



**Press Release**

**12<sup>th</sup> May 2009**

## **Bord Gáis Energy Capture the Power Schools Photography Competition Awards**

Croke Park was alive with energy as the winners of the Bord Gáis Energy Capture the Power schools' photography competition celebrated on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May. The thirteen winners from schools throughout Ireland were joined by their teachers and school friends to take part in a full day of interactive fun and energy education, including the science behind how to 'bend it like Beckham'.

Cork football star Graham Canty joined the winners, along with their teachers, parents and class mates as they enjoyed an action-packed day experiencing five energy zones including bungee runs, radar goals and making smoothies by pedaling a bike.

The awards ceremony hosted by Rob Ross presenter of Ice on Den TV, awarded overall winner James Fleming, age 17 from Dublin his prize of being a VIP photographer at a major Irish sporting event along with other amazing prizes to help kick start his photography career including a Canon EOS 450D Digital SLR Camera, a Nintendo Wii console and Wii Fit. The remaining winners, ranging from age 7-17 also received their prizes for their winning entries.

Bord Gáis Chief Executive John Mullins commented: *"I wish to congratulate all the winners and entrants who took part in the competition. There were some amazing entries. Energy is key to future generations and Bord Gáis Energy is delighted to be supporting this unique competition which encourages young students to use the passion they have for the environment and energy and bring it to life with photography."*

The Bord Gáis Energy Capture the Power competition was open to students of all ages across Irish primary and secondary schools. It encouraged talented young photographers to capture unique moments and attracted some of the brightest young stars in photography from all over the country. Entries were invited under three energy themed captions;

1. Capture the Power in your Environment
2. Capture the Power in the World Around You
3. Capture the Power in Sport

Leading press photographer and judge of the Bord Gáis Energy Capture the Power schools photography competition Mark Steadman said, "*There is some fantastic talent out there which made it very difficult to reach a decision on the winner. However the winning picture managed to capture all the three themes in one frame, showing the Power of The Environment with the dark clouds and the soil coming up from the earth, the Power of Sport with the rider on a powerful motorbike taking part in a motor cross race and The Power in the World Around You, once again showing the power of the driver, clouds and machine.*"

The competition was judged by an expert panel which included professional and experienced photographers. To see winning entries please log onto the website [www.capturethepower.ie](http://www.capturethepower.ie)

**Ends**

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