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STUDENTS & STAFF
WANTED FOR
WEIGHTLOSS CHALLENGE

FREE PERSONAL
TRAINING

SEE PAGE 5 FOR DETAILS

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THE

EDITION

23 January 2013 Vol 2 No 7

www.edition.ie



Snow on the south Dublin mountains earlier this week brought transportation to a halt and left many without power, affecting students with submissions due

Injunction granted against DIT

Michael Mulvey, Director of academic affairs and registrar at DIT, has been granted a temporary High Court injunction to prevent the college from proceeding with disciplinary action against him.

Mr. Mulvey claims that a decision taken by President Brian Norton to initiate disciplinary proceedings is unreasonable and irrational, and has sought court orders and declarations in that regard.

He claims that DIT is in breach of constitutional and natural justice, as they have failed to provide him with sufficiently precise details of the disciplinary breaches of which he has been accused, or any complaints that have been made against him.

It has also been alleged that Professor Norton has predetermined the outcome of an inquiry into Mr Mulvey’s proposal in 2011 to relocate the Learning Teaching and Technology Centre (LITC). This proposal, made in 2011 as part of cost-saving measures, involved moving the LITC from Mount Street to Rathmines.

In an affidavit, Mr Mulvey said that a dispute arose over this proposed change, and disciplinary proceedings were initiated against him. He claims that this decision on the part of the college is unfair, and is prompted by the Teachers’ Union of Ireland (TUI) campaign to prevent the relocation of the LITC. It is argued that this move by the TUI was motivated by a desire to undermine Mr Mulvey’s authority in DIT.

Mr Justice Michael Peart granted the application for an injunction, and made it returnable for today.

It is understood that both parties will be available to comment after today’s hearing. Follow this story on www.edition.ie

SUs feed students in crisis

Luke Holohan
News Editor

Students’ Unions across the nation are providing free food boxes and vouchers to students who are struggling financially.

A large proportion of those seeking help, are believed to be people that are still awaiting grant payments from the Student Universal Support Ireland system (SUSI). SU’s have taken the step after receiving unprecedented requests from students who cannot afford to feed themselves. John Logue, the President of the Union of Students in Ireland (USI), highlighted the desperate situation many people are facing.

“As students return for the second term of the year, over 5,500 are still desperate for financial assistance. In order to alleviate some of the hardship caused by delayed grant payments, a significant number of Students’ Unions across the country have provided food boxes for students who are coming to college hungry.”

The USI also encouraged SUs throughout the country to provide any further assistance they can, in order to alleviate some of the pressures of those struggling in the wake of the student grant fiasco.

Athlone Institute of Technology (AIT) has seen the greatest demand for basic assistance. Over the Christmas period 150 students were given food boxes, while a

soup kitchen is currently still running on the campus. Father Shay Casey, the AIT chaplain, described it as “one of the worst situations I’ve seen, I’ve come through some bad times of the eighties but there wasn’t the problem of fees then, families are in serious personal debt. Financially, the parents are just as worse off as the students”. He estimated that between twenty to thirty people are being fed each day by the soup kitchen initiative, which provides those in need with a coupon for a bowl of soup and a roll. “Unfortunately the SU and the Chaplaincy don’t have the resources to pay student rents but we can provide some basic help to a lot of students on the bread-line”.

DIT has brought in a similar scheme. Along with the assistance of the Chaplaincy, the SU is making food vouchers available to students who find themselves in a financially precarious situation. DITSU VP, Glenn Fitzpatrick, said there were a number of contributing factors to student poverty but that, “SUSI and the government are not doing students a whole lot of favours”. “The main thing we can do at the moment is to keep fire fighting”, he added.

The City of Dublin Vocational Education Committee (CDVEC), the company which is in charge of the SUSI grant system, has revealed that 5,575 students or 28% of the successful applicants are still waiting on their grant payments to be processed.

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HEA plans third-level shake-up



Ciaran Clark
News Editor

The Higher Education Authority has announced plans to cut the number of publicly-funded third level colleges from 39 to 15.

The authority has stated the massive changes are designed to cater for demand, save money and standardise quality.

They released a document called, 'Completing the Landscape Process for Irish Higher Education' which includes the suggestion that DIT will be part of the "Dublin Alliance Institutes of Technology", following a merger with IT Tallaght and IT Blanchardstown.

Colleges will be required to merge or collaborate more closely with similarly

specialised institutions. DIT, IT Tallaght and IT Blanchardstown will continue to be allied and the possibility of applying for Technological University status will remain an option.

Ultimately there will be a reduction to 15 institutions in five regional clusters. DIT is included in a cluster with IT Tallaght, IT Blanchardstown, NUI Maynooth, Athlone IT, DCU, and several other colleges.

The proposals have been agreed and officials are to consult with affected colleges before presenting the proposals to Ruairi Quinn, Minister for Education, in March.

Part of the proposal will make participation in the changes by colleges a requisite for funding.

The plans don't affect universities in general but the HEA wants increased con-

solidation of institutes of technology.

DIT and other institutes of technology across Dublin have applied for the Technological University status but in other cases around the country institutes of technology will be amalgamated with local universities.

Michael Mulvey head of academic affairs at DIT said, "This is a positive affirmation of DIT's original plans to merge with other ITs."

I would [provisionally] see it as a positive step."

Colleges around the country currently receive over €1bn a year in funding from the government. There are 170,000 students attending the 39 affected colleges and it's predicted this figure will surge dramatically in the next couple of years.

Creative arts programmes at third level colleges in Dublin will also see changes, especially after a review of the programmes operations is completed.

Teacher-training colleges will be one focus of the plan, with the intention to reduce the number from 19 to 6.

UCD and Trinity are already in talks to merge the teacher-training as part of an Institute of Education, along with Marino Institute of Education and National College of Arts and Design.

DCU, St Patrick's College, and Mater Dei Institute of Education will also be integrated to form a new Institute of Ed-

ucation.

Part of the impetus for the measures is the elimination of duplicate courses, so colleges will begin joint academic planning ventures.

Currently having courses available in multiple institutes, costs the Education department millions and in line with a policy of imposing austerity in the education sector these duplications will be scrapped.

Other reforms that will take place later and are to be announced, concern staffing levels, alterations to the academic calendar and imposition of further contributions by students.

The announcement comes days after Limerick Institute of Technology withdrew from plans to merge with other institutes to form the Munster Technological University. Mr Mulvey commented:

While I can't speak directly for the decisions of other colleges, sometimes colleges will adopt certain stances in relation to announcements like this, to protect their negotiating position.

Limerick IT may also have felt there were better opportunities elsewhere. But stances do change.

Referring to the HEA inference that funding could be dependent on college participation in the reforms he said, "It's not clear at this stage how funding will be used to incentivise colleges."

Tragic deaths: three members of DIT community

Ciaran Clark
News Editor

Earlier this month, three members of the DIT community passed away. Mikey Clancy, Irish Windsurfing champion and DIT student, Marie Gonnely member of the Careers Office team and Brendan Burkner, lecturer in the school of Media.

Mr Clancy, a 22 year old Dubliner, competed on the P.W.A (Professional Windsurfers Association) World Windsurfing Tour and had just returned to the world windsurfing stage in 2012 after being side-lined for most of 2011 by a serious ankle injury.

His father paid tribute to him on the popular surfing site afloat.ie, last week, "We will miss Mikey and remember him fondly for his sportsmanship, kindness and friendly manner. Your smile and humour lit up many a windsurfers day. May you dance on the seas of heaven as you once danced on the seas of the ocean."

Clancy had achieved many accolades and awards including, 25th Overall P.W.A World Tour, Irish Junior Champion and Irish U19 Champion. He was also an accomplished student, gaining an Elite Ath-



Mikey Clancy, pictured on the left, and competing in windsurfing on the right. Photos:



lete Scholarship to DIT for Marketing.

His dream of competing suffered a setback last year when he suffered a cartilage-destroying injury to his ankle that required painful fusion surgery and nearly a year's rehab off the scene and away from windsurfing. His comeback on the 2012 PWA tour in the KIA Cold Hawaii World Cup saw him finish 13th and awarded sailor of the day during the contest.

Mikey's father, Michael Clancy spoke to the Irish Daily Mirror about the loss of his son. He also spoke about Ireland's social problem of suicide, "It's a horrendous cultural thing that Ireland is developing, it really is. It seems to be getting worse rather than better."

He went on to add, "Whilst we are extremely heartbroken and shocked at the news we want to celebrate that he had a

good innings in a lot of aspects. He was really a warrior. He got to the very top of world windsurfing twice."

According to the Mirror report, Mikey's ashes are to be spread over several of his favourite beach spots in Ireland.

Staff member Marie Gonnely also unfortunately passed away. Marie was known to many colleagues and students through her role as a member of the DIT

Career Service team of advisors.

Marie had worked for many years at DIT and had been on a career break since the beginning of 2012. She was working with New York University in Abu Dhabi when her untimely death occurred. She was just 31 and it is thought she died of possible S.A.D.S (Sudden Adult Death Syndrome).

Regretfully a third death occurred over the Christmas period; Brendan Burkner. Mr Burkner was a lecturer at the school of Media in Aungier St. Brendan was a well-known cinematographer, film producer and director, and had taught TV and Video Production in the School of Media for the last five years.

DIT Chaplaincy is to announce details of memorial services for DIT students and staff, who wish to pay their respects for the deceased. If you would like more information contact Sister Mary Flannagan on (01) 402 3050, 087-6417309, or e-mail Mary.Flanagan@dit.ie

If anyone requires help coping or simply wants to talk, DIT counselling is available. Please contact the secretary Gabby Lynch on (01) 402 3352, text to 086 0820543 or email gabby.lynych@dit.ie to arrange an appointment.

WWW.EDITION.IE

Start the debate online

DITSU membership for Malala



Malala Yousafzai is awarded honorary membership of DITSU

Paul O'Connor

Malala Yousafzai has been made an honorary member of DITSU. DIT Student's Union President David Keogan proposed the award of Honorary Membership to the Union to Malala Yousafzai before Christmas, which was seconded by the Executive Council.

According to Mr Keogan, the proposal was made in 'recognition of the work done by Malala in the pursuit of educational rights for girls in the Swat region of Pakistan...and as an acknowledgement to the work done by those committed to education access in conflict-ridden areas'.

Malala was sitting in a school bus in Mingora, a city in the Swat Valley, waiting to be brought home along with her school-mates, when a Taliban gunman boarded the bus and shot the 15 year-old in the head and neck.

Doctors in Pakistan managed to remove the bullet which had lodged in Malala's spine but she was flown to Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham, which specialises in war wounds. The teenager was discharged from the hospital on Friday January 04 but will have to be readmitted for further surgery to reconstruct her cranium at the end of the month.

Malala has been a campaigner for the ed-

ucational rights of girls in the north-western district of Pakistan in the past number of years. In 2009 the young activist wrote a blog for the BBC Urdu service, detailing her life in the Swat Valley where she was banned from going to school by the Taliban.

This region of the country is a Pashtun tribal area straddling the Afghanistan border and was the centre of a counter insurgency by the Pakistani government on the Taliban in 2009. The counter insurgency was thought to have been successful but last Thursday's bombing in Mingora which claimed the lives of 22 people would suggest that the Taliban are still very much active in the region.

The long term future of that part of the world may be mired in uncertainty, but the immediate future for Malala is crystal clear. Her father, Ziauddin, has been appointed to a diplomatic post at Pakistan's consulate in Birmingham.

Considering the proximity, President Keogan would love to invite Malala and her father to DIT to accept her award; health permitting of course. President Keogan would 'prefer to hold the event in DIT so the Student Council can attend' but either way, he envisages some kind of ceremony taking place in the next month or two to honour Yousafzai's bravery.

News Bulletin

Grad wins in Las Vegas

Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) was presented this month with a gift of next-generation technology for use by its students of geomatics and spatial information, due to recent graduate David Hyland. David won the International Trimble Dimensions 2012 Student Paper Competition.

The prize for the competition was a trip to Las Vegas to participate in an international conference, and a donation of state-of-the-art equipment for his home institution.

The prize was awarded by Trimble, one of the world's largest providers of positioning technology. Mr. Anthony Mills of Trimble Navigation Europe Ltd, travelled to Dublin to make the presentation to DIT.

New Post-grad Officer

David Keogan, President of the DIT Students Union (DITSU) has announced the appointment of Hoda Akbari as the post graduate student representative for the remainder of this academic year.

Ms Akbari who was elected, last month, will now join the ten-member Students' Union Executive Council to represent the interests of the increasing number of DIT Postgraduate and Research students. Ms Akbari is a full time self-funded research student in DIT's FOCAS Institute.

Along with her role within DITSU as post-grad officer Ms Akbari will sit on a number of DIT committees including the Graduate Research School Board, the Library Committee and the Academic Quality Assurance Committee.

Top of the Apps

Recent DIT start-up, BitSmith Games, has gone to Number 1 in the Irish APP store after the release of their first game 'Ku: The Shroud of the Morrigan'.

Eoin Harris, Basil Lim and Ralph Croly developed the game as part of their 2012 final project on DIT's MSc in Creative Digital Media & Games.

The game overtook popular titles such as FIFA 13, Angry Birds and Minecraft for the top spot. It is also performing well on the international charts and has already broken into the US TOP 100 Charts. A full Irish language version of the game is also available.

Welcome Brazilians

DIT is planning to welcome an influx of Brazilian students as part of the Science without Borders programme.

The initiative's goal is to place over 100,000 Brazilian students in overseas higher education institutions over the next four years.

The Head of the Graduate Research School, Prof Mary McNamara, member of the Ministerial Advisory Group on Irish Education Co-operation with Brazil, joined Irish delegations to São Paulo, in November 2011, and Brasília, in July 2012, to promote Dublin Institute of Technology as a top destination for Brazilian students.

HMV staff protest

Paul O'Connor

Labour TD for Limerick City and Minister for State, Department of Environment, Community and Local Government, Jan O'Sullivan, met with HMV employees staging a sit in protest at stores in Limerick.

On the morning of Friday 18 January, the Minister visited store locations in Cruises Street and the Crescent Shopping Centre in a show of solidarity for the 30 or so staff seeking unpaid wages from the past month.

Tweeting on her account, Minister O'Sullivan said: "I have written to receivers (sic) & have been in touch with relevant depts. I will help the workers with any requests they have."

The sit in was precipitated by the closing down of all HMV stores in Ireland after the Irish Division of the outlet was put into receivership by the Accounting firm Deloitte on Wednesday 16 January. Chris Keena, manager of the Crescent Shopping centre store and part of the sit in, spoke of his shock at the company's closure, especially when he had "heard about it on Sky News first".

However, Chris still believes HMV 'is a

viable entity... a huge market still exists for over-the-counter purchases of games, CDs and DVDs'. Chris went on to say how "delighted" he was with the political support garnered for their plight, from the likes of Minister O'Sullivan and Fianna Fail politicians Willie O'Dea and Niall Collins.

When asked what the hopes are for the staff, Chris responded: "Our main aim is the re-opening of the stores as it is important for the High Street in Ireland and Irish artists." If the shops cannot be re-opened, Chris wants to at least see the month's wages owed, including holiday and in lieu time, paid to the staff, with potentially the Government helping on that front.

Concerned that the closing of HMV stores in Ireland would have a ripple effect on suppliers and Irish artists, Chris elucidated that "HMV has a 45 percent market share for an Irish artist's release, and with the closing of HMV, there is now a void for those sales."

HMV, a UK-based company, is still confident a buyer can come in to rescue the company, with retailer Game confirming it is among the 50 or so potential suitors.



Chris Keena, manager of HMV Limerick with Jan O'Sullivan TD for Limerick City

Exams department introduce four day window

Ciaran Clark
News Editor

New changes to the General Assessment Regulations at DIT mean students will be able to get feedback from lecturers after they receive their exam results.

After proposals from DIT Students' Union (SU), the examinations department introduced new procedures for providing feedback to students on their assessments.

The alterations were made before Christmas and students will be able to avail of the feedback measures after this year's January exam results are awarded.

Glenn Fitzpatrick, Vice-President of the S.U. said the measures "will foster learn-

ing through feedback.

It's a much more student friendly way of dealing with problems that arise with results".

The amendments were made, largely to deal with the rechecking, remarking and appealing of exam results.

The original regulations stated that students had three working days to have their assessment rechecked, five days to have it remarked and seven days to start an appeal process.

The new measures will mean students have a four day window after they receive their grades, to consult with the module lecturer before they decide if they want to challenge the grade.

"It will prevent unnecessary appeals by students. Sometimes students will be frustrated and start an appeal process but in some instances with the feedback, they will know where they stand," Mr Fitzpatrick said.

The welfare and education officer went on to say that lecturers will now be expected to make themselves available for feedback consultations.

The S.U. had been pushing the reform through since last year as it is a commonly supported measure in most students unions and colleges.

Barbara O'Shea former head of the school of media said, "Speaking for this school, it isn't a massive change.

Lecturers here would always have de facto given feedback, especially on courses that have continuous assessment." She added:

"We would always have encouraged students to engage with us

This change formalises the process, but it's probably the case other schools with other disciplines, where the assessment is heavily exam based, they wouldn't have been used to giving feedback."

Mr Fitzpatrick also said, "A lot of schools would have an ethos of feedback as part of their best practise guidelines.

This change was about broadening that across DIT so it would be a best practice procedure across the whole institution."

NEWS

HSE: Mental health funds cut



Minister for Mental Health Kathleen Lynch pictured receiving 10,000 signatures from Dr. Orla Barry from the Mental Health Reform.

Mark Meehan

Budgetary constraints in the Health Service Executive should not impede the investment of funding in mental health services. That's the call being put forward by Mental Health Reform, a coalition of 32 organisations across the country which is campaigning for prioritising and improving mental health care in Ireland.

The HSE's Service Plan for 2013 has committed it to an investment of €35 million in funding from Budget 2013 for mental health services. Using this funding, the health service plans to recruit 477 new staff to this sector. The HSE has

also committed itself to completing the appointment of 414 new staff from last year, a process which has been "inexcusably delayed" according to the Mental Health Reform coalition.

While the director of Mental Health Reform, Dr Orla Barry, welcomed the news that the appointment of the new staff would be fast-tracked by the HSE leadership, she also indicated her hope that the delays seen in 2012 in appointing new staff would not be repeated. She also voiced her concerns about cutbacks already planned by the health service.

"Mental health services have seen an overall decline in staffing numbers since this time last year, with a drop of over 400

staff during 2012, so the prompt appointment of all of the promised new staff is a matter of urgency. We are concerned by the announcement in the Service Plan of a planned reduction of at least 102 acute inpatient beds. Such a reduction cannot happen until adequate community services are in place."

Of major concern to Mental Health Reform is that the €35 million in funding has been made "subject to affordability". Dr Barry and the wider coalition fear that the funding could be siphoned off into other areas of the HSE, to cover deficits.

The group also hailed the increased HSE focus on "specialist mental health services for forensics, for older people and for

people with intellectual disabilities – areas that have historically been neglected", as well as the development of an information technology system for mental health and €2.5 million of funding allotted to the National Counselling Service. The mental health coalition has stated that it would like to see the counselling service extended to those on low incomes, not just those who are in possession of a medical card.

While Mental Health Reform has praised Minister for Mental Health Kathleen Lynch for her work in improving mental health services, it has also made clear to the HSE and the Government that funding for mental health services should be used as intended.

USI violence survey

Ciaran Clark
News Editor

Following the brutal stabbing of German student Thomas Heinrich, the USI aims to document students' experiences of violence through its "Say Something" campaign.

The campaign has been launched after Heinrich died from stab wounds he sustained near DIT approved accommodation in December and the stabbing of DIT student Daniel Blain which left him permanently disabled in 2010.

In light of these incidents the USI is conducting an online survey with the support of Cosc – the National Office for the Prevention of Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence. It says, "The purpose of this survey is to better understand the extent and nature of violence experienced by third level students."

They went on to say, "This survey also seeks to establish how safe or unsafe students feel in different environments. Regardless of whether or not a student has experienced any kind of violence or harassment, their responses will help us to understand and deal with issues of violence as experienced by third level students."

The Survey is reported to take roughly 15 minutes to complete and the USI were keen to endorse the survey as a diversity enterprise, encouraging all genders, sexualities and ethnicities to complete the survey. They assured that the information is private and confidential.

Laura Harmon, USI vice president for equality and citizenship said, "This is the first time that we have undertaken a study of this scale for this age group. We hope that the information we receive will be useful in ensuring that the future campaigns USI and local Students' Unions run in this area will be well informed and targeted."

Gary Heylin, Director of Cosc said, "By increasing our understanding of the extent and nature of violence experienced by third level students we can improve our actions to counter such violence and support those who have experienced it."

HSE to slash nurses salaries: INMO urges boycott of scheme

Al McConnell
Deputy Editor

One thousand nursing positions have been advertised at reduced pay by the Health Service Executive, as graduates are once again targeted in money-saving measures.

The new positions will be classified differently from previous entry level positions, but unions maintain that graduates on the programme will have the full responsibilities of other regulated professionals, without any special mentoring, and on a lower salary.

Nurses who worked in HSE hospitals last year as part of their final clinical placement will also have to reapply for the jobs at which they were contracted, with the reduced rate of pay under the new scheme, which is called the Post Qualification Nursing & Midwifery Initiative.

Thousands protested in October over cuts in pay for newly qualified teachers, which, it was argued, went against the principle

of 'equal pay for equal work', and would leave entrants to the profession earning less than those ahead of them in coming years.

These sentiments have been echoed by nursing unions in the latest controversy, and unions have urged graduate nurses not to apply for the positions.

The HSE has said, however, that there has been strong interest in the new jobs.

The programme has been described as a "false start" to graduate nursing careers, aimed at bringing in "cheap labour" to replace currently employed nurses.

Although the HSE has argued that the 1,000 jobs will represent additional staff, the Irish Nurses & Midwives Organisation (INMO) maintains that the move will cause many agency and overtime workers to be shed.

After the reduction, entry rate salaries for nurses will drop from €26,400 to around €22,000.

Comparisons have been drawn with USA and UK rates, with some nursing unions

maintaining that a nurse graduate in London can earn the equivalent of €30,000, and equivalent jobs in America offering over double the new Irish pay rates.

The latest Government cuts in the teaching profession have already reduced the starting salary of at least 3,000 teachers from around €41,000 in 2009, to €32,000 at present.

Current students will now be concerned about their prospects of working in the public sector, with Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Brendan Howlin, suggesting that public sector workers will have to "work longer, and more cleverly, and in different, smart ways."

It is now understood that negotiations between union representatives and Government will include the possibility of money-saving changes to overtime, expenses, and allowances to be considered. The Croke Part Agreement's guarantee of preventing pay cuts until 2014 remains off the negotiation table.



LOSE WEIGHT

MEN & WOMEN

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STUDENTS
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NEWS

Nitelink service slashed by a third



Dublin Bus Nitelink services operating in the city have been slashed by one-third. The company has released the revised timetable.

Stephen Bourke
Chief Sub Editor

Dublin Bus will no longer run half-hourly Nitelink services as cuts go into effect this weekend.

Although all eighteen of the current routes will remain active, fourteen of these will now run less frequently with the majority operating on an hourly basis.

Only the very busiest routes will run more than five buses a night. The routes affected are 7n, 25n, 39n, 41n, 42n, 46n, 66n, 69n and 77n.

Timetables for the other nine Nitelink routes are unaffected. For the most part, Dublin Bus has curtailed services on the most frequent routes, bringing them closer to the levels of quieter routes.

The company announced the timetable change last Friday. "The timetables have been revised to meet the existing level of customer demand," wrote a spokesperson to social media users.

The biggest cuts are to the 7n and the 25n, which previously ran nine buses a night leaving the city centre every half hour between midnight and 4am.

From now just four buses a night will run, departing on the hour. The 39n remains the most frequent route, but sees its services cut from nine a night to just six.

"This is going to force me to use taxis because the times might not suit me when I need a bus home," said Katie O'Callaghan, a DIT student and 41n passenger. "This would discourage me from going into town and spending money there."

Aungier Street man Cormac O'Connor gave up taking the Nitelink years ago. "They're too expensive," he said. "I'm usually with mates when leaving. It ends up being quicker and cheaper to get a taxi."

"The whole only stopping at one point and then not letting people on after that is just stupid," he added. "In Germany there are essentially 24 hours of buses".

Rebecca Kelly of Bolton Street says the service is too inconsistent to be worth waiting for as it is. "I normally just gallop home to Donnybrook from town," she told The Edition.

"There should be a bus every hour of every day," she added, "Like there is in London."

"The reduction in services comes just two weeks after Dublin Bus announced a hike in cash fares from €5.00 to €5.70 – with the fare remaining at €5 for Leap card users."

These price amendments for all cash fares and prepaid tickets are in line with Dublin Bus increases since the new year.

Irish actor set to star in new Transformers film

Colm McGlinchey

Irish actor Jack Reynor has been cast in the lead role in the next Transformers film. Director Michael Bay announced the news via his website.

20 year old Reynor will join Mark Wahlberg in a planned sequel trilogy to the original films. The first instalment is set to be released in 2014. Bay announced via his website that he had 'spotted him in a great little Irish movie 'What Richard Did'. This kid is the real deal.'

Reynor received critical acclaim for his starring role in Lenny Abrahamson's 'What Richard Did' playing a wealthy teenager who accidentally kills another youngster. The film was released in the UK last week and has been met with further praise from critics. Reynor will next be seen in 'The Delivery Man' alongside

Vince Vaughn.

Reynor was born in the United States and raised in Co. Wicklow. From 2004 to 2010 he attended Belvedere College in Dublin and performed in several stage productions. During this time he also appeared in several short films before being cast in 2012's 'Dollhouse' and 'What Richard Did'.

Reynor had to contend with tough competition for the Transformers role, managing to edge out former 'Home and Away' actor Brenton Thwaites and 'Taken 2' star Luke Grimes.

In the new Transformers film, Reynor is set to play a racing car driver who becomes involved with Mark Wahlberg's daughter.

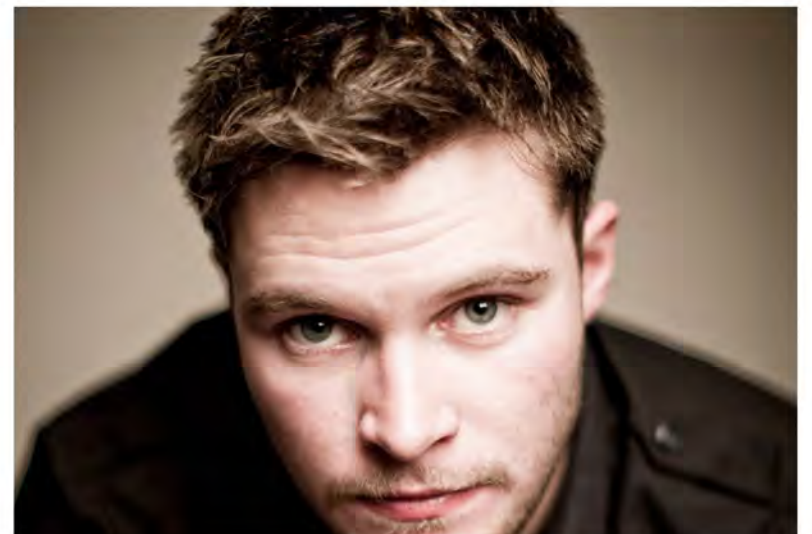
The role of the daughter is yet to be cast, although, several actresses have auditioned for the role including another former 'Home and Away' cast member, Isabel

la Cornish, and English model Gabriella Wilde.

The first Transformers film was released in 2007 and made stars out of the relatively unknown Shia LeBeouf and Megan Fox. Despite being panned by critics the three films were box office hits.

Bay has told fans the new film is not a reboot, and explains his reasoning behind having a new cast. 'This movie takes place exactly 4 years after the war in Chicago. The story makes a very natural transition, and reason as to why we have a whole new cast.' In an interview with TMZ 'The movie's going to continue four years from the attack on Chicago, which was in the last movie'.

It is expected that production on *Transformers 4* will begin in spring 2013 and will be released by Paramount on June 27, 2014.



Lincoln star up for the Gathering

Colm McGlinchey

Daniel Day-Lewis has offered his support for the Gathering 2013. Speaking at the European premier of his new film 'Lincoln' the actor offered his support to the tourism initiative.

On Sunday the Oscar nominated actor took to the red carpet at the Savoy cinema Dublin along with director Steven Spielberg and actress Sally Field. The premier, in aid of the Wicklow Hospice Foundation, was also attended by a number of Irish celebrities, including boxer Katy Taylor and director Jim Sheridan.

Speaking of The Gathering Day-Lewis, who resides in Wicklow, said "I would like to offer my support and encouragement for the Gathering this year. What better moment than this for all those with Irish roots and connections throughout the world, to visit and revisit Ireland."

At the premier Spielberg commented on his love of Ireland, where he filmed 'Saving Private Ryan', saying "I'm very close to Ireland. Making Ryan here was such a wonderful experience we started coming back just for ourselves."

The Gathering has previously received criticism from Irish actor Gabriel Byrne,

who described the initiative as "a scam". Byrne had served as ambassador for culture for two years but stepped down as he was "disillusioned and disappointed with this Government who go on about their love for culture for arts and actually really don't give a toss about it."

Day-Lewis, who has been nominated for an Oscar for his performance as President Lincoln, commented on those returning to Ireland as part of the Gathering, that "by answering that whisper in the blood and returning to the source, they shall also be investing in the future of this uniquely magnificent country."



Lincoln star and director, Daniel Day-Lewis and Steven Spielberg

FOREIGN NEWS

Foreign Office report

Andrew Donovan and Barry Lennon report on Erasmus from France

Establishing the Edition's French connection

Erasmus diary



First impressions of French Erasmus from our Foreign Correspondent

At a December editorial meeting, this reporter was asked where he might see himself in ten years' time. "In the arms of a beautiful woman," I responded.

The editorial team doubted that this vision would come true, as they thought I lacked the necessary finesse to attract such a woman.

Over the past months, my obnoxious out-of-tune singing and shite talking had become unbearable even for the most jaded of the Edition's hacks.

Feeling that my etiquette must improve, the editorial team decided to send me to France on an Erasmus to replace my uncouth habits with French sophistication.

The Breton town of Lannion was chosen for my grand refinement. However, on arrival I realised the town was located far from the style and sophistication more readily associated with Paris.

Lannion is rural, very rural. While the town centre has plenty of pretty ancient



Above: French students welcome the Irish to Lannion. Right: After 45 laps of the town, Lennon and Donovan found there was nothing going on.



A one horse town. And it seems the horse has even left

stone walled French buildings, it is still a one horse town. And it seems that the horse has even left.

Surprised by the town's isolation, Andrew (who makes up the other half of the Edition's foreign desk) and myself were already looking for escape routes on the day in France; studying the train timetables that lead to Paris.

However, this quietness did not last long as we moved on to campus residency and began lectures the next day.

With a university campus about the size of a large secondary school in a rural area, on the edge of town, it was inevitable that the arrival of the two Irish would make a big impact (last year's students from DIT are still regarded as celebrities).

Our arrival was made bigger by the fact that Andrew and I are the whole of the Erasmus community.

After a morning of administration and meeting professors, we were introduced to our first year journalism class.

No sooner had we entered the classroom, had the class organised a social calendar for the week, offering invitations to football matches and parties. We were never of so much interest to so many, despite our language difficulties.

My head still spins from the initial impact of the language barrier that day. Small talk becomes twice as difficult when fluency is an issue, but finding common ground in football helps conversation.

Thierry Henry's handball incident which ended Ireland's world cup qualification hopes is a popular slag with us.

Surprisingly the League of Ireland is also better known than I thought. One of my new French colleagues had heard of my own team Bray Wanderers. I asked how he knew of the Wanderers, and he said "I know zem from playing FIFA. I know all ze crap teams like zis."

The college is located 4km away from the town centre and it is linked to it by dual-carriageway that was not meant for

pedestrians.

Many of our new colleagues drive and some of them give us a lift into a bar in town to celebrate the arrival of the Irish students on their first full 'school' day. They sat and drank chocolat, while myself and Andrew preferred a pint after the whirlwind of a first day.

This is just one of the many cultural differences this reporter has observed that should lead to his refinement.

French students sound more sophisticated when they are going to a house party or as the call 'une soirée.' However it is much the same as an Irish session, except with a higher wine to beer ratio.

The style of dress of new colleagues also appears more sophisticated. Scarfs are not just to keep your neck warm. They remain on during class, giving an air of supreme French sophistication.

Following this French lead I should be refined and in the arms of a beautiful woman within ten years' time.

French we've learned

'On reste là'

We'll leave it there so - A common colloquial phrase used by the French here. Coincidentally, it is often used (in English) by RTE's Bill O'Herlihy.

'Baguette magique'

Magic wand - sounds as if the French are mocking themselves when it came to finding a word for a magic wand. Discovered this week in our photoshop class

• **'Lyons Tea? C'est comme Harp. C'est shite!'**

• **Lyons Tea? It's like Harp. It's shite!** - One of our new French colleagues has picked up on some of our Irish idiosyncracies. Including the word, 'shite.' And the preferred brands of tea and lager in Ireland.

• **'Pas de messing'**

• **Cop yourself on** - what the teacher says to an unruly class. Derived from *Messiné* meaning to 'act the maggot.'

Edition opens new foreign office in northern France

Barry Lennon
Foreign Correspondent

The Edition has become the first Irish student newspaper to run a foreign office since Trinity News' ill fated trip to the Falklands Islands.

Former News Editor Andrew Donovan and former Deputy Editor Barry Lennon are running the office from their digs while on Erasmus in the Northern French town of Lannion.

While it could be viewed as opportunistic to use reporters studying on Erasmus, Editor Jarlath Moloney quashed this as-

sumption by explaining that the decision to open the office was part of a long term plan to develop the paper.

"The Edition is a world class newspaper and as such we need a closer reaction to European developments," Moloney said.

"The Edition is very proud to be opening its first foreign correspondents desk and we're looking forward to getting a new level of coverage from France and the EU."

Although located almost 800km from the nearest central European institution in Brussels, Lennon spoke of how the paper hopes to develop in the future.

"It's a step by step approach. Next year we hope to move the office 100km closer to Brussels and repeat this process every year until we have an office in Brussels itself," he said.

During his foreign posting, Lennon will write a 'Hunter S Thomson' style diary account of his Erasmus experiences of the Breton town.

Contributions from other journalists on Erasmus are also expected to appear in the new foreign desk section known as the foreign office report, as well as other features on Erasmus life and European affairs.

NEWS

Oxford LGBT to protest Assange speech

Colm McGlinchey

Oxford students are to demonstrate against Julian Assange's speech at the University's award ceremony which celebrates prominent whistle-blowers today.

Students are to protest at the Sam Adams Awards, against a speech via video link made by Wikileaks founder and whistle-blower Assange, who is wanted in Sweden on allegations of rape.

Past awards winners have included Assange himself in 2010 and FBI whistle-blower Sibel Edmonds in 2004.

Vice President of the Oxford students union told reporters that the protests 'hope to support survivors of rape and sexual assault'. Mr Assange, an Australian national, has been taking refuge at the Ecuadorian embassy in London for the past six months in order to avoid extradition to Sweden for questioning on rape allegations.

Oxford student Simone Webb, who is president of the University's LGBTQ society, took to twitter to tell students the protests are 'about challenging society's treatment of rape allegations, and the way they are minimised and ignored.' Webb also tweeted 'I do not think that someone who is actively fleeing rape allegations should have been offered this privilege.'

Assange's mother, Christine Assange, took to twitter to defend her son, calling Webb and other protestors 'a gang of rabid, irrational frenzied feminists'.

She also encouraged Oxford students who did support Assange to arrange a counter protest, tweeting 'Not only a man's reputation is at stake but his life and liberty and the greater cause of global freedoms.'

Thomas Finger, who is to receive the Sam Adams Award this year, also expressed concern with Assange's involvement stating 'I am appalled by the theft



Julian Assange pictured in the Ecuadorian Embassy in London. Mr Assange has promised to release more than one million documents in 2013 through Wikileaks. Mr Assange has been in the Embassy for more than six months as of last December.

and distribution of US government documents because it violates the law, personal obligations, and professional ethics.'

The Oxford Union has invited protestors to attend the Q&A with Mr Assange to

voice their issues. A spokesperson for the union said 'Mr Assange is clearly a figure who generates controversy for reasons ranging from the charges made against him in Sweden, to the perceived

recklessness of some Wikileaks activities. We would therefore encourage those who disagree with him, or with any of our other speakers, to participate in the Q&A session.'

Editorial Team

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

Deputy Editor DeputyEd@edition.ie
Al McConnell

News Editors News@edition.ie
Ciarán Clark
Luke Holohan

Lifestyle Editor Lifestyle@edition.ie
Stephanie Quilligan

Culture Editors Culture@edition.ie
Dáirne Black
Rachael O'Brien

Sports Desk Sports@edition.ie

Chief Sub Chiefsub@edition.ie
Stephen Bourke

Sub Editors
Diarmaid Murray Andrew Donovan

Foreign Correspondent
Barry Lennon

Rag week 2013



Colm McGlinchey

DITSU predicts largest turnout ever for this year's RAG charity week. The event aims to raise €15,000 for suicide and self-harm charity Pieta House.

RAG (Raising and Giving) week kicks off Monday February 11 with both day and night events. Tickets for events can be purchased from the Students Union office. As well as the events organised, participants are also encouraged to raise money in whatever way they like.

Night time events include a Mardi Gras themed night at the Lost Society, a paint party at The Big Tree and a DIT talent show at The Pint. RAG week will also host a Valentines Ball, the cheapest formal ball in DIT history with tickets at €15.

Day-time events include a Sky Dive, a Northside V Southside football match, and a Sticker Run, in which contestants purchase stickers for €1 from the Students Union and the funniest photo showing the sticker wins a prize.

Anybody looking to get involved can contact their local Students Union.

87 dead in twin Uni blasts



YouTube grab of the chaos at Aleppo University

Colm McGlinchey

Twin blasts at a Syrian University has killed 87 people. The explosions happened during the first day of exams at Aleppo University.

Activists blamed President Assad's regime for the blasts, while state media blamed rebels. The death toll is expected to rise with over 150 wounded and human remains still being recovered from the site.

Syria has been engaged in a 22 month conflict between current President Bashar al-Assad's regime and the rebel Free Syrian Army.

The explosions happened on Tuesday 15 January as students sat their exams

at Aleppo University in the North of the country. The commercial capital Aleppo is under government control and has been subject to violent clashes with rebels since last summer.

The cause of the blasts has not been confirmed, with state television blaming ground-to-air missiles launched by rebels, and rebels blaming air strikes carried out by the government.

President Assad, who has rejected calls by world leaders to stand down, called for damaged parts of the University to be rebuilt immediately.

Universities across Syria closed on Wednesday 16 January to mark a day of mourning for victims of the blast.



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

Kevin McGahern, a Hardy Buck

Luke Holohan talks to former Hardy Buck, Kevin McGahern, on his new movie career.

On my way to meet Kevin McGahern, better known as Sim Card from The Hardy Bucks and one quarter of the fictional indie political rock consortium "Slave Baby", I begin to wonder whether he'll turn up in character. He's chosen Grogans as the location for our interview, and while I'm not complaining in the least; as I pass by Fade Street and the "trinkets" of Georges Street arcade, I start to think that it's possible I'll also be met by Vinnie Redbreast and the lads. Or even The Viper.

As any reasonable person would expect, he turns up as himself and alone. To be honest I'm not sure why I imagined anything else. Anyway, we settle down over a pint of Guinness and begin to discuss McGahern's burgeoning and diverse career in comedy, his upcoming show, as well as his somewhat unconventional relationship with hecklers. Unfortunately, I was unable to pry any further information out of him regarding the new Hardy Bucks film. Except for the fact that the show was getting the Hollywood treatment, something akin to "The Hangover" I guess.

McGahern, who is originally from Cavan, began stand-up back in 2009 after becoming familiar with the comedy circuit through friend and comedian, Robbie Bonham. "My interest was kind of encouraged by him. I'd go to some of his gigs and at this time, I guess I'd no idea what I wanted to do. I'd go to these gigs and see him up on stage, and I was like - 'yeah, I wouldn't mind doing this, it seems interesting, he seems happy and gets paid for making people laugh'".

Despite this, it wasn't until he got a job in the International Bar, a Dublin venue which is known for live comedy gigs, that McGahern was actually inspired to begin performing himself. "I was working in the International Bar and was watching guys on stage and I thought - 'fleck this, this looks easy'". Even though he jokes about it, all the evidence seems to suggest that

comedy does come quite easily to him.

After his first performance, which he describes as a "poor man's Dylan Moran" impression, he was highlighted as the outstanding performer on the night by the audience of the Ha' Penny Bridge Inn. Subsequently he has gone on to perform at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival as well as in various venues throughout the country.

Speaking about his first ever stage performance, "That night I had a song at the end which I had written in Robbie's house. I didn't know how to play the chords though, so I recorded my own voice on a tape making the chord sounds. I just looked like a crazy, lonely man and that's what people liked the most. I just started doing more of that then."

McGahern has since landed a part in the highly popular television series "The Hardy Bucks", as well as roles in the upcoming feature films "No Party for Billy Burns" and "Flat Lake". He has also featured in sketches for the RTE magazine show called "Republic of Telly".

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the part of Sim Card came about after a chance meeting with Chris Tordoff (The Viper). "Yeah, I got chatting after one of my gigs, turned out we lived near enough to one another in Ranelagh, ended up hanging out and watching videos. He just said to call down to the guys. I knew if I just gave myself a funny name then there would be more of a chance of getting something out of it."

It seems that Kevin McGahern, whether intentionally or not, inspires comedy. So much so, that the spoof Youtube documentary - "The man who fell on the ice", which was created by him and a group of his friends, was made after they realised that the back of McGahern's head was similar to that of the man who fell on the SixOne news. The Youtube clip has so far received 400,000 hits with the likes of news presenter Brian Dobson and Satirist Charlie Brooker singling it out for personal praise. "That clip's my Citizen Kane; I'm most proud of Brian Dobson



“If you dress like a gobshite it kind of gives you licence to act like one.”

liking it really”.

His role in "No Party for Billy Burns" and the idea for the film itself was inspired after he suggested that a group of his friends dress up as cowboys for a festival. "I suggested that we all dress up as cowboys and go a bit crazy. If you dress like a gobshite it kind of gives you a bit of a licence to act like one. So, in the end anyway, I was the only one who dressed up as this cowboy and I had to embrace it; pulled guns on cops and stuff like that. This all seemingly inspired Padraig Conaty to write this film."

By now a group of boisterous Americans have begun to put the recording of this interview in jeopardy. They've enquired about a painting behind us, which to the untrained eye, looks more like a badly plastered wall than art. Anyway, before I've been drowned out, I get to hear about the Cavan native's interesting experiences with hecklers. "I punched a guy in the International once, less than a year ago actually", he calmly mentions.

"Well let me explain, it sounds bad. I was really hung-over from Buckfast the night before and this guy in a suit and tie was in the front row. Now he hadn't said anything all night, but then just at the punch line of my last joke he shouts something indistinguishable". "Anyway I leave the stage. Then later on, in the horrors of Buckfast, staring at a drop of

condensation on the wall, wondering about the futility of life, this guy comes over and gives me a little slap in the face. You know, just letting me know he can take me. Anyway as soon as he does this, I give him a sort of Buckfast reaction".

Kevin McGahern will be performing his show "2 Grown Men", his longest set yet, at The Stags Head on the February 5. Entrance is free into the Dame Lane venue with the fun set to kick off at 8.30pm. Also performing on the night will be TedFest champion, Edwin Sammon, as well as support from David Reilly and Conor O'Toole. Before leaving, he said that the punching of audience members was a rare enough occurrence, so don't let that put you off. Comedians are generally very docile characters, that is, until you antagonise one in the grips of a Buckfast hangover I suppose. Besides, the suited man lived to tell the tale, so it is probably worth the risk heading to the Stags Head if only to see what madness ensues.

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CULTURE

Shadows & Dust



Luke Holohan
News Editor

It is 9.30p.m. when the band 'Shadows and Dust' make it to the minimally lit and intimate stage of Whelan's Live. It's the ideal setting for the group's acoustic style, not to mention a great atmosphere for their haunting lyrics.

For an unsigned band that hasn't played live for nearly a year, quite a crowd has turned up. The large following is testament to their steadily growing appeal, and many are eager to catch this rare show before the band once again withdraw from the live scene to spend some time in the recording studio.

Luckily for me, I've been here since 7 o'clock and have one of the best seats in the house. While that may make me seem like a bit of a groupie, I'm actually here to catch up with the band just before one of their biggest gigs to date. The Dublin based outfit, which is made up of - Lead vocalist and guitarist Dermot Kennedy, Drummer Micheál Quinn, Violinist Lia Wright and Bassist Erik Vaughan - have been playing

together for just over two years.

Originally a two piece of Kennedy and Quinn, the group have gradually developed, honing their sound to what they believe could be described as 'folk rock'.

After pretty much intruding on their sound check, I sit down with Dermot Kennedy to get an insight into the band and what lies ahead for them in the future.

Q) So where did the name 'Shadows and Dust' come from? You often hear of bands having a few different names before they settle on the right one, any unusual early names?

DK: "It's actually from a quote in the movie Gladiator. Best movie ever. I don't think there were too many nearly names but it was a big deal for us to get the name right. I think we just liked the sound of this one."

Q) Are you signed to a label at the moment?

DK: "No, not yet anyway. But we'd be open to that of course."

Q) How does song writing work within the band, is it a collaborative process?

DK: "It is becoming more like that. When we first started out I'd kind of just bring a song to Micheál already written. I'd write stuff based on the acoustic guitar. But now I like to think, that together, we're starting to make music more. Like, I always write the lyrics but they really do grow when you're together as a band."

Q) What has the response been to your material so far?

DK: "In the beginning, it's hard to get anyone to listen to you. But yeah, anytime we play it's always a good reaction. It's never been negative."

Q) Any favourite venues to play in Dublin?

DK: "We played the upstairs in Bewley's. It is tiny; think it holds about 75 people. It's usually just plays that go on there, but that was really nice."

Q) What's the plan for the band over the next few months?

DK: "We'll record an E.P. in Temple lane. We've enough songs there to do an album but, if you put all that money in and all your songs and it goes unnoticed, then it's a waste of your time. We're going to put about four or five tracks together and try to generate some interest first. We'll record that in the beginning of March and then we hope to do a few gigs around the country, finish with a launch day in Dublin. The Sugar Club would be ideal."

Q) Do you think that Irish radio stations should give Irish bands more of a chance?

DK: "I think more stations could. I understand why they're playing what gets played, like these popular songs. I haven't thought too much on it, but it is very hard to get your music out there. In fairness Phantom FM and Totally Irish on 98 FM are pretty good."

Q) What are your biggest influences?

DK: "I think we're quite varied. I'm mad into Bon Iver. I love The Frames and...now these are just mine by the way...I like Florence and the Machine a lot as well."

Q) I was going to ask the whole band this but, what really annoys you?

DK: "What pisses me off? What pisses you off Lia? Probably people that lack professionalism. Lack of ambition as well; people who are happy to be mediocre."

Lia Wright: "Closed-minded people" (She mentions in passing).

Rag Week

Louise McLoughlin
DITSU Ents Media Committee

RAG stands for Raising and Giving, and this year DIT's chosen charity is Pieta House for the prevention of suicide and self-harm.

This year it is a unique and diverse week of nights out and day-time events.

With the provisional list of events and fundraisers finally released to the DIT public, students can see why DITSU is predicting a bigger turnout than ever before, and is aiming to raise the huge amount of €15,000.

This year the events will now run both in the daytime and the nighttime, from Monday until Friday. Nighttime events cater for the party animals of DIT, from students who like to get messy, to those who enjoy dressing up in their suits or full-length dresses.

Nighttime Events

Monday 11 February

What better way to see in our RAG Charity Week than at our beloved Carnival, which has now moved to the Lost Society. Carnival will be Mardi Gras themed with thousands of Mardi Gras "Throw Beads", and as always will be overflowing with free candy floss, face paint and glow sticks. Tickets €5, €4 cheaplist.

Tuesday 12

This is going to be messy... Europe's largest paint party is coming to the Big Tree with cannons and paint guns. This is paint party on a whole new scale. Headlining on the night are the highly acclaimed Deadbots. Dress for mess. Tickets only €5.

Wednesday 13

See what DIT has to offer in the way of talent at the DIT All Stars, in The Pint. This was a huge success last year. Doors 8pm. Ticket price €5

Thursday 14

'DIT Valentines Ball in aid of Pieta House' is exactly what the name says. Being held in the Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire, the cheapest formal ball in DIT history. All the stops have been pulled out for this one, including our own red carpet, chocolate and champagne fountains, Ferrero Roche Pyramid, photo booth and more. Tickets are €15 from SU shops.

Daytime Events

This RAG Charity week is giving students the chance to get involved in some exciting new ideas. Drop into SU Offices for sponsorship cards and we're operating online too using Moolta.com.

The fundraiser on everyone's lips is of course the Sky Dive. Any student can take part and jump out of a plane, as long as they raise €640 or more. This is a fantastic way for students to raise a huge amount for charity.

For those slightly less adventurous there is always Shave or Dye. In keeping with the colour of DITSU Ents, purple is the strongly recommended colour!

Road Rage (TBC) is a fundraiser requiring students to travel the width and length of Ireland in 24 hours on wits alone, with no money or sleep, to win a cash prize!

Northside V Southside Football Match, Grangegorman. Students raise €25 to play to see if the Southside can win the cup from last year's winners, the Northside.

The Sticker Run is a cheap and hilarious way for students to do their bit. Purchase the DITSU Ents stickers for €1, stick it to something funny and upload the picture to the DITSU Ents Facebook page to win a massive prize.

For more information check out the DITSU Ents Facebook page, or pop down into your local SU to see how you can get involved.

One Direction Album Review: Take Me Home

Dáirne Black
Culture Editor

'Take Me Home' is the latest offering from boyband One Direction. Having come from the X Factor the boys have well established themselves within the music industry. Their debut album 'Up All Night' topped the charts in over sixteen countries and gave the boys some well-deserved success.

The album comprises of 17 tracks and is a step up for the boys compared to their previous album. While there is still the usual preppy peppy upbeat pop tracks, the boys bring a more mature vibe this time round. The debut song off the album 'Live While We're Young', reached number one in both Ireland and New Zealand, and hit

the top ten charts around the globe. This was soon followed by the slower and mellow single 'Little Things.' The single was co-written by pop superstar Ed Sheeran and his presence is very much apparent on the track. Fellow pop band McFly, minus band member Harry Judd, also wrote the catchy track 'I Would'. One Direction themselves co-wrote many of the tracks and it is clear the boys had an input into the album.

With 17 tracks, it can be easy to lose the variation but One Direction have done well. In most if not all of the songs, the chorus is sharp and memorable. The album is filled with catchy tracks, with declarations of love, sorrow and regret sprinkled throughout. Track number 7, 'Rock Me' showed an unusual side to the boys. It is

however, one that works, even if the title and chorus are extremely cheesy. The third single released from the album 'Kiss You' is another infectious pop track, as in the track 'C'mon C'mon' and 'Back For You'. As a One Direction fan, I do prefer their upbeat tracks as opposed to their slower ballad type ones. I feel that there is only so many ballads and slow songs you can do before they become repetitive, and a little bit whiney.

So far, Take Me Home has topped the charts in more than 35 countries, giving the boys worldwide success and fame. They are unquestionably, one of the biggest boybands at the moment, as they compete with their fellow X Factor counterparts JLS and boyband The Wanted. The boys are clearly heading in a good direction.



From left to right: Harry Styles, Liam Payne, Louis Tomlinson, Zayn Malik, Niall Horan

Awards Special

CULTURE

Love/Hate dominate IFTAs

Rachael O'Brien
Deputy Culture Editor

On Wednesday 9 January, the Irish Film and Television Award nominations were announced.

Better known as the IFTAs, the award ceremony will take place in the Convention Centre, Dublin on the 9 February.

There are 40 categories in this year's awards, including Best Film, Best Director in Film, Best TV Drama and Best Director in TV Drama.

Popular Irish drama 'Love/Hate' has swept the board, picking up 11 nominations.

Love/Hate's nominations include Best Drama, Best Leading Actor for both Robert Sheehan (Darren) and Tom Vaughan Lawlor (Nidge), Best Leading Actress for Charlie Murphy (Siobhan) and Best Supporting Actress for Susan Loughnane (Debbie).

Irish Sitcom, 'Moone Boy' has been



Robert Sheehan is nominated in the Best Actor category for his role in Irish drama, Love/Hate which has now aired three seasons.

nominated in five categories including Best Director, Best Script and Best Supporting Actor for Chris O' Dowd.

After being nominated, O' Dowd tweeted "5 IFTA nominations for Moone Boy. Sweet! Looks like we won't have to send David Rawle [Martin] back to Calcutta after all."

On the film front, 'What Richard Did' has picked up ten nominations including Best Film, Best Director and Best Script.

'What Richard Did' was the best performing Irish film in the Irish box office in 2012.

Newcomer, Jack Reynor is also up for 'Best Actor' and has recently been cast as the lead in the next Transformers 4.

It's been a fantastic year for Irish Film and Television, and with 'Love/Hate' and 'What Richard Did' leading the nominations there is nothing stopping these two scooping up all of the awards on the night.

Les Misérables wins big at Golden Globes

Rachael O'Brien
Deputy Culture Editor

On Sunday 13 January, the 70th Golden Globes were held at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, California.

The main winners on the night were Les Misérables, Argo and Homeland.

Many A-list celebrities attended on the night, all dressed head-to-toe in glam. Nude and black gowns seemed to be a popular choice for the ladies, while all the men went for the obvious, yet handsome, tuxedos.

Les Misérables scooped three main awards winning in the 'Best comedy or musical', 'Best actor in a comedy or musical' and 'Best supporting actress in a comedy or musical' categories.

Upon receiving the award for 'Best comedy or musical' a producer of the movie, Eric Fellner, thanked "the Hollywood Foreign Press Association for recognising the passion and love that went into this film."

American Thriller Argo won two awards at the prestigious event, 'Best drama' and 'Best Director'.

Having beaten the directors of other movies such as Django Unchained and

Life of Pi, Ben Affleck completed his speech by saying "I want to thank my wife [Jennifer Garner] who is the reason I'm standing here. I adore you, I love you so much, thanks for sitting through this, you're my everything. Thank you, thank you all."

In the Television category, Homeland and Game Change swept the boards. American drama series, Homeland, won 'Best drama series', 'Best actor in a drama' and 'Best actress in a drama.' TV Movie, Game Change won 'Best TV film or miniseries', 'Best actress in a TV film or miniseries' and 'Best supporting actor in TV film or miniseries.'

Having been presented her award by Lea Michelle and Nathan Fillion, winner of 'Best actress in a drama', Claire Danes, simply opened her speech with "Wow!"

Other winners at the Golden Globes included Adele who won a Globe for 'Best Original Song'.

Opening her speech saying "Oh my god!", the singer went on to say "I've honestly just come here for a night out", "I was not expecting this" and "thank you for letting me be part of your world for a night."



Lincoln leading in Oscar nominations

Rachael O'Brien
Deputy Culture Editor

The 85th Academy Awards will be held on Sunday 24 February in Los Angeles, California.

This year it will be presented by American actor Seth MacFarlane.

This year's nominations were announced on 10th January and included 12 nominations for Lincoln and 11 nominations for Life of Pi.

It also included eight nominations each for Les Misérables and Silver Linings Playbook.

Lincoln leads the field with 12 nominations in categories such as Best Picture, Best Director and Best Actor.

Another movie which proved popular in the nominations is Life of Pi, which picked up nominations in 11 categories, including Best Picture, Best Director and Best Orig-

inal Score.

Many people were shocked at some of the leading names that were snubbed in the nominations for Best Director.

Kathryn Bigelow ("Zero Dark Thirty"), Ben Affleck ("Argo") and Quentin Tarantino ("Django Unchained") were passed over, despite widespread expectations that one or all of them would be nominated.

This year Hollywood faces a somewhat longer than usual campaign period. A new digital voting system allowed the Academy to announce nominees two weeks earlier than last year.

This is more than six weeks before the awards ceremony, and is said to be a benefit to both the nominees and the voters.

The 50th anniversary of the James Bond film series will also be acknowledged in this year's Academy Awards, with a special tribute planned for the show according to producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron

The latest instalment of the series, Skyfall, is up for Oscars in five categories, including Best Original Song for Adele's Skyfall.

On the Irish front, there were two nods, one in the Cinematography category and one in the Best Animated Short category.

Armagh-born Seamus McGarvey has been nominated for his cinematography on "Anna Karenina". Set in late-19th-century Russia high-society, the aristocrat Anna Karenina enters into a life-changing affair with the affluent Count Vronsky.

Kerry animator Fodhla Cronin O' Reilly has also been nominated for her work on the animated short "Head over Heels".



"The fate of human dignity is in our hands." - Lincoln

CULTURE

Tarantino's Western Spectacle

Django Unchained

Eoin Livingston

Django Unchained is Quentin Tarantino's latest Oscar-nominated movie. It follows the Western themed adventures of Dr. King Schultz (Christoph Waltz) and Django (Jamie Foxx), who are bounty hunters in pre-Civil War America, as they travel across the southern states in search of bounties and money, among other things.

The first impression provided by Django Unchained is the fact that Tarantino pulled no punches in paying his homage to westerns. Everything about the movie is pulled from westerns; the music, the cinematography, the accents, it's staggering! However, in typical Tarantino fashion, these classic western clichés are all served with a refreshing modern twist to stop the movie from becoming boring. Punching up the movie is Tarantino's famously snappy dialogue, for which he doesn't get any points for at this stage in his career.

The best part about Tarantino's writing is the characters. The main protagonists have

astounding depth and emotion, helped in no small part by the amazing acting of Christoph Waltz and Jaime Foxx as they each do a stunning job portraying their character's to the full.

Leonardo DiCaprio hands in a truly spectacular performance as Calvin Candie, the movie's main antagonist. DiCaprio plays Candie as he should, as an evil, malicious villain who thinks himself the hero.

It is not just the main characters who deserve a mention though; some of the side characters are played and written to perfection. Samuel Jackson's performance as Stephen and Kerry Washington's performance as Broomhilda stand out as memorable performances. Jackson's performance as a black butler who believes that black people's place is in servitude and Washington's performance as a slave are ones to watch out for. One scene involving Washington that stands out is the scene in which she is being whipped as a punishment and her performance makes it genuinely uncomfortable to experience. Another grim and uncomfortable scene

is the mandingo fighting scene, which is basically two black people fighting to the death. It completely takes uneasiness and shock to a new level. The expression on the winner's face is grim and reflects the sad, harsh reality of his world brilliantly.

Another exceptional thing about this movie is Tarantino's use of music. Accompanying the classic western soundtrack is about 3 rap songs played at various points in the movie. Although rather startling at first, they really add to the score, and are amazing in inspiring powerful feelings within the viewer.

All in all, Django Unchained is spectacular viewing. The writing is spectacular, the acting is spectacular and the cinematography is, you guessed it, spectacular! Tarantino has really outdone himself with Django Unchained and he handles the issue of slavery and oppression really delicately, which is very impressive. This movie is a must see for any Tarantino fan and is a must see for any western fan. It's charming and refreshing take on the genre makes for a truly great movie.



Dr. King Schultz (Christoph Waltz) and Django (Jamie Foxx) in an official still.

Close-up on life as a war junkie



Don McCullin tells his tale in this BAFTA-nominated documentary from Jacqui and David Morris.

McCullin

Stephen Bourke
Chief Sub-Editor

McCullin is a beautiful and brutal documentary that follows the eponymous subject through the warzones of the last fifty years.

If you don't recognise Don McCullin's name, you will recognise his photography. He's the man that captured the photos illustrating your Leaving Cert. History books. From the shell-shocked Marine in Vietnam to the charge of British soldiers in Derry that terrified a housewife, McCullin took his camera into nearly every warzone of the second half of the 20th century. Such is McCullin's enthusiasm to show the human side of war that the 77-year-old came

out of retirement to cover the ongoing conflict in Syria.

Directorial team Jacqui and David Morris have earned themselves BAFTA nominations for their filmmaking debut, and rightly so.

By interspersing archive footage with tape of the elderly Don McCullin pottering around his house and pulling out books of photographs, the man himself tells us his old war stories in a very intimate and honest way.

The film highlights McCullin's success in bringing the truth of conflicts on the far side of the world to readers with his aesthetic and honest photography.

In many ways, McCullin is as much a retelling of the wars of the past half-cen-

tury as the saga of the man who saw most of them. It's also a harrowing insight into how differently war was reported before the days of embedded journalism.

Ultimately, McCullin is a horrific and dark film. It will leave you feeling emotionally drained as you try to comprehend the convergence of a war junkie and aesthete in the crucibles of working-class London and decades of conflict. This is the portrait McCullin the film paints of McCullin, the man.

If you think Zero Dark Thirty is too happy a film, McCullin is your cure.

The Morrisses have produced a masterful, insightful and harshly honest film of a man's story in much the same way the man does in stills.

Foodventure in Japan

Jiro Dreams of Sushi

Colm McGlinchey

Jiro lives, breathes, and dreams sushi. At 85 he still has passion for a difficult job that he has achieved so much in.

His tiny restaurant in Tokyo doesn't even have its own toilets, but Jiro's sushi is so good it has received three Michelin stars, the highest award going in the restaurant industry. Director David Gelb interviews Jiro and those involved with his life, examining the workaholic and his trade. It may not be of much importance, and bar leaving the cinema with a longing for su-

shi, the film is quite forgettable. But Gelb's documentary is always entertaining.

Jiro's sons were once his apprentices, working decades of long hours in strict conditions to achieve their sushi skills. His eldest son is next in line to take over Jiro's restaurant, leaving him the hard task of equalling his father, while the younger son has opened his own restaurant, but still lives under the shadow of his father's legend. Gelb's documentary follows Jiro and his sons around as they collect the finest fish from the markets, massage octopus, prepare rice and serve customers. It's a

very entertaining watch, and the chef's passion for the food always comes across, as well as his tough views on life.

It also touches on more serious issues, such as the overfishing of tuna, and strict parenting, but it never fully explores them. Gelb's film works best as a day in the life of the restaurant, and could have done with cutting out some tangents, as it never delves deep enough into them to make it worthwhile.

This is at least a good documentary if not a great one, but a must-see for any sushi lover or Japanophile.



Jiro, the sushi-master protagonist of David Gelb's latest documentary.

Armstrong earns few fans from his weak ‘confession’

His Oprah interview will do little to save the sport that has given Lance Armstrong so much, says Colin Layde

Lance Armstrong’s televised confession to Oprah Winfrey confirmed what most suspected, but does little to help restore his own or cycling’s tarnished image.

The interview failed to dispel the impression that Armstrong’s decision to admit to orchestrating what the United States Anti-Doping Authority (USADA) report described as “the most sophisticated doping programme sport has ever seen” is motivated by financial concerns rather than a crisis of conscience.

The USADA investigation has led not just to the loss of the American’s seven Tour de France titles, but also millions of dollars in sponsorship. Sportswear giant Nike, brewer Anheuser-Busch, and bicycle manufacturer Trek all ended their relationship with Armstrong in the wake of the USADA report.

In his interview with Winfrey the disgraced cyclist cited the withdrawal of the sponsors along with the Livestrong Foundation, the charity he founded to raise cancer awareness, as his most humbling moment.

“I believe it was a Wednesday. Nike called and they said basically that they were out. And then the calls started coming: Trek, Giro and Anheuser-Busch. The one I didn’t think would leave was the Foundation.”

British paper The Sunday Times has already launched proceedings against the cyclist in an attempt to recover a £300,000 settlement it was forced to pay Armstrong in 2006 for alleging he had used performance enhancing drugs. The paper is also seeking interest and legal costs; the total claim is likely to exceed £1 million.

In the wake of Armstrong’s confession, Dallas based SCA promotions have filed a \$12 million law suit against the cyclist. The company insured bonuses paid to the cyclist after his fourth, fifth and sixth Tour titles. The company had previously at-



Lance Armstrong receiving a special prize for ‘Most Courageous Cyclist’, after finishing in 10th place in 2009’s Amgen Tour of California. Photo: Richard Masoner via Flickr

tempted to withhold a \$5 million payment after Armstrong claimed his sixth title in 2004, citing allegations he was engaging in doping.

Armstrong successfully sued the company in 2006 but now faces being charged

with perjury for insisting under oath during the trial that he had never doped.

There is speculation the US Government might also launch legal proceedings against the cyclist. The U.S. Postal Service unwittingly funded Armstrong’s doping

programme with federal money and the Government now seek to recoup the \$30 million it paid the team in sponsorship. Upon the publication of its report, USADA banned Armstrong from competing professionally in any sport.

Since retiring from cycling for the second time in 2011, Armstrong has competed professionally as a triathlete. It was in triathlon that he first competed prior to focusing exclusively on cycling and the sport is now his best prospect of a future income.

During his interview with Winfrey, Armstrong did little to dispel the notion that his admission is motivated primarily by the hope that his ban will be reduced.

“If you’re asking me if I want to compete again, the answer is hell yes. I’m a competitor. It’s what I’ve done all my life.”

He went on to admit that he felt the chances of the ban being reduced were slim and bemoaned the harsh “death penalty” nature of his ban.

Even now Armstrong is being less than forthright. In the interview he denied having doped or undergoing blood transfusions upon returning to the sport from his initial retirement in 2009. However analysis by an Australian laboratory of his blood samples in that year’s Tour, in which he finished third, established that the likelihood of his levels of red blood cells occurring naturally to be less than one in a million.

Armstrong will be aware of the 8 year statute of limitations under the World Anti-Doping Authorities (WADA) code, meaning only the last of his tainted Tours will fall within WADA’s remit. He also refused to implicate other riders who doped in what he called cycling’s “EPO generation”.

He denied bribing the International Cycling Union (UCI) to cover up a failed drugs test in 2001, contradicting statements made under oath to USADA by former US Postal teammates Floyd Landis and Tyler Hamilton.

It was almost as if the beleaguered UCI had scripted Armstrong’s interview, with the disgraced cyclist saying that new out-of-competition testing and the introduction of the blood passport system had made it much more difficult to dope since his last Tour victory in 2005.

However, Alberto Contador, who finished above Armstrong in the 2009 Tour, has since been banned for doping.

Cycling has been so badly damaged by the Armstrong saga that it may never fully recover.

As for Armstrong, he continues to show little remorse for perhaps irreparably damaging a sport that gave him so much.

Sexton linked with move to France

Sean Flynn

Reports in France indicate Johnny Sexton may move to play rugby there. French newspaper Midi Olympique reported the Leinster and Ireland fly-half met the owner of Top 14 club Racing Metro on the weekend of January 12th.

Sexton’s deal with the IRFU finishes at the end of this season and the French paper claims that a deal worth €700,000 a season could be offered to the St. Mary’s man.

In the past few years, players like Luke Fitzgerald, Rob Kearney and Brian O’Driscoll have been linked with moves to France in the final year of their IRFU contract.

Sexton’s current IRFU deal is worth €350,000 a year, and rumours of a move

to France will give him leverage during his contract negotiations with the association.

It is highly unlikely the IRFU will try and match an offer from a French club for Sexton. However the tax incentives which allow Irish players to claim 40 per cent back on the tax they paid in this country, may entice Sexton to stay. This incentive can be taken from a maximum of nine years of their highest earnings in Ireland.

If Sexton was to leave he would not receive the maximum amount back in tax and if he was to finish his career in France, he would forfeit any tax back from his playing career in Ireland.

The rumours of Sexton’s move were further fuelled by reports that Metro are willing to let Argentinian out-half Juan Martin Hernandez leave the club.

Racing Metro’s performances have been poor in France this season and they have also been dumped out of the Heineken Cup. The club is owned by Jacky Lorenzetti who is said to be worth €90 million.

Racing have just begun the development of a new stadium with a capacity of 30,000 in Paris. They have also hired Laurent Labit and Laurent Travers from Castres to coach the club next season. Metro’s player recruitment drive for next season has already begun with the signing Brian Mujati, Juandre Kruger, and Marc Andreu.

A move to France for Sexton would be a worry for Irish manager, Declan Kidney, as Sexton would feature in more games and increase his risk of injury. He would also no longer be protected by the IRFU’s player welfare programme.



Paul McGinley will have a tough act to follow after Europe’s dramatic victory in 2012.

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DIT knocked out of O'Byrne Cup, despite strong performances

Sean Flynn

DIT's Gaelic footballers can take a lot of positives from their O'Byrne cup campaign despite not qualifying for the semi-finals of the competition.

Game 1

They opened up their campaign against Wexford in Kilanerin on the 6th of January. They registered an impressive win after going into the dressing room at half-time down 1-7 to 0-5.

The college came out in the second half looking more comfortable with the ball and hit seven unanswered points in a second half comeback. DIT's excellent fitness level helped them close out the game and ensures a 1-15 to 1-11 victory.

DIT (vs Wexford) - Robert Lambert; Kevin O'Brien, Bryan Menton (0-1), Gary O'Hare; Alan Nestor (0-1), Nick Devereux, Ross Sheridan; Aidan O'Shea, Ross Hazley; John McGrath, Mark Collins (1-3), Ciaran Reddin (0-1); Harry Dawson, Jason Doherty (0-7), Paul Maguire. Subs: Bernard Allen (0-1) for Dawson, K O'Brien for McGrath, S O'Connor for Maguire, Conor Walsh (0-1) for Doherty, D Reilly for Reddin.

Game 2

Their second game of the O'Byrne Cup, the footballers played Kildare on a pitch covered with freezing fog on the 9th of January. In poor conditions, DIT put in a credible performance losing by 0-12 to 0-8 against a Kildare team which was not too far off their full championship team



DIT's footballers celebrating their earlier victory in the Ryan Cup, in a very successful season.

from last year. In the final 15 minutes of the game, a strong defensive performance from DIT held Kildare at bay, but they could not find a breakthrough of their own in attack to give them the win.

DIT (vs Kildare) : Robert Lambert; Kevin O'Brien, Bryan Menton, Gary O'Hare; Alan Nestor, Sean George, Ross Sheridan (0-1); Aidan O'Shea, Mark Collins (0-3) ; Johnny McGrath (0-1), Conor Walsh, Ciaran Reddin; Paul Maguire, Ross Hazley (0-1), Bernard Allen (0-2)

Subs: Darren Reilly, Harry Dawson, Shane O'Connor, Oisín McGinty

Game 3

DIT's final game was away against Carlow IT on the 13th of January. The college chalked up their second win in the competition with another impressive finish to the game. With 15 minutes left, DIT trailed by 1-9 to 0-11 and finished strong with four points to win on a score line of 0-15 to 1-10.

DIT (vs Carlow IT) Robert Lambert; Kevin O'Brien, Bryan Menton, Gary O'Hare; Shane O'Connor, Stephen Cooney, Ross Sheridan (0-2) ; Aidan O'Shea,

Ross Hazley (0-1) ; Johnny McGrath (0-2), Mark Collins, Ciaran Reddin (0-3), Conor Walsh, Jason Doherty (0-4), Oisín McGinty (0-1)

Subs: D Reilly for Walsh (43), E Murray for McGrath (64), C Gordon for McGinty

The footballers can take a lot from their three games as they defended and finished strong in the final quarter of all their games. They now start their preparation to make sure they can put in a big performance and get a win against NUIG in the first round of the Sigerson Cup.

Sports Bulletin

Noise complaints in Kevin Street gym

Kevin Street's strength and conditioning centre has been forced to relocate, after complaints from lecturers and students about the noise it was producing.

Complaints were made due to the impact that free-weights were having on the floor of the room, which were found to reverberate through the concrete building.

Niamh O'Callaghan, Sports Officer, has said: "the strength and conditioning room in that location was just not compatible with classrooms below and offices on either side, and people were right to complain. There will be a reconfiguration now."

The strength and conditioning area will now be moved to an area in the sports hall, which had been ear-marked for an additional changing room. Relocations may also be necessary for the cycling room and spin studio, in order to accommodate the extra changing room and the new free-weights area.

Inaugural 5k

The DIT Sport and Recreation Service, in partnership with CUSAI and the Irish Sports Council, has called on DIT students to participate in its Inaugural DIT 5km Walk/Run. Participants will be largely made up by students and staff of the college, but the wider community is also welcome in the run.

It will take place on Wednesday 6 March, between 12 noon and 3pm. In what the Fit2Go Club describes as their 'Couch to 5k' training programme, staff at the club are on hand to get "just about anyone off the couch and running 5km in eight weeks." Advice on what to wear, warming up, and nutrition, as well as a week-by-week training programme, will be provided by the Fit2Go staff, and via 'Couch to 5km' podcasts.

Hopefuls can register their interest by e-mailing Fit2Go staff members at fit2go@dit.ie, and for further information, and regular 'Couch to 5km' updates, can visit the website at www.fit2goclub.ie.

McGinley named Ryder Cup captain

Ireland's Paul McGinley has been named as Ryder Cup captain for 2014. The Dubliner is the first Irish captain in the history of the competition and he will lead Europe against the US at Gleneagles, in Scotland, next year.

The European tour committee decided to appoint McGinley in Dubai last Tuesday after some competition from 2010 Ryder Cup captain Colin Montgomerie.

McGinley had the backing of many players from the Ryder Cup team that performed in the 'Miracle at Medinah' in 2012. World number 1, Rory McIlroy, had tweeted his support for McGinley in the days leading up to the meeting of the tour committee.

McGinley has outlined how his background in GAA had helped him raise his game as a Ryder Cup player and he wants to transfer these traits into his time as captain of the Ryder Cup team. "I loved being part of a team, being in a dressing room, being one of the lads," said McGinley.

McGinley has been vice captain for Europe in the Ryder cup in 2010 and 2012. He also holed the winning putt in the 2002 Ryder Cup victory.

Brotherly love in Super Bowl

Paul O'Connor

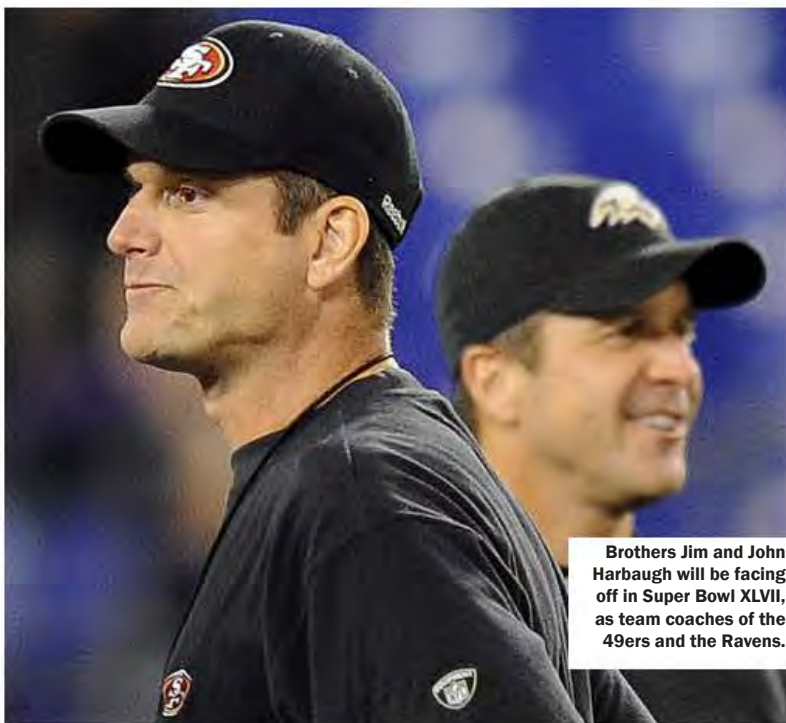
The San Francisco 49ers will join the Baltimore Ravens in Super Bowl 2013 on February 3 as they defeated the Atlanta Falcons and New England Patriots respectively, in last Sunday's semi-finals.

In the first tussle of the night The San Francisco 49ers edged out the Falcons by 28 points to 24 in the NFC Championship Game. However, it took some time for the west coast outfit to make their presence felt in the game as the Falcons raced into a 17 to zero lead after the first quarter.

Matt Ryan, quarterback for the Falcons, starred in that 15 minute period as he gained over a hundred yards for the Georgia football club. In fact, Ryan outscored his 49ers counterpart Colin Kaepernick in virtually every department, scoring three times the number of touchdown passes (3-1) and gaining 163 yards more than the former Nevada Wolf Pack star.

Alas, it was not enough for the Falcons, as the 49ers rallied with tight end Vernon Davis stepping up to the plate, as his excellent receiving notched up 106 yards and put up a touchdown on the scoreboard.

The game had a dramatic denouement as Matt Ryan's 1:13 minute fourth down pass in the 4th quarter was knocked down by 49ers line-backer NaVorro Bowman. It was a critical moment in the game as the 49ers effectively ran the clock down and



Brothers Jim and John Harbaugh will be facing off in Super Bowl XLVII, as team coaches of the 49ers and the Ravens.

gained enough yardage to render a fantastic last second punt from Ryan moot, as time ran out for the southern side.

It will be the 49ers first Super Bowl since

1995 when they defeated the San Diego Chargers in a 49-26 victory, becoming the first team to win five Super Bowls.

The other semi-final of the night was a

more prosaic affair, as the Baltimore Ravens ran out comfortable winners against the New England Patriots in a 28-13 point victory for the AFC Championship.

On this occasion the quarterback with the most touchdown passes prevailed, as Ravens thrower Joe Flacco outscored his Patriots counterpart Tom Brady by three touchdown passes to one. The final will mark the end of Baltimore line-backer Ray Lewis' career as an NFL star, as he retires from the game at the age of 37.

New Orleans will be the venue for this titanic match up as Baltimore will hope to emulate their last appearance in the Super Bowl; a 34-7 point win over the New York Giants in 2001.

The biggest NFL game of the season will also mark a family reunion for the 'American Antipodes', as East coast team coach John Harbaugh faces off against his West coast based brother Jim.

John was preparing his side for the New England Patriots match up as he watched younger brother Jim on the stadium's big video screen seal victory in the NFC Game.

"Hey, Jim, congratulations. You did it. You're a great coach. Love you." was the older brother's message into a nearby TV camera.

One wonders if such brotherly love will be reciprocated in two weeks' time for Super Bowl XLVII.



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Clancy, "warrior" windsurfer

Jarlath Moloney
Editor

Mikey Clancy, who has died aged 22, will be sorely missed in DIT where he was an elite athlete and heavily involved with the Surfing Club. The Dollymount native will be well remembered for his prolific career in windsurfing where he was world ranked in the Professional Windsurfers' Association (PWA).

The news of his death was especially tragic as he was just returning from injury that kept him from competing in most of 2011. In 2012 he attained a year best of 13th in Denmark last October at the Cold Hawaii Classic.

Called Mikey from an early age, to distinguish him from his father, Michael, the third year marketing student began windsurfing at 13. Initially he wasn't taken with the sport and got a letter from his father to get him out of the event at a kids' multi-activity camp in Malahide. However, after persevering for a year and growing in size and strength, Clancy found a new love.

By 2009 Clancy had turned professional but that December he suffered a cartilage destroying injury to his ankle. He then had to undergo painful ankle fusing surgery forcing him to relearn how to windsurf, after undergoing a year's rehab away from the sport. However, Clancy once again persevered was on course to be ranked in the top 10 in the world and said to The Edition in November that he was finally back to top form. His dedicated comeback in 2011 and 2012 saw him nominated in Outsider Magazine's Most Inspirational Person Category. Speaking to the Irish Daily Mirror, his father Michael said "He was really a warrior. He got to the very top of world windsurfing twice, once before the injury and once after the injury."

Clancy had a career marked with heights



Mike Clancy

that included 25th Overall PWA world ranking, Irish Junior Champion and Irish U19 Champion. He listed his favourite move as the Taka and his favourite board and sail combo as 75 Fanatic Quad and 4.2 North HERO.

Clancy was involved with the Surfing Club in DIT where his presence will be sorely missed. "He was very passionate about his sport and always had a smile on his face," DIT Sports Officer Niamh O'Callaghan said. "A pleasure to work

with and always grateful of the support he received."

Mikey is survived by his father Michael, mother Bernie and 18 month younger brother Sean. The Edition sends its condolences to all Mikey's friends and

families. If anyone requires help coping or simply wants to talk, DIT counselling service is available. Please contact the secretary Gabby Lynch on (01) 402 3352, text to 086 0820543 or email gabby.lynch@dit.ie to arrange an appointment.



DIT has high hopes for water polo inter-varsities

Al McConnell
Deputy Editor

DIT will be sending two teams to the 2013 inter-varsities water polo, in Magherafelt, County Derry, this weekend. Coach Darren Joyce has said that the women's team is very hopeful that

they can defend their title this year.

The college delegation will have ten participants on each team, with three Irish internationals in the women's group. Last year, when DIT's women lifted the inter-varsities trophy, there were five internationals in the squad, but Darren Joyce has said that the standard of the team remains

exceptionally high.

Hopes are also high in the men's draw. "We have one senior international on the team, and a couple of junior internationals. It's certainly a good team, we're very hopeful of going and doing well. There's every reason to be optimistic."

A high rate of turnover of players is al-

ways a problem in college sports, for no team more so, than water polo. In recent years, however, Darren has found that the Athlete Support Programme has been a huge help to the club.

"I think a lot of athletes didn't actually know that they would be able to avail of the programme," he says. "There are in-

ternational-standard athletes who weren't aware that they could get a scholarship for swimming and water polo, but now that it has become more widely known, DIT is able to attract a lot more of them. It certainly helps that we have a good team here as well."