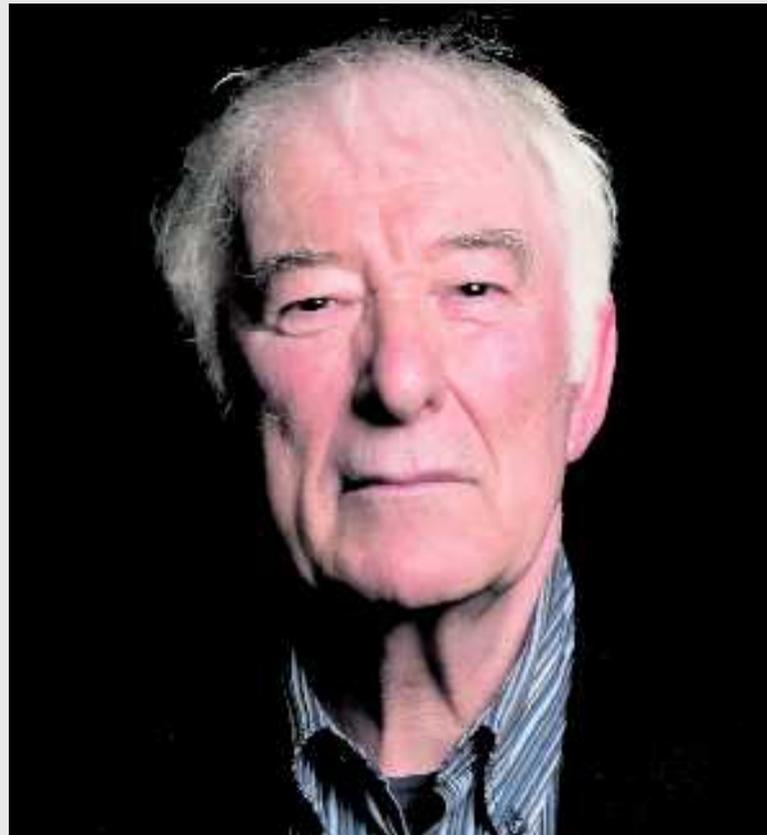


"There is no greater wisdom than human kindness"
— Tony Humphreys

SEAMUS HEANEY

Vital cultural ambassador and good choice for President



AN Irish cultural icon and Nobel prize-winning poet who showed great fortitude in surviving the slings and arrows of Mr Dunphy. At a time when Ireland's cultural brand and world profile is of such critical importance, he is a vital arts ambassador for the State. Modest about his abilities, his successes have created a new Irish literary tradition. There is much interesting talk now of Seamus running for the Presidency. A good choice.



LEO VARADKAR

Arrogant, but in a good way. Not afraid to wield the big stick

WERE he leader of Fine Gael, Leo would be number one on my list – but he isn't, so he isn't. He is, however, one of the few politicians in the Dail who carries a big stick and is not afraid to use it. Arrogant, but in a good way, and after an age of political cute hoors and Uriah Heeps maybe we need that.

EMILY O'REILLY

Ombudsman who would be wasted in the Park – we need her in the Cabinet



ONE tough lady. Not afraid of Haughey and the Catholic right in the Eighties, and definitely not afraid of Harney and the HSE today. Would be wasted in the Park. Ireland instead needs an earth mother in the Dail, sorry Emily, we meant of course the Cabinet.



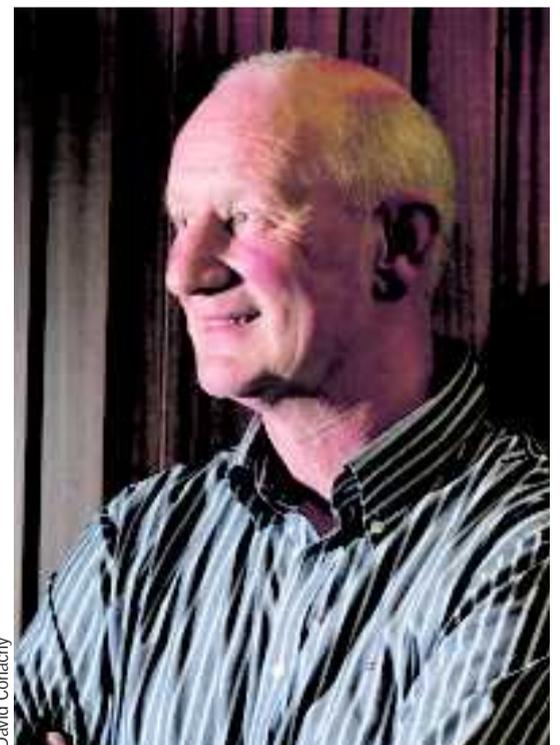
EAMON RYAN

Tougher than he looks, and capable of inspiring hope in the people

POSSESSES the rare quality of being able to inspire hope in the people. That may be a source of scorn to some, but surely we are not so fallen into the trough of the culture of Cowenism that even optimism is illegal now. Like the Green Party he represents, Ryan is far tougher than some of the more facile analysis suggests.

BRIAN CODY

The 'Irish Shankly' can teach us about how to achieve and deal with success



IN a country that may have to embrace more of the Victorian ethos of thrift and graft than it might necessarily like, the Irish Shankly is one of our more fascinating figures, precisely because we know so little of him. His real achievement outside of providing delight and pleasure is his status as a living example of the virtues of community spirit, and of how egotism should not be the lodestar for every activity or for success in sport. A quiet man who has a lot to teach us.