

The Echo

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The Echo: Where it's 4th of July every week

Sporting thought for the week:

"In slow motion replay, the ball seemed to hang in the air for even longer." – David Achfield

Every Day Is A School Day For Sean

Hypnotizing Claretian Ronan Gaughan was this week reeling from the news that he has been banned from all forms of public transport in London, after his latest publicity stunt back-fired on him.

Last Friday, the Mayo native decided to hypnotise his fellow county man and St Clarets player, Sean McDonnell, while the young teacher was journeying to his job as a primary school teacher on the 140 bus.

The young Belmullet man was put into a 24-hour trance by Gaughan, and instead of getting off at his stop in Hayes Town at 8am on Friday morning, McDonnell didn't actually get off the bus until 8am on Saturday morning. He didn't realise that there was anything wrong until he approached the gates of Botwell Primary School, ready



to deliver an assembly, only to find them locked, with no one else at the property.

When Transport for London (TFL) discovered the trick that Gaughan had played

on his team mate, they immediately revoked his Oyster Card and warned all station managers and bus drivers not to allow Ronan on to any TFL transport systems.

Alas for Gaughan, McDonnell had the last laugh, when Ronan found himself marooned in East London on Sunday morning, after very kindly escorting a young female home from *The Swan* on Saturday night, only to find that he was unable to get back across London in time to play for St Clarets on Sunday morning in Hayes.

Commenting on the situation, senior team manager Pat McLoughlin simply said that he thought that Gaughan had had a superb game, which led some club insiders to think that maybe Gaughan had hypnotised the manager as well.

Crotchless Wonder

Claretian wonderkid Aidan Bradshaw this week launched his new range of underwear at an exclusive event on the party town of Ayia Napa.

The underwear has been branded BradSure2-2, and is believed to be a reference to the two-goals and two-points that Aidan claims to guarantee every game he plays.

Many fashion industry insiders believe that the Bradshaw's range, especially the limited edition Crotchless Claretians (pictured), could well spell the end of the market dominance that Cristiano Ronaldo has enjoyed with his exclusive CR7 range of underwear for the past 8 years.



Bradshaw's Crotchless Claretians



Ronaldo's briefs

Ryan Scrubs Up Well

Huge congratulations to Claretian Ryan O'Connell on his recent promotion at his place of work, for which he has been awarded stewardship of a new company vehicle.

His employers, Careys, are said to be delighted with the ambition and dedication that Ryan has displayed in his most recent role. Having proved his worth washing out wheelbarrows in the yard, he has now been promoted to looking after the vintage Transit van parked outside the company's headquarters (above, right)..

Sadly though for the senior team, the promotion has come at a price, and the extra stress placed on Ryan's shoulder,



washing and polishing the van, has caused the recurrence of an old cage-fighting injury that O'Connell received in his youth and has ruled him out of recent Clarets fixtures.



Cage fighter O'Connell