked this year by the Mods Syndrome, he still finds time to listen to his favourite pop song "It's hip to be square".

Liam Gleeson: One of the more rowdy students in Leaving II is our Liam. He lives in Blackwater (just south of Timbucktu). Liam is a helpful chap and kindly allows the teachers to use his forehead when there is no room left on the blackboard. A scientist at heart, he plans to donate his nose to scientific research.

Edward Stanley: Ed is this year's 'ED' of 'The Torch'. Each day after school he can be seen giving grinds to Mr. O'Shea and Mr. O'Grady. He wants to replace Sylvester in Murphy's Micro Quiz-M and, failing that, invent an underwater hairdryer.

Fergus Gleeson: Fergus recently took up street-fighting with disastrous results and now plans to donate his body to dental science. Currently training as fuel injection technician, he hopes to qualify around the year 2000. Failing that, he will go to the Billy Barry School of Dancing.

Dave Madden: Dave can be seen burning down the school driveway every morning in his 'Starlet' (untaxed), or his 'Seat' (uninsured) or his 'Nissan' (unroadworthy). He claims not to remember doing his Tarzan impressions off the chandeliers at the Debs. His 20 token haircut is part of his ambition to become a fulltime weirdo. He is adamant that his favourite animals are not cows, but pandas-wonder why

Noel Clancy: Noel hails from Lower Mill Road (it became lower when Noel moved in). When he arrived in Munchin's, major renovations had to be made to soundproof all classrooms. One of the few remaining punks in Munchin's, Noel denies he wears 6 inch platform shoes.

Cathal O'Donoghue: The younger of the Dynamic Duo makes the long and treacherous trek from the Irish Estates everyday. An avid athlete, Cathal hopes to have his own lane up the school driveway, in which he can run to school every morning. Cathal plans to do Business Studies; failing this (extremely unlikely), he plans to become a Mud Wrestler.

John Wall: In compiling this profile, John showed an inordinate amount of interest in wine and women (in that order); this, however, has been left to the reader's imagination. When sober, he enjoys a good game of hurling and is generally recognised as being the life and soul of Leaving II. John is a philosophical character.

Pat Cooney: Pat is a prime example of the "Would you like another slice of cheesecake, Aunt Nora?" breed. Well-mannered, punctual and always impeccably dressed, Pat is a sensitive and gentle child. Pat's ambition is to grow long hair, drink carrot juice, and become a hippy.

Edward Stanley

Dave Madden

John Wall

Pat



Joe Benson: Joe, an avid follower of rugby and a member of this year's senior team, firmly denies that the game is responsible for the sudden eye itch and neck pains that affect him when he is talking to teachers. No matter what happens after school Joe will always come out on top because the force is with him.

Trevor Lewis: Another one of this year's repeats, Trevor is noted for his macho image, e.g. his modern haircut and his Schwarzenegger build. Ultimately, Trevor hopes to become the next 'Rambo' so he can go around maiming and dis-

membering the weaker members of society (the few he can find).
Best of luck! Niall McPhillips

Niall McPhillips: It is claimed that certain members of the teaching staff voted Niall as the most disruptive student in Leaving II. We, his fellow students, fail to comprehend this as we know Niall as being a punctual and introverted lad. Niall's ambition is to design Doc Martins for 'fish'.

Bernard Foley: Biff can be seen scraping the ceiling of Leaving II. Bernard, unlike his older brother, is not called Kieran. Bernard stuns us with his vast knowledge of Heavy Metal music and claims to be a member of Def Leppard's fan club. His only ambition in life is to win in Hide-and-Seek.

Niall McDonagh: Niall hails from Dooradoyle and strongly denies rumours that he is the third member of The Proclaimers. Niall keeps everyone in a good mood by telling us all how much revision he has done. He wants to revive the 'Lick of the Year' Competition as he feels he would definitely win.

Kieran Foley: Kieran was captain of this year's gallant XV. Kieran is an avid Physics student and has perfected the art of producing straight line graphs he only takes two points. His personal motto is "One day I will be bigger than my brothers".

John Downes: This cheerful character hails from Askeaton. He claims to be the fittest student in Munchin's, as illustrated by his athletic figure. If there is one thing John has learnt in Munchin's it is how to write his initials (not his name) which can be seen literally (geddit!) all over Leaving II.

Dan O'Mahony: Dan hails from Kilmallock and adds a whole new meaning to the word 'hyperactive'. Known for his sharp wit, not to mention his culche accent, Dan was a prominent member of this year's Debating team. He is also Bell-Ringer No. 4. Dan wants to preserve Mr. Ryan's beard as a scientific marvel.

Michael O'Connor: Another one of those seemingly infinite number of 'Bombers' from Banogue, Mike demonstrated the eating habits of a boarder to all present at the Debs. Mike, being a Government supporter, hopes someday to become Minister for the Bogs.



Paul
Mannion

Paul Mannion: Being the hardhead synthesist that he is, Paul claims to be the subject of Picasso's master piece - 'Nightmare'. An academic genius and star of the Latin class, Paul denies he is a failed scientific experiment (carried out by Paudie Dowling, of course). Paul impresses all of Leaving II with his trendy designer fringe and his punctuality.

Respected Matt! Matthew Phylan

Matthew Phylan: Matt is Munchin's answer to Walt Disney; he gets great enjoyment out of filling his copies with sketches of his hero, Mickey Mouse. Matt is renowned for his early morning joy rides on a certain two-wheeled vehicle.

Ristéard O'Flaherty: Ristéard is what is referred to in scientific fields as 'Artificial Intelligence'. This year's No. 1 snoozer, he devotes his time to dossing, snoozing and more dossing. However, Ristéard plans to surprise everyone, including himself, by getting honours next month. His ambitions go no further than the White House, or Olivia Treacy

Declan O'Donoghue: 'Dod' is the envy of all sixth years because of his appealing effect on mature women, especially at Debs dances. Dec's hobbies include soccer, basketball and Charlotte and he can often be seen playing these sports. Dec's one and only hero is Roland Rat.

Declan O'Donoghue

Hugh Place: Lifting the lid on the steamy scandal world of Hugh has proved too hot for even the tabloids to handle. Renowned for his open-neck shirts, gold medallions, and hairy chest, Hugh enjoys nothing more than cruising in his V.W. Golf G.T.X. His great ambition is to join 'The Happy Gang'.

Martin Roche: Martin is the 'Playboy' of Leaving II Boarders. He is easily recognisable by his fiery red tuft of hair, and his short term ambition is to be the Olympic torch at Seoul this summer. Failing that, he hopes to be knighted by the Queen.

Seán Costello: Noted best dressed and most trendiest male in Munchin's (by himself, of course), this poser extraordinaire plans to become a model and can wear down mirrors by constant use. Failing as a model, Seán plans to become an Accountant.

Seán Costello

Kieran O'Connor: Kieran lives in Corbally and claims to be the coolest dude in Leaving II. Kieran has been studying hard in recent times and can now spell 'Physics'. Kieran has the proud distinction of having the most clogged copy in Chemistry. His ambition is to learn to dance like Mr. Lillis.

Ivan O'Connell: Also on this year's cross-country team, Ivan resides in Parteen, though emphatically claims to be a Limerickman. He has recently developed an acute interest in 'Crowe's' and can often be seen chasing them around Corbally. Eventually, Ivan hopes to follow in his father's footsteps and become a Window Cleaner.

Rem no:
Ivan O'Connell
munchin's 82 -> 88



Ken O'Grady: Many people do not know that Ken who hails from Corbally is actually a student (so seldom does he turn up). The founder member of the Anti-Pioneer Club and known for his profound statements such as "I'll have another one". Ken's love of U2 can be seen from his, and everyone else's copybooks. Ken was the leader of this year's cheerleaders.

Bob O'Leary, wally, from a fellow country man, Timmy O'Connor &
Timmy O'Connor: From Ballysimon, Timmy tries to impress everyone with his cool image, and fails dismally. Timmy claims to be a great handball player. Timmy's ambition is to design a revolutionary cube-Handball and he hopes to qualify for a European Social Fund Grant to complete research.

Andrew Hartnett: Andrew was one of this year's highly successful Debating team. It is rumoured that Mr. Quinlan once coaxed Andrew to shed his coat and sit with nothing over his jumper. Next year, he hopes to specialise in the area of Business Studies; failing this, he hopes to get a haircut.

Denis O'Driscoll: Denis was the lucky winner of another year in Munchin's - God help him! Denis is keen in the pursuit of wine, women and song, in that order. Denis is a hellraiser and hopes to join the Reapers. *Denis O Driscoll*

Jamie Mackey: Jamie is from Castleconnell. He is one of Munchin's neater students, and this shows in his academic activities. His attendance and punctuality are second to none. He makes Ferris Bueller look like Bambi. Jamie hopes to find the essence of life.

Barry Yelverton: Barry is from Ardnacrusha and is proud of it (God knows why!). This neat, clean-shaven, refined lad has been seen at wild parties in Buckley's Bar and is a member of the Doonass Bagpipe Blower's Society. He hopes to become a French Polisher; failing this, a Lumber Jack.

Stephen Ruschitzko
Stephen Ruschitzko: Although "stitch" would probably describe himself as Munchin's answer to Jonathan Davies and Tom Jones mixed into one, everyone knows that he is really just a harmless wally. Like everybody else, he wants to do Business Studies in N.I.H.E. His favourite subject is Accounting because of his love for Mr. Quinlan.

Vincent McLoughlin: With that nose and those ears, we may be forgiven for mistaking Vince for a Concorde as he runs down the corridor. He was unlucky not to make the Munster team this year but, at least, he sponged a trip off them to Cardiff as a Sub. After school he hopes to pursue a career in cogging.

Richard Dufficy: "Twinkletoes" is known for his deft touch with a football and can be seen displaying his skills everyday in the yard. Big Dick hails from Castletroy and has dreams of becoming a Ballet Dancer one day but knows that, realistically, his future lies in Wheelchair attending.



Don
Johnny *was* *82-88* *G.A.T.W.A.*
John

John Broderick: Johnny B would have liked to go on to 3rd level but now realises that this is impossible as he has been told that there are only two levels in jail. John is better known throughout the school for his cool, casual, walk, his bright interest in all schoolwork, and his designer stubble.

Seán O'Connor: Seánie has recently been spotted with something very tall and blonde but, as yet, unidentified. The leading member of this year's Cross Country team, Seánie's first joy would be to become a radar station - ear, ear, less of that slugging. *X = Sean O'Connor*

Joe Keane: Joe is from Corbally and is one of Munchin's oarsmen. Joe is Munchin's party animal. He stays out all night and definitely sleeps all day. Joe hopes to become a breakdancer; failing this, a normal person.

Germi Geary: Germi is from Ballinacurra and is the Captain of Munchin's Tiddlywinks team. He says "We have been training hard all year and are ready for all challenges. Germi hopes to become an Accountant. *Germi Geary* *204*

Mike Coffey: Mike is from Drombanna and is a member of Munchin's Bird-Watching Society. He can be seen walking through fields with his dog and white stick. Mike hopes to become an optician.

Paul Kinehan: Paul is from Corbally. This boocady, fashion-conscious stud typifies exactly what a Leaving Cert student in Munchin's is not. Paul hopes to become the Minister for Basketball. *Paul Kinehan* *Best Wishes*

Pat Coleman: Pat hails from Kilmeedy and was a member of our Senior team. Pat's likes are raw meat and wool. On leaving Munchin's, he hopes to become a Brain Surgeon; failing this, a shepherd.

Tom Keane: Tom is from Askeaton and is one of Munchin's more out-going and boisterous people. His beaming smile is liked by one and all. Tom hopes to become Mr. Universe; failing this, a joy-rider. *Tom Keane* *82/88* *Best Wishes*

Paudie Dowling: Paudie hails from Ardagh and was this year's No. 3 Bellringer. Paudie was also a member of this year's Big XV. Many people are unaware of the fact that Paudie is a professional male stripper. After the leaving, Paudie's ambition is to visit his relatives in Swaziland. *Paudie Dowling*

Michael Moloney: It was a tight squeeze, but we just managed to fit Mike in. Mike has dreams of becoming a vet, but the animals have nightmares of him qualifying. Mike's second choice of a career is as a Sumo Wrestler and he hopes to qualify for a scholarship to Tokyo. Mike Moloney is actually a student of St. Munchin's.



THE FLY (OF LIFE)

Saturday's diesel fumes hang in the air during suburban siesta time. House windows remain open, echoing the ancient songs of long departed children. The fly, wishing to escape the searing midsummer-afternoon heat, steals through a tarnished, open window. Once in the musty room of brown shadows, he seeks sanctuary in the furthest corner. Here the sun's blazing daggers would not reach their target.

The long, thin legs seek a foothold in the darkness, but do not reach their destination. Retreating slowly in the shadows, the fly becomes aware of his sticky surroundings. He is entangled in a spider's web.

Minutes pass like weeks, hours like months, as the petrified fly regains the use of his aching limbs. By this time, he can smell the creeping predator checking the perimeter of his suspended fortification. With a collaborated effort from his legs, wings and body, the fly surges toward the fading light.

In a panic-stricken frenzy, the fly seeks his exit. However, the window is shut. He is entombed and expends his remaining energy on finding a grave.

During a social gathering two hours later the fly is cremated in his consecrated ashtray.

By Tenure Hyde
Leaving II.

JOE WALSH LTD.

MENS & BOYSWEAR

67/68 CATHERINE STREET - LIMERICK

- Largest Boys Department in Munster
- Mens Suits from Size 36 to 54
- Specialists in Made-To-Measure
- Huge Selection of Young Mens Fashion Wear
—Always in Stock

TEL. 43236



DEBATING

Excitement and anxiety filled the fifty-seater bus as it rolled past the entrance to St. Munchin's College. A big journey lay ahead of the dedicated bunch of enthusiastic lads. Soon afterwards a sparse fog was visible at the rear but only lasted 3½ hours.

The enthralling journey was endured for only one reason - Debating. St. Munchin's College, for the first time in the school's history, had advanced beyond the first round of the 'Concern' National Debating Competition. In fact, on this day, the 22nd of April, they were debating against Loretto College, Bray, Co. Wicklow in the final of the Competition.

Philip Smith, Andrew Hartnett, Seamus Clarke and Dan O'Mahony were the renowned quartet who had put Munchin's on the map. Their big line of success stemmed from one of their greatest and most memorable victories against Doon Convent on Tuesday, 17th November. The ensuing battle between the two teams overflowed into the audience and vigorous comments were hurled at each team. Relationships grew from the encounter and many friendly debates were incurred.

The team quickly and sharply disposed of their next two rivals - St. Enda's Secondary school and Templemore Post-Primary school. Into the unit final they went and they were to oppose the motion "that Christians are failing the poor of the developing world" against St. Joseph's Post-Primary school, Abbeyfeale on Monday, February 8th. This was a very entertaining debate and the audience waited with bated breath as the chief adjudicator deliberated in giving the result (he was nit-picking), but St. Munchin's emerged victorious.

In the next round St. Munchin's travelled to St. Mary's Secondary school, Charleville on Thursday, 18th February. An extremely high standard of debating was observed on that night and the outcome was uncertain. There was a few outbursts from certain individuals on that night but many were quickly quietened by the teams. The life of Ethiopia was graphically related to the audience by Máire Conroy, a Concern Voluntary Worker. St. Munchin's won on a 2:1 majority.

In the South West Regional final the team were confronted by Christ the King from Cork in Mallow Vocational School on Tuesday, 8th March. This was only a trivial debate for the lads as they won easily by a considerable majority. In the Semi-Final they eliminated St. Joseph's, Foxford in Galway and so, out of 294 schools, St. Munchin's College were among the last two.

After the bus reached Westport the supporters disappeared from the streets and gathered in a certain establishment to discuss their plans. Nevertheless, the majority of them did reach the debate on time to hear a quick, if not concrete debate on the motion "that the development of the European Community conflicts with the development of the Third World". Dave Heffernan was the very prompt chairman who refrained to allocate sufficient time to the adjudicators. After the discussion was opened to the floor Fr. Angus Finucane delivered his views on the Third World and Ireland. Next P.J. Carroll, the chief adjudicator gave the verdict and medals and a certificate were presented to each team. Claire Chamberlain ended the debate with a few words and the Hall was evacuated.

The remainder of the night was enjoyed in the atmosphere of an African Disco but, to this day, the details are still unclear and blurred. We, the debating team, would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. P. Ryan for his dedication, time and assistance, and we enjoyed working on the debates. We would also like to thank all the supporters who attended the debates.

Edward Stanley.



Philip gets over-excited



Philip and Seamus look up to Andrew



Runners up in the Concern National Debating Competition

(L-R) Philip Smith, Seamus Clarke, Edward Stanley, Andrew Hartnett, Dan O'Mahony, Mr. P. Ryan.

TORCH DIARY

1987

1st September

Five to nine on Tuesday, 1st, and the first bell of the new school year rings out. Suddenly, outside the gates, a frenzied mob of students begin to stampede down the long driveway. On reaching the door, they begin to fight, bite, scratch, and crawl over each other in a manic attempt to get in. Ah well, nothing like a bit of bitter sarcasm.

8th September

The school authorities are extremely worried about possible nervous breakdowns or suicides among the Leaving I's who arrived back today, due to anxiety over Inter. Results.

8th October

The Inter. Results came today and sure the whole place went mad altogether (cartwheels & headstands were just some of the jubilant feats performed by the Leaving I's.

There is great trouble over the proposed College Debs. The students want to have girls and a bar, while the President seems to want neither. Finally, they compromise. The School Debs is to be held.

23rd October

Today students reluctantly forced themselves to leave their beloved college for the Mid-Term Break.

30th October

The Leaving II students held their Debs Ball tonight and words are inadequate to describe the event. The College was transformed into a glittering palace, while many of the students were also unrecognisable having rented clean clothes for the

occasion.

23rd December

After a week of gruelling exams, the students realise that it is Christmas and everyone takes a break for the festive season.

30th December

A hardy group of students and teachers invade Austria for a fun-filled week of Skiing and going on the piste.

1988

13th January

School re-opens for 1988. It's a black day for the Boarders - Fr. Frank O'Connor is no longer Vice Dean. The men in white coats arrived today to take Canon Lane away. Fr. Bluett takes the helm. Ah well, a change is as good as a cure. Fr. Murphy, the super-cool silage contractor from Ardpatrik hops on the bandwagon. The Dean introduces new eating habits to the Ref. From now on, the Boarders will have to use knives and forks.

17th February

The Senior Team fail in their effort to defeat Presentation in Cork and silence reigned in the school until a free afternoon was granted by the new pilot of the ship.

20th February

The Senior Athletics Team win the Munster Schools Cross-Country title in Dungarvan.

3rd March

The Juniors skipped confidently into the semi-final of the Junior Cup by slaughtering Peggy Sue and the boys from Glenstal in Thomond Park.

7th March

Is it a bird, is it a plane?
No, it's the Pre-Leaving!

8th March

Today, both 'mirth and dirge' filled the dedicated supporters who travelled to Cork. Although the Juniors were defeated in their effort to reach the final of the Junior Cup, the cool, cocky and confident Debating team conquered the South-West with their Debating skills.

12th March

The Senior Athletics Team are crowned the Silvermints All-Ireland Schools Senior Cross-Country champions in Dungarvan, County Waterford.

22nd & 23rd March

The Leaving II's win a free trip to a Retreat House for two days.

25th March

The school takes a fortnight off for Easter.

22nd April

St. Munchin's competed in the All-Ireland 'CONCERN' National Debating Competition in Westport, Co. Mayo. Unfortunately, they were beaten here in the Final by Loretto College, Bray, Co. Wicklow.

27th April

The Dean informs the Leaving II's that their free trip wasn't really free at all.

29th, 30th April & 1st May

Y.C.S. Weekend was held in the College. Many events were held including a Concert, Quiz and Sporting Activities.

ACHTUNG!

At a recent function held at the residence of the German Ambassador to Ireland in Ailesbury Road, Dublin, a special award was presented to Peter Tomany who achieved one of the top three placings in Ireland in German in his Leaving Certificate examination in June 1987. A special award was also presented to St. Munchin's College to mark the occasion. The President of the College, Fr. Bluett, and the German teacher, Mr. McNamara also attended the function at which representatives of the Department of Education and the Goethe Institute in Dublin were on hand.

Peter is continuing his studies at Trinity College where he is specialising in Physics and he is confident that his knowledge of German will greatly assist him in his chosen field.

We congratulate him on his fine achievement and wish him every success in the future.

J.J. Kenneally Jewellers Ltd.

45, Wickham Street.



*Ring Specialists
Agents for*

*Selko, Certina, Omega, Tissot watches.
Largest suppliers of sports trophies in Munster.*

TREASURE ISLAND

Around the middle of October, Mrs. Patsy Brosnan, the Elocution Teacher, approached the Leaving I boarders with the idea of producing a College Play, namely 'Treasure Island'. At first, we were reluctant to realise that we had the potential to be good actors but, as time passed and the script was read by the cast, everyone was determined to put on the play.

Rehearsals began in the Assembly Hall, under the guidance of Mrs. Brosnan. Things were slow at the start but, as the play drew near, things seemed to be taking shape. The play, which was scheduled to run for three successive nights, opened on the 7th of December with a dress rehearsal for the student body. It turned out to be an eventful first night, with a minor accident with the set. Fortunately, no one was killed and, as the saying goes 'The show must go on' and so it did, with Tuesday night's show being for the parents of the Inter. Cert. students and Wednesday night's show being for the parents of the Leaving Cert. students. Fortunately, these two performances were a huge success,

with shouts of 'Encore' ringing around the hall. After each of these performances the parents and the cast enjoyed a small snack consisting of tea and a Marietta biscuit.

We would like to thank Mrs. Brosnan, the Producer, for her help and patience throughout the course of the play. We would also like to thank Fr. Pat O'Connor for his electrical and carpentry expertise. He really showed us that, when it comes to technical matters, he is no dope. Finally, we would like to thank our former President, Canon Lane, who gave a rousing speech on each of the last two nights, which included his immortal words "Get down and do your work".

The Cast of the Play was as follows:

Danny Costello, Seamus Liston, Larry Quinn, John Barry, Paddy Hannon, Eamon Doody, Con Murphy, Evan Wallace, Andrew Darcy, Tommy Moran, John Maher, Clarke Clifford, Mike Fitzpatrick, Liam Kelly, David Curley, Tom Coleman, Alan Mullane, David O'Brien, John Coleman and Kevin Reardon.

Lighting: Christopher Cooke and John Kelly.



1974

PICS PAST & PRESENT

SPORT SECTION



NOW THAT'S A HAIRY ONE



HE'S LOOKING AT YOU



HERBAL TEA?



GAZE INTO THE GLASS



AS EINSTEIN PUT IT

SPORT SECTION

ATHLETIC'S



This year has been one of the most successful years yet for Athletics in St. Munchin's College. Already we have won an All-Ireland, a Munster and three North Munster Cross-Country Championships.

October saw the beginning of the season with the first year mile, which was won by Kevin Heffernan, with Ben Walsh and Ivor McNamara second and third respectively. Next came the North Munster Cross-Country League. After a poor start at Glenstal we eventually overhauled our nearest rivals, St. Nesson's, in Pallaskenry and finally clinched victory in Scarriff in February.

Our Minor team, despite the fact that they started without any established performers, did exceptionally well in their first outing in Glenstal, winning the overall team event. Later, in St. Nesson's, Munchin's actually took the first three places - Mark O'Connor, Keith Power, and Ben Walsh. With a good innings likely in the North Munster Championships, the infamous flu bug struck down half the team, thus depriving our lads of further victories.

Team: Ben Walsh, Mark O'Connor, Keith Power, Ivor McNamara, Maurice Kennedy, Don Murphy, Peadar Mulvihill, Matthew McEnery, Paul Nestor, and Kevin McKillican.

At Intermediate level we had indifferent performances in the initial stages but, with increased interest, we had a creditable third in St. Nesson's and particularly good performances from Hugh Place.

It was our Seniors who provided the 'Jewel in the Crown' of our athletic achievements in 1988. With the experience of such as Seán O'Connor, Tom Carroll & Stephen Murphy, and the enthusiasm of more, like Ivan O'Connell, we were obviously a force to be reckoned with. Success followed success, with victories in the Cross-Country League at Glenstal, St. Enda's, Pallaskenry,

St. Nessian's, and Scarriff. Then came a well-deserved team victory in the Munster Colleges Cross-Country. Finally, in March, came the All-Ireland Colleges' Cross-Country Final at Dungarvan. A brilliant performance by Seán O'Connor gave him 3rd place, with all the members of the team giving of their utmost to gain a memorable team victory.

Team: Seán O'Connor, Stephen Murphy, Ivan O'Connell, Tom Carroll, Ristéard O'Flaherty, Hugh Place, Mark Tierney, Dave Ryan, John Whyte, Adrian Marsh, Cathal O'Donoghue, and John Broderick.

Our thanks to our Coach, Mr. Declan O'Donoghue, for his hard work and constant dedication to Athletics over the year. We all join in wishing him the best of luck with the Irish Olympic Team in Seoul next September.

Cathal O'Donoghue - Leaving 2.3

SENIOR RUGBY



Following his success with last year's Junior team, Mr. Pat Cross took over the coaching of this year's Senior team, albeit rather late in the season.

Although the start of the season was one of mixed fortunes, by Christmas the team had somewhat come together, scoring the most notable victories over Gonzaga, Rockwell and Munster U-18's. This good form continued into the New Year.

On February 17th the team travelled to Cork with the task of facing the much fancied Pres. in Musgrave Park - not exactly the

happy hunting ground of any Limerick side. After a spirited performance, Munchin's went down by 3 penalties to nil. The season, however, ended on a high note when, in our last match, the team beat Dungannon 17-0.

Finally, congratulations are due to Johnny McCarthy and Seamus Liston, who both played for Munster, with the latter making the Irish Panel. The panel would also like to thank Mr. Cross, Mr. Ollie McLoughlin, and Mr. Jim Brislane, for their commitment and their encouragement throughout the season.

JUNIOR RUGBY

This year's Junior Cup Campaign was probably the worst seen for many years. We lost to Rockwell (17-4), St. Enda's (16-12), P.B.C. (37-0), Garbally (28-7), Ard Scoil Rís in the City Cup (16-6), C.B.C. (8-0), Crescent (14-0), Rockwell (4-0), King's Hospital, Dublin (14-7), and Roscrea (18-0).

The two reasonable results before the Cup matches were a draw with Crescent (4-4) and a win against St. Enda's a week before the Cup (7-3).

The Quarter Final match took place against Glenstal in Thomond Park on March 3rd, 1988. It was a terrible day for a match, but we came out on top with a score of 17-0, the scorers being Anthony Foley (2 tries), Michael Geary (1 try), and Ronan McDonagh (penalty - conversion).

Five days later we played P.B.C. in the Semi-Final at Musgrave Park, Cork. P.B.C., with the help of good forward play, came out on top, with the scoreline reading 18-0.

I would now like to thank Barry Moran and Brendan Foley, our trainers. I would also like to thank the many people who came out training, especially David Sutton who was on the panel, but was ruled out through injury. Finally, I would like to thank Fr. Frank O'Connor, Gamesmaster, who helped us out during the year, arranging fixtures.

Team: R. McDonagh, M. Garvey, D. O'Shaughnessy, E. Dillon, D. Gallagher, A. Doran, R. McNamara, I. Sutton, D. O'Meara, D. McMahon, M. Smith, M. Cunneen, A. Foley, L. Kelly.

Ronan McDonagh - Inter. 3.1

SENIOR HURLING

On reflection, the hurling year was a disappointing one for the school. In the two competitions, we failed to register a win on the field of play.

Our season started way back in October (21st) when we played Doon C.B.S. in the semi-final of the Limerick Schools Keane Cup, fresh from a victory in a 'friendly' against St. Clement's. The match was close all through but, in the end, Doon ran out two point winners, 1-8 to 2-3. This was a game we felt we should have won.

Then we had a long break until February, when we re-commenced training in Scoil Íde. Unfortunately for the team, Macroom De La Salle failed to fulfil their fixture and again, our next opponents, Youghal C.B.S. gave us a walk over to proceed to the Munster Semi-Final of the Corn Uí Mhuiri against Charleville C.B.S. In between the two postponements, on the 26th February, we played Tulla C.B.S. in Parteen. We were, unfortunately, unable to field a team of full strength and the game resulted in a 5 point win for Tulla. Due to holidays, exams, and postponements we were unable to put in much hurling and this was evident in Croom on 13th April. Playing against a strong wind, we held them to two points 1-3 to 1-1 at half time, and were very confident. However, the 2nd half was but an exhibition of Charleville's ability, as St. Munchin's could do nothing to combat them; their fitness and match practice stood to them and they advanced to the final. It must be noted, however, that we had a very young team and limited numbers to pick from. On behalf of the Panel, I would like to thank Fr. Fitzmaurice for training us, both this year and in the past, and Parteen G.A.A. Club for the use of their ground.

PANEL: Liam Banks, Denis Murrihy, Barry Holland, Tom Coleman, John Maher, Pat Hannan, Con Murphy, Paudie Dowling, Michael Whelan, Tim Dawson, Paul Mannion, John Wall, Michael McCormack, Paul Horan, Keith Wood, Liam Kelly, John Barry, John Kelly, Joe Haslam, David O'Shaughnessy, Kevin Moloney, Alan Mullane, Michael O'Connor, Ristéard O'Flaherty, and Patrick Coleman.

U-16 HURLING

With many members of this team on the Senior Panel, much was expected of this team. The first round of the Corn Iognáid Rís was held in Parteen on November 4th. The match proved tougher than expected but, with a little help from Mikey Kennedy, we came out on top by 1-9 to 1-7. Subsequently, it was discovered that we had an over-age player and Fr. Fitzmaurice, being his honourable self, immediately withdrew the team from the competition. Nevertheless, we thank him for training us and look forward to this team at Senior Level next year.

PANEL: Con Murphy, John Barry, John Maher, Keith Wood, Michael Whelan, Joe Haslam, Pat Hannan, Liam Kelly, John Kelly, Paul Horan, Alan Mullane, Kevin Moloney, Barry Holland, Liam Banks, Denis Murrihy, David O'Shaughnessy, Timmy Dawson, & Mike Smith.
J. Haslam.

U-15 HURLING

This year didn't get off to a good start, with the U-15 hurlers losing in a challenge to Ard Scoil Rís, the score being 2-3 to 2-2. Our hopes remained high coming up to the Championship. We were drawn against Tulla, Co. Clare. It was an exciting match with a thrilling finish; Tulla emerged victorious by 3 points, the score being 2-8 to 5-2.

THE TEAM: K. Ryan, R. Kelly, N. Browne, G. Costello, D. O'Shaughnessy, S. Feighery, R. Hession, M. Galvin, R. Holland, D. Murrihy, S. Moloney, A. Foley, J. Herbert, B. Halpin, W. Cooke.
Subs: M. Carroll, R. Coughlan, T. Nolan, N. Harris. By D. O'Shaughnessy.



GOLF

Much interest has been generated in Golf in St. Munchin's, due to the enthusiasm of Fr. Bluett. The Golf team entered in the two major schools' Competitions, the first being the Golf Foundation Tournament on October 10th at Charleville Golf Club. One team entered from the College, consisting of Michael O'Kelly, David Hunt, Germi Geary and Bryan O'Brien, and came a very commendable 6th place out of a field of 20 schools.

The next competition was held on May 4th at Castletroy Golf Club. This was the North Munster section of the 'Irish Schools Competition'. This time the team consisted of Michael O'Kelly, David Hunt, James Riordan, and Bryan O'Brien. The team, although underdogs, were inspired to 2nd place in the Nett section by a vicious pep-talk by Rev. G. Bluett; for 2nd place each member of the team received a silver tankard.

We wish to express our thanks to Fr. Bluett for his interest, and we hope that Golf may continue, with much success, in the future.

The Golf Team.

BASKETBALL

As player/coach of the Basketball team, I would like to thank Jury's Hotel for donating money to the college to buy basic Basketball equipment (Basketball Rings and nets).

It was due to the dedication of players like Bobby Price, Mark Gallagher and John Whyte that this year was so successful.

I would also like to thank Fr. Bluett, Fr. Noonan, and Fr. Frank O'Connor for cleaning up the Gym and helping us during the season.

Paul Kinehan.

STAMP CLUB

Last year, John Gallagher and Kevin Reardon resigned from the Stamp Club, but Keith Gallagher, Paul McCarthy, and Barry Culhane took their places.

Last year also, the Stamp Club unfortunately lost the Windsor Motors Trophy in October. We would like to take this opportunity to thank John Gallagher and Kevin Reardon for all their help and their excellent advice.

We would also like to thank the following:-

Fr. Frank O'Connor, for his support and assistance, and all the members of the Stamp Club, for their time and effort.

Keith Gallagher.

Paul McCarthy.

Barry Culhane.

SPORT ACTION







TEACHING STAFF 1988

Back Row: (From Left) Fr. L. McNamara, Mr. D. O'Donoghue, Fr. P. Fitzmaurice, Mr. S. Conneely, Mr. P. Aylward,
 Mr. M. Rynne, Mr. N. O'Donoghue, Mr. G. Walsh, Mr. J. Lillis, Mr. B. McNamara, Mr. P. Ryan.

Middle Row: Mr. D. Hilton, Fr. F. O'Connor, Mr. P. Rowe, Mr. J. Hogan, Mr. D. Madden, Mr. J. O'Kane, Mr. S. O'Grady,
 Mr. J. Quinlan, Mr. A. Reid, Mr. P. Cross, Mr. R. Stack

Seated: Fr. M. Murphy, Mr. J. O'Shea, Fr. J. Noonan, Mr. T. Hayes, Fr. G. Bluett, Mr. S. McGrath, Fr. P. O'Connor
 Miss B. Clancy, Mr. F. O'Friel.



**Wherever
you are headed
Bank of Ireland
can help.**

**OPEN AN ACCOUNT NOW
AND GET OFF TO A GOOD START**



Bank of Ireland
The bank of a lifetime