



ngate with the first ticket bought for the December. Julie bought her ticket at in on Friday morning after queuing from 5pm t, the queue for tickets on O'Connell Street. pointed as the tickets sold out in 8 minutes.

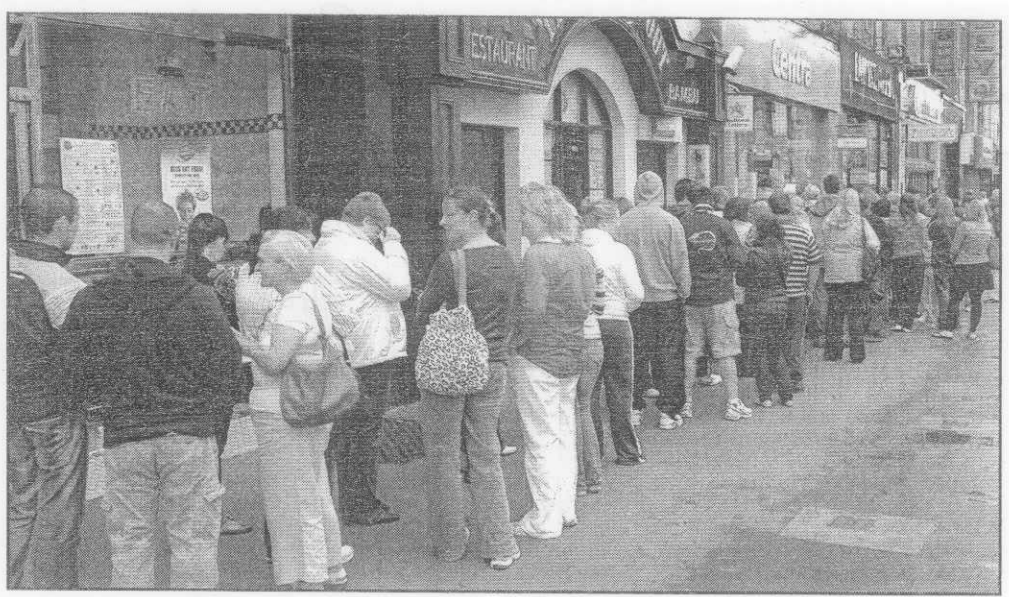
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very quickly.

There was huge demand, and the tickets were distributed through her fan club, through O2; some were sold through American Express and the rest went on general sale, but were picked up very quickly. We've never seen anything like it."

Cyrus' concerts at the 8,000



seat O2 will be her first performances in Ireland. She is best known for her hugely popular Disney TV series 'Hannah Montana', in which she plays an ordinary girl who has a secret identity as a pop superstar.

She has released two solo albums, both of which debuted at number one on the US Billboard 200 chart, and was nominated for a Golden Globe award this year for best original song for 'I Thought I Lost You' from the animated

Disney film 'Bolt'. Aiken Promotions said that there was unlikely to be a silver lining for the thousands of disappointed Miley Cyrus fans who missed out on tickets, as they had received no word of additional dates in Dublin.

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Investigation

Sean bids for Atlantic crossing glory

Nick Rabbitts

A FORMER Dell worker is hoping to realise a personal goal this winter when he attempts to row single handedly across the Atlantic ocean.

Sean McGowan, from Thomondgate, hopes to become the first Irish man to successfully row solo across the Atlantic when he takes to the waves on December 6.

The epic journey will take up to 100 days, and last over 2,500 nautical miles - and Sean hopes to raise €100,000 for the Soweto Connection - a

charity set up in Limerick to support African communities ravaged by aids.

Sean - who left Dell in Raheen last month - said: "It has always been my personal goal to take on this cross Atlantic challenge and a number of months ago I decided tat now was the right time for me.

"I have just completed an MBA and always targeted the completion of that programme as when I would dedicate more time to rowing.

"After many months of consultation with my wife and children we decided to go for this event in 2009.

It is a huge commitment from my family as much as myself but it would not be possible without their support."

In preparation for his voyage, Sean has taken on a strict nutrition regime and has ben travelling to Arklow on a regular basis for open water training.

"One of the toughest things to prepare for is the mental aspect of the event which will mean 24 hours a day in just my own company," he stated.

In a unique twist, schoolchildren all over the country will, through a satellite link, be able to send support to Sean as

he rows.

The initiative, code-named 'Shout out to Sean' is open to all schools and youth groups. And everyone can follow Sean's progress, and read his blog on the atlantic09.com web site.

For more information, or to sponsor Sean, email him at sean@atlantic09.com

Former Dell staff member Sean McGowan, from Thomondgate, at the launch of the first Irish Solo effort to row across the Atlantic.

PICTURE: SEAN CURTIN/PRESS 22.



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