

Irish woman on soccer Goal of the Year list

3rd December, 2014



An Irish woman could win the prize for soccer's world goal of the year competition. The woman is Stephanie Roche, 26, who plays international

football for Ireland. She is on a new list of just three people for the FIFA Goal of the Year award. The other two goal scorers are Holland's Robin van Persie and Colombia's James Rodriguez. The list originally had ten players, including Zlatan Ibrahimovic and Diego Costa. After Ms Roche heard the news that she was on the shortlist, she told reporters: "It's been a crazy day." Roche scored her goal for her former team Peamount United on October 20, 2013. It is now an Internet sensation, with over 2.5 million views.

Ms Roche thanked everyone for voting for her and urged people to keep voting. She said she was proud to be the first woman on FIFA's shortlist, saying: "I'm the first woman to do it. Obviously, that is a great achievement and something I'm delighted to say I have done." She explained how she heard the news she had made the top three. She said: "I went down to the club house. French TV came down to watch me watching the results, as it was live on YouTube. I was the first name called out, I was just so happy to be in there. To be in the top three is brilliant." Roche's goal has already changed her career and her life. She now plays professionally in France for the club ASPTT Albi.

Sources: *Independent.ie* / *Belfast Telegraph* / *RadioTimes*

Writing

Female soccer players should get the same salaries as men. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

prize / competition / list / originally / a crazy day / former team / Internet sensation / voting / proud / achievement / delighted / results / brilliant / career / professionally

True / False

- The woman who could win the award is just 19 years old. T / F
- There are two other people who could also win the award. T / F
- One of the players who could win is from Colombia. T / F
- More than two-and-a-half million people have watched Roche's goal. T / F
- Ms Roche said it was OK for people to stop voting for her now. T / F
- Ms Roche is the second woman to be on FIFA's Goal of the Year list. T / F
- French TV watched Ms Roche looking at the results in her house. T / F
- Ms Roche now plays football in the Women's Soccer League in the USA. T / F

Synonym Match

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. prize | a. encouraged |
| 2. just | b. mad |
| 3. originally | c. ex- |
| 4. crazy | d. clearly |
| 5. former | e. at first |
| 6. urged | f. excellent |
| 7. proud | g. award |
| 8. obviously | h. team |
| 9. brilliant | i. pleased |
| 10. club | j. only |

Discussion – Student A

- Why are there almost no women coaching men's teams?
- What was the last thing you did that you were proud of?
- Which is more exciting and why, women's or men's football?
- How might winning the award change Roche's life?
- When do you think a woman will play in a top men's team?
- What do you need to be really good at football?
- What has been the biggest life-changing event in your life?
- What questions would you like to ask Stephanie Roche?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| 1. soccer's world goal | a. for voting for her |
| 2. She is on a new list of | b. team |
| 3. The list originally | c. called out |
| 4. Roche scored her goal for her former | d. over 2.5 million views |
| 5. It is now an Internet sensation, with | e. achievement |
| 6. Roche thanked everyone | f. just three people |
| 7. that is a great | g. changed her career |
| 8. French TV came down to watch me | h. of the year competition |
| 9. I was the first name | i. watching the results |
| 10. Roche's goal has already | j. had ten players |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- Who do you want to win the award?
- How important is it for women's football for Roche to win?
- What's the best goal you've ever scored or seen?
- Which word is better, football or soccer?
- Why is football (soccer) the most popular sport in the world?
- When was the last time you had a crazy day?
- What do you think of Roche's goal?

Spelling

- soccer's world goal of the year eipittnomco
- FIFA Goal of the Year wdraa
- The list airlynlogi had ten players
- news that she was on the lohsttris
- an Internet ssnaoeitn
- over 2.5 million wsevi
- Roche thanked everyone for otivgn for her
- she was ouprd to be the first women
- that is a great acetemvenih
- watching the tlrseus
- To be in the top three is railitnb
- changed her aecerr and her life

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. j	3. e	4. b	5. c
6. a	7. i	8. d	9. f	10. h

Role Play

Role A – Nobel Prize

You think a Nobel Prize is the best award to win. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Chef of the Year, an Academy Award (Oscar) or a Best Business Award.

Role B – Chef of the Year

You think Chef of the Year is the best award to win. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Nobel Prize, an Academy Award (Oscar) or a Best Business Award.

Role C – Academy Award (Oscar)

You think an Academy Award (Oscar) is the best award to win. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Chef of the Year, Nobel Prize or a Best Business Award.

Role D – Best Business Award

You think a Best Business Award is the best award to win. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why their things aren't so good. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Chef of the Year, an Academy Award (Oscar) or Nobel Prize.

Speaking – Awards

Rank these with your partner. Put the best at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| • Nobel Prize | • MTV Music Award |
| • Miss World | • FIFA Goal of the Year |
| • Chef of the Year | • Best Business Award |
| • Academy Award | • Environment Award |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	T	d	T	e	T	f	F	g	F	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.