


BETS ON THE BOX

with Paddy Burns




JAY-Z HAS MORE THAN 99 PROBLEMS

Ever since the infamous lift-gate incident at the Met Ball, Jay Z and Beyoncé's marriage has been hit by one revelation after another. It looks like the once seemingly perfect marriage is not quite so perfect after all.

Rumours have been spreading like wildfire that Jay Z has been playing away from home, with whispers his protégées Rita Ora and Rihanna are on his list of conquests. With the infidelity rumours looking like they are going nowhere, odds of the couple heading to splitsville this year or next have shortened from 9/2 to 4/1.

We make it 16/1 that the rapper will come clean and admit on Oprah he's been cheating on Queen Bey.

WILL NADIA BE RORY'S NEXT BIRDIE?

While Rory McIlroy is keen to get his hands on another major this weekend, the question on everyone's lips is which young female will be the first to get their hands on the fuzzy haired Irishman. McIlroy has become one of the most sought after bachelors after his sudden split from fiancée Caroline Wozniacki last month.



The favourite for the role seems to be our very own Nadia Forde despite the model denying rumours linking her with the two time major winner. We've moved her odds from 6/1 to 4/1 following a rumour that the pair had been spotted out together.

The odds suggest Rory will stick with an Irish lass as Ms Ireland Aoife Walsh is also a front runner at 10/1.

SUPERBOWL TO DROP NUMERALS



With the Super Bowl dropping roman numerals for its 50th instalment, which institution or person will be next to simplify things for those of us who are in the 21st century and just don't understand the ancient form of bean counting?

Therefore we make another American institution Wrestlemania favourite to be the next to drop Xs and Vs at 1/3 followed by the Star Wars franchise which is at 8/1 to go to traditional numbering.

The Rocky franchise and the Pope are amongst the outsiders to ditch fancy figures at unlikely odds of 25/1 while it's an even less likely 100/1 for the next World War to be known as World War 3.

PADDYPOWER.

EXCLUSIVE EXPERTS

BITE CLUB

BY GERALDINE COMISKEY

IT'S THE World Cup of wags – tail-wags, that is.

These dogs could teach the footballers and their wives a few tricks when it comes to the beautiful game of being man's best friend.

The cute pooches were taking part in a boot camp for pets at a the DSPCA dogs and cats home.

The five-week course kicked off this week with a talk for the owners, followed by a session with a team of expert animal trainers.

It was back-to-school time for playful pups, incorrigible curs and a few misbehaving adult dogs as they learned to ditch bad habits.

And it's never too late to teach an old dog new tricks, says former police-dog trainer Alex Petrilli, boss of King of Paws Dog-Training Academy.

"Your dog is telling you things all the time, and you need to observe him to see what he's saying," Alex explained.

As Alex and his team of seven trainers, including Head Trainer Susan O'Neill, put nine dogs and their owners through their paces, it was clear that doggie problems come in all shapes and sizes – just like the pooches themselves.

Strong

Chasing joggers, cyclists and cars is all part of the fun of being a dog, but Cinders, an Alsatian cross, goes a bit overboard, said her owners, Tom and Breda McKenna.

"She pulls on the lead – she's a strong dog and she does it suddenly," Tom said. She also growled at our photographer. "She hates the flash," Tom explained.

"We found her wandering around Cork during the storms. We tried to find her owner, but no-one came forward. Now she's our baby."

Susan put a harness on Cinders "for extra power-steering". She also recommended changing her muzzle (which must be legally worn) for an open-weave one.

Tom said he'd try it, but pointed out: "She looks more intimidating with the basket-style muzzle. She's a gentle dog, but people are scared of her."

Next up was a little fluffball that terrifies other dogs. Taylor, a border terrier, barks and growls every time she comes close to another dog.

But his owner Grace Maher (25), from Rathfarnham, said her bark is worse than her bite. "She makes a lot of noise and it's embarrassing when you take her for a walk."

Misbehaving mutts are put through their paces in this unique boot camp for all pesky pups



PUPPY POWER: Dog trainer Alex, works with

Alex said Taylor was just suffering from "anxiety". He put a windcheater up to block Taylor's view of the other dogs, and she instantly relaxed.

"That's because there is a visual barrier. She can hear the other dogs and smell them, but her eyes are telling her that she's safe."

The minute the windcheater was taken away, she squealed in terror, then growled, her fur standing on end. He gave Grace a few tips on how to reassure Taylor whenever another dog came near. While it's tempting to scold her, the best tactic is to make her feel safe, he explained.

Alto, a mongrel terrier, greeted me by jumping up on me. "She does that all the time and she pulls on the lead," said owner Amanda Gibney from Churchtown.

But Reuben, a three-year-old collie-spaniel cross, clung nervously to his owner for most of the session.

Owner Cleo Ennis from Tallaght explained: "He was a rescue dog. My sister got him when he was a

puppy from a family who were kicking and beating him. They were always drunk. That's why he's afraid of people with drink on them – and he is terrified of most men."

Reuben warily approached me for a pet, but covered behind Cleo the moment our (male) photographer and Alex approached.

Ruffie

"You see, I won't put my hand near him. I'll let him come to me," Alex said. The dog cautiously approached him and even allowed him to ruffle his head – then suddenly jumped up on his owner.

"He's doing that because he wants reassurance," Alex said.

Reuben lives with his best doggie friend, Penny, an Irish Doodle (cross between a red setter and a poodle) owned by Cleo's fiancé Richie Norris.

But Penny has problems of her own, said Richie. "When we're out on the lead, she'll yank. It's very annoying. She'd pull the arm off you. I've had her two years."



TRAINING: Niamh with her beagle Roscoe