USI go after TDs ahead of budget

Josephine Gallagher
Irish Editor

The Union of Students Ireland (USI) is planning a two-part campaign against student grant cuts and the proposed increase in fees. The Union is holding a series of meetings aimed at organizing protests outside specific Oireachtas members’ offices across the country, leading up to the Budget on 4 December.

John Logue, the president of USI has conceived this new campaign, focusing on a collective attack in different locations rather than a single protest march on Government buildings. “We’ve picked 32 of the most strategically important TDs in the Dáil, as far as we’re concerned, we’re lobbying these and putting all our efforts into these TDs rather than trying to lobby 166 of them and 60 senators,” said Logue.

The USI president urges all students to get involved from now up until the Budget, asking them to attend the USI meetings, take part in the protests, write letters to Oireachtas members and to tell their parents and local businesses about the campaign.

“Letters will be handed out to local businesses informing them about the amount of revenue they’ll have lost if the student contribution continues to increase and the grant continues to decrease,” said Logue.

In the first act of the campaign, USI have launched a month long series of meetings, to discuss the fees, grants and student expenses. Oireachtas members have been invited to attend the assemblies to answer questions about issues concerning student costs.

The first meeting in the Dublin region for DIT and Trinity will be held on 7 November and all students, parents and local businesses are welcome to attend. The DIT protests will take place on 20 November, with DIT targeting The Minister for Education and Kevin’s Humphrey’s office.

“These are two huge tasks for DIT, especially the fact that Ruairi Quinn is the Minister for Education. Kevin Humphrey is also politically vulnerable, as he’s a Labour member and spoke out in favour of protecting education prior to the election,” said the USI President.

The Minister for Education’s press officer, Sarah Miley responded to the protests by saying “the Minister has no difficulty with people exercising their democratic rights, once it is done in a peaceful manner.”

An Independent TD for Waterford, John Halligan is one of the members targeted in this campaign. He believes that the protests should be focused on Government TDs and Ministers and not opposition members. “I’m annoyed and feel that opposition parties shouldn’t be targeted, it shouldn’t be people standing by you,” said Halligan.

The Independent TD says that he has always supported students in the past as a Councillor and TD and that the USI’s priority should be focusing on Government members.

Frank Feighan is a Fine Gael TD for Roscommon and South Leitrim is another member listed for this campaign against Education cuts. The TD wasn’t unaware of the upcoming demonstrations but said he didn’t object to students protesting outside his offices.

When asked whether he’d argue in favour of students in the Dáil he replied, “I’ll have to wait and see what the minister’s proposals are. We’re in a very difficult situation.”

The Press officer for the Minister for Education said that Ruairi Quinn is still planning to raise the registration fee to €3000 by 2015, putting more pressure on the already struggling families. The USI President John Logue believes that education has always been “the silver bullet” to getting out of any economic crisis and protecting students should be the Government’s priority.

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DIT to become Hogwarts?

Rachael O’Brien
Hogwarts is to arrive at DIT in time for Rag Week - or at least that is what the rumours would have you believe. This year’s RAG (Raisie and Give) week is planned for next February, and the rumour mill is already churning out every suggestion for the theme. One particularly popular idea which has been flying around the various DIT campuses, is that the Student Union’s administration turns DIT into Hogwarts for a week. Now, however true this actual rumour is, let’s magic our way into that world for just a few minutes.

Every single day, thousands of students walk the halls of DIT. But imagine if you walked in on a Monday morning, and instead of seeing the usual sights, you were greeted by people wearing robes and carrying wands; perhaps even an owl or two would be flying through the corridors. Sound familiar? In 1997 JK Rowling released the world of magic to the universe and there is now a chance that for one week and one week only, DIT will become our Hogworts.

Having talked to SU Vice President for Events, Will Ní Aitir, who said that there are “no definite plans for RAG week”, we still don’t know if it will actually go ahead. But it seems that students in DIT are up for a week full of magic! Nicola Kirwan from first year Journalism commented that it “would be a savage week with different things going on every day.” When surveyed, 80% of students said that they would love the idea of a magical DIT.

There could be Butterbeer instead of coffee before class, and instead of looking at your timetable each morning you could check out your Marauders Map. Instead of using pens and notebooks, we could all use ink quills and write on parchment paper.

This idea for RAG week may not go ahead but if you, the students of DIT, really want it, then only you can make it happen! Contact the Student Union on their Facebook page and suggest this idea or any others you may have! We’re all members of the Student Union so make

Irish Universities fall further down international rankings

Both UCD and TCD have fallen sharply in the country’s best regarded college, standing of most Irish universities in its latest report. University College Dublin (UCD) suffered the most dramatic fall, dropping from 159th to 187th. UCD President, Dr Hugh Brady, admitted he was “very disappointed” with the result.

The regard in which Irish universities are held internationally continues to fall, according to latest studies. Recently released Times Higher Education Rankings again features no Irish universities inside the top 100 of its list of the most prestigious third-level institutions in the world. The rankings also downgraded the standing of most Irish universities in its latest report. University College Dublin (UCD) suffered the most dramatic fall, dropping from 159th to 187th. UCD President, Dr Hugh Brady, admitted he was “very disappointed” with the college’s position. Trinity College Dublin (TCD) remains the country’s best regarded college, having risen seven places to 110th. Both UCD and TCD have fallen sharply in recent times. Six years ago both colleges were ranked inside the top 100, with Trinity in the top 50. The poor performance of Irish universities in the latest rankings will spark renewed debate over a possible merger between TCD and UCD. The merging of Ireland’s two leading colleges was recently backed by an international panel of experts in a report commissioned by the Higher Education Authority. Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairi Quinn, has previously dismissed the prospect of a merger as “neither feasible or desirable.” Irish universities are currently struggling to cope with a six per cent reduction in staff and an on-going funding crisis. Government cuts have seen staff levels at Irish colleges fall by 1,500 between 2008 and 2011. The recession has prompted record numbers of applications for third-level places, putting further strain on already under-resourced colleges.

The fall in Irish universities international standing was compounded by increased investment in third-level education in emerging nations, with China, Brazil, India and Russia all investing heavily. Another feature of the rankings is the emergence of universities from the Asia-Pacific region. Colleges in Taiwan, South Korea and Singapore have risen in the rankings at the expense of more prestigious universities in the US and UK. The Times rankings are the most comprehensive and accurate in the world, often used by international students when deciding where to study.

Minister Quinn has so far resisted pressure from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to reintroduce fees as an alternative to cuts. The Minister did increase the registration fee by €250 in last year’s budget, reneging on a pre-election commitment in the process. There is widespread speculation that next month’s budget will see a further increase in registration fees, in an effort to raise finance for the struggling sector.

Grangegorman running on schedule with 1,000 students to move on campus by 2014

Stephen Boukre
Chief Sub Editor

Demolition work to clear the way for DIT’s single campus in Grangegorman is due to start in the new year, and the site will be ready to take students by 2014

The Grangegorman Development Agency (GDA) lodged the first planning notice for DIT’s unified campus with Dublin City Council earlier this month. 16 buildings on the site of St. Brendan’s psychiatric hospital are to be knocked down to make way for services and campus infrastructure like footpaths, lights, benches and playing fields.

Spokesperson for the GDA, Ronan Doyle, told The Edition they hoped to have over 1,000 DIT students studying on the site by 2014. The agency will refurbish a number of protected buildings on the site to accommodate this group, which will include Fine Arts students from Mountjoy Square.

The first new buildings are due to be completed in 2017 through a public-private partnership. A Central Quad will be the first set of buildings to be completed, housing about 10,000 students from tourism, food and science departments. This means half of DIT’s students will be in Grangegorman in five years time.

“Things are happening now,” Mr. Doyle said. “We’re very much up and running.” The GDA’s plans for the site became the basis of a Strategic Development Zone after approval came from An Bórd Pleanála last May. “All of the appeals were sorted and the document effectively became a formal development plan,” said Mr. Doyle. “It gives a great sense of security to the project.”

The Broombridge Luas extension, which is planned to serve Grangegorman, also got the go-ahead from an Bórd Pleanála in August. Initial demolition work will begin early next year, but the changing rooms used by a number of DIT sports clubs are to remain in place longer.

This should allay fears expressed by Stephen Brandon, captain of DIT Caving, who is one of the organisations that regularly use facilities in Grangegorman.

“That’s the first I’ve heard of it,” he said, when told about the demolition notice last week. “I hope they don’t drive a bulldozer through our equipment store without telling us!”

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Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairi Quinn dismisses a possible merger of TCD and UCD

Scientists convicted of manslaughter in Italy, for failing to provide adequate warning of an earthquake
McAleese gives support for gay marriage

Clan McKiernan

Former Irish President, Mary McAleese, has declared herself in favour of gay marriage.

McAleese expressed her views in an interview with Gay Byrne on the programme, ‘The Meaning of Life’. She said that she “held a very strong view that for centuries now, gay people have lived in a dark secretive world of undetermined identity and status.”

McAleese then went on to say that gay people are “as entitled to live their lives on their own terms, as I do as a heterosexual.”

She enthusiastically stated that she was “just thrilled anyone wants to get married.”

The then President made these comments after earlier voicing her concerns about the growing number of young gay men who take their own lives. Speaking on RTÉ Radio, McAleese explained that she believes this is due to “a lack of knowledge and understanding of homosexuality.”

“She will have heard words like ‘disorder’, they may even have heard the word ‘evil’, used in relation to homosexual practice,” she said.

“And when they make the discovery – and it is a discovery and not a decision – that they are gay, they at age 14, 15 or 16, an internal conflict of absolutely appalling proportions opens up.”

In the interview with Gay Byrne, McAleese also went on to complain about how the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II) would not stop the Church being the Church and that the Church had the right to say no.

The council stipulated that bishops were supposed to govern the church in co-operation with the Pope, but instead it “did not happen”.

She also disagreed with the Pope not allowing any dissent, stating she was “not clear anymore where the boundaries are.”

Indeed McAleese went on to speak out against other matters such as belief in the church itself, which she feels has lost “a fair degree of credibility now” after the recent child abuse issues.

She concluded by saying that the Church could “be so dreadfully wrong and take so long about accepting how wrong they were.”

She also spoke of approaching Pope Benedict with her views in favour of female priests, saying that she had sent him a letter with her views to which he replied with “a lovely letter”.

Campaigning under way in Children’s Referendum

Al McConnell and Mark Meadow

On Saturday, 10 November, between the hours of 9am and 10pm, voters will be asked a simple Yes or No question.

This question will be “Do you approve of the proposal to amend the Constitution contained in the Thirty-first Amendment of the Constitution (Children) Bill 2012?”

There are five key factors to take into account on the proposed amendment.

Constitutional reform regarding children has long been mooted. In 1979, Alan Shatter lectured on children’s rights at UCD. He emphasised that children in Ireland, at that time, in fact had very few rights, and that reform of the adoption system, among other things, was long over-due. Bertie Ahern, in 2006, called on children to have a more fundamental role in our Constitution, influenced by several high-profile reports into, and cases of, physical and sexual abuse of children in Ireland in the past decade.

Build up to the Referendum has reflected this, and in many ways, it will be quite similar to many of the national questions we’ve been asked in recent years. The subjects of the past few referendums, namely the EU Fiscal Treaty and judge reform, served to polarise our politics and society into two clear and quite equally balanced camps.

In the case of children’s rights, the "Yes" and "No" camps are not as equally balanced.

The very fact that it is about the rights of the child has made it a question which, for many groups and organisations, could only have one answer. It remains the case, though, that the “Yes” campaign considerably outweighs the “No” campaign in many ways.

What the changes will be:

During the campaigning, the “Yes” side of the debate has been trying to gain support by putting the case for the changes and the "No" side have been campaigning against the changes and the “Yes” side have put themselves to work.

Conversely, the “No” side, up to the time of printing, has been mostly comprised of smaller groups such as the Christian Solidarity Party. These groups do represent opposition, but it remains to be seen whether not they will be able to gather enough funding to bring their arguments to national attention on a par with their opponents.

Regardless of the level of campaigning on the impact of the changes, debates in studio settings are due to take place, the first of which will be held by TV3 on the 31st of October. In the surroundings of the studio, the “No” side may be able to make its case on equal footing. It still remains the case, though, that the campaign is quite weighted in one direction.

Don’t be that guy

A Canadian campaign to change the way people think about sexual assault has arrived in Ireland. The ‘Don’t be that guy’ campaign graphically asks men to think about their actions, hoping to dispel some of the suggestions that sex is a ‘man’s game’.

Their visit to Dublin comes after they carried out a study of men between the ages of 18 to 25 and found that 48 percent of those questioned did not consider it rape if a woman was too drunk to know what she was doing.

Posters highlighting the group’s message will be seen around DIT campuses in the coming weeks.

Ireland’s best sommelier awarded

Diarmuid Cawley, who recently graduated from DIT’s Culinary Arts programme, has been awarded a silver medal at Ireland’s Best Sommelier competition.

A total of six tests were carried out to determine which candidate had both the best knowledge, and the best practical ability, to be awarded the title. The jury was the President of the Irish Guild of Sommeliers, Mary O’Callaghan, and the chairman of the, ‘The World’s Best Sommelier’ title, Gérard Basset.

Diarmuid is currently employed as manager and wine consultant at the Fallon & Byrne restaurant on Exchequer Street, Dublin.
UCDSU pledge to keep the student bar serving pints

Colin Layde
Deputy News Editor

UCD bar staff have called off planned strike action after reaching an agreement with the college's Student Club.

The staff served the college with notice of their intention to strike on September 21st, with industrial action due to commence on October 2nd. Strike action was averted after the Student Club paid the first of two overdue payments to the staff claim they are owed.

Joe Donnelly of the Mandate trade union which represents the workers says the industrial action will be postponed for 10 days to allow the Student Club time to settle the claim.

The second payment is due within the next 10 days. Strike action has been deferred until the second payment has been made. “We are glad that the workers have received their first overdue payment, we continue to be committed to making sure our members receive their entitlements,” he said.

The Student Bar at UCD’s Belfield campus has been closed since June after accumulating losses of over €120,000. Bar staff were made redundant and agreement was reached on a redundancy package on August 31st.

What will happen to The Student Bar, the largest of three on the Belfield campus, remains unknown.

Rachel Breslin, President of UCD Students’ Union, insists it is essential the bar is reopened. “The bar is still the best place on campus for holding concerts, faculty days and quizzes,” she said. “We as a Student Union are not willing to stand for the disappearance of that facility.”

UCDSU are currently in discussions with the College’s Bursar, in the hope that authorities will be able to pay the outstanding debt.

Ms. Breslin acknowledges that compensating workers should come before student partying. “Students want to socialise but we also have staff who have been agreed redundancy and who haven’t had it. Who’s more important? I wouldn’t automatically say it’s the students in terms of real need”, she said.

A replacement for the Student Bar was due to be built in UCD’s new student centre which was due to open in coming weeks, but was delayed due to funding shortages.

Cúinne na Gaeilge

De réir a chéile, tá meon eile ann, agus bíonn an-chraic againn, trí mheáin cabhrach leat.

Bhí an t-aireamh sábháil a dhéanamh i gceist, agus feictear daonar ag a shaithintí as an gceist féin a thabhairt. Sa taispeántas, bhí daoine abaltach saothar na filí, Doreann Ní Ghriofa, Duineann Ní Chinnéide, Geóirí Mac Loughlann agus Gabriel Rosenstock a fhéadfadh cuid de na filí féin a dtabhairt.

An t-aireamh sábháil, i gceist agus saothar an t-áite, tharla a ceann de na filí féin a dtabhairt, chomh maith le halaítríocht agus filiochta. Bhí an t-aireamh sábháil i gceist agus saothar an t-áite, chomh maith le halaítríocht agus filiochta.

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Google Shares to Recover Position After Drop

Andrew Donovan
News Editor

Following Google’s 9% share drop last week they are still struggling to recover their market position as traders continue to take their profit and sell Google stocks. Usually when a company announces its earnings per quarter it waits till Wall Street has closed so as not to affect their shares too much.

In this instance the company in charge with publishing Google’s earnings jumped the gun and released the figures before CEO Larry Page could offset the poor earnings with his statement.

Page did get a word in later in the day however “I am sorry for the scramble earlier today. As our printers have said, they hit send on the release just a bit early. We had a strong quarter — I am really happy with our business. Revenue was up 45 per cent year-on-year, and, at just fourteen years old, we cleared our first €14 billion revenue quarter. Not bad for a teenag- er!” Peter Brown of the Irish Institute of Financial Trading said that this release became a trigger to the markets to start selling and taking profit. This continues the trend of big tech companies stock suffering a slump. Apple’s share has fallen by 100 since the launch of the iPhone 5. As the hype built Apple’s stock was pushed up and up until the market decided it was time to cash in their chips. It can come as a surprise that companies as powerful as Apple and Google can be subjected to the whims of the market but this is nothing new says Peter Brown.

“The share price isn’t determined by the fundamentals of the company any more, it’s all speculation. Previously equity [shares] went up and down due to the fundamentals but now it comes down to technical analysis such as charting and algorithms.”

Peter Brown has been trading in the financial markets for 30 years and he advises against trading in equities.

“If you buy Standard and Poor 500 futures rather than equities you can put in a stop loss so you can’t lose more than €100.”

“Equity is volatile so we advise to trade the S&P, the FTSE or the DAX where the stocks are controlled. Unless you have some insider knowledge it’s very hard to trade equities, it’s almost impossible to predict what’s going to happen to the share in the future because every product fluctuates up and down constantly.”

Fake Facebook groups target DIT students

Al McConnell
Deputy Editor

Students have been warned to exercise caution when dealing with Facebook groups purporting to represent the Institute, DIT Students’ Union, or other groups affiliated to the college.

Several students have reported being invited to join groups, and being offered bogus wristbands that claim to guarantee entry to multiple DIT events for up to €50. DITSU says anyone using these wristbands will be refused entry to any events. If there is any doubt over a Facebook group, check with the college.

The problem is that Facebook is an open forum, so there’s very little we can do,” says DITSU’s Vice President for Events, Will Meara. “We have e-mailed a lot of the groups to try and get them to close, but ultimately it’s very difficult for us to control it. One of the things these sites try to do is build up databases on people, so we just need everyone to be careful when they are contacted by groups like this.”

MONEY

Student Shopper Aislinn McCooey

The second biggest holiday after Christmas is upon us and we’re here to tell you how to have a spooktacular time (yes we know) for less, so read the following article very carefully:

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**Man falls 834 feet, survives**

Andrew MacDonagh
Science Editor

On Sunday, October 14, Felix Baumgartner, an Austrian skydiver, plummeted from space, breaking three world records by the time his feet touched the ground. This feat was the objective of the Red Bull Stratos, a mission to the edge of space, in an attempt to transcend human limits that have existed for 50 years.

In front of a global audience, with over 7 million of people that watching live on the internet, Baumgartner took off, ascended 24.5 miles (an altitude of 128,000 ft) or 4 times as high as Mount Everest) in a stratospheric balloon, and then jumped out. As he stood outside his capsule preparing to jump from the edge of space, he said: “Sometimes you have to go really high to understand how small you are.” He landed just 44 miles from where he launched in Roswell, New Mexico.

From the moment of jump to the moment of landing 9 minutes 9 seconds passed. The success of that 9 minutes was the culmination of 7 years of hard work, both training and preparation, in which one man supported by a team composed of world-leading minds in aerospace medicine, science, engineering, pressure suit development, capsule creation and balloon fabrication overcame every challenge which faced them.

The Red Bull Stratos team included retired United States Air Force Colonel Joseph Kittinger, who held the world record for longest skydive from a height of 19 miles since 1960. Kittinger, at the age of 84, acted as capsule communicator, directing Baumgartner through his record breaking freefall from Earth’s stratosphere.

Scientific data, captured from Joe’s jump in 1960, was shared with U.S. research personnel for development of the space program.

Baumgartner and his expert team taking what they learned from Joe’s jump, more than 50 years ago, pressed forward to test human limits further, believing the accomplishment of their mission, in daring the atmospheric limits, holds the potential to provide valuable medical and scientific research data for future pioneers.

Baumgartner, himself, is no stranger to testing human limits, having spent time in the Austrian military, where he practiced parachute jumping, including training to jump on small target zones. Prior to the Red Bull Stratos project, he was renowned for his daredevil stunts, sky-diving, and BASE jumping. (Aside: BASE jumping is an activity where participants jump from fixed objects [Buildings. Antennas, Spans (bridges), Earth (cliffs)] and use a parachute to break their fall.)

Some of Baumgartner’s accomplishments to date include the world record BASE jump from the Petronas Twin Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (1,489 ft) and the World record lowest BASE jump from Christ the Redeemer statue in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (695ft) in 1996. First freefalling from a balloon, Felix and the team developed a monitoring system which will help to break incredible new ground.

This will be the end of his extreme jumping career as he has promised this will be his final jump. Red Bull Stratos medical director Dr. Jonathan Clark, prior to mission success highlighted there desire to explore the effects of acceleration to supersonic velocities on humans. We have a great scientific team, and we’re working to compile all of the scientific data. Felix had a monitoring system which will help to break incredible new ground.

He said, “We’ll be setting new standards for aviation. Never before has anyone reached the speed of sound without being in an aircraft. Red Bull Stratos is testing new equipment and developing the procedures for inhabiting such high altitudes as well as enduring such extreme acceleration. The aim is to improve the safety for space professionals as well as potential space tourists.” After the event, he summed up the whole effort with “the world needs a hero, and today they got one.”

For more information on the mission and the science, engineering and technology involved for its success, go to www.redbullstratos.com.

The Wind and the City

Andrew Donovan
News Editor

A micro wind turbine in the heart of the city has the potential to produce 50% of a household’s yearly power, according to Keith Sunderland of the School of Electrical Engineering Systems in DIT.

“Just one micro wind turbine placed at twice the height of your average building can produce an extraordinary amount of energy,” says Mr Sunderland.

Two months ago a roof-mounted meteorological observation site was installed on top of DIT’s Kevin Street.

It is a collaborative project between scientists in NUI Maynooth, UCD, and DIT.

Solar radiation, wind velocity and CO2 production can all be monitored by the site, 800,000 entries a day have been recorded after being only operational for two months making 10 measurements per second.

All of the instruments are electronic and are powered by a 12V battery which is rechargeable by solar power. Once in place, the instruments record by themselves and are checked for accuracy every six months.

80% of CO2 emissions are produced in cities and the Kevin Street site isn’t the first site monitoring this activity in Ireland. St. Pius X Girls School in Templeogue is twinned with the project. They will measure suburban Dublin while Kevin Street monitors urban Dublin.

All results will be made public, says Sunderland, and could be of great benefit to other scientists especially when city planners are mapping out green areas to balance CO2 emissions in future urban areas.

“People might wonder why we don’t place the turbine in a rural region where more wind is generated but with the amount of people living in cities expected to double, urban wind generation is becoming a bigger possibility,” says Mr. Sunderland.

Between now and 2050, the UN is predicting that the world’s population will increase by 2.3bn, from 7.0bn to 9.3bn. The population living in urban areas will rise by 2.6bn, passing from 3.6bn in 2011 to 6.3bn in 2050. For instance the UN anticipates that half of the population of Asia will live in urban areas by 2020, while Africa is likely to be 50% urban in 2055.

Li-COR BioSciences, the designer and manufacturer of the scientific instruments believe that the Kevin Street site could be used as a benchmark for similar sites around the world.

See live stream: http://147.252.226.200/cgi-bin/guestimage.html
Derry, Good Vibrations now Better Vibrations

The Beach Boys classic, Good Vibrations, was sadly stuck in mono until DIT lecturer, Derry FitzGerald developed the technology to split it, finds Al McConnell

Ever since the advent of digital music production in the mid-nineties, producing a stereo version of ‘Good Vibrations’ has been something of a holy grail in the industry. DIT’s own Derry FitzGerald now seems to have discovered the answer.

“It’s a dream come true,” he says, speaking about seeing his name on the credits of a Beach Boys album. On the recently re-released ‘Smiley Smile’, Derry’s version of ‘Good Vibrations’, made using his own audio separation techniques, is included among the stereo versions.

It is a significant moment in the long history of the Beach Boys; up until this point, a stereo version of ‘Good Vibrations’, at least of any real quality, was made impossible by the fact that the original mono tapes had been lost. “They’ve been looking for it for about twenty years – it’s gone. It’s the same for a lot of other classic tracks, and it means twenty years – it’s gone. It’s the same for original mono tapes had been lost.

“They’ve been looking for it for about twenty years – it’s gone. It’s the same for a lot of other classic tracks, and it means twenty years – it’s gone. It’s the same for original mono tapes had been lost.

“Basically, what I do is extract out the individual instruments that are there, and then specifically position them in the stereo space, so it sounds much more like a proper stereo recording.”

Although the process is undoubtedly a technical one – Derry phrases it as “describing, in an mathematical way as possible, what music is to a computer” – his work stems from a love of music, rather than technology.

“I was always in bands, aiming to make it in music. After I studied chemical engineering, I wanted to find a way to combine the music with the engineering, so I studied a Masters in Music Technology at DIT, and went on to a PhD. “All this really grew out of the PhD, which was on separating drum sounds from original mono recordings. I wanted to be able to use the drums from Toto records (uncool, I know) because they had a fantastic drummer, Jeff Porcaro, who didn’t seem real until I got my hands on a physical CD and saw my name in print.”

Although there will always be a group of fans who distrust any tampering with a classic, fan reaction in this case has been very positive. One online comment sums it up: “what this guy has done is nothing short of a miracle.” At any rate, if Brian Wilson approves, you know you’ve done something good.

Brian Wilson, and he was great. That day was just unbelievable.”

For now, Derry is focussing on improving the quality of the technique, aiming to achieve an even clearer separation of the individual parts, which could ultimately be used to produce 5.1 Dolby sound, and even home producing, where the consumer could choose to raise or lower certain elements of tracks.

“Hopefully I’ll get a chance to work with other artists, hopefully other people come knocking. I’d love to turn this into a business, given the opportunity, so I’m going to try and publicise it abroad, and get the word out in the major music industry.”

With so many classic tracks lacking a stereo version, the market seems to be there for quality audio separation.

Yet only now does the reality of his achievement now seem to be sinking in. “It makes me very proud to hear people talking about it and saying they like it. It didn’t seem real until I got my hands on a physical CD and saw my name in print.”

A day on the Geordie shore

Bill O’Cleirigh

At the departure gate in Dublin airport, several young groups are billing into yawny pints before making an early morning flight to Newcastle, a city notorious for its nightlife following the popularity of a certain reality television show.

Arriving into Newcastle city centre and the perception that this is a party town was enhanced by a Newcastle university campus buzzing with anticipation for the match against the Geordies. Relentless chanting from the Gallowgate end gave a clear indication of just how proud these people are of their Geordie identity. The Toons romped to a 3-0 victory over the French. Comic gold ensued when the stewards attempted to restrain a streaker – French. Comic gold ensued when the stewards attempted to restrain a streaker – French. Comic gold ensued when the stewards attempted to restrain a streaker – French. Comic gold ensued when the stewards attempted to restrain a streaker.

Post-match pints were had in the student suburb of Jesmond or “Sh**ville” as our cabby grunted. “Yuh wanna gaw to Sh**ville?” he threw over his shoulder. We politely agreed. Jesmond is to Newcastle what Rathmines is to Dublin, only cheaper, trendier and definitely the place to go before hitting town.

Cheap flights, good value, great nightlife, small city: Newcastle really does tick all the boxes for those who are up for a weekend away with mates.

There’s also got a great vibe to the city and you can still reap the benefits without splurging on pints.

Bordeaux are in town for a Europa League match against the Geordies. Relentless chanting from the Gallowgate end gave a clear indication of just how proud these people are of their Geordie identity. The Toons romped to a 3-0 victory over the French. Comic gold ensued when the stewards attempted to restrain a streaker – worth a look on YouTube.

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Cheap flights, good value, great nightlife, small city: Newcastle really does tick all the boxes for those who are up for a weekend away with mates.

It was another dream come true to meet the majestic St. James’ Park Stadium.
Careful now! Down with that sort of thing!

Quis custodiet ipsos custodes? The phrase is loosely translated to “Who watches the watchmen?”

Thought to have first been uttered by the Roman poet Juvenal it still has relevance nearly 2,000 years later as Twitter begin to censor its users.

The first enforcement of Twitter’s censorship policy came as a shock to most users who never realised such a thing existed, when it last week removed anti-Semitic tweets in France and Germany. It also removed tweets from Chairman of the British National Party, Nick Griffin, which told people to picket the house of a gay couple who sued a B&B over failing to let them stay the night. While removing offensive messages capable of inciting expression, Twitter was held up as the watchmen that now approve our every tweet?

Where we once elected our government, we gave the unenviable job of censoring us, we could also remove the same government if they didn’t live up to the task put upon them. Now, the communication giants, multinational organisations who seem to be free of any explicit rule by any one country, set their own standards.

In a recent blog post, Twitter said: “we will enter countries that have different ideas about the contours of freedom of expression.” They also went on to say that “some differ so much from our ideas that we will not be able to exist there. Others are similar but, for historical or cultural reasons, restrict certain types of content, such as France or Germany, which ban pro-Nazi content.”

In usage of their censorship policy, Facebook has shut down the accounts of the New Yorker and other newspapers over showing pictures of Adam and Eve by Peter Paul Rubens from around 1597. The picture which has sat in some of the world’s top art museums seems offensive to Facebook. This painting which children will have seen on school day trips does not seem fit for Facebook.

If this is freedom of speech, I will keep my opinions to myself.

Big Brother becomes a reality as Twitter begins to censor our tweets, says Edition Editor, Jarlath Moloney

Keeping abreast of the issues in the Google age

It’s time to get over our fascination with salacious images, and get back to pursuits with real value, says Riika Nykänen

S
so, of most of us heard about the topless photo scandal involving Kate Middleton. Within this lot, quite a few have also seen the famous photos, which were secretly taken in Southern France while the young royal couple was seemingly taking a “private” sun holiday.

Sure, it’s fair to say that many see the royal breasts as even more interesting than normal breasts, but still – I wouldn’t necessarily call the “royal tits case” the news topic of the year.

Journalists often tend to complain about the fact that there is never enough time or resources available to allow people to stalk outside the holiday house of the royal couple, just to see enough naked royal flesh to create a huge international scandal involving, well, breasts.

But the journalists are not the only ones to blame. We often tend to complain about the stresses and strains of our busy lives, and how there is never enough time to do anything that we would actually like to do.

Yet we always have enough time to hang around on the internet, googling photos of Kate’s famous breasts, and chatting about it with our friends.

Houston, we have a problem. When did we arrive at the point that the most earth shaking, widely discussed and the most interesting news of this autumn, is about something as natural as breasts - the body part that women use to feed their babies?

Previous generations changed the world by landing on the moon, creating new art forms and inventing things such as electricity and the wheel. But what exactly are we doing now? The majority of us continue to sit on our asses in front of computers, eye blurred photos of Lady Gaga’s “shocking” weight gain or read about the “super dramatic” break up and subsequent reunion of Twilight stars Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson.

Well isn’t this just great.

After the royal tits became public news topic of the year, the world must be anxiously waiting with impatience for the next scandal, perhaps this time involving Prince William without his pants on.

Houston, we have a problem. And the problem is us.

Recession the best thing to happen to this country?

Aidan Dundass says the recession is what the Irish need to get back to the basics

T
he recession is here to stay ladies and gentlemen and thank God for that.

The Celtic Tiger taught us that Irish people and money don’t mix. Sure, it’s easy to blame the politicians and the bankers for our crippling economic collapse but what about the real cause - ourselves? Essentially, we were narcissistic morons who thought that buying five cars without even knowing how to drive was a good idea.

I was naive when I first came to college, believing it was all the government’s fault. The truth was soon revealed to me in the shape of some my new classmates - who are an example of middle class Ireland. To make this perfectly clear, the majority of the middle classes in Ireland are arrogant and self-important people from another planet; snobs in every sense of the word.

I welcome all of this bleakness; it’s about time the people of Ireland got a kick up the backside. There was never a sense of community during the boom years.

Recession the best thing to happen to this country?

Irish people are renowned for putting others before themselves but during the Celtic Tiger people became overly materialistic.

Unquestionably, the Celtic Tiger was the worst thing to happen to Ireland since the famine. It was never going to last. People lost the run of themselves - refusing jobs that they felt were beneath them. We can still see the hang-up some people have with taking “menial jobs.” I’ll give you an example: I was at the cinema with two people, one of whom is most definitely middle class. “I’d love to work in a cinema,” I said, to which they replied: “No you wouldn’t. That’s a foreigner’s job,” a middle class product of the Celtic Tiger if ever I saw one.

I’m of the belief that we’re all the same: faceless nobodies who will eventually die and be forgotten. I’m glad that I don’t have the mindset that I’m better than people around me.

I don’t believe that I should go further than anyone else in life because of my background, nor do I patronise those who work these “menial jobs.” This is how people felt during the boom though. They had that “my life is better than your life” mentality and they’d rub it in your face. Well where are they now?

Crying to Pat Kenny on the Frontline about how they can’t make their mortgage repayments, no doubt!

So how should we approach this recession? Let’s embrace it. Everybody, especially the middle classes, should re-evaluate things, get their priorities in check and not spend so frivolously in future. Lucky or unlucky for them, they won’t have to deal with that problem again; hopefully, Ireland will never experience another Celtic Tiger.

If this boom to bust carry on has taught me anything it’s that holiday homes in Croatia and the latest gadget or new car are overrated and even though we are an educated generation, nobody can teach you common sense.

Send in your letters and opinions.

E-Mail Editor@Edition.ie

www.edition.ie
Mmm, donuts!
Rolling Donut, Aungier St.

Sinéad Makk
The Rolling Donut has recently opened on Aungier Street, offering mouth watering donuts, sandwiches and rolls for very reasonable prices.

After officially opening on 19 September, the café seems to be off to a good start and couldn’t have picked a better location with DIT just across the road, it attracts swarms of students each day.

A range of donuts are on offer and customers can choose from either sugar, sugar cinnamon or chocolate flavoured donuts.

Jam donuts, muffins, scones and croissants are also available but at a more expensive price.

It costs only 70 cent for one donut and although they aren’t huge portions, they taste amazing and are defiantly worth a try.

The Rolling Donut doesn’t disappoint, from the classics like a BLT to the Rolling Donut cure, an all day melts available, from the classics like a chicken filler roll, bottle of water and bag of crisps for a fair €3.80, putting it in direct competition with the nearby Stationary Shop, next door to Aungier St.

For most girls trying to find a good foundation can be quite difficult. With the likes of Kim Kardashian and Cheryl Cole showing us how it’s done; most girls want to know what their tips are and more importantly what products they are using. A favourite of Kim K is M.A.C’s Studio Fluid Fix. It gives combines a natural matte finish with medium-buildable coverage. It is great for on the go as it lasts for up to eight hours whilst the micronized pigments in it help you to achieve that flawless look. Retailing at €31.50, it may not be the cheapest foundation out there but if you have the money it is definitely worth the buy, it also contains an SPF 15.

A cheaper alternative of the M.A.C’s long lasting flawless foundation is Rimmel’s Lasting Finish. There’s nothing more annoying than your makeup blotching off during the day or not being the right colour but here Rimmel have come up the answer to both to these makeup dilemmas. It claims to last an astonishing 25 hours and after having gone on for a last minute few drinks one night I can safely say it stayed on the whole night! It comes in 6 fantastic shades almost guaranteed to suit most skin types. For just €14 it’s a handy staple for your makeup bag.

Another brand to have a huge celebrity following is MAKE UP FOREVER. Their HD Invisible Cover foundation comes in a whopping 25 shades which guarantees a perfect match for your skin type. This oil-free foundation gives a medium to full coverage which helps flawlessly cover imperfections whilst remaining almost invisible. It’s great for pictures as it shows up well on camera but it is also wearable during the day. Possibly the brand’s most famous foundation it is easy to see why.

Getting a flawless finish on your foundation is more achievable than you think.

It is often a case of trial and error with getting a foundation you like so be sure to try them on in store in possibly before purchase, most makeup counters will offer to apply it for you once you’ve shown yourself facing the odd lonely night in. But don’t worry; there are many ways to make your lonely nights just that little bit more special. Dine in style with this extremely cheap and cheerful three course meal!

Course 1. Potato and Leek (the homeliest of) Soup served with fresh bread.
Put some water in a pot and stick it on the hob. While you’re waiting for it to boil, slice your roll into inch-thick slices and place it on a side plate like they do in restaurants. This will add to the general ambience as well as acting as good soakage for the hot powdery mess you’re about to ingest. Add the contents of your soup sachet to the boiling water, stir well and pour into a bowl. Sit down, relax and enjoy that warm fuzzy feeling you’ve been craving so much.

Course 2. Sort of Mediterranean Pasta
Bolognaisne sauce and pasta is somewhat of a staple in the diets of broke students, but heres how to do it with a Mediterranean twist: Put your desired amount of pasta into a pot of boiling water with a pinch of salt for 10 minutes or 8 if you’re feeling crunchy. Chop your pepper whichever way your heart tells you. Mine told me tiny cubes, so thats what I did. Next take your garlic bulb, peel away its outer layers with your fingers, pull out one individual clove (or two, depending on how long you wish to stay single). Dice the clove as finely as possible and your hands will smell like garlic for the next week. Heat a drop of oil in a pan and add the chopped vegetables, stirring for 2 minutes before adding your sauce. Strain your pasta and add it into the pan. Stir well, and serve. To yourself.

Course 3. Chocolate will never leave you
You’ve worked hard-ish. Make yourself a cuppa and get stuck into that chocolate donut-y goodness.

For 3 course meal for under €5

Saorise Ivory
Not to be a buzz kill, but it’s getting really cold out. If you’re one of many students who have neglected the duty to grab the nearest human and settle down for a long winter of cosy coupledom, you may find yourself facing the odd lonely night in.

To make your best efforts, you can’t do better than 3 course meal for under €5.

In saying that, The Rolling Donut use many ingredients that you wouldn’t find up and down the street.

Want to achieve that celebrity glow? It all starts with finding that perfect foundation!

The new shop on the block does a mean cup of Joe and selection of donuts.
Model student

Former DIT student, Shireen, talks to Victoria Kinsella about the pressures of modelling, making the move to London and coming back to DIT to help out with the Fashion Show.

How did you begin modelling?

I had been scouted when I was younger but I always hated fashion so I didn’t bother pursue it. Then a friend of mine wanted some support auditioning for a college fashion show, so I went to the casting with her. I was then scouted from the show by Morgan the Agency and a friend of mine at the time, model Roz Lipsett, gave me the push I needed to go for it.

Have you noticed a change in yourself since you began?

Yes, I’ve noticed a change. I used to be as quiet as a mouse and lacked confidence, but now I’m a lot more confident in myself. Producer, choreographer and talent agent Julian Benson really made me believe in myself. I really have a lot to thank him for.

Did you ever consider it as a full time career?

I never really considered it as a full time career, but what is because I had lots of hobbies and passions. That said it’s a great and highly enjoyable job that many of my friends enjoy working at full time, and it’s a job that you can travel with, if you are good at it.

What fashion shows have you done?

I’ve done shows both here and abroad. I started working abroad on my Erasmus year to Switzerland. My favourite/most memorable shows to walk in include Helen Cody, Richard Lewis, Arnotts & Vera Wang.

What is it like behind the scenes or back stage of a fashion event?

It can be crazy back stage, but there’s a big difference between being a model or show director. At one show I had 30 seconds to change into a different outfit and get back onto the catwalk. It’s also extremely hot at some shows, so much so that at one show a dresser fainted in the middle of the show, which caused chaos backstage. That said it’s so much fun too, and you get to hang out with your friends before the show starts. As a director it’s also crazy, but coordination is key. I suppose both back stage experiences are stressful in their own way.

You helped the first time models in the DIT Fashion Show. What do you believe is vital to become a successful model in the industry?

I love working with the DIT fashion show as a mentor and choreographer. I always say to first time models that confidence is of huge importance in the industry. Even if you aren’t confident, try and fake it, and make everyone else think that you are (even if you are cringing inside). You aren’t going to sell clothes if you convince people you’re a model by looking embarrassed at the floor.

Who is your fashion icon and who would you most like to work with?

I’ve lots of fashion icons for lots of different reasons. Some of them include Coco Chanel, Alexa Chung, Grace Jones, Lady Gaga and Audrey Hepburn.

Do you find there is a lot of pressure in modelling?

Yes there’s pressure in the world of modelling, but there’s pressure in every industry. You need to be at the top of your game if you want to get the big jobs, so in the case of modelling that does mean being healthy and fit.

Do you prefer being in front of the camera or on the catwalks?

I prefer the catwalk to editorial. I get much more of a buzz from it. I suppose it is also because I love back stage at fashion shows.

Did modelling boost your confidence for work?

I currently work in advertising, and modelling definitely helps boost your self confidence, so I suppose it has helped me in this way.
Out & About... on Kevin and Aungier St

The DIT style spies were out and about on our campuses again this week looking out for the trendy students of DIT. As usual there was some serious style talent lurking about.

This week we had our eyes peeled for students who had a touch of individuality to their style.

Here are four of our favourites...

Who? Lluis Coma, 24
Where? Aungier Street
Style verdict?
The erasmus students bring their european spin on current trends. This can be seen here with Llois who wears the vibrant on-trend red jeans but puts it together with a scarf, side bag and layers to add the european touch.

Who? Tara, 23
Where? Kevin Street
Style verdict?
Style is very on trend but with a touch of edge to it. For instance, her funky high tops add a little extra to an already seasonal outfit!
A classic black leather jacket sets off a pair of Jackson Pollock-esque leggings.

Who? Jonathon Crean, 20
Where? Aungier Street
Style verdict?
Jonathon’s laid back style comes out in a t-shirt hoody combination and practical shoulder bag. Comfort is the main objective here, but a black and white checkered belt means the outfit will stand out at the same time.

Who? Tessa Fleming, 21
Where? Aungier Street
Style verdict?
Tessa is kitted out for Dublin weather this month, without sacrificing her unique style, by opting for a PVC mac with a colourful twist. Complementing this bright jacket is a striking blue dress, and daring lipstick.
The devil is in the details

Eimear Byrne has always been creative. Though a business student at Aungier Street, DIT, her real passion lies in art and colour. With her Grandfather as an artist, Eimear has always been around creativity. It was from him where she learned the art of pastel blending and smudging. As Eimear grew older, she began channelling her talents into different forms of art. It is now, with nearly 2000 YouTube subscribers, up to 1000 Facebook followers and a successful makeup blog, Eimear has found her niche of makeup and theatrical looks. Eimear’s canvas is now the face.

Eimear is a self-taught makeup artist. With an ever-growing loyal YouTube following it’s hard to believe she started out just over a year ago. Eimear often posted pictures of funky seasonal makeup looks but never had the confidence to take it further. In February of last year Eimear entered one of her Halloween looks into ‘The True Beauty 2011’. To Eimear’s surprise, her entry won first place and this was the exact motivator Eimear needed to take herself to the next level.

With that, she started her YouTube makeup tutorials. “I’m so glad I plucked up the courage to do the tutorials. I’ve only had positive feedback so far and I’ve met some lovely people and I just thoroughly enjoy doing them! To be honest I don’t know what I did before them now,” says Eimear.

With Halloween fast approaching, the Edition got in contact with Eimear to bring us through some of her favourite easy to do Halloween looks. “Anyone can do my Halloween looks,” she explains. “My step-by-step tutorials are quick and easy and allow you to create the makeup look yourself with ease. You won’t realise how simple the makeup look is until you try it for yourself!”

Eimear goes on to describe one of her easiest yet most popular Halloween looks, the ‘Burnt Face’ look. “I like my ‘Burnt Face’ look because you can create it using household items. This look simply consists of toilet roll and fake blood (or red food dye). To start off, simply stick some tissue paper to your face using spirit gum (€3.99, Art n’ Hobby). Add as many layers as you like. Once the tissue is applied, distort it using a tweezer to give the appearance of detached skin. Now you can add your fake blood.

This is the great thing about Eimear’s looks, straightforward and on a budget! No one ever wants to spend a fortune on a costume they’re only going to wear once. She stresses that one does not need the exact same products she uses to recreate looks. For instance, Eimear uses setting powder for all her looks concerning face paint, but gives the alternative of talcum powder, for those who do not wish to invest in a setting powder.

Another Halloween look of Eimear’s that got a great response online was her Zebra costume, produced simply by using black and white face paint and a little bit of creativity. “I painted my face with white then added some triangular shapes and jagged lines to create the zebra stripes. For the hair, I pinned and clipped it until I fashioned a Mohawk to imitate a main.” She clarifies that it’s “paying attention to the little things like hair and small details that will really pull your entire makeup look together.”

Day in the Life...

Niamh Sharkey has got a number of achievements under her belt since graduating from DIT in 1994 with a degree in Visual Communications. She has written ten successful children’s books including The Giant Turnip, Tales of Wisdom and Wonder, and The Bisto Book of the Year Award, and has written ten successful children’s books which have been translated into over 20 languages worldwide.

She has won the Mother Goose award, the Bisto Book of the Year Award, and last May President Michael D Higgins awarded her with the Laureate na nÓg.

Currently, Disney Animation and Brown Bag Illustrations have decided to turn her book I’m a Happy Hugglewug, into a 52 episode animation series coming out next spring in over 150 countries. The Edition catches up with Niamh to try and trace her path to success back to its humble student beginnings.

Sara Dalton

Niamh: Right now I’m working on one of my books being made into an animation series with Brown Bag Films and Disney Junior which I’m really excited about. I work closely with the director and writer bringing it to life. It’s all being made right here in Ireland which I think is amazing.

A lot of my work as an illustrator is on paper so I have had to become a lot more computer literate for this project. You really have to be able to adapt in the media.

Sara: Is there any advice you would give to current students of DIT?

Niamh: I went for what I was most passionate about and I think that is key. My driving force in college was illustration and I didn’t let anything get me down. I used to walk around the streets of Dublin with my portfolio in hand and I was turned away many times. Persistence is most important, talent is something as well, but keep your vision of what your dreams are.
Tricks of the Trad

Niamh O’Donoghue pleads for the youth of Ireland to put down the bottle and pick up the Bodhrán

Culture is your personal identification of where you come from and how you differ yourself to everyone else. It is the soul that provides spirit and life to communities both here at home and internationally. Our culture should be something we can all stand up and be proud of. Sadly, many see our Irish culture as a pint of Guinness down in the local, and not the beautiful language we have, the complexity of our dancing and the power of our music. The Irish are only famous for their drinking they say? Those who believe this are very mistaken.

Now we might not be up there in the music charts with Rihanna but our musical roots are ones that need to be nurtured to continue the life-span to this timeless skill. When you think of traditional Irish music, you think of elderly men in a dark shadowy corner of a Smokey pub, right? To the untrained ear, traditional music can be nothing but a load of high pitched sounds that is usually followed by a ceilí in the gealtacht. Yet

The destruction of innocence perceived or otherwise, is crucial to the story. The way innocence is dealt with through two of the main characters, Krystal Weedon and her younger brother Robbie is nothing short of brilliant.

Countless reviewers have thrown five stars at this book but I just can’t bring myself to do it. For much of this book I just didn’t enjoy it. There are too many characters and most of them are hard to relate to, let alone like them. It is well written and a decent read but it is not the “religious experience” so many other reviewers have experienced.

Despite this, the ending of this book is incredible. If, like me, you don’t enjoy much of this book I beg of you to read on. It will be worth it I assure you. Rowling will always be known as the author of Harry Potter but this new book, though not perfect, shows that there is an awful lot more to her. Perhaps the best praise I can bestow on it is that you can only continue to grow, reaching wider audiences and future generations.

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Halloween has arrived in Dublin, and those who want to delve into the world of the weird and wonderful have plenty of activities to choose from. Dublin's Halloween Festival is set to light the city ablaze with its fantastical events.

If you want a gruesome and gore filled start to your Halloween celebrations, the IFI Horrorthon will kick off on the 25 October. The showings will last for 5 days and will house over 30 films from the horror genre. The event will be attended by renowned horror queen, Danielle Harris, who has directed and starred in countless horror flicks – most notably Halloween 4.

There will also be a series of walks organised by Hidden Dublin Walks. Among these is the Hellfire Club, the Gravedigger Walk, the Halloween Black Tale and the Haunted History Tour. The Halloween Hellfire Excursion started operating on Monday 22 October and will continue until Halloween night. A storyteller will bring to life the spooky legends of famous landmarks around Dublin. The tour will end up at the foot of the Dublin Mountains at the Hellfire Club where the real story is told. The tour lasts two hours and will leave visitors with hairs standing on the back of their necks.

Halloween goers can paint the town black with the Halloween Black Tale walk at the Guinness Brewery. The trippers can follow John Brien on his way to work at the brewery. The backdrop to this trip is the bleak Dublin of 1911 when poverty blackened the city.

The Gravedigger Ghost Tour special is another tour for those interested in Dublin's morose past. The tour bases itself around a plague stricken Dublin. The creepily customised bus also creates a 4D experience for those aboard.

The Haunted History Tour is one to delight those interested in Irish folklore. The stories tell the supernatural tales of Dublin.

Of all the ghoulish happenings the most alluring of all is the annual Samhain Halloween Parade. An event for all ages, the parade will ensue at 7pm on All Hallows Eve itself and will include a display of dancers, samba performers, monsters, ghosts, goblins and witches. Spectators can dust the cobwebs off their costumes and join in the spooky action if they fly down to Parnell Square and walk among the rest of the ghouls. The parade will continue from Parnell Square, down O'Connell Street, onto Westmoreland Street and then over to Temple Bar where

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Movies

**A SERIES OF UNSINISTER EVENTS**

**Sinister**

Run Time 110 mins

Sinéad Makk

Scott Direkson's latest film centres around true crime novelist Ellison Oswalt who has moved with his family into a house in which the previous tenants were found murdered and their youngest child disappeared.

Oswalt is clinging desperately to the success of his first book, 'Kentucky Blood', which rose to fame over ten years previously and uses the murders as the foundation for the crime novel he is writing.

Upon moving in he discovers a box of home films in the attic. These films show footage of the murders of the previous tenants and also a series of other murders which have one thing in common; the youngest child of the family is missing.

As the film progresses, Ellison begins to piece together the mystery of the killings and makes a shocking discovery; the fact that the youngest child is missing in each story is not the only connection between the horrific events. There is something much more sinister connecting the murders.

Ellison is played by Ethan Hawke and despite his acting experience, Hawke gives an unconvincing performance. There are many parts of the film where his acting is comedic even though the intention is to be serious. The Training Day star isn't alone in an unconvincing performance. His onscreen wife, Tracey Oswalt played by Juliet Rylance, overacts her part with a humorous effect.

Director Scott Direkson tries hard to include scenes that will make viewers jump in fright, but his lackadaisical attempts are nothing new to the horror genre. The music is perhaps the scariest thing about the film as it constantly gives the impression that something chilling could happen at any moment.

What's unfortunate about Sinister is the fact that it has an interesting and intriguing storyline but thanks to a slow start and cheesy dialogue it fails to wow viewers.

In what is a mediocre and ultimately banal horror film, the only redeeming quality for Sinister is its unpredictable ending.
Dublin City Council have finally given the late Dublin author, Bram Stoker, the recognition he deserves with the Bram Stoker Festival: My Name Is Dracula, running from Friday 26 to Sunday 28 October.

The Lord Mayor of Dublin, speaking at the festival launch said, “For the first time ever, Dubliners and tourists alike can enjoy a weekend of spine-chilling adventures by taking a tour of Dublin’s gothic past. This three-day festival includes film, exhibitions, plays, literature and performance and I invite Dubliners to celebrate Bram Stoker and his legacy of Dracula.

The festival begins with The Anatomy of Fear. This is an event with American crime writer, Patricia Cornwell, who will talk about how, in many ways, the serial killer has replaced the vampire in modern days. The event will be introduced by State Pathologist Professor Marie Cassidy, and will be held in the Edmund Burke Theatre, Arts Building, Trinity College Dublin at 7.30pm.

Also, running all weekend, is The life of Bram Stoker 1847-1912 Exhibition held in The Little Museum, 15 St. Stephens Green. Bram’s great-grand-nephew, Dacre Stoker, described this as “the single most important collection of material related to Bram that has ever been put on public display”.

St. Ann’s: The Church in the Heart of the City, is where Bram was married, and they will have a bust of the writer and his marriage certificate on central display all weekend for the festival. It is well worth a visit if you find yourself near Dawson street with time on your hands.

Trinity College Dublin are also hosting an event called Blood Red Ink in The Conference Room, Long Room Hub. It runs on Saturday and Sunday and is a focused writing workshop with double Children’s Books award winner Celine Kiernan. Perfect for those intent on honing their writing skills.

What seems like an unmissable listing is Gothic Tales From the Crypt. This a reading of vampire and horror stories by renowned actors Owen Roe and Donna Dent, but what is intriguing is that they are read from the 12th century crypt of Christ Church Cathedral, Saturday 27th 3.45pm.

A lighter event may be Batty Habits and Spooky Story- Making at the Smock Alley Theatre, Lower Exchange Street, Dublin 8. This is an interactive workshop for kids aged between 8 and 11 years. There will also be a seminar in the relationship between bats and vampires. This is on Saturday 27th at 11am.

In the same venue is Nightmare At Smock Alley, where authors Oisin McGann, Will Hill and Derek Landy will be tell spooky stories. The evening will be hosted by RTE Eleis’s Diana Bunici who is expected to find out what scares the three authors. It all begins at 5pm on Saturday 27th.

Back in the Long Room Hub, Trinity College Dublin, on Sunday 28 October is Fatal Attraction: What is it With Vampires. Moderated by Edel Coffey, expert panellists Anna Carey, Will Hill and Celine Kiernan discuss the prevalence of vampirism in popular culture and the underlying messages of love and sexuality, dominance and submission.

Again in the Long Room Hub, on Sunday at 4pm we have What Lies Beneath: Dracula and Its Legacy. Dr. Jarlath Kilcullen, Paul Murray, Ruth Dudley Edwards and Senator David Norris discuss the effect of Stokers legacy on literature.

The festival runs from Friday 26 to Sunday 28 October.

The first annual Bram Stoker festival arrives in town for Halloween, Aaron Hennessey finds.

Some people will switch their brooms for their running shoes and join the Dublin city marathon. It will take place on Monday 29 October; starting at 9am the route will stay open for 7 hours. The marathon starts at Fitzwilliam Street, goes past Trinity College Dublin and goes across the river, around Phoenix Park and back through the south off at Trinity College Dublin at 7.30pm.

The end will be marked with a spectacular display of fireworks. Some people will switch their brooms for their running shoes and join the Dublin city marathon. It will take place on Monday 29 October; starting at 9am the route will stay open for 7 hours. The marathon starts at Fitzwilliam Street, goes past Trinity College Dublin and goes across the river, around Phoenix Park and back through the south side of the city.

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The Strypes rock the Blues

Interview - The Strypes

Peter O’Hanlon

They have topped the charts, gigged across Europe, headlined festivals, negotiated with world renowned record label – and they are yet to sit their Leaving Cert.

The ‘boyhood friends to international phenomena’ is an age old cliché in the music industry, but rarely is such rock star status afforded to those with an average age of just 16. This is, however, certainly how life appears to be headed for Peter O’Hanlon and the awesome foursome which makes up the blues rock ensemble The Strypes.

Remarkably mature for their age, the quartet from Co Cavan has already reached heights only dreamt of by most in the industry.

Their debut EP ‘Young, Gifted and Blue’ achieved number one in iTunes, while single ‘You Can’t Judge a Book by Looking at the Cover’ went on to amass critical and popular acclaim.

This success afforded them national radio airtime as well as rave reviews from NME, Hot Press and The Irish Times. But how is it The Strypes seem to be succeeding, at such a young age, where so many before them have failed?

“I think at the start the age thing definitely stood out for people and got us noticed” suggests Peter. “Now I think people are starting to take us seriously as musicians in our own right, not just as talented kids”

From humble beginnings the guys have risen from garage band to golden boys of the industry, boasting such fans as Sir Elton John, Glen Hansard and Jonathon Ross. “Myself, Eavan and Josh started jamming together in primary school, then Ross came along as a vocalist” Peter tells the Edition. “Eventually we progressed onto small gigs then things started happening.”

It was their appearance on The Late Late Show in April of this year which showed the nation that “with them the future of Irish music is safe” in the words of show host Ryan Tubridy.

“We got a few gigs in the Gonzo in Cavan Town and got into a few places like Sweeney’s on Dame St, the 229 Club, the Blues Kitchen and other big venues in England.

Our first proper festival at the Flat Lake in Cnoces went down a storm, and more recently we’ve done the likes of Westport, Knockstockn, Sea Sessions in Bundoran and the Electric Picnic”

Specialising in original Rock ‘n’ Roll influenced by the early ‘Stones, The Beatles and The Who, they remind us that true musicianship still exists in an industry dominated by the mainstream and auto-tuned pop stars.

The band ooze confidence and their stage presence is unrivalled by even the most seasoned of performers. They are, to put it simply, ‘cool’.

“Kind of just happened really fast, we had to take it in our stride. The proficien- cy of the lads in the band is a huge plus and the support we got from the schools and families is brilliant. Everyone is whole heartedly behind us which is a great help.”

Their fiery brand of blues, distinct sound and stage presence, together with a turtle neck or two thrown in for effect, garnered them the interest of the world biggest record labels.

“It’s all hush hush at the moment” says the modest bassist. “There are some things going on and hopefully that will materialise in the future. For now we’re just happy to play away and see where that takes us.”

Wherever the four mods do end up, it is clear that Peter O’Hanlon and The Strypes may just be the next big thing and indeed ‘the future of Irish music’.

Ellie Goulding - Halcyon

Dálíre Black

Ellie Goulding’s second album ‘Halcyon’ hit the shops this month and as promised, it features a big change in musical direction.

The catchy pop hooks of 2010’s ‘Lights’ are nowhere in sight and this album is more like a collection of emotions in musical form.

Goulding’s experimental electronic edge is still there but this time around it seems the emphasis is on the story, rather than on the music behind it.

The album is a slow-starter. Subdued opening tracks ‘Don’t Say a Word’, ‘My Blood’ and the single ‘Anything Can Happen’ showing Goulding’s new-found maturity. These songs are a bit dull in comparison to the fast-paced singles of her first album, and it’s not hard to lose interest while listening.

The injection of energy in stand-out track ‘Figure 8’ is much needed. Goulding has been in a relationship with Skrillex since last year, and his influence is really obvious on this Dubstep-infused offering.

Goulding has also admitted to being a big fan of Florence + The Machine, and it’s easy to hear their influence in many of the album’s songs, especially on ‘My Blood’. Errie choirs and harp passages here and there are either a rip-off or a tribute to the band.

Goulding must be respected for her courage in being experimental, but there are songs on the album where the electro element feels a bit over-done. Even on the sweeter, simpler songs where she doesn’t rely completely on effects (’Joy’, ’I Know You Care’) her voice is auto-tuned to death. Goulding became a superstar with her version of Elton John’s ‘Your Song’, which was beautiful for its organic simplicity. Maybe she should stick to what she does best?

The album is riddled with anti-climatic moments. You’re left waiting for a beat to drop or a change in dynamic that never happens. Most songs have repetitive lyrics that should have been scrapped in the experimental stage.

Goulding has grown up since ‘Lights’. Perhaps she’s trying too hard to show that to the world with the over-production of her sombre sophomore album.

Halcyon fails to hit heights

Crossfire Hurricane celebrates 50 years of The Rolling Stones

Luke Carry

In 2005 British Filmaker Rupert Murray filmed the events of his friend Doug Bruce’s life following a bout of amnesia. In one of those film’s (Unknown White Male) most memorable scenes, Bruce enters a room in a panic with the claim that “everybody HAS to hear this band I just found.” That band was The Rolling Stones.

The Rolling Stones are Celebrating their 50th Anniversary this year; Doug Bruce only discovered their sound 43 years after it had been born. His reaction shows why The Rolling Stones have been given the title of best Rock and Roll band of all time.

The Stones have been a part of popular culture for the past 50 years, with the band rarely evading the headlines. To celebrate that feat comes the release of Brett Morgens “Crossfire-Hurricane”, an all access look at 50 years at the top. Whether you’re a newcomer or a veteran rocker, who has followed the bands entire 50 years, Crossfire Hurricane is a documentary that really is fit for any fan. It features never before seen footage and acts as an all-access pass to the crossfire hurricane that is The Rolling Stones.

Morgen has created a great piece of film which provides us with an insight into what it is like to be part of one of the world’s biggest bands. The task of Morgen, to fit such a story to screen that is in itself larger than life, is somewhat eased by the ego and charisma of the men in question. Morgens did however have to deal with the fact that his camera would not be turned on to the ageing rockers. Instead, the picture is entirely pieced together from archive footage of the band and there was 50 years of film to choose from. Interviews with Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Charlie Watts and their fellow Stones are the only new pieces of information in the documentary. For diehard fans it’s hard not to feel like you’ve seen all this before. Morgen’s piece regurgitates many previous Stones documentaries, like Scorseses’s “Shine a light”, the Maylases’ brothers ‘Gimme Shelter’ and Peter Whitehead’s “Charlie is my darling”. It’s clear these previous films have played a role in Crossfire’s development. As can be expected from any piece, trying to fit 50 years into a two and half hour allotment is no easy task. A lot is lost and while it may suit some fans that the focus here stays on the first twenty years, it’s just not quite the unique 50 year retrospect promised in the opening credits.

Drugs busts are recalled for the countless time and other familiar band stories are relayed; however the production itself has enough interesting elements to hold the seasoned fan. To the newcomers, the film acts as a “Why the Stones are cool, For Dummies” guidebook. Good fun and great music make “Crossfire Hurricane” a must for anyone who’s ever heard the strum of a guitar.
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Olympic success boosts DIT Boxing

Cathal Kearney

In what was ultimately a successful and thoroughly enjoyable Olympics, there can be no doubt that memories of the successful Irish boxers will remain engraved in our minds for years to come.

Never before had a female Irish boxer battled her way through opponents and adversity to claim gold. Bray native, Katie Taylor made history in doing just that.

Her sporting aspirations and success, not to mention her involvement in soccer with the women’s national team, has inspired both the young and old.

In addition, John-Joe Nevin claimed silver in the men’s bantam-weight whilst Michael Conlon and Paddy Barnes won bronze medals in the fly and light fly-heavyweight divisions respectively.

Team captain Darren O’ Neill and Wexford native Adam Nolan narrowly missed out, but their efforts deserve much praise.

Guided by the tactical nous of trainer Billy Walsh and under the training of the High Performance Unit, the success of the boxers looks set to extend to 2016, where they’ll look to KO Rio.

So in the aftermath of such a successful summer for Irish boxing, has it inspired the DIT students to join in and make a fist of it?

According to President of DIT Boxing Adam Bruton, the answer quite simply is yes.

“Our team is really motivated and performing at an extremely high level at the moment. We are currently training for 15 events in the coming weeks.

“We have been very fortunate to have a very high standard of coaching and support, which has helped us to develop as a team and as individuals.”

The Cabinet will discuss the proposal to ban alcohol sponsorship of sporting events in the coming weeks.

However, the proposals have met opposition from many quarters.

“Here at DIT Boxing we are always open to new members. There are no limits and no standards in place; we cater for everyone. Sessions are good and everyone just enjoys keeping themselves fit and active. Members have the freedom to work at their own pace and can pick their own sparring partners to suit their size and ability. We believe in having banter!”

“Sessions are good and everyone just enjoys keeping themselves fit and active. Members have the freedom to work at their own pace and can pick their own sparring partners to suit their size and ability. We believe in having banter!”

Members meet up twice a week; Mondays from 8 - 9.30pm in Gleeson Hall (Kevin St.), and Thursdays from 7 - 9pm in Larkin College (Cathal Brugha St.)

Upcoming events for the club include the Intervarsity Competition 2012/2013, where they will square off with other college boxing clubs.

On top of that, an event is planned for 15 November where members will compete in the ring.

The DSI society will provide the music on the night and there’s free admission into a nightclub afterwards.

Unconfirmed rumours suggest an appearance by Katie Taylor’s father and trainer Peter Taylor may also be in the offing. Tickets will be available in the Students’ Union.

No alcohol at sports events a possibility

Niamh Foran

The Cabinet will discuss the proposal to ban alcohol sponsorship of sporting events in the coming weeks.

The plans were originally published by former junior health minister Rosin Shortall in March.

She proposed to have alcohol sponsorship banned in sport by the year 2020 and the renewal of current sponsorship deals was prohibited immediately.

The National Substance Misuse Strategy Steering Group issued the ‘Steering Group Report on a National Substanece Misuse Strategy’. It outlined a number of ways to deal with the growing misuse of alcohol in Ireland.

An immediate cap has also been placed on the amount of money alcohol companies can spend on sporting events.

There are already some provisions of alcohol sponsorship in existence. There is a ban on alcohol sponsorship of any event where 25% or more of the audience is under 18 years of age.

Any sporting competition where the participants are under 18 years of age is also prohibited from having alcohol sponsorship.

There is even a ban on using alcohol sponsorship in a sport that involves mechanically propelled vehicles.

Speaking in July before her resignation, Shortall said: “I would have been very happy that we will have a Public Health Bill by September.”

However, concerns for this Bill have emerged since Shortall stepped down from her position following a dispute with Minister for Health James Reilly over primary care centres.

Minister Reilly will now be responsible for keeping these measures alive and driving them through to the Cabinet.

However, the proposals have met opposition from the drinks industries. They fear that the withdrawal of sponsorship from sporting events will leave them in financial difficulty.

Many high profile sporting championshipships and events are currently sponsored by drinks companies.

The Honekin Cup and the Carling Na Naions Cup are two primary examples of major sponsorship deals, and the GAA Hurling Championship is linked with Guinness.

It is feared that if the sponsors were to withdraw, they would be leaving the associations in a bad financial state.

Studies published by the Health Research Board (HRB) have shown only four out of ten Irish adults support the proposed ban.

Ultimate Frisbee over-achieves in Edinburgh

Aidan Kelly

DIT’s very own Ultimate Frisbee club entered tournaments in both Edinburgh and Cork to mixed success.

The team was fronted by Aidan Kelly as he acted as one of the team’s two designated experienced players and captain for the weekend.

It was a successful tournament, as they managed to improve on last year’s position by finishing 13th out of 32 teams. During the weekend DIT played an extremely intense and close game with eventual winners Trinity, which showcased the two Irish college’s talents.

“It was great to see the team improve over the course of the weekend,” said captain, Aidan Kelly.

Third-year Sean Carroll picked up the beginner’s MVP of the weekend.

In the first tournament of the new season, down in Cork, DIT Ultimate also finished 13th (out of 16). It wasn’t the weekend that captain Daragh King had planned, but a strong second day had many positives.

DIT Boxxers have started into a new season with renewed vigour, and has seen attendance boosted, following a successful Olympics in boxing.

Chelsea’s old guard have been shown the way forward by new young talent, writes James Hopper.

In light of last season’s dismal domestic showing, many pundits suggested that the best “The Blues” could look forward to was a top four finish.

However, with the way in which they have brushed opponents aside so far this season, anything other than a title will seem like an underachievement.

The master behind all of this? Roberto Di Matteo. The man who was once sacked by West Brom was given the reigns to one of Europe’s power houses midway through last season.

Far from being daunted by the challenge, the Italian would go on to seal quite an outstanding achievement. He not only won the FA Cup but also the prize the club had yearned and coveted most, the Champions League.

Chelsea have begun this season in the manner that saw Manchester City destroy all before them at the beginning of their title winning campaign.

Di Matteo will hope they have set a precedent that rivals will not be able to reach. With their only challengers seemingly the Manchester duo, the West London club should have cause for optimism that their barren spell of league titles will be at an end come May.

Their new found style has been crucial in their title run. Chelsea are back, 4-3-3 has been kind to the “pensioners” in the recent past, most impressively under José Mourinho.

However, their new 4-2-3-1 system, deemed by many as too open, has been too much for opposition to handle.

The summer arrivals of Eden Hazard, Oscar and not to mention the yet to be seen Marko Marin due to injury, has transformed the way in which Chelsea play.

Oscar has probably been the surprise package of Chelsea’s season, making his impact at such an astonishing rate that is sure to have taken even the Chelsea staff by surprise.

The Premier League is no longer a scary place for slight playmakers like Oscar, who in years gone by would have been dismissed as lightweight by scouts in England.

The now cliché of Chelsea’s “Old Guard” is being dismantled at the rate which was wanted; in the end he settled for Di Matteo’s predecessor, Andre Villas Boas.

Didier Drogba has left and Frank Lampard has been reduced to a substitute role. As well as that, Ashley Cole and John Terry’s contracts will not be renewed.

These players once ran the Chelsea dressing room, now they are being eased out slowly, thanks to ruthless owner Roman Abramovich.

For all the success that Chelsea have enjoyed in the recent past, they have never been truly entertaining. They’ve been efficient yes but marvellled at? No.

During the summer when Chelsea’s managerial position was still unclear, Abramovich was buying players in a manner that resembled a teenager playing Football Manager.

Pep Guardiola was the man Abramovich wanted; in the end he settled for Di Matteo. What he didn’t expect was the drastic change of style that Di Matteo would implement.

This accidental pairing could really be the start of another era of dominance both domestically and in Europe.

Out with the old, in with les blues

James Hopper
Trapattoni gets backing

Darragh Mowlds

Despite an embarrassing 6-1 defeat to Germany and our World Cup qualification looking increasingly unlikely, the FAI has given manager Giovanni Trapattoni their unshakeable backing.

We must ask ourselves why we continue to allow our national team to be made a fool of on the international stage.

Why did Ireland lose 6-1? Why is Darren O’Dea allowed on the pitch? Why does Trapattoni refuse to play Darron Gibson along with countless other talented players? Most importantly though, why is Trapattoni still in the job?

It’s a more complicated question than you might think. One answer may be that the FAI might not be able to afford to cancel Trapattoni’s contract. We all waited with bated breath last week when the FAI called an emergency meeting regarding the manager’s future. The result… He has their full backing.

What? How badly would Germany have had to beat us for them to sack him? Cowards! Maybe the problem doesn’t lie with Trap. John Delaney is a large part of the problem; he is a plague on all our lives, football-wise at least.

Trapattoni was hailed as a genius after he managed to get our misguided band of players to the Euros. Our qualification pulled the wool over the FAI’s eyes and, in their infinite wisdom, they have signed him to a new two-year-deal. This is the deal we as a nation are wondering: how do we get out of this?

Trapattoni has an amazing record as a manager, arguably one of the best in football history but that’s the key word – history.

It can also be said that Liverpool used to be a world force in football, Nottingham Forest too. But times have moved on and so has history. It can also be said that Liverpool used to be a world force in football, Nottingham Forest too. But times have moved on and so has history.

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For some, it sounds. Trust me.

To lying stomach down on top of the kayak came out, as well as 30 new members.

After having a great year last year, the club saw record numbers join this season. The club's first weekend trip is happening on the 26th of October on the river Boyne. If you want to get involved this weekend, check out DIT Canoe Club on Facebook and YouTube. You can also get down to the pool in Kevin St. Monday's and Wednesday's when the shiny new sports pool is sure to be a hit.

The edition Wednesday October 24 2012

SPORT

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Sporting History

Liam Kennedy

24th October - On this day in 1857 the world's first soccer club, Sheffield FC, was founded.
- Manchester United and England striker Wayne Rooney was born 27 years ago.

25th October - Five years ago today marks Martin Joel's last game as Spurs manager. He went into that game knowing he was sacked and unsurprisingly his team lost 2-1 to their opponents, Celtic.
- Everton and Ireland midfielder Darron Gibson celebrates his 25th birthday.

26th October - On this day in 1863, the Football Association was formed in England. As a result soccer rules were standardized and rugby started as a separate game.

27th October - In 1944, construction began for Real Madrid's world-famous stadium the Estadio Santiago Bernabeu.

28th October - Former Manchester United, Newcastle and Leeds player Alan Smith was born 32 years ago.

29th October - In 1960, Muhammad Ali (Cassius Clay) won in his first professional fight.

30th October - 1974 - Muhammad Ali KO's George Foreman in the eighth round of 'The Rumble in the Jungle'.
- In 1997, the USA earn their first Olympic gold in the men's basketball.
- In 2002, Madagascar side Stade Olympique scored a world record 149 own goals in a match against rivals AS Adema. This was done as a protest after they had lost the championship due to a controversial penalty decision in the previous game. The final score (149-0) is recognised as the highest ever in a soccer match.
- Former Ireland and Manchester United defender Dennis Irwin turns 47 today.

1st November - In 1946, Manchester United and England striker Sir Bobby Charlton was born.

2nd November - 1997 - In soccer, the USA earn their only ever point against Mexico in Mexico.
- Up until then they had never drawn there.

3rd November - 1960, Muhammad Ali (Cassius Clay) wins in his first professional fight.

4th November - 1997 - Former Real Madrid and Portugal star Luis Figo was born.

5th November - 1997 - Former Manchester United manager Nigel Worthington was born.

6th November - 1940 - Former Ireland player and long-time RTE pundit John Giles was born today.

Canoe crowds

Charlotte Farrell

After having a great year last year, the construction to the sports facilities in Kevin St. did hinder the club's training but it didn't stop them.

The club saw record numbers join this year. Their first trip of the year was on Sunday 7th October out at Dollymount beach, Clontarf. Praying to the kayaking gods helped as the rain stayed at bay and the sun came out, as well as 30 new members.

The highlight of the kayaking was to see everyone try to go from sitting in the kayak to lying stomach down on top of the kayak and trying to paddle. It’s harder than it sounds. Trust me.

The day ended with members jumping from the bridge into the sea. For some older members a helping hand was given in leaving the bridge. The height of the bridge was approx. 4.5 meters, depending on sea level. This leaves plenty of time to scream on the way down as some people found out.

This year's first weekend trip is happening on the 26th of October on the river Boyne. If you want to get involved this year check out DIT Canoe Club on Facebook and YouTube. You can also get down to the pool in Kevin St. Monday's and Wednesday’s when the shiny new sports pool is sure to be a hit.

Jack Maher

Despite mixed results in Round One, Irish sides went into the second weekend of the Heineken Cup with ambitions still intact.

Dan Parks restarts play with a drop kick

Heineken Cup Round-up

Giovanni Trapattoni has received backing from the Football Association of Ireland despite widespread criticism of his tactics and man-management.

Munster Pool 1

As the only Irish side to experience defeat in Round One, Munster were back to winning ways on Sunday as they confidently beat Edinburgh 33-0 in Limerick. Munster were a dominant force despite being confirmed in the lead up to the game that Romain O’Gara would miss the match after he sustained an injury in Round One.

Ulster Pool 4

Following a bonus point victory in Round One, Ulster were able to build on a good start with a solid victory over the Glasgow Warriors. They beat the Scottish side 19-8.

Despite the win, Ulster will be disappointed after losing their captain, Johann Muller, who is expected to be out for up to eight weeks.

Northampton Saints weren’t able to capitalise on their opening day win, losing 21-16 to a resilient Castres side.

Connacht Pool 3

Following a victory against new boys Zebre in the opening weekend, Connacht weren’t as lucky in Round Two, falling to English Champions Harlequins. The Irish side were unable to repeat the unexpected performance from last week which saw them beat Harlequins and subsequently knock them out of the tournament.

Although qualifying from the Pool seems beyond them, Connacht, backed by a strong home crowd will be confident of taking something from their remaining home fixture against Biarritz.

Leinster Pool 5

After a nervous victory in Round One, Leinster improved their form during an away-day against Scarlets. This is the second defeat for the Welsh team who are now unlikely to progress further.

Leinster will be pleased with result after their last encounter with Scarlets resulted in an unexpected defeat for the European Champion.

Despite the win, Leinster still lie two points behind Clermont. However, both sides are expected to comfortably reach the knockout stages.

Next Fixtures:

Connacht v Biarritz (7 December)
Northampton v Ulster (7 December)
Munster v Scarlets (8 December)
ASM Clermont Auvergne v Leinster (9 December)

The argument for McClean to start and solve all the team’s problems is flawed as well. While he may still turn out to be the Irish Messi, he’s still one player and not a miracle worker.

Tactically, it’s not always clear what Trap is trying to do. Simon Cox is a striker. Even Wikipedia knows this. He has never and will never be a winger. And nothing says the game is over like seeing Paul Green warming up.

Trapattoni rode in on a wave of applause. It was hailed as a stroke of genius by the FAI. To be honest, I would have fired him long before the FAI. His refusal to play football is maddening. Kicking it long to Robbie Keane makes as much sense as giving Tallafornia a second season.

Ireland’s 4-1 victory over the Faroe Islands should not have been enough to save him. A victory over a team comprised of lands should not have been enough to save him. A victory over a team comprised of lands should not have been enough to save him.

Be a man Trap. Be a man.

Jack Maher

Despite mixed results in Round One, Irish sides went into the second weekend of the Heineken Cup with ambitions still intact.
DIT Hockey Team finally through to intervarsities

Danielle Stephens
Sports Editor

After campaigning for five years, the DIT Hockey Team are finally going to the Intervarsities. The three-day tournament will take place over the bank holiday weekend from 27 to 30 of October.

The University College of Cork will host this year’s games, which will hopefully see DIT prove their efforts over the last five years weren’t for nothing.

Ian Walker is one of four DIT players who are also part of the national hockey squad. The Irish goaltender is looking forward to the games and believes that the institute have a strong enough team to do really well.

In previous years the club found it hard to recruit players because there wasn’t a hugely competitive tournament to take part in. However, Walker explains that “more hockey players are coming out of the woodwork recently and trying to get onto the squad for the Intervarsities.”

Walker explains that the issues came from the people on the board for the Intervarsities.

Before this year, universities were the sole participants of the Intervarsity games with institutes of technology being refused entry.

DIT was consistent in how it tried to gain entry into the tournament. Every year for five years, they sent letters to the board asking to be allowed participate. It wasn’t until two years ago that there was a breakthrough.

This sparked uproar in the DIT camp. Players, including Ian Walker, and sports officers sent in letters to the board calling the situation a joke.

According to the board, CIT were allowed to participate but were not permitted to win it. If the institute were to make it to the final they would have to throw the game.

Eventually, with protests mounting, one of the members of the board stepped down. Now letters were reaching someone who actually cared and DIT could compete in the tournament.

This year will see 12 teams compete in the Intervarities instead of just seven or eight. With all 16 of the DIT squad playing in either the first or second divisions, Walker is confident that they will do really well during the tournament that starts next Sunday.

Ian Walker is one of DIT’s sports scholar recipients. He also won the award such for DIT All Star at the DIT Sports Awards Night last year.

The Irish hockey squad will travel to Argentina at the end of November to play in the Champions Challenge One, an international field hockey tournament.

After being promoted to the league two years ago, Ireland are hoping to do well enough to get into the Champions Trophy, the highest ranked international hockey league.

For now though, the computing student is looking forward to competing with DIT in the Intervarsity games.

Armstrong stripped of seven yellow jerseys

Colin Layde dissects the fall from grace of cycling heavy weight, Lance Armstrong

Lance Armstrong’s fall from grace continues at the speed of a Pyrenees decent as the fallout from the United States Anti-Doping Agency’s (USADA) decision to publish its report on the cyclist shows no sign of abating.

On Monday Armstrong was stripped of his 7 Tour de France titles by cycling’s governing body. The International Cycling Union (UCI) accepted USADA’s findings and banned the American for life, “Lance Armstrong has no place in cycling. He deserves to be forgotten” said UCI President Pat Quaid. The President acknowledged Armstrong’s exposure had led to the sport facing the greatest crisis in its history.

USADA’s report brands the Texan a “serial cheat” who used performance enhancing drugs throughout his career. Armstrong doped prior to his cancer diagnosis, during his 7 Tour de France victories and in his 2009 comeback. The report accuses Armstrong of “instigating and partaking in the most sophisticated doping programme that sport has ever seen”. The cyclist was not merely a helpless pawn but actively encouraged his teammates to cheat. It represents a staggering fall for a man who was idolised by millions and an inspiration to those battling cancer.

The report’s publication has seen sponsors desert the disgraced cyclist, sportswear giant Nike, bicycle manufacturer Trek and Budweiser brewer Anheuser-Busch have all severed ties with Armstrong.

Nike ended its 16 year association with the cyclist last Wednesday, in a statement the company said that, “due to the seemingly insurmountable evidence that Armstrong participated in doping, we have terminated his contract”.

In an advertisement for the company, Armstrong addressed the suspicions of doping that had long surrounded him. “What am I on? I’m on my bike busting my ass six hours a day, what are you on?”. Unfortunately for Lance he was also on EPO, steroids, testosterone and undergoing blood transfusions.

Armstrong has also been forced to step down from his role as Chairman of Livestrong, the foundation he established to provide support for individuals affected by cancer and their families. The foundation has raised tens of millions of dollars through the sale of yellow wristbands inspired by the Tour’s maillot jaune. Whether it is possible for the public to separate Armstrong the altruist from Armstrong the drugs cheat remains to be seen.

USADA only published its findings after the cyclist declined to contest the allegations made against him, saying he had grown “weary” of the constant accusations of doping levelled at him. It is scarcely believable that a man who beat terminal cancer, scaled the Alps and the Pyrenees, as if they were merely hills, would give up and throw away all he has achieved if the accusations weren’t true.

Eleven of Armstrong’s former US Postal teammates have now confessed to doping and stated their team leader also participated, including George Hincapie a man Armstrong once described as his “best friend”.

Armstrong was not alone in his flagrant disregard of the rules and ethos of the sport. All of the riders who finished second to him in the Tour between 1999 and 2005 have previously been implicated in doping.

USADA’s dossier of evidence has exposed the cancer at the core of cycling, perhaps doing irreversible damage to the sport’s image. The onus is now on Lance Armstrong to end his charade and confess. Doing so will draw a line under the most damaging and most disgraceful period of cycling’s history and may help to save the sport he professes to love.