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BOND

P13



CIARA O'CONNOR P13

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Crowds poured in Abercrombie and Fitch on the opening day, Thursday 1 November. A&F were unable to comment on why the store opened a week later than the proposed 26 October date.

Photo Jariath Moloney

A&F ignores SVP call for clothes

Jarlath Moloney
Editor

Abercrombie & Fitch clothes, formerly the preserve of students returned from J1 holidays are now available to buy in Dublin.

However, calls for clothes to be donated to charity instead of destroyed by A&F, were ignored last week, ahead of the opening of its new store. The clothing giant would not comment on why the call to donate the clothes was declined.

Over 800 pieces of clothing were seized from a Limerick clothing shop, run by McGazz Ltd which the courts found were

illegally reselling the merchandise in Ireland, without the express permission of the American clothing giant. Retail value of the clothes was said to be over €32,000, and also included Hollister clothes, which is also owned by the retailer, both firm favourites of students.

Conor Twomey of McGazz Ltd, said he bought the clothes legally in the US and paid the taxes and excise duty to bring them into the country. "These goods are absolutely 100% genuine and legal," he said to the Limerick Leader.

Mid West regional VP for Saint Vincent De Paul, Michael Murphy requested the clothes be donated to the charity in

these harsh economic times. "All we can do is express our disappointment that Abercrombie & Fitch haven't decided to donate the clothes to charity," said a SVP spokesperson to the Edition.

However, Abercrombie & Fitch recently avoided being involved with the courts itself, when Dublin City Council sent a letter of warning over the huge banner ad on the shop front at 34 College Green. The Council said the banner had been erected without planning permission, but was removed before the District Court finished legal proceedings.

The US retailer which also owns and operates Gilly Hicks and Hollister, which

has a store in the Dundrum shopping centre, has been at the centre of controversy in the past. In 2003 Eduardo Gonzalez and several other African American, Asian and Hispanic former Abercrombie & Fitch employees took the retailer to court for racial discrimination.

Cases have also been taken in the US against the retailer for forcing staff to wear its clothing. Abercrombie & Fitch have also come under fire in the past for T-shirt slogans thought to be racially or gender insensitive. One such slogan, "Who needs brains when you have these?" was emblazoned across the chest of women's T-shirts, and inspired a "girl-cott" by

group of 13-16 year old girls in the US state of Pittsburgh.

However, the Human Rights Campaign, which works for LGBT equal rights in the US, gave the company a rating of 100 and named it "Best place to work for LGBT Equality" for the seventh time in 2012. The retailer's website also states that "50% of stores associates are non-white," but a company spokesperson refused to comment when asked about the ethnicity of its Irish store staff, and how it upholds the All American look.

The Irish Abercrombie & Fitch store opened a week later than scheduled on Thursday 1 November.

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NEWS

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50% Obama
47% Romney

Poll forecast for the American election, for Obama and Romney respectively

3-2

Final score in the FAI Ford Cup final, as Derry overcame St Pat's

25%

Unemployment figures in Spain

9

Number of weeks that Sean Quinn Senior has been sentenced to serve in prison for contempt of court

\$5 million

Prize money in Australian dollars for winning the Melbourne Cup, won by Irish-bred horse, Green Moon

Ombudsman over 140 extra public bodies

Darragh Mowlds
Deputy Sports Editor

New measures given to the Office of the Ombudsman will provide students with more power than ever before to challenge their colleges and universities about issues of discrimination and unfair treatment.

The government has announced that 140 extra public bodies, including all public third level institutions, are now under the remit of the Ombudsman, Emily O'Reilly.

The Office of the Ombudsman examines complaints from members of the public who feel they have been unfairly treated by certain public bodies.

These organisations, which are now being monitored by the Ombudsman, include Vocational Education Committees, the Central Applications Office, FÁS, the Transport Authority and the State Examinations Commission.

Ms O'Reilly has described the move as "historic" and intends to continue negotiations with the government about bringing more public bodies under the watchful eye of the Ombudsman.

What this means is that these bodies, including colleges and universities, are

now open to investigation from this office. The move was welcomed by Ms O'Reilly who said "there have been numerous calls over the decades, including from the UN, for the protection afforded by my office to be extended to these areas".

Ms O'Reilly has made it clear that there doesn't need to be a complaint for there to be an investigation, "if it comes to my attention either through the media or whatever that there's a significant issue of mal-administration within a government department or any of the new agencies that have been added on to my remit now, then I can start my own investigation without a complaint coming to me," she said.

What was also announced as part of this extension of power was that members of the public who have been turned down in an application to a third level institution, will now have the right to complain to the ombudsman.

The Minister for Public Expenditure, Brendan Howlin said that this is the most significant expansion of the jurisdiction of the ombudsman since it was set up. He went on to say that this move would ensure that "fair treatment is always provided, as well as improving the quality of decision-making and increasing accountability."

TDs furious with USI fees protest

Josephine Gallagher
Irish Editor

Meetings and protests are now underway for USI's two part campaign against raising the student's contribution charge.

On Monday 5 November protests commenced in Cork with University College Cork and Cork Institute of Technology picketing outside Oireachtas members offices. Students marched outside their T.D's constituency offices chanting "Fed up Stand up" while carrying posters and banners. That same day a public meeting took place in Castlebar Co. Mayo to discuss student expenses.

"It's kind of doubling up on itself, we'll have a public protest during the day in one place and then meetings taking place somewhere else, so we're really trying to get into it now," said John Logue the president of USI.

These meetings are designed to fully

inform students, parents and others affected about the full extent of student expenses. They encourage T.Ds to come along and answer questions about this issue and consider alternative solutions to raising the student contribution charge in the budget.

John Logue is delighted with people's response and enthusiasm in support of the campaign so far. "Everybody is getting seriously riled up before the meetings and they're all deciding locally what they are going to do to tackle this issue," said the USI president.

It costs a participating student in third level Education over €10,500 each year. However this figure will increase further, putting more stress on already struggling families if the Government decide to go ahead and raise the fees to €3000 by 2015 and a cut the maintenance grant by 11%.

According to the USI president certain Oireachtas members are infuriated with the fact that they are targeted in this campaign.

A labour party member rang up one of the USI officers arguing that "it was a disgrace" he was being targeted. However John Logue says that if these Oireachtas members vote in favour of students the USI will "stop pestering them".

DITSU is organising to target the offices of the Minister for Education and Kevin Humphreys the Labour T.D for Dublin South East. Kevin Humphreys says that he would be "disappointed" if students protested outside his clinics. On discussing the Minister for Education's broken promise not to raise the student charge, the Dublin South East T.D responded "that pledge I felt was difficult, that there was a break there", however he believes there was no other alternative.

The official confirmed date for DIT's public meeting to take place is November 14th and the protest is set to commence on 20 November. For further information on the campaign you can visit the USI website at http://usi.ie/standup/?page_id=113.t

SU run Fed Up, Stand Up

Andrew Donovan
News Editor

President of DIT Student Union (DITSU) David Keogan feels the new 'Fed Up Stand Up' campaign will garner much better results than seen in previous years.

"It's a new approach that the national council of the USI (Union of Students in Ireland) has come up with. It involves public meetings, local protests and protests targeting specific T.D's."

While this policy was decided at national level, President Keogan said that it is up to DIT as to how to implement their own protests.

"All the local students unions have been

told by USI 'you do whatever you want and whatever you think works best'."

President Keogan has a good relationship with the president of the Trinity College Student Union Rory Dunne and says they have similar plans for the 'Fed up Stand Up' protests.

"Our colleges are roughly in the same area but things that work well in Trinity might not work well here.

In Trinity a big rally in the middle of the square might work but that wouldn't work here because we don't have one centralised location.

Trinity's governing body is made up of academics within Trinity but our governing body is made up of local authorities, businesses and larger sections

of the community."

President Keogan feels the broader background of DIT's governing board could be very beneficial.

"The whole function of a Student's Union is to lobby on behalf of students so the more people we can lobby to the better."

Keogan feels personally driven to protest the forecasted education cuts. "I've met a few people since I've been president who truly would be devastated by further cuts. There was a girl who was living on the lowest possible state grant of €7 a week. She would go into Lidl and buy an industrial size packet of pasta and ketchup. That would serve her for Lunch and Dinner for the week."

Mature Students Access Course back on track

Charlie Heasman

The problems concerning DIT's Mature Access Course (MSAC), as recently reported in The Edition, appear to have been overcome, and the course is now back on track.

The MSAC was originally sponsored by AIB, but when the bank withdrew its financial support two years ago, it became necessary to find an alternative source of funding.

The solution was for the college to offer places to foreign scholarship students under the International Foundation Program (IFP).

A deal was negotiated with the Sultan of Oman, and a number of Omani students were enrolled in DIT. This provided the income to fund last year's MSAC.

The IFP scheme continues this year with a new uptake of Omani and also Saudi Arabian students, totaling some 75 in all. The income thus generated has allowed the Access Course to continue, and 47

MSAC students were registered this year.

It is understood that difficulties arose this year with wage negotiations and renewal of contracts of the teaching staff. However, those contacted declined to comment. What is known is that only one original lecturer, Will Peters (formerly lecturer and Course Co-ordinator), remains. His place as co-ordinator has been taken by Programme Manager Niamh Frawley.

The other remaining member of staff is programme project officer Bobby Maher. Mr Maher was able to confirm that those members of the teaching staff who had not returned to DIT this semester have found alternative employment with Dublin VEC.

The MSAC continues this year with five assistant lecturers. These include Will Peters, Susan Donnelly, Nevan Bermingham and David Rickard. The basic core modules taught remain exactly the same as in previous years.

The MSAC and IFP programs are run in tandem, although the former is a one year

course; the latter two.

During their first year, foreign students on the IFP course receive 24 contact hours per week: 20 hours devoted to English language and four to Irish culture. This is to ensure that not only will they have both sufficient fluency and the written ability necessary for third level education, but will also integrate into Irish college life.

Having completed their first year they then join the current intake of MSAC students where they attend the same core module lectures and choose elective modules from the same undergraduate courses. The conflation of the two programmes is designed to further facilitate the social and academic integration of all students.

The Mature Student Access Programme at DIT has proved hugely successful in helping adults enter Third Level Education. Many of these students will be graduating from both DIT and other colleges this year. In an era of austerity and sweeping cutbacks in education it is heartening that it manages to continue.



Will Peters and Susan Donnelly, MSAC lecturers

Photo Charlie Heasman

Making it in a man's world

Rebecca Dowling

Former head of DIT School of Languages Hélène Conway-Mouret made a brief and much welcomed return to campus on Friday, 2 November.

The reason for Hélène Conway-Mourets return, who is now a Minister Delegate within the French government, was to give an enlightening talk on 'Women in Politics'. The topic of Minister Conway-Mourets talk coincides with Ireland currently being ranked 89th in the world of women's political representation in parliament; falling behind Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

Professor Brian Norton, President of DIT, introduced French minister Hélène Conway-Mouret to speak on her political journey.

Originally from Lyon, minister Hélène Conway-Mouret began lecturing in DIT part-time in 1984, proceeding to help establish and build up the DIT School of Modern Languages. Minister Conway-Mouret made her return to DIT last week as the appointed Minister Delegate for French Nationals Abroad, in the French government of Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault.

A position which looks after an estimated 2.5 million French citizens living abroad.

Minister Conway-Mouret's climb to such an esteemed position within the French government was not without its difficulties. During the 'Women in Politics' talk, she recalled an instance of discrimination early on in her political career. To become a member of the Committee of Foreign Affairs within the French Senate, she found, you would have to be a mature man with years of experience. In reaction, she made sure she would become a member of the committee. In doing so, Conway-Mouret became just one of six members of a 57 strong committee. It was this gender discrimination within French politics that saw Conway-Mouret become a member of the Parliamentary Delegation for the Rights of Women and Equal Opportunities between Men and Women. It was also this gender discrimination which gave her a determination and perseverance in the world of politics, a world which for women, both of these qualities are needed.

A recent and dramatic gesture for gender equality within politics came in May 2012 from minister Conway-Mourets very own French government. Newly elected President Francois Hollande promised an



Hélène Conway-Mouret, pictured third from the right, at the twentieth conference of French ambassadors in the summer. Photo: France Diplomatie

equal number of men and women ministers within his Cabinet. This dramatic gesture was welcomed by Minister Conway-Mouret, as she hopes it will mean other countries will lead by example.

It remained to be asked, after such an enlightening talk on women in politics, what advice would Minister Delegate Hélène Conway-Mouret give to women

looking to enter the world of politics? After years of experience, minister Conway-Mouret has found that for women, the world of politics is not easy going. Strength and a good sense of who you are will see any woman survive in what can sometimes be the 'verbally violent' battleground of politics.

Kenyan hit the ground running

Ryan Nugent

Geoffrey Ndungu retained his status as Dublin Marathon Champion last Monday pipping pre-race favourite and fellow Kenyan Robert Kipchumba in a close finish. The race took place across Dublin on Monday 29 October.

The Kenyan, who set a course record of 2:08:33 in 2011, finished almost three minutes outside of last year's time.

The enthralling event saw Ndungu, Kipchumba and Ethiopian Abdisa Bejjada break from the pack with 10km to go, as all three kept pace with each other.

It was only with 3.5 km to go that Ndungu got any leeway. "I knew I was strong and I started pushing at 39km" said the Double Champion. "Anytime I come to Dublin I want to win this race."

Former junior runner Paul Pollock was first to cross the line on the Irish front, arriving home in ninth place with a very impressive time of 2:16:30, Ireland's best showing since Gerry Healy 13 years ago.

The start of the race saw Pollock speed away at the front at a pace similar to what he ran at during the half marathons in preparation for the main event.

The naivety of the rushed beginning of



Dublin Marathon female leaders at the race which took place on 29 October

his first ever marathon came to fruition at the halfway point when the Belfast

GP began to tire and let his African counterparts resume the authority they've

enjoyed in Dublin over the past few years.

"I just decided to go for it" exclaimed Pollock. "I'm happy enough, although I intended to run 2:15. So I'm a bit disappointed with the time, but I think all the times were slow this year."

Pollock was followed by Sean O'Hehir, Clare (2:17:35) and Barry Minnock, Wexford (2:18:45) of the Irish Mens contingent.

Kenyan woman Magdalene Mukunsa took the women's title with a time of 2:30:47, while Maria McCambridge made up for being controversially omitted from the Irish Olympic team in the Summer by being the first Irish woman home with a time of 2:35:28, finishing in 7th place overall and with a quicker finish than Sonia O'Sullivan achieved when she won it outright in 2000.

"The great thing about being a marathon runner is that there is always another race. As soon as the Olympics weren't on I just put my head down in preparation of this" said the triumphant Letterkenny woman.

Luke Jones of Wales became this year's wheelchair champion with a time of 2:03:29, while a record 14,535 athletes represented over 5,000 different charities. However, without a sponsor the marathon was not televised this year.

Algorithm pairs students to suitable colleges

Colin Layde

Deputy News Editor

The Nobel Prize for economics has been awarded to two US economists who have developed a method of allocating students to schools and colleges.

Their research has devised new ways of assigning aspiring students to suitable schools and colleges.

The recipients worked separately on the theory and were jointly awarded the prestigious prize.

The research is focused on fairly allocating individuals with things, be they

schools, organs or hospitals.

Their findings have seen a complete overhaul of the manner in which many American public schools allocates places. The system has replaced the existing process where students would rank their desired high school by preference.

The intense competition for places in the most sought after schools led to parents listing their second choice as their first. This resulted in student's who actually wanted to attend the school missing out on a place.

Roth devised the 'incentive compatible system' which increases student's chances

of getting a place in their desired school, in return for honest and open disclosure.

The system has already been adopted by all public schools in Chicago, New York and Denver. In New York the system has led to a 90 per cent drop in students being assigned to schools they had not requested.

Shapely received the award for his work on "the theory of stable allocation", which Roth used the formula as the basis for the system.

The algorithm has since expanded to be used for different purposes, such as the allocation of elderly couples to hospitals and nursing homes. The system prevents

sick and elderly couples from being separated while in care.

The system has also been used to allocate medicine graduates to hospitals and organ donors to transplant patients.

Roth and Shapely will share the 8 million Kroner prize, roughly €920,000.

The Economics award is the only Noble prize not originally conceived by Alfred Nobel. It was created the Swedish central bank in 1968, in Nobel's memory.

However the prize is awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy. The same faculty which awards the Nobel prizes for Physics and Chemistry.

News Bulletin

UPC not blocking pirate bay

The internet came alive recently with claims that UPC was blocking famous torrenting site, the Pirate Bay from being accessed over its broadband service. The rumours came about as users could not access the website after midnight on 24 October. However UPC have stated that the problems experienced were due to periodic testing "carried out across our European network."

The company stated to the Edition that "there are no plans" to block any torrenting sites from being used in the future and that "UPC is not required by any court or authority to block the pirate bay and does not intend to voluntarily block the Pirate Bay."

No Hogwarts for DIT

DITSU's Ents Officer Will Meara has shattered hopes that DIT might be transformed into Hogwarts for RAG week next spring.

Kevin Street student Martin Kelly made a post on the DITSU Ents Facebook page on October 3rd last asking DITSU to "legally change DIT to Hogwarts" for the fundraising week.

However, the Ents boss has confirmed the Students' Union will not be going ahead with the proposal.

"I told one of your reporters that came to me that it was a comment on the Facebook page made by a student that the idea would be cool but that was the extent of it," Mr. Meara told The Edition on Monday.

"DITSU Ents are not transforming DIT into Hogwarts for RAG regardless of how much of an amazing idea it is."

Memorial Mass

Deceased students and staff of DIT will be remembered this weekend at the college's annual mass of remembrance at the Church of Mary Immaculate in Rathmines, writes Barry Lennon. Colleagues, family and friends have been invited back to remember their loved ones by DIT's Chaplaincy service for the mass this Sunday at 2.30pm, which this year has a theme of remembrance. DIT, including the colleges which were amalgamated into the institute after its establishment, has some notable deceased alumni. This includes writer Brendan Behan, architect Sam Stephenson who designed the Dame Street's Central Bank and former minister and father of Dublin MEP Gay Mitchell, Jim Mitchell. Tea and light refreshments will be available for all attendees after mass.

Fined for social media

A Galway man has been fined €750 for posting details about his former partner on his Facebook page which breached a barring order imposed on him.

Keith Heenan of Mervue, Galway, said he had posted the details on his page in frustration at not having access to his and his former partner's child.

The 39-year-old said that the details were up on his page for five or six hours before he took them down. "I just wanted to lash out and it was sheer stupidity," Heenan said.

He pleaded guilty to breaching the barring order and trespassing at his partner's home.

NEWS

Student chance to vote on Saturday

Al McConnell
Deputy Editor

For only the second time in Ireland's history, students will have a real chance to have their say in a referendum. This month's Children's Referendum will take place on a Saturday, as opposed to the traditional practice that referenda are held on Thursdays.

It has been widely discussed that the move will save the state €600,000 due to a shorter polling period, from 9am to 10pm rather than 7am to 10pm. However, arguably the main benefit of the change will be the enfranchisement of students, who have traditionally had their voice taken away in this kind of vote as many live away from home.

With over 160,000 third-level education students in Ireland, many of who have an active interest in politics, there has in the past been a significant loss to the democratic process of referenda.

In a speech entitled "Future of Saturday voting hinges on referendum turnout," published on the Labour party's website, Tánaiste Eamon Gilmore has stated that it is up to students to make their voice heard and pressure government to make Saturdays the norm for referenda.

"After long years of campaigning,



Labour Party campaigners hand out leaflets on the Children's Referendum, which will be held on Saturday, November 10th Photo The Labour Party

students finally have their wish for a vote on Saturday. This is your chance – over 160,000 of you – to show that it makes a difference, by coming out to cast your vote.

Minister for Children, Frances Fitzgerald, has called on students in particular to take advantage of the Saturday vote. Fine Gael Cork South Central TD, Jerry Buttimer, has also spoken about the opportunity in the lead up to the Children's Referendum.

"For many people, particularly students and young people, holding the Children's Referendum on a Saturday will make it easier to vote. I encourage all young people to use this opportunity."

Many individuals who work away from home will also have a chance to have their say on 10 November.

It has been pointed out that on the other side of the argument is the idea that a Saturday vote may have a negative impact on turnout. Labour TD Aodhán Ó Ríordáin has expressed concern that the vote will be "outside people's normal routine", speaking at a public meeting last month, organised by Labour DCU and DCU Young Fine Gael.

Only once in the past has a referendum been held on a Saturday – the second vote on the Nice Treaty on 19 October 2002 – despite years of campaigning on the part of students and others for the change.

Church role in schools to be reviewed

Colin Layde
Deputy News Editor

Parents around the country are to vote on whether to begin removing schools from the control of the Catholic Church.

The measure is aimed at reducing the Church's dominance of education in the state and handing over schools to other bodies. Currently the Church controls 92 per cent of Irish primary and secondary schools.

The Church concedes that greater choice is required to reflect a more secular and multicultural Ireland.

The Department of Education began surveying parents last month. The surveys are initially being conducted in 5 of 44 initial areas, the Department has identified as having a potential demand for greater diversity.

The initial 5 areas surveyed include Dublin's Whitehall, surveys will be conducted in the remaining 39 areas this month.

Parent and guardians of pre-school children in each area will be surveyed on their desires for the child's education. Those questioned must supply a valid PPS number of the parent in receipt of child benefit to participate.

Parents will be initially asked whether they believe greater diversity in Irish schools is necessary, and then asked to vote in order of preference of the bodies who have expressed an interest in running local schools.

Respondents will also be asked whether they prefer single sex or co-educational schools and if they prefer lessons to be taught in English or Irish.

The Department will promote the campaign in local media, in an effort to maximise the number of parent who will be surveyed. Information will also be available at schools and through interested patron bodies.

If the survey establishes a public desire to distance the Church from the education system, the Department will explore the possibility of transferring Church controlled schools to other bodies.

How many of the 3,000 schools the Church currently operates would be handed over remains unclear.

Minister for Education and Skills Ruairí Quinn, described the survey as "an historic opportunity for parents to reshape the Irish educational landscape." Minister Quinn urged all parent eligible to take part in the survey to participate.

The Minister only launched the survey on recommendation from the Advisory Group to the Forum on Patronage and Pluralism in the Primary Sector. The Group highlighted the need for greater choice available to parents on the grounds of religion, the advisory body also highlighted the need for more Irish language schools.

The survey will be overseen by the New Schools Establishment Group. The independent group will publish a detailed report following the surveys conclusion.



Kilmainham Jail, former prison and now a museum, has been run since the mid-1980s by the Office of Public Works.

Will UK allow prisoners vote?

Al McConnell
Deputy Editor

In just over two weeks time, the deadline will expire for the government of the United Kingdom to decide which prisoners are enfranchised within their voting system. David Cameron, however, has stated that on his watch, no prisoner will be given the opportunity to vote.

By missing the deadline, which derives from a European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) ruling earlier this year, compensation could become payable to prisoners who have been denied the vote.

In light of this, Ministers in the UK government are discussing how a plan could be organised to fulfil the requirements of the Scoppola v Italy ruling, which states simply that

governments must specify which types of prisoners are allowed to vote. There may be bans, but they cannot be blanket and indiscriminate.

With this in mind, the UK may look to Ireland for guidance. Having allowed all prisoners to vote since 2007, Ireland now has some experience in the area. Prisoners in this country are permitted to vote by post if they are in prison at the time of an election, or are allowed to vote in person if they are on temporary release or parole at the time.

However, Dr Cormac Behan, lecturer in criminology at the University of Sheffield, has found that the uptake of this opportunity has been relatively low. In an article published earlier this year, Dr Behan said that only 14 per cent of those prisoners eligible to register to vote actually did so, but almost all of those

who did register went on to vote.

"Disillusionment with civic society and a deep disconnection from government, politicians and the political system in general," were found to be the core problems with prisoner enfranchisement.

For the UK, it may not be advice or experience that is the deciding factor, but intransigence. In 2011, Ministers voted in the House of Commons to maintain the blanket ban on prisoner voting, by an overwhelming 234 to 22.

This deep-seated belief will, in the coming weeks, clash with the advice of the UK Attorney General, Dominic Grieve, who has said that their law will have to fall into line with the ECHR, or risk damaging its international reputation.

Go on-line to www.edition.ie to have your say on this topic.

DIT begins search for new leader

Barry Lennon

Brian Norton's 10-year-term of office as DIT's President will end in 2013, the college's governing body was reminded recently.

At the last meeting, the chair of the governing body Sean Dorgan announced that he would consult with the Higher Education Authority (HEA) before beginning the search and advertising for the position,

according to Head of Public Affairs Melda Slattery.

The Edition contacted the President's office, but Norton did not wish to comment on the appointment of a new president. He said that it would not be appropriate for him to comment as he was not involved in the appointment process.

The Edition could not confirm whether Norton wishes to seek another term of office.

Norton first took to the helm of DIT as the college's second President in 2003, succeeding Belfast man and former Queen's attendee Brendan Goldsmith, who remained as a Maths research professor in DIT after leaving the position.

Like his predecessor, Norton has a Northern Irish academic past. Before his presidency in DIT, he worked as an academic and college administrator in the

University of Ulster, holding the titles of Professor and Dean of Built Environment Engineering.

Norton has earned his academic credentials in solar energy and as a result has chaired the World Renewable Energy Network, advised Northern Ireland's assembly on renewable technology and is a fellow of several related institutions as part of his responsibilities.

During his time in DIT, Norton

has overseen the progress of the Grangegorman project. The plan ensures that the next Presidential term will oversee one of the largest recent developments in Irish education as 22,000 students move to the North Dublin site.

It is expected that a new President will be found near the end of this academic year, when Norton's current term will come to an end.

All the president's men

Barry Lennon

One of the first people the Edition sees in Aungier Street's canteen at 8.30am is DIT's President, Brian Norton, making notes on a research paper half an hour before this interview.

He is a regular sight around campus. This gives him an opportunity to get feedback from students and staff, he explains later in his office. "It's not that I like to be seen but I like to see what's going on. As the President this keeps you grounded and gives you a sense of student life. If all you hear is what comes up through the system people will just tell you what you want to hear," the English professor says.

Norton's reasoning for his regular appearances in the canteen and the arrangement of his office (or 'meeting space' as he prefers to call it) suggest that human interaction dominates his job.

There is a large boardroom sized table which sits 12 and beside it is a couch and coffee table for more informal encounters. He has no desk of his own in the room as he spends much of his time walking or driving to one of DIT's 38 buildings scattered throughout the city.

Norton describes his role. "There's no routine to the job. A lot of it involves meetings, setting strategy, influencing the public policy debate and delegation. It has been described as steering an oil tanker be-

cause you turn the wheel and wait to see it turn slowly.

"Particular days can be long. I attend the Dublin Chamber of Commerce to keep in touch with employers, whose meetings start at 7.00 in the morning. And then I might end in the evening by opening an event making it a long day," he says.

Despite the busy schedule Norton continues to do research and supervise PhD students so as to remain grounded in the institution, he says. Before the interview, he was working on a research paper on solar energy; his specialty since his days in the University of Ulster and Cranfield University in the 1980s.

Norton, although keenly interested in the development of solar energy in DIT, is conscious not to promote his 'own hobby horses.' When speaking about his specialisation, he gestures to the solar panels on top of Kevin Street from his office window, before adding, "Most of that has nothing to do with me at all."

One major preoccupation of the job since he began has been the Grangegorman project which has had many setbacks.

"It's been a rollercoaster ride. One of the challenges is that it's had so many false dawns that it can be difficult to convince people it's for real. I worry some colleagues haven't grasped that this is real thing. We are actually moving. We will have 10,000 students there by 2017."

Central government has put the plan to



DIT President Brian Norton, pictured right, met the Edition's Barry Lennon, to discuss his role at the helm of the college.

fore. Government has also fixed the President's annual salary at €193,843 under the Croke Park agreement until 2014 against a backdrop of educational cutbacks.

"I don't think it is for me to say (whether the amount is appropriate) as it is set

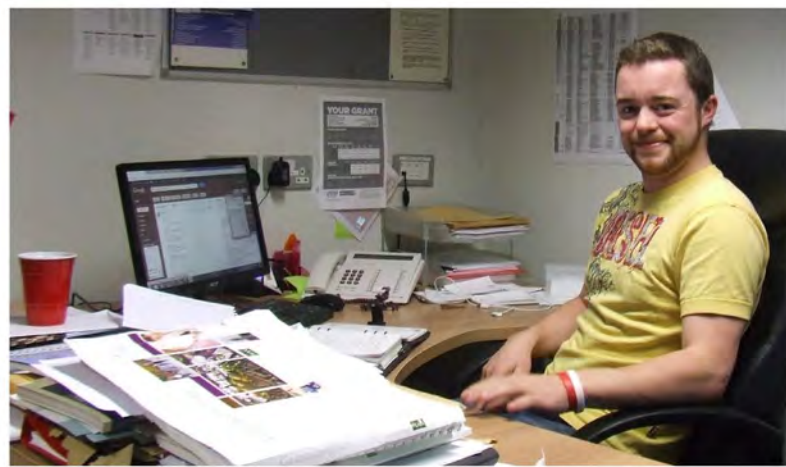
nationally but I think all think all things should be reviewed when it comes to it (2014)," Norton says.

The professor may no longer remain as President by then, as his term comes to an end this year. Although he did not say

whether he would stay on, he indicated what influences his decisions.

"I enjoy it. I like the engagement, solving problems, learning about different fields working at this level. If I didn't enjoy what I was doing I'd go and do something else."

Four floors below President Norton, the SU President ploughs ahead



Andrew Donovan
News Editor

David Keogan rolls his eyes, places his palms flat on the table and unleashes an almighty sigh. It's a gesture he is making more and more often these days since becoming President of DIT Student Union (DITSU) during the summer. Espe-

cially when he's asked about Third Level Fees and their inexorable rise over the past few years with the possibility that they will rise again this December under his watch. "It's an enjoyable job," he says. "Sometimes I have to remind myself it's an enjoyable job but I absolutely love it."

His office is four floors below Brian Nor-

ton's and betrays the cluttered lifestyle of someone whose true home isn't a Dublin office. "I come from a farming background in Cavan going back years so it took me a while to get used to Dublin. When I'm at home I salute everyone even if I don't know them. It's very hard to get a sense of community here. I'm used to making eye contact with everyone I meet on the street but I live in the North Strand now after moving from Drumcondra and I don't make eye contact anymore."

Keogan studied Manufacturing and Design Engineering in Bolton Street and says he spent the first year of DIT blissfully unaware of the existence of the Student's Union (SU).

"My cousin was running the go-karting club so he told me to join. I went on a few trips with them and really loved it. I became treasurer for go-karting at the end of second year along with Graham Higginbotham."

In the camaraderie of his engineering class and his time spent in the Bolton Street SU, Keogan found a sense of community that had been lacking since his move away from home.

"My friends and I were always down in

the SU in Bolton Street just because it had nice couches. I didn't know it was called the SU, I just knew it as the place with the pool tables."

He describes the daily grind as significantly more work than 9-5 but then he is more than compensated with a €23,000 salary partly funded by our fees - €355 of our €2,250 funds the SU and other student services.

"Look, I don't do this for the money and I think anybody who does is in the wrong line of work. The money means I'm covered for food and rent and allows me not to have to look for a part time job but that's all it provides for."

Keogan feels his job is more humbling than powerful "Some of DIT'S Governing board come with a huge amount of experience. They are county councillors, academics, doctorates, and then you come in as a whippersnapper with only an undergraduate degree and they listen to every word you say because you represent the entire student voice."

"Then you do a class rep recruitment and you're trying to tell students something and they're like 'what?' so its humbling when you have to simplify everything and

make it actually relevant to the students. No one should ever let the power go to their head because the students will let you know very quickly that you are there to represent them."

The defining issue of Keogan's presidency and that of all current student politicians is third level fees. So just why should be education treated as a sacred cow compared to all other Government departments?

"I think without education we will become a very xenophobic and racist society. I hear people blaming foreigners for the mess we are in now but they forget that we were happy to let them come over here and do the jobs we didn't want to do. Education opens up a different view of the world."

Coming from a staunch Fine Gael background, He says his Granddad would turn in his grave if he knew he wasn't fully behind Fine Gael."

"I have a lot of respect for Ruairi Quinn but I just don't understand why he is doing this to students. He signed a pledge that he wouldn't touch fees which he's broken. He may think that an extra €250 isn't much of a difference but there are a lot of people out there who couldn't take another increase."

GAEILGE

‘Dul chun shiftáil nó driftáil?’, Oíche ‘Tóg amach mé’ agus an t-Oireachtas

Stiofán O’Connachtaigh

Tá mic léinn DIT ag fáil chuile deiseanna chun úsáid a bhaint as a gcuid Gaeilge i mbliana, ach go háirithe sna seachtaine beaga anuas, a deir Pádraic O’Dubhshláine, an chisteoir do Chumann Gaelach DIT.

Tar éis turas go dtí ‘Oirechtas na Samhna’ i Leitir Ceanainn agus an t-imeacht ‘Tóg Amach Mé’, bhí gaelgeoirí na hInstitiúid ar muin na muice mar gheall ar an clú agus chaighdeán Gaeilge sa choláiste.

“Tá móiminteam ag forbairt sa choláiste ó thaobh an Ghaeilge de” arsa Pádraic “Gan aon amhras dtiocfaidh feabhas ar an dteanga le linn an bhliain chomh fada agus atá muid páiseanta agus da n-oibreodh muid crua. Féach ar an turas go dtí an t-Oireachtas, is radharc dochreidte a bhí ann, na méid sin daoine i mbaile amháin ag comhrá i nGaeilge”.

Bhí 10,000 cainteoirí lag is líofa- thart ar míle mic léinn coláiste san áireamh- i lathair i Leitir Ceanainn, Contae Dún na nGall, ag an gcoisr Gaeilge is mó sa bhliain. D’fhán lucht DIT i nGartan ‘Outdoor Education Centre’ atá suite deich bomaite taobh amuigh den bhaile mór, in éineacht le muintir NUIM, UL, Froebel,



Fear an Tí Aodhán Ó Dea ag cuir ceist ar ceann de na h-íomaitheoirí ar oíche Tóg amach mé le Marc O’ Coigligh

UCC agus Coláiste Naomh Pádraig Dhroim Conrach. Le coisr ollmhór a h-airítear feisteas bréige, céilí, díospóireacht, agus craic ginearálta le míle mic léinn eile, tá sé soléir gur bhaintear sár-sult as an deireadh seachtaine seo chaite ag an t-Oireachtas.

Anuas ar sin, ar a h-ocht a chloig trathnóna Dé Máirt seo chaite, líonadh uimhir 6, Sr Fhreachair le mic léinn DIT a tháinig go dtí oíche ‘Tóg Amach Mé’ chun píosa craic a bheith acu trí mheáin na Gaeilge. Ba i Club Chonradh na Gaeilge an áit a bhí an craic agus ceol ag tarlú agus dhealraigh sé gur bhain gach duine taitneamh as an oíche, ag amharc ar a gcomh-mhic-léinn ag lorg “an shift”. Phleascadh gach duine amach ag gáire mar mar gheall ar thagairt mhagúla greannmhara Fear an Tí cosuil le “an bhfuil tú chun shiftail nó chun driftail í?” agus “ar dtabharfeá dáta dí nó práta dí?”

D’eagraíodh an t-imeacht sóisialta ag an gCumann Gaelach DIT agus bhí siad lán sásta le líon na hiomaitheoirí agus cuairteoirí ar an oíche.

De réir Aodhán O’Dea, comhordaitheoir na mic léinn i gConradh na Gaeilge agus Fear an Tí an oíche “Is ea imeachtaí mar seo agus an t-Oireachtas a chuireann an teanga in úil ar dhaoine, go bhfuil píosa spraoi ag baint as. Meas mór chuig an Cumann DIT don seó iontach seo.”

Gaelscéal spotsolas ar Phobal na Gaeilge i mBAC

Seosaimhín Ní Ghallachoir
Eagarthóir Gaeilge

Anois den chéad uair d’fhógair Gaelscéal léarscáil ar Google de Phobail na Gaeilge i mBaile Átha Cliath.

Roimh seo bhí seirbhísí Google trí Gaeilge ar an ghad ba ghiorra don phobail Ghaeilge sa phríomhchathair. Cuireann an gné nua seo spotsolas ar na háiteanna a labhairteann daoine Gaeilge taobh amuigh de na seomraí ranga. Ní amháin gur oibríonn an seirbhís nua seo mar deis iontach don phobail Gaeilge ach foghlaimíonn neamh Gaeilgeoirí faoi na roinnt áiteanna seo atá sa cheantar s’acu.

“Tuigimid go bhfuil a léir Gael scoileanna le fáil i mBaile Átha Cliath ach níl fhios ag daoine go bhfuil Gaeilge ag labhairt i measc na phobail agus an príomhaidhm atá ag an léarscáil ná na

háiteanna seo a léiríú do daoine,” arsa Colm O’ Broin, iriseoir de Gaelscéal agus an bunaitheoir den seirbhís. Tugann an seirbhís nua seo cuntas beag as Gaeilge do muintir na cheantair éagsúla mar shampla grúpaí, eagraíochtaí agus ionaid phobail, chiorcail comhrá, Cumainn Ghaelacha Tríú Leibhéal, seirbhísí eaglasta, clubanna óige agus a léir níos mó.

Cheapann Brian O’ Gáibhín, bainisteoir an Áras Chrónáin, níorbh é seo an tús agus molann sé do daoine úsáid a bhaint as an seirbhís nua seo. “Is buntáiste iontach é don phobal na Gaeilge i mBaile Átha Cliath, tugann sé a léir eolas dóibh faoi na h-áiteanna a labhairteann daoine Gaeilge,” arsa Brian O’ Gáibhín.

Úsáidtear é chun na h-ionaid, na clubanna óige, Chonradh na Gaeilge, Áras Chrónáin, Cumann na Bhfiann

agus ar leanas a fhógairt. “Is saghas fógraíocht é seo mar cuireann sé ar eolas na grúpaí difriúil, mar shampla Conradh na Gaeilge agus thig leat teagmháil a dhéanamh leo agus obair leo más mian leat,” arsa O’ Broin. Gheallann Gaelscéal gur dhéanfaidh siad fórbairt ar an léarscáil Google chun é a shíneadh amach ar fud na tíre. “Sin an chéad aidhm eile, tá muid chun an t-úil a chlúdach ó seo amach agus an chéad ceann eile atá muid ag iarraidh léarscáil a dhéanamh de ná Cúige Laighean,” dúirt an iriseoir Gaelscéal.

Fuair an léarscáil nua freagairt tharr cionn ar an suíomh sóisialta Facebook agus leis an seachtain seo caite bhain na mílte daoine úsáid as an seirbhís Gaeilge seo atá ag Google anois. Dúirt Colm O’ Broin go bhfuair an suíomh níos mó na “3000 amharc” leis an tseachtain seo anuas.



Chruth Gaelscéal ímlíne den Phobail na Gaeilge i mBaile Átha Cliath

Feachtas chun seirbhísí Gaeilge a chur ar fáil mar rogha i Tesco

Stiofán O’Connachtaigh

Tá feachtasóirí teangacha ag iarraidh brú a chur ar Tesco chun á chinneadh a dhéanamh cé acu na seirbhísí a thairiscint trí mheáin na Gaeilge.

Cé go bhfuil comharthaí dhá theangacha le feiceáil í ngach craobh den ollmhargadh in Éirinn cheanna féin, ba mhaith leis na lucht eagraithe cearta teangacha in Éirinn, Gaeilge a chur ar fáil mar rogha ag na scipéid féin-seirbhísí. Nuair a thosaigh an grúpa Facebook “Úsáidim Facebook as Gaeilge” chuir siad béim mhór ar an n-ábhar tromchúiseach. Chomh maith le sin, tá thart ar míle leantóirí ag leathanach eile dárbh ainm “Tesco Self Service

Checkouts in Irish Campaign” anois.

De réir an t-ollmhargadh idirnáisiúnta, cé go ghlacann sé traidhfil mionna an bhfeachtais a bhaint amach, tá siad idir dá chomhairle forbairt na seirbhísí Gaeilge a chuir chun cinn. “Tuigean muid nach dtarlaíonn a leithéidse thar oíche ach rinne Tesco an rud chéanna sa Bhreatain Bheag i 2008. Cén fáth nach mbeadh sé chomh éasca é a dhéanamh in n-athuair in Éirinn?” arsa Síne Nic An Ailí, ó Conradh na Gaeilge. Tá sisean agus a chomhgleachaf uilig san feachtas den tuairim go ndéanann sé ciall do Tesco “a bheith ag seasamh amach óna hiomaitheoirí” agus a mheas a léiríú do mhuintir na Gaeilge.

Ní hé seo an chéad fheachtas a bhaineann chorparáidí domhanda agus cearta teanga na Gaeilge lena chéile. Tá roinnt mhaith seirbhísí teicneolaíocht chomh maith le táirgí crua infhaighte ó Microsoft, Google agus Samsung ina measc. Ba é SuperQuinn an chéad sreang náisiúnta ina raibh seirbhísí Gaeilge le feiceáil, ach is é Tesco an sreangshiopaí idirnáisiúnta amháin ina bhfuil seirbhísí Gaeilge le feiceáil í ngach craobh.

Tá ganntanas iomlán de chomharthaí dhátheangacha i SuperValu d’ainneoin an treise ar “100% Irish”, mar cineál sluaín atá acu, ach is féidir leat do gnó bhanc a aimsiú í nGaeilge le Banc na hÉireann.

GLUAIS/ GLOSSARY

Feachtasóirí teangacha	language campaigners
A thairiscint	put in motion
Comharthaí dhátheangacha	bilingual signs
Scipéid féin seirbhís	self-service check outs
In athuair	again
Comhgleacháí	colleagues
Iomaitheoirí	competitors
Corparaidí domhanda	global corporations
Táirgí	products
Treise	emphasis

New gym open on Kevin St

Matthew Colfer

The new gym at DIT Kevin Street was officially opened on Tuesday of last week, 30 October.

The refurbished facilities now boasts a multi-purpose sports hall, indoor cycling studio, strength and conditioning studio, 18m four-lane swimming pool and a state of the art gymnasium with world-class techno gym equipment.

To coincide with the opening of the new gym a number of students were asked; "What do you think of the new gym?"

Out of all the students asked only two were able to give their opinions. Tourist Marketing graduate Valentina Veiluva thought this of the new facilities "The changing rooms are much more spacious and nicer in general. The equipment is better and the reception is also nicer."

While second year Electrical and Control Engineering student Joseph Wellwood stated "More barbells are needed, I don't know if they're going to get more but they could do with another one or two. Apart from that everything is deady."



From asking students if they used the new gym facilities in the first week it has become clear that there is a lack of knowledge about the opening of the Kevin Street gym.

Many students' responses to the question above were "I didn't know it was open." or "when did it open."

Clearly more needs to be done about the

publicity of the new facilities after such a heavy investment was made to complete the refurbishment.

If you would like more information about the DIT Kevin Street gym opening hours, class times or membership details you can visit their website, www.ditsports.ie/fit2go, or like their Facebook page www.facebook.com/fit2goclub.

Grad cost rises

Andrew Donovan
News Editor

More and more DIT Graduates are complaining about the cost of graduating this year.

A representative of Armstrong & Oxford Ltd told The Edition they have received complaints from students about the cost. It is €75 total for an undergraduate ceremony and €80 for a masters ceremony.

Stephen McEvoy posted on DIT Student Union's Facebook page "Can you explain to me, why Armstrong & Oxford Limited are charging DIT graduates €50 more than other colleges for instance DKIT (€30) for their robes on graduation day."

The Edition has learned that the reason for the price difference is a €5 increase on the cost of robe hire and the fact that Armstrong & Oxford are collecting a €45 fee on behalf of DIT.

Dr. Noel O'Connor Director of Student Services said "the €45 is a contribution to the costs associated with the graduation event itself: St. Patrick's Cathedral; printing; hospitality; administration etc for

the 13 graduation ceremonies. The €30 is a payment to the Robing Co as a supplier of academic robes. This payment has always existed and does not come to DIT. It moved from €25 to €30 this year after 5 years with no change."

"The graduation event is a highlight in the academic year... Each year we have 13 graduation events each involving 1,000 graduates/visitors or 13,000 people in total," said Dr O'Connor.

"There is a substantial cost associated with the event and we are facing major funding challenges. The Institute budgets have been reduced in line with Departmental allocations and this year we face the prospect of a further 8% reduction in overall budget allocations.

We have tried to reduce costs by drawing spends together to leverage better value for money. There has always been a charge for graduation robes.

I can understand that it is an additional demand on students. We are doing our very best to minimise costs to the graduate and we will continue to seek ways of further reducing costs."

Retail trends in North America

Kyle B. Murray
Associate Prof. of
Marketing,
University of Alberta,
School of
Business



As a Canadian I have found my three-months as a visiting professor at DIT to be very easy, engaging and enjoyable. To a large extent, my experience reflects the many cultural similarities between Ireland and Canada. But there is also one striking difference that makes retailing in North America unique. More than 100 islands of Ireland would fit into Canada, which means that transporting goods and building national brands requires a different approach.

As a result, retailers in North America have built their businesses on two core principles: great supply chains and convenient store locations. This has allowed retailers to deliver products to where the customers live, even if that customer is in Toronto and the customer

is more than 4000 kilometers away in Vancouver. Retailers like Walmart, Home Depot, Best Buy, Target, The Gap, Loblaws and Canadian Tire have made billions of dollars with this model.

However, there is very little room left in which to grow great retail businesses by simply supplying common products to convenient big box stores. Those are the trends of the past century. Today, retail success is about connecting with the customer. Companies like Apple and lululemon are leading the way in this regard. Research has shown that a retailer's best customers – often called "angels" – generate large profits, but the "demon" customers destroy it. In fact, removing one demon customer can be as valuable as adding an angel.

To truly understand which customers

are angels and which are demons requires a substantial investment in two areas that many retailers have never been very comfortable with: electronic retail sales and big data set analysis. Although e-commerce has been around for the past 15-20 years, retailers and researchers still know very little about how to manage it and make money from it. Nevertheless, there is a clear consensus that electronic sales are a critical component of the future of retail. While traditional bricks-and-mortar sales grow at a rate of a few percent a year, online sales are growing at more than 25%.

Similarly, retailers know that the customer data they get from online and in-store sales has tremendous potential value. According to a recent study by McKinsey, retailers can increase their operating

margins by as much as 60% when they are able to effectively turn those large data sets into customer insights. Harvard Business Review reports that 85% of Fortune 1000 CEOs expect substantial gains from their company's use of big data. Yet, only 15% of those CEOs feel that they currently have adequate access to the right type of information. We are witnessing the early stages of a major transition in retailing towards data-driven management.

Although the history of retail in North America has been about product supply chains and convenient store locations, the future is about customer portfolio management driven by executives who are able to make decisions from data – exactly the kind of thing that the Dublin Institute of Technology excels at teaching.

Student Shopper

By Aislinn McCooey

Dublin witnessed the opening of a new landmark shop in the heart of the city centre. A shop that once the Celtic tiger ended with no sign of it venturing to our shores many assumed it would never arrive.

But arrive it has and when it opened its doors for the first time on Thursday last hordes of teenagers eagerly queued up outside to purchase what are in my opinion very overpriced clothes especially for students which is the shops target market. Of course there are other things that entice people (especially girls) into coming in to the shop the most famous of these being the models (gorgeous shop assistants paid to stand around and take photographs and interact with consumers) and while the Abercrombie and Fitch experience is unlike any other and its definitely worth visiting the shop even just once to experience it for yourself we are going to take a look at some cheaper alternatives to get yourself some of this seasons must haves.

Penney's: every Irish person under the sun knows Penney's was great for those "disposable wear once clothes during the boom years however in recent years with the recession in full swing. This

As Abercrombie & Fitch comes to Ireland, our student shopper heads out to see the best value clothes stores around town

Holy Grail of shops has managed the impossible to improve the quality and range of its clothing range while still maintaining its low prices.

While River Island was every Irish person's dream shop when they were a teenager it can be very expensive for what you get and unless its someone's birthday/other special occasion and you're splurging on shoes/a bag/or purse I'd steer clear especially if saving money is your aim.

For cheap yet good quality high street New Look and Forever 21 are some of the best shops around. Good quality and affordable they also offer a wide range of styles, colours and sizes. Forever 21's range of jewelry is especially great!

Charity shops are no longer just for costumes for Halloween either, they can be a treasure trove of hidden gems waiting to be found. From dresses for that night out, to designer everything for day to day wearing.

EBAY is the place to go. You can find everything here from ball gowns to t-shirts and literally everything in between. EBAY is the perfect place to pickup that oh one of a kind item or discounted designer piece you've had your eye on for ages.

Dedicated online clothes shops are also brilliant for picking up affordable fashion. Popular ones include ASOS and BOOHOO.com but others are waiting to be discovered where you can still get unusual things that nobody else has iclothing.ie and www.missguided.co.uk

Have a swap party with your friends. Yes it sounds horribly American and cheesy but it can be a great way to get some new stuff that you would never have thought of buying for yourself and you can get free advice on what would suit you. Just grab a few friends get everyone to bring some things they've never worn or are sick of. Make sure they're clean and in good quality! And get swapping.



Photo net_efekt

COMMENT

Everybody loves Ray... Foley! DIT's grad moves from Today FM to 98FM

On Friday 12 October, Ray Foley announced that he was leaving Today FM to work on the breakfast show on 98FM.

This announcement came as a shock to listeners but for Foley it's a move that he has wanted to do for some time now, "For the last year I've had a feeling that I've wanted to do something else," said Foley.

Ray Foley first found his love for radio while doing a Journalism degree in DIT. Although he had a notion of journalists being "extremely well paid" and "going out to drink after work," he soon realised that this wasn't the case. Foley struggled with the course in DIT as he found it had too much theory and not enough practical based work.

Even though it took Foley and fellow co-star JP Gilbourne six years to complete the course they finally graduated in 2004. At their graduation ceremony, lecturer in DIT, Michael Foley, commented that the pair were finally leaving.

Whilst Foley was studying for his

Former DIT Journalism graduate Ray Foley talks to Rachael O'Brien about his past, present and future career

finals in college, he began working in Today FM. Up to this point, he had done previous work in stations such as 98FM and Spin 103.8, but when the station producer was looking for a side-kick, Foley put forward Gilbourne as he "really wanted him on the show." Foley commented that when working

with a friend "there's very little meetings required. He just knows me." He also said that "there's just natural chemistry there."

In 2006, Foley got his own show on Today FM at a very popular time slot. The Ray Foley Show airs Monday to Friday from 12pm to 2.30pm. Upon getting this show Foley said although he was excited, he was nervous about it too. "It's just in my nature. I approach all my shows with more anxiety than happiness." The radio DJ went straight to work as he said he "was happy for about an hour and then I thought: what am I going to do with this?"

Foley also commented on the pieces of advice no one ever tells you whilst studying in college. He said "yes it's amazing but eventually it becomes a job, you're going through the motions and nothing is ever as exciting as you think it will be."

When interviewing celebrities, Foley said most celebrities go through the motions of "I'll ask you this question, you give this answer." However, in 2003

he did interview Justin Timberlake and he "really made an impression" on Foley. Foley felt that he "was the type of guy he would love to go for a beer with."

"Take Me Out" launched Foley into the land of television in 2010. Upon getting the presenting job, he said he "was terrified at the prospect of going on television," but once he went on the show he loved it and is now on his fourth series of the show. However, he did comment that "it's like a boy girl factory, a tornado of single people being blown in your face." He also stated that he "never feels sorry for them [the boys] as they know what they're getting themselves in for."

Earlier this year, Foley's son was born and it seems like the radio DJ has a lot to manage. But Foley feels like the move to 98FM will good as he will be "home by lunchtime." Foley said that it "will be better for me as I can spend so much time with my son." Foley can't wait to get started in 98FM. He feels it will be a difficult move, but one that's been coming a while.

Blind ambitions help young Irish fight recession

In a time of gloom and doom, young entrepreneurs are beating the recession and making money. But how?

Tadhg Darcy started his own blinds business at the tender age of 16 in March 2012 at the height of the recession. Over the last two years his business has grown rapidly and become extremely successful. Now, 18, he spoke to the Edition about business, how the recession has helped his profits, his difficulties, tricks of the trade and his future plans.

Tadhg started with how it all began. "I followed the 40-year family business in blinds, repairing, cleaning and installing. It started with my grandfather in the 1970's, with my father taking over in 2000." My father still runs his company in Dublin and I run mine in the South-East of the country. I first began my business because I was money-hungry, it was my motivation. I've never had anything handed to me. I had to work for what I wanted, so that's precisely what I did."

Economic crisis hasn't held Tadhg back; he took a risk and it paid off. "I set up in

a recession and despite what most people think, it has actually helped my business. In 2012 the golden pages had 29 pages of advertisements for blind companies. Two weeks ago, there were only six adverts, including my own. In fact, I am the only advertisement for blind repairs and cleaning in the golden pages in the whole south-east. I have a monopoly! The lack of competition due to the recession is a major bonus."

"I have faced some difficulties such as competition from the internet companies. They can afford to sell low-quality blinds for a lot cheaper prices. Also, balancing student life and a business is tough. Honestly I don't really get much study done- it's all about the business. It consumes my life and social life. I've even lost two girlfriends because of it!"

"My secrets to the tricks of the trade and advice to young people beginning to start up a business is; you must be committed, money-hungry, thick skinned and be clever about your market. If you're starting up, you need a solid €5,000-10,000 behind you. Go in bit by bit and

Hard times have encouraged youths to innovate, discovers Sorcha McManigan

you'll fail. You have to be money and time committed. You'll have constant paperwork and customers to deal with, its non-stop, so if you aren't in whole heartedly you can forget it. You also need a certain drive and an ambitious streak to succeed, don't give up.

There are a lot of obstacles ahead of a new business; you need tough skin to keep your head down and to keep going. Lastly consider carefully the market you are getting into.

"It's all about offering the lowest price to the market you are going into. So do your research!"

"My five year plan is to hopefully get a lot of work from the Golden Pages and get into other cleaning companies like carpet cleaning as they would be able to refer me for their blinds. Also, an offer is on the table to merge the Dublin business and my own business. However it is still in talks."

To finish the interview Tadhg quoted famous business man, Ben Dunne saying "to find a niche in the market, you must make sure there is market in the niche."

The drugs do work, in high performance sport!

Aidan Dundass says the world should give Lance Armstrong a break and face up to the reality of doping in professional sports

Lance Armstrong was, is and forever will be the greatest athlete of all time.

Everyone is now jumping on the bandwagon calling him a cheat and a disgrace. What did they expect?

It's easy for people to call him every name under the sun but you try getting on a bike a winning seven tour's in a row and see how easy it is. Lance Armstrong didn't wake up one morning, use a magic syringe and suddenly become the best cyclist in the world. It took years of hard work and dedication. If you think that taking performance enhancing drugs makes you a cheat then you need to wake up and join the rest of us in the real world. Taking performance enhancing drugs doesn't make Lance Armstrong a cheat, it makes him a realist.

In fact I think that people subconsciously want drugs in sport. We want to see the human body pushed to

the absolute limit. We want to idolise and worship these athletes.

Take the 100 metres for example; no one wants to see Usain Bolt run in at 10.3 seconds. Going into this summer's Olympics the talk was whether he or Yohan Blake could run under 9.4, a time which is almost physically impossible.

Justin Gaitlin who served a four year ban for testing positive for steroids in 2006 got bronze at this year's Olympics. He ran in at a time of 9.79, the same time that Ben Johnson ran when he won gold in Seoul in 1988. Ben Johnson later tested positive for steroids and has since been seen as a villain in the world of athletics. So I'd like someone to explain to me how a time that was once seen as impossible to achieve without the use of steroids is now only good enough to get third. Have nutrition and training techniques developed that much that modern day protein shakes and creatine are as good as

steroids from 1988? Call me a cynic but I don't buy it.

Victor Conte, the man who provided American sweetheart Marion Jones with the steroids that helped her win five medals (three golds, two bronze) at the Sydney Olympics believes that 65% of Olympic athletes are on steroids. The only question is who are the 65%, the elite athletes or the also-rans?

Using steroids or any performance enhancing drugs is not cheating. It is simply taking advantage of modern day science. But why do we see this as cheating? Would you call a carpenter who uses power tools a cheat? No. Would you call a taxi driver who uses a GPS system a cheat? No. But power tools and GPS systems are both performance enhancing.

So I'll leave you to ponder: why do we vilify those who use steroids?

Editorial Team

Editor-in-Chief Editor@edition.ie
Jarlath Moloney

Deputy Editor DeputyEd@edition.ie
Al McConnell

News Team News@edition.ie
Andrew Donovan
Colin Layde

Irish Editor
Josephine Gallagher

Science Editor Science@edition.ie
Andrew MacDonagh

Lifestyle Team Lifestyle@edition.ie
Stephanie Quilligan

Culture Team Culture@edition.ie
Shauna Irwin
Greg Synnott

Sports Team Sports@edition.ie
Danielle Stephens
Darragh Mowlds

Chief Sub Chiefsub@edition.ie
Stephen Bourke

Sub Editors
Rhiagh Cleary Aidan Dundass

Production Editors
Barry Lennon
Saoirse Ivory

Photo Editor Photoed@edition.ie
Rhiagh Cleary

News Society News@socs.dit.ie
Darragh Mowlds

Campus Correspondent

News on your campus? Mail your nearest Campus Correspondent:

rathmines@edition.ie
kevinst@edition.ie
aungierst@edition.ie
mountjoysq@edition.ie
boltonst@edition.ie
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LIFESTYLE

DIT student Ciara is a singer with soul

Victoria Kinsella talks to singer, writer and music lover, Ciara O' Connor who is studying at the Brighton Institute of Modern Music in Dublin and making waves in the local music scene

Singer, writer and music lover, Ciara O' Connor is a current student in DIT, studying in the Brighton Institute of Modern Music (BIMM). Has a passion for music which takes over her life from busking in Dublin streets such as Grafton Street or in her local area, Dun Loaghaire, as well as travelling back and forth to London, recording her own songs or playing a few gigs in pubs throughout the week. You can YouTube this talent and check for yourself by typing her name with some of her videos reaching well over the thousands. Her name is something to be remembered to be looked out for as we got the chance through her busy schedule to get an exclusive interview!

Q What started your love of music?

A My family has always been extremely musical and I was lucky enough to attend a performing arts based secondary school in London that opened me up to a lot of performance and dancing. My mum works as a music therapist in a rehabilitation hospital where she uses music to help in the recovery of children and adults following traumatic brain injuries. I frequently help out in the hospital and seeing the power of music in that environment and how much it can help first hand is incredible. No matter who you are or how brain damaged you may be there will always be a sense of connection that can only ever be created by music and I love that. Is it a difficult industry to get into?

Q

A In terms of even trying to get your stuff heard in the first place, the internet is a huge help especially with the likes of YouTube and Soundcloud. Everyone seems to have a home recording system these days and can get their own songs on iTunes very easily; which is great but also makes it very hard to get noticed. It's an incredibly difficult industry to be involved in and dependent on. There's never any guarantee of success and I've come across some pretty nasty people when it comes down to labels and money. But without sounding too cheesy, when you love something that much you can't not pursue it and put up with all the negatives with the chance to do what makes you happy. You've just got to really love it.

Q What is your favourite genre and what have you specialised in?

A I go through some pretty random phases and I definitely appreciate talent in every genre be it even hardcore metal or classical stuff, there will always be something I like. The most influential genre on my vocals would definitely be soul. I've spent a long time stripping down heavily produced songs to just me and my guitar but I'm now enjoying being involved in a lot of the producing side and layering up sounds with drum bass and synchs.

Ciara O'Connor performing



Are you planning to go and sing in public auditions such as "The Voice" or "X Factor"?

Q I find as soon as you audition for a show like that you're instantly their property. They have the power to portray you however way they like to keep interest in the show and it will not

A necessarily be with your best interest in mind. The idea of an instant platform for your music can be so tempting but you should be prepared to always be known as "the one from that show". A lot of people have strong opinions on talent shows and it's easy to lose credibility as a musician for being associated with them. That being said, there are a lot of great success stories and I'd never judge any one that does because those shows can suit some people very well. It just wouldn't give me quite what I'm looking for in music.

Who else have you worked for in regards to music?

Q

A I was lucky enough to come across a record deal last summer and was writing and recording an album; flying back and forth to London during my leaving cert year. I got a real taste of the industry, good and bad. Things got very messy balancing school and flights all over the place and I wasn't prepared to drop out of school so close to the end and needed to make a choice. The label weren't exactly understanding or patient and everything fell through. It was a great experience and I learned a huge amount about how to deal with the pressures that come with a career in music. I wasn't ready then and I am happy to have completed my leaving cert and to now be studying music in BIMM to mature and have options that ensure I can always have a career in music be it big or small. That's all I really want.

Q

Who are your idols in the music industry?
I definitely admire Frank Ocean.

The most influential genre on my vocals would definitely be soul



DON'T MISS OUT
on a single bit of student life.



Yum Thai puts the 'oo' in noodles without breaking the bank

Phelim Connolly

I roll up enthusiastically to Yum Thai after and I am more encouraged when I see the big poster on the window offering a FIVE EURO Student lunch deal.

The shop front has a clean veneer of white and green colour tones and big windows which invite your eyes in. The interior is cosy with four high stools and big transparent windows allowing you to watch the chefs at work. It feels clean with white tile walls and sparse functional design.

I ordered the chicken pad tthai and my favourite noodle dish was served immediately into a take away noodle box. The dishes aren't cooked to order, instead they are served from a bain-marie behind an open window. The menu includes the usual Thai dishes such Thai green curry and chilli beef.

Pad Thai, the most popular of Thailand's celebrated cuisine is a stir fried rice

noodle dish generally containing eggs, fish sauce, tamarind and red chili. Extras can include bean sprouts, peanuts, coriander and lime juice. This Pad Thai was altogether different. The soggy, sticky rice noodles were loaded with fish and tamarind sauce which overpowered everything else. Chunks of chicken breast were mixed within but were utterly tasteless. The portion size, however was generous to say the least with enough for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

I sat outside on the bench, munching away watching the many students and office crowds coming in and out. The place is very busy which is a great sign that they are doing something right here.

Value for money dining has finally returned with vigour to Dublin city. Yum Thai is an example of exactly that. The food itself is far more quantity than quality. This 5 euro Noodle bar is probably one of the best budget friendly eateries on the south side of the city.

Food: 3/5

Forget the pad thai, and try the red curry instead.

Value: 5/5

Unbeatable value in town today

Health: 3/5

Much better than other comparable quick service eateries but take it easy with the rice/noodles no msg, artificial colourings



Yum Thai on Duke St

Have a healthier winter with the Nutrition Society

DIT's Nutrition Society help you break the cycle of the terrible student diet

Fresh into college? Living away from mum/mum's cooking? Or back to college and sick of pot noodle? This is the ideal time to get into a routine of healthy eating, so it becomes an easy part of your day as opposed to something the doctor is telling you, thirty years from now, that you should have been doing all along. (You're overweight in thirty years. And probably wearing a onesie.)

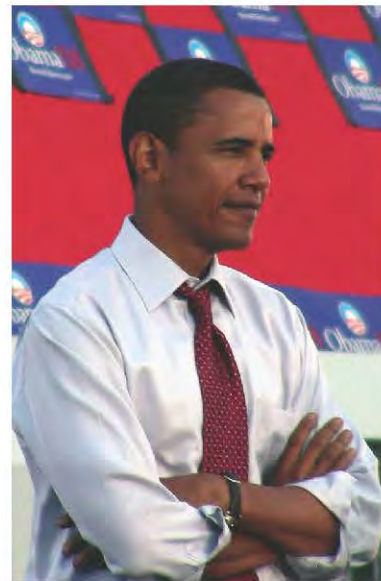
A few easy habits will maximise your health, happiness and performance... and not just academically. So take on even one of these steps and your wallet, grades and waistline will show you why.

1. Have a breakfast! Whether you're at risk of being overweight, underweight or just not performing to the max. Studies have shown that people who regularly skip breakfast are 450 per cent more likely to become obese, that they underperform in college and have less energy. Weetabix, Special K, wholemeal toast, porridge,

fruit in yoghurt etc. all make excellent breakfast choices. Not sugar puffs or cookie-feckin-crisp.

2. Pack a lunch. Save a load of money. Also, planning the meal ahead of time may incorporate sense. Deciding what to have at actual lunch time when you're foaming at the mouth will activate the primal desire for the highest calorie option, which is often a nutritionally poor one. Bring fruit with you, snack on it all you like. Sandwiches, salads, yoghurts, rice, pasta. If you feel uncool carrying around a lunchbox, just wait until the end of the week when you've already saved enough money to buy a pair of hipster glasses. Then you'll have a valid reason to feel like an idiot.

3. Cook. Cook a dinner. Don't say you can't cook. Jamie is right, so are Bob the Builder and Barack Obama, we can do it, yes we can. Learn just by following simple recipes (such as our recipe for Chicken Tortillas below!), there are thousands free online. Cooking is so quick to learn and so rewarding a skill to have. Save a load of money. Save a load



Yes you can... change your diet



of health. Also, cooking a romantic meal (made different to a regular meal by the presence of candles) is a sure-fire way to impress a partner/potential partner.

4. Beware the alcohol, and its close friend, the chipper. A can of beer can have around 200 Calories, while a pub sized vodka and mineral can have 170 Calories. A burger, chips and a fizzy drink can add up to about 1350 Calories. Forget about your reputation, poorly controlled nights out can have significant effects on your jeans size.

With a thimble full of willpower, in a few days suddenly these things are second nature and you've predisposed yourself to a lifetime of better health. As this is aimed at college students maybe the future isn't a selling point, but your skin will look better and you could afford to upgrade from Dutch Gold.

You'll still have to go to Penney's. Sorry.

A He just makes the music he wants to make, yet still manages to get into mainstream music through pure talent. I would recommend his album "channel orange" to anyone.

Q What's been your best career moment so far and what are you hoping for in the future?

A My favourite moment funnily enough is getting to be a part of the Brighton Institute of Modern Music. I finally feel like I belong somewhere and am surrounded by so many talented and inspirational people. It's so great to actually be learning about something that excites you and knowing you are actually going to apply these things to your life. I'm working on an EP at the moment with a friend in BIMM called proud who sings, raps produces, writes and also accompanies me acoustically with is beat boxing. I'm really excited about what we're coming out with.

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LIFESTYLE

Out & About...

Rhiagh Cleary

... on Aungier St

Lifestyle's roving eye was on the lookout again this week for the grooviest, sassiest and most voguish hip cats of DIT. As has become the norm around DIT campuses, there was no shortage of stylistic talent. Unconfirmed reports say fashion agents from Paris to Kathmandu have named Out & About as their chief scouting source, so to advance your modelling aspirations/ get

• your mug in the paper make sure to keep your eyes peeled for
• our equally stylish photographers. We're looking for people with
• panache and an individual style so if you've any vintage tunics or
• monocles lying around don't be afraid to try something new. Here
• is what lifestyle plucked from the crowds this week.
•



Who? Gavin O' Brien

Where? Business studies 1st year in Aungier St

What? Cap worn backwards, jeans hoodie, and nike runners

Why? Gavin goes for a 'Laid back' style



Who? Hannah Cauch

Where? International business and Italian 1st year Aungier

What? Wearing Pennys and h & m. She is seen hear wearing an Aztec necklace and long grey top. She has Ugg boots and a leather jacket

Why? Hannah is working as a waitress in the evenings and needs something dark for her job. She mixes the dark clothes into a style that works for casual wear.



Who? Joe Dennehy

Where? Economics Lecturer in Aungier St

What? French style hat, heavy rain coat over a black jumper, cord trowsers and runners

Why? Joe describes his style as 'Very interactive'



Who? Rebecca Brannigan

Where? Journalism 1st year, Aungier St

What? Pennys scarf with skinny jeans and a hoodie and boots

Why? Rebecca's style is laid back. She describes it as 'Casual but dressy, I like to wear nice tops!'

50 years of Bond

Luke Carry

Shaken, not stirred for the past 50 years, James Bond. The theme music, the girls, cars and guns have all been different. In fact Bond himself has been six different faces. However the appeal of 007 has never waned. In a classic tale of “Men want to be him, women want to be with him.” James Bond is the perfect action star.

Initially expected to last only until the 70’s, Ian Fleming’s James Bond began life on the silver screen as a product of post Second World War and Cold War Western Europe. The Bond of Sean Connery was every bit the cold war spy the times demanded, a cold war spy who would be very

out of place in this year’s “Skyfall”. So how did Bond make the transition from brooding Scot to the cool Blonde with bullets that has hit cinema screens worldwide once again?

George Lazenby, Connery’s successor adopted a mantle that needed to be redressed and repackaged for quite a different audience and time. However Lazenby only opted for one outing as MI6’s secret weapon as both he and his agent were firm in their belief that the role of James

Bond would soon become obsolete. What Lazenby didn’t predict was James Bonds willingness to roll with the times and not against them. This honour fell to Roger Moore.

Moore would go on to play Bond on the silver more times than any other actor so far. The success of these bonds relied on their use of the psyche of the time, (e.g., blaxploitation in Live and Let Die, post-Star Wars sci-fi in Moonraker).

However Bond, an eternal enemy of the Iron Curtain seemed to have beaten



Sean Connery appearing as Bond in Doctor No

“Diamonds are forever and seemingly, Bond is too.”

his enemies, and with the disintegration of the Former Soviet Union states, many asked who was left to fight? However Timothy Dalton gave Bond a more serious attitude. This Bond was built for bigger scale, an audience thirsty for large action sequences. Dalton was given the role of Bond after having initially turned it down at the age of 22. Dalton’s Bond is often credited as being the closest to Fleming’s original.

Then we got in on the act ourselves, as Bond, went Irish. In the form of Pierce Brosnan, Bond was handed his charm

back but kept the bullets and explosions.

Bond made it through the 90’s on the back of Brosnans, cigar smoking, Italian suit wearing, suave and managed to arrived into the 21st century, a new man, Daniel Craig.

Craig, most notable for his role in “Layer Cake” before reporting for her Majesty’s secret service, brought Bond back to his roots with Casino Royale.

On 26 October, this Bond had the highest weekend UK and Ireland openings of the year. Diamonds are forever and seemingly, Bond is too.

Movies

SKY FALLS ON 007

Skyfall

Run Time 143 mins

Paul O’Connor

Skyfall marks the 50th anniversary of the phenomenon that is James Bond by employing an Oscar winning director, in Sam Mendes, to helm this most seminal of 007 incarnations.

After the incomprehensible drivel that was Quantum of Solace, it would appear the makers of Bond have rather over-compensated on the prestige front, in order to exorcise the aforementioned film from the audience’s collective consciousness.

Oscar winner Javier Bardem plays the obligatory nasty/camp villain with revenge in mind, while fellow Oscar winner Judi Dench sets the ball rolling on his capture before two-time Oscar nominee Ralph Fiennes’s bureaucratic meddling moves the goal posts on this



Daniel Craig in Skyfall, Photo courtesy of Skyfall

operation. This all plays out in a narrative written by three-time Oscar nominee writer John Logan.

Judi Dench was already part of the franchise, but Bardem, Fiennes, the director and the writer are all newcomers to the world of gadgets, nominative determinist bombshells and dry martinis. Not even this glittering array of talent

can disguise the fact that Skyfall is either one excruciatingly long advertisement for Britain, fresh from Olympic Games ‘glory’ and punctuated by product placement, or is one excruciatingly protracted product placement vehicle derailed by a lamentable ode to all things ‘great’ about Britain.

The makers of this film, no doubt

worried of too subtle a touch, actually have one of the main characters read out an excerpt from a poem by Great Britain Poet Laureate Lord Alfred Tennyson as the quasi soundtrack for a chase scene through central London. London itself, the Tube, a reference to Northern Ireland, Big Ben, a porcelain bulldog, Judi Dench as a wink-wink ‘Queen’ again, and Scotland, were apparently not enough to remind the audience that Skyfall will continue to ‘keep the Aspidistra flying’.

However many times Skyfall segues (briefly) to action set pieces or chase scenes this mawkish motif remains firmly entrenched in your consciousness, preventing suspension of disbelief – a function of the mind wholly necessary for a Bond film.

Perhaps if the action scenes were not generic, bloodless affairs then this in fact could be achieved, but the grittiness and violence, at least for a Bond film, imbued in the Casino Royale action are ‘MIA’. If however, you manage to get past it all, then good luck ignoring the ubiquitous advertisements for Omega watches.

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Dublin Book Festival 13 – 18 November with events taking place in the Smock Alley Theatre, The Gutter Bookshop, Pearse Street Library and the National Library of Ireland. Details of Events can be found on <http://www.dublinbookfestival.com>

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Anglo: The Musical 14 – 15 November Bord Gais Energy Theatre. You can book on: <http://www.bordgaisenergytheatre.ie/anglothe-musical.html>

Breaking Dawn Part 2 – released on November 16

Argo - Released 7 November

Community of Independents Series 3 Launch Gig – November 10th – Button Factory with Lethal Dialect, Ten Past Seven, Croupier, BANTUM, Percolator, Wölfbait

Book Review

Guilty Pleasure

The Top Gear Years

By Jeremy Clarkson

Darragh Mowlds
Deputy Sports Editor

Jeremy Clarkson's latest book, *The Top Gear Years*, is another hilarious offering from the grumpiest man of all time.

This book is a change from the norm because it takes articles from every year since the start of his TV show, *Top Gear*. The show has existed in two forms, but Clarkson originally appeared on the show in 1993. What's remarkable is that his style of writing really hasn't changed; the only thing you could say is that he may have gotten a bit grumpier.

He's a man that divides opinion, but I can firmly say that I think he is fantastic. One week he'll offend half of Britain by slugging truck drivers, French people, vegans, or generally whatever comes into his head, and the next he'll be going backwards at 200 miles an hour while shouting. What you get with Clarkson is an overgrown 10 year old boy, and let's be honest, who doesn't want his job?

His wonderful political incorrectness is a breath of fresh air in a world where people take themselves far too seriously. This is exactly what he preys upon; he annoys people on purpose because it is so easy to do.

Pretty much all of his books go straight into the bestseller list, he fronts one of the world's most popular television shows and yet, according to certain aspects of the



media, he is the worst human being to ever exist. He's clearly doing something right.

His books have shifted between being exclusively his car reviews or exclusively his opinion columns, but both always ended up in the same place – an angry rant. In this little snapshot in time, Clarkson covers topics ranging from the demise of the Concorde to teaching kids how to drive. Like all of his books, this is a collection of things that annoy him, and my God that list appears to be endless. I sincerely hope

that things continue to annoy him though, because I love these books.

I know no one is reading Jeremy Clarkson for life inspiration (he's not exactly Shakespeare is he?) but as guilty pleasures go, you can't get much better. It's a win-win situation, Clarkson can stick two fingers up to the environmentalists, the government, and whoever else irks him, while we can roll around laughing at it.

Very entertaining.

This week in Cultural History

7th November

-1929 – The Museum of modern art opens in New York City.

-1980 - American actor Steve McQueen (*Bullitt*, *The Great Escape*) dies at age 50.

8th November

-1971 – The album '*Led Zeppelin IV*', including the song '*Stairway to Heaven*', was released. This became one of the best-selling albums of all time.

9th November

-1921 – Albert Einstein wins the Nobel Prize for his "services to theoretical physics".

10th November

-1969 – *Sesame Street* premiered in PBS TV

11th November

-2012 – *Titanic* star Leonardo DiCaprio turns 38.

12th November

-1929 – Grace Kelly (actress and Princess of Monaco) was born.

-2012 – *The Dark Knight Rises* actress Anne Hathaway turns 30.

13th November

-1997 – The Disney musical *The Lion King* officially opened on Broadway.

-1992 – The movie *Bram Stoker's Dracula* premieres, with Gary Oldman as the title character and also starring Keanu Reeves.

Movies

ARRAGO ON!

Argo

Run Time 120 mins

Luke Carry

Ben Affleck has had a hit and miss 15 years in show business, from the highs of his first feature, *Good Will Hunting*, co-written with fellow Boston boy Matt Damon, to failing to launch the *Daredevil* superhero franchise. Affleck has also been involved in any number of tabloid focused scandals and romances, not least of which was his romance with Jennifer Lopez, or 'Bennifer' as they were christened by the media.

However, with the release of his directorial debut, 2008's *Gone Baby Gone*, Affleck resurrected his career while launching that of his brother Casey. His follow up, *The Town*, proved that Affleck was far more than a one hit wonder,

and "Argo" has become the next in his line of solid directing and acting roles. *Argo*'s plot is a stranger-than-fiction story. After the fall of the US embassy in post-revolution Tehran, six officers evade capture and pose as the crew of a fictionalized movie, "Argo".

The real kicker is that it's a true story. As a film, *Argo*, a *Star Wars* rip-off, was once highly tipped in *Variety* magazine, but never got the green light for some unknown reason – until the release of declassified CIA papers.

Affleck himself plays CIA agent Tony Mendez, a heroes role that Affleck embodies in a way he failed to do in *Pearl Harbor*. The reason for this is the characters modesty; there are no loud passionate speeches about saving lives, and no looking for plaudits. Mendez gets the job done in a quiet humble way.

While *Argo* is firmly placed in the spy genre, it has its comedic moments, gifted to the screen through Affleck's use of John Goodman and Alan Arkin. Goodman plays John Chambers, the man who won

an Oscar for his effects work on *Planet of the Apes*, to great comedic effect.

However, more of the comedy comes in a darker tone from man of the moment Brian Cranston, possibly better known these days as Walt, from TV series, *Breaking Bad*. Cranston gets all the film's best lines, which, for *Argo*'s sake, is probably a good thing.

The movie has come at the right end of the year for awards season, and Affleck has become a twinkle in the eye of Tinseltown.

All the elements are there for a movie-worthy script: the CIA, the movie crews in post-revolution Tehran, and an escape to freedom plot. But it's Affleck's ability to blend these features into a perfect Molotov cocktail of spy drama that will win viewers over.

Look out for a sharply dressed Affleck among the nominations on Oscar night, and try to forget his *Dare Devil* days; he is most certainly beyond them.

Argo is on general release now.



Ben Affleck wasn't happy with Brian Cranston's comments on his beard

Music

Ireland's top four bands, unsigned and undiscovered

Connie Keane

White Collar Boy

Electronic/garage duo White Collar Boy have proven to be one of the most exciting Irish acts to watch so far this year. The group, made up of Gavin White and Mark Cummins, have been steadily working away, and successfully earning themselves a spot near the forefront of the Irish music scene.

With the release of a highly-anticipated EP, live shows both here and abroad, and appearances at some of Ireland's biggest festivals, the group are determined to bring their music to as wide an audience as possible. It's a good thing too, as their latest release, *Kinsale*, is filled with songs that you simply cannot help but nod your head to.

It is always nice to see Irish acts supporting other Irish acts, and White Collar Boy do their bit while hosting a bi-weekly Thursday night residency in Pygmalion, roping in the best new Irish acts to perform.

White Collar Boy set the bar incredibly high for the quality of music coming out of this city. To see the guys in action, check out their live set in The Grand Social on New Year's Eve.

We Arrive Alive

If you're searching for the perfect soundtrack to almost any situation, look no further than Dublin/Wicklow based instrumentalists, *We Arrive Alive*. This seven-piece group mash together countless emotions, and churn them out in the form of diverse, story-telling songs.

Since the release of their latest EP, *My Friend The Bombmaker*, in July of this year, the band have been busy racking up



Clockwise from left: We Are Alive, White Collar Boy, Eaten By Bears

performances around the country.

Although they're currently working hard on what is set to be their first full-length release, *We Arrive Alive* eagerly insist it will not come in the form of a "normal CD album". Having already put out two very different releases, it will be interesting to see what these guys come up with next.

Both of the band's EPs are available as free downloads on Bandcamp.

Eatenbybears

This Belfast-based four-piece are not ones for putting themselves in a box. Having just unveiled their new single,

'Your Pet Is Dead', Eatenbybears have shown off yet another side to the band's sound.

Refusing to be confined to one genre, Eatenbybears find themselves cracking out up-beat bongo intros one minute, and dark, sinister, distorted guitars, the next. This blending of genres makes for an interesting listen, and keeps their live shows diverse. It feels like these guys do what they want, when they want, and it's incredibly refreshing.

'Your Pet Is Dead' is due out as a free download on November 15th. A free headline show is also on the cards for



the same day, in The Twisted Pepper, to celebrate the release.

The Notas

Formed in 2010, The Notas have emerged as one of the most promising young Indie bands that Dublin has to offer. Often being compared to the likes of Foals and Wu Lyf, their catchy melodies and up-beat tunes have a way of easily worming their way into your head. Influenced by the different

cultural backgrounds of the band members, they come together to form an excellent blend of feel-good music, without lacking depth.

Last year saw the release of their *See You When The Sun's Out* EP, and the band are currently finishing up work on a second EP.

They'll be appearing in The Workman's Club as part of the First Music Contact tour on November 10th, sharing the bill with both *We Cut Corners* and *Squarehead*.

Old timey good clean fun | Rosetta returns

Pokey LaFarge - Concert review

Joanne Armstrong

Folk music fans drifted back to the 1930s last week when Pokey LaFarge and The South City Three brought their vintage swing to Whelan's. LaFarge set the scene with a simple greeting: "We're Americans, and we're going to play you some American music tonight."

The four-piece group writes and performs songs with titles like 'Keep Your Hands Off My Gal' and 'So Long Honeybee, Goodbye'. They play an old-time mix of folk and western swing, on double bass, harmonica and washboards. They dress in their grandfathers' clothes. Before hearing their music, it's hard to imagine their relevance to audiences of today. Yet, by their second song, they have the packed venue in the palm of their hand.

Only in their twenties themselves, these

guys know how to delight modern-day audiences while evoking images of days gone by. Though heavily influenced by the greats of the 20s and 30s, these guys are no novelty act. They still manage to be authentic, original, fresh and most important of all – fun.

LaFarge dons his trademark slicked-back hair and holds his guitar like a shotgun. He is a classic showman, even offering the odd "hey, baby" to the lucky ladies of the front row. He recruits the audience as the fifth member of his band by giving them a special refrain to sing in almost every song.

In between swinging dance tunes, LaFarge recalls tales of heartbreak, betrayal and old-time scoundrels. All this on the back of the singer's incredible voice, and some excellent instrument playing from the South City Three. The music is innovative and clever. The harmonica player's imitation of a police

siren in rip-roaring crowd pleaser "He's In the Jailhouse Now" earns extra cheers from this already ecstatic audience. The stand-out tunes are the singles 'La La Blues' and 'We're Drinkin' Whiskey Tonight'.

Whether you're shouting the refrain of 'Two-Faced Tom' back to the band or swing-dancing with a fellow Pokey fan, it's easy to forget that you're not *actually* in a 1930s dance hall on a Saturday night. LaFarge and his band create the effect so effortlessly that you can't help but wonder if they really are from a different time.

Pokey and his boys are working on a new album and they're planning a spring-time release. They assured fans that they'll be back in Ireland at least twice next year, so get listening to 'La La Blues' and 'Two-Faced Tom', because you won't want to miss their next show.

Hey Rosetta - Interview

Shauna Irwin, Culture Editor

Dublin is preparing to welcome Hey Rosetta! to the stage, as the Canadian six-piece make their way towards the Emerald Isle.

Hey Rosetta! is an Indie Rock band that originated in Canada. The band, which started their third European tour on Sunday, is playing at three venues in Britain before coming to our capital.

This is not the band's first appearance in Dublin, according to bassist, Josh Ward, speaking in interview with the Edition.

"We were in Dublin earlier this year. It was the first time we had ever been there."

The gig was played at the Sugar Club on Lower Leeson Street, and Josh has fond memories of the band's Irish audience.

"Yeah it was great. We had a really great time last time. There was a really big crowd which was excellent."

The six piece started "the same as any

other band," according to the bassist.

"A couple of us were already friends, and Tom had written a few things so we got together. The band changed but it's been the same people for the last five years."

Hey Rosetta! now consists of Tim Baker on vocals, guitar, piano; Josh Ward on bass, Adam Hogan on lead guitar, and Phil Maloney on drums. The band also contains a string section with Kinley Dowling on violin, and Romesh Thavanathan playing cello.

They were the winners of the ECMAs (East Coast Music Association) Album of the Year, and Group Recording of the Year in April 2012. The winning album, *Seeds*, showed off the group's unique fusion of piano, cello, and violin for all 11 tracks. The album name indicates a fundamental theme that runs through the album itself. "Seeds are important. They are food and future." This concept is explored quite plainly in the lyrics of each song.

Derry's red flag flying high in FAI Cup Final

Al McConnell
Deputy Editor

In a dramatic FAI Ford Cup final, Derry City recovered from two setbacks against St Patrick's Athletic, to lift the trophy for the third time in ten years.

After going behind early in the second half to a Sean O'Connor free kick, Derry took only moments to get themselves back level, as Stewart Greacen found space in the box to head in a cross. Cue the first of four renditions of Teenage Kicks, from the Derry fans.

The 'candy-stripes' then went ahead when Rory Patterson, who had only been on the field for nine minutes, slotted home a penalty. St Pat's can only have themselves to blame for this goal, after goalkeeper Brendan Clarke made a mess of a back-pass before bringing down Stephen McLaughlin in a clumsy attempt to recover. It may well be asked why the keeper



Stephen McLaughlin and Barry McNamee

was not booked for the foul, but credit is due to referee Neil Doyle, who kept cards to a minimum and was rewarded with a relatively good-natured game.

It then looked like Derry might hold on for the victory in 90 minutes, until St Pat's equalised with only two minutes remaining in normal time; it seemed to be a crushing blow for the Derry players. Christy Fagan snatched the scrappy late goal, after a period of solid pressure from St Pat's, in which they stuck to their guns and played some good passing football under intense pressure.

However, man-of-the-match, Rory Patterson, had the final say in the game. In extra time, the Derry number 11 led by example in closing down the opposition, keeping a cool head on the ball, and maintaining his composure when it counted most. In the last minute of the first half of extra time, Patterson latched on to a long ball, controlled it well, and took it round the St Pat's keeper before finishing.

In the final 15 minutes, Derry were perhaps guilty of sitting back too much, and there were certainly chances for St

Pat's. Derry goalkeeper, Gerard Doherty, received rapturous applause in the post-match celebrations, having kept his team in the game on several occasions.

Derry played on the break for the last few minutes, and could have made the game safe with cooler heads in front of goal. But, all that was forgotten once the final whistle went. Derry stepped up when the pressure was on, and managed to overcome a very talented St Pat's team, who, on the day, will feel they did not perform to their ability.

It has been a season of second-best for St Pat's, and the 52-year wait for the cup continues. Derry, on the other hand, are bringing the trophy, and memories of an enthralling final, home to the Brandywell.

NFL reaches halfway point of season

Jack Maher

As the NFL regular season reaches halfway, teams are pretty clear where they stand in relation to the playoff.

This week's standout game saw the Pittsburgh Steelers travel to face the New York Giants, a game which pitted the two sides and quarterbacks, who have taken home four of the last eight super-bowls.

After a slow start the Steelers ignited in the fourth quarter, overcoming a 20-10 deficit, to win 24-20 and thus improving to 5-3 for the season.

A 51-yard touchdown reception from Mike Wallace was the highlight for Steelers offence. However, it was their superior defence (still without seven time pro bowler Troy Polamalu) which really impressed in how they restricted Eli Manning.

The giants QB, whose ability to make big fourth quarter plays has been a feature of his career, failed to complete a touchdown pass all game and uncharacteristically went three-and-out on three occasions in the final quarter.

Atlanta remains the only unbeaten side in NFL 8-0, following a 19-13 win over the Cowboys. The game only sparked into life in the fourth quarter after a touchdown pass by Dallas QB Tony Romo made it a three point game.

However, a long drive from Atlanta, helped by Dallas indiscipline, ran down the clock and ended with a field goal. This



The Pittsburgh Steelers overcame a 20-10 deficit in the fourth quarter, to beat the New York Giants 24-20

gave possession to Dallas with 17 seconds remaining, which soon elapsed, giving Atlanta the win.

In Indianapolis no.1 draft pick Andrew Luck continues to impress for the Colts. He broke the single game passing record by a rookie, throwing for 432 yards and two touchdowns in the Colt's 23-20 win over the Dolphins.

In Washington a team win by Carolina helped take some of the heat off Cam Newton, as last year's no.1 pick and the Panthers overcame RGIII and the Redskins.

2012 has been a season to forget so far for the Panthers. However, this didn't stop them spoiling Washington's season who after a 21-13 defeat dropped to 3-6 for the season, putting their playoff hopes in tatters.

ters.

After last week's unconvincing display, Jay Cutler and the Bears responded in style putting 51 points passed Tennessee improving to 7-1 for the season. In a season largely based on superior defence, the Bear's offence stole the limelight with Cutler throwing for 229 yards and three touchdowns, each to wide receiver Brandon Marshall.

Peyton Manning and the Broncos improved to 5-3 for the season, in a mixed game for the four-time MVP against the Bengals. Manning who threw two interceptions which were returned for 10 points helping Cincinnati to a 23-20 lead in the fourth quarter. However, not to be outdone Manning tied Dan Marino's record with a 48th fourth quarter comeback in a 31-23 win.

Green Bay defeated free falling Arizona 31-17 to enter bye week on a four game winning streak improving to 6-3 for the season.

The break couldn't come at a better time for the Packers, with leading receiver Jordy Nelson and leading line-backer Clay Matthews out through injury.

In other results; San Diego defeated the Chiefs 31-13, Baltimore defeated Cleveland 25-15, Detroit Lions overcame Jacksonville 31-14, Minnesota fell to Seattle 20-30, Tampa Bay beat Oakland 42-32, and Houston retained the best record in the AFC in defeating the Buffalo Bills 21-9.

Sporting History

Liam Kennedy

7th November

- 1943 – The last scoreless draw to date in the NFL, in a match between the Detroit Lions and the New York Giants.

- 2011 – Legendary boxer "Smokin'" Joe Frazier died.

8th November

- 2012 – Liverpool's Joe Cole turns 31.

9th November

- 1974 – Former Juventus hero Alessandro Del Piero (currently of Sydney FC) was born.

- 2007 – Major League Soccer (MLS) announced as part of their plans for expansion that the Seattle Sounders would be the 15th franchise to join the American league.

10th November

- 1991 – Tennis legend Martina Navratilova ties rival Chris Evert with 157 pro tennis tournament wins.

- 2012 – Former Arsenal Goalkeeper Jens Lehmann turns 43.

11th November

- 1965 – Heavyweight Cassius Clay (Muhammad Ali) KO's Floyd Patterson in Las Vegas.

- 2012 – Germany and Bayern Munich captain Philipp Lahm turns 29.

12th November

- 1995 – New Zealand cricketer Martin Crowe's last day of test cricket.

13th November

- 1992 – Riddick Bowe beats Evander Holyfield in 12 rounds for the heavyweight boxing title.

14th November

- 1966 – Muhammad Ali TKOs Cleveland Williams in three rounds for heavyweight title.

- 2012 – Arsenal captain Thomas Vermaelen turns 27.

15th November

- 1964 – Dutch legend Johan Cruyff made his Ajax debut.

16th November

- 2012 – Manchester United veteran Paul Scholes turns 38.

17th November

- 2012 – Man U winger Nani turns 26.

- 1940 – Green Bay Packers become first NFL team to travel by plane.

18th November

- 1963 – Former Man United goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel was born.

19th November

- 1969 – Pelé scores his the 1000th goal of his professional career against Vasco da Gama in Rio de Janeiro.

20th November

- 2004 – Iconic Brazil captain Socrates returned to the pitch for the first time in 15 years, making a solitary appearance for amateur English side Garforth Town.

ATP Tour sees top eight players fight for 3 million euro

Colin Layde
Deputy News Editor

The event at London's O2 sees the top eight players in the world compete for a prize fund of over €3 million.

Andy Murray will be looking to cap a breakthrough season by adding the title to his US Open and Olympic victories. The event will mark the first occasion the Scot has played in Britain, since winning his

maiden grand slam title at Flushing Meadows.

Murray's rivalry with Novak Djokovic has been a feature of the latter part of the season. The Serb enters the tournament knowing his position as world number one is secure and will be looking to cement his status with a victory in London.

Six-time champion Roger Federer will attempt to defend the title he won last year. At 31, the Swiss player continues to per-

form at the highest level having won his fifteenth grand slam title at SW19 earlier this year. Federer elected to miss last week's Paris Masters, in an effort to ensure he is in prime condition for the defence of his title.

World number four Rafael Nadal will miss the event due to on-going knee problems. The seven-time Roland Garros champion has now missed the last four months of the season. Given his relentless

style of play and history of knee problems, there are now serious questions over the longevity of his career.

Nadal's countryman, David Ferrer, will be looking to cap a fine season by winning his eighth title of 2012. Ferrer beat Polish qualifier Jerzy Janowicz in the final of the Paris Masters on Sunday. The victory was Ferrer's first in a Masters Series event and he enters the event playing the best tennis of his career.

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SPORT

Cycling is riddled with dopes

Colin Layde
Deputy News Editor

Armstrong has captured all of the headlines following the United States Anti-Doping Authorities (USADA) decision to publish its evidence against the cyclist. However, the most remarkable part of the USADA report is the sheer scale of doping the investigation uncovered.

This was not a lone individual choosing to dope but a professional team orchestrated to cheat. USADA accused Armstrong of "partaking and instigating in the most sophisticated doping programme ever conducted in sport".

Armstrong was not alone in their contempt for cycling's rules. It is now estimated that 90 per cent of the peloton doped during the Armstrong years.

Recent times have seen some progress with teams beginning to adopt a more vocal anti-doping stand.

Team Sky has been vociferous in their anti-doping stance. Upon entering professional cycling in 2009, Team Sky was committed to providing a British winner of the Tour de France and to do it with a team untainted by doping.

The first of these commitments was realised last year when Bradley Wiggins became the first Briton to win the Maillot Jaune. The team's resolve to abide by the second has been underlined in the wake of the Armstrong scandal.

Following the publication of USADA's report Sky requested all of its riders and support staff to sign a commitment they had never doped previously.

Failure to do so or subsequent exposure of past doping would result in immediate dismissal. The policy has resulted in the departure of rider Michael Barry and four members of staff in recent weeks.

It is unrealistic to expect other teams to follow suit, given the apparent endemic drug use amongst the peloton.

Many of the riders who competed against Armstrong in the period when doping was ubiquitous are still active.

Armstrong's former Astana teammate Alberto Contador recently returned from a



Bradley Wiggins and Team Sky in the Tour de France - the sport might struggle to recover its reputation after the latest scandal and its aftermath.

“**UCI should give amnesty so the sport can move on**”

doping ban to win the Vuelta Espana.

The Spaniard maintains his innocence and was rehired by Danish team Saxo Bank immediately after his suspension. Contador is the favourite for the next Tour de France.

The International Cycling Union (UCI) has pledged to ban any rider caught doping for life and to prevent them having any future involvement in professional cycling.

UCI President Pat McQuaid's recently labelled Armstrong's former team mates Floyd Landis and Tyler Hamilton "scum-

bags" despite their decision to co-operate with the USADA investigation.

McQuaid's comments are hardly likely to encourage other riders to come forward and disclose doping offences.

The UCI should offer complete amnesty to all riders and team officials in return for complete disclosure of past or present doping. Only then can the sport move on from the most sordid period in its history.

Amnesty would allow men like Armstrong, should he confess, to give back to a sport they have taken so much from.

Suarez prevents blushes

How much longer can Liverpool hold on to Suarez, asks James Hopper



Looking at Liverpool's thin bare squad, it is hard to pick out any true world-class players. Some may argue that Steven Gerrard is still in that bracket, but these days Liverpool only have one key to unlock most doors, Luis Suarez.

The Anfield club's failure to secure a replacement striker for the departure of Andy Carroll on loan, has forced Brendan Rodgers to revise his targets drastically for his first campaign.

Clint Dempsey had his heart set on a move to Anfield this summer, but The Reds' board of directors wouldn't stump up the necessary cash, leaving Tottenham Hotspur to snatch their primary transfer target.

Such brinkmanship has left Liverpool with only one out-and-out striker to lead them in their quest back to the upper echelons of English football.

Suarez provides an easy target for opposition fans, such is his way of conducting himself. His behaviour on and off the pitch has made even Liverpool's loyal support question their idol.

What is not in doubt however, is his ability to stamp his mark on a game.

The Uruguayan draws criticism from managers all across England, not least in the shape of David Moyes. The boss of cross-city rivals Everton, made sure he got his point across with regard to Suarez's tendency to go to ground under minimal contact. Rather than upset the striker, the insult seemed to fire him up ahead of the Merseyside derby, showing his sense of humour as he dived at the feet of Moyes after opening the score at Goodison Park.

Another criticism that is often levelled at the controversial striker is his lack of efficiency in front of goal. Pundits all largely have the same opinion that he is a great player, but not a great finisher. However, his return of seven goals in the opening ten league games is only bettered by Manchester United summer signing, Robin Van Persie.

The only question is, will Suarez stay at Liverpool for the duration of their rebuilding period? At the time of his signature he was bought under the pretences that he would partner Fernando Torres, only for the Spaniard to join Chelsea for a record sum days later.

These days Suarez finds himself the leader of a pack that consists of youngsters Suso and Raheem Sterling. Although they have youth on their side, Suarez deserves to be surrounded by a higher class of player.

How long can he afford to fester at Anfield, when he could easily walk into any top team playing in the Champions League? It would be a criminal waste of the talent that he possesses, if he were to spend it with Liverpool. In reality, Liverpool are not capable of challenging for major honours in the foreseeable future.

Liverpool fans will be clinging on to the fact that he signed a new contract in the summer, but it seems inevitable that Liverpool's jewel in their crown will be departing come the summer.

Referees aren't good enough

Darragh Mowlds
Deputy Sports Editor

"If a player is in an offside position when the ball is touched or played by a teammate, he may not become actively involved in play." Right, how hard can it be?

Last weekend's Super Sunday was incredible for two reasons, one, it was actually a super Sunday, the first real one in ages. A Merseyside derby and United Chelsea, what more could you ask for. The second thing we learned is that Chelsea is the least self-aware team in the world. Making a very public complaint, alleging Mark Clattenburg used racist language. Really? If it transpires that he did it, that's obviously terrible but to do it so publicly was appalling.

To get back to the football, I'm a United fan and I watched in a general state of confusion as Torres was sent off. He went down to easily but that was never a sending off. The old adage of two wrongs don't make a right reared its ugly clichéd head because Torres shouldn't have even been on the pitch at that point. Taking his inspiration from Nigel de Jong he tried to



Referee Mark Geiger (Photo: Ben Keller)

perform open heart surgery on Tom Cleverly using nothing but his studs. This was deemed a yellow card. What exactly would have been a red in the situation?

“**The referee and linesmen trying to explain the offside rule to each other isn't the image the FA want to send out**”

Maybe if he actually drew blood?

My disdain for Torres aside, the general standard of refereeing in the Premiership is appalling. Luis Suarez is competing with John Terry for the world's most hated man, let alone footballer but his injury time goal was just that, a goal. The world is screaming for goal line technology, I'm screaming for something simpler, will someone for the love of God explain to officials what the offside rule is.

Week in week out on Match of the Day they tear into the referees and yet nothing is done.

It has been suggested that referees microphones should be recorded so that any accusations could be proven or disproven, but that wouldn't work. Can you imagine the embarrassment the FA would face if referees conversations are recorded? The referee and linesmen trying to explain the offside rule to each other isn't the image the FA want to send out.

Football at the end of the day is a business. It's a wonderful game; well it is if you aren't Eamon Dunphy but its mega money. The Premier League is arguably the best league in the world, the refereeing needs to improve for it to remain so.

Ireland have a lot to prove in autumn internationals

Jack Maher

After the abysmal 60-0 defeat to world champions New Zealand in Ireland's last test, one of Declan Kidney's first tasks will be to consign Hamilton to the history books.

He also has a lot of unresolved issues to cope with, the primary one being finding a new captain.

This has resulted from the loss of two of his most loyal lieutenants Brian O'Driscoll and Rory Best, and with question marks over the fitness of previous stand-in captain Paul O'Connell perhaps it is time to look to the future.

Leading the list of potential captains for the November series would have to be Leinster's no.8 Jamie Heaslip who since his introduction to the Irish side has been touted as a future captain, and with 50 caps behind him the time is ripe to pass the mantle to the Kildare man.

Adding to Heaslip's credentials is his astonishing record when he has stepped in as skipper for province; he is also in a rich vein of form following a dip last season.

Heaslip's exploits with Leinster raises another issue with the national team, as Kidney has failed to translate the success of the provincial sides to the international set-up.

This is highlighted by the fact that in a period where Irish sides have taken home five of the last seven Heineken Cups, the International side has only managed to



Ireland's rugby team in a pre-match huddle last autumn. Photo: Arun Marsh via WikiCommons

bring home one Six Nations Crown.

On top of these issues Kidney also has to deal with waning public opinion which has plagued him since coming back a year ago from a satisfactory World Cup perform-

mance.

Then the country was basking in the glory generated from a famous win over Australia, and although the quarterfinal exit was somewhat disappointing, Irish

rugby and the national brand were in a good place.

Since the World Cup however the Irish side has won just two of eight games, with those victories coming over Six Nations minnows Italy and Scotland.

The loss of form by the national side can be traced back to a decline in Six Nations results over the last three years with third placed finishes on two occasions our best results.

These contrasts to the years that led up to the Grand Slam 2009 where Ireland took home numerous Triple Crowns and second placed finishes.

The drop in form since 2009 is directly related to a lack of consistency by the Irish side, and is something that must be regained if Kidney is to hold on to his job.

The first game of the Autumn Internationals pits us against Southern Hemisphere heavyweights South Africa, this may be an opportunity to get off to a good start as the Springboks look set to experiment with their line-up as they build up to World Cup 2015 under new coach Heyneke Meyer.

Regardless of the result in the first game the results in the second and third against Fiji and Argentina are vital. Two wins would provide a much needed boost and put Ireland in good stead leading up to next year's Six Nations; whereas mixed results would only serve to raise more questions.

In terms of how to approach the games Ireland will know what to expect against South Africa and Argentina; both sides will

look to lay down markers in the physical side of things to win the game.

From previous encounters it is clear that traditionally the Springboks and the Pumas aren't pretty but domination of the contact zone allow them to be effective. So if the Irish side manages to gain parity up front in the physical stakes, the added flair of the backs may allow them to overcome both sides.

The middle game of the series at Thomond Park against Fiji is a chance to give game time to those on the periphery of the squad as well as a chance to stake a claim for a place in the first team.

The 2012-2013 season culminates in the British and Irish Lions tour to Australia, making the remainder of the season vital for players hoping to catch the eye of head-coach Warren Gatland.

With Irish captains at the two previous tours (Brian O'Driscoll New Zealand 2005 and Paul O'Connell South Africa 2009) the trend is unlikely to continue at the 2013 edition of the tour.

Perhaps the favourites to captain Warren Gatland's side would be Wales captain Sam Warburton or England captain Chris Robshaw. With Gatland's existing familiarity with Warburton as head coach it seems that he will get the nod.

Despite the fact an Irish player may not be competing for captaincy, a number of players will be hoping to stake a claim for a first appearance in the Lions squad, including Johnny Sexton and Sean O'Brien.

Mountaineers' dirty weekend



Onwards and upwards - DIT mountaineers climb a limescale rock face in Ailladie.

Stephen Howlin

The bus left Dublin at 7 a.m. and headed to Lahinch, Co. Clare. On the way down, members got to know each other better with some who never really got the chance to talk to some of the others before. 32 climbers in total arrived in Lahinch at about 11:30 a.m.

On the morning of 27 October all of us headed out to Ballyryan for some rock climbing. There were climbs for all types of climbers. Some members started to do lead climbing. Lead climbing is when you are climbing up a route, you attach pieces of equipment to the rock to clip in and keep yourself safe.

On the second day it was too wet to go climbing so instead we all donned our waterproofs (or at least what we thought were waterproofs!) and went for a walk up the Blackhead Mountains. We stopped for something to eat in an old stone ring fort on top of Blackhead Mountains. After that we made our way across more of the lovely Burren landscape. After the walk up the mountain we went back to the hostel where we were delighted to have a warm shower and warm food after a muddy excursion.

On the third and final day we went to go climbing in Ailladie. Again some members lead climbed some routes while others who were not that advanced climbed with the help of a rope from the top of the climb.

After the climb we all went back to the hostel and packed out bags and went back to Dublin. On the way back some people fell asleep as some of us stayed awake late into the nights and then had to get up and go climbing/walking. Overall everyone that went on the trip enjoyed it and has brought back some great memories.



DIT's hockey team got off to a great start in their first year of Intervarsities competition.

Hockey team semi success

Johnny Byrnes

DIT showed just how much class they have at their disposal by making it to the semi-finals of the hockey Intervarsities competition at the first attempt.

The social hockey tournament took place in Cork in late October and was a chance for college sides to play and socialize with fellow teams. The DIT lads certainly bought into this tradition.

While having a spine of Irish internationals in Iain Walker, Richard Sykes, Stephen Cole and Kyle Good, the DIT side had never played together before. Not fazed by this, they performed with aplomb and certainly enhanced their reputation.

While their winning run was ended at the semi-finals by hosts and eventual winners UCC, DIT came away with the result of the tournament by beating holders and favourites, UCD, in the group stages.

In a tasty affair, two goals from Iain Walker and one from Johnny Byrnes were enough to seal a momentous 3-2 win over a team who are currently in 3rd position in the Leinster Men's Division One table.

Further wins over University of Limerick (8-0) and Queens University Belfast (2-0) set up a semi-final tie against UCC. A battling performance and a trademark drag-flick from Richard Sykes were not enough as a valiant DIT side came out on the wrong side of a 3-1 score line.

The top goalscorer for DIT was Iain Walker with six goals, normally an Irish international goalkeeper. Simon McKeever held the fort in midfield and was assisted by Billy McEnery, Kyle Good and Richard Pedreschi. The forward line was spear-headed by Iain Walker, supported by David Molloy, Stephen Reid, Rob "On Your Nose" McKenna, Johnny Byrnes and Jamie Haughton.



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THE EDITION

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Dublin's marathon man

Colm McGlinchey

It's the only day of the year when a man dressed head to toe in Adidas gear can publicly urinate in Merrion Square while a member of An Garda Síochána stands idly by. Participants encouraged to drink as much electrolyte infused liquid before the race now find themselves desperate for a bathroom, and given the lengthy queues reduce themselves to 3am drunks. No one notices though, as there's an excitement in the air and a spring in the step of each competitor, it's the 33rd Dublin Marathon.

I was told I would die by enthusiastic friends. Packing my corpse into a body bag would be but a minor disruption to an otherwise successful day. With only eight weeks until the race I decided let's do this. Let's run 26.2 miles, sure why not? Our ancestors use to hike across lands far and wide just to find a boar to slay for lunch. An elderly Italian man I know walked the entire length of Italy to get home while also avoiding capture at the end of World War II. Today humans may spend too much time on Facebook, eat junk and drink gloriously, but if needs be surely there's some animal instinct inside us that can push our stamina and determination and harness the strength of our biological ancestors (with lesser healthcare).

Training was exciting at first, running to places you haven't seen before, working out new routes and matching times. Then all of a sudden I was introduced to the world of nipple chaffing. All my life I've barely even been aware of the fact I have nipples. They sit there unused like a sunroof on a D reg car. Now, the constant rubbing of my shirt causes tremen-

dous pain. Apparently I'm not alone, this is a common issue (proof if ever there is no God) and some men have to go as far as wearing nipple bras! Luckily all mine needed was a new shirt with better material but suspicions that marathon runners are a bit sadistic started to arise.

Race day came and I secretly wished for sub four hours, but as I found out during training my family have bad knees (possibly karma for some republican kneecapping my relatives up North may or may not have been involved with) so deep down I knew to complete the race in anything less than 4hours and 30minutes would be a success. I took to the starting line, amid an enthusiastic crowd of 14,300 people, and soon felt involved in something very special. I knew this would be my one and only marathon. Training takes too long. Three hour runs followed by a day of recovery does not suit a busy lifestyle. But standing in a crowd of people who all had been through the agony of 20 mile runs, blisters within blisters within blisters, and nipple torture, I felt appreciative that I was getting to take part in this great event in this great city. Suddenly the adrenalin started to pump and taking down a few Kenyans didn't seem so far from reality.

Despite the lack of a major sponsor leading to no TV coverage for this year's marathon, support was still fantastic. Chapelizoid was a particular highlight, were locals waved banners reading 'RUN! Zombies are chasing you!' Another in Dolphins Barn encouraged us to 'Run like you stole something'. Humour was on display and the runners loved it. My personal highlight was a father daughter ukulele playing combo, who appeared (I counted) four times throughout the course. I don't care if



Bruce Carmichael and Cathal Bracken sacrifice their race to help carry Wesley Nolan, who had suffered dehydration during the Dublin Marathon, over the line. Photo: Brendan Moran, Sportsfile

witchcraft was used to transport them they were an absolute joy for their sheer love and enthusiasm for the athletes. And hats off to Spar who despite charging a fiver for a tea bag put drummers outside all there's stores to encourage us on.

The race takes a bit of a downturn as it heads out to UCD, and although there were still some great supporters there's just less character in the surroundings to distract the eyes, and by mile 19 I was feeling the burn. Around mile 21 I let myself down and walked for half a kilometre to let my knees reset themselves. This was the one thing I didn't want to do as once you walk once, you will walk again. Luckily I was spared and at mile 22 I suddenly got a second wind and the last few miles I regained a spring in my step. Crossing the line at 4.35mins I was a bit disappointed in not breaking the 4.30mins mark but incredibly relieved to have both my knees and ankles intact. Plus I managed to outrun a South African on the closing stretch (yes a white South African).

Would I do it again? No. Would I recommend it? Yes, well, once. Knowing you've done a marathon is a glorious feeling and something I can always reference in whiskey induced one-upmanship. Much respect to anyone who completes the marathon, in whatever time as this is a tough race; it really is as gruelling as people tell you it is.

I talked to a few overseas competitors and they all commented on how friendly everyone was and that it was the most fun they've had at a marathon. The Dublin Marathon is an absolute gem. Hopefully sponsorship issues are sorted next year as Ireland cannot afford to let an event which showcases how friendly and funny we really are slip through its fingers.

DIT Tennis player through to intervarsity semis

Danielle Stephens
Sports Editor

DIT's Richard Duffy made it to the semi-final of the tennis Intervarsity despite the college not having a tennis club.

The second year student from Monaghan was the only person from DIT to attend the tournament that had participants from the likes of Athlone IT, Trinity College, UCD and Letterkenny IT.

Unfortunately the semis saw him play

a UCC student who had been playing the sport for a lot longer than him and Duffy was beaten.

The Physics student admitted that "I've a long way to go after seeing the standard up there [the Intervarsity tournament]".

However, Duffy explains that he's only a newcomer to the sport after watching it for years.

He only started playing in January of last year and finds it hard to practice while he's up in Dublin.

Although he would like to play once a

week while in the city he says that it's not worth his while. In the case of most tennis clubs you must pay membership fees.

After competing in the single events tournament, Richard is unable to head up to Belfast to take part in the team event in February of next year.

This is due to the fact that DIT doesn't currently have a tennis club which means there is no team to send. Duffy believes that this is a result of the college not having tennis courts. Without tennis courts there

isn't any interest for new members.

DIT tried to fix this problem a couple of years ago. Herbie McClelland, one of the DIT sports officers, organised the rental of tennis courts and hired a tennis coach to put in place weekly training sessions.

The result was that three people turned up. The college consequently spent a large amount of money paying for these facilities up without actually using them.

Tennis courts are one of the many features in the plan for the new Grangeorgan campus to be built in 2015.

The question is whether or not they'll be up to the standard of the Westwood tennis club in Leopardstown, where the Intervarsity took place.

Duffy was amazed by the venue: "I've never seen anything like it. It was class". DIT's Sports Office say student who wants to enter an intervarsity will be funded by the college even if no club exists.

Richard will focus on studying physics in Kevin Street for the time being and will be looking forward to competing in next year's Intervarsity.