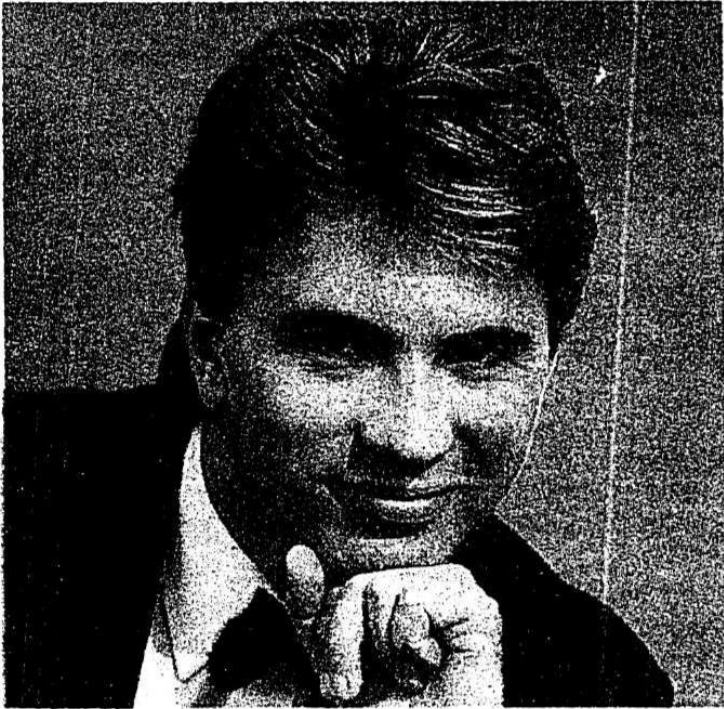


Dmitri treat for Cork fans



by Eoin Edwards

'HE looks like Nureyev and sings like God', so said one opera singer of Barra O' Tuama's new find, Dmitri Hvorostovsky. Barra's a good man for spotting talent so when he saw and heard Dmitri in the summer of 1989 on the BBC's *Cardiff Singer of the World* contest, he immediately phone him and booked him for Cork. Barra doesn't hang around!

Joining him in the City Hall, Cork on February 4 next will be world renowned Welsh tenor, Arthur Davies and leading Irish soprano, Virginia Kerr.

Such is the popularity of the series of operatic concerts that the Cork public are booking months in advance for the shows and by all accounts this one is 'not to be missed'.

Dmitri, the powerful rich baritone, was quoted by one critic as having everything that is needed to develop into a megastar and already all the major Opera Houses in the world are queuing up to sign him. Cork of course is well up with the posse.

Born in 1962 in the USSR, he won his first prize at a national singing competition in 1987 and again First Prize at the Toulouse Singing Competition in 1988. In the summer of last year he was crowned Cardiff Singer of the World.

Among his future recording plans are three recital discs, the role of Alfio in *Cavalleria Rusticana*, a recording which will also feature Jose Carreras, the tile role in *Eugene Onegin*, and the role of Rodridgo in *Don Carlo*.