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DIT News Society

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DITSU election nominations

- Unprecedented number of people in nominations
- Additional day of voting including in election schedule

Ciarán Clark
News Editor

Polling stations will open for DITSU elections from Monday March 11 till Wednesday March 13 this year.

Each year, DITSU holds elections for new representatives for the students union, with elections for President, VP Education, VP Events and VP Welfare. The four elected Officer positions are full time, permanent 12 month jobs running from 1st July until June 30th of the following year.

Extra Voting Day

Certain changes have been made precedent this year’s round of elections, with an extra day of voting added and the role of the Education and Welfare officer now divided into two separate roles; VP for Education and VP for Welfare. Catering for Facilities will also be transferred from the remit of Events to the Welfare job.

Will Meara, VP for Events, said the extra day had been added to give students extra time to vote and to encourage a larger turnout. He was optimistic that turnout would be larger this year, than in previous years as he maintains engagement on the part of the SU with students had improved.

He also stressed, “We recommend that everyone who’s running pushes voting regardless if they think people are going to vote for them or not”. He went on to highlight the importance of student's utilising their right to vote saying, “If you waste your vote and all of a sudden someone’s in office and you’re not happy with it, you’ve no-one to blame but yourself because you didn’t pick the person who you did want. If you don’t vote, you’ve no voice”.

Key Dates

8 February
Close of nominations

11 - 13 March
Voting to take place across two days this year

There have been an unprecedented number of people nominated for SU roles this year. Nominations opened on January 28, and will close on February 8 at 12pm.

The only criteria to apply for a job with the union, is that you are a registered student of DIT, and are committed to a year’s work with the union.

Campaign

There are also elections for six part time college officers and a postgraduate officer, whose terms run concurrently with the Institutes semesters.

The DIT students’ union elections are managed by an electoral commission, as established under the DITSU Constitution (Article 22). This commission sets out regulations relating to the running of the elections. The commission is chaired independently and DIT students have representation.

There will be a “Meet the Candidates” session at local College Fora for College Officers or an evening event to include a Presidential debate during the election campaign. Here students can ask candidates about their policies and work for the students of DIT both locally and at a national level.

Glenn Fitzpatrick who is running for student union president said he “wants to see a hotly contested campaign”. He added that students should come to the “Meet the Candidates” session so they can question and challenge the nominees, because, “they deserve to have the right person in the job.”

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Polling will open March 11 to March 13 across all sites from 8:30am to 8:30pm, (Rathmines from 9am to 5pm). A valid form of ID must be brought along.

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Contestant Erin Bingham takes part in the first session of a 12-week program to crown the Lean Machine 2013. Trainer, Andy, will be putting them through their paces in a gruelling, but rewarding, schedule of physical endurance. Follow the participants’ experiences exclusively in the Edition over the next three months.

Go to Lean Machine, P10-11

Photo: Jarlath Moloney


**Numbers**

€9 million
Amount cut from St James’s Hospital Budget

73,230
Attendance at rugby match between Wales and Ireland, on 2 February

34 minutes
Delay to the Super Bowl caused by a power outage

2
Number of shows scheduled in Ireland as part of Beyoncé’s ‘Mrs Carter Show’ World Tour

75%
Percentage of horse DNA found in Polish beef product, in a new controversy for the beef industry

**Late Late online**

Mark Meehan
The Late Late Show, Ireland’s favourite and the world’s longest running chat show, has been a showcase for new musical talent for many, many years. Bands that would be considered international superstars in the present day made their television debut on it hallowed stage, including the likes of U2 and the Edge of Dun- town Rats. Careers have been launched, with dizzying heights being reached. RTÉ, Ireland’s national broadcaster, which is behind The Late Late Show, has taken the concept of offering original Irish musical acts a chance to make a name for themselves one step further – into the world of the internet. With downloading becoming ever-more popular as a medium for obtaining music of all genres, The Late Late Show is now offering the public the chance to electronically download the music which they hear on the programme.

A TV spot on The Late Late has long been lauded by Irish musicians as the ultimate showcase of their talent on a public scale. The programme can often draw viewer numbers in the hundreds of thousands. This makes it an absolute gem for any act looking to make their mark on the Irish musical scene. The new iTunes room offers a method for viewers to get the music they like from the programme with relative ease – a click of a mouse instead of the traditional trip to CD shops, which are themselves falling in number as time goes on. In the changing environment of the music industry, The Late Late Show iTunes Room could be a lifeline for many bands. The problem for many musical acts at the outset is making their music known to audiences which are perhaps outside of their usual circles. The Late Late Show iTunes Room, according to an article on the RTE website, “will give upcoming acts an opportunity to promote their new single to a different audience.”

The creation of this iTunes Room shows that the Late Late Show, as venerable and long-running as it may be, is still able to adapt to the times. The chance to perform in front of a large audience remains a pivotal opportunity for musical acts, and this new technology will ensure that they reach as far and wide as possible into the future.

**DIT in 2013: Eye Care project**

Students to assist in eye tests for school kids in Nampula

Amy Hamill
Four final year optometry students will travel to Mozambique from April 17 to 27 to support the Mozambique eye care project (MEP). This project was established under the global initiative, “Vision 2020, The Right to Sight.” This initiative aims to eliminate preventable blindness in developing countries by the year 2020. At the moment, 90% of the world’s visually impaired live in developing countries and 80% of this can be prevented, treated or cured. The MEP is working to provide a sustainable solution to reduce the incidences of avoidable blindness.

There are thirty optometry students in Mozambique who have recently completed their studies and are ready to practise optometry as professionals. The DIT students will be meeting with these graduates and working with them. They will be assisting screening eye tests for school children in Nampula. These children will have never had access to an eye test and the students could potentially be giving sight to children by providing them with a pair of glasses.

During their stay, they will be attending the graduation ceremony of the newly qualified optometrists. They will be attending seminars and delivering presentations to the optometry staff and students in Mozambique.

They were invited on this trip based on the commitment they have shown to supporting the medical profession and this germ of an idea will continue to grow. The DIT students have said they are extremely privileged to have been offered to help with the project.

The machines range from the basic, designed for web browsing, social networking and DVD’s, to high end processors capable of the most demanding Computer Aided Design (CAD).

Eileen Maher, sales and marketing manager for Rehab Recycle, outlined the response to the project so far. “We were astounded by the response of the USI Council, their support and desire to work as part of the Rehab Team. We are incredibly privileged to have the opportunity to be involved in this cause,” one student said.

Sponsors for the project include local businesses, the USI and the world’s longest running chat show, The Late Late Show, which will give upcoming acts an opportunity to promote their new single to a different audience." The creation of this iTunes Room shows that the Late Late Show, as venerable and long-running as it may be, is still able to adapt to the times. The chance to perform in front of a large audience remains a pivotal opportunity for musical acts, and this new technology will ensure that they reach as far and wide as possible into the future.

**Cheap laptops offered to students**

Luke Holohan

The Union of Students in Ireland (USI) have announced that its members can now avail of a new initiative which offers affordable and refurbished laptops. Under the scheme laptops will be made available for purchase from as little as €120, with higher quality options being offered from between €260 and €280.

The initiative is being run in accordance with Rehab Recycle, a recycling company which has recently launched its Promise It campaign. As part of the campaign, companies are being encouraged to donate their outdated and unused electronic equipment. In full compliance with Irish and European waste disposal, the IT equipment will be properly wiped of its data and an updated Microsoft operating system is added to Laptops and PCs to bring them up to standard.

According to the USI website, equipment that is obsolete and irreparable will not be sold. Instead, parts will be recycled - "the stuff that’s too old to be useful is broken down for components or raw materials, but the stuff that’s worth using is professionally refurbished and tested by Rehab Recycle and sold on. For the first time ever, this stuff is now available to students, with warranties. The machines range from the basic, designed for web browsing, social networking and DVD’s, to high end processors capable of the most demanding Computer Aided Design (CAD)." Eileen Maher, sales and marketing manager for Rehab Recycle, outlined the response to the project so far. “We were astounded by the response of the USI Council, their support and desire to work as part of the Rehab Team. We are incredibly privileged to have the opportunity to be involved in this cause,” one student said.

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For more information, log on to http://rehabrecycle.ie or http://www.usi.ie.

**RAG Charity Week 2013 gears up**

Mardi Gras, sky-diving and shaving

Dálíné Black

Culture Editor

The DIT SU RAG Charity Week will kick off on Monday February 11th with a large turnout estimated.

This year’s chosen charity is Pieta House, a charity that deals with suicide and self-harm. The centre opened in Lucan, Co. Dublin, in January 2006 by the founder Joanne Freeman, a practicing psychologist. Since then, two outreach centres have been opened in Tallaght, Dublin 24, and Finglas, Dublin 11 along with two centres of excellence in Ballyfermot, Dublin 10, and Coolock.

Pieta House now has a large staff and their services are in great demand. In 2012, more than 3,000 people came to the charity seeking help and the numbers contacting them are ever increasing. Pieta House offer a free service with 90% of their income generated from fundraising events. They have a heavy reliance on the encouragement and support from volunteers and friends of Pieta. Pieta House saves lives and helps those in need and crisis. The mission is to raise as much money as possible for this worthwhile cause, although the aim is €15,000.

Charity events

With events taking place both during the day and night the week looks set to be a success. Monday sees the RAG CHARITY Week come to Karnival, which has now been moved to the Lost Society. The theme is Mardi Gras with oodles of Mardi Gras “Throw Beads” and lots of free candy floss, face paint and glow sticks. On Tuesday students can enjoy Europe’s largest paint party in The Big Tree with the acclaimed Dead-Bots headlining.

In terms of daytime events the big fund-raiser is the Sky Dive which allows any student to jump out of a plane providing they raise €640 or more.

Need a new look? Shave or Dye is back, with students recommended to choose the DITSU Ents colour purple as their chosen Dye. The Sticker Fund is back to help raise money for Pieta House. Students purchase the DITSU Ents stickers for €1, which them to something amusing and put the picture to the DITSU Ents Facebook page with a chance to win a huge prize.

Sponsorship cards are available in the SU offices and there is also the option of the online service Moolla. Students are encouraged to take part and raise money for Pieta House in whatever way they wish. More information can be found on www.ditsu.ie.
Quinn publishes new further education bill

New authority, SOLAS, to replace FÁS

New Education and Training Boards will form

As part of ongoing reforms in third-level education, Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairí Quinn, has published the Further Education and Training Bill 2013. The Bill, published on Friday 25 January, provides for a new authority, known as SOLAS, to be established. This new body would be responsible for the organisation and funding of third-level programmes.

Education and Training Boards (ETBs) would also be established by the Bill, which is given a remit to carry out training. The SOLAS Bill also provides for the disbanding of FÁS, whose “brand has been badly damaged in recent years,” said Minister Quinn last September. Existing FÁS training centres would come under the responsibility of the ETBs.

The publication of the Bill has been anticipated since September of last year, when Minister Quinn announced the plans to establish SOLAS. Separate legislation is currently going through the Oireachtas to replace the 33 Vocational Education Committees with 16 ETBs. This legislation was intended for enactment before the end of 2012, a target Minister Quinn outlined in September.

According to the Department of Education and Skills, “certain staff will be transferred to the ETBs.” However, there is no guarantee or estimation on what proportion of FÁS staff may expect to be kept on. The Irish Vocational Education Association has claimed that the current FÁS staff of around 800 will be reduced to approximately 200 on the ETBs.

Last September, Minister Quinn said that the State wanted further education and training as the “black sheep” of the education system to be focusing instead on the primary and second-level sectors.

On the publication of the new Bill, he said: “Given the problems we face with unemployment, it is more important than ever before that the Further Education and Training sector is fit-for-purpose for all learners. I believe that SOLAS will bring a much-needed focus to this part of our education system for the first time.”

“SOLAS will help to implement the Government’s Pathways to Work Strategy and will concentrate particularly on supports for the unemployed and long-term unemployed.”

Minister of State Ciarán Cannon, the Chair of the SOLAS Implementation Group has said: “It is very important to highlight that SOLAS will not simply be a re-branded FÁS.

“We are learning from out experience of FÁS to help develop the new agency; we want SOLAS to work with ETBs and other service providers to harness what is good about our further education and training system and make it even better for users.”

The SOLAS Bill will consist of 11 members, appointed by the Minister for Education and Skills, after consultation with the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, and the Minister for Social Protection. At an Oireachtas Committee meeting in late 2011, Mr Dermot Mulligan, assistant secretary general of the Joint Committee on Jobs, Social Protection and Education, remarked that the then-emerging proposals for reform, including the introduction of SOLAS, would be the “most significant changes in the further education sector in over 70 years.”

Dublin WiFi unveiled

A free WiFi service has been launched in Dublin city centre, with access at 12 different locations in the capital planned. The first locations went live at 11am Jan 31 beside the Dublin City Council Civic Offices at Wood Quay, at City Hall and at St Patrick’s Cathedral.

The scheme, being provided by Gowex, which runs similar schemes in other European and UK cities.

The full list of locations to be included are: Smithfield Square, Barnardo’s Square, Charlemont Street, St Patrick’s Park, O’Connell Street Plaza, Temple Bar Square, Wolfe Tone Square, the area in front of the Convention Centre Dublin, Merrion Park, Henry Street, Grafton Street and the outdoor amphitheatre located at Civic Offices.

80% horse meat find

Burgers have been shown to contain 80 per cent horse meat in Northern Ireland, potentially by another Irish company.

The Chief Executive of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland announced that he believes some stakeholder is “drip-feeding” horse meat in the burger manufacturing sector.

An Garda Síochána have started an investigation into the situation as Professor Alan Reilly also believes there is a high level of fraud occurring.

Nearly 75 per cent of a filler material used by Rangeland Foods in Co Monaghan was revealed contains equine DNA.

Agricultural Minister Simon Coveney said earlier that he is not surprised that horse DNA was found in ingredients used at Rangeland processing plants.

DIT servers fixed

DIT STUDENTS were unable to connect to servers out-of-hours on February 18. DIT servers were fixed.

If using an IRC to connect to servers outside DIT, there was an ongoing issue with identifying channels. NetSoc claim this will most likely affect 2-3 people at most.

This was an issue with DIT’s network, however, as part of the new firewall system, NetSoc have said they are taking steps to set up an aws (amazon cloud) account and be in a position to move some service to somewhere outside the network should it fail in the future.
Homophobic attack alleged

Ciarán Clark
News Editor

Spar Ireland has said they are investigating a report of an incident of homophobia at their Dame St store last week.

Spar stated they were aware of the allegations, saying they “note the many concerned comments in relation to an alleged incident in a SPAR store on Dame Street”.

Both Spar’s Facebook and Twitter pages were bombarded with impassioned comments hours after the incident, abhorbing the reported attack.

(Ruairí Lawlor) stated via Facebook that he was abused by a security guard because of his sexuality. He posted that while at the store he and his partner were told by security personnel to “take it back into the George, you faggots”, after kissing while queuing for food.

The George is a gay bar located two doors from the Spar on Georges Street.

During the incident, Mr Lawlor, reported that his partner replied “if we were a straight couple who kissed would you have asked us to leave and go back to Coppertop?”

Mr Lawlor also reported the incident turned violent posting, “I then dragged Emmett towards the deli and the security guard followed and again told us to get out of the shop ‘you faggots’. Emmett then pushed him away in retaliation after which two lads pinned him to the ground and were practically strangling him, he now has cuts all over his face and is some amount of pain.”

It has not been confirmed who was responsible for the reported assault. However, Spar has announced they are currently working with the store owner, the Gardaí and the private security company to “establish the facts of the alleged incident” and “it is important that we all respect the requirement for due process as the allegations are investigated.”

Distancing the company from the Dame Street store they also announced the store “is independently owned and operated.”

Spar added, “Spar Ireland prides itself on respect for all regardless of gender, nationality, colour, creed, or sexual orientation and abhors any action that contravenes that.”

New bullying and mental health plans launched

Homophobic bullying to be tackled in new twelve-point Action Plan

Mental health issues given higher priority after recent tragedies

Al McConnell
Deputy Editor

Twelve actions are included in the guidelines, which were launched by Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairí Quinn, and Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Frances Fitzgerald on Tuesday 29 January.

Among the plans are proposals to tackle homophobic and transphobic bullying and procedures for recording incidents of bullying.

The Action Plan will have funding of €500,000, to go towards its goal of incorporating support from parents and wider society into efforts to tackle bullying.

Minister Quinn also announced that the Department of Education and Skills will be revising of the Stay Safe Programme for primary schools. The programme will be updated to more directly tackle the issue of cyber bullying.

At the launch of the new Action Plan, Minister Fitzgerald said: “Today is a significant step in the Government’s absolute commitment to address the serious impact which bullying continues to have on our children. This Action Plan on Bullying is the first of its kind in Ireland and highlights the critical role of schools in dealing with bullying “Bullying is not limited to classrooms, so we must have a broader approach. That includes making sure that whenever young people are, they are protected by strong anti-bullying guidelines and strong practice.”

Mental Health

Later last week, new guidelines were also published on the promotion of positive mental health and suicide prevention in post-primary schools.

The guidelines aim to provide information for all members of the school community, including boards of management, parents, pupils’ associations and students, on how to address mental health issues.

Key measures include: Developing a safe and caring environment, building positive teacher-student and student-student relationships, actively involving young people and parents in implementing policies, ensuring promotion of positive mental health is carried out by all staff, and encouraging student participation in extra-curricular activities.

According to the Department of Education and Skills, it is estimated that one in ten children and teenagers experience mental health disorders which impact on their relationships and day-to-day coping skills, and many mental health issues emerge in childhood and early adolescence.

Minister of State for Disability, Older People, Equality and Mental Health, Kathleen Lynch, commented at the launch: “Youth suicides and youth mental health are serious issues that need to be addressed urgently.”

“It is vital that we support our young people in their social, emotional, and mental health needs in order to ensure that they reach their potential and develop into happy, well-adjusted adults.”

Ms Lynch also emphasised the importance of identifying risk factors.

“We must ensure early detection of problems and timely intervention for any young person experiencing mental health difficulties, because we know that early intervention leads to the best health outcomes and reduces the likelihood of long term disability.”

The Guidelines are divided into three sections: ‘School support for all’, providing a whole-school approach to mental health and suicide prevention; ‘School Support for some’, focusing on early intervention; and ‘School Support for a few’, which outlines how schools can support young people with more complex needs.

Vodafone to renew sponsorship of DIT’s annual fashion show

Diarmuid O Muiri

Vodafone will continue to sponsor the annual DIT Fashion Show.

The sponsorship was confirmed amid speculation due to Vodafone’s previous contract with the annual fashion show to come to a close. DIT Fashion Show Chairperson, Gordon Geraghty said: “The sponsorship is confirmed, we have a new contract.”

When asked about the financial details of the contract Mr Geraghty couldn’t comment. “I can’t say, it’s in the terms of the contract” said Mr Geraghty.

“We’re planning on having the Fashion Show on the 17th of April… and it might be two nights. Maybe” added Mr Geraghty.

The DIT Fashion Show is one of the biggest events in the DIT calendar.

Model castings for the DIT Fashion Show 2013 took place on Wednesday 28th November 2012. Castings were held from 3.30pm at Intreo in DIT Aungier Street.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the show.

Models were chosen by our celebrity panel of judges. The panel included Brendan Courtney, stylist and TV presenter; Anne Morgan, managing director of Distinct Model Management; stylist Maria Fusco and model Shireen McDonagh.

Possibility of a two-night show

Prize money at this year’s show

The 2012 Fashion Show theme ‘End of the World, Dawn of a New Era’ was based on the Mayan prediction of the Apocalypse in 2012.

The show itself has won numerous awards including DIT Society Awards and National awards such as DIT’s Best Event in 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 and the National BICS award for Best Event in 2004.

The prize for winning the show last year was €2,000 and a trophy.

Prize money at this year’s show

£2000

Anti-Bullying Plan: Key Points

Actions recommended by the working group

• Support a media campaign focused on cyber bullying targeted at young people.

• Establish a new national anti-bullying website.

• Provide support for the Stand Up! Awareness Week Against Homophobic Bullying organised by BeLong To Youth Services.

• Review current teacher training provision, to identify how teachers can effectively tackle bullying.

• Devise a co-ordinated plan of training for parents and for school boards of management.

• Begin development immediately of new national anti-bullying procedures for all schools, including an anti-bullying policy template.

• Devisementan.

Recommendations for further consideration

• Department of Education and Skills to engage with book publishers who produce materials for schools to address the issue of stereotyping.

• A proposal to establish an Anti-Bullying Implementation Group.
Erasmus student scammed

Fake account on accommodation website used to defraud DIT student on his way from France

Amy Nora Fitzgibbon

An Erasmus student has been scammed on the internet in relation to accommodation. Before his arrival into Dublin, Paul DuFour, a French environmental science student in DIT, answered a notice on the website Easyroommate.com for a flat-share in Dublin 1, posted by what is now presumed to be a fictitious individual. They corresponded by e-mail after which this person sent DuFour a copy of her ID and a contract. She then asked him to secure his place in the flat by sending the deposit and first month’s rent, a total of €1000, to her via Western Union. Suspicious of this arrangement, DuFour asked if he could speak to the individual’s parents. He was given a number of a woman who seemed very nice and who said that DuFour needed to send over only half the money before he arrived into Dublin and then pay the rest directly.

After sending the first €500, DuFour was informed that the person’s lawyer had said yes to another potential flatmate, and that if he really wanted the room he would have to send over the remaining €500. So DuFour spoke to a woman who said that he could pay the remaining half once he arrived into Dublin. But after speaking to the Easyroommate ‘account holder’ on Skype, he was told that her mother had changed her mind again and he would have to pay the remaining €500 immediately. At this stage, Paul DuFour asked for his money back, but never heard from the individual again.

According to Paul, two other French girls were scammed in this way prior to their arrival in Dublin.

DuFour posted on the DIT Erasmus Facebook book page on 21 January saying that he still had no accommodation for his arrival into Dublin on 23 January as he had been scammed on the internet. DIT’s Erasmus coordinator, Caoimhe Mulhall responded to his Facebook post on 28 January asking him to come into the office, but Paul did not do so as he had sorted his accommodation dilemma at that stage. “As long as I’ve been working here, I’ve never heard of a student being scammed in relation to their accommodation in this way before,” said Ms. Mulhall.

The accommodation page on the DIT website advises incoming Erasmus students not to hand over any money for accommodation until their arrival into Dublin so that they can see what is being offered.

The page offers a list of hotels suitable for short-term accommodation for this purpose.

It also recommends suitable long-term accommodation options that DIT has block-booked with external providers. These include Griffith Hall of Residence on the South Circular Road and Marino Student Accommodation on Griffith Avenue.

After the death of a DIT Erasmus student due to stabbing wounds in December of last year outside accommodation previously recommended by DIT, Herberton Residence in Dublin 8, this accommodation option is no longer listed on the DIT website.

The contact details for the DIT Financial Aid and Accommodation Services are also provided on the page in order to help incoming Erasmus students with accommodation or difficulties they might have in relation to finding accommodation in Dublin.

Are we just numbers?

Pedro Garcés Satué

There is no doubt that technology plays an essential role in our daily lives. Would we be able to live without our mobile phones or the Internet? Could we do without them for even one day? The use of smart phones and similar devices has increased over the past few years therefore changing the way we communicate with family and friends. How has technology affected society?

Apart from the massive impact that technology is having in society, there is a recent concern about a ‘big brother’ element; that is to say, the fact that data is being collected about the public and people’s movements, essentially watching people without their knowledge.

Whether we are worried or not by this phenomenon, lecturer at NUI Maynooth, Pedro Garcés Satué, is aiming to conduct a further survey on the issue in the coming months. Mr. Kitchin, who has been recently granted funding by the European Council that will allow him and a few colleagues to carry out the research, has stated that once the survey is done, he expects to come up with a “detailed understanding of how the city and its citizens are translated into software and data, and how does software reshape the city”.

New EU ranking for universities to increase fairness

Luke Holohan

A new university ranking system has been launched in Dublin as part of the Irish EU presidency. The latest system, known as - Multirank, is a departure from the traditional method of ranking universities which has tended to focus primarily on research performance.

As part of the new system five areas will be taken into account when assessing a university’s academic credentials, they are: reputation for research, quality of teaching and learning, international orientation, success in knowledge transfer, and contribution to regional growth. Specific subject areas will also be rated with business studies, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering and physics the named areas so far. This list of disciplines will be gradually expanded as the system grows.

U - Multirank is expected to be the global system for university rankings with over 500 universities ready to sign up to take part. The change is aimed at making sure that universities around the globe are judged on a wider set of criteria, ones that reflect the needs of all stakeholders such as - students, business, teaching staff and governments.

Speaking at the launch in Dublin Castle, Minister for Education and Skill Raírí Quinn said “Quality and equity lie at the heart of the key themes of the education dimension to Ireland’s Presidency of the EU and the new U - Multirank is an excellent example of this. We are strongly committed to helping to the next phase of the ranking system and I would urge higher education institutions across Europe and beyond to seize the opportunity to become involved.”

In recent months, the European Commission has taken a more active stance in educational policies and initiatives. Androulla Vassiliou, the European Commissioner for Education, Multiculturalism and Youth, recently spoke of the advantages that the new system will bring. “The new ranking system will allow universities to compare themselves in a more transparent and useful way”.

Six Irish third level education institutes have signed up to U - Multirank, including Dublin Institute of Technology and University College Dublin. The first list of university rankings will be released in early 2014.
SU Update: Council season

- Timeline for relocation to Grangegorman proposed, including development of central and east quads
- DIT Student Council to bring five motions to USI Congress, including ‘highlighting eating disorders’ and ‘equal marriage rights’

Ciarán Clark
News Editor

DITSU met with technical advisors last week on the January 26/27, to discuss future plans for Grangegorman.

All Grangegorman stakeholders were present and this was the first time all stakeholders were able to meet with the technical advisors a company called HKTT. President Brian Norton was present with members of the Campus Planning team and he delivered a speech outlining the timeline for developments at DIT’s future campus, including plans for the central quad and the east quad which will house the Science and Health, Engineering, and Arts and Tourism Colleges. In his speech he said that the dates on the timeline must be fixed and met if the campus is to open in 2017.

There will be three months given for stakeholder input and engagement with the developers. The SU raised the issue of student consultation on how the developments will evolve. On the subject of student facilities and the student hub David Keogan, president of DITSU said, “We’re actually just in limbo at the moment.” He said consultation was on-going and the SU was exchanging messages with the relevant stakeholders and that more information should come in, in the coming weeks.

Brian Norton: the Grangegorman timeline must be met, for DIT to open in 2017

DIT Student Council

There was a meeting of the student council on January 30, at which DITSU discussed and decided on five motions that DIT would bring to the USI congress in March. The USI congress is to be held from March 25 to 28, in Ballinasloe. DIT-SU will be sending 17 delegates and 2 observers.

The SU decided the five motions they would bring forward would be, ‘Highlighting eating disorders’, ‘equal marriage rights’, ‘work placements’, ‘student rights and entitlements’ and ‘alternatives to student assistance funds.’

Mr Keogan said the work placements motion was a particularly good initiative given the current climate. The students’ union will bring these motions to the national USI congress in March.

National Council

The SU also took part in a national council meeting with the USI executive to discuss a national student campaign.

Mr Keogan, describing the SU as primarily a lobby group, said that since the ‘Fed-up, Stand-up’ campaign there had been a different ethos among students’ unions nationally. Instead of having a one day strike or day of action, SU’s were favouring localised action plans. Each students’ union would organise on-site, partaking in actions such as lobbying local TDs to highlight student issues.

Mr Keogh said: “despite the budget there have been some major successes with the national campaign doing it this way. The amount of TDs that know the plight of the students now compared to last time is huge. ‘There have been two million hits on the USI website and USI media engagement has gone up 500 per cent. €3 million was also added to the coffers of the student assistance fund. It was decided that rather than sticking with two month campaigns, the national campaign would have a twelve month active plan that focussed on information and solutions. A member of the USI is to attend the upcoming student council meeting to outline specific plans for the campaign for the next year.’

Mr Keogan also said: “The focus of the campaign is information; informing students what the USI does, informing the sabatical officers and up-skilling them, informing politicians and parties that they can’t attack education. ‘It’s about informing the wider public that it’s not just a student problem, businesses are affected. Not only will they not get qualified graduates but if you look at the towns of Athlone, Galway, Dundalk and Tralee, the towns are dead until students are there. Their main business is actually their students. Something like €3 million will be taken out of the Cork economy due to budget cuts on students and students dropping out. ‘The campaign is about informing and lobbying. ‘He went on to mention the charitable and voluntary work done by students and said the prevailing image of students is someone who’s on a degree, that’s only three hours a week, sitting there in their jocks with a pot noodle and a beer in hand watching telly but if you look at what being student is, it’s about student newspapers, it’s about SU’s, it’s about raising huge amounts of money for charity, battling mental health issues, cleaning up the canals, going out to educate people in Ballymun to get them into college and that’s just in Dublin, never mind the rest of the country. That’s the student that’s in Ireland today.”

Matthew Colfey
The European Parliament Information Office in Dublin is organising a Communication Workshop and Communication Challenge for students.

The Communication Workshop will take place in the European Parliament Information Office situated at 43 Molesworth Street, Dublin 2 on 22 March, 2013. A Member of the European Parliament (MEP), working journalists and an European Commission spokesperson will address the participants at the workshop. Following this, the participants will work in groups to record an audio interview about a current EU topic. The participants will then present the audio recording at the event and will receive feedback from the working journalists and guest speakers.

The workshop is a great opportunity for students with an interest in communications, journalism and politics to talk to professional journalists and MEPS.

Places are allocated on a ‘first come, first served’ basis. Students can register for the workshop by sending their details in an email to eucommunicationchallenge@gmail.com.

The Communication Competition requires students to submit a written article, television clip or radio clip on an offered theme of their selection. The themes will be posted on the competition’s Facebook page which can be found at https://www.facebook.com/pages/EU-Communication-Challenge/584763268207401. The competition is open to all students, including those who do not attend the Communication Workshop.

The competition is challenging students to communicate the EU in an interesting and informative manner.

The winning prize is a trip to Brussels to attend a media seminar for journalists later in the year.

All work must be submitted by email to EPDUB@europa.eu or by posting a hard copy to ‘EU Communication Challenge, European Parliament Information Office in Ireland, 43 Molesworth St, Dublin 2’ by 30 April, 2013.

If you are interested in taking part in either the Communication Workshop or Competition or want to find out more info you can contact the event organisers by sending them an email at eucommunicationchallenge@gmail.com. You can also visit their Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/pages/EU-Communication-Challenge/584763268207401, or their Twitter page at https://twitter.com/EUChallengeIRL.

Petition launched to protect outspoken priest

Graham O’Hara

A petition has been posted online to prevent an Irish Catholic Priest from being excommunicated from the Church by authorities in the Vatican. Father Tony Flannery, who is also a religious writer from Co. Galway, has been at the centre of much controversy for the past few years due to his progressive views on Church reform in his monthly article for Reality Magazine.

In a letter to members of the Vatican, he has been asked to sign a vow of silence and to retract his views concerning such topics as women priests, contraception, and also his opinion that “it is more like that sometime after Jesus, a select and privileged group within the community who had arrogated power and authority to themselves, interpreted the occasion of the last Supper in a manner that suited their own agenda.”

Flannery was placed on suspension following these comments, and the petition is also looking to have him returned to priestly ministry.

The petition itself is hosted on the website of the Association of Catholic Priests, which describes itself as “a forum, and a voice to reflect, discuss and comment on issues affecting the Irish Church and society today.” Flannery is the founder of the association, and was asked by members of the Vatican in their letter to step down as the leader of the group.

According to Flannery, “this campaign is being orchestrated by a secretive body that refuses to meet me. Surely I should at least be allowed to explain my views to my accusers.”

The Association of Catholic Priests in Ireland has said: “We believe that such an approach, in its individual focus on Father Flannery and inevitably by implication on the members of the Association, is an extremely ill-advised intervention in the present pastoral context in Ireland.”

There is now a fear in the Association that this attempt to silence Father Flannery will lead tension between the Irish Church and Rome.

Flannery has vehemently stated that he will not be silenced, and that he will continue to write as he would go against everything he believes in.

EU-organised workshop for media students

The Communication Challenge is sponsoring an EU-organised workshop for media students in the country. The competition is open to all students, including those who do not attend the Communication Workshop.

The competition is a great opportunity for students with an interest in communications, journalism and politics to talk to professional journalists and MEPS.

Places are allocated on a ‘first come, first served’ basis. Students can register for the workshop by sending their details in an email to eucommunicationchallenge@gmail.com.

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Father Tony Flannery faces excommunication site of the Association of Catholic Priests, which describes itself as “a forum, and a voice to reflect, discuss and comment on issues affecting the Irish Church and society today.” Flannery is the founder of the association, and was asked by members of the Vatican in their letter to step down as the leader of the group.

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In the bar we see two sides of France, one sips red wine, while the other downs flaming shots.

French students who are all packed up and in the car back home as soon as class is over. Myself and Lennon stayed in a hostel only 10 minutes’ walk from the action in Rennes. When it comes to the action in Rennes, there is only one place to look; the ‘rue de la soif’ aka the thirsty street named for the large number of bars combined into a small space. It is like a smaller, less drunken temple bar and is the most life we have found in France so far.

Bars spill into bars and no one is holding back. They don’t drink pints they drink half-pints or cocktails mainly, not even a pint. They don’t drink pints they drink half-pints or cocktails mainly, not even a pint. They don’t drink pints they drink half-pints or cocktails mainly, not even a pint. They don’t drink pints they drink half-pints or cocktails mainly, not even a pint. They don’t drink pints they drink half-pints or cocktails mainly, not even a pint.

There’s some bastard near the money. The Edition recently discovered a few unusual street names (left).

While walking down the Rue le Bastard (far left) which commemorates an unfortunately named mayor of Rennes. Beside it is the Rue de la Monnaie (translates as money street). The Edition seemed to arrive back at DIT Bolton Street when it came uncovered Lycee Emile Zola (right). A school with an uncanny resemblance to the DIT building.
Na h-Ionndaith Seachtain na Gaeilge roghnaithe

Síofáin Ó Conchaithe

Is é Spraoi Ghaelachtaí ar chead phobal mór a bhaineann a chur ar fáil do na h-ainníneacha. Iad an freagra na ceart a d'fhéadfadh a gheall ar fhadhanna is féidir a bhaint amach. Tá sé mar dhuine idirnaonailte, mar dhuine is fearr ná a h-ainníneacha a thabhairt ar fáil mar polaiteoirí ar feadh 8 seachtaine.

Dáire éigin, le cumhacht na teanga, is é spraoi Ghaelachtaí ar chead phobal mór a bhaineann a chur ar fáil do na h-ainníneacha. Is é ar ghearaí i dtráth, an chomhlacht a bhfuil polaiteóireachta a dhéanamh as an teanga, a dhéanann a chur ar fáil. Tá sé mar dhuine idirnaonailte, mar dhuine is fearr ná a h-ainníneacha a thabhairt ar fáil mar polaiteoirí ar feadh 8 seachtaine.

Forbarth do scileanna Gaeilge saor in aisce

Seasaimhmhín Í Ní Ghallachóir Eagarthóir Gaeilge

Beidh ranganna Gaeilge ar siúl SAOR IN AISCE ar feadh 8 seachtaine do dhúna leobhais in Éirinn agus i bhfothar darbh ainmnithe sa Bhreatain Bheag agus i gcríochadh ar Eolaíocht, Forbairt na Scileanna Gaeilge agus na Gaeilge i dteampáil le Ghearmáin/Teacht. Tá an stair a bhaint amach. Tá an stair a bhaint amach.

Na h-Ionndaith Seachtain na Gaeilge roghnaithe

Stíofán Ó Conchaithe

Is é Spraoi Ghaelachtaí ar chead phobal mór a bhaineann a chur ar fáil do na h-ainníneacha. Iad an freagra na ceart a d'fhéadfadh a gheall ar fhadhanna is féidir a bhaint amach. Tá sé mar dhuine idirnaonailte, mar dhuine is fearr ná a h-ainníneacha a thabhairt ar fáil mar polaiteoirí ar feadh 8 seachtaine.

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Connecting over Facebook isn’t all it’s cracked up to be

Although it might make some things easier, Facebook isn’t a great hope for relationship woes, says the Edition’s Amy-Nora Fitzgibbon

As the launch of Facebook’s newest feature, Graph Search, is announced, I thought I’d take this opportunity to write about fate and missed connections in relation to the popular social networking site. Is Facebook making us lose the romance of serendipity? Or, in other words, if one tends to believe in the film ‘Serendipity’, is Facebook therefore the absolute enemy of fate?

For me, I met someone at an event recently and despite my best attempts to avoid giving him my number and email address, the man in question succeeded in getting both pieces of information off me. He then e-mailed me twice after the party asking to meet up. The first time I managed to evade him with some excuse. The second time made me worry that if or when I met him again he would be very affronted. So I replied and agreed to go on a date. It was, as I expected, terrible. He then added me on Facebook. It so happened that the event where I’d met him happened to be held regularly and so, you may call me weak, but I thought I’d better add him in order to avoid awkward future encounters. However, as I expected, message after message appeared. Basically the point I’m trying to make is that in his estimation, because I’d added him on Facebook, I wanted to marry him and have his children. I know not everyone has this view when you add them on Facebook but there are a sad few for whom Facebook just feeds obsessions and fantasies of this kind.

This is the problem with Facebook. We have all these static ‘friends’ some of whom we fantasise about in such a way. Yet just because they have added us does not necessarily mean anything in terms of future romantic possibilities. But people spend hours imagining such things.

In any case, this man eventually realised I was not interested and after not replying to a message he sent me, he proceeded to ignore me and yet kept me as a friend on Facebook. This worries me that he is still in fact holding out that one day I might come rushing back to him, telling him I want to be his wife and spend the rest of my life with him.

I worry for his sake as knowing some people who are subject to these sort of fantastical imaginings via Facebook, (though not for as long or as seriously!) I feel there is an element of danger to this aspect of the popular social network. If we are supposed to be with certain people, we will get signs from the Universe. It may be something as simple as always seeing a certain person around campus on college and getting the same significant look from them. Or it may be as wondrous and unlikely as the twists of fate that occurred to the characters of Sarah and John in ‘Serendipity’. Yet there is always an element of gentle match-making on the part of the Universe. This is very different from the forced nature of Facebook, which can often lead to wishful thinking and hopelessly unfulfilled expectations.

Although Facebook can help to start the conversation, if it’s not meant to be, obsessively checking their profile won’t help matters. If you’re meant to be with someone, that person will be with you. No wishfully thinking of obsessive Facebook profile checking required.

No end in sight for SUSI debacle

Mark Meehan says the first months of second semester could be make or break for students in Ireland

The SUSI grants debacle has continued into the fifth month of the academic year. As 2012 has turned to 2013, several thousand students across the country still await word on whether or not they will receive a grant. For those who have received confirmation but no cash, the pressure is on to make every penny count.

In what could be seen as a damning indictment of the failure of the SUSI grants system, the situation of students going hungry from lack of money has become a reality. In Athlone Institute of Technology, a soup kitchen has been set up. In other Student Unions around the country, free food boxes have become a lifeline for students in need.

The president of the Union of Students in Ireland, John Lough, went on national TV opposite a representative of SUSI recently, to discuss the delays. The debate, which was closely followed by students across the country via social media, brought forth many of the sound-bites heard before, including one contention that many students had not returned the forms as requested.

With the next semester of the academic year about to begin across the country, it is a very real possibility that students may begin dropping out of their courses. While third-level institutions across the country have been very accommodating in helping out students in need, with extensions to registration deadlines, the financial pressures outside of the actual college environment will inevitably reach a critical point.

Rent costs are becoming a major issue for many students across the country, as Student Unions cannot pay these costs in their entirety. For many students, the short-lived life away from home may come to a very swift and abrupt end when what little funding they have eventually runs out.

With several thousand students still awaiting their financial assistance from the State this late into the academic year, questions about the framework and the very concept of SUSI will undoubtedly be raised as the year goes on. It remains to be seen if any changes will be made to the organisation before the start of the next academic year in September 2013, and it also remains to be seen if calls for an independent student grant appeals system, as put forward by Fionnuala Cahill, Sean Fleming, late last year, will be answered.

Minister for Education Ruairi Quinn is likely to feel the heat from this debacle for some time, with his party already in hot water with students over commitments made not to raise fees. Though he made an apology in Dáil Éireann for the situation, it cannot change the situation that, for many students, irreparable damage has been done to their third-level education.

As it stands now, January might be the make or break month for students all across Ireland, as they wait for financial assistance or word of confirmation, with there being a possibility that the latter may never arrive.

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LEAN MACHINE CHALLENGE

Lean Machine kicks off

Jarlath Moloney
Editor-in-Chief

Four lucky contestants walked up to RAW Condition gym this week to begin their 12 grueling weeks of training, in the Lean Machine Challenge.

The Challenge which began in earnest this week is to run for 12 weeks, and will be covered here in The Edition. The four women, all students of DIT, were chosen after a two-week selection process advertised online, in the paper and by posters around college. Candidates were then carefully selected by interview to be sure they had the right mentality to last the demanding Challenge.

Four women were chosen; it seems that no male candidates were tough enough for the task. They will receive personal training sessions three to four times per week and have free gym membership for the 12 weeks, to train as much as they want to. The contestants have also been given guidelines on what they should be eating as part of a healthy diet and balanced diet.

While the women will have a weekly weigh in, they won’t know what their body fat ratio is until the monthly full body check. The four contestants come into the challenge with a variety of goals, from getting fit, losing weight, becoming toned, to developing a healthier can do attitude.

Any lifestyle and health changes the contestants undergo will be down to hard work and the training they receive from two members of the RAW Condition team, Andy Hickey and Kane Kearns. In the past, the personal trainers have worked with Olympic Athletes, inter-county footballers and hurlers and international rugby teams. Kearns has also had great success in personal training, recently training Dublin man Eric Russell, helping him lose over 15 stone in a year and entering the Dublin Marathon.

“Mastering others is strength, but mastering yourself is true power, said Lao Tzu,” says head trainer at RAW, Anthony Lynch. “That’s to do with us helping people achieve their goals. Let RAW help you master yourself.”

Outside of 12 weeks free personal training and gym membership, provided by RAW Condition gym, the person who makes the biggest health and fitness improvements will receive a free year gym membership. The winner will ultimately be decided by Lynch’s expert assessment.

For more information go to our Facebook (edition.ie) and Twitter (edition_ie) for weekly updates, and visit our website (www.edition.ie) for our weekly video log on Friday.

The Challengers

Jarlath Moloney talks to the four potential Lean Machines as their journey begins

The weather is cold and damp. Erin Bingham and Dáirne Black arrived at RAW Condition Gym, to be joined later by Sarah Tandy and Niamh Foley. The day was cold, but the atmosphere was warm and welcoming.

The four women were chosen after a two-week selection process advertised online, in the paper and by posters around college. Candidates were then carefully selected by interview to be sure they had the right mentality to last the demanding Challenge.

Outside of 12 weeks free personal training and gym membership, provided by RAW Condition gym, the person who makes the biggest health and fitness improvements will receive a free year gym membership. The winner will ultimately be decided by Lynch’s expert assessment.

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The Challengers

Name: Dáirne Black
Age: 23
Course: MA Journalism
From: Blackrock
Weight: 171.1bs

Name: Sarah Tandy
Age: 22
Course: 2nd year Accounting
From: Australia
Weight: 187.6lbs

Niamh was more concerned about her long-term fitness, coming from a background in software engineering; the risk of a sedentary lifestyle is ever a worry. Similarly, Dáirne’s combined careers in journalism and working in café present challenges. She’ll have to avoid snacking on delicious cakes and desserts while getting down to the challenge.

We hope you get behind the Challengers to give them every support over the next 12 weeks. Whoever the eventual winner is, the entire journey will be covered here in The Edition.

Follow our extensive coverage over the coming months to learn lots of health, fitness and diet tips.

Exercise of the week

As part of their training regime, RAW trainer Andy demonstrates some explosive squat jumps for the Challengers:
Lean Machine Challenge

Personal Trainer 2:
Name: Andy Hickey
Age: 24
Andy has always wanted to be involved with sports or anything related to personal training. From athletics to martial arts or GAA to soccer the RAW trainer was always interested in playing sport competitively. For a time he played for F.C. Carlow, a third division side who played in the Eircom League of Ireland.

He did a course in personal training in the National Training Centre last year and after that he set about looking for work. Eventually, the work never surfaced for the Kilkenny man and he decided to get in touch with RAW, looking for the possibility to gain some work experience. However, after just two weeks in the gym Andy was offered a job.

When asked about the Lean Machine Challenge, Andy said that as well as being a great opportunity for the girls who are taking part, it's a great boost for the relationship between the gym and DIT.

"The challenge will promote the idea of getting fit and coming to RAW for students in DIT."

He hopes that by the end of it, each participant will have achieved what they set out to do and that reading about their experiences will motivate others to start training.

The Trainers

Danielle Stephens talks to the two trainers who’ll be pushing the women to their limits in the Lean Machine Challenge, to see what motivates them

Personal Trainer 1:
Name: Kane Kearns
Age: 24
Unlike Andy, Kane grew up just around the corner from the gym, on Charlemont Street. Before RAW moved into the building, he remembers the gym being called Fitness Doc.

The young Dub didn’t know what area he wanted to go into as a career and was working as a facilities manager for a business in the City Centre, but the job never really interested him. He had to wait for his membership to Ben Dunne gym to run out before he could join RAW. Once there, he trained nearly every day, meeting with the different trainers and asking questions about the different training techniques.

While training, Kane had many conversations with Anthony, one of the co-owners of RAW. After a couple of weeks Anthony brought him aside and asked if he would be interested in working in the gym. “I love interacting with people and seeing them progress. It’s great when you see people who can barely do one push-up and then four weeks later you watch them do ten or twenty.”

One of his proudest achievements with a client is with Eric Russell, a man who weighed 35st when he first came into the gym.

At the beginning, the Dublin man wasn’t even able to walk up two steps, but over 12 months, he managed to lose 15st and was able to run in the Dublin City marathon.

In this instance and in regards to the girls who are participating in the Lean Mean Challenge, Kane believes that the trick is self-discipline.

“The trainers won’t fail at training the contestants or giving them advice. It’s up to the girls to stick to the plan outside of training and keep up with their regimes.”

Photos: Jarlath Moloney
Editor

(Top-Clockwise)
Kane and Andy introduce Erin and Dáire to some floor exercises.
Kane gets ready to demonstrate squats.
Erin and Dáire have their first pre-training meeting with Andy and Kane.
The Challengers get to grips with deadlifts
The Edition
Style Guru gives
his insight on
what we’re
wearing this
February

Who? Clara Bardon
Where? 1st Year Business student, Aungier Street, part-time model, full time fashionista
What? Green Parka Jacket – Miss Selfridge
T-Shirt – Vero Moda
Black Leather Knowledge boots – Aldo
Blue Jeans – River Island
Why? “I have a casual style. Actually I kind of have summer festival look today.”
A summer festival look in February? A Stylish but dangerous lady.

Who? Stephanie Costello
Where? 2nd year Journalism student
What? Green Hunting Jacket – Charity Shop
Blue Trousers – American Apparel
Shoes – Santa Claus
Scarf – Thai market
Bag – Padraig Sweeney designer
Why? “Post-coital homeless. I get a lot of my stuff from charity shops and refuse bins.”
Can’t argue with that.

Who? Jarlath Finnegan
Where? 3rd Year Film and Broadcasting student
Black Skinny Jeans – Urban Outfitters
Shoes – Topman
Why? ‘Just put something funny’.
Hmm, we’d probably describe Jarlath’s style as something akin to a dapper gentleman fox hunter from the 1920’s.

Who? Jayne Gavin
Where? 1st Year Business student, Aungier Street, part-time model and cat walk strutter
What? Black Jumper – River Island
Grey Knitted Uggs – Topshop
Black Trousers – Unknown
Scarf – a mysterious French boutique
Why? “For college, I generally dress in a stylish but casual way.”

First of all we have to apologise for going AWOL during the month of January. January is an unforgiving month and as a result the Lifestyle team elected to stay in, drink ethical almond milk cocktails and listen to Amish electro dream beats. I fear I’ve said too much. Anyway as the winds of January subside we decided to throw on our galoshes, our customized Edition bowler hats and brave the day, all in the name of fashion of course. A special thanks to all the people who gave us an insight into their sphere of style and originality, you’re all beautiful human beings. To the people who didn’t, thanks for nothing and you’re not invited to our Hall & Oates themed birthday party, so there.
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Diets in 2013: horse burgers, blood tests, raw meat and Cheryl Cole

Victoria Kinsella

Spring make-up

Stephanie Quilligan

LIFESTYLE

www.edition.ie

Stephanie Quilligan
Lifestyle Editor

Irish stylist tipped as ‘next Alexa Chung’

Stephanie Quilligan
Lifestyle Editor

Dublin based stylist and fashion blogger Angela Scanlon is set for big things in 2013 after being tipped as one to watch by Vogue.co.uk. The 28-year old, who can often be seen on ‘Xpose’ and ‘Off the Rails’ has a huge future ahead of her after the website claimed she is tipped to take the crown from well-known television presenter and style icon Alexa Chung.

Featuring the red head in their list of 20 names to know for the New Year, the style bible says Angela is: “Known for her humour, directness and upbeat cheerfulness, she has attracted the support of designers such as Simone Rocha and JW Anderson – who have both dressed her”. Scanlon already writes for multiple home-grown and international publications including Grazia, Tatler and the Sunday Times Style Magazine.

Her biggest aspiration is to someday write for the iconic fashion magazine, Vogue.

Speaking to the Evening Herald she said “that’s always been a dream of mine – writing for Vogue,” “Who knows what will happen but of course I’d love to write for them, any girl would.”

Responding to making the coveted list, Angela said “I couldn’t believe it when I heard. Even to be considered is amazing.”

The stylist has a busy few months ahead of her as she is set to present the London Fashion week in the coming weeks, she is already the face of Yahoo’s fashion channel and has several other high-profile projects in the pipeline.

She takes it all in her stride however, telling the Daily Mail “I take it with a pinch of salt.”

If Alexa Chung’s career is anything to go by then this Irish beauty has a very bright future ahead of her.

For more information about Angela and to visit her blog go to www.angelascanton.com
Steph’s Style

Stephanie Quilligan looks at some great finds on the high street for February 2013

Backpack
Asos.com
€60.68
This funky floral backpack brings in many of Spring/Summer’s trends for this season whilst also playing a practical role in a student’s life.

Pokka dot dress
Topshop
€53
Pokka dots are huge on the high street this season and so too is monochrome. What better way to mix the two trends than with this dress.

Blue Suede Heels
Topshop
€75
 Chunky heels are an essential part of every girls wardrobe. They can turn even the simplest of outfits into something spectacular. These from Topshop are available in a ray of different shades.

Daisy Shorts
Miss Selfridge
€53
Weather you choose to wear these daisy embroidered shorts day or night they are destined to be noticed. Team with a bright top for the perfect spring attire.

Neon Jumper
Topshop
€50
The high street is full of bright colour at the moment the inspiration of which is the remerging of College students to Ibiza. What better way to show your Ibiza spirit in Irish weather than with this neon jumper from Topshop.

Paisley Print Trouser
Zara
€39.95
These pastel trousers are perfect for the unpredictable spring weather in Ireland. The colour will brighten up any outfit while it will keep you warm at the same time. Teamed with a tangerine heal they can take you from day to night.

Kaki Jacket
River Island
€75
The off duty army look is a big trend this season and is ideal for casual dressing as the weather gets warmer.

Casual Ankle Boot
River Island
€60
The ankle boot has become a statement piece in college goer’s wardrobes. These, from River Island are perfect for spring and are also available in black.

Paisley Print Trouser
Zara
€39.95
These pastel trousers are perfect for the unpredictable spring weather in Ireland. The colour will brighten up any outfit while it will keep you warm at the same time. Teamed with a tangerine heal they can take you from day to night.
Dublin native, Eimear Quinn won the Eurovision in 1996 representing Ireland. MAIJ student in DIT, Pedro García Satué met up with her to have a chat about life after the Eurovision.

Is it difficult for you to combine being a singer and a mum?

It’s a lot of juggling, really, to get cover when I’m working but I just love being at home with my children as well, so at the same time it’s very useful for me that I haven’t got a rigid job. It’s a very flexible job and I get to enjoy as much time as I can while my children are very small.

Do you think a haunting voice like yours is a gift you were born with or is something you have acquired over time?

I think it’s a combination. As a singer it’s something you need to be born with because you are the instrument. Yes, definitely, it is a gift in my life for sure, but you’re also the instrument, so then it’s up to you as to how much practice you want to do with that instrument, to develop it as an instrument, if you see what I mean, so the instrument will be there for you but if you want to develop it then you can obviously put as much work into it as possible to make it into the best instrument it can be.

Apart from singing, do you play any instruments?

I play piano, not very well, but I play the piano reasonably. I play sometimes in my concerts.

How did performing for Queen Elizabeth II feel?

Amazing, really incredible experience, for the whole country was very taken by her visit, by the presence she had, a very humble, quiet, dignified presence and that was very special. It was an amazing experience and one that I will always remember, but I suppose I see it very much now as a one experience in a whole range of experiences and it feels like a long time ago.

Would you say the Eurovision changed your life?

Yes, oh definitely. Performing in the Eurovision changed the trajectory that my life was going on. I was very much into classical music, pretty much exclusively at the time, I sang very little music that wasn’t classical. It then opened up the possibility to perform other types of music, sing other types of music. It fundamentally changed the way I looked at the possibility of the way I was singing, the way I was performing and my career.

Would you ever consider representing Ireland in the Eurovision again?

No, I wouldn’t consider it for a moment because it’s, as I said, something in my past, so I would want to progress, move forward from it, but also when you win something there is no need to do, you can’t do better than win, so I wouldn’t try it again.

You’ve also performed with the Dublin Laptop Orchestra. Do you think this is the future of any orchestra?

The Laptop Orchestra is a certain ensemble on its own and its collaboration with the RTE National Symphony Orchestra was the first time that a laptop orchestra had worked with a symphonic orchestra, so that was really interesting. And I think the Laptop Orchestra as a genre probably can only go from strength to strength because it’s an interesting one and electro-acoustic music, digital music is growing stronger all the time.

In the genre, the laptops and the electronic devices simply manipulate the sounds but they are played just as an instrument. They are played like an electronic instrument in a live situation, just as one plays the trumpet or the violin, so it’s challenging from a performance point of view.

It’s challenging in many ways, performance-wise, it’s challenging acoustically, intellectually, so it’s a very interesting genre.

What’s your opinion on “The Gathering”?

I don’t have a strong opinion either way, but one thing that I do feel strongly about is that anything that is progressive and positive in a gloomy, downbeat environment has to be welcomed because it is very easy to knock things, it’s very easy to say ‘oh that’s complete rubbish or it’s a stupid idea’ particularly when people are feeling low and depressed about everything so what I would say to people who knock the idea is, ‘ok, you come up with an idea, and let’s see if we can all get behind it, you know.’

I think if people come up with a progressive idea, even if some people may think it’s tacky or whatever, that’s their view, it’s an idea, it’s working, it’s gathering momentum, it’s bringing people here, it’s bringing positive focus, it’s giving people an opportunity to celebrate and feel good about themselves. I can’t see too much that’s bad about that.
International Film Festival brings the A-list to Dublin

Gala opening to include screening of ‘Broken’, starring Cillian Murphy

Controversial documentary on abuse of power within the Catholic Church among the films on show

Paul O’Connor

From February 14 to 24, The Jameson Dublin International Film Festival will celebrate its 10th year by welcoming film luminaries such as Tim Roth, Joss Whedon and Frank Langella to showcase their most recent work.

Over 130 films will be screened at the festival, which will encompass venues such as Cineworld, the Irish Film Institute, Filmbase, The Light House and The Savoy. According to the Festival Director Grainne Humphries, “ticket sales are great,” and the programme has been well received. “Personal favourites of the Director for this year’s programme would include the diversity of Korean films (such as Sang-ho Yeon’s animated piece ‘The King of Pigs’ and mystery thriller ‘Helpless’) in the programme… and the wonderful documentaries we selected this year.”

One such wonderful documentary would surely include the new work from Oscar winners Alex Gibney, Martin Sheen, Daniel Day-Lewis and Al Pacino.

The festival itself operates much like the festival itself operates much like the Festival of Music and the Arts, where their most recent work will be attended by the film’s stars Tim Roth and Cillian Murphy.

In February 15 at 18:00. Examining the first is showing at The Light House cinema on February 14 at 19:30, which will be attended by the film’s stars Tim Roth and Cillian Murphy. The gala opening will be the screening of Rufus Norris’ ‘Broken’ at the Savoy at 19:30, which will be attended by the film’s stars Tim Roth and Cillian Murphy.

The Jameson Cult Film Club bar, pictured in 2011 - at this year’s event, a special screening of LA Confidential will feature an appearance from one of the film’s stars, Danny DeVito. Whiskey Sours and Mint Julips will be on the menu to accompany the classic noir thriller: Director Patrick Bolger/Getty

Danny DeVito will be appearing at a screening of classic ‘LA Confidental’

With screenings of work from yesteryear to living the same day over and over. It you would have answered him: ‘you are a god and never have I heard anything more divine’.

The festival will close in the Church Restaurant, Bar & Venue at 21:30 on February 24 where audience members will be given the chance to mingle with the makers behind some of the work viewed in the previous ten days.

For more information, go to http://www.jdiff.com/ You can also call +353 1 662 4266 for information, or +353 1 687 7974 for tickets.

CULTURE

Retrospective programme continues: ‘Groundhog Day’

Paul O’Connor

The Lighthouse Cinema Smithfield continued its retrospective in February by screening ‘Groundhog Day’ on February 02 and the Gregory Peck, Audrey Hepburn rom-com ‘Roman Holiday’ for Valentine’s Day.

According to Gavin Feitnair, marketing assistant for The Lighthouse cinema, “there is a new cultural phenomenon of audiences wishing to see old films at the cinema.” Feitnair described demand for their Tarantino retrospective, as “massive”, with a “new-found appreciation among audiences for viewing these older films on the older 35 mm reel.”

On February 02, The Lighthouse screened ‘Groundhog Day’, a nod to the annual day the Pennsylvania rodent turns soothsayer on the last six weeks of winter. Demand for the film was so high that the cinema put on a second showing of the classic comedy the following day, thus fully embracing the film’s mythos of Groundhog Day repeating itself.

The film’s screening was also a promotional stunt for Bill Murray’s new film ‘Hyde Park on Hudson’. Murray garnered his fourth Golden Globe nomination last January for his portrayal of former US President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

This strategy of promoting new films with screenings of work from yesteryear was also employed by The Lighthouse late last year when Paul Thomas Anderson’s body of work was showcased to herald his latest offering, ‘The Master’.

‘Groundhog Day’ is a fascinating and hilarious treatise on how a person would react to living the same day over and over. It is believed to be loosely based on Friedrich Nietzsche’s ‘The Gay Science’ in which the famous German philosopher muses on reliving the same life over and over. This concept forms the basis for the director of Harold Ramis’ classic comedy where Bill Murray’s character must contend with Groundhog Day ad infinitum.

The fact that midway through the film Murray’s character deals with the issue by proclaiming himself a god adds credence to the Nietzsche link.

“What, if some day or night a demon were to steal after you into your loneliest loneliness and say to you: ‘This life as you now live it and have lived it, you will have to live once more and innumerable times more’ ... Would you not throw yourself down and gnash your teeth and curse the demon who spoke thus? Or have you once were to steal after you into your loneliest loneliness and say to you: ‘This life as you now live it and have lived it, you will have to live once more and innumerable times more’ ... Would you not throw yourself down and gnash your teeth and curse the demon who spoke thus? Or have you once were to steal after you into your loneliest loneliness and say to you: ‘This life as you now live it and have lived it, you will have to live once more and innumerable times more’ ... Would you not throw yourself down and gnash your teeth and curse the demon who spoke thus? Or have you once were to steal after you into your loneliest loneliness and say to you: ‘This life as you now live it and have lived it, you will have to live once more and innumerable times more’ ... Would you not throw yourself down and gnash your teeth and curse the demon who spoke thus? Or have you once...
Dublin Chinese New Year Festival

Running from 8-18 February 2013, 2013 is the Chinese year of the snake. This is the sixth year of the Dublin Chinese New Year Festival (DCNYF), having been established in 2008.

There are a wide variety of cultural events on offer, including the Third Chinese Film Festival at the Lighthouse Cinema, a special Spring Festival partnership with the Council of Europe Intercultural Cities Conference - an official part of Ireland hosting the European Presidency. Also on offer is the main DCNYF Carnival on Chinese New Year’s Day, Traditionally Dragon and Lion dances, a Sino-Irish Business Seminar, the DCNYF Lecture series, a Children’s Programme, an Arts and Music Programme, a special project linked to The Gathering 2013, Martial Arts, Sports and much more for all ages.

Shackleton Exhibition

Dan Laoghaire Ferry Terminal - Running till August for 2014. A perfect excursion for anyone with an interest in history. The exhibition comprises 150 photographs and text boards which tell the story of the most famous rescue in all maritime history, led by leader Earnest Shackleton. For more information see: www.shackletonexhibition.com

Sencity Dublin

Sencity is a unique live music experience which not only caters for those with hearing but also who may be deaf.

The event originated in the Netherlands but has been taking place all over the world for the last decade, including Sao Paolo, Cape Town, London, Sydney, Miami, Berlin and many more. This is Sencity’s first time taking place in Dublin. For more information, see www.your-sencity.com

12 Points Festival

Project ARTS Centre, 13-16 February.

The 12 Points Festival is a jazz music festival centred in Dublin. It is an intimate festival spaced out over four days, with three bands performing 60 minutes each every night.

This festival alternates between Dublin and the partner cities (Porto in Portugal was the location for the 2012 edition). See more at www.12points.ie

Bégley’s Banter

Two men on a plane, both taking their first ever flight.

First man: “Jimmy, if the plane goes upside down, will we fall out?”

Second man: “Ah jaysus no - we’ll still be great friends.”

Two men are heading to donate at the sperm bank in London. One missed the tube, the other came on the bus.

Bégley’s Trad Show

Séamus Begley steals the Trad show

When he shuffled on stage to join the rest of Téada, glass of whiskey in hand, Séamus Begley undoubtedly pushed the group’s average age up a few years. But, if there’s a 70 odd-year-old out there who is sufficiently young at heart to join in the hooley, Begley is the man.

They have just returned from a tour of North America, and were holding nothing back on their return to the homeland. Supported by intermittent appearances from an Irish dancer, the group brought energy to the night and had the crowd at their mercy from the start.

One of the most praiseworthy aspects of Tradfest has been its support of young musicians, providing many with opportunities to play in some remarkable venues.Tonight was no exception, with Trad for Téada care winners Truancy opening the night, followed by Perfect Friction.

The latter group kept the audience’s attention thanks to the powerful vocals of Rebecca Winckworth, and an eclectic mix of genres in their half-hour set. A highlight for this act was a performance of Snotties Delight, an original composition by one of the group’s members (Lottie) whose birthday was announced to the crowd as she took up the Uileann pipes for the piece.

The seven piece ensemble, made up of four sisters, even brought a Gaelic touch to the Counting Crows. Perfect Friction were followed by well-known singer Aoiile Scott, whose more sombre melodies offered a change of pace for the evening.

Her performance of self-composed “Bel Rose” showed why she has shared the stage with musical royalty such as U2 and Bob Dylan.

Without a doubt, however, the night was stolen by the now world-renowned Téada, and their recently added, West Kerry-born accordionist and singer, Séamus. For the first few songs, the crowd was treated to the rampaging tunes of the Téada originals, before Begley made his way on stage to join in. There was great applause as he did so; many in the audience (which was made up predominantly of individuals from a similar generation as Séamus himself) will have followed his career for many years. Séamus gives the crowd a brief Irish lesson, to help them sing along and his joy at being back on more familiar shores is clear for all to see.

On this particular night the Kerry man is in his element, and, were it not for the intermittent, fast and traditional polkas you could be forgiven for thinking Begley was an accomplished comedian. His stories of America are reminiscent to tales you’d hear from a distant but entertaining uncle.

A great night was had by all at the Button Factory, certainly the definition of a hooley.

Look out for Téada’s recent collaborations with African-American group, ‘The Ebony Hillbillies’.

Exhibit: Detouched

Detective isn’t a word, as a word that isn’t a word. As a word that isn’t a word. As a word that isn’t a word. As a word that isn’t a word. As a word that isn’t a word. As a word that isn’t a word. As a word that isn’t a word. As a word that isn’t a word.

“This is the somewhat superfluous exhibition given to the thirty strong crowd, converging in the Project Arts Centre at the unveiling of a new exhibition by the American guest curator Anthony Huberman. Indeed this was one show that required no sophisticated rhetoric as the work itself spoke with insidious and intimate intent.

The ambitious project of mixed visual arts include the late Dennis Oppenheim’s ‘Air Pressure (Hand)’ (1971), a five minute performance video capturing a close up view of a single hand, undulating under an intense high pressure source just out of view. It is eerily beautiful and hints at a supernatural or otherworldly source touching the artist’s carnal hand.

Through ‘Untitled’ (2007) American artist Seth Price recycles digital images of human interactions on wood using the negative space around his artefact to depict daily occurrences, like a woman eating with a spoon or a man with his hand on a young boy’s shoulder.

The exhibition itself feels cramped and foreboding. Visitors are guided from one piece of art to the other seamlessly but for all the talk of touch we are not invited to actually feel the artwork. “This is not an interactive show, like you might see in the Science Gallery, where visitors are encouraged to take part and touch the pieces,” Mr. Huberman explains. The idea is that we can see objects being touched, like in AK Burns, ‘Touch Parade’ (2011) an avid exploration of touch fetishists on film who broadcast themselves wearing multiple layers of latex gloves or popping balloons.

It’s a stimulating concept. How do we grasp the ungraspable? To touch the things we use most like the Internet, which is unerringly conceptual and unattainable. We can’t ‘see’ or feel these processes in action. In the ever evolving and fast paced environment our generation inhabits, we are totally immersed in an online world, channeling all our energy into a space that we can’t see or speak to. Touching doesn’t mean the same thing that it used to. We no longer need to be close to something to touch it.

The exhibition aims to address this disconnect. It doesn’t mean to criticise or even question any pre-conceived notions of whether technology is good or bad, it merely intends to exist in this space. It ruminates over the idea of human merging with the machine, the ‘digtal’ and how they fuse together. Admission is free in the Project Arts Centre and the exhibition is running until the 30th of March.

THE EDITION   Wednesday February 6 2013

website.edition.ie
The cast is relatively unknown, apart from Ray Foley, who is a DIT student. Simple premise, of ceremonies is 98FMs Jock and former woo them through three rounds. Master light on or turning it off as he tries to have met them. He flies out to someone, and in love with them, but have emails from people who are in contact with someone they are not by using someone else’s pictures and information.

- **Deception**

Deception first aired on TV3 on 7 January and in all honestly I didn’t like it at first. However, it’s beginning to grow on me, a little bit. The show is set in a small, exclusive housing estate in the suburbs of Galway, and the drama kicked off when a murder victim was found in one of the show-houses up for sale.

The programme revolves around six families but so far all viewers have seen is teenager Emma throwing away a chance to study medicine in college, boy Troy threatening a school bully with a gun and elderly man, Larry pretending to go missing so his wife could claim the insurance.

The cast is relatively unknown, apart from Leigh Arnold who is best known for her role in Irish medical drama, The Clinic. The Foxrock native plays Caitríona French, rich wife of scrum half Jack French. All in all, Deception is a typical Irish drama and will most likely fizz out within a season or two. For now it airs Monday nights on TV3 at 10pm.

**Verdict: 2/5**

- **Catfish**

Something which is a lot less serious and a lot more light-hearted is Catfish. The TV Show aired on MTV on January 21 and has proved very popular with viewers. For people who have yet to watch this hilarious show, a Catfish is someone who creates a fake profile online and pretends to be someone they are not by using someone else’s pictures and information.

Presenter Nev Schulman, who has previously been tricked by a Catfish, receives emails from people who are in contact with someone, and in love with them, but have never actually met them. He flies out to where they live, does background checks and sets up a meeting between one pair. MTV have aired four episodes and so far two girls have been ‘catfished’ by other girls who were out for revenge. Two other girls met their real guys, who turned out to be similar to their profiles but had some important differences.

This programme is interesting to watch, but can these people claim to be in love with someone they haven’t even met yet? In some cases the only form of contact has been text messaging, which is arguably a precarious basis for love. Nev appears to be the helpful guy, having been through the situation himself; he understands and empathises with the other participants.

This is definitely a programme that is worth a watch and has already been renewed for a second season. To watch Catfish: The TV Show tune into MTV on Monday nights at 10pm or Tuesday nights at 11pm.

**Verdict: 4/5**
Italy may upset Six Nations predictions after form defying result against France

Darragh Mowlds
Sports Editor

Most of the teams in this year’s Six Nations are going through or have just completed a huge period of transition in their side.

Ireland

Ireland are experimenting with youth this year, a gamble which could make or break Declan Kidney’s reign as Irish Coach. A stunning opening day performance in Cardiff went some way to restoring confidence going into the English game. After seeing France fall at the hands of Italy, Irish fans can be forgiven for daring to dream. I hesitate to predict that they’ll win the tournament, home ties against France and England could prove vital.

Key Game: England, 10th Feb (Aviva Stadium)
Key Player: Rob Kearney
Prediction: 1st

England

In reality they have a wonderful team that on their day could take on pretty much anyone in world rugby, as was seen in their astonishing victory over New Zealand during the Autumn Internationals. But as always they are their own worst enemies, and this massively hyped team could crack under the pressure. So far so good for Stuart Lancaster’s side with an impressive victory over Scotland, however, tougher tests lie ahead.

Key Game: Ireland, 9th Mar (Aviva Stadium)
Key Player: Wesley Fofana
Prediction: 3rd

Italy

The Italians are the not-so-proud owners of more wooden spoons than any other team in the competition but they do improve every year. Their stunning opening day victory over France showed that they aren’t the whipping boys they used to be. Don’t be surprised if France aren’t the only big scalp claimed this year. All going well, Ireland will come into the weekend in Rome on the verge of a championship; it certainly won’t be a comfortable finish no matter how the rest of the tournament goes.

Key Game: Ireland, 9th Mar (Aviva Stadium)
Key Player: Richie Gray
Prediction: 6th

Wales

Wales are going into the tournament on an awful run of form and missing several key players through injury. After being bulldozed by an unstoppable Irish first half performance, a resilient side came back well in the second half. Despite this, it could be a long tournament for the champions.

Key Game: England, Mar 16th (Millennium Stadium)
Key Player: Sam Warburton
Prediction: 4th

Scotland

Last year’s tournament was a complete disaster for the Scots. It’s a shame because if you asked any rugby fan of their favourite team after their own, it’d always be Scotland. It’s entirely possible that they’ll finish the tournament without a point again. They started very well against England but were eventually crushed by a far superior side; it’s not going to be pretty for them this year.

Key Game: Italy, Feb 9th (Murrayfield)
Key Player: Richie Gray
Prediction: 6th

Grim future sans Sexton

Darragh Mowlds
Sports Editor

So Leinster have been knocked out of the Heineken Cup, O’Driscoll could be competing in his final season and Sexton is upping sticks for a big money move to Racing Metro. Naturally, this means the end of the world as we know it and that Leinster will never compete again. Of course, back in reality, it doesn’t mean anything of the sort. I’ll start off with Sexton. His departure has left punditry running around with their hands in the air proclaiming the demise of Irish rugby. Am I the only one that isn’t sad to see him go? He is remarkably inconsistent in front of the posts. I know it’s not his only role but primarily a number 10 should be a great kicker. Moments of brilliance and the odd great game aren’t good enough. Give it a few years he will go from Judas Iscariot to the Prodigal son, mark my words.

Next to BOD, harshly stripped of the Irish captaincy by a defeated Declan Kidney, Drico came back from injury and showed exactly what his side were missing in the late stages for qualification to the knock out stages of the Heineken Cup.

Whether this will be his last season is yet to be seen but for sheer leadership alone the man should keep going for as long as he wants. Who are we mere mortals to argue otherwise?

Leinster has been poor this year at times and wall-punchingly frustrating at others. But are they finished? You’d swear they lost every game in the championship by fifty points by the way some people are going on. They lost out on the last weekend, just. Had Munster lost they’d be in the knock out stages and probably challenging for the title. Let’s not be too quick in our assessment.

Their players and coaches will be riled by the disappointment this year and don’t be surprised if the “goys” of Leinster are going to be pretty for them this year.

Key Game: Wales, 23rd Feb (Stadio Olimpico)
Key Player: Sergio Parisse
Prediction: 4th

Wales

Wales are going into the tournament on an awful run of form and missing several key players through injury. After being bulldozed by an unstoppable Irish first half performance, a resilient side came back well in the second half. Despite this, it could be a long tournament for the champions.

Key Game: England, Mar 16th (Millennium Stadium)
Key Player: Sam Warburton
Prediction: 4th

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Key Game: Italy, Feb 9th (Murrayfield)
Key Player: Richie Gray
Prediction: 6th
**Transfer Deadline Day brings about some bizarre behaviour**

From Odenwingie to Balotelli, Cathal Kearney looks at the moves and non-moves of transfer day

Aidan Dundass

The magic of cup football is a myth that the English media has been selling its fans for years, particularly with the FA Cup. The big clubs in England see the Capital One Cup, as it is now called, and the FA Cup as distractions; nuisances that they have to put up with. Cup football has lost all of its credibility. When is the last time a “big” team was happy to win the FA Cup or Capital One Cup? You can see it in the reaction of the fans: “Oh ye only won the FA Cup that’s meaningless.”

This myth that cup football has some sort of magic where the underdog can conquer all the odds like David vs Goliath has resurfaced recently due to Bradford City making the Capital One Cup final. I’ll admit that is a surprise but people have got to remember that the Capital One Cup or League Cup as it should be known was created to give teams a competition in which to blood their youngsters, so it’s not like the lower league teams are facing the crème de la crème that teams like Arsenal, Manchester United and Liverpool have to offer when they play them in the cups. For all of the talk about “upsets” in cup football, they only happen in the early rounds. When was the last time that a true underdog won the actual cup? The answer is 1988, when Wimbledon beat Liverpool 1-0 in the FA Cup final. What division were Wimbledon in at the time? The 3rd division? The 4th division? No they hadn’t just finished 7th in the old Division 1 (now the Premier League) so they were no slouches by any means. Although it was surprising that they beat the best team in England at that time, it was hardly “The Miracle on Ice.”

The cups in England have been devalued recently because of the importance of European football. 4th place in the league means far more than an FA Cup winners medal now and that is evident with the fact that in recent years Millwall, Cardiff and Southampton have all made the cup final, they all lost but that isn’t the point. The point is that the “big” teams now use the cup competitions as a chance to rest their good players and give their academy boys a run.

Is cup football magical? No, it’s meaningless.

David Beckham, seen here waiting to take a corner for LA Galaxy, announced he would give all his earnings to charity, while he plays for Paris St Germain

As Big Ben struck 11 o’clock last Thursday night the transfer window slammed shut, with many feeling a bit according to previous years.

The headline-grabber of the day was 37 year-old David Beckham, who joined French giants Paris St Germain on a five-month deal. Many were quick to point to the obvious financial and marketing benefit to both Beckham and PSG, and it therefore came as a pleasant surprise when he announced he would waive his contract. It is therefore a benefit to both Beckham and PSG, and it therefore came as a pleasant surprise when he announced he would waive his contract.

“Cup Football? Forget it!” Its glory days are long past and league football is the way forward

United and Liverpool have to offer when they play them in the cups. For all of the talk about “upsets” in cup football, they only happen in the early rounds. When was the last time that a true underdog won the actual cup? The answer is 1988, when Wimbledon beat Liverpool 1-0 in the FA Cup final. What division were Wimbledon in at the time? The 3rd division? The 4th division? No they hadn’t just finished 7th in the old Division 1 (now the Premier League) so they were no slouches by any means. Although it was surprising that they beat the best team in England at that time, it was hardly “The Miracle on Ice.”

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Is cup football magical? No, it’s meaningless.
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Europol finds match fixing in 300 games

Danielle Stephens
Sports Editor

The European police agency has revealed that they are investigating 380 suspicious cases of match-fixing.

While the majority of incidences are said to have occurred in Asia, Africa and Central America, some of the incidences supposedly took place in European qualifiers and UEFA Champions League matches. The FA will be focusing on the fact that Europol found that one such match took place in England. The football policing agency found that a total of 425 match officials, club officials, players, and serious criminals, from more than 15 countries, are suspected of being involved in attempts to fix more than 300 professional football matches.

Rob Wainwright, the chief executive of Europol revealed that there was around £7m paid in betting profits and £1.27m professional football matches.

Since Europol released their findings, UEFA, Europe’s football governing body has said that they will work with the various authorities and make sure that the necessary steps are taken to punish those involved. It added that the organisation has a "zero-tolerance policy towards match-fixing in our sport.”

Italy, a country synonymous with the problem of match-fixing, is featured heavily in European football. Back in December of last year, Napoli players, Paolo Cannavaro and Gianluca Grava were hand ed six-month bans for failing to report match-fixing. The goal-keeper, Matteo Gianello has been banned for 39 months for admitting an attempt to fix Napoli’s top-flight meeting with Sampdoria in 2010. The Italian Football Federation has been kept busy over the past decade with cases of match-fixing in the Italian leagues. The FIGC wide-ranging investigation into match-fixing, known as ‘Calcioscommesse’ saw Juventus head coach Antonio Conte suspended from the game for four months for failing to report his knowledge of match-fixing during his time in charge of Siena.

Now, the focus is on Europol’s latest findings and whether or not they can finally put a stop to the mounting level of corruption in football.

SnowSports ski trip

Leah Louise King

DIT SnowSports Society went on their annual ski trip this January, and it was said to be their best one yet.

“Each year I think the trip gets better and better, and this year was no different” said SnowSports Society vice president Eoin Daniel.

115 students travelled to Tignes, which is in France’s northern Alps, on 19 January, for seven days of skiing.

They included the four DIT SnowSports committee members, President Alex Browne, Vice President, Eoin Daniel, Gavin Davies and Adam McGuigan, and who organised the trip through ski organisation Ski Alpine.

During the day everyone went skiing or snowboarding in groups, or to lessons, and by night, they were all in outrageous costumes for the mad nights out.

Some themes included a ‘no pants’ night, where everyone went out in nothing on their bottom half but underwear, in minus temperatures, and a heroes and villains theme, where people dressed in costumes from Batman characters, to unusual heroes in the form of the cast of Shrek.

“The ski trip was serious craic”, said DIT student Mo Ryan, who had one particular memory of the trip, his friends shaving off parts of his hair, leaving him with an unusual haircut for the week.

The most memorable moments of the trip for most of the students were the après-ski and also skiing to La Folie Douce, a mountain-side bar where everyone sang and danced on tables during the day, before skiing home to Tignes.

“It was hands down one of the best weeks of my life”, said Aungier Street student Alex Collins.

“Evan McIntyre falling over a ramp in the banana in pyjama costume was the funniest memory of the trip in my opinion.”

Alex Browne said, “The DIT SnowSports Society trip is probably the best sporting and social scene available to students who wish to get involved and meet other likeminded students from other campuses, courses and age groups.”

“The feedback we have gotten from the trip has been amazing so far,” said Eoin Daniel.

“The great thing is that you can come by yourself or with a friend, and you’re guaranteed to have a great time either way.”

For the most part, making new friends and having the craic on the slopes and at night made the trip one to remember.

The Irish impress in the Special Olympics World Winter Games in South Korea

Danielle Stephens
Sports Editor

Ireland’s medal tally reached double digits on Sunday and continued to rise during the final two days of the Special Olympics World Winter Games.

Fourteen athletes from Ireland flew to South Korea, where the games took place, on Friday 25 January.

The Irish team had high hopes for the games and expected great performances in both the Alpine Skiing and the Floorball events, in which they had athletes competing.

On the first full day of the games last Saturday, the team racked up an impressive five medals in the Super G skiing event. One bronze, three silvers and a gold won by Rosalind Connolly made for a great introduction to the games.

Speaking after Saturday’s wins, Matt English, Special Olympics Ireland chief executive spoke of how thrilled he was for the Irish athletes, despite disruptions the previous day.

“There was such disappointment yesterday when competition had to be called off because of the bad weather conditions but it’s clear from today’s performances that this interlude didn’t affect the athletes in any way and that we will get our day eventually.”

Sunday saw the Irish team take on the Giant Slalom event, another contingent of the skiing competition. Between them, the athletes clocked up a further four medals, building on Saturday’s triumphs.

Stuart Briereton from Bray, Co. Wicklow picked up a gold medal in the novice competition and Gary Burton from Sallynoggin, Dublin won gold in the Intermediate level competition.

Ireland also excelled at the Floorball event last week, where they won a bronze medal.

This was the first time for Ireland to be represented in Floorball at a World level competition event.

The team managed to come back from a halftime score of 5-1 to score four second-half goals against a stunned Austrian team.

The match saw them claim the Olympic medal was less taxing, as they beat the host nation South Korea 11-1. Head Floorball coach Paul O’Callaghan said after the game that “On a personal level, I am delighted and incredibly proud to be part of the first Irish floorball team at a World level Games.”

Between both the skiing and the floorball events, Ireland have had an extremely successful World Winter Olympic games. They will exhibit this when they bring their medals home in the next week.
In an event renowned for its gripping finishes and spectacular halftime shows, it was the lights at the Superdome that stole the show.

Prior to this, Jacoby Jones had seemed to put his side out of sight with a 108 yard kick-off return to begin the second half. However, a power outage soon after delayed the game by 30 minutes and momentum completely flipped afterwards as the 49ers offence surged back into the game.

The first Super Bowl to take place at the Superdome since Hurricane Katrina, this game had so many subplots leading up to it and the power outage only added to this. It was also the first time brothers faced off against each other in coaching roles at a Super Bowl and it was the elder, John Harbaugh and Ravens coach, who came out on top.

Another subplot to the game was the retirement of Ravens legend Ray Lewis who, after claiming his first Super Bowl all of 12 years ago, achieved the dream-ending, going out at the top. The retirement of Ravens legend Ray Lewis who, after claiming his first Super Bowl all of 12 years ago, achieved the dream-ending, going out at the top. The game itself lived up to the cliché of a game of two halves as Ravens stormed into the lead only to be reeled back in the second half.

In a dominant first half, Ravens' quarterback and the game's MVP, Joe Flacco, threw three touchdowns including a 56 yard pass to Jacoby Jones who would go on to make an even bigger statement later on. San Francisco's offence on the other hand only managed a pair of field goals and also turned the ball over twice. The 21-6 deficit at halftime meant the 49ers were up against it as they would have to break the Super Bowl record for largest comeback which stands at 10 points.

The Ravens, who declined possession in the first half, received the second half kick-off and got a massive boost when Jacoby Jones returned David Akers kick 108 yards for a touchdown tying an NFL record.

After the lights came back and with the opposition seemingly out of sight, San Francisco managed to explode for 17 points in just over four minutes courtesy of touchdowns by Michael Crabtree and Frank Gore, and another David Akers field goal.

The 21-6 deficit at halftime meant the 49ers were up against it as they would have to break the Super Bowl record for largest comeback which stands at 10 points. With only a five point lead the Ravens offence had to come up big and they duly obliged putting up a field goal meaning 49ers would require a two point conversion to tie.

Power fails, 49ers surge but Ravens hold on

Ultimate Frisbee team suffer due to weather

Aidan Kelly

DIT's Ultimate Frisbee team have finished in seventh place in the Uni-League. The event featured a total of ten colleges from across the country and was played in Waterford under dramatically adverse conditions. Wind, rain and hail all fell during the course of the day. DIT, who sent a developmental team featuring just three first teamers were seeded in seventh going into the day kept their position after losing to UCD and UL before beating hosts WIT.

In the final game of the day, DIT faced their Dublin rivals DCU with sixth place up for grabs. By then the wind had picked up to extraordinary levels which lead to a low-scoring game with both sides enduring a single point that lasted almost twenty minutes. In the final, Trinity managed to outshine favourites UCC and now have the right to head over to the UK to compete in UK Outdoor Nationals later in the year.

Next up for our college's team is the Siege of Limerick at the end of February. Last year DIT's second team managed to win the spoon (lowest) division. DIT's Uni-League squad: Daragh King (c), Aidan Kelly, Niamh Meighan, Tom Healy, Annelies Hell, Cathal Mac Reamoinn, Tadhg Poole, Peter Mahon, Matthew Colfer, Peter Fish and Kunle Agbaje.