
DIT News Society

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Debt collectors chase student fees

UCD have begun using debt collection agencies to pursue outstanding fee debts owed by students, the Irish Independent reported last week.

The largest university in the country joins the University of Limerick (UL), who have already been using debt agencies to pursue students for money owed.

Due to cuts in state funding of education, higher education institutions are under increased pressure to balance their finances.

DIT have stated they are not using debt collectors to chase money owed by students. A spokesperson said, “We have some outstanding fees but very few and we are not using external agencies to recall debts.”

The spokesperson added that DIT’s outstanding debts are low at €200,000 spread over five years.”

A UL spokesperson said they were still using debt collectors after the news broke in the media and would continue to do so but their policy was not directed, “at any current students. We are not pursuing any current student, students on a leave of absence or student who has deferred.”

She said UL were pursuing former students with outstanding balances; graduates who had not paid the remainder of their fees and students who had dropped out.

The majority of former UL students who have been contacted by the debt collection agency did not complete their courses and left without a degree.

The spokesperson stated that the debt collection route was a “last resort after other internal avenues of debt reclamation had been expended.

Trinity College Dublin and NUI Galway said they do not use debt collection agencies and have not resorted to legal action to reclaim debts.

NUI Galway said they are sympathetic to cases of financial hardship. They have also established a financial aid fund for students.

Dublin City University (DCU) said they dealt with outstanding fees with students internally.

“The relative success of current debt recoupment measures has obviated the need to progress to formal legal action but DCU reserves the right to do so,” a spokesperson said.

However, this week the Irish Independent revealed that Dublin City University (DCU) has hired debt collectors to track down students who have not paid their full student contribution fees.

DCU did not clarify if debt collectors are targeting currently enrolled students or former students or both.

And the university has not ruled out bringing students to court to get them to clear their bills if the debt collectors have no success.

Annual contribution fees for third level students will rise from a 2011/2012 level of €2,000 to €3,000 by 2015.

The increase of €250 in the registration fee for the four years is expected to bring in an additional €20m annually for the state.

In 2010, the fee was €1,500. It was €190 when introduced in the mid-1990s.

John Logue president of the USI (Union of Students Ireland) has said, “We condemn these tactics in the strongest terms. These debt collectors serve only one purpose: to intimidate students into coughing continued page 4

Ciarán Clark
News Editor
‘Love your career’ launches new site

Jarlath Moloney
Editor

The Careers Office launched its new website, www.dit.ie/careers, on 14 February. Dave Kilmartin, head of careers service launched the new site on Valentine’s Day, at DIT Aungier Street and Bolton Street, with the slogan ‘Love Your Career’. He said it had a “focus on a needs-based website and it would make info as bespoke as possible for student’s disciplines.”

The website is also designed to be accessible to students wherever they are, with all resources being downloadable. The website also hosts links for many professional bodies related to each school in the college and information sites for potential emigration destinations.

The site’s events diary also compiles a useful list of upcoming career seminars and events. The next listed event is the ‘GRADchances IT Event’ in the O’Callaghan Alexander Hotel on Wednesday 27 February from 1-7pm. The event was developed to bring employers together with the best computer science, technology and students of related disciplines together. For more information on this and other upcoming events along with career advice, visit the DIT careers website at www.dit.ie/careers.

Survey working group set up

- Working group set up to assess DIT’s student satisfaction survey 2012
- National Student Survey to launch in next few months

Al McConnell
Deputy Editor

A new working group has been set up to examine the findings of last year’s DIT Student Satisfaction Survey. The group will examine the issues that were rated best and worst by students last year, and determine how best to maintain the good, and eliminate the bad, aspects of DIT.

The working group will be chaired by Brian Gormley, Campus Life Manager at DIT, who told the Edition: “The nominees for membership of the group were approved on Friday, and our intention is to begin meeting in the next two weeks. One major output from the group, which will be our main concern, is a newsletter outlining the actions that we will take to fix things around the college that aren’t up to scratch.”

Among the top ten key issues that were identified in last year’s DIT Student Satisfaction Survey, were the availability of WiFi; access to training on software; the availability of good value food, and access to facilities to use a laptop (such as electricity plugs and also WiFi). Another major issue, which has been raised in recent weeks by some students, was the timely provision of feedback after exams and assignments.

National Student Survey

A new National Student Survey is also being set up, which will rolled out in the coming months to create a picture of student experiences in third level colleges. The survey will be organised through cooperation with USI, the Higher Education Authority, the Irish Universities Association and Institutes of Technology.

The survey’s website states that “the National Strategy for Higher Education to 2030 report recommends that higher education institutions should put in place systems to capture feedback from students to inform institutional and programme management, as well as national policy. This national survey is one example of institutions and national bodies seeking to gather students’ views.”

Included in the survey’s objectives is an aim to document the experiences of the student population, thus enabling year on year comparisons of key performance indicators.

Based on Australian and American student surveys, each feedback form will take roughly 15 minutes to complete, in a ‘tick-box’ format. It will be open for responses from 4 March 2013. All first year, final year undergraduate and postgraduate students are invited to respond.

A full report on the findings will be published in the summer.
Candidates run unopposed

- No competition for SU President, Rathmines College Officer
- No candidate at all for the Post-Graduate Officer position

Cláirín Clark
News Editor

The nominations for positions in the Students’ Union closed on February 8. The role of the President is uncontested for a second year, with Glenn Fitzpatrick as the sole candidate. Rathmines College Officer was also uncontested with Tara O’Brien running unopposed.

The nominations were published on DIT Students’ Union Facebook page and posted on Twitter. The other positions have more than one candidate running, with Phillip Harrison running against Will Meara for Vice President of Events and David Rice running against Rebecca Dempsey for Vice President of Education. In the newly established separate role of Vice President for Welfare, Ian Monks and Fiacrí Duffy are running for the role.

No candidates are running for the Post-Graduate Officer position.

In response to the question of why the president’s role is uncontested for the second year, Mr Fitzpatrick said: “I’m not going to change my approach to my campaign. I feel that I have to go out and convince every student that there’s not a need for another candidate.” He added that he launched his campaign early because he didn’t want to hide his intention to run, and because he felt he had the best experience and was ready for the job.

He said it was better for democracy to have a choice and it was an issue he’d have to deal with. “Some people will look at the ballot paper and think ‘well that’s not really a contest’, and they might vote no as a result.”

It’s going to be a challenge to minimise that no vote.” He said he’d do everything possible to encourage a yes vote including speaking in classes and increased face-to-face engagement with students. So far the response from students to the elections has been great, he added.

In the absence of a candidate’s debate, a Q and A session for sabbatical events will be held in City Hall on February 27, during which Mr Fitzpatrick intends to speak. He said this would be an opportunity for students to query, give feedback, and question the candidates on the issues. He also said he welcomed students challenging and engaging with him over various social media.

No nominations will now be accepted if a latecomer decides to contest the president’s role. The guidelines are laid down by an election commission and the students’ union is not in a position to make an exception. “I’m happy to take competition but the electoral commission sets the rules and they are strict. The position was advertised online, through class rep and posters. I can’t see a situation where the commission would allow an exception.”

Theorising on why the role was unopposed Mr Fitzpatrick said: “In my role this year it took me a while and a little bit of research before I was comfortable with what the president actually does. With education and events it’s very clear what that job is, whereas with the president maybe it’s a little bit vague to people. Any DIT student is qualified to run for any role in the SU but Mr Fitzpatrick said: “It’s a big jump for somebody who hasn’t been involved in the Union. [Former pres- ident] Cláirín Nevin did it and it did it very successfully, and it’s not to say someone couldn’t do it, but there might be a bit of a barrier there. It’s such a high-end role. Cláirín would have been the exception rather than the rule.”

He added that having worked closely with the president this year stepping up for the presidency this year is a natural progression. The SU officers are expecting a higher turnout than last year. Only 2000 students voted last year but the SU are hoping to double this figure to 4000, 25 per cent of the voting population of DIT.

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.

Karma Stone reopens following fire damage

Jarlath Moloney
Editor

Karma Stone has re-opened after nearly two months of closure following a fire. The pub, popular with students of DIT’s Kevin St and and Aungier St campus, returned to business after nearly €500,000 worth of repairs were made.

While the cost of repairs was covered by insurance, the bar missed out on a busy Christmas trading period after a fire originally caused by an electrical fault. Bar owner, Daithi Clark, was unable to estimate the loss in revenue simply stating, “How big is a hole? It’s hard to estimate.” The electrical fire that closed the bar resulted in evacuation and five units of the Dublin Fire Brigade being called to the scene. Luckily, no one was hurt on the night.

However, students need not worry about the venue closing due to financial difficulties. Clark said: “We’re well on top of things and looking forward to the next year.”

The pub’s closure wasn’t all bad news, though, with many improvements being made to the establishment as a result. Karma Stone has installed new 3D TVs, a six-foot-by-four-foot HD matrix screen, and are now stocking craft beers, including Hoegaarden and Leffe. It also has a new foreign sports decoder - the only one of its kind in Ireland, according to Clark, which will allow for screening of matches that are not being shown on the typical channels available in Ireland. The bar is also offering all meals for €5 this week, in a re-opening promotion.

The Karma Stone management is looking to install a third bar in a room upstairs that can be used for society nights and events, and are looking to start popcorn and movie nights on Mondays. The bar will make popcorn on the premises and give it out to patrons on the free nights.

Aspiring musicians can also look to Karma Stone as a showcase for their talent, as Clark says the venue is “starting to introduce live music on Wednesday and Friday nights.” A graduate of DIT, Ciarán O’Ro- urke, will play on Wednesday nights; Clark has said that he is particularly interested in college acts playing on weeknights and Sundays.

Interested students can e-mail Clark at karma@karma.dublin.ie. Karma Stone is open for business now.

Iceland Chief lands himself in hot water

A remark made on BBC’s Panorama programme by the CEO of the supermarket chain Iceland has provoked outrage throughout Ireland. The show which was investigating supermarket chains in the wake of the horse meat scandal, questioned Malcolm Walker about the FSAI test which showed that some Iceland burgers contained 0.1% of horse DNA. When asked what he thought of the result from the Food Safety Authority of Ireland Walker simply responded with, ‘well, that’s the Irish for you isn’t it’.

Iceland released a statement seemingly backtracking on the comments, ‘Iceland has great respect for the food standards authorities in both the UK and Ireland, and is grateful to the Food Safety Authority of Ireland.

DOE to purchase five million euro complex

The government is in advanced talks to buy the Citywest complex, located on Fortunestown lane, for a fee of €5m. The complex is owned by Dublin businessman Jim Mansfield and was originally meant to be part of a plan for a golf village in the west of the city. The complex which is currently being leased to the Department of Education by receivers has benefited from investment by the businessman in technology such as interactive whiteboards. The government considers the €5m price to be a bargain for taxpayers.

At the moment two schools, Scoil Niamh and City West Educate Together National School, are operating temporarily at the complex. The Department of Education is hoping to make the situation permanent and secure the futures of these schools through the proposed deal.

The €5m deal would see the Department of Education buy the site outright from receivers who are currently managing the property. NAMA appointed a receiver to take control of a lot of Mansfield’s prop- erty in 2011 after the tycoon fell into debt during the property downturn. This meant seizing his Weston Airport, six apartment blocks in City West and his Palmerstown Estate which included a championship golf course.
**Gerry’s Tweeting. Everything.**

Sinn Féin leader, Gerry Adams TD, has made an instant impression on the Twitter world, with a barrage of obscure and confusing posts.

Since setting up his account earlier this month, the party leader has publicly mused about getting locked out of his house, bringing his toothbrush to the Dáil, and has regularly updated the public on the daily life of his teddy bear, ‘Ted’. Now a ‘special advisor’ to the politician, Ted has since set up his own account.

“Me and Naoise Kelly & a one eyed cow in Maghera.Bron orm. Horse! Shudda gone 2 Specsavers.Vote F Molloy.”

“Me & Snowie left them 2 it. Up into the hills b4 dindins.”

“Yes ted&tom r same sex couple.But thats their business.And not the issue. RG still sez they r 2 young.Hopeful-ly it will b ok.Coddladh samh x”

“Barr an lá leat. Another soft day. Me @ Ted have work 2 do. Have a nice Lent”

**DIT shakes its stuff**

The Harlem Shake has hit DIT with hundreds of students participating in their own version of the viral phenomenon.

The internet meme, which has gone viral on YouTube this month, is a video that has been replicated according to the same whacky concept by users around the globe.

The art form of the meme was created in a video uploaded on February 2 by The Sunny Coast Skate, five teenagers from Queensland, Australia. The teenagers’ video, in its turn, was a follow-up to a video by a YouTube comedy vlogger named Filthy Frank, featuring a part where several costumed persons danced to the song “Harlem Shake” by Baauer.

Will Meara, DITSU’s VP for events leading the festivities dressed as DIT’s mascot Duck Norris. He organised a flashmob of students from across DIT’s campuses to meet at 1pm in Angler St Campus, where hundreds of students congregated to take part.

Students were invited to bring their “maddest shite” which included a multitude of inventive costumes, drums, whistles, banjos, bodhráns, bricks, dildos, sombreros and cling-film. With health and safety a minor concern, students banged their drums, blew their whistles and moshed to the Harlem Shake.

Speaking after the event Will said, “I’m going to get in so much trouble for this.”

He explained the reason for organising the event, “It’s about unifying a lot of people from different areas to make something fun. You don’t need any skills or talent; you can just do whatever the hell you want. The idea of it was to show that you can have a lot of fun in college, there’s more to it than just going in to your lectures and falling asleep.”

The video is on the DITSU website and will be uploaded to YouTube soon.

“I love the Harlem Shake videos and I wanted to get involved in it. Got trodden on a lot ‘cause I couldn’t see through my hat!”

Daniel Wilson - Pharmaceutical and Healthcare

“Continued from page 1”

up money they simply do not have. The dramatic increases in college fees in recent years, set to be €3200 this September, has seen far too many students drop out of college. Their work prospects have already taken a hit as a result of not graduating, yet these universities are demonstrating gross insensitivity by employing debt collectors when they should be working with the students to come to a more amicable arrangement. “USI calls on Minister Quinn to condemn this practice and to urgently work towards a solution that will provide relief for students in arrears.”

While the cost of a degree in Ireland continues to rise on an annual basis, these students and their families have invested in education and deserve a chance to restructure their debt and get back on target. This issue has arisen as a direct result of his decision to increase fees and cut the maintenance grant. The Minister owes them some clemency.

A DIT spokesperson commented on the January 31 deadline for payment fees and registration. The deadline to pay outstanding fees has been extended to February for those students awaiting grants. The deadline for students to register has also passed and those who have not will be hit with the registration fee, full tuition fees and a €450 late payments charge.

She added, “This deadline applies to students who have not come forward to register or provide the college with notice that they are awaiting grants. It also applies to students who were not eligible or who had gone to lectures but come forward to make arrangements.”

The Independent also reported that as a result of public funding cutbacks over the last four years, the seven main universities and colleges can no longer afford to forgive bad debts.

It is estimated that 9%, or 1,800, of first-year students enrolled in higher education do not continue to their second year.

Cláirán Clark
News Editor
Folens plans ‘adaptive learning’ for third level

- Digital education resources, recently unveiled for second level, will be expanded into third level in future

Al McConnell  
Deputy Editor

A spin-off company of Folens, the largest schoolbook publisher in the country, has rolled out its online learning site for second level students, clevernotes.ie, and future expansion into third level is being planned.

Apieran, which was created last year as a separate company from Folens to provide online and mobile learning, launched the site in early February. Clevernotes.ie is a ‘digital learning site’, providing interactive revision guides, exam advice, sample answers, practice tests, videos, and the opportunity to practice oral and aural examinations.

According to Apieran’s chief executive, Brian Halpin, the company is aiming to take its online and mobile approach into third level education, with a focus on enabling more personalised learning.

“The aim of the business has been to set up an online learning platform, and our test market is the Leaving Certificate,” he said. “From there we have a couple of other plans to extend out to other areas, including third level education.

“One of the backdrops to what we’re doing at the minute is significant investment in a platform known as ‘adaptive learning’. It’s been reasonably well tested in third level markets in the US and the UK, and its starting to come out in commercial deployment.

At present, there are no concrete plans as to when this service may be launched, but Mr Halpin says that the principles of an online, personalised approach would be well-suited to third level education.

‘Adaptive learning is a hot topic in the US at the moment. It’s essentially an algorithm model that tracks individual capabilities and adapts the content depending on your individual capabilities. It allows students to progress at different speeds depending on their background knowledge and what they’ve done before. It’s all about personalisation.

“The flexibility for students to advance through course material at their own pace could be well-suited to the closer, more personal teaching at third level.

“This content operates better in a third level scenario than second level. At second level there’s a teacher there with 30 kids in a class, bringing them all along at the same speed, whereas at third level, there’s opportunity to develop at your own pace.

“What you might see on our service today is a lot of revision guide material, provided in an interactive way. For example, assessment and feedback, and oral and aural elements to practice exercises. It’s what a textbook should be; multimedia, interactivity and assessment.

Folens recently announced a number of redundancies at the company, prompting many to question whether the print textbook industry will lag, as the market shifts to digital learning.

“If schools, tomorrow morning, moved to an environment where every child had broadband access and computer facilities in school, I’m pretty sure the shift to broadband would happen rapidly. What you can do digitally, from our point of view, is far superior to what you can do with a textbook.

“The limiting factor on that move to digital will be the infrastructure and the environment itself, and worldwide that is the same issue.”

"Flexibility for students to advance at their own pace is well suited to third level" - Brian Halpin

DIT’s opens new office in China

- Ten-year partnership with Harbin Institute of Technology continues

Diarmáid Ó Muirí

The opening of the office is part of DIT’s international strategy, intended as a point of contact for Chinese students interested in studying at DIT.

The new office is the result of ten years of working with Chinese partners since the institute’s partnership with Harbin Institute of Technology in Harbin, Heilongjiang, China.

In welcoming guests to the opening of the new office, Professor Michael Devereux, Dean of DIT College of Sciences and Health said that “DIT is delighted to be supporting these two objectives and delivering on them represents a major element of our internationalisation strategy.”

The project is an integral part of the development of Hainan International Tourism, an initiative in cooperation with development company China Aroma Investment Corporation.

The new college will offer students programmes in hospitality management, culinary arts, environmental health, food safety and tourism.

Part of the Chinese government’s development plan for the island of Hainan, the college is one of two strategies for the province.

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Half of principals medicated for stress

Amy-Nora Fitzgibbon

Survey shows half of those in job require medicine due to stress

Half of Irish primary school principals are on medication for a variety of stress related conditions, including anxiety, depression and blood pressure.

As reported in the Irish Independent on 26 January 2013, the finding was made after a survey conducted by the Irish Primary Principals’ Network (IPPN) asked almost 900 of its members about stress and work-related conditions.

Director of the IPPN, Sean Cottrell, said the work-related stress mainly arose out of the cumulative effect of all the Department’s new initiatives in recent years.

Mr Cottrell said, “No matter how competent or confident a principal may be, constant overload can erode their sense of self-worth to such an extent that some feel they can no longer cope.”

He also said the IPPN had recently raised concerns about the effect the principals’ workload was having on their health and on the quality of education being provided in schools as a result.

These concerns were raised with both school management bodies and the Department of Education.

“When workload affects the health of an employee, the employer, in our case the board of management, has a legal responsibility to act.”

“IPPN”, the director continued, “as a professional body, has a moral imperative to bring this issue to the forefront on behalf of school leaders. Failure to address this issue will adversely affect the quality of children’s education.”

Dara Glynn, principal of St Joseph’s Naomh Naomh in Skibbereen, Co Cork, said he was not surprised at the results of the survey and added that “new work practices and guidelines for operations within the school are being advised by the government far more frequently over the period of the last ten years.”

“It is left up to the principal to instigate all these new teaching practices and while teachers individually put in a huge amount of work, there is a limit to how much they can do. Expectations nowadays are so high.”

Stress in Dublin Primaries

The principal of a private primary school in South Dublin, said to The Edition she believes not only are the new initiatives being brought in by the Department causing moral strain but are the expectations of parents in relation to what they expect the school to do for them. “If there is no discipline at home” she said “parents cannot not expect there to be any consistency for the child when they come to school.”

She added, “Failure to discipline a child at home can also lead to problems in the school such as anti-social behaviour and bullying, which makes the life of a principal much harder.”

The results of this survey come to light in the wake of a similar report published in January of this year in the State of California.

Summarized by Education Week, this report highlighted the increasing strains that many principals can come under nowadays, stating that “principals are facing shrinking budgets and mounting responsibilities – creating competing pressures that may make the job untenable.”

The report, carried out by the San Francisco non-profit group, Center for the Future of Teaching and Learning at Wested, found that principals throughout California were working up to 70 hours per week.

It also stated “that even if a principal can do each of several things well, it is tremendously difficult to do them all well at the same time.”

DIT Foundation’s Annual Fund: applications closing today

Matthew Colfer

Fund aims to provide finance for causes that can’t find it elsewhere

Total funding available through this year’s DIT Foundation

Hexagon 2013

Across all categories and scoring third highest in the ‘special task’. Also in 2011 the DIT Fashion Showcase chose DIT Fashion as one of its partnerities. The event raised €4,000 for the DIT Foundation Annual Fund.

DIT Foundation decided to use this money to award scholarships to five Access students who have a proven record in both academic and community activities. The scholarships were awarded to: John O’Connor (BSc, Environmental Health), Faisal Nooshai (BSc Mathematical Sciences), Lorna Maher (Planning & Environmental Management), Darren Scully (BA Languages) and Katie Duggan (BA Languages and International Tourism).

You can keep up to date with the DIT Foundation on Facebook, https://www.facebook.com/ditfoundation, and Twitter, https://twitter.com/ditfoundation.

The website for this year’s DIT Foundation

DIT researcher finds more to Abbey Theatre

Website set up to display musical history of the theatre

Amy-Nora Fitzgibbon

A team of researchers from DIT’s Research Foundation for Music in Ireland (RFMI), led by Dr Maria McHale, have uncovered a rich musical heritage in Dublin’s Abbey Theatre.

The project, funded by the Irish Research Council (IRC), formerly the Irish Research Council for Humanities and Social Sciences, has found the Abbey regularly commissioned and performed music to accompany its performances.

Dr Maria McHale said, “The project developed from a short entry I wrote on the Abbey Theatre for the Encyclopedia of Music in Ireland. In researching the entry I was amazed to discover the extent of music performed at the Abbey from its early years, right up to the 1960s. From start to finish the project took the team about six months with the database developed by Dr Catherine Ferris and the materials transcoded with the help of Dr Triona O’Hanlon.”

In the early years of the theatre’s existence the music that accompanied the plays was provided by a solo violinist, Arthur Darley. Then in 1906 a small orchestra was formed under the direction of G.R Hillis. Five more musical directors followed, including the composer John F. Larchett, who took over in 1908 and held the position for 26 years. The roles of the musical directors were mainly to write incidental music for plays and ballets and to direct music for the intervals.

Archivist for the Abbey Theatre, Mairead Delaney, said “We are delighted that the collaboration between the Abbey Theatre Archive and the team of researchers in DIT has resulted in a very accessible means of investigating the theatre’s wonderful musical history. On many occasions I have spoken with audience members who attended Abbey productions of the late 1940s and 1950s who give accounts of the orchestra’s contribution to a wonderful night of theatre.”

She continued, “This new website will herald a new area of research and provide valuable insights into the musical history of the Abbey Theatre.”

The researchers have created a website and database to provide more information about this history at www.abbeytheatremusic.ie.

The website provides information about the music performed at the theatre from the early years of its existence until 1965, the year in which the Abbey’s orchestra was disbanded.

Researchers used the original theatre programmes stored in the Abbey Theatre Archive and the National Library of Ireland to compile the data available on the website.

The website is designed so that the public can browse the programme on any given night by searching for it via the composer, musical director, opening night or performer.

The Abbey Theatre, with a musical history unknown until DIT’s Dr Maria McHale discovered a huge number of performances from the early 1900s, has found the Abbey regularly commissioning and performing music to accompany its productions.

Dr Catherine Ferris and the materials transcribed with the help of Dr Triona O’Hanlon.

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Following the Northern star: Erasmus notes from Finland

Erasmus diary
Helsinki meets the best of expectations, writes Tessa Fleming

The culture clash is something one should expect whilst on Erasmus, but, as a citizen of the world, I felt as though I was above such trivial matters. However, in truth, I am no more than a naïve culchie from the arse-end of nowhere.

As a regular flyer of Ryanair, even the Scandinavian airline was something I had hadn’t anticipated. For one I had more leg-room.

One of the great things about Finland is the saunas, and, almost every house and apartment block has one. It’s regarded as a social thing, like going out for a drink with friends after work.

The saunas are an age-old thing here in Finland, and the Finns are an innovative people, making saunas out of whatever they can find. Caravans, Cars, and, even people, making saunas out of whatever they can find. Caravans, Cars, and, even people, making saunas out of whatever they can find. Caravans, Cars, and, even people, making saunas out of whatever they can find. Caravans, Cars, and, even people, making saunas out of whatever they can find.

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There is no one more Irish than the Irish-Americans?

While studying in Gainesville, Florida Sara Dalton meets the Americans who claim dubious Irish heritage

Greetings from the University of Florida! After a month here I can confirm that the college stereotypes you’ve heard are true. Guys walk around in fraternity t-shirts and backwards baseball caps, people drink out of big red cups and the head cheerleader here is rumoured to be dating the quarterback.

After enquiring of the green meadows and ancient castles of my homeland, a staggering number of the Americans claim to be Irish themselves. On the floor of my dorm alone, five housemates pushed stories of their Irish heritage, some more convoluted than others. Hannah Warshowsky (of the Tullamore O’Warshowskys) is a second year student next door who considers herself Irish. “My whole family is Scotch-Irish American,” she says, though she does not know what exactly that term means. “I do know it comes from my Grandmother’s side,” she said. “Her family came over in the late 1600s. I also have cousins here in Florida called the Crowleys. We all went to Cork to visit Crowley castle last year.”

Brenna Grant, a Jamaican-American pre-medical student tells me her mother’s maiden name is O’Connor. “When I was younger I was always told about my Irish roots. We think my great-great grandfather travelled from Ireland to Jamaica in the late 1800s” she said. “I know it is an Irish name. My mother really wants to visit Ireland, it looks beautiful on television.”

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Seasaimhín Ní Ghallachóir

Tá fearracht as úsáid a chur tar éis an Rialtas inchreidte Foras na Gaeilge a mhátharú agus an nuachtán náisiúnta Gaelscéal, atá i bhaol diothaithe, a chothaint.

Ar 25 Eanáir 2013 d’fhág Foras na Gaeilge go bhfuil siad chun deireadh a chuir le maith na mian in Úachtarán na hAsúntaí, gur fuair próiseasanna ar na scéaltaí nach m’fhéadfadh a chaill air féin i náisiúint. tá an teacht óna na meáin chun é aitheann an tír go dtí an fhorbairt. D'fhág Foras na Gaeilge go bhfuil siad chun deireadh a chuir le maith na mian in Úachtarán na hAsúntaí, gur fuair próiseasanna ar na scéaltaí nach m’fhéadfadh a chaill air féin i náisiúint.

Opinion

Aodán Ó Neasa

An bhfuil an córas oideachais ciónach a chuirtear i mbag a mhíniúchaidh, bhí an t-áirítear eile, sna scóileanna, i stair na hásúnta, a chuirtear le chéile. Is féidir le daoine féin a chur in ann angháireadh má thagann an scoláireacht díreach faoi ghné freisin. Is féidir le daoine féin a chur in ann angháireadh a chur in ann angháireadh. Is féidir le daoine féin a chur in ann angháireadh a chur in ann angháireadh.

Stiofán Ó Conaithigh

Ba bhfuil go bhfuil mar gheall ar an córas oideachais a chuirtear i mbag a mhíniúchaidh, bhí an t-áirítear eile, sna scóileanna, i stair na hásúnta, a chuirtear le chéile.

Céilí Gaelach le haghaidh Seachtain na Gaeilge

“Buille fealltach tu-baisteach”, is é cinneadh le crioch maoiniú Gaelscéal.

Imeachtaí an Chumainn Ghaeilge le déanaí

An bhfuil an córas oideachas ciónach?
Poor coordination and lack of togetherness at the #Feb9 protest

Mark Meehan looks back on a protest that promised a lot, but failed to deliver

On the 9th of February, a protest the likes of which this country rarely sees took place on the streets of Ireland. From the capital to cities and towns across the country, the #Feb9 anti-austerity protests made the feelings of an angry populace felt. The protest on the streets of Dublin was by far the largest. At the rallying point at Christchurch, at the west end of Dame Street, tens of thousands of people gathered. The Irish Congress of Trade Unions, which was largely behind the organisation and promotion of the event, brought forward massive contingents from major unions, which was an angry populace as well as the Association of Garda Sergeants and Inspectors. Union groups were not the only ones present, though, with major numbers of campaign groups against the property tax also making their presence felt. The march itself was breathtaking, with union marchers spanning the full length of Dame Street as the gathered protesters reached their full strength. Banners and flags of all shapes and sizes fluttered in the wind as the marchers made their way towards their final rallying point - Merrion Square - in front of Leinster House.

At Merrion Square, however, the march appeared to lose much of the massive public energy it had gathered along the route. At the square, two screens were set up on two different sides of the park, leading many to wonder where the final rallying point should be. As confused protesters moved back and forth between the two locations, speeches began to ring out as people spoke about how they had been personally affected. As these speeches went on, though, the apparent lack of coordination began to take a toll, and marchers began to scatter. Within a mere twenty minutes of the march reaching the gathering point at Merrion Square, the area had begun to well and truly empty. Banners and flags were seen either side of the main road and pamphlets had been strewn about the street, discarded. Small groups were still handing out reading material as the rally fell apart, but the damage had already been done.

MUCH discussion took place afterwards about why the rally may have lost its edge as it approached its destination. The feeling on the ground was that it had lacked coordination, and it certainly appeared that way from a vantage point near Leinster House itself. There were many ICTU stewards on hand, but the protest still lacked any togetherness. It appears that the use of screens at two different locations on the square strung the protest out too much. The number of protesters present ranged from a Garda estimate of 25,000 to an ICTU estimate of 60,000. The numbers, while being powerful and in themselves a great message of discontent, did little to ultimately help the rally to find its final meaning. At the end of the protest, Merrion Square became deserted as the unions were felt to have simply not done enough, or worse.
Challengers step it up a notch

Clírín Clark attends the weekly weigh-in to see how the Challengers are coping

Another Monday and the Edition team joined the contestants of the Lean Machine Challenge up at Raw Condition Gym on Richmond Street. Dáirne Black, Sarah Tandy and Niamh Foley arrived for another instalment of gruelling training.Collectively yet competitively they push each other for the next ten weeks whipping their bodies into shape and changing diets that they plan to stick to long after the challenge is over.

The Edition team came down to the site of fitness and wellbeing to catch up with the trainers and the girls; to see what exercises were in store for this week, have a look and what they are eating, and what all fitness enthusiasts should be eating, and see what impact the training is having on the women in general.

Sarah had a few days off while she was in sunny Venice but she’s back in force, saying “I don’t feel like I’ve had two full weeks, not training anyway but I have been eating well.” She said she’s always had a tendency to eat well, “So it’s not too big an adjustment but I have had to give up chocolate.” Sarah also said that she’s always been interested in sport, playing cricket and baseball, but she admits that baseball wasn’t that physically demanding.

Sarah says she’s excelling in sport, playing cricket and baseball, and this week she’s moved up to level 12, something she was never able to do before. She explains that the physical training gets easier each time but she still struggles with food, occasionally stopping to smell the “cookies. “I feel silly because I’ve been eating bananas all week and I’ve found out they’re f**king full of carbs, so there goes half my diet.” But she added “If bananas are the worst thing I’m eating then that’s brilliant.”

She says that weekends are hard at work, as she works in a café but she is able and determined to stay on salads. “It’s about the choices you’re making; I’ve definitely got more energy and focus. Now when I’m tired it’s because I’m knackered from the gym and college not because I’ve been eating sh*t.” She wants to start looking up easy to cook, healthy student meals. She also stresses that each of the girls’ journeys is different admitting that she has cried once or twice but that “we’re all human. I went from eating junk to good food. It’s the polar opposite, and I’ve thrown myself in the deep-end. Sundays are hard, thinking about the Monday weigh-in but I’m happy.” On her weight loss this week she added “I want to lose more next week or maintain the weight loss. I’m going to push myself even harder this week. I’ve got the chance to really change things. This challenge is one of my top-priorities and it actually helps me focus more in college, so that’s great.”

Niamh spent the majority of her second week looking after her diet. Not being able to train as much during the second week she was a little disappointed with her weight-in but is staying positive. She said she’s finding the physical training challenging after not training for several months but she knows it will get better, “I used to do Taekwondo but I injured myself so I can’t train. I did a boot-camp before so I’m hoping to regain that fitness. This time I’m going to focus on my diet.” She admitted that eating the carbs is difficult especially since her boyfriend sometimes tempts her with pizza. Indicating his slim physique she said, “He can eat anything and yeah I did have a few slices.” But she is conscious of what she eats now; she eats breakfast and since that has noticed that the selection of healthy food is lacking in DIT. “There’s a small selection of overly priced veg and a few cereals. Doing this has actually highlighted the fact that their menu is really bad.” She said avoiding foods such as chicken goujons is fine but joked, “What else can I have, ‘Oh soup, well that’ll fill you up.’” On foods that she’s discovered a taste for she added, “I’m learning to like lettuce.”

The trainers met with the Edition too to give details on healthy eating, exercises and how the girls are doing. Kane Kearns commenting on the girls commitment said, “The girls are doing amazing, the results speak for themselves. The scales tell you that straight away.” Speaking about the girls individually, Andy said, “We’ve had to rein them in, like Dáirne comes in and she wants to go a hundred miles an hour. When she’s at the stage where she’s fit enough though we’ll let her go for it. She’s very enthusiastic and she wants to win.” On Sarah, Andy added, “She’s very driven. Back in Australia she did a lot of sport so she’s used to the competitive side.” Kane went on to say that the girls are coming in off their own bat and this was really encouraging. “It’s great to see them coming in on their own, you can see how committed they really are about this challenge and the weight loss, [again] speaks for itself.”

Exercises of the week

1. Andy demonstrates the Plank - one of the best exercises for building the core muscles in your abs, obliques and lower back
2. Kane shows us the Shoulder Press - which, as you can imagine, is great for building all the deltoid muscles
It’s not going to be easy for them if they want results

Training: Week Two

Danielle Stephens looks at the dietary guidelines the Challengers have been sticking to

Darragh Mowlds looks at the exercises and regimes that can turn you into a Lean Machine

The four candidates entered week three of the Lean Machine Challenge, we caught up with them and their two trainers to see what their gym routines are. The contestants explained that they certainly weren’t cased into the challenge. All of the girls found the first session very tough with Dáirne describing “waking up the next day and everything was sore”.

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Niamh’s biggest shock came with the sudden lack of carbs in her diet. Since the start of the challenge, the engineering student has started waking up earlier to eat breakfast and has also started to eat more vegetables.

Training can only do so much; a healthy diet is key

Lean Meats - Red meat, Fish, Poultry-
Green Leafy Veg - Broccoli, Sprouts, Green Beans, Asparagus (anything green)
Eggs - Preferably without the yolk
Nuts - Almonds, Walnuts, Cashews
Fruits - Stick to dark fruits like berries, plums etc, the dark skin means they are high in anti-oxidants and low in sugar
Healthy Carbs - Sweet Potato, Brown Rice, Wholemeal Pasta, Oats Porridge

Mix and match foods but make sure your meals aren’t oversized. Just enough to keep you going until your next meal.

Foods to stay away from:
White Potato
White Bread
Cereals
Bread
Chocolate
Crisps
Fizzy Drinks

All this might look like a lot to avoid but as soon as you get into the swing of things then you won’t even crave them!

All the recommendations we gave are based on the research he has done is un paralleled and other research from many other nutritionists and science writers in the field.

The type of training we are doing is a mixture between circuit and interval training, with both styles the heart rate is increasing and decreasing many times in a short space of time so the body has turned into a fat burning machine!

A lot of research I’ve done has come from Charles Poliquin and Mike Boyle. They are the top men in their field of strength and conditioning and resistance training.

A simple training circuit that people could do from home that only take 30 minutes:

High Knees
Bum Kicks
Air Squats
Lunges
Push Ups
Mountain Climbs
Squat Jumps
Burpees
Crunches
Swimmers

All exercises are 1 minute, all body weight, complete all exercises before you take a break. Repeat each circuit 3 times.
Hitchcock - the evil genius

Izzy O'Hara looks at the life of the movie genius inspiration for recent films, The Girl and Hitchcock

He is instantly recognisable by his rotund silhouette and protruding lower lip but who was the enigmatic Alfred Hitchcock?

In 1939 shortly after Life magazine deemed him ‘England’s best director’ he moved to America where he went on to earn the title of 'The master of suspense'. Without having watched his films, one might wonder why he is deserving of these titles or if indeed he is at all.

To begin with, the techniques Hitchcock used to build suspense ultimately changed the experience watching films. His use of lighting and camera angles turned otherwise mundane storylines into riveting psychological thrillers. He had a knack for manipulating audiences, which made his films so compelling. In Rear Window we see James Stewart and Grace Kelly spying on their neighbours; the building anxiety and tension created in witnessing their acts of voyeurism turns the audience into the voyeurs. This kind of engagement makes watching one of Hitchcock’s films today is equally, if not more, engaging as watching a recently released blockbuster; one of the many reasons his work is, timeless.

After choosing a Daphne du Maurier novel ‘Rebecca’ for his American debut into film, Hitchcock’s abilities as a director were cemented. The critically acclaimed film went on to win two academy awards and the director it seemed was in high demand. Everybody wanted to work with him. As often happens with massive success - along comes arrogance. Hitchcock often boasted of his ability to make or break actors and actresses careers and in certain cases he kept his promise for the latter.

His post war surroundings in London, however, did not suit his temperament. He moved to America where he went on to be deemed ‘England’s best director’ he has given many make or break actors and actresses careers. His films which followed and his handwriting analyzed resulting in the actress nearly losing an eye and having to take a week off filming. After Hendren's refusal to succumb to Hitchcock’s advances, he stayed true to his word and did indeed end the career of the up-and-coming star. If Hitch couldn’t have her, nobody could.

Critics have often opined that his films speak volumes about Hitchcock’s own insecurities and expose him as a deeply flawed man. Without having written a memoir, his films are the closest attempt at an autobiography people could get.

Vertigo in particular mirrors Hitchcock’s attempt to mould his leading ladies into his ideal woman. He wanted to control everything down to their clothes and look like his lost love. His controlling behaviour was an attempt to get over his grief but what was Hitchcock’s excuse?

Alan Parker, famed director to retire

The Great Sir Alan Parker is a character with trademark glasses and a documentary and was Parkers first director and screenwriter was finally be noticed.

But the idea of retiring is all too ‘terifying’. So as the BAFTAS recognise a living legend maybe one day we will still get to see some more of his hidden stories which he still writes today.

From then on there was no stopping him. If we look back now at what he has achieved, he has done 14 feature films, made leg warmers popular in Fame, got kids to play rougher than the God Father in Bugsy, winning Oscars with his film Midnight Express and much more. What is interesting is his love for film is still growing, maybe not in the big screen but in his head, he has said “I write every day – in fact, I've written so many screenplays in recent years that haven’t been made that I could have an entire film festival in my head.”

So you can ask why or is this genius retiring? At 68, most of us would but he says he wants to be with his eight year old son, as he expressed in The Guardian, “I was never there for my four grownup children, I was always on location somewhere. That isn’t the kind of life I want any more.”

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Steph’s Style

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

It was the hottest ticket in town last Saturday at London Fashion Week when the highly anticipated, Rihanna for River Island, collection took to the catwalk.

In true fashion week procedure, the show which was streamed live from the Old Sorting Office in central London had viewers waiting over an hour and a half to see the big revelling. Luckily, the collection didn’t disappoint and had everything you would expect from a collection designed by the pop princess. Clearly, her inspiration was the 90’s with pieces in bold, primary colours, including jersey maxi dresses with thigh-high splits, crop tops, bomber jackets and sheer shirts, tie-dye, an A-line mini-skirt, hooded shirt dresses.

Rihanna accessorised he pieces with shirts tied around the waist, backwards baseball caps, and large hooped earrings. The modern, grunge looks were finished with simple hairstyle, worn slicked back or tied up. Make up too was simplistic, with a neutral eye and face and a dramatic red lip.

The show was made to feel like a Rihanna concert with a five-tiered stage and traditional audience set up. The soundtrack also included some of the singer’s greatest hits including “Phresh Out The Runway”.

Speaking to Yahoo.com the Bajan beauty of her designs, “It’s a lot of me. I’m being very selfish, I designed every piece so I that can wear it. I think my fans trust my style and I think they’ll have fun. The girl that would wear this is full of personality, full of sass, but just loves fashion.”

Some of the singer’s celeb friends were there to support Rihanna, including Model-of-the-Year, Cara Delevigne and her catwalk pal Jourdan Dunn who sat front row.

Irish stylist David Greene has also on hand to support Rihanna, having worked with her earlier in the year while casting the models for the show.

“Rihanna was really nice, very hands on, very productive and when she came in first, she introduced herself to all the models working on the show,” said David.

Talk to us today 1890 788 336 www.stuff4students.ie www.facebook.com/stuff4students
Rasheed, The Edition Style Guru tells us what’s “funky & fresh” on campus this week

Hello fashion lovely’s and degenerate bandwagoners, welcome to the latest edition of Out and About. First off, all of us here at Lifestyle hope you had a pretty flipping cool Valentine’s Day full of bespoke rags, chalices of red wine and sonnets written by Phil Collins. If your Knight in shining armour or princess in erm… shiny moccasins failed to turn up, fear not we have some beautiful people for you to eyeball. And if that doesn’t cheer you up we also wrote you a poem – Roses are red, my leg warmers are shapely, let’s all buy vintage and pretend it’s the Eighties.

Who? Timi Ogunyemi
Studying? Business and Management
What? Jacket – Superdry
Jumper – Swallows and Daggers
Jeans – All Saints
Shoes – Converse
Shirt – H & M
Glasses – A market in Hong Kong
Why? “Urban alternative – (not hipster)”

Who? Sohair Osman
Studying? Retail Service Management
What? Wool dress – Jay Jays
Long Tee – H & M
Why? “Edgy, Preppy, Classic.”

Who? Michael O’Suilleabháin
Studying? Music student
What? Jumper – Found it
Bracelet – Galway Market
Why? “Just ridiculous”

Who? Rachel O’Koro
Studying? Fashion Buying and Management student
What? Jacket – Urban Outfitters
Jumper – Pennies
Jeans – Topshop
Converse Shoes – The Converse store
Bag – Zara
Why? “I’d describe my style as casual, classy, one with an edge”
A
tic to the festival’s lineup of Irish features including The Hardy Bucks Movie; Kieran J Wallach’s black humourous Jump, Mary Harron’s The Moth Diaries starring Sarah Bolger, documentary maker Kieran Evans’ debut feature Kelly + Victor, and the intriguing Irish co-production Call Girl. Also celebrated are filmmakers working in Ireland and further afield. Seasoned Aidan Gillen stars in The Good Man which was filmed between Belfast and South Africa. Director Macdara Vallette brings us Babygirl a heartwarming tale which takes place in the Bronx. Acclaimed documentary maker Kieran Evans makes his debut with Kelly + Victor a story of a passionate but troubled love affair between two youths in Liverpool featuring a powerful performance from Antonia Campbell Hughes. Johnny Gogan’s Black Ice tells the tale of a teenage brother and sister in Leitrim whose obsession with rally driving results in tragic consequences, a fine display of contemporary Ireland. Roel and Bernd Boorsma make their debut feature with Milo, which tells the story of a ten year old boy with a rare skin condition who finds acceptance with a couple of small time crooks.

Documentaries are very much a major artistic theme. The documentaries Natan and Broken Song were also funded by the Arts Council scheme, which affords film artists the unique opportunity to make imaginative, experimental documentaries on an artistic theme. The documentaries Natan and Broken Song were also funded by the Arts Council.

It’s a festival jam packed with screenings, workshops and masterclasses

While this one has come and gone at JDIFF, director Derek Cianfrance’s crime drama will be released here on April 12. This is Ryan Gosling’s first reteam with his Blue Valentine director, as he plays a motorcycle stunt rider forced bank robbing to parovide for his wife (Eva Mendes) and new born child. Fortunately for us, this puts him on a collision course with corrupt cop Bradley Cooper.

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It sounds like lighthearted family fare, but with Langella on powerful form (he seems to get better with age) you can look forward to heartbreak and humour that’s not one for the kids. With supporting cast including Susan Sarandon, Liv Tyler and James Marsden you can expect big things from this film that did well at Sundance Film festival. Goes on general release here, 8 March.

Frank Langella plays a retired burglar given an assistant robot (voiced by Peter Sarsgaard) to keep him in check by his uncaring children. Frank instead uses the robot to assist in a new scheme. It sounds like lighthearted family fare, but with Langella on powerful form (he seems to get better with age) you can look forward to heartbreak and humour that’s not one for the kids. With supporting cast including Susan Sarandon, Liv Tyler and James Marsden you can expect big things from this film that did well at Sundance Film festival. Goes on general release here, 8 March.

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Give the people their Oxegen

Oxegen returns for summer 2013, so Grace Leonard and Sean Whitty give us their tips on getting the most from the two-day festival

After a year break, Oxegen returns for the Irish Festival lineup this summer, for a, slightly shorter than previous years, 2 day blow out of music, fun and (hopefully) sunshine.

Despite rumours of a move to Phoenix Park, festival goers will be happy to hear it will be held in its usual spot at Punchestown Racecourse over two days. One thing that is almost certain to make an appearance is the rain. Don’t forget to bring your waterproofs, when the heavens open you’ll be glad you did. As the saying goes, when it rains, it pours. Don’t let the bad weather put you off going to the festival. Many Macklemore fans were very disappointed that they missed out on his gig on The Academy back in September. If you’re a fan keep your eyes peeled for the Oxegen line up this summer. Oxegen 2011 will be a hard act to follow with many memorable moments; from Beyoncé rocking out the classics to Coldplay’s surprise duet with Irish legend Christy Moore. The lineup is eagerly awaited, particularly as in previous years headliners were announced as early as before Christmas.

As the event has been shortened to a 2 day festival it is inevitable that the ticket prices are going to be cheaper than previous years.

We’re sure you’ll have a great time this year at Oxegen but here are a few do’s and don’ts to guarantee smooth sailing.

How to survive the festival

Don’ts
• Do not buy large quantities of the same drink, mix it up a bit this goes for drinkers and non drinkers alike, by 2 o’clock of the first day when your通过 your 7th can of warm beer/Capri Sun, you’re not going to be a happy “camp er”.

• Do not pitch your tent on a hill, beside a river, or in any low lying area. Missing out on the music is missing out on the festival.
• As much as you think it’s a great idea at the time, its unwise to go swimming in the muck, it won’t feel like such a good idea when you’re covered in mud for two days with no access to a shower.
• Do not pitch your tent on a hill, beside a river, or in any low lying area. If you’re a lucky owner of an iPhone do not bring it. Not many phones survive a weekend at Oxegen.

Do’s
• Use a flag to distinguish your tent from all the others.
• Make a list of the acts you want to see and the times that they are performing. Do not be tricked into buying the programmes of 10% cut to non-paying library budget.
• Bring your waterproofs, when the heavens open you’ll be glad you did. As the saying goes, when it rains, it pours.

The New Normal

Glee creator Ryan Murphy along with Allison Adler brings us ‘The New Normal’, the latest comedy series to hit our screens on E4. With only a half hour episode each week, it is not nearly enough for me.

The show is based around David and Bryan, two men who wish to have a baby. Rather than adopt, they choose surrogacy, and find a young single mother, Goldie, who is struggling to make ends meet. Goldie is not without baggage however, as she has a young daughter Shania and a cranky, homophobic grandmother Jane. She has a soft sentimental touch that may tug of the creator.

The show is humorous and witty, yet has a soft sentimental touch that may tug at your heartstrings. It highlights the issues of LGBT, something which probably hasn’t been touched on too much since fellow American sitcom Will and Grace. The New Normal is a must watch. Thursdays at 9pm E4.

The Voice of Ireland

The Voice of Ireland is back on RTE for a second season after its success last year. It began airing on Sunday 8 January but don’t worry if you haven’t watched it yet. At this stage, the blind auditions (singers perform to judges with their backs turned, if judges like them they turn) are finished and we are now into the battle stages.

This year Brian Kennedy decided not to return as a judge so the panel now consists of Sharon Corr, Kian Egan, Bressie and Jamelia. So far Kian and Bressie have spent most of the audition shows arguing with each other over how many records they’ve sold. In week one it was funny but after three weeks of non-stop bickering that was the same each week, it got a bit boring and seemed extremely scripted. Jamelia began with a bang, bagging herself many of the acts in the first show.

But now the mentors have to put their own differences aside and focus on the competition. They chose which singers, in their own category, to pit against each other and they then have to choose who is to be eliminated. This is often a tough choice but something that comes with the territory.

The early bird gets the worm but the second mouse gets the cheese, #thoughtoftheday

Rubberbands
@Rubberbands

I don’t know what a Harlemshake is. But as a general rule, if lots of people think we should do it then we won’t.

Kevin McGahern
@Kevinmccaghern

Home Alone is a hard film to watch after your balls have developed. Which they have.

Glenn Fitzpatrick
@ditsu_education

Student Council will need to discuss potential implications of 10% cut to non-pay library budget.

Brian O’Driscoll
@BrianODriscoll

Thanks for all the good wishes about our new arrival & a special thank you to the wonderful staff at Holles Street who took care of us so well.

Rob Kearney
@KearneyRob

The early bird gets the worm but the second mouse gets the cheese. #thoughtoftheday

Rubberbands
@Rubberbands

Dáirine Black looks at the Twitter goings on around DIT

The main stage in Oxegen 2013 may be headlined by Macklemore

TV Guide: What to watch this week

Dáirine Black and Rachael O’ Brien

The New Normal

Glee creator Ryan Murphy along with Alison Adler brings us ‘The New Normal’, the latest comedy series to hit our screens on E4. With only a half hour episode each week, it is not nearly enough for me. Jane is devoutly against this surrogacy as Goldie was herself a spawn of a teen mother and history is back in the territory pans out, Sunday on RTÉ 1 at 7.30pm.

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But now the mentors have to put their own differences aside and focus on the competition. They chose which singers, in their own category, to pit against each other and they then have to choose who is to be eliminated. This is often a tough choice but something that comes with the territory. Kathryn Thomas is an amazing host as she brings the light heartedness that this type of show needs. Tune in to see how the rest of the season pans out, Sunday on RTE 1 at 6.30pm.

Rubberbands
@Rubberbands

I don’t know what a Harlem shake is. But as a general rule, if lots of people think we should do it then we won’t.
Cold bodies warm heart

Victoria Tiernan

Warm Bodies
Run Time: 98 mins

Many horror fans may have shuddered when the trailer for Warm Bodies was released. Was this to be a repeat of Twilight? Would Hollywood seize another classic and corrupt it, all in the name of cinema? After all, it was greatly enough to see the once terrifying vampire strutting around in Converse and refusing to eat anything except Venison. Why exactly the humble zombie? However, there is a stark difference between Twilight and Warm Bodies. The latter is good. Directed by Jonathan Levine (50/50), Warm Bodies is based on Isaac Marion’s popular novel of the same name.

Told from the perspective of a zombie named R (About A Boy and Skins star, Nicholas Hoult), we are led through the post-apocalyptic world of North America. It is bored to death with his life and despises having the emotional range of a tea spoon his witty monologue narrates much of his ingenuous plan to save her. So commences a love plot that is perhaps encouraged by a touch of Stockholm syndrome. However, this film is so much deeper than the simple rom-com (or zom-com). As common in the zombie genre, there is an ironic use of social commentary. There is a witty observation about technology turning us into zombies as we are more connected than ever, yet less intimate with each other – an idea akin to those within the brilliant Shaun of the Dead. Indeed, zombie movies can be philosophical. A strong moral lesson also emerges through the film, which notes the advantages of working together to conquer a common goal.

Nicholas Hoult plays the role adequately, providing much entertainment in the contrast between his zombie appearance and his quaint soliloquy. The cast also features John Malkovich as Julie’s father, the militant leader of humanity’s last safe city and a guy who really dislikes zombies. Meeting the parents has never been scarier. Overall, Warm Bodies is a smart comedy, probably more suitable to a younger audience but still a pretty entertaining way to kill 98 minutes.

CULTURE

What’s on at the movies

Dáirne Black
Culture Editor

Fancy a trip to the cinema to beat those winter blues? We here at Culture want to help, let us guide you so you make the most out of your cinematic experience. What can I say, we try.

The highly-anticipated Hardy Bucks film hits Irish screens on Friday February 22, following its premiere at the Jameson Dublin International Film Festival. Stemming from the popular TV series the movie follows the Castlentown lads across Europe as they support the Irish Team at Euro 2012. In a recent interview with the Edition, Hardy Bucks’ Kevin McGahern would not divulge anything about the film. Directed by Rich Moore ‘Wreck it Ralph’ is Disney’s latest offering. The premise of the film surrounds a video game villain wanting to be a hero. Having set out on his quest to fulfill his dream he ends up wreaking havoc in his arcade. The film is voiced by John C. Reilly who was in Dublin recently for Irish Film and Television Awards, along with American comedienne Sarah Silverman and ‘Glee’ star Jane Lynch.

Valentine’s Day saw the return of everyone’s favourite action movie ‘Die Hard’, with the fifth instalment ‘A Good Day to Die’ hurting towards cinemas. Bruce Willis makes his return as John McClane accompanied this time by his son Jack, played by newcomer Jai Courtney. The film sees John heading to Russia in an attempt to rescue Jack, who is working as a spy and is attempting to protect political prisoner Uri Komarov. As this is the fifth ‘Die Hard’ I wonder will it ‘die hard’ in the cinemas or will a sixth film follow? Also hitting cinemas this Friday is ‘The Guilt Trip’ a film starring ‘Knocked Up’s’ Seth Rogen as Andrew Brewster, and Barbara Streisand as his mother Joyce. The film sees the pair embark on a road trip adventure as Andrew attempts to pitch a formula on cleaning solution to corporate retailers whilst secretly reuniting his mother with her former boyfriend; unknown to her. It seems like an unlikely combination but one that will work, I think. The film’s plot is inspired by a real-life trip that screenwriter Dan Fogelman (Crazy, Stupid, Love) took with his own mother ‘Run for Your Wife’ represents the release of a classically British film this Sunday February 24. The movie stars bigamist John Smith and his double life. He lives with two wives, Stephanie in Fishburn and Michelle in Stockwell; every man’s dream right? Luckily for John, he’s a taxi driver which involves shift work, so it seems he’s in a rather nice situation. However, John faces trouble when all is not what it seems with two police departments in both areas. The bulk of the movie takes places over a frantic 24hrs as John, along with the help of his gullible neighbour Gary, rush between North and South London as they attempt to combat the police and stop the two wives coming face to face.

Gervasi not master of suspense

Clícharn Clark
News Editor

Hitchcock
Run Time: 98 mins

Hitchcock is a snapshot of the nuanced love story between the iconic film-maker Alfred Hitchcock and Alma Reville, during the filming of ‘Psycho’. In 1959, Alfred Hitchcock and his wife, despite being already iconic in the Hollywood industry, Hitch has made timeless masterpieces for which he is revered and overshadowed but loyal Alma is respected as a filmmaker and screenwriter. However reeling from the suggestion it may be time to retire Hitch determines to recapture the dashing habits of his earlier career. Hitch resolves that his next film will adapt the horror novel, Psycho, despite network and collegial lacklustre. Re-mortgaging his Bel-Air mansion to finance ‘Psycho’ after Paramount’s renegotiation, Alma finally loses patience with the infamous Hitchcock gaze on his leading lady.

When Whitfield Cook her long-time affair partner and the police begin to threaten him, she’s measured carefully. As a result, she’s measured carefully. But when her former boyfriend; unbeknownst to her, it seems like an unlikely combination but one that will work, I think. The film’s plot is inspired by a real-life trip that screenwriter Dan Fogelman (Crazy, Stupid, Love) took with his own mother. ‘Run for Your Wife’ represents the release of a classically British film this Sun- day February 24. The movie stars bigamist John Smith and his double life. He lives with two wives, Stephanie in Fishburn and Michelle in Stockwell; every man’s dream right? Luckily for John, he’s a taxi driver which involves shift work, so it seems he’s in a rather nice situation. However, John faces trouble when all is not what it seems with two police departments in both areas. The bulk of the movie takes places over a frantic 24hrs as John, along with the help of his gullible neighbour Gary, rush between North and South London as they attempt to combat the police and stop the two wives coming face to face.

Sasha Gervasi’s 90 minute film is a well-crafted nod to Hitchcock films in much the same way Gods and Monsters was to James Whale.

Based on Stephen Rebello’s book ‘Alfred Hitchcock and the Making of Psycho’ which was based on the filming of the Psycho screenplay by Joseph Stefano, which was based on Robert Bloch’s book, which was based on the real life crimes of Ed Gein, Hitchcock reveals not much about the history of Hitchcock that is hidden. This is not a mystery film and can never quite be suspenseful, though Gervasi gives it a decent shot.

Hitchcock’s main flaw is Anthony Hopkins as Hitchcock. While his mannequins and mannerisms are faultless, he does not quite capture Hitch. His portrayal is flat-lined and only revived in scenes with Helen Mirren who brings a lot more zeal into Alma’s frustration, tension and loyalty. In these scenes he reacts well to Mirren’s energetic performance but it may be a simple contrast between her immediacy and his Hitchcockian lethargy.

The only other character to stand out is James D’Arcy’s Anthony Perkins. D’Arcy fully embodies Perkins’ angst, sensitivity and, let’s face it, mother issues.

Hitchcock is a good movie but lacks the climax, suspense and evocative punch of the films it reveres. Had this been a Hitch film it would have kept its audience. The films it reveres. Had this been a Hitchcock film. If it was not then it would have been scarier. Overall, Warm Bodies is a smart comedy, probably more suitable to a younger audience but still a pretty entertaining way to kill 98 minutes.

What’s on at the movies

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CULTURE

What’s on in Dublin?

Rachael O’Brien
Deputy Culture Editor

Once has European premiere in Galway

The European premiere for John Tiffany’s production of Once, winner of eight 2008 Tony Awards including Best Musical, will take place in Dublin’s Gaiety Theatre from February 22 until 9 March. The musical, based on the motion picture includes Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová’s famous song, Falling Slowly. Once is a celebration of love, friendship and music. When an Irish busker and a young Czech mother meet through a shared love of music, their song-wrapping sparks a deep connection and a tender, longing romance that neither of them could have expected. Tickets are €21.50 and are available on ticketmaster.ie

Munster Rugby play

The critically acclaimed Alone It Stands returns to Dublin’s Olympia Theatre for a limited run from Monday 25 February to Saturday 2nd March 2013. For all you rugby fans, this new legendary story set on 31 October 1978 when Munster Rugby played the mighty All Blacks tells the story of a David v Goliath scenario played out in Thomand Park. Munster served up one of the sporting stories of the century when they played like their lives depended on it and beat the All Blacks 12-9. Tickets are €20 and available on ticketmaster.ie

National Gallery displays Yeats for free

For all you art lovers (especially those of you who are broke) this is the perfect event. The National Gallery of Ireland displays 205 sketches amounting to about 10,000 individual sketches by Jack B. Yeats. This exhibition will feature a selection of Yeats’ sketches spanning 50 years of the artist’s career. This event is free of charge and the gallery is open 9.30 – 5.30, Monday – Saturday, with extended opening hours to 8.30 on Thursday. It is also open on Sundays from 12 – 5.30.

Dine in Dublin

Dine in Dublin, returns again on Monday 25 February to Sunday 3 March to celebrate the fantastic food offering in Dublin’s city centre. The week-long event promotes city centre dining and showcases offerings of city centre eateries through fantastic value meals, specials offers, and great events. Special offers include Starbucks offering free samples every day and TGIFriday’s offering €20 meal deals.

Wizard of Oz musical to amaze this spring

The famous “no place like home” musical is bound for the Mill Theatre, performed by students and officer. Many were left bald or Dye proved successful with many DIT students and officer. Many were left bald or Dye proved successful with many DIT students. Acknowledging my question, Kevin Street being handcuffed together with buses going to and from the venue it was the cheapest formal Ball, and while the total amount of free rides - everything, from taxi to buses and even free Mardi Gras beads given to every student. The melodies were instantly catching as the ‘vibe’ was infectious. Spotting me in the corner the MC even encouraged me to grace the stage; luckily the bar closed before anyone had to cringe at this reporter’s rhymes but there’s always next week.

Nurturing air at Monday Echo

Ciarán Clark
News Editor

The Monday Echo is a songwriter and poetry showcase every Monday night in the basement of the International Bar, hosted by performer Aidan Murphy. It is an intimate, friendly and nurturing environment where poets perform, soundboard, interact and sometimes sing. The night breaks down into two segments. On Monday 11 the featured spoken word performer was the excellent Seán Ruane who recently released a video of his last performance in the International. By ‘Musicians With Cameras’. Filling in to host The Monday Echo last night was Dimitra Xidou an MC who runs her own night The Ash Sessions in Ranelagh. Stepping into the basement as a fresh face you’re immediately relaxed by the welcoming and warm atmosphere. The lighting is mellow and if such a thing exists the vibe is relaxed and reminiscent of New York beatniks. Speaking to visitors I was told that there’s usually a mix of fresh and regular faces. This night was packed out. It seems the featured guests were big names on the poetry scene. Jane Williams performed in a low-key style, songs overflowing with emotion and capped off with a Leonard Cohen cover, who she said is a huge inspiration for her. Johnny Rayge the next guest had a feminine yet powerful voice and sang some excellent self-written acoustic songs, and again finished with a cover, Neil Young’s ‘Only Love Can Break Your Heart’ mimicking Young’s style with eerie similarity; a mean feat that came off as homage rather than knock-off and had the crowd singing along in pure unembarrassed appreciation. Seán Ruane performed next, with technically perfect poems in both form and content, and played the crowd with the skill of witty banter and seasoned performing. His poems were about the complexity of men and women, their relationships and of the depth of human nature.

Corner Boy a folk band from Wexford brought the house down with their songs, some of which were written in Montreal where their lead singer upper roots and moved in 2011. They describe themselves as Modern folk Americans with gospel/ blues influences fused with traditional Irish instrumentation. The melodies were instantly catching as the vibe was infectious, cross-pollinating and inspiring each other and the ‘vibe’ was infectious. Spotting me in the corner the MC even encouraged me to grace the stage; luckily the bar closed before anyone had to cringe at this reporter’s rhymes but there’s always next week.

Dáire Black
Culture Editor

Sitting in his office, suit clad Will Meara appears relaxed. Though a hard day’s work, the Battle of the Bands Formal Ball the ENTs officer is keen to fill me in on the goings on of RAG Charity Week 2013. He begins to tell me about the Roadtrip fundraiser where teams had to get as far away as possible. Two French students reached Cavan and promptly decided to stay there and hit the local pub, mingling with the locals and immersing themselves in Irish culture. Two other girls ended up getting free rides - everything, from taxi to buses and even the Gardaí. For two poor souls, they spent six hours sitting on the M4 trying to seek a lift. There was a control centre set up in Karma Stone pub for 24hrs and among the surprises brought back to headquarters were sacks of turf and chips. Dare I say random yet highly amusing?

One of the big fundraisers for RAG Charity Week was the Charity Skydive. Meara said that there had been great demand from students, who, of course, didn’t want to throw themselves out of a plane?!! He begins to tell me about the Roadtrip fundraiser where teams had to get as far away as possible. Two French students reached Cavan and promptly decided to stay there and hit the local pub, mingling with the locals and immersing themselves in Irish culture. Two other girls ended up getting free rides - everything, from taxi to buses and even the Gardaí. For two poor souls, they spent six hours sitting on the M4 trying to seek a lift. There was a control centre set up in Karma Stone pub for 24hrs and among the surprises brought back to headquarters were sacks of turf and chips. Dare I say random yet highly amusing?

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The boys are back in town. Or at least they will be when Bubbles, Julian and Ricky roll into Dublin’s Olympia Theatre on 8 May. They’ll be here to school people on drugs, alcohol and their dangers, I think.

To fulfil a court order the Trailer Park Boys are back on tour, taking their popular comedic tales of misadventure from Sunnyvale Trailer Park, Nova Scotia all the way across the “Atlantic Lake”.

Calling from Ricky’s beat up 1975 Chrysler New Yorker or “shitmobile”, the haphazard felons let me in on what to expect this time around.

They even had ‘wise’ words for the students of DIT.

The Community Service Variety Show is part of your latest tour but what did you guys do to get a community order in the first place?

Bubbles- “Ricky did some things as usual, telling the police to F – off and stuff like that.”

Ricky – “I may or may not have been pooping on the front step of the police station, I can’t remember.”

Bubbles – “Ricky shit on the police department steps. We had been drinkin’ and smoking.”

What can people expect from the show? I heard it involves puppets...

Bubbles – “Yes there’s a puppet element to it for sure. I’m running the show and I want to do some puppet stuff and teach people about liquor and drugs. I’m hopefully going to blast myself out of a cannon too. Yeah, I bought a cannon from the circus people and I’d like to use it.”

What’s your favourite thing about Ireland?

Ricky – “The people, man. People love their drink over there, they’re just like us. I like those crazy dark beers.”

Bubbles – “It’s called Guinness, Ricky!”

The third movie instalment for Trailer Park Boys was announced late last year, how is that progressing?

Ricky – “Well as soon as the guys get a hold of us we’re going to begin shooting next month. I think we’ll be starting March 18th. You’ll have to wait and see.”

The Pope recently resigned. Who would you like to see as the next one?

Ricky – “I’d like to see a chick become Pope.”

Bubbles – “Aw, yeah, I’m still trying to work that out right now. Julian’s trying to get his fingers in there and make it into a money making thing but I just want to get on there and play some music, talk to the fans. I’d love to do a cat show.”

Students are always struggling financially. Do you guys have any ideas on how to make quick and easy money?

Julian – “Scams. Oh man, there are all kinds of scams but it depends on what you’re good at. If you’ve got guts you can just rob anything. I’d say for students the best thing to do is break into lockers and sell school equipment, that’s always easy money.”

The Pope recently resigned. Who would you like to see as the next one?

Julian – “I’d like to see Jenny McCarthy become Pope. She’s a little older you know? She’s had a lot of bangs in her life and she has beautiful tits.”

Bubbles – “Yeah, that’s always a prerequisite for a Pope, Julian.”

Ricky you tend to sleep in cars while on the trailer park. What’s your favourite type of car to sleep in?

Ricky – “I love sleeping in old cars. I like sleeping in early seventies Chrysler New Yorker’s with five cigarette lighters and four ash trays. They are just beautiful pieces of machinery with big back seats for bunging and sleeping.”

Do you guys have any wise words for the students of DIT?

Ricky – “If you’re not doing that well in school or college don’t worry about it, because you can still grow up to be successful like me.”

Bubbles – “That’s terrible advice. I’d say the opposite to that. Just try to get through school somehow.”

Julian – “Fuck it. You can do alright on your own. My parents left me when I was like seven and I’m okay. I’m kind of like a successful business man.”

The Trailer Park Boys will be taking their unique views on stage live at the Olympia Theatre on 8 May. Tickets are €30 or €31 including booking fee if you order via Ticketmaster.ie
DIT reach Sigerson finals

- DIT defeated NUI Maynooth 2-10 to 1-07
- Final chance for Fresher All-Ireland champions to win Sigerson

Billy O’Loughlin

DIT defeated NUI Maynooth 2-10 to 1-07 in the quarter final of the Sigerson Cup to reach the finals weekend in Athlone IT this week.

DIT have only made the Sigerson Week-end three times in their entire history. The last time they made it was four years ago in 2009 down in Cork, where they lost out in the final to CIT.

The scarcity of Sigerson final appearances won’t have gone unnoticed by the DIT players and they will relish a chance to play at the Third level Blue riband tournament for the first time.

Some of the top young footballers from around the country will be playing down in Athlone this weekend. DIT will face DCU, the tournament favourites and current holders, in the opening semi final. The other semi final will see tournament hosts Athlone IT pitted against UCC.

The first day started the exact same as the first, with two monsters of a midfield and soon, all over the pitch. DIT showed more passion and work-rate throughout the game and played with a never-say-die attitude securing a first win.

The second day started the exact same as the first, with two monsters of a midfield winning a lot of the ball around the middle of the park.

Junior Footballers in Leinster Final for second year in a row

Conor Cronin and Louise Whyte

DIT Junior Footballers are into the Leinster Final after beating UCD in the semi-finals. The final score was DIT 1-16 to UCD 1-12.

The match was the second in less than two weeks that these teams had met each other. The first day saw the match end in a draw. The match looked to be going UCD’s way until Ronan Brophy got a late goal to snatch victory from the teams.

Junior Footballers in Leinster Final for second year in a row

DIT’s second half performance was arguably the best that the team have played in a long time. They began to dominate in the midfield and soon, all over the pitch. The players of the institute owned the ball for long periods of the half and began to score at ease, scoring 8 points on the trot.

In the end, DIT ran out winners by four points. Now it’s up to the junior footballers to see if they can go all the way to winning the All Ireland for the second year in the row.

In other DIT GAA news, DIT Camogie Team represented the College in the Fitzgibbon cup quarter final stage yesterday.

Francesca Power

DIT Fitzgibbon hurlers faced Mary Immaculate College in the Fitzgibbon cup quarter final stage yesterday.

DIT had home advantage after coming top of the initial group beating University of Limerick and St. Pats of Drumcondra. The match took place in Parnells GAA club in Coolek. This is the venue that the DIT team have been training at since November and where they saw off the challenge of UL.

Mary Immaculate drew their first fixture and recorded an impressive away win against GMIT in their last game which was enough to book a spot in the quarter finals. Strong performances from Declan Hannon, John Conlon and Luke O’Farrell helped Mary Immaculate draw with UCC in the first round and then book their quarter final spot, seeing off the challenge of GMIT with a score-line of 2-14 to 1-8.

DIT faced UL in the first round beating them by a goal thanks to David Tracy. The score-line was 1-15 to 15 points. DIT showed more passion and work-rate throughout the game and played with a never-say-die attitude securing a first win.

The following week DIT saw off the challenge of St. Pats Mater Dei with a score-line of 1-16 to 1-12. There were strong performances from the backs and Stephen O’Connor in midfield.

We will be hoping to keep an unbeaten record and overcome Mary Immaculate to secure a semi-final spot in Galway.

Training has been going well with Joe, Dwain and Eimear putting in some great sessions to prepare for the match.

College in Fitzgibbon cup quarter finals v Mary Immaculate College

This article was written before the match was concluded. Check out our The Edition Facebook page, facebook edition.ie to see the result of the match.
Arsène Wenger - the name says it all. The French tactician has embodied Arsenal football club since his arrival in September 1996, but is his once glorious reign coming to an end?
The fashion in which the Gunners were dumped out of the FA Cup left a familiar afterthought. It was unnecessary. Each passing season, critics are at pains to point out that Arsenal have gone another year without a trophy, a record which looks certain to be extended.

With their most attainable piece of silverware coming in the form of the FA Cup, Arsenal ran out of gas on their road to Wembley and it is unclear as to whether their season can be saved.

Fielding eleven internationals and with a Champions League last sixteen tie midweek, it must be accepted that Wenger thought he could trust his squad. Even with their three best players on the bench in Jack Wilshere, Santi Cazorla and Theo Walcott, the side possessed more than enough quality to dispatch Championship dwellers Blackburn Rovers. What more painful is that the quarter final draw handed Blackburn an away trip to Millwall. It should and had to be Arsenal’s. European powerhouse, Bayern Munich is the next obstacle in Arsène Wenger’s path to a desperately needed trophy. Similar to England, Bayern hold a healthy lead over their nearest title rivals Borussia Dortmund.

A harrowing statistic for Arsenal is that their season can be saved. After five years without a major championship win, are Arsène Wenger’s days at Arsenal numbered, wonders James Hopper

Is he only Arsène around?

After five years without a major championship win, are Arsène Wenger’s days at Arsenal numbered, wonders James Hopper

Grand Slam is England’s to lose

Darragh Mowlds
Sports Editor

Six Nations is a brutally demanding competition to win but it is also a truly rewarding challenge for an Irish team. Last year, our performances against England, France and Scotland were world class and the players were found wanting only against Italy and Wales. The international tourists have created an exciting and engaging competition in recent years and have established a standards that Ireland must strive to match and surpass.

Ireland's walking wounded will have to pick themselves up and put in a big performance against a newly confident Scottish side in order for them to get the campaign back on track. Simon Zebo will definitely be missing the crunch match after breaking his foot in the defeat to England. His deserved three week ban rules him out of the Six Nations for three weeks. His absence will be felt by Ireland with no one else able to fill the wing slot.

Scotland come into the test in Murrayfield on the back of an outstanding 34-10 victory against Italy. In what looked like the Scots' impressive display in their last outing may be a sign of things to come from them.

For Ireland, all is not lost. There is a very real possibility that someone will tell the French before the England game that the tournament has started. They can destroy any team on their day but unfortunately for them and their fans that day doesn’t happen consistently enough.

Right now it’s England’s tournament to lose but the British media has hyped the team so much that if it all goes wrong they have an awful long way to fall. As of right now they are the best team in the tournament if only by default.

The only truly great performances thus far have been Ireland's first half destruction of Wales and Italy's victory over France. That's it!

As tournaments go, it’s been fairly disappointing and not one that deserves a grand slam.

DIT get to final 16 of pool intervarsities

Brian McLean

This year’s Pool Intervarsity’s was once again held in Dundalk with DIT being strongly represented as usual by a record breaking five teams.

The Pool Intervarsity’s are the largest Pool event in the Country with over 210 participants making up 40 teams from 20 different institutions. DIT “A” team of Brian Mclean (Capt.), Richie Duffy, Kevin Leavey, Wayne Doyle and Shane Russell were hotly tipped to do well and they didn’t disappoint. After a tough draw against ITB “A” they toppled their group and proceeded to dispatch their next two opponents DKIT “A” and DCU “A” 6-2.

The semi-final was against the defending Champions NUIG “A”, captained by the top player in the country Stephen Dempsey (Winner of the Individual) and went to a final frame decider at 5-5. In a very close contest Duffy beat Dempsey to bring DIT to their first final in ten years.

In the final DIT faced ITB “A” their adversaries from the group who got off to a lightning start and led 5-1 after a series of tired mistakes by DIT and eventually ran out 8-2 winners. Fatigue was clearly a factor in DIT’s collapse in the final have had 3 tough matches before-hand.

The “A” wasn’t the only success of the weekend with four of the five DIT teams making the last 16 of the main event, a first in the competition’s history. Well done to all the players especially Kevin Leavey who got to the last thirty two in the singles and Brian Mclean who was the MVP (Most Valuable Player) with 13/15 frames for the team event.
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Life of a sports journalist: Miguel Delaney

From Champions League finals and World Cups to interviewing Premier League managers, Miguel Delaney’s 16 year old self would be proud.

Ryan Nugent finds

F
evnelance sports journalist Miguel Delaney has lived the dreams of many Irish reporters twice his age. The former DIT scholar has attended Champions League Finals, interviewed Premier League managers and reported at Europe’s biggest stadiums. For those reasons, there are very few people that are as well positioned to talk about life as a journalist. But why did he become one in the first place?

“I don’t think there was ever a concrete moment where I decided I want to be a [journalist].” Delaney explains. “Basically in school I liked English and history and I was a football nerd. So, although I was 16 filling out my CAO form, it seemed like a decent way to keep my options open. I studied in the Rathmines School of Journalism in DIT but kind of regret not studying something like English and mat- tering in journalism. I did it the other way around: a degree in journalism and then a masters in politics in UCD.”

The Wicklow man, who has a Span- ish mother (hence his first name), has as much reporting experience as some of the top writers across Britain and Ireland. But why did he become one in the first place?

“Well we went on a trip to the Sunday Tribune in 4th year and only two of us actually went up to the Sports Department and spoke to the Editor,” he says. “He took our emails, and recognised my name from entering the Peter Ball award. They called me up in June and asked would I like to do some sub-editing twice a week. I just went from there.”

Delaney is better known for his football pieces in a number of publications, including ESPN, the Evening Herald and the Irish Independent, but at the beginning he ‘dabbled a bit’ in the Culture section of the now extinct Sunday Tribune.

The typical nine to five job is rarely as- sociated with journalism. This especially applies to freelancers as Delaney is left to his own devices, and office work is a rarity for him.

“Generally, there are two types of days,” he enthuses. “The first is when I’m dispatched to something: a match, press conference or interview, and have to do something around it. The second is if I’m at home, chasing up stories or writing a feature.

“If at an event, the timescale will very much depend on when it takes place. If, say, it’s a 7-45 game then it’s the most pressure- ed – but, to me, the most enjoy- able part of the job since you’ve got to get something written for bang on the final whistle, 3pm games are a dodgy thought!”

Manchester United striker Robin van Persie conveyed to the media in the sum- mer that he chose Old Trafford as his next destination because the child inside him was screaming Man United. Delaney has to go to the teenager inside him when de- scribing the best memories of his career:

“Ultimately, I really enjoy reading about and delving into something I care about. Also, there is still a massive buzz from going to some big event. I’ve now been to four Champions League Finals, a World Cup Final and two European Champion- ship Finals. My 16-year-old self probably would have fainted at that sentence.”

Yet in every career or job, there are posi- tives and negatives, but this is something that Miguel takes with a pinch of salt.

“You do have to be quite flexible, and personal plans can get ruined. Also, when you’re forced into writing something you really don’t care about or that utterly bores you... but, hey, that’s the job!”

Every since the English Premier League was launched in 1992, football clubs have distanced themselves from supporters and the media but, conversely, have received even more income from these outlets. So when journalists do get their weekly conference with the managers, they want answers on the week’s hottest topics and will inevitably end up asking questions that managers won’t like. Premier League managers even feel that they have author- ity to dismiss questions that they don’t particularly like.

“I remember being part of a group getting cursed at by a Premier League manager for asking the ‘wrong’ question,” Delaney recalls while refusing to reveal the manager’s name.

Hugh McVanneny and Daniel Taylor were role models to Miguel Delaney while at DIT. However, he also has a more anarchoax inspiration for his work in legendary martial artist Bruce Lee. While describing the development of his writing style, he emphasises:

“Bruce Lee used to talk about how he would accumulate elements he liked from people and discard what he didn’t. Even though you do develop your own style, I would say that happens with writ- ing too. If you like a little trick or quirk someone uses, you may adapt it.”

As a writer who has certainly developed his own style that is allied with vast experience, and delving into something I care about.

Comment: Why Drico deserves a statue!

Darragh Mowlds
Sports Editor

Twitterers and Facebookers alike have taken a week off from talking about cats falling over on YouTube to promote the idea of Brian O’Driscoll getting his own statue on Grafton Street.

Generally I ignore most of what’s said on Twitter for fear of catching ‘the dumb’ but this idea struck me. 1,000 per cent agree that the BOD deserves a statue, and I think that’s not even going far enough.

For all he has achieved in an Irish jersey, if he wanted to sit at Michael D Higgins’ desk singing “I am what I am” then he should be allowed (and be given a backing track for good measure).

It’s probably not even an argument any more but Brian O’Driscoll is one of the greatest sports stars we have ever had. O’Driscoll showed the world what he could do in his demolition of the French in 2000, and he hasn’t looked back. Since then he has gone on to have, as he modestly put it, “a few good games”. After some of his performances in the blue of Leinster and the green of Ireland, few would be surprised to hear that he also flew the plane home and discovered a cure for cancer in his spare time.

For the people who say, “he’s only a rugby player, why does he deserve a statue?” All sweet Molley Malone did was sell “cockles and muscles Alive Alive O” and she has a statue. If BOD wants to announce himself as king, we should all bow our heads to our new supreme leader, he’s been that good.

I know rugby isn’t the biggest sport over here, but without Ireland’s answer to David Beckham where would it be? When he was stripped of the Irish capt- aincy by Declan Kidney, few would crit- icise him if his head had dropped and his interest with it. Instead he put in a man of the match performance against Wales in the opening weekend of the tournament. This is a testament to his character and shows how much he still has to offer. Strongly tipped as a potential Lions captain, this could be a fitting end to an outstanding career.

Whether he will play on for one more season is yet to be seen, Leinster fans hope and pray for one more year but nothing lasts forever. A suitable replacement may never be found, but for now we have to appreciate what we have. Give the man a statue, it’d be rude not to.

SPORT

Liam Kennedy

20 February
1976 – Muhammad Ali KOs Jean-Pierre Coopman in five rounds for the Heavy- weight boxing title

21 February
1991 – Arsenal sacked manager George Graham after it was revealed that he had accepted illegal payments from an agent in return for signing two of the agent’s play- ers.

1967 – Celtic FC and Greek forward Georgios Samaras celebrates his 28th birthday.

22 February
1991 – Liverpool manager Kenny Dalgl- ish resigns from his post, following a five and a half spell in which he guided the club to three league titles and two FA cups.

2006 – Australian national soccer team’s first game as an official member of the Asian Football Confederation. The game was against Bahrain and the ‘Socceroos’ triumphed 3-2.

23 February
2013 – Man City and England midfielder Gareth Barry turns 32-years-old.

24 February
2010 – Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar became the first batsman to score a double century in One Day International cricket. He achieved this feat against South Africa.

25 February
1989 – Mike Tyson TKOs Frank Bruno in 5 rounds for the heavyweight boxing title.

26 February
2013 – Tottenham and Togo forward Emmanuel Adebayor celebrates his 29th birthday.

27 February
1963 – The German soccer team FC Bay- ern Munich was formed.

28 February
1940 – The first televised basketball game in history took place in Madison Square Garden, New York. It was won by the University of Pittsburgh who beat Fordham University 50-37.

1 March
1985 – American William Shoemaker becomes the first jockey to win over $100 million in prize money over the course of his career.

4 March
1995 – Manchester United beat Ipswich Town 4-0 at Old Trafford. Andy Cole net- ted 5 times in the game and this result re- mains the biggest winning margin in Pre- mier League history.

2013 – Former Liverpool player and manager Kenny Dalglish, known by fans as ‘King Kenny’, turns 62-years-old.

5 March
2005 – Newcastle United defeated Liver- pool 1-0 at St James’ Park with French- man Laurent Robert grabbing the winner with a magnificent free-kick.
Gold & Silver for Shotokan

The new semester began with a bang for DIT Shotokan as they travelled down to Limerick to compete in the Karate Intervarsities. For many members the intervarsities are the first taste of series competition, and a great learning opportunity looking forward to gradings later on in the year.

DIT’s first medal of the competition was won by Jennifer Forster who won gold in Women’s Senior Kata with a performance of Goju Shi Ho Sho that left the judges in awe. Further medals were won by intermediate teams led by Pedro Da Silva in both Kata and Kumite. However, Pedro was unlucky to miss out on individual honours in Kumite. The Men’s Junior team of Cormac Chisholm, Sean Hartnett, and David Monahan were unlucky to miss out on the medals in both Kumite and Kata with Cormac Chisholm putting together a good run in men’s individual Kumite.

The competition drew to a climax with the final events in Men’s Senior individual and team Kumite. DIT’s Ciarán Boyle opened strongly, winning his first round match with a Mawashi-geri Jodan (round house kick to the head) but was knocked out in the second round by eventual bronze medallist Brian Meaney (TCD), leaving DIT’s Joshua Caswell as DIT remaining representative in Senior Kumite. Joshua used an amazing combination of punches, sweeps and kicks as he progressed, going on to win a silver medal in the competition. The last event of the day, Senior Men’s Team Kumite saw two DIT Karateka win gold and silver medals and face off in the final as DIT Joshua Caswell beat all opponents placed in his way including DIT’s other senior male representative.

Gareth Byrne

The University of Limerick hosted this year’s Kayaking Intervarsities. The competition consisted of four events; canoe polo, white-water racing, long-distance racing and freestyle kayaking. These events took place over three days from the 8 – 10 February.

This year, DIT Canoe Club, on the back of finishing 3rd last year and doing well in the Dublin Canoe Polo league this year were one of the top seeds. The team finished their group with impressive wins over GMT (4-1), CIT (5-0) and UCC (7-0). This set up a semi-final clash with DCU. Both teams were evenly matched with former Irish (U21) internationals on both teams. In what was the game of the tournament, DIT came from behind twice to lead 3 -2 in the second half. DCU scored an equaliser which set up extra time and a golden goal. James Dillon made an excellent challenge at the restart to win the ball. After a quick pass and break he got on the end of a return pass to score the winner.

The final was played immediately after this match and a very tired DIT team battled hard but lost to a very strong Maynooth team 4 – 1. In the whitewater race, Sean Hendrick set a blistering time of 2 minutes 20 seconds to be the fastest individual down the technical course. Club captain Hugh McNally made an excellent challenge at the restart to win the ball. After a quick pass and break he got on the end of a return pass to score the winner.

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Medal list
Jennifer Forster, Senior Womens Kata, Gold; Senior Mens Team Kumite, Gold; Joshua Caswell, Senior Mens Kumite, Silver; Ciarán Boyle, Senior Mens Team Kumite, Silver; Intermediate team kata, Pedro DaSilva, intermediate team kata, Bronze

The EDITION Wednesday February 20 2013

Kayakers place 5th

Neil Tilley kayaking for DIT at the Intervarsities in UL in early February

Gold and Silver for Shotokan

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