

" I would like to express my thanks and appreciation for your recent activity report of media actions undertaken in Ireland. We are impressed with the level of press coverage of INFO2000 you have achieved at a very important stage in the life of the programme. The range of activities ... is also very pleasing."

R.F. de Bruïne, Director, European Commission DGXIII/E
(www.ec.europa.eu)



Irish student wins top multimedia award

AN IRISH student has won the top award at the first ever European Multimedia Arts Competition, a Europe-wide award for creativity in multimedia.

Martin Casey was first prize in the Student's Award category for his piece, 'Born with a broken wing', which is an exploration of mourning and its effect on individuals. "I am very pleased," said Casey. "It is great to get this kind of recognition from my peers."

He is keeping firmly focused on his current work, and not letting accolades go to his head. "I don't consider it really the kind of glory of this kind of award. It is just a risk."

14 Clare Champion



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PCs The Way To Go For Public Information

PEOPLE need to be made more aware of the huge benefits which online access to public sector information can deliver directly to their PCs, an EU official stated at a seminar in Limerick last week.

"The need to speed up the process of disseminating such information and information on other public sector information in the areas such as planning applications, health and social welfare entitlements could be done away with by utilizing electronic media more fully," said Mr. Yves Verhagen of the European Commission.

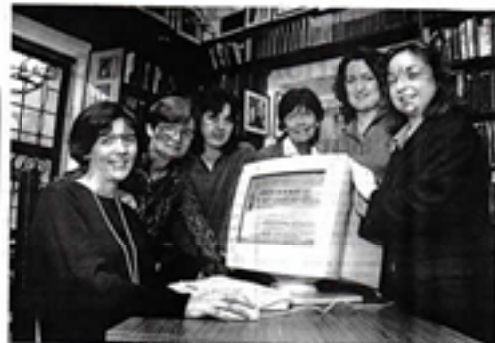
Only 33% of Irish people are interested in using home computers to find out more about their local authority and a mere 1% willing to use the Internet.



MEDIA MONITORS

Training programme for Internet users launched

A NEW range of money-saving initiatives will allow Internet services better on-line. A course was launched in Dublin yesterday as a series of introductory training programmes for small businesses and the Internet. The course is to begin in January and will be available to all users for 20% before the end of the year.



City bookshop's Internet service wins an EU award

City Bookshop, Dublin, has won an EU award for its Internet service. The award was presented to the shop's manager, Mary O'Rourke, by the European Commission.



Online record worst in EU



High student with European acclaim with innovative multimedia



Back to school: Martina Flynn, centre, manager of BTIS, Limerick, and head of Midex-First Ireland, announces the EU training initiative with Irish Multimedia Association chairman, Charlie Pritchard, and Minister for Public Enterprise, Mary O'Rourke.

Businesses urged to use the Internet