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Limerick Leader

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1978.

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Charlie Mulqueen previews Tuesday's visit of the 9th All Blacks to Thomond Park

SPORTING VIEW

A great occasion in the making

THE sporting programme in the south over the next few days has a "down day" appearance to it with All Ireland football champions, Kerry, playing the Australians at Gaelic football in Cork on Sunday and Munster meeting the New Zealand All Blacks at Thomond Park on Tuesday.

While we are always interested in the fortunes of our near-neighbours in Kerry, Limerick will turn its attention almost exclusively to the big rugby match at Thomond Park. Every step has been taken by the organising North Munster Sub-Committee to ensure that everything goes smoothly on Tuesday. It's an all-ticket affair, and that should speed things up at the turnstiles, even though the very late summer could still be a trouble. Thomond Park, of course, has an attraction all of its own on such occasions. Its capacity, perhaps, is a little on the small side to take the crowds who would want to see the All Blacks, but its intimacy is what makes it so perfect. The New Zealanders might not appreciate the presence of thousands of wildly enthusiastic Munster followers within a matter of a few yards, but the home side won't mind at all. Munster crowds have lifted their teams in the past and they might well do so again on Tuesday.

And it could be imperative for Munster to get a good result this time. As tours become shorter and shorter in duration, the pressure to get on the "road" is greater than ever. It behooves Munster to prove that they remain one of the teams best equipped to push an overseas side to the very limit.

We all hope for a Munster win, but not at the cost of the high reputation the game here enjoys world-wide. Under Tom Kiernan's coaching, we know Munster will play it hard and fair on the field; and we believe equally that the Limerick crowd, while cheering on their own side with total fervour, will at all times observe the rules of fair play.

We welcome the 9th All Blacks. Roll on Tuesday!

RUGBY FIXTURES

Saturday:
Senior friendly—Shannon v. Terenure, venue to be arranged, 3 p.m., A. O'Sullivan.
Gleeson Cup—Thomond v. Garryowen, Shelbourne Park, 3 p.m.
Bohemians v. Shannon, Annacotty, 3 p.m.; Old Crescent v. St. Mary's, Kesh, 3 p.m.; Newmarket West v. Richmond, Newcastle West, 3 p.m.
3rds friendly—Clanwilliam v. Ennis, Clonwilliam, 3 p.m.; Tralee v. Nenagh, Tralee, 3 p.m.
Under 20 friendly—Waterpark v. Bohemians, Waterford, 3 p.m.

Sunday:
Senior friendly—Garryowen v. Galwegians, Dooradoyle, 3 p.m.; O'Kane v. Bohemians v. Corinthians, Annacotty, 3 p.m.; J. Cole v. Young Munster v. Marist St. Pats (New Zealand), Greenfields, 3 p.m.; G. Joyce, Clanwilliam v. Cork Con., Tipperary, 3 p.m.; M. Reddan.
North Munster 2nds League—Nenagh v. Bohemians, Nenagh, 3 p.m.; Quinlan, Galbally v. Finns, Galbally, 3 p.m.; D. McGrath, Richmond v. Presentation, Singland Park, 3 p.m.; M. Walsh.
Transfield League—Garryowen v. Abbeyfeale, Castleknock, 3 p.m.; S. Kearns, St. Mary's, Shannon, to be arranged, 3 p.m.; J. Allen; Thomond v. Old Crescent, Shelbourne Park, 3 p.m.; F. Malone.
Junior friendly—St. Senan's v. Newport, Shannon, 3 p.m.; P. Slattery, Bruff v. Thomond, Bruff, 3 p.m.; P. Flynn; Thurles v. North Kildare, Thurles, 3 p.m.; J. Shoer.
Under 20 friendly—Garryowen v. Galwegians, to be arranged.

Monday:
Gleeson Cup—Young Munster v. Bruff, Greenfields, 3 p.m.
Under 18 League—Young Munster v. Thomond, Greenfields, 1.15 p.m.; L. Molony.
Junior friendly—Young Munster v. Suttonians, Greenfields, 3 p.m.; N. Moore.
Dyer Cup—S.P.S. v. Boart, Richmond Park, 3 p.m.

Tuesday:
Munster v. New Zealand, Thomond Park, 3 p.m. Referee, C. Thomas (Wales). Touch judges, M. Walsh and J. Cole, M.R.A.



The 1974 All Blacks begin their time-honoured Maori War Dance at Thomond Park. This is just one of the attractions in store for spectators at next Tuesday's game.

Can Munster do it? Lots of hope, not so much confidence

unbeaten record to Thomond Park.

MUNSTER'S rugby authorities have a regal reception ready for the All Blacks from the time they arrive in the province on Sunday until they depart for Dublin on Wednesday. Medieval banquets and reception after reception will be laid on . . . rhygymen renowned for their sense of duty and dedication will outdo one another to ensure that Russ Thomas and his party enjoy themselves enormously in Limerick.

But Tom Kiernan and his Munster players are also planning a reception of a very different kind for 11 hours on Tuesday afternoon next. They intend to make those ninety minutes among the most uncomfortable the New Zealanders will endure on their 18-match tour of Britain and Ireland.

Coach Kiernan, captain Donal Caniffe and all the players are only too well aware that their stock is at a very low ebb. The thrashing at the hands of Middlesex and the below-par performance against the Wolfhounds and the Exiles XV, as well as in the Munster trial, are still very fresh in the memory.

TYPICAL

They can only be erased by a typical Munster performance, the kind that has made the game here one to be respected wherever rugby is played. The All Blacks themselves know only too well what to expect. Apart from the first meeting of the sides back in 1905, when they won 33-0 at the Markets Field, the New Zealanders have never had it very easy in Munster.

In 1954, at the Mardyke, a last minute try by Tanner saw them through by 6-3. That was the margin in '63 as well when the little Maori Mack Herevini defied the best that the brilliant Micky English could throw — or rather kick — at him in the December mud and rain.

In January '74, a last minute penalty by Trevor Morris gave the New Zealanders a 3-3 draw at Musgrave Park. But twenty months later, it must be agreed that they were clear-cut 14-4 winners at Thomond Park in the Centenary Year fixture.

It was a good match, though, best remembered for a thrilling right wing run for a try by Bryan Williams, and the brilliance of the great Maori scrum-half, Syd Going. Terry McLean, the New Zealand journalist, who will be here yet again for Tuesday's game, recalled the reception Going received as he left the field injured shortly before the finish . . . "the tribute of the Limerick crowd as he was helped, limping, from the field, was the warmest and sincerest I have ever heard paid to an injured player. Never was there such a salute to a great foe. The tribute to 'Super-Sid' was genuinely moving and affecting".

So even if their men failed on the field of play that chilly, sunny afternoon, at least the Munster followers behaved as only they can . . . fully committed to their own side but only too conscious of the merits of the opposition and ready to applaud them. May it be the same on Tuesday and let's have none of the obnoxious boing that has crept into too many grounds in recent years.

FIFTH

The All Blacks will be playing the fifth match of their tour on Tuesday. Have Munster any chance of stopping them? On the evidence of what has happened so far, it hardly looks like it. As Munster stumbled from one poor display to the next, the All Blacks shrugged off an understandably sluggish opening performance against Cambridge University (which they nevertheless won 32-12) to hammer the powerful Welsh side, Cardiff, more decisively than the 17-7 margin would suggest.

They also disposed of West Wales, another really tough one, in mid-week, and their next encounter is on Saturday against the London Counties. To be sure, that's another tough nut, but the odds are on the tourists bringing an

We won't, of course, know the composition of their side until Sunday at the earliest. And they may well be tempted to field something of a "2nd" team in view of the first international against Ireland the following Saturday. In that event, Munster's prospects would be much improved.

But let nobody be fooled. Munster haven't a ghost of a chance against a country of New Zealand's rugby prowess unless they show at least 100 per cent improvement on their displays to date this year. The selectors' reluctance to 'take up this perhaps too-complacent side may be seen as



BRENDAN FOLEY . . . in the second-row for Munster.

wise if there is a favourable result — but they will be under fire for ignoring the many evident lessons of earlier outings should heavy defeat be Munster's lot.

HOPE

Frankly, I am imbued with hope but little confidence. True, Munster have some fine players . . . Larry Molony, Seamus Dennison and Donal Caniffe have their critics, but they are men for the big occasion. The tougher the task, the better 'Tom' Ward likes it and he has been looking forward to Tuesday for a long time. His goal kicking could keep Munster in it all the way — if he gets the chances.

Moss Keane hasn't always been inspired by pulling on a Munster jersey, as so many others are. But there is great potential inside that huge Kerry frame. Moss must surely want to prove a thing or two to New Zealanders. Tuesday and Saturday week provide the perfect platforms.

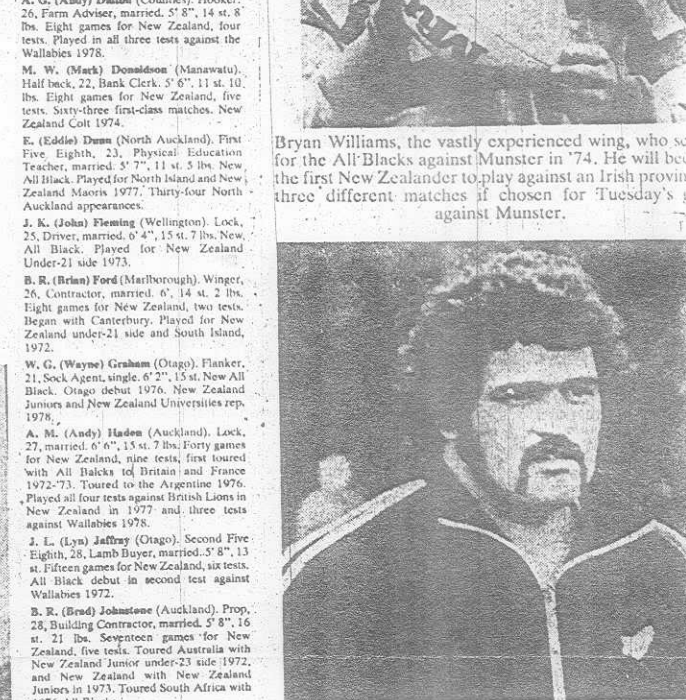
The front-row will be under severe pressure. Don't mind all the talk about weak New Zealand scrumming. Gerry McLoughlin, Pat Whelan and Les White will know they've been in a match at 4.30 or so on Tuesday. But with the right kind of support from Keane and Brendan Foley, and the men behind them, they can do a good job.

Donal Spring and Colm Tucker are on the threshold of great things and they can help their cause immeasurably on Tuesday. One thing is certain; the whole Munster eight faces a huge task and if they are to warrant the traditional wholehearted support of the Thomond Park crowd, then they will have to give their all for the entire 80 minutes.

As I have said, the composition of the All Blacks team will not be known until Sunday at the earliest. They are unlikely to treat Munster lightly and on all the evidence one can only hope for a good performance from the home side. They have a great motivator in Tom Kiernan and Munster have usually been able to lift their standards against touring teams. Let's hope they can do the same on Tuesday next.

PEN PICTURES

- #### ALL BLACKS - 1978
- E. G. (Barry) Ashworth (Auckland), Flanker, 28, self-employed, sheetmetal worker, married, 6' 11", 14 st. 8 lbs. Two tests. Regular member of Auckland team since 1974.
 - J. C. (John) Ashworth (Canterbury), Loosehead Prop, 27, farmer, single, 6' 2", 16 st. 10 lbs. Seven matches for New Zealand, including three tests. Canterbury debut 1972, New Zealand trialist 1975. South Island rep. 1977.
 - J. E. (John) Black (Canterbury), Hooker, 27, motor works assistant manager, married, 6' 1", 14 st. 8 lbs. Eight games for New Zealand, one test. New Zealand Colts 1972. Canterbury debut 1973.
 - O. D. (Doag) Bruce (Canterbury), First Five Eighth, 30, Primary School Teacher, married, 5' 8", 11 st. 8 lbs. Thirty-two games for New Zealand, ten tests. Began rep. career with Mid-Canterbury and mainly of Canterbury sides since 1970.
 - W. Kiang Tu Te Poku (Billy) Bush (Canterbury), Prop, 29, Welder and Freezing Worker, single, 6' 16 st. 2 lbs. Twenty-eight games for New Zealand, nine tests. More than sixty games since Canterbury debut in 1971.
 - C. J. (Chris) Carrie (Canterbury), Fullback, 22, Student Teacher, single, 6' 13 st. 7 lbs. New All Black. Played four years senior football in Wellington, making rep. team in three of them before moving to Christchurch this year.
 - A. G. (Andy) Dalton (Counties), Hooker, 26, Farm Adviser, married, 5' 8", 14 st. 8 lbs. Eight games for New Zealand, four tests. Played in all three tests against the Wallabies 1978.
 - M. W. (Mark) Donaldson (Manawatu), Halfback, 22, Bank Clerk, 5' 6", 11 st. 10 lbs. Eight games for New Zealand, five tests. Sixty-three first-class matches. New Zealand Colt 1974.
 - K. (Eddie) Dunn (North Auckland), First Five Eighth, 23, Physical Education Teacher, married, 5' 7", 11 st. 5 lbs. New All Black. Played for North Island and New Zealand Maori 1977. Thirty-four North Auckland appearances.
 - J. K. (John) Fleming (Wellington), Lock, 25, Driver, married, 6' 4", 15 st. 7 lbs. New All Black. Played for New Zealand Under-21 side 1973.
 - B. R. (Brian) Ford (Marlborough), Winger, 28, Contractor, married, 6' 14 st. 2 lbs. Eight games for New Zealand, two tests. Began with Canterbury. Played for New Zealand Under-21 side and South Island, 1972.
 - W. G. (Wayne) Graham (Otago), Flanker, 21, Sock Agent, single, 6' 2", 15 st. New All Black. Otago debut 1976. New Zealand Juniors and New Zealand Universities rep. 1978.
 - A. M. (Andy) Haden (Auckland), Lock, 27, married, 6' 4", 15 st. 7 lbs. Forty games for New Zealand, nine tests; first toured with All Blacks to Britain and France 1972-73. Toured to the Argentine 1976. Played all four tests against British Lions in New Zealand in 1977 and three tests against Wallabies 1978.
 - J. L. (Lyn) Jeffrey (Otago), Second Five Eighth, 28, Lamb Buyer, married, 5' 8", 13 st. Fifteen games for New Zealand, six tests. All Black debut in second test against Wallabies 1972.
 - B. R. (Brad) Johnstone (Auckland), Prop, 28, Building Contractor, married, 5' 8", 16 st. 21 lbs. Seventeen games for New Zealand, five tests. Toured Australia with New Zealand Junior under-23 side 1972, and New Zealand with New Zealand Juniors in 1973. Toured South Africa with 1976 All Blacks.
 - G. A. (Garry) Knight (Manawatu), Prop, 26, Seaman, 6' 2", 17 st. 3 lbs. Eight games for New Zealand, five tests. Powerful player who started first-class career with Horowhenua. Won bronze medal wrestling 1974 Commonwealth Games.
 - R. (Robert) Kurrusangi (Counties), Winger, 21, Mechanic in New Zealand Army, single, 5' 8", 13 st. New All Black. Strong and elusive winger, who toured Australia with New Zealand Juniors 1978.
 - J. A. (John) Lareedy (Manawatu), Lock, 29, Carpenter, 6' 3", 17 st. 13 lbs. New All Black. Played first game for Manawatu 1969. Has played 60 games for Manawatu.
 - D. S. (David) Lovelidge (Taranaki), Halfback, 26, Pig Farmer, married, 5' 7", 14 st. 8 lbs. New All Black. New Zealand Juniors International tour 1975.
 - F. J. (Frank) Oliver (Otago), Lock, 29, Forestry Contractor, married, 6' 2", 16 st. Twenty-five games for New Zealand, ten tests. Toured South Africa 1976, making test debut. Played all four tests against British Lions 1977.
 - W. M. (Bill) Osborne (Wanganui), Second Five Eighth, 23, Stock and Station Agent, single, 5' 7", 13 st. 2 lbs. Twenty-seven games for New Zealand, nine tests. Making his fifth overseas tour with All Blacks.
 - B. J. (Brian) McKeown (Southland), Fullback, 24, Accountant, single, 5' 8", 12 st. 4 lbs. Four tests. Has also played cricket for New Zealand.
 - C. N. K. (Graham) Mourie (Taranaki), Flanker, 26, Farmer, single, 6' 14 st. 2 lbs. Seventeen games for New Zealand, four tests. First played representative rugby for Wellington 1972. A. A. (Ash) McGregor (Southland), Number Eight, 25, Farmer, married, 6' 15 st. 3 lbs. New All Black. Has scored 100 points this season.
 - L. M. (Leslie) Rutledge (Southland), Flanker, 25, Freezing Worker, married, 6' 14 st. 6 lbs. Three games for New Zealand, three tests. Made rep. debut 1972, and has now played 58 times for Southland.
 - B. J. (Bruce) Robertson (Counties), Centre, 26, Sales Representative, married, 6' 1", 13 st. Seventy-two games for New Zealand, thirty-three tests. Recognised in New Zealand as the greatest centre in the world. Toured Britain and France with All Blacks 1972-73, Australia and Fiji 1974, Ireland in late 1974, and South Africa played in three of four tests against British Lions.
 - G. A. (Gary) Seear (Otago), Number Eight, 26, Draughtsman, married, 6' 4", 16 st. Twenty games for New Zealand, five tests. Toured South Africa 1976, Test Debut France 1977.
 - N. M. (Mark) Taylor (Bay of Plenty), Second Five Eighth, 27, Assurance Representative, married, 5' 9", 12 st. 6 lbs. Seventeen games for New Zealand, seven tests.
 - B. G. (Bryan) Williams (Auckland), Winger, 27, Solicitor, married, 5' 8", 15 st. Ninety-nine games for New Zealand, thirty-four tests. One of New Zealand's greatest wingers. Has made six overseas tours with All Black sides.
 - S. S. (Stuart) Wilson (Wellington), Winger, 23, Sales Clerk, single, 6' 13 st. 7 lbs. Sixteen games for New Zealand, five tests. Toured Argentina 1976.



Bryan Williams, the vastly experienced wing, who scored for the All Blacks against Munster in '74. He will become the first New Zealander to play against an Irish province in three different matches if chosen for Tuesday's game against Munster.

Tourists arrive on Sunday

THE New Zealand party flies into Shannon Airport at 2 o'clock on Sunday afternoon. They will be greeted by Mr. Kevin Quiggin, President of the I.R.F.U., and Mr. Sean Gavin, President of the Munster Branch. On Saturday, they play London Counties, so the side for the Munster match won't be known until Sunday evening.

Nestors still have ground tickets until Saturday.

Referee for the big game on Tuesday is Welshman, Curn Thomas and the touch judge will be Martin Walsh and Johnny Cole.

IRISH TEAM

The Irish team to play the New Zealanders at Lansdowne Road on Saturday of next week will be chosen in Belfast on this Saturday and the selectors have watched United play Connacht. One can only presume that this game will have little bearing on the composition of the side.

That being the case, it should be idle to speculate now on its composition. And here I throw my hat into the ring by offering the following XV: Larry Molony; Mike Gibson; Paul McNaughton; Alister McKibbin; Freddie McLennan; Tony Shaw; John Moloney; Phil Orr; Pat Whelan; Mick Fitzpatrick; Donal Spring; Moss Keane; Fergus Slattery; Willie Duggan; Shay Deering.

I'm not for a moment suggesting that this is my idea of the best Irish team, just that I feel the selectors will be thinking along these lines.

WEEK-END GAMES

Big club game in town on Sunday must be that between Young Munster and Marist St. Pats from New Zealand at Greenfields on Sunday. A good idea of the tour's potential should be had from the outcome of their game against Cork Con. at Temple Hill.

On Sunday, Garryowen and Bohemians entertain Galwegians and Corinthians respectively, and on Saturday, Shannon take on Terenure College.

SHOOTING SEASON

A large selection of sporting guns available, Browning, Merkel, Sismom, Baikal, Miroku, Greener, Aushutz, Brno, Beretta, side by sides, and under and overs. H.P. terms available. Top model English guns also required, varied choice of clothing and accessories.

NESTOR BROS. O'CONNELL STREET, LIMERICK.

(300)

CIE Rugby International
Ireland v. All Blacks
Saturday, 4th November, 1978

Train with Buffet Car will run as under:	Adult	Child
LIMERICK dep. 08.45	£5.50	£2.75
HEUSTON arr. 11.10		
Trains will return from Heuston at 17.45 and 18.50.		
CHARLEVILLE dep. 08.20	Adult	Child
LIMERICK JUNCTION dep. 08.50	£5.50	£2.75
HEUSTON arr. 10.30	£5.00	£2.50
Train will return from Heuston at 18.40.		

GO MAINLINE RAIL



Donal Caniffe, No. 9, who captains Munster against the All Blacks on Tuesday. Here he