

Tobin will be primed for his first pro fight

THE next fight we will look at for Battle Zone on July 6 features the MMA Clinic's Sean Tobin against the teak tough and experienced Peter Doyle of Team Ryano in Dublin.

Tobin will be making his debut as a pro after running amok as an amateur featherweight, many of his former foes will breathe a sigh of relief knowing that Tobin has gone pro.

Doyle holds the Battle Zone bantamweight title and will be looking to become a two-weight champ as he moves up to featherweight to battle Tobin. Doyle is no stranger to featherweight mind you and is as tough as they come.

He holds a purple belt in BJJ, where he has been winning medals for fun of late, and has an impressive judo game as well.

This is no surprise as his coach is Andy Ryan, the only Irishman who holds a blackbelt in both disciplines. In Doyle's own words he is 'coming to spoil the party.'

Tobin will be coming into this fight in the best shape of his life. He will have just returned from a two-month training camp in Colorado with Ryan Schultz so his already talented wrestling game will be even sharper thanks to his time at Alliance, training at altitude will also help push his cardio to the next level.

Hailing from Limerick, Tobin will likely bring a huge following to Cork with him no to mention the support he will have from his Cork fans.

It truly will be like walking into the lion's den for Peter Doyle and this fight has all the ingredients for a fight of the night.

Next week we will preview another pro match-up between Yuri Malko of the MMA Clinic and Peter Queally of SBGi.

Cage Warriors returns to Dublin this weekend with a welterweight title clash between champion Cathal Pendred of SBGi and Che Mills the UFC veteran. Mills will be looking to make a statement in his first fight since leaving the UFC.



Seán Tobin of the MMA Clinic in Frankfield, who faces the teak tough and experienced Peter Doyle of Team Ryano in Dublin at Battle Zone on July 6.

MMA

By BEN VICKERS

Meanwhile, UFC 160 is now in the history books and it was a big card.

It wasn't the most entertaining of recent times, but there was some amazing fights and fighting techniques on display.

Nothing more amazing than a 6ft 4in heavyweight executing a spinning heel kick to perfection and in doing so knocking out one of the

most 'unknockoutable' men in the history of the UFC.

Junior Dos Santos was cruising to a victory over Mark Hunt, it wasn't his finest performance and the fear of Hunt's one punch KO power was evident, he could quite easily have kept out of harm's way and almost guaranteed a match with Cain Velasquez.

The fact he put himself in the danger zone with a minute to go in the fight was a testament to the character of Dos Santos.

After taking a horrendous beating

from Velasquez in his first title defence many fighters may have been tentative or gun shy, but not Dos Santos.

The big Brazilian stood in the face of danger and absorbed a couple of Hunt's best shots. A further couple, if they had connected may have decapitated him, let alone KO'd him, as they went whistling dangerously close to his chin.

As I said, he didn't look his sharpest but if he wasn't weary of Hunt's power then he would have been stupid as Hunt is truly one of

the hardest punchers in a game full of hard punchers.

With the KO added to his victory there could be no doubt that if Velasquez beat Silva in the main event they would get the rematch fight fans wanted.

Velasquez wasted no time in making the rematch possible, stopping Antonio Silva in half the time it took him the first time the pair met and that was ended in three minutes.

The stoppage may have been a bit early, but Velasquez had crumpled Silva with a huge straight right before closing in for the kill and the result was never really in doubt.

Velasquez dominated Dos Santos last time out and I would take home favourite in the rematch but Dos Santos is hard working and ever evolving, not to mention talented so cannot be ruled out.

He will be keen to show that he wasn't himself last time out and Velasquez will be keen to show that he was himself.

TJ Grant has announced himself as the number one contender in the lightweight division by turning Gray Maynard's lights out in the first round of their clash.

Maynard showed Grant no respect as he pushed forward throwing bombs, landing a couple, in the early stages.

Grant remained calm and was able to catch an advancing Maynard with a beauty of a straight right hand and then close in to finish the job with strikes on the ground.

No one has got rid of Maynard in such devastating fashion.

He is now the rightful challenger to Henderson's thrown and may just have the tools to take that belt.

Donald Cerrone welcomed another of Strikeforce's imports to the octagon and he left his manners in the changing room.

Cerrone absolutely schooled KJ Noons and bounced back superbly with a show of utter dominance which left Noons looking like he'd been through a blender.

So savage was the beating that Cerrone's elbow was left with a thick gash from pounding the skull of Noons.

Libertarian values must be stamped out in our lorries

WHILE the main thrust of our work here is to predict the outcome of sporting contests, when I get a spare moment, attempts are made to identify signs of the apocalypse.

As lauded as I am for sports soothsaying, my reputation, I believe, will be sealed when I correctly predict the end of the world as we know it. Then the garlands (albeit withered and radioactive ones) will be tossed towards my neck.

In a period of 18 hours on Tuesday, four trucks got stuck under bridges on Irish roads.

Now you may put this down to

coincidence, but if you do, good luck to you.

A lorry getting jammed under a bridge will not lead to the inevitable traffic chaos you might assume, because it is very easy to remove them (I'll give you until the end of the article to figure out why it is so simple), however the portents of such incidents are not good.

Is our God angry with us? Or just with truckers? Or even bridges?

Or was it a dry run for a concerted terrorist attack that will see every major overpass in the nation blocked by an articulated 18-wheeler?



Could the vehicles themselves be sabotaging their human masters?

Will demented ice-cream vans soon be hurtling through masses of innocent sweet-toothed children gathered expectantly on pavements?

Securicor vans ramming into ATMs.

School buses flattening lollipop ladies. Forklifts reversing without a beeping sound.

Will fire trucks eventually be the ones responsible for the fires?

If you are knocked down by a laundry van, will your mother pray that there was clean underwear on it?

And are disused mobile libraries behind the whole dastardly scheme?

Maybe we are overreacting but it might be wise to let nothing larger than a saloon out on the tarmac for a couple of days until things blow over.

If you were to accidentally get your HGV stuck under a bridge, it is essen-

tial that your reply to the first person who asks you if you are stuck is: "No, I stopped for a piss. I have to get this bridge delivered to Rosslare by 4pm."

And to remove your vehicle out from under a bridge/tunnel, let the air out of the tyres and simply drive out.

Recommendation: Whew. That's one of the strangest trucking articles you ever wrote, my boss said to me after reading the above (one word in that sentence has been altered).

"Just give them a longshot for the Derby," he screamed.

OK. Elaine Burke's Libertarian at 18/1 with William Hill.