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ACTIVELY supporting start-ups is now a survival issue for the country, according to businessman Alfie Kane (left). That's why the former Eircom chief executive joined Ross Lewis, Michelin Star chef and owner of Chapter One restaurant, to launch the 2008 David Manley Emerging Entrepreneur Awards at a reception in the Dublin Chamber of Commerce yesterday. Mr Kane is chairman of the award's panel of judges and chief executive of Baker Capital Corporation in New York. SHANE O'NEILL/FENNELLS