

The Claretian Echo

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St Clarets GFC: The "Fame Academy" of Gaelic football

Joylly Good Show Chaps

Buttoned Up

In movie news this week, it has been revealed that goal-keeping legend Paul Myers was the inspiration behind the Hollywood blockbuster *Benjamin Button*, the story of the man who was born old and grew younger.

The previously closely guarded secrets surrounding the origins of the story have finally been revealed in a new book by screen writer Eric Roth's assistant, who lifts the lid on the 2008 movie.

"I visited the museum in Croke Park during a trip to Dublin in 2005 and came across a picture of the London team that won the All Ireland Junior title in 1938 and saw a guy called Paul Myers in goals for the team.

"I researched it a little further and found that the same name appeared on St Clarets team list these days.

"Naturally I assumed it was a relation. You can imagine my surprise when I realised it was the same guy.

"The story is incredible and worth telling and when we told Brad Pitt about it, he said we simply had to make the movie.

"When Angelina first met Paul she thought he was so cute. She actually wanted to adopt him. Brad had a job to stop her. But you know Angelina, if it's something different, she wants it" the un-named assistant chuckled.

Myers, officially 38, but really 112, was unavailable for comment, as he was on a play-date with all of Brangelina's adopted kids, David Beckham's girl Harper Seven and Suri Cruise.

Claretian dance sensations Pat Queally and Michael Joyce were this week at the centre of a tug-of-war between Britain's top television bosses.

Producers at the BBC and ITV are both said to be desperate to secure the signatures of the west coast waltzers for their rival dance shows "Strictly Ballroom" and "Dancing on Ice".

The sequined swingers, dubbed "Fred and Ginger" by many of the red tops, have captured the hearts of the nation since they were first spotted by judge Len Goodman during an impromptu performance at a Soho dance club late last year.

Goodman filmed their three minute set on his iPhone and then posted it on YouTube, where it went viral within 24 hours, registering an unprecedented 164 million hits in less than 48 hours.

Meanwhile, *Dancing on Ice* star Christopher Dean has been speaking about the genuine pedigree of the double act, known to their fans as "Joylly".

"From an ice dance point of view, we can teach the guys to skate no problem, but what these two have between them we can't teach. They've got rhythm, magic and chemistry. Both Jane and I are speechless when we consider their potential."

One stumbling block in negotiations could be the fact that the couple are adamant that they must dance together, totally against the usual format of both shows.

Indeed, Queally took to Twitter this week to try to gather support and posted: "Fred and Ginger, we're like ice cream and jelly, always together #gojoylly."

Joyce meanwhile has recently started wearing one white glove



Torvill and Dean: blown away by pair's potential to succeed on ice.

and a surgical mask, in homage to his own dance hero Michael Jackson, and at a recent family gathering in Galway, he even attempted to dangle a neighbour's child out of the upstairs window of their house.

Elsewhere, in a desperate attempt to hold on to their place as Ireland's 47th most popular double act, Jedward have contacted ITV television bosses with a proposal that they would skate on their heads in order to secure a spot on the show.

Words Come Easy For Lynott

Patrick Lynott has had to move quickly to challenge critics of his recently published book of love poems *Why Seagulls Follow The Trawler*.

Despite its global success, purists have been eager to devalue this collection of sonnets and poems, claiming that they offer a very: "One-eyed view of love" and that they are: "The notions of a man who can dream only in red".

Lynott however has dismissed these utterances as "jealous nonsense", claiming that the critics fail to see the

"acute urban rawness of his work".

"Many of these critic types are no more than bitter and twisted failures" Lynott argued on the BBC's *Something For the Weekend* last Sunday.

"They ramble on about Shakespeare and Byron. That's just crazy talk. These guys are old school. They're not radical and hardcore like me.

"These men were considered great when the world was a barren wasteland. A bit like Liverpool is today."

Lynott's work has been blasted for its over glorification of all things

United, while some poems in this collection, such as: "Have You Patrice Evra Been In Love?", "Come What David May" "Jonny Evans Above" and "Always Look On The Norman Whiteside of Life" have been labelled "the one-dimensional ramblings of a love struck teen."

When questioned about Lynott's work, United manager Alex Ferguson is reported to have said: "Lynott is to poetry what Cantona was to football. An artist, an innovator", a response that drew sniggers from one journalist and earned him a lifetime ban from Old Trafford.