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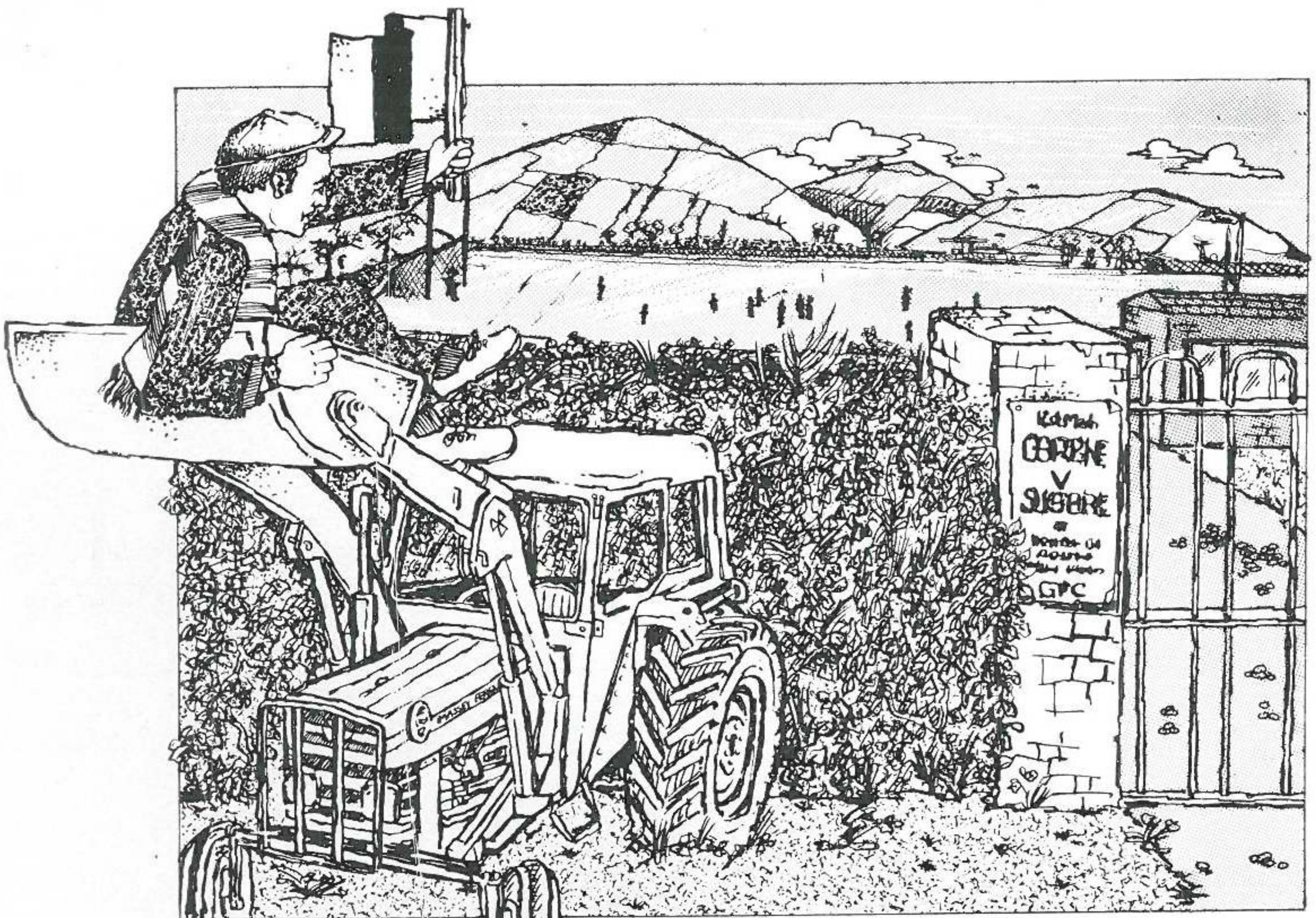
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IRELAND'S LEADING GAELIC GAMES MAGAZINE PUBLISHED MONTHLY
OCTOBER 1974 TWENTY PENCE (TAX INCLUDED)



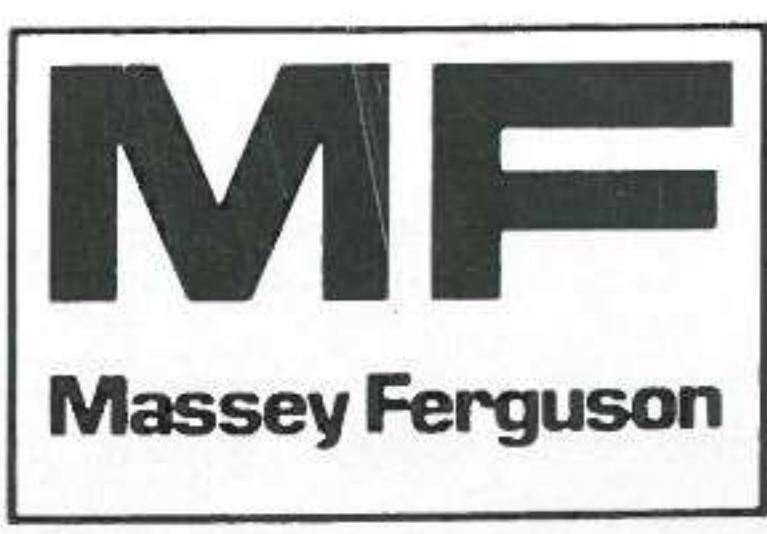
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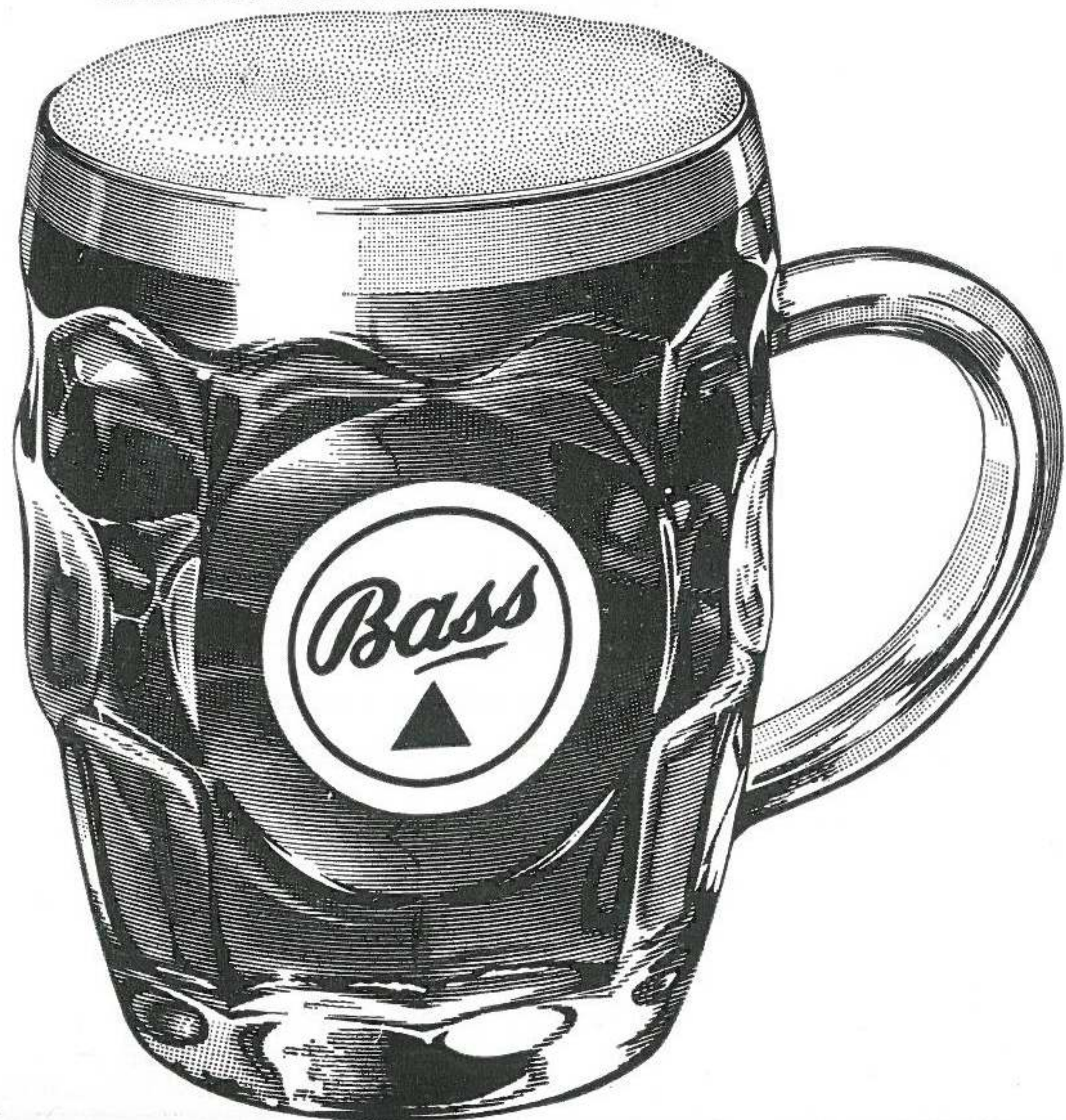
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Gaelic Sport

Vol. 17, No. 10. October, 1974

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

DUBLIN'S return to the All-Ireland senior championship scene is the best thing that has happened in football for a long time. The county's decline as a power in recent years robbed the game of that something special that the "Dubs" alone can provide.

Their come-back gives a welcome new dimension to the final; a stimulus that adds greatly to that unique and special appeal that is part and parcel of every All-Ireland final. And, whatever the result, football by the Liffeside is certain to profit from this latest bid by Dublin for the Sam Maguire Cup.

This season's achievements by the county side must give great encouragement to the many in Dublin who have been giving so generously of their time in running club teams—especially among the juveniles. At times it must have appeared a thankless task, as Dublin struggled unsuccessfully for a place in the sun, and more and more youth were being conditioned by powerful publicity to the belief that allegiance to soccer especially, was almost an essential in life.

Dublin's return to the big-time has awakened a new pride throughout the county which will undoubtedly help in the promotion of Gaelic Games and will in turn lead to a new enthusiasm and respect for them—especially among the youth.

So, the national game is the real winner as a result of Dublin's march to the decider, not only in the Leinster county, but country-wide. Because a strong Gaelic Games base in the capital is in the best interests of the G.A.A.

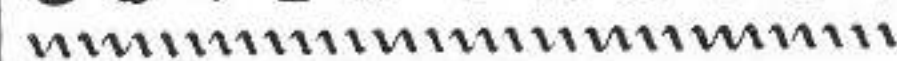
What of Galway? They deserve great credit for the way they have put behind them the disappointments of defeats in the All-Ireland senior finals of 1971 and 1973 to qualify for yet another decider. That's the spirit that has helped to keep the game virile in the county. Victory now would be a fitting reward for Galway's dedication. Few would begrudge them a change of fortune at the third attempt.

Similarly, a Dublin success would meet with general acclaim. It would be a break-through with something of the special appeal and colour of Cork's success in the code last year.

One significant feature about both these great teams, on progressing to the final, has been their outstanding sportsmanship and complete lack of unfair tactics in any of their respective championship games to date.

By their example, they have won respect, not only for themselves but for the entire Association. In that sense, they are both winners—irrespective of the final score.

COVER PHOTO:



OUR front cover this month features the All-Ireland finalists, Dublin and Galway.

DUBLIN—Standing (from left): Steve Rooney, Anton O'Toole, Jimmy Keaveney, Tony Hanahoe, Paddy Cullen, John McCarthy, Alan Larkin, Bobby Doyle. Front (from left): Brian Mullins, George Wilson, Robbie Kelleher, Sean Doherty, David Hickey, Paddy Reilly, Gay O'Driscoll.

GALWAY — Standing (from left): Jack Cosgrove, T. J. Gilmore, Liam O'Neill, Jimmy Duggan, Liam Sammon, John Dillon, Michael Geraghty, Tom Naughton. Front (from left): Johnny Hughes, Willie Joyce, Jarlath Burke, Gay Mitchell, Coilin McDonagh, John Tobin, Michael Rooney.

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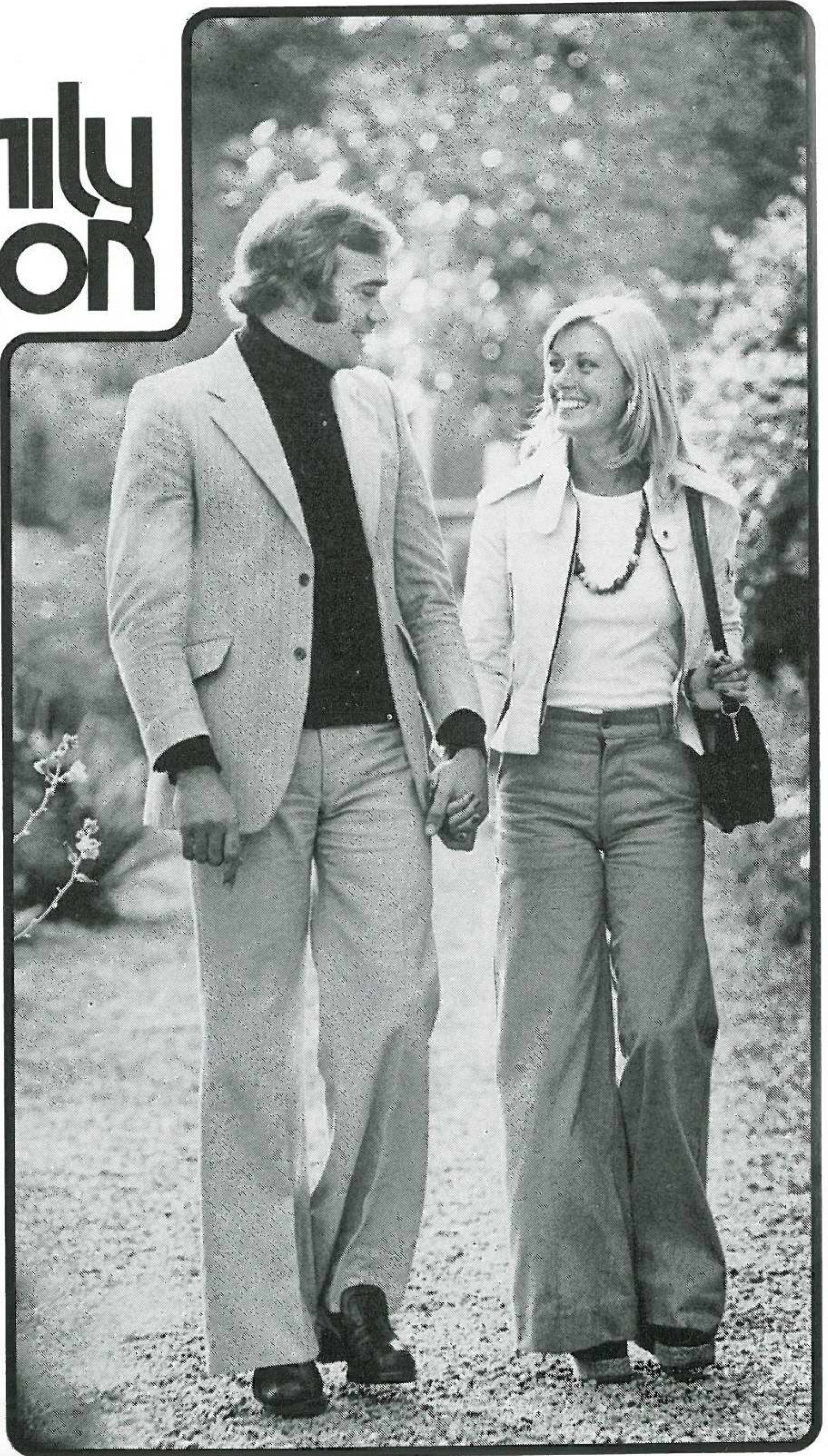
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 Discover
IRELAND

Autumn
Weekends '74





Willie Joyce



Tom Naughton



Joe Waldron



Michael Rooney



Coilin McDonagh

IT'S GALWAY FOR ME But I'm glad the Jacks are back

I AM convinced that the Cork team beaten by Dublin was not a good one on the day. This may be rubbish but just in case it isn't the deduction must be that Dublin looked better than they were.

Kevin Heffernan's men are pretty fit. After a six-game series so far in which championship heat has steered a bunch of hardy men, this team is now well tuned up.

The pyramid of competitive success in football has as its lowest stratum the fundamental of physical fitness topped by the second layer of individual skill, then by expert functional play, which ensures that each man knows just how to play his position. Add the next stratum of analysis both of oneself and the opponents, something the Dublin back-room boys are surely well

able to do and one is near the top of the pyramid.

The cone is emotional stability on the day for the greatest athlete in the world will not perform at optimum if he blows up. It has happened all of us to some degree sometime.

Will Dublin be uneasy on All-Ireland day?

One might readily answer that clothed in the warm and well-earned support of their huge following they will step on to the field, stimulated, expert and artistic, sounding a harmonious athletic note on the instrument of a season's dedication. Yes I think

By

EAMONN

YOUNG

that Dublin have a lot going for them as well as football merit.

Sean Doherty against Cork was tremendous—on a poor Ray Cummins. Paddy Reilly had a blinder even on forceful Dave MacCarthy and though Brian Mullins and Steve Rooney were good in the centre of the field the Cork pair struck a very poor day.

Dublin's criss-crossing of the ball proved effective. There were few long shots in to the Cork backs and remember it was the long ball which brought out a flying Humphrey Kelleher against Kerry and left a grand player like Seamus Fitzgerald ineffective on the day. By contrast Jimmy Keaveney moved out for the crossing ball which superbly fit Dublin men chased and this time it was Humphrey Kelleher's

● TO PAGE 13



David Hickey



Robbie Kelleher



John McCarthy



Bobby Doyle

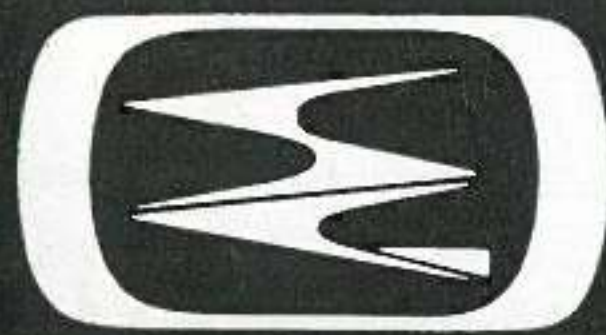


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WILSON HARTNELL



● George
Wilson

● Paddy
Reilly

FOCUS ON THE COUNTY DUBLIN MEN

By
TERENCE ROYNANE

ONE of the facts that non-Dubliners rarely understand about Dublin football is that the game is played all over the County from near Gormanston right down to Manor Kilbride and Brittas on the Wicklow and Kildare borders and does not rely

for its strength on the city areas alone although the city clubs do, of course, provide the vast majority of the players.

Yet it must be remembered that the North County and historic Fingal can be called the cradle-land of football "after the Irish fashion" and that the area has provided players for every Dublin All-Ireland team for many and many a year past.

Nor has the South County ever been lacking in sending forward great stars for County sides. Back in the nineties two legendary figures were County Men, Darby Erritty who hailed from beyond Clondalkin and Bob Curtis, who came from the fields beyond Drumcondra that are now part of Bill-Board Alley on the Airport Road.

That fearless warrior Bobby Beggs came from the fishing village of Skerries, Gerry McLoughlin was from Howth, the Foleys, Des and Lar, came from Kinsealy which is half-way between Coolock and Malahide; Jim McGuinness, Paddy Downey and Sean "Yank" Murray were all from the North County. So were Leo Hickey and Bill Casey of the 1963 side.

Nor has the South County been without its heroes. There were the Saggart contingent — Peter O'Reilly, Paddy Bermingham and Gerry Fitzgerald in 1942, while Johnny Boyle can also be claimed by the South County as he was for long stationed in Baldonnell.

Nor are the county clubs without representation on the current side, the Captain, Sean Doherty, is from the Ballyboden St. Enda's and though suburbia is rapidly creeping up the hillsides towards Ticknock from Rathfarnham nowadays, Ballyboden is still County.

The same applies to St. Margaret's the club to which right half-back Paddy Reilly belongs. In fact it is interesting to note that both wing half-backs, Reilly on the right and Georgie Wilson

on the left are both North County men.

What is more both are of the stuff of which great half-backs are made. Not particularly big men, but both strong, fast-tackling quick-thinking players, sound defenders both adept at turning defence into attack. They are both close-markers but both are also alert to the opportunities that may present themselves anywhere within fifty yards of where they usually operate.

Wilson, of course, is the man who came to prominence first. The sturdy lad from the Balbriggan O'Dwyers has long been a regular on the Dublin line-out, and always turned in an effective performance, but still there were many eyebrows raised when he was named on the Leinster provincial side. But Wilson fully justified his choice and one feels that his province's victory would have been even more convincing had not the Dubliner been forced to retire through injury.

Since then, he has grown in status with every outing and again one felt it was a blow to his side when he had to retire injured in the semi-final. However, fully fit again, he is going to be a rare stumbling block to the Galway forwards on All-Ireland day.

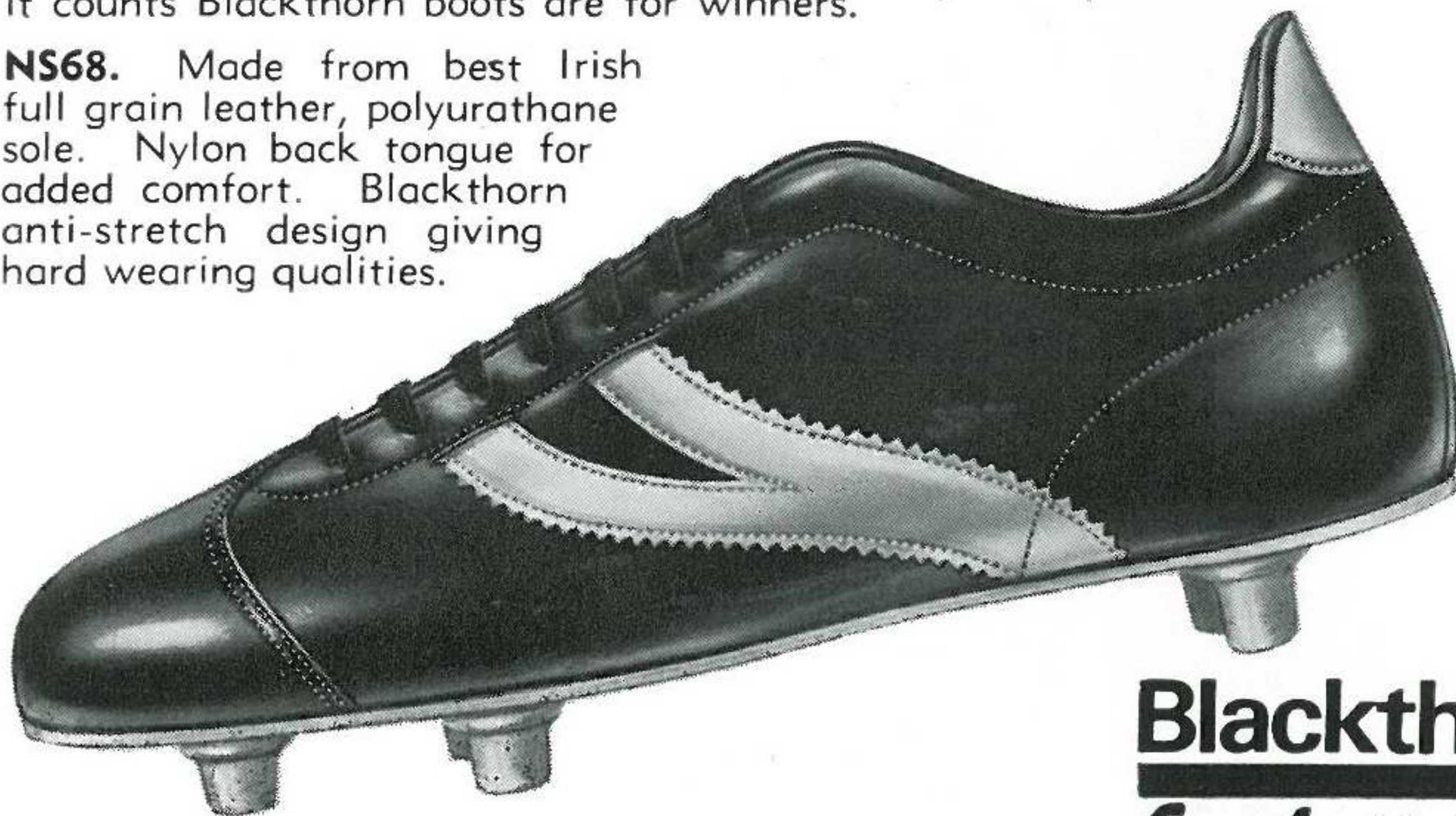
But Dublin are doubly blessed in that they have on the other flank a man in Paddy Reilly who is in many respects, Georgie Wilson's counterpart. Indeed, it was after Wilson retired in the semi-final, that Reilly from St. Margaret's the parish on the very verge of Dublin, really came into his own. Indeed, in the second half that day, he looked very much in contention for the award of Man of the Match.

The old-timers always maintained that the real strength of a team rested on its wing half-backs. Wilson and Reilly may well prove that old adage true once again on the fourth Sunday in September.

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Top Ten

MAXIMUM SCORE FOR HENDERSON

ALTHOUGH the All-Ireland senior hurling final failed to live up to expectations, the game still had some extra bright features. Pride of place must go to a performance of supreme quality from Pat Henderson.

The Kilkenny centre half back's exhibition of defensive hurling was as good as any that has graced an All-Ireland decider in many years. Cool, confident and assured, he marshalled his great repertoire of skills in superb fashion to produce a display of power hurling that was a shining example to his team-mates, and a major stumbling block for the Limerickmen.

Small wonder, then, that the 31-year-old Henderson, who in winning his fourth All-Ireland senior medal, becomes the first player in either code to gain

maximum points in our Top Ten charts this year.

Then, there was the goalkeeping of Noel Skehan. Here, too, was a master craftsman supremely on top of his form, and his dependability a decisive factor in shaping Kilkenny's 19th title win.

The artistry and powerful finishing of Eddie Keher was another of the game's outstanding features. Eddie finished with a personal tally of 1-11 which was only two points short of the entire Limerick tally—and he now moves ahead of the field in our hurling chart with an over-all total of 27 points.

Before leaving the Kilkenny success one must pay tribute as well to Jim Treacy, that great-hearted Bennettsbridge club man, who climaxed his come-back with an important contribution to the Black and Amber glory-day.

In football, Galway and Dublin players dominate the chart. John Tobin embellished a good all round display in the All-Ireland semi-final win over Donegal by shooting 2-6, a feat that edges the Tuam Star's player marginally ahead of three of the brightest stars of Dublin's success against Cork, and also puts Tobin on an over-all ranking of 16 points.

HURLING

10	P. Henderson (Kilkenny)	10
9	E. Keher (Kilkenny) ...	27
9	N. Skehan (Kilkenny) ...	16
8	L. O'Brien (Kilkenny) ...	23
7	N. Orr (Kilkenny)	7
7	M. Brennan (Kilkenny)	7
6	J. Treacy (Kilkenny) ...	6
5	P. Hartigan (Limerick)	21
5	E. Cregan (Limerick) ...	19
5	J. McKenna (Limerick)	5

FOOTBALL

9	J. Tobin (Galway)	16
8	P. Reilly (Dublin)	14
8	S. Rooney (Dublin)	14
8	S. Doherty (Dublin)	8
7	A. O'Toole (Dublin)	7
7	L. Sammon (Galway) ...	7
7	C. McDonagh (Galway)	7
6	W. Joyce (Galway)	6
5	D. Barron (Cork)	5
5	A. Curran (Donegal) ...	5

A TRIO OF TOP TEN "DUBS"



● Steve Rooney



● Paddy Reilly



● Anton O'Toole



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Moondharrig's Diary



● **CYRIL DUNNE**
*Galway's sharpshooter
of the 'sixties.*

THE days of Dublin's football supremacy had ended when first I came to live in the Capital some forty years ago, but the memories of the three-in-a-row men from the Seville Place area, O'Toole's and St. Mary's, was still green and fresh. Indeed those great brothers Paddy McDonald and John McDonnell (due to a mistake in their registration at birth their names were spelt differently) were still playing with club and county when first I came to town, while some of the Synotts were active as ever on local fields.

The first time I saw the Dubliners play in an All-Ireland was against Galway in the final of 1934. That was the Golden Jubilee Year of the G.A.A. and a fairly mixed-up year it was for the ordinary follower. The celebrations of the Jubilee had scarcely started when the Dublin newspapers went on strike, and did not come back until after the All-Ireland. So most of us had to follow the trend of championship events through the summer as best we might from the summary of the day's results that Seán Ó Ceallachain used to give us on Radio Eireann on a Sunday night.

Dublin who had been Leinster champions in 1933, retained their provincial crown and then caused the sensation of the season when they travelled to Tralee and there routed Kerry by the sensational score of 3-8 to 0-6.

So they were firm favourites, as far as we newspaperless folk could judge, when they advanced to meet Galway in the All-Ireland final of 1934 with a special set of Jubilee medals at stake.

But Galway had beaten Dublin

with a point to spare in the previous year's semi-final, and then were a trifle unlucky to lose to Cavan in the final. In this 1934 campaign Galway had already avenged that defeat by having a goal to spare over the Breffnemen at Tuam. We gathered vaguely that Cavan were not too happy about that defeat, but, because of the lack of newspapers we never did clearly discover what the controversy was about, though rumour said it was because of the crowd coming in on the pitch at a vital stage.

Anyway, when final day did come round, I was out there on a spot that has long since vanished, the long embankment where the Cusack Stand is now.

I well remember having a grievance. Although I felt I was a very youthful looking student then, I was shooed away from the schoolboys' gate, and had to pay a whole shilling to get in. Sure you couldn't even buy an ice-cream for a shilling in Croke Park now.

Anyway, the Dublin hopes were quickly shattered for Galway raced into an early lead and though the favourites made up a share of ground in the closing minutes, they never looked like saving a game which Galway really won in those opening stages.

There is, I think, only one direct link between that Galway side, the first from the county ever to win an All-Ireland football title on the field, and Sunday's game. John "Tull" Dunne from Ballinasloe, then one of the winners' brightest stars, is now his county's football secretary, selector and coach.

As for Dublin, they then had

● **TO PAGE 13**

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afa

● FROM PAGE 11

of course the assistance of non-native players the most noted of which were Georgie Comerford and Mick Casey from Clare and Murt Kelly, afterwards a Kerry All-Ireland star. That great veteran Johnny McDonnell was still in goal, hat and all.

Also to the fore that day were other Dublin-born players, Bobby Beggs who later was to win All-Ireland medals with both Galway and Dublin, the fearless Mickey Wellington from St. Joseph's and the great-hearted Ned McCann from the Parnell's.

Eight years later, Dublin and Galway met in yet another final, in 1942. That year we were in the heart of the Emergency years, with the result that the game was played before the smallest attendance in modern times, only 37,000.

This time Galway, playing in their third consecutive final, having lost the previous two, were very strong favourites, having ended Kerry's bid for a record-equalling four in a row when they had a goal to spare over the Kingdom in the semi-final. Again Galway made the running in the early stages but this time Dublin came back strongly to emerge surprising but deserving winners again by a two-point margin, 1-10 to 1-8, the vital goal coming from one of the native born players, Matt Fletcher also well known as a hurler.

Among the other Dublin-born players to star that day were the

ageless Bobby Beggs, Peter O'Reilly, and Brendan Quinn.

Both Quinn and O'Reilly were well-known trainers in later years. But all the other Dublin



● JOHN TIMMONS

Dublin's sharpshooter of the 'sixties.

natives on that winning side also did well, notably Paddy "Beefy" Kennedy at full-back, and the South County men, Paddy Birmingham, Gerry Fitzgerald and P. O'Connor in the attack. In the Galway lineout that day was Sean Duggan, father of present-day star, Jimmy. Also in the Galway colours was Dan Kavanagh, whose son has been a Kerry star in the past few seasons.

So to the third meeting I have seen between the counties, the final of 1963, in which Galway were again the firm favourites,

because they had beaten champions Kerry in the semi-final. On the other hand, Dublin had a good semi-final victory against the 1960-61 champions Down in the other end of the draw.

Of course, a crafty character, if he had checked back on the records could have forecast the trend of the game. As always seems to happen in Galway versus Dublin clashes, the Western champions made most of the running early on, and then found Dublin coming back at them in the last twenty minutes.

Even so, it looked as though Galway might well survive, until Gerry Davey slipped in to palm the ball to the net for the only goal of the game so that, in the end of all, Dublin came through to take the title by a margin that you do not have to guess, two points, 1-9 to 0-10.

Maybe I should have explained earlier that the only Dublin v Galway final I have not seen, that of 1922, also ended with a margin of two points between them, (0-6 to 0-4 in Dublin's favour).

Although that last meeting was only eleven years ago, there is again only one direct link, and that once more is provided by the Dunne family, for John Dunne's son Cyril was a star forward on that Galway team.

And one odd reflection. Dublin did not reach an All-Ireland final until now after that 1963 victory, whereas Galway, the defeated, went on to win the next three All-Irelands in succession.

EAMONN YOUNG

● FROM PAGE 5

game that was upset. Keaveney, far fitter than most of us expected will probably repeat the dose and remember that Dave Hickey, Tony Hanohoe, Anton O'Toole and John McCarthy will be there to help along with an over-lapping pair of wing half backs.

A lot of water will flow down the Corrib and the Liffey before we stand for the anthem in Croke Park but at the moment I'm inclined to be conservative about Dublin who may not be quite as good as we think.

Galway, lucky that Donegal missed Seamus Bonner and Brian McEniff, were not good on the day but we can expect Jimmy

Duggan and T. J. Gilmore to be much better. As I write I doubt if Joe Waldron or Brendan Collieran will be back or if they'll play well provided they do make it.

But Galway have class, strength and the motivation of a second successive final appearance.

Just now they get my vote. But I am glad the JACKS are BACK!

LADIES PLEASE

PRESENTED BY
ANN CARROLL

DUBLIN'S resurgence this year has caught the public eye, getting into their first All-Ireland Senior Football Final since 1963. The fantastic upsurge of enthusiasm this has caused in the Metropolis calls to mind the halcyon days of the '50s when Kevin Heffernan, Ollie Freeney, "Danno" Mahoney and company hit the football scene with a bang.

Having only heard about the delightful football that team played, I am not qualified to compare them with the present team, but I would find it hard to believe that they could have been much better than the present squad who's display in the semi-final left Cork "bewitched, bothered and bewildered".

"Heffo's heroes" have certainly brought the Dublin crowd back to Croke Park, and the attendance at the Final promises to be the biggest for years.

Like former great Dublin teams, the present team is not without its personalities, and I visited the homes of two of them and talked with them and their wives.

THE KEAVENEYS

Jimmy and Angela Keaveney live in Portmarnock with their 3½ year old daughter Maria. Like Jimmy, Angela also has sporting interests. A Cootehill, Co. Cavan, girl, she played camogie, tennis and netball in school, and plays camogie for St. Vincent's now. She is a very active member of St. Vincent's club, being chairwoman of their Ladies Committee.

Jimmy himself has played for St. Vincent's all his life, having also played for Scoil Mhuire, Marino, and "Joey's", Fairview, while at school. He first played for Dublin as a minor in 1962, and his first appearance for the seniors was in 1964.

Perhaps surprisingly for one

who has been so successful in intercounty football, the greatest thrill of his career was winning his first Senior Dublin Championship medal with Vincent's at the age of 18, and his greatest disappointment was losing to Nemo Rangers last year in the replay of the Senior Football Club Championship Final. He puts the same effort and enthusiasm into his approach to all games—be they club or county.

Jimmy's frequent absence from home at training sessions doesn't worry Angela. "It keeps him fit and also keeps the weight down." She goes to all his Championship matches and although she admits to not being as knowledgeable as others on some of the finer points, she has very strong views on fouling. "When played cleanly, Gaelic football is the best football game there is."

The best players Jimmy has ever seen were Kevin Heffernan,

Ollie Freeney, Des Foley (Dublin), Mick O'Connell (Kerry) and Sean O'Neill (Down), and the best player he has ever played on was Bertie Cunningham (Meath).

It was Kevin Heffernan who asked him to come out of retirement this year, and even though he didn't personally feel he had much to offer at the time—"I was delighted to help the county team in whatever way I could. My favourite position has always been centre-field or centre-forward, but I'm very happy where I'm playing at the moment and I'm enjoying the game as much as ever. I'm very happy with the new rules and particularly the enlarged parallelogram as I feel it's of more advantage to a full-forward line," said the big man.

Jimmy also plays squash and golf and has played soccer in the past, but his favourite game has always been hurling, "although unfortunately we were never as successful with hurling as football."

The Keaveney's both emphas-

Jimmy Keaveney and his charming wife Angela pictured at a recent reception



ise that the social activities of a club are just as important as winning matches, and with Angela's involvement on the Ladies Committee and Jimmy's great work with the juveniles they both put this belief into practice. They both find GAA functions very enjoyable—"the celebration after the semi-final against Cork was one of the most enjoyable to date", remarked Angela.

THE WILSONS

Unlike Angela Keaveney, Maria Wilson had no sporting interest, but is a keen follower of games in which George is playing.

Despite the fact that she has hardly had George at home on a Sunday since they got married, Maria is delighted that he has such a healthy interest. Although they have no children yet (they are expecting their first child in October), she would like all her children to take an active part in some sport.

Gaelic football is George's main interest (although he has played some soccer and table-tennis), and he started playing with Pioneer's, Balbriggan, before joining O'Dwyers — his present club—when he was 16.

The best players he has ever seen were Mick O'Connell and Des Foley, and he hopes when his playing days are over to continue taking an active part in his club.

Both George and Maria feel that having adequate facilities for teams and players is more important than winning matches. They both love the social side of the GAA, although Maria feels "it could be a little better". "I enjoy going to dinners and meeting the other players and their wives."

All Dublin followers will be hoping that the Keaveney's and the Wilsons and the rest of the squad will have their most enjoyable function ever celebrating a Dublin victory on the 22nd September.

CAMOGIE MATTERS

—By AGNES HOURIGAN—

CAMOGIE folk have no complaints about the final dates allotted to them at Croke Park, the third Sunday in September, but it is a disadvantage that coming in between the hurling final and the football final, the Camogie decider can never be properly featured in such publications as GAELIC SPORT . . . which is a great pity for all concerned.

However, there was a lot to be learned from the current All-Ireland campaigns. There you had Cork, written off by a lot of people after their close call from Antrim and Galway last year, taking both Galway and Antrim more or less in their stride this time, and doing so despite the absence of such stars as Liz Garvan and young Callie Riordan. They go on to meet Kilkenny in the All-Ireland final for the third time in five seasons.

Personally, having seen the Kilkenny girls lose to Wexford in the semi-final of the Leinster championship, I would have laid any odds against them making any mark in the subsequent All-Ireland series. Yet they got past Tipperary without undue difficulty and thus reached the All-Ireland semi-final in which they caused what was to me the surprise of the season when they travelled to Wexford and there defeated the much-fancied home side.

Now as I said last month, I thought Wexford, on their previous displays were possibly good enough to win back the All-Ireland title this year. True in that game against Kilkenny they were short their great forward star Maggie Hearne, but Kilkenny played with such determination on the day that they would have been very hard to beat in any case and were worth far more of a margin than the single point that saw them through.

The great inspiration of their side that day came from winger Helena O'Neill, but I was very impressed too by the great work of Ann Carroll.

Writing before the event, as I have already said, I do hope my friends in Cork will understand when I say that for Ann's sake I sincerely hope Kilkenny win the All-Ireland. Not alone is she a colleague here in GAELIC SPORT, but she has won every other honour in the game. She has several interprovincial medals, won in turn with Munster and with Leinster, she has won four All-Ireland club championship medals, Leinster championships, Munster championships, Colleges championships and All-Ireland victory now would be the crown of a remarkable career. I wonder how many folk realise that although Ann Carroll has got a great thrill out of playing camogie she has given a great deal back to the game she loves, as coach, as trainer, as organiser.

Last month I detailed why it gave me much pleasure to see Clare juniors come out of Munster. It would be a real fairytale ending if the girls from the Banner County went on to All-Ireland victory.

Unlucky team of the season thus far has, to my mind, been Galway. They could, with a bit more steadiness have defeated Cork in that first round All-Ireland game. For that match they took some stars off their junior team, which in consequence went down in the All-Ireland semi-final, while their fancied minors also failed to come up to expectations. Yet, I would not bet against the Galway girls coming out next month and retaining the interprovincial Cup playing for Connacht.

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Great "semi's" give promise of super final

By DAN McAREAVY

WELL, the Jeremiahs — and I was among them — have been confounded and we are, after all, to have what may prove to be one of the really great All-Ireland finals of recent years.

During the earlier stages of the provincial championships I was genuinely alarmed as the Sunday evening results threw up mismatch after mismatch; when the quality of the fare, even in the more competitive ties was, more often than not, less than satisfying and when we had the launching of the so-called "SAVE FOOTBALL CAMPAIGN" in certain sections of the media.

It is a true saying, however, that the Irish thrive in adversity and with the provincial finals a more heartening picture began to emerge.

Cork proved to all and sundry that their 1973 defeat of Kerry — and subsequent All-Ireland triumph — was no mere flash in the pan when the Kingdom went down again — by double scores and at Killarney too.

This was my first experience of a Munster final and I will cherish the memory. I will recall it, too, as the day when, in my book at least, Mick O'Connell should not have returned.

No one was really surprised when Galway remained Connacht specialists with good judges hinting that there was great potential in this year's squad. They were

talking as well about Johnny Tobin and the part he would play in future conquests by the county.

Dublin's gallop through Leinster — and especially in that clear-cut and decisive eclipse of Meath in the final really fired the imagination. We ought to have known that the Jacks were back (as the banners were later to assure us) but then the neutrals had decided that even "Heffo's Army" would be hard put to quell the Rebel County who were next in line. The Metropolitans had had a good run they were saying, but it was the end of the road.

In the North few followers could really have been stirred as Down and Donegal wormed their road to the final via Armagh, Cavan and Derry and Tyrone and Antrim respectively.

But these two counties did a good job for Ulster football even if the standard was not out of the top drawer. They put on the first drawn decider in exactly 45 years to the day while in the replay Donegal's resurrection from the grave, when all but the final sod was in place, must surely rank as a sporting miracle.

Things had improved and the good wine was being reserved to the end.

However it was really the All-Ireland semi-finals which gave most cause for encouragement to those who believe that Gaelic

football can be among the greatest field sports in the world.

I will certainly savour for a long time to come the power, urgency, hunger and excitement which Dublin brought to their clash with Cork.

A friend said to me in the first two minutes, as we sat in the stand as neutral as one can be on such an occasion, that Cork were going to have a fight on their hands. The truth of his remark became clearer with every move.

The champions perhaps had an off-day but such a suggestion is to take away from a Dublin triumph which was totally comprehensive and left no room at all for "ifs" and "buts".

Ray Cummins was completely mastered by Sean Doherty and unquestionably this proved the way for the final outcome. But then was there any position in which Cork could really claim the upper hand?

By comparison, Galway's clearance of the semi-final hurdle was a great deal less convincing, more like a dramatic production

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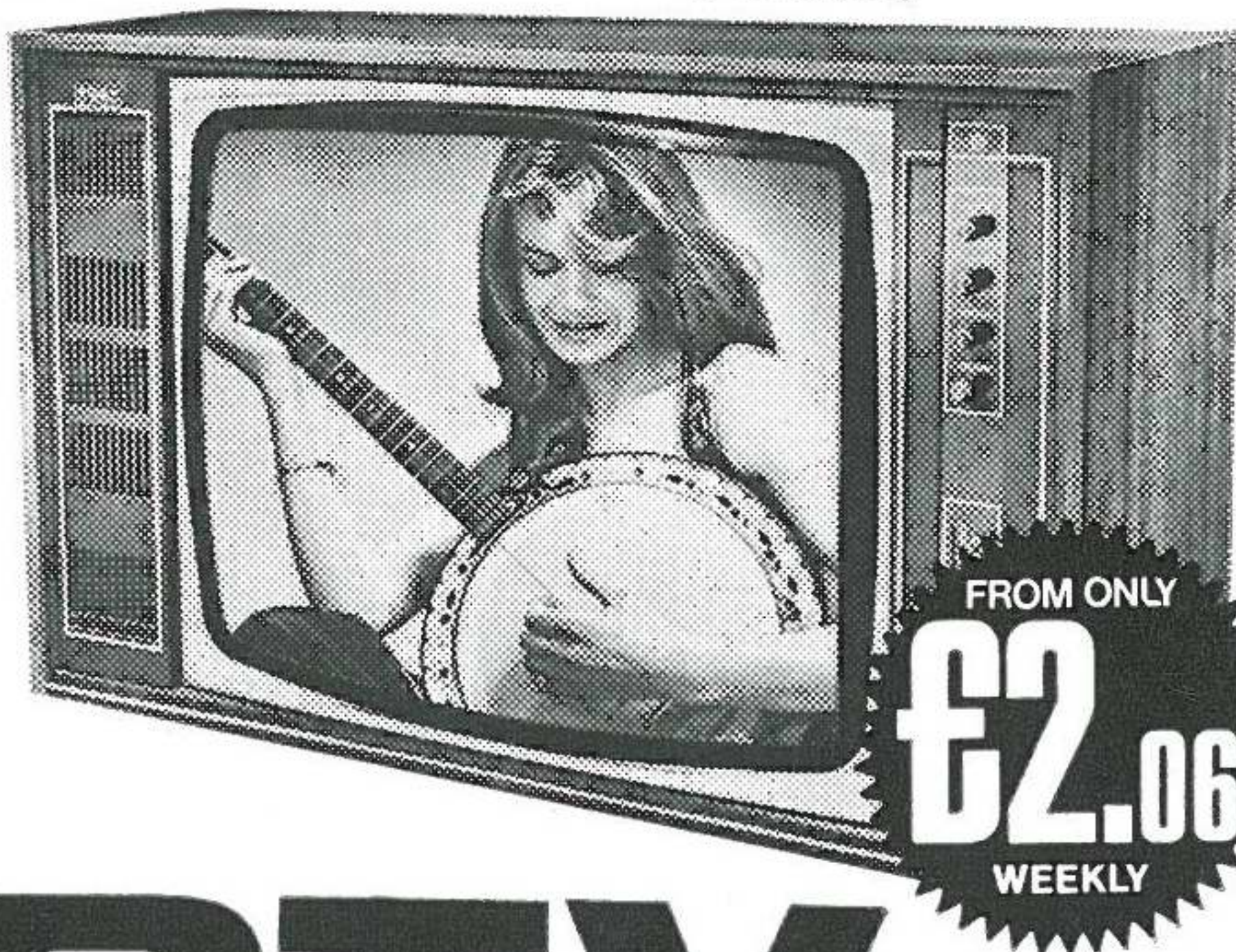
● John Tobin
(Galway)

"Rank injustice
if he'd been
on losing
side."



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● FROM PAGE 17

at a fairly advanced stage of rehearsal. What would have happened had Seamus Bonner and Brian McEniff completed the full 80 minutes? But then the fates had conspired against the Tribesmen in the matter of injuries before the game. And wouldn't it have been a rank injustice if Johnny Tobin had finished on the losing side?

● SEAN DOHERTY
"Completely mastered Cork's Ray Cummins."



In a way the position resembles 1966 when Galway scrambled to that two-point win over Cork while Meath ran riot against a very good Down team by an out-size (2-16 to 1-9) margin.

The odds against Galway were enormous that year but in the decider they gave a performance which will rank with the finest exhibition ever.

Dublin are already acknowledging that they will have their work cut out to repeat that 1963 triumph over the Connacht men and there can be no question of a landslide either way.

As an Ulsterman I am naturally disappointed that the North is not to have a say in the destination of the honours. But at least I can sincerely hope that the better side carries the day. I have a hunch that that side will be Dublin but only by a point or two.

However let us have a repeat of the exemplary sportsmanship of the semi-finals. That will be the best advertisement for the game whatever the outcome. See you in Croke Park.

"THIS SHOULD BE AN

ALL-IRELAND TO REMEMBER"

says Galway's COILÍN McDONAGH

THE All-Ireland semi-finals are over and the scene is set for this year's All-Ireland between Dublin and Galway. The "Jacks are back" seems to be the most popular phrase in every G.A.A. man's mouth and "Heffo's Army" having conquered Cork in the semi-final a few weeks ago seem confident now that they have the power to overcome any opposition—even Galway.

The "Dubs" return to the big time is good for the game and they will be making their first All-Ireland appearance since 1963, when they beat Galway in a hard fought battle. Galway people haven't forgotten that day. They realise so well how dangerous Dublin can be on the big occasion. We are not afraid by any means but we are going to be careful. I happened to be fortunate enough to have won an All-Ireland medal in 1966 and so are Liam Sammon and Jimmy Duggan, but we three as well as the rest of the present team have learned a lesson having been beaten in two All-Ireland finals in the last three years.

Such great hearted players as Jack Cosgrove, Liam O'Neill, Tommy Joe Gilmore, Billy Joyce and Johnny Hughes have really earned that All-Ireland medal and my greatest wish would be to see Gay Mitchell holding the "Sam Maguire" aloft on the Hogan Stand on September 22.

There are so many things about an All-Ireland I enjoy so much. It starts I suppose by winning the Connacht final, and the celebra-



●
*Coilín
and his
wife
Ann
relaxing
at their
home
in
Renmore.*
●

tion after it. Then starts the build-up for the semi-final, the team seems to become more of a family then. The trip to Dublin and the stay at the hotel the night before, and needless to say I have always enjoyed the Maureen Potter show in the Gaiety the night before the match. The flow of gallant supporters to and from the hotel to wish us the last word of good luck before the contest and the young boys chasing for autographs which brings back fond memories to me when I was a "garsún" and Galway winning the All-Ireland in 1956. What it meant to me then to have the great Sean Purcell, Frankie Stockwell, Jack Mahon and Frank Eivers, to mention but a few, scribble their name on the back of a cigarette box. Among all those things comes a mixed feeling of anxiety, tension and joy.

But this year is a special year

for me because now I play as a forward and trying to make scores after eight years of trying to prevent them. I have enjoyed this year's championship so far and I look forward very much to the final.

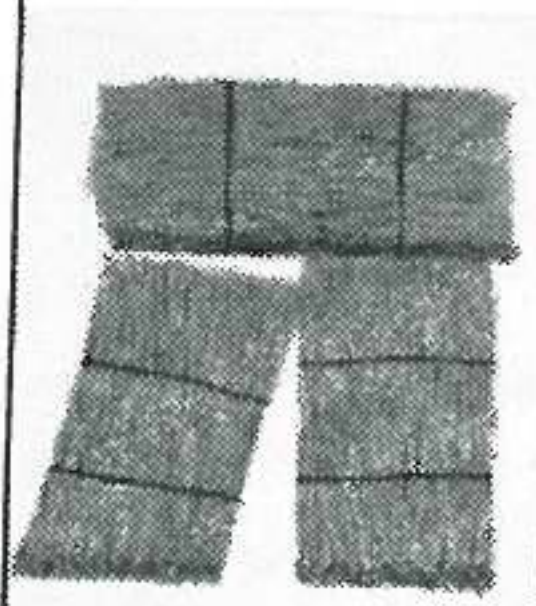
There is no doubt but Croke Park will be haunted by the "Dubs" and I wish them luck but there will be a loud echo from behind the maroon and white flags too and I hope Galway will win. This should be an All-Ireland to remember.

Ach ba mhaith liom mar dheire ar an bpíosa seo cógháirdeachas a dhéanamh le Dúna nGall. Is cinnte nach easpa croí ná spiorad a chlis orthu agus is cinnte nach fada go mbeidh siad ar ais sa gcoimhlint arís. Tá súil agam go bhfuil biseach faoi seo ar Brian McEniff agus Seamus Bonner, óna taismí a thárla dóibh sa gcluiche leathcheannais.

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● Jimmy Keaveney, Dublin.

A MEDAL FOR JIMMY WOULD BE A JUST REWARD

By
SEAMUS O BRAONAIN

SURELY Jimmy Keaveney must have packed away his All-Ireland ambitions with his gear quite some time ago. It just seemed that he had been born out of his time and all his best years and all those hopeful teams of which he was the greatest hope melted around him when the real League and Championship heat was turned on.

Some time back watching him play with St. Vincent's he looked, to say the least, aldermanic with a figure fast becoming more suited to a waistcoat and gold watchchain than football shorts. The spit and image of a man who had put ambition firmly aside and was now playing out time to help his club with his acquired cunning and to keep the ravages of increasing weight within reason.

Even when called back by Kevin Heffernan to give of his acquired skill and football know-how to the young, ambitious, but sometimes misguided county team he was still carrying a lot of excess poundage. But against Louth you could see his hand in so much of the work of the attack that he easily justified himself. Further, his free-kicking had never deteriorated—if anything it was now more certain because he has been through the mill and knows how to keep cool on even the most vital kick.

Every game since the Louth one has brought forth a Jimmy Keaveney that resembles the original more and more—the thin (well, much thinner) man has emerged from captivity within the fat one. And each game he has become stronger as well as sharper and more enduring. It is not always possible to lose poundage in tough training without also becoming weaker; but not Keaveney. The fact that he had not lost touch with football and retained a degree of stamina obviously left him still in good shape generally.

So through the summer Jimmy has become the focus of the hero worship of Dubliners. The guid-

ing light of the side brought back out of the darkness. And the experience must be bitter-sweet for Keaveney, remembering the number of times in the past when he was the leading figure in Dublin teams that promised something, lionised in the newspapers and on TV, the crack-shot of the side, the man who would lead on to Dublin's new horizons.

But, of course, on all these occasions Dublin went under, and as they went nobody was pushed under so far as Keaveney—dismissed by Dublin supporters as the arch-failure, just because they had built unfounded hopes on little more than sand.

The trouble was that Keaveney was a very good forward who achieved so much one way or another that when he could not do most of it himself he had no adjutants of sufficient accomplishment to take the burden off him. Now, as a full-forward and in a team of uniform ability, he is in the happy position of having men around him who can provide the ammunition for him to fire; and equally should he wish to pass the ball away there are men on 'the move intelligently to create a score from the chance. It all helps to make Keaveney look much more like the key forward he should always have been in Dublin teams since the mid-sixties.

Of course, Jimmy is a vital link in the Dublin operation for the final against Galway. He has a new challenge in Jack Cosgrove, looked upon as one of the best full-backs in the game in recent years. If he were blunted in his finishing or prevented from moving the ball into the path of his colleagues it would be a serious blow to Dublin—not least to the morale of the younger players.

A win in the final would bring a delightful bonus to Jimmy at what he must have thought was the evening of his career. Sweeter for that, too, I am sure, and justification for all the years of might-have-been.

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Na Fianna Launch New Seven-A-Side Competition

A NEW dimension has been added to the All-Ireland Football Final week-end with the announcement by C.L.G. Na Fianna (Dublin) that their Club will promote an All-Ireland Seven-A-Side Inter-County Championship on the Saturday preceding All-Ireland Football Final Day.

The Championship, under the sole sponsorship of the Pan-Aer Group will be an annual event and will be completed under the Blitz system on the same day.

This year's championship will be staged on Saturday, September 21st at the Club's spacious grounds in Mobhi Road, supplemented by the recently acquired grounds at Santry, together with the grounds at St. Vincent's C.B.S. Glasnevin.

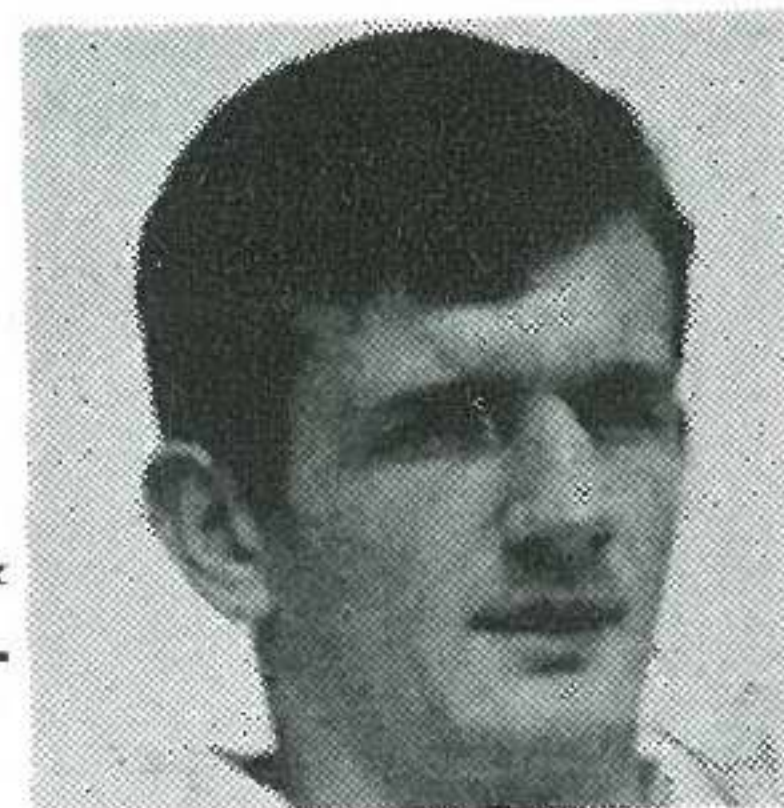
The initial response to the Championship has been most encouraging with definite entries from eighteen counties viz. Kerry, Galway, Roscommon, Mayo, Sligo, Meath, Kildare, Tipperary, Westmeath, Dublin, Louth, Leitrim, Longford, Kilkenny, Armagh, Wicklow, Waterford and Limerick.

In the event of matches up to and including the semi-finals ending on level scoring, the winner will be determined by means of three fifty yard kicks, taken by three different players, given to each team. The team scoring most points is the winner. Should this system still produce stalemate, successive kicks will be taken on the "sudden death" system. If the final is drawn, extra time will be played.

For any further information or details on the Championship, please contact Sean Clerkin, P.R.O., at 67 Kinvara Road, Dublin 7. Tel. 304487.

THE LINK MAN

By JIM BENNETT



● LIAM SAMMON

LIAM SAMMON links two eras, in a way. Last time Dublin were champions they beat the emerging Galway side that went on to a marvellous three-in-a-row. And before that three-in-a-row had been accomplished Liam Sammon, Colin McDonagh and Jimmy Duggan of today's team had joined the side. They now form a kind of link between eras that are a decade apart.

In the beginning Liam Sammon was a corner-forward and it was there that he first proved his value to the Galway team, but as he was coming many of the great players of 1963-1967 were fading out of the picture. Therefore, Sammon has not had the successes he might have expected when he first made the Galway side—in terms of All-Ireland medals that is to say. Naturally, he has collected every other kind of honour the game has to offer including selection as an All-Star both in 1971 and 1973.

Nevertheless, there can be no doubt that at this time he would love to win another medal to go with his first in 1966. He has runners-up trophies for 1971 and 1973; played with the Combined Universities; and, of course, has represented Connacht in the Railway Cup since 1971.

Caught in the transition period of Galway football Liam Sammon has rendered service that cannot be measured very accurately by medals and victories alone. More important is the overall assistance which he has given in the building of the new

generation of footballers to represent the county.

Being one of the keystones in terms of experience he has had to move and range far from his original corner forward position, to other parts of the attack, and for a number of years to the key midfield position where his individual contribution had quite a bit to do with getting comparatively unready Galway teams to win Connacht championships before their time almost.

For some time he has also been captain of the side and even its trainer. Last year he was back in the attack, taking the centre-forward position in an effort to knit together an attack of obvious potential but needing a great deal of stimulation.

To a large extent he was successful as evidenced by the progress to the All-Ireland final last year; but he was hardly fulfilling as useful a role as he might have filled in midfield. So he was back there for the 1974 championships to free Jimmy Duggan for attack leader.

The last change was eminently successful in the Connacht championships when he struck a good understanding with Willie Joyce. However, injury in the Connacht final against Roscommon threatened to sideline him for a long time until it was found not to be as serious as feared. He was back in action for the semi-final with Donegal but playing full-forward—whether as an “easy” way to run him back into form or because he was not considered fit

enough to fall into his midfield position.

What position he takes up in the final against Dublin will be watched for with interest—and may well mean a great deal to Galway's chances.

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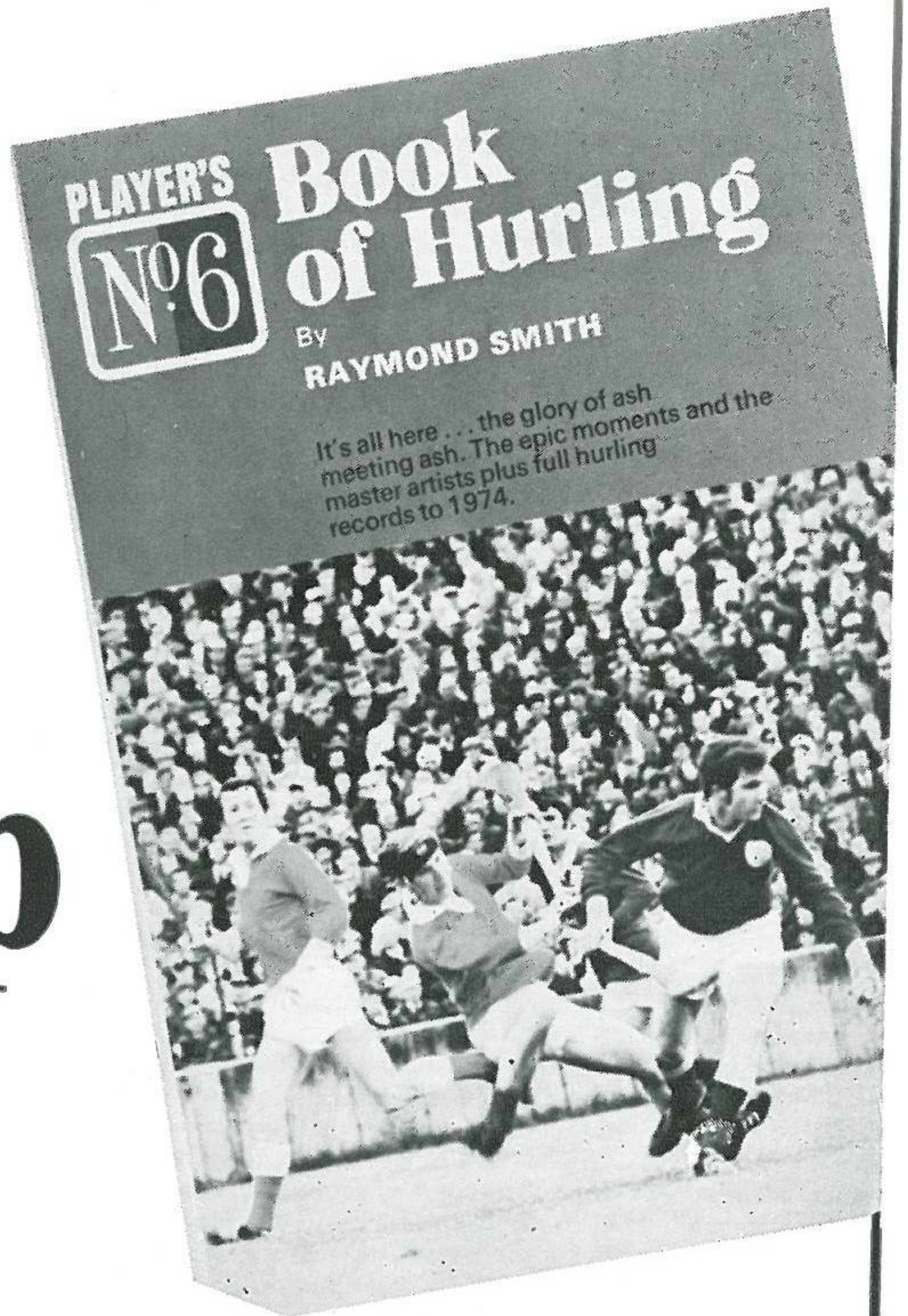
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CAN GALWAY CROSS THE CLASS-LINE?

"THERE'S a line between love and fascination," the song used to say with a facile kind of philosophy which probably masks a basic truth. Similarly, there is a line between very good football teams and class teams. Below that indefinable line there is something missing; above it you have champions.

Whatever that quality is that endows a team with "what it takes" to be champions, you can see it soon enough when they show it. The trouble is that you can only see that they are lacking it when they show that too. For instance, the Galway sides of 1963 and 1973: in their semi-finals you would have been pardoned for thinking that here were two sides which had crossed the "class-line."

But, when each side came to play its final there was little doubt that they still rested some small margin below that line; some quality was still missing. In retrospect it was unthinkable that they should have been thought likely winners of the championship. Before the event, on the evidence provided until then, you could have been misled.

But take the team that came out for Galway in 1964. Equally clearly that team had crossed over the "class-line" somewhere along the way between 1963 and 1964. They were miles above that

By
**JAY
DRENNAN**



● Jimmy Duggan (Galway).

line for 1965 and 1966—and later, too, even though they didn't win more championships, but they could have — they had the class to do it even if the flesh was weakening.

When they fell below the line no one can precisely say, but when they changed to a new set of players it was a new beginning. Right away you could see that by 1971 they had a very good team. They were pretty disappointed that they did not win the All-Ireland final — but, in retrospect, was it a team which had the class of champions? No!

It has been the same since. Particularly in 1973, you could easily have thought they had crossed the line when they outplayed Offaly in the semi-final. But there was no doubt they had not when the final itself is taken into consideration.

Have they now, in 1974, finally added that "je ne sais quoi" to their make-up? What could it

be? It must be based on evenness — no weaknesses, adequate skill, adequate strength and fitness. Is it, perhaps, something in the mind or the soul? Flair? Intent? Imagination? Motivation? Team spirit?

Probably something of all these. And physical and moral courage. And if Galway are ever going to cross the line it must surely be this year. You can't hang about forever hoping for the gods to smile or deliver the charisma in some spiritual intervention. Now or never is probably a keynote of the thinking of the players who have been in or around the team since 1970 or 1971.

Oddly, it seems a more likely indication of champion class to play rather unimpressively in the semi final than to be most flattering at that stage. Knowing Galway must have better form in them because of previous per-

● TO PAGE 27

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● FROM PAGE 25

formances, we may conclude that this year's semi-final against Donegal was played as well as it needed to be played.

A large margin remained to be worked on. That is always a far more happy way to enter the training camp than with the objective only of holding to a peak of form that has been already reached.

Dublin are in that position. The lengths they have come this year since their moderate League form and rather shambling dismissal of Wexford in the first round of the Leinster championships it is dangerous to make any definite statements about them. Nevertheless, it is only realistic to accept that there must be some limit to the amount of progress they can achieve in a single run without any lapse or leveling out.

It has been up, up up, every round. Surely, at this stage, they must be thinking that they would be very happy, indeed, to settle for holding the same form now. But, what was it the man said: "If you are not going up, you are going down"?

So, on the broader issues and general impressions, Galway are in a happier position than Dublin as they train for the big game. However, closer internal scrutiny will throw up some other considerations to complicate the conclusion that seems to come from the general position.

Galway, for instance, were moderate enough and showing certain inadequacies against Donegal; Dublin appeared uniformly powerful in thrusting Cork aside. And surely Cork must have made hay against Donegal had they met. Conclusion: Dublin could afford a slight falling off in form and still be good enough to win?

In the final, Croke Park will not be a sympathetic place for

Galway: Dublin have taken the role of everyone's darling on the strength of being eleven years without an All-Ireland win. The poverty of the rich! And how about Galway — they are eight years without a victory, or had that fact slipped the mind? Time passes very quickly.

In any case, neutrals will line up with Dublin together with their fire-eating new supporters. It could matter in a tight game.



● T. J. GILMORE

At this time, too, Dublin appear to have a fixed team and one they can be happy about, with several tried substitutes for emergency duty. Galway, on the other hand, have an awful lot of question marks chalked in where players' names should be written boldly.

What of their midfield? Will Sammon go back there to renew the partnership that did very well in the Connacht championship? Was his sojourn at full-forward merely a period of convalescence after his injury in the Connacht final? Or will they rob Peter to pay Paul by pulling Duggan back from an attack that needs his leadership?

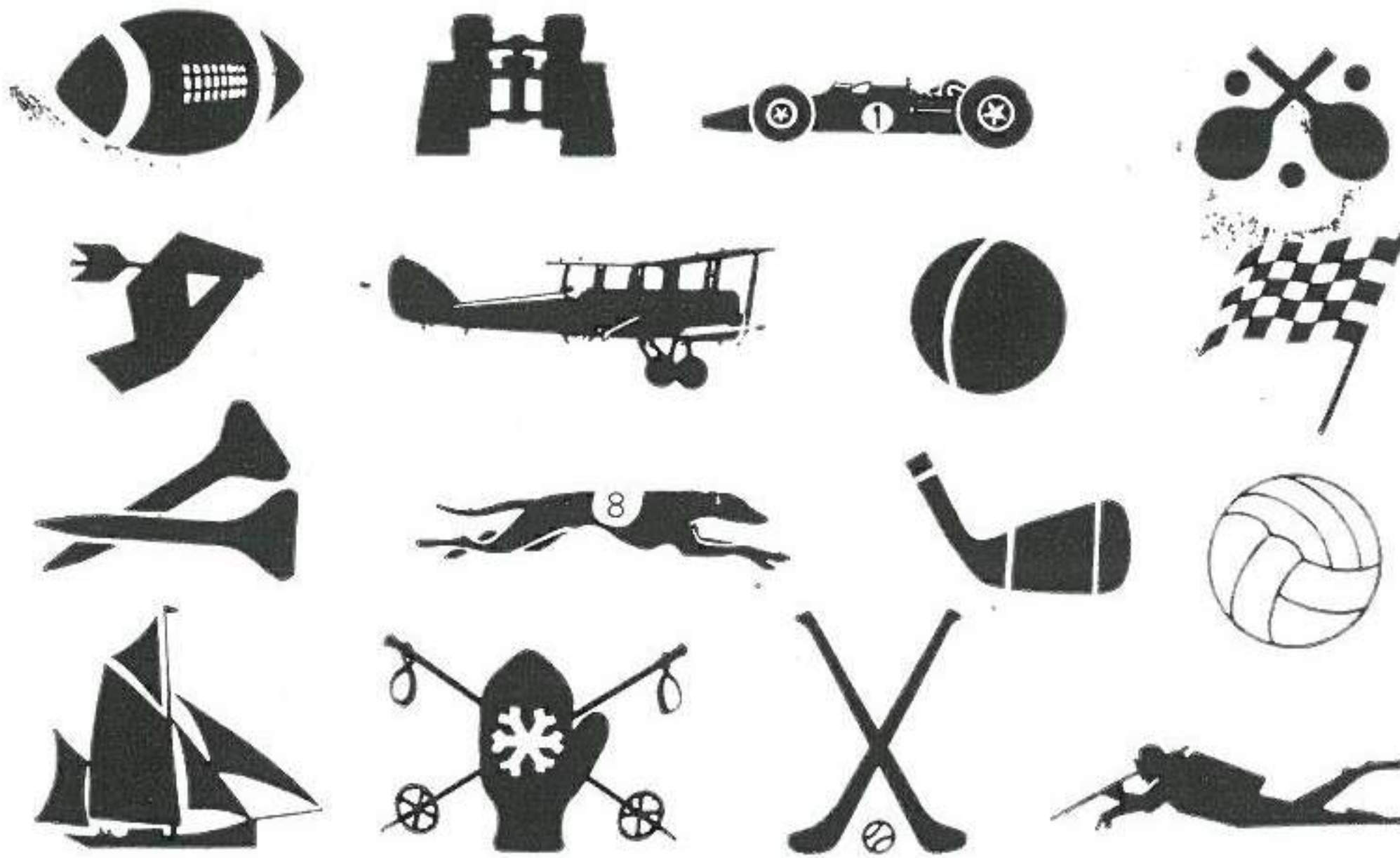
Then what is to happen the full-forward position (if Sammon goes midfield) or the centre-forward position (if Duggan goes out)? Or will they consider a fully-trained Rooney again either forward or midfield?

Curiously, now that last year's great fault of a non-trying forward line has been obviated, the staunch half-backs seem to have hellish trouble trying to adjust to the situation. So used to positioning as a dam against the flowing tide, they seem a little lost now the waves are not breaking over them but rather rippling towards them.

And there is the final difficulty of the corner backs. Dillon and Geraghty looked second string players against Donegal though they might well be a good deal better next time. Waldron and Colleran, fully fit and practised in play would be a great advantage. But we have seen it so often before — players injured in the campaign who have struggled to supposed fitness for the big game only to find it an entirely different kettle of fish on the day.

Waldron and Colleran are just names now. Their absence makes the hearts of all Galway grow fonder for them. They tend to wear the cloak of saviours in the circumstances. It would be well to remember that they too were not perfect at their best — no Enda Collerans or Bosco McDermotts — and unless they are certainly sound and certainly familiar with the ball and the pace and pressures of match-play, it might be imposing a most unfair role to play them.

Finally, Galway need to be 100% fitter than they were against Donegal — I say nothing of mental acuity, for that follows from physical sharpness. If so, it is still my opinion that they will show they have crossed the "class-line" into the champions' enclosure.



**Here's to
enjoyment**



Slainte Mineral Waters 45 Montpelier Hill, Dublin 7.

This final is a clash of similar styles

IT has been a soothing passage to the final for Galway. Each of their three matches was met with cautious confidence and each victory achieved without blemish.

But it must now be a source of anxiety to Galway that none of their three games presented any convincing proof that their team has the ability to overcome Dublin.

The very slight cracks which appeared here and there were too easily repaired by switches that seemed the perfect answer. And because the opposition of Mayo, Roscommon and Donegal was too weak to expose latent flaws, Galway now enter the final untested and perhaps unsure.

So one must go back further to weigh up their chances . . . back to last year's championship, to the final against Cork and, perhaps most of all, to the tradition which they carry with them into the final.

That tradition is built around their ability to represent their province with distinction in Croke Park. No opposition has appeared too powerful or has been tagged too favourably to be tackled

vehemently . . . and most times overcome.

They revel in being underdogs and it may be no harm to recall that in none of the finals during their three-in-a-row success in the sixties were they regarded as favourites. They appear to want to be classed as under-dogs so that when they win they will be considered an even greater team than if they had been favourites all along.

There are few who would consider the present team as good as that which stirred all Ireland with their victories in the sixties. The quality of the team can be judged only by the quality of the opposition, and the qualities of the opposition in Connacht this season have been way below that of the last decade.

For all their superiority in the semi-final there were some weaknesses which hardly went unnoticed by Kevin Heffernan. And to me most of those appeared to be in the vital positions . . . full back, centre-half and centrefield.

Neither Jack Cosgrove nor Tommy Joe Gilmore ever reached the standard which they have been known to reach and the full

back will have to improve considerably on this display if he is to check the wily thrusts of Dublin's Jimmy Keaveney.

Centrefield may also pose a problem for Galway. For while Willie Joyce played as well as he has ever done, he did not have the support he will need in the final if the team is to get an even break with Dublin's Middlemen.

But these are things which Galway have plenty of time to remedy and I am pretty sure the mentors will come up with a few switches that will iron out those problems.

Galway's strength all along has been their half-back line, and even if Gilmore and Liam O'Neill were for once not seen at their best I think victory against Dublin will hinge once more on this vital line.

Perhaps more than any other, the duel between Liam O'Neill and David Hickey is the one to be looked forward to. Hickey, it will be remembered, was one of the key players in Dublin's win over Cork, and all along Liam O'Neill has been one of the key players in Galway's victories.

There is nothing O'Neill likes more than to be given the job of policing an effective forward. He has succeeded so often and so well that I believe he will manage to hold Hickey in check. And with Gilmore and Johnny Hughes playing as well as they did in the early rounds they can effectively sever the supply to the dangerous Dublin full-forward line.

But the game will not consist of a few duels between opposing stars of each team. It will also consist of a clash of similar styles. The play for which each team is noted is that of short

● TO PAGE 39

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P. J. Carroll & Company Limited

ON THE SPOT...

by Tony Keegan

FULL marks to those razor-sharp readers who wrote to us to point out our unintentional mistake in last month's ON THE SPOT. Through an error in transmission the quiz carried only four separate sections, instead of five as stated in our introduction, and this naturally enough upset the points markings we suggested as a guide to measure your own rating.

However, we hope that this did not spoil your enjoyment of the quiz.

Now, here is your chance to test your knowledge of All-Ireland football final happenings.

This time we really have five separate sections, each consisting of five questions. Score five points for each question answered correctly, and the maximum is 100 points. So, here we go:

THE FINAL

1. Where was the first final, that of 1887, played — at Clonskeagh, in Dublin, at Thurles, the birthplace of the G.A.A., or at the Phoenix Park?

2. The 1958 final, in which Dublin regained the title after an interval of 16 years, was a unique game. Why?

3. The first goal in last year's final was scored in 2½ minutes by a Cork player. Can you remember who hit that goal?

4. Who recorded Galway's first score in the same game.

5. Back to the early days. What was the first Ulster county to appear in an All-Ireland senior final, and can you also name the year concerned?

THE TROPHY

1. The Sam Maguire Cup was first presented for the 1928 final. How many times have Dublin won the trophy?

2. How many times have Galway won it?

3. Only one county, other than Kerry, has taken the trophy three years in succession. Name the county?

4. Kildare were the first winners of the Sam Maguire Cup. Who captained the county to that historic success?

5. What was the last year that the Sam Maguire Cup and the Railway Cup both went to Leinster?

DUBLIN

1. Who is the odd man out here — Kevin Heffernan, John Timmons and Des Foley?

2. Only one goal was scored in the 1963 final, in which Dublin beat Galway. A Dublin player goaled — name the scorer?

3. How many Dublin footballers appeared with Leinster in the 1974 Railway Cup final win?

4. Jimmy Keaveney won a Leinster senior medal in 1965. True or false?

5. Who was at full forward for Dublin in their first round win this year over Wexford?

GALWAY

1. This footballer captained

Galway in the 1971 final. Who is he?

2. Who lined out at right full forward for Galway in last year's final?

3. In three All-Ireland senior finals from 1964 to 1966 inclusive, Galway scored only one goal. Name the final in which they recorded that goal, and also the scorer?

4. Goalkeeper Gay Mitchell is Galway's captain. Can you remember when a goalkeeper last led Galway to a Sam Maguire Cup win?

5. Coilin McDonagh, now making such an impression as a forward, won an All-Ireland senior medal in 1966. What position did he fill in that title-winning side?

GENERAL

1. How many Leinster titles have Dublin now won?

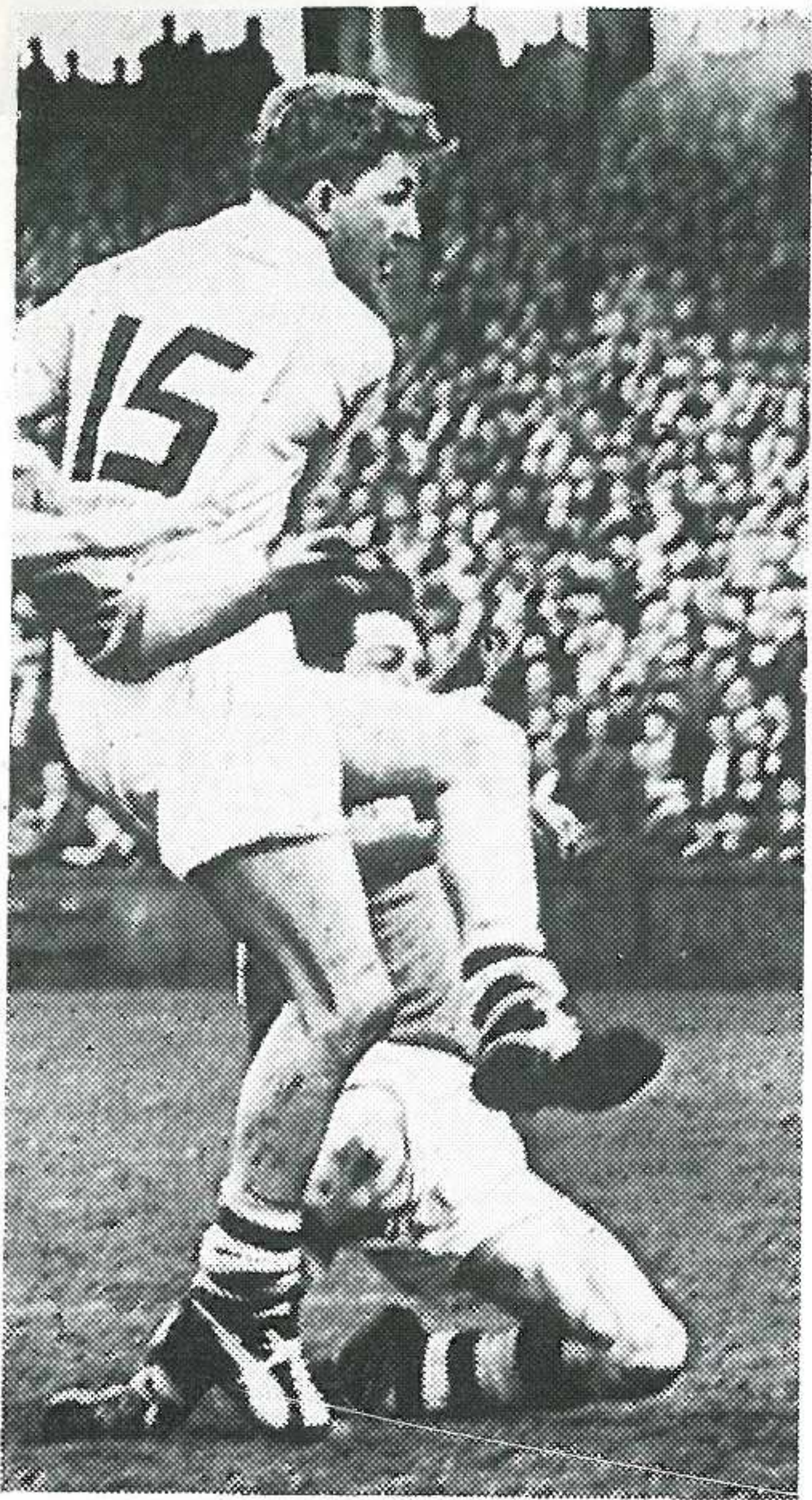
2. And Galway's success in Connacht this year brought their record to

3. List the clubs of the following players—Sean Doherty and Anton O'Toole, of Dublin, and Gay Mitchell and Jimmy Duggan, of Galway.

4. How many Galway players won All Stars awards last year, and name the players concerned.

5. Paddy Cullen was Dublin's only All Stars award winner in football last year. True or false?

● ANSWERS PAGE 35



● Kevin Heffernan (Dublin) in action.

BANNERS proclaiming Heffo's Army and pop records about Heffo's Heroes are an indication of the new wave of football enthusiasm that has flooded over Dublin this summer. They are also an acknowledgment by the supporters of the significant role Kevin Heffernan has played in the resurgence.

There can be no doubt that the team-manager has contributed as much as, if not more than, any of the players on the panel. His influence on the team has been enormous, his dictating of tactics based on his deep insight into the game has fashioned as many successes as the actual goals resulting from these tactics.

It was he who saw the need for

a seasoned campaigner to bind up the exuberance of the younger players, so he used his powers of persuasion on Jimmy Keaveney. Psychologically Jimmy's presence in the attack was a big boost to the team, but there are also the other aspects of his play: his superb marksmanship and his adeptness in movement so that space can be opened up for the other forwards.

Kevin Heffernan, a busy executive with the E.S.B., had to withdraw from his role as Dublin's adviser-in-chief two years ago. But a man who left such an impact on Dublin football as player and coach for nearly 30 years must have been saddened by the slump that took the county

Heffernan's in Dublin great results

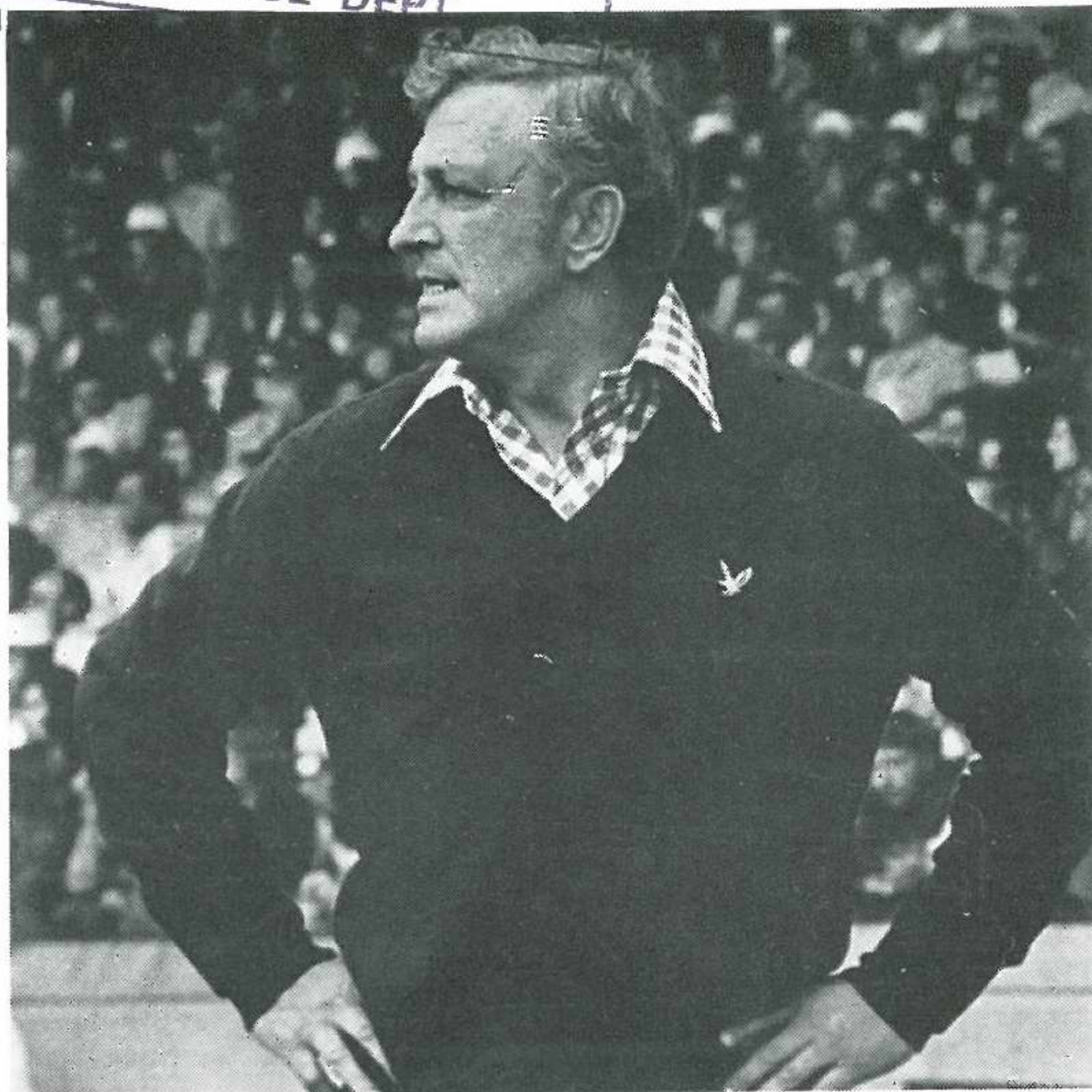
By MICK DUNNE (of RTE Sport)

plunging down to Division 2 of the league.

It was then at the blackest moment in the county's football history that Heffernan answered the call to take over again as team-manager. It would have been so easy, once the break had been made, to say "no" and continue to devote his free time to the game of golf, at which he has had increasing success. But the challenge was obviously one that appealed to a man who had so enjoyed the battle of wits with so many opposing defences when he was one of the most celebrated forwards in football.

Some will say that it couldn't have been a difficult decision to make; that when Heffernan took

s role in's rgence



● Kevin Heffernan . . . transformed an ordinary team into a great one.

over last September there was no where the team could go but up. Nonsense. Dublin might have continued on the slippery path and it was possible to suffer even greater indignity by losing to teams like Kilkenny, Waterford and Limerick in Division 2. You can be full sure Heffernan was very much aware of the responsibility he was taking on.

What happened is now history. Dublin started back on a winning pattern and romped through Division 2 until they lost to Clare when they already had promotion safely in their grasp. In a recent chat I had with Heffernan he made the very important point that Dublin's stay in Division 2 was no great curse at all. "When a team has got into the state Dublin had, it's important that they win matches," he said. And the league gave us that chance. Granted they were against some

of the weaker counties, but it got the players into the habit of winning again and that did a lot to build up their confidence."

Still, watching Dublin in such a humble section of the league must have pained a player who contributed so magnificently to the county's triumphs in the National League in the 'fifties. But now that's all past and the winning streak, begun in the league, has continued long enough to take the team to the summit of football glory.

Heffernan's role in all this is emphasised by everyone connected with the team. When I asked Sean Doherty, the captain how he explained the transformation in a year he didn't hesitate for a second: "Heffernan's responsible." The big full-back added: "We had the football in us, but we needed someone to hammer it into us. We hadn't any confi-

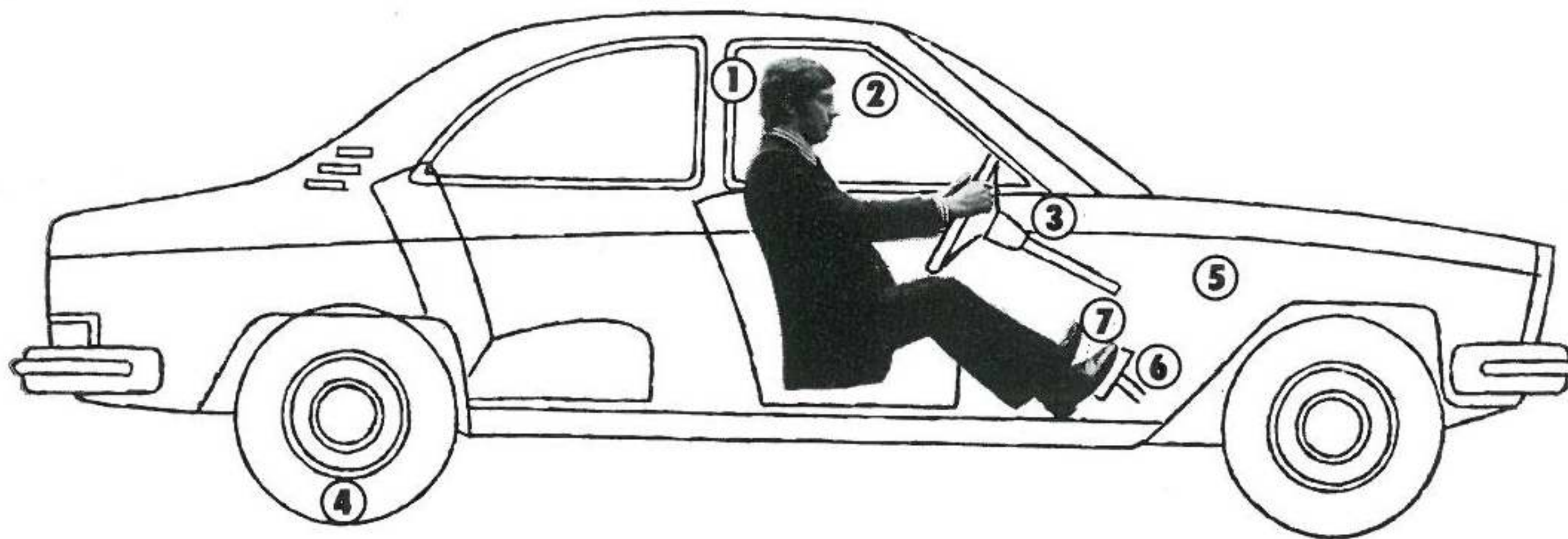
ence and that's where Kevin played a very important part."

Kevin is an articulate expounder of his theories on the game. He is a highly intelligent "reader" of the play and very much aware of the tensions and problems confronting a team in the championship. From experience in the past, he is alive to the danger of over-confidence that could creep into the team as a result of the victory over the All-Ireland champions and he is just the one to make sure it doesn't go to the players' heads.

All of this knowledge and experience Heffernan has been building up since the days when he was a schoolboy star with St. Joseph's C.B.S. in Fairview and picked as a minor hurler and footballer for the county. Only 19 when he was first picked by Leinster he won a sixth Railway Cup medal in 1961.

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50 years in Ireland



● Sean Doherty
(Dublin)

The rival captains

By MICK DUNNE (of RTE Sport)



● Gay Mitchell
(Galway)

IT was appropriate that the captains of the All-Ireland final teams should have produced superb form in the semi-finals. If the general fails how can you reasonably expect the troops behind to keep pushing forward with confidence.

This year both Sean Doherty for Dublin and Gabriel Mitchell for Galway have shown outstanding qualities of leadership and, rather than being a burden on them, the responsibility of the captaincy appears to have increased their own self-assurance. Doherty was positively invincible against Cork; Mitchell showed great courage and adventure in his goalkeeping against Donegal.

It added to the merit of Doherty's semi-final performance that the man he confronted was none other than Ray Cummins,

one of the truly best full-forwards of modern times. But right through the championship Sean has been a bulwark in the defence.

He is a Dublinman by adoption, having been born in Ashford, Co. Wicklow, 28 years ago last July. He went to school in Wicklow town until the age of 12 when his family moved to Dublin and then he entered Oatlands College, Mount Merrion.

In 1968 he was picked on the Dublin junior team, his first appearance in the sky blue jersey, and the following year he was the junior captain. At the end of '68 he was brought on to the senior side for the league and has been a regular in championship football since '69 with infrequent appearances as a corner back and once or twice at centre half.

Needless to say his preference is for full-back.

Confidence was something Gabriel Mitchell appeared to lack when he came onto the senior team in 1970 and there was a period when he was not in regular possession of the goalie's jersey. But in the past year he has grown in stature as a keeper and is now cutting quite a dash in the more protected area of the smaller rectangle. His bravery in advancing to cut off the danger from Seamus Bonner early in the semi-final was typical of his new-found confidence and it was unfortunate that Bonner should have had to retire after the collision.

Gabriel was 26 last March and was a minor in 1963 and has been one of the leading figures of the famed Dunmore McHales club for several years.

ANSWERS

● FROM PAGE 31

THE FINAL

1. Clonskeagh; 2. Derry appeared for the only time in a senior final that year; 3. Jimmy Barry-Murphy; 4. Morgan Hughes, a point in the first minute; 5. Antrim, in the 1911 final, in which they lost to Cork.

THE TROPHY

1. Three times; 2. Six wins; 3. Galway in 1964, 1965 and 1966; 4.

Bill Gannon; 5. 1954, when Leinster beat Connacht, and Meath accounted for Kerry.

DUBLIN

1. John Timmons. Kevin Hefernan and Des Foley are former All-Ireland title winning captains, having led Dublin in 1958 and 1963 respectively; 2. Gerry Davey in the 39th Minute; 3. One, George Wilson, although Paddy Cullen was among the substitutes; 4. True; 5. Bobby Brogan.

GALWAY

1. Liam Sammon; 2. Johnny

Coughlan; 3. The 1966 game with Meath, and the scorer was Matty McDonagh; 4. 1956, when Jack Mangan led Galway from the No. 1 position; 5. Right half back.

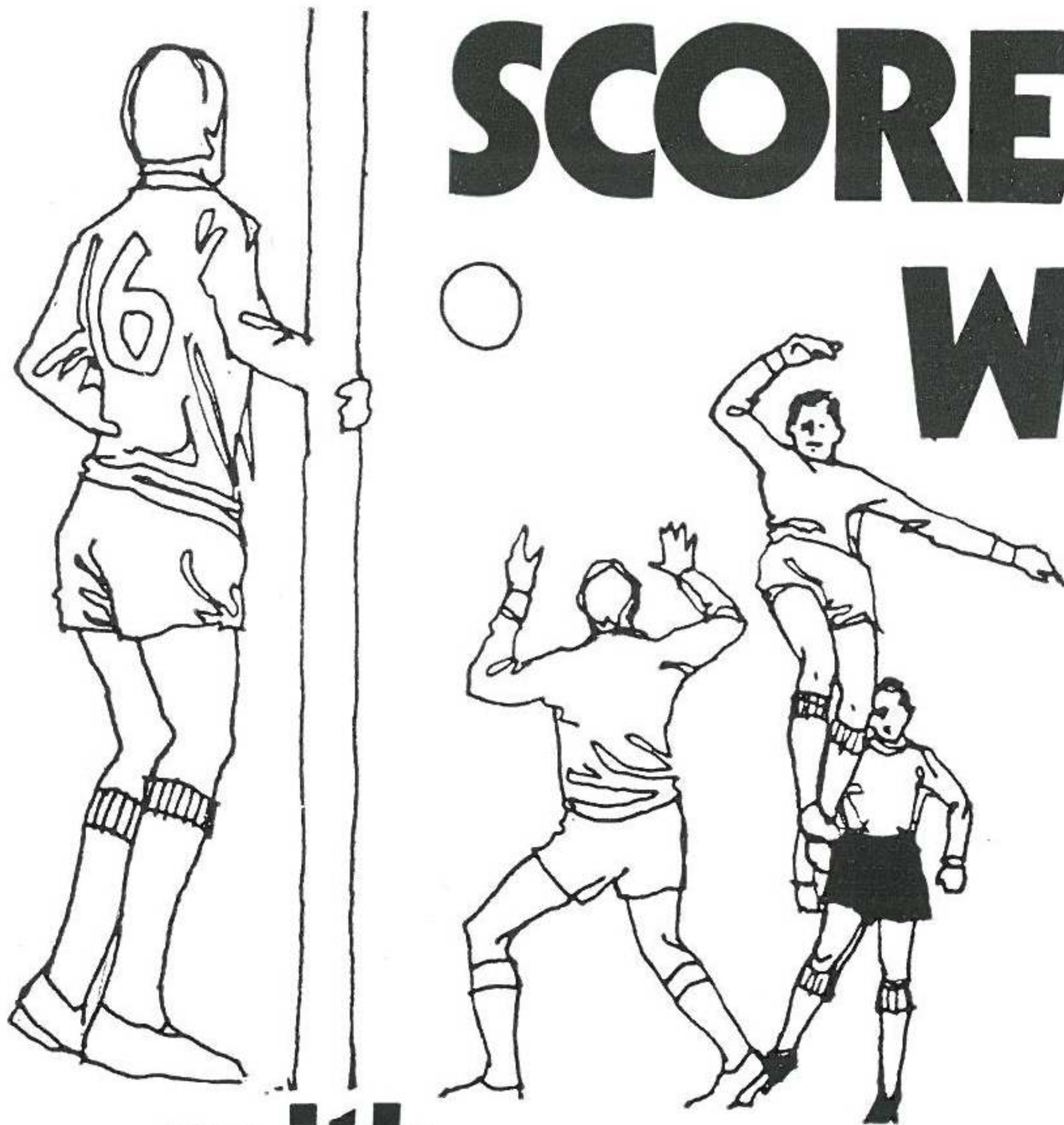
GENERAL

1. 30; 2. 30 titles as well; 3. Ballyboden St. Endas and Synge Street P.P., and Dunmore McHales and Corofin; 4. Three—Liam O'Neill, Tommy Joe Gilmore and Liam Sammon; 5. False, however, Cullen kept goal for the All Stars against Cork in San Francisco earlier this year.

St. Bernard

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SCRAPBOOK

1963

By
Tony
Reid

THIS month I open the pages of my scrapbook eleven years back in time. It was in that year, 1963, that this year's opponents, Dublin and Galway, last met in the football decider. Because the story of the 1963, battle for supremacy between Dublin and Galway was such an engrossing one I've decided not to touch on that year's hurling events, although both Kilkenny and Waterford served up one of the all-time classics in the final. The story of that thriller will have to wait another day.

The third highest attendance in the Association's history filled Croke Park when the "Dubs" and the men from the Corrib lined out to do battle. The 87,106 spectators were to witness an intriguing contest and one that produced a major talking point that has existed to this day among Galway supporters.

From the throw-in Galway immediately went on attack and Seamus Leydon sent wide at the railway end. In fact in the next three minutes the westerners attack missed another great scoring opportunity and made very poor use of two fifties taken by John Donnellan. Just after the third minute Mattie McDonagh got the initial score, a point. The maroon and white flags were raised exultantly at this psychologically important first flag.

Galway should have added another score moments later but Cyril Dunne missed badly. In fact the Galway attack was now beginning to adopt a trend that would ultimately prove disastrous to their hopes. The chances were being created but not being put to good use.

Dublin eventually launched a serious attack in the seventh minute and Mickey Whelan notched

a fine point to level the scores. Four minutes later he repeated the feat and Dublin were ahead.

From a well taken free kick by Reynolds, John Keenan sent the ball between the uprights for the equalising point for the Connaught champions. A quarter of an hour had now elapsed and it was becoming clear that the Dublin midfield pairing of John Timmons and Des Foley was not at all happy. The fault lay not with Foley but with the sadly off-form Timmons. The Galway attack were getting plenty of the ball but their finishing efforts were deplorable.



● Lar Foley (Dublin)

In the nineteenth minute Mattie McDonagh pointed for Galway and three minutes later Whelan levelled. The close nature of the game sent the tension graph way up the chart and frequent fouling tended to spoil the continuity of play. It was frustrating stuff. Another three minutes passed and Cyril Dunne notched another Galway point and seconds later he was on the target again with another minor. This followed a fine move between Donnellan and Leydon that should have produced a goal. Just as Referee, Eamonn Moules of Wicklow, was about to signal half time, Des Ferguson sent over for a Dublin point, to leave it 0-6 0-4, in Galway's favour, at the break.

It was during the interval break that the Dublin mentors pulled the switch that changed the entire game.

With John Timmons having a nightmare first half the selectors decided to switch Mickey Whelan to midfield to partner Des Foley. Also, the wing halves, Des McKane and Mick Kissane changed placings. The stout-hearted Paddy Holden had retired ten minutes before the break with a head injury and this had a most unsettling effect on the Leinster men's defence.

The changes soon had a dramatic effect. The defence solidified and Whelan and Foley began to lord it in the middle of the field. Dublin began to put the

● TO PAGE 39

A stylized graphic at the top of the advertisement features a sun with rays rising behind a series of overlapping, scalloped clouds. The sun and clouds are rendered in white outlines against a solid black background.

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Premier Dairies
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● FROM PAGE 37

pressure on and the Galway defenders didn't like it one little bit. Points by Whelan and Noel Fox brought the sides level once more. Then Brian McDonald sent in a perfectly flighted line ball, Simon Behan broke it down and the speedy Gerry Davey, just as he had done against Down in the semi-final, sent the ball scorching to the back of the Galway net. Dublin fans were now ecstatic and the scent of victory for the metropolitans was strong in the air. A minute later, and with only nineteen remaining, Seamus Leydon punched a Galway point. This was the signal for an all-out ten minute siege of the Dublin defence.

It was during this severe pressure that Leo Hickey stood out like a colossus in the Dublin defence as he repulsed raid after raid with brilliant fielding and prodigious clearances and with Bill Casey in support, they kept the Maroon men in check. In the half back division Paddy Downey, who had come on for the luckless Holden, was also having a "stormer."

Mickey Whelan temporarily eased the pressure when he put Dublin three points ahead again with another minor. Then McDonagh gave renewed hope to the maroon-clad brigade with a splendid point, only for Timmons to notch a similar score a minute later. With Galway still very much in the picture the excite-

ment was heart-attacking but the western forwards were destroying all the good work of Mattie McDonagh by thoroughly wasteful approach work.

Another point, this time from John Keenan, with nine minutes to go, kept western hopes high. With only four minutes play left McDonagh cut Dublin's lead to a bare point. But it was not to be Galway's day. With almost the final kick of the game John Timmons pointed for Dublin and the title was theirs for the 17th time.

And that talking point I mentioned earlier that is still a bone of contention among Galway folk?

It happened this way. Mick Garrett caught a high centre just outside the Dublin square and surged forward into the "box" before being grounded. Referee Moules had no hesitation in awarding a fourteen yard free to Galway but suddenly decided to consult the umpires. After a brief pow-wow, while 87,106 human beings ceased almost to breathe while awaiting the outcome, he changed his decision and Dublin were let off the hook. The incident happened at a vital stage of the match for Galway who were making a determined effort to get back into the game.

Was it a penalty? Perhaps yes, perhaps no, but it certainly provided one of those all-time controversies that will never be satisfactorily concluded. In the minds of Galway fans there was only



● Paddy Holden (Dublin)

one decision that could have resulted and that was a penalty and you will never convince them otherwise.

Even allowing for all that it was a case of inept Galway shooting that was the real cause of their downfall. Now after eleven years, they have the chance to put the record straight in this, their fifth All-Ireland meeting with Dublin. Dublin lead with three wins to one and a most interesting point to note is that no more than two points have ever separated the sides in a final.

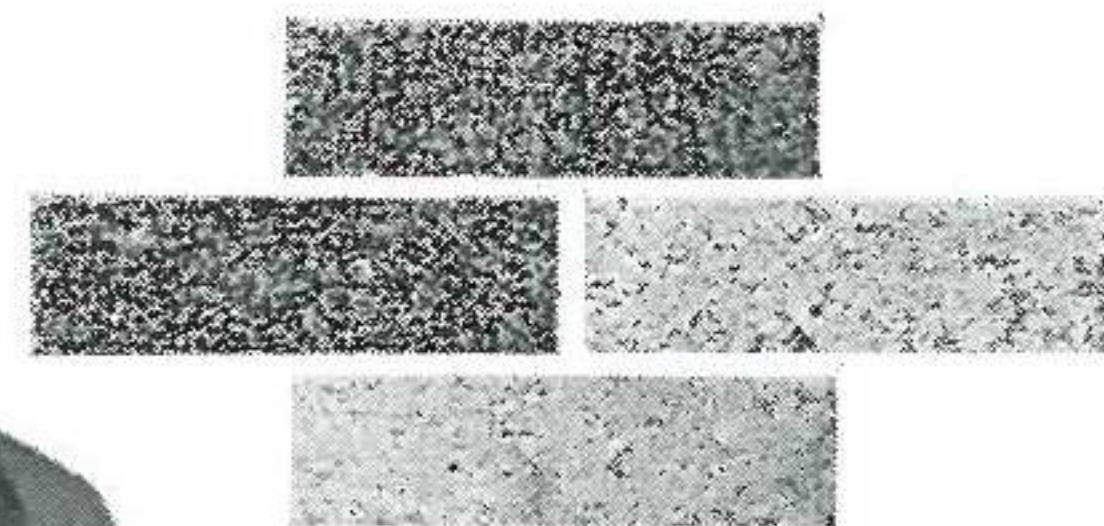
Clash of Similar Styles

● FROM PAGE 29

passing movements and a dovetailing of players.

It is the promise of this open football that brings to this game the prospect of a thrilling finale to a dullish enough season. Dublin will be favourites. They have had the tougher campaign and have improved with each game.

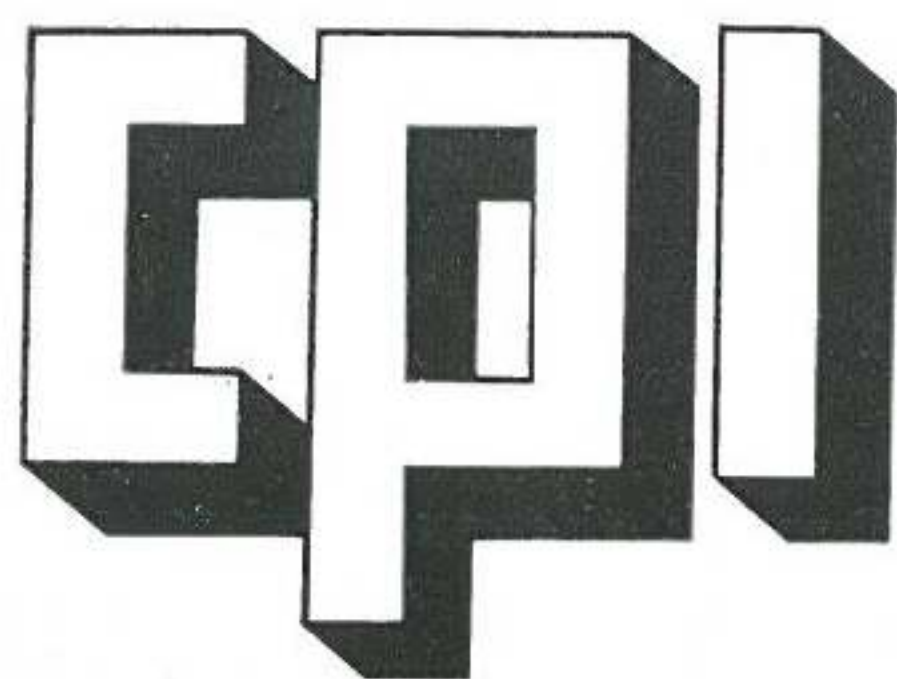
But Galway have the experience . . . the experience of last year's final and, for Duggan, Sammon and McDonagh the experience of being part of that great team of 1966. All that will count in a final which must be the most open for years, but which, in my view, will end in Galway's first victory of this decade.



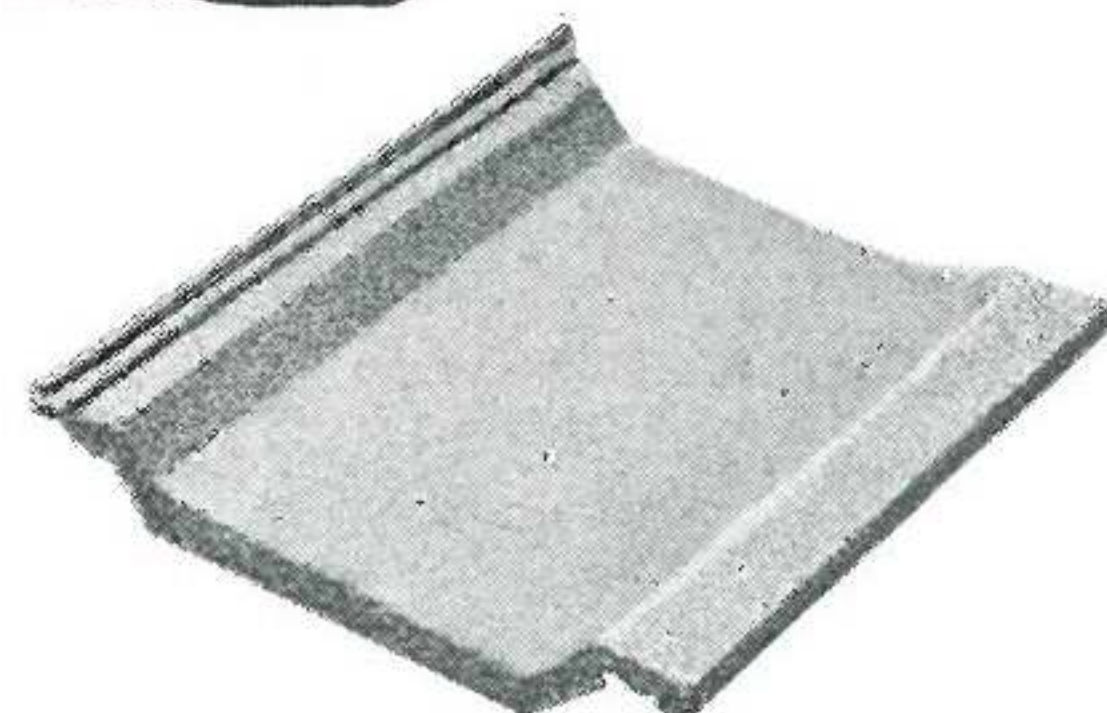
BESSER BRICKS

A GREAT MATCH

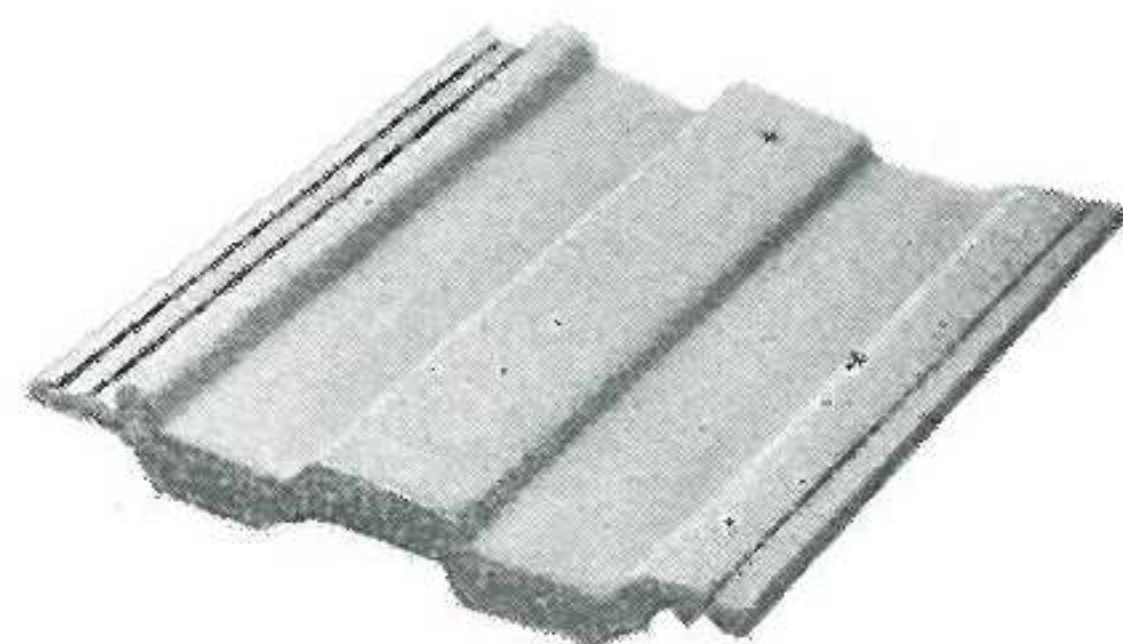
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WESSEX



LUDLOW



PANTILE

Galway's John Tobin

By SEAN RICE

OCCASIONALLY, like a bolt from the blue, a young footballer hits the headlines . . . and overnight a star is made. Some go on to fulfil the promise which those headlines conveyed. Others disappoint.

John Tobin is not a manufactured star . . . he is a born one. For his promise was announced before he hit the headlines against Donegal in the semi-final. He had not scored two goals and six points in any game for Galway before, but his potential was spotted as far back as his college days in Tuam C.B.S. where he played his football.

He was always seen as a natural footballer who was almost always one step ahead of his opponent. He never mixed it, but had the ability to weigh up his opponent pretty quickly and then to devise a mental plan to outfox him.

The Galway man has carried those attributes with him all the way from his juvenile days right through the minor and under 21 ranks and onto the senior team with which he is now seeking his first All-Ireland medal.

He won a county minor medal with his native Tuam Stars and has been a regular on the Stars senior team for the past couple of years and for whom he has been consistently good.

All through the present campaign the left-corner forward has played a leading part in each of the team's successes. Apart at all from the fact that he is Galway's regular place-kicker, he has also added to his growing reputation as one of the most accurate forwards in the game.

Tobin's slight stature would hardly give the impression that he poses any great threat to a corner back, and particularly to one with the reputation of Donal Monaghan who was the cornerstone of Donegal's win over Down.

That reputation was in tatters at the end of the semi-final . . . and Tobin's had grown im-

mensely. True, the Galwayman's first goal was scored at a time when Monaghan had not time to settle, but that excuse could not be valid for the second goal which followed a fine piece of work by Liam Sammon.

Indeed, it was that partnership between Tobin and Sammon which contributed largely to the Connacht representatives' march into the final. Each seemed to know how the other was thinking as if they had been playing together all their lives.

When one came out the other moved in. That was the play that made Purcell and Stockwell famous. Tobin and Sammon could be their worthy successors.

A trainee physical education instructor, Tobin puts his whole heart into preparation. And his short, snappy action on the field would seem to be inviting the wrath of his opponent. Yet, his change of pace and position are enough to puzzle any defender and make up considerably for his lack of weight and height.

It is this quick, snappy action and the results it brings that has distinguished him in a forward line that has known many stars. And his best days have yet to come.

Another Trophy for the "Dubs"

Seen admiring the Player-Wills Cup for the annual Tournament organised by Erin's Isle Sports Club, Finglas, are (l. to r.): Peter Reaney, Hon. Sec. Erin's Isle Sports Club, Eddie Boylan, Chairman, Niall O'Flynn, Public Relations Manager, Player-Wills and Hugh McCaffrey, Hon. Treasurer of the Club. The match this year was between Dublin and Offaly with victory going to the "Dubs" 2-7 to 0-9.



Worms in Pigs:

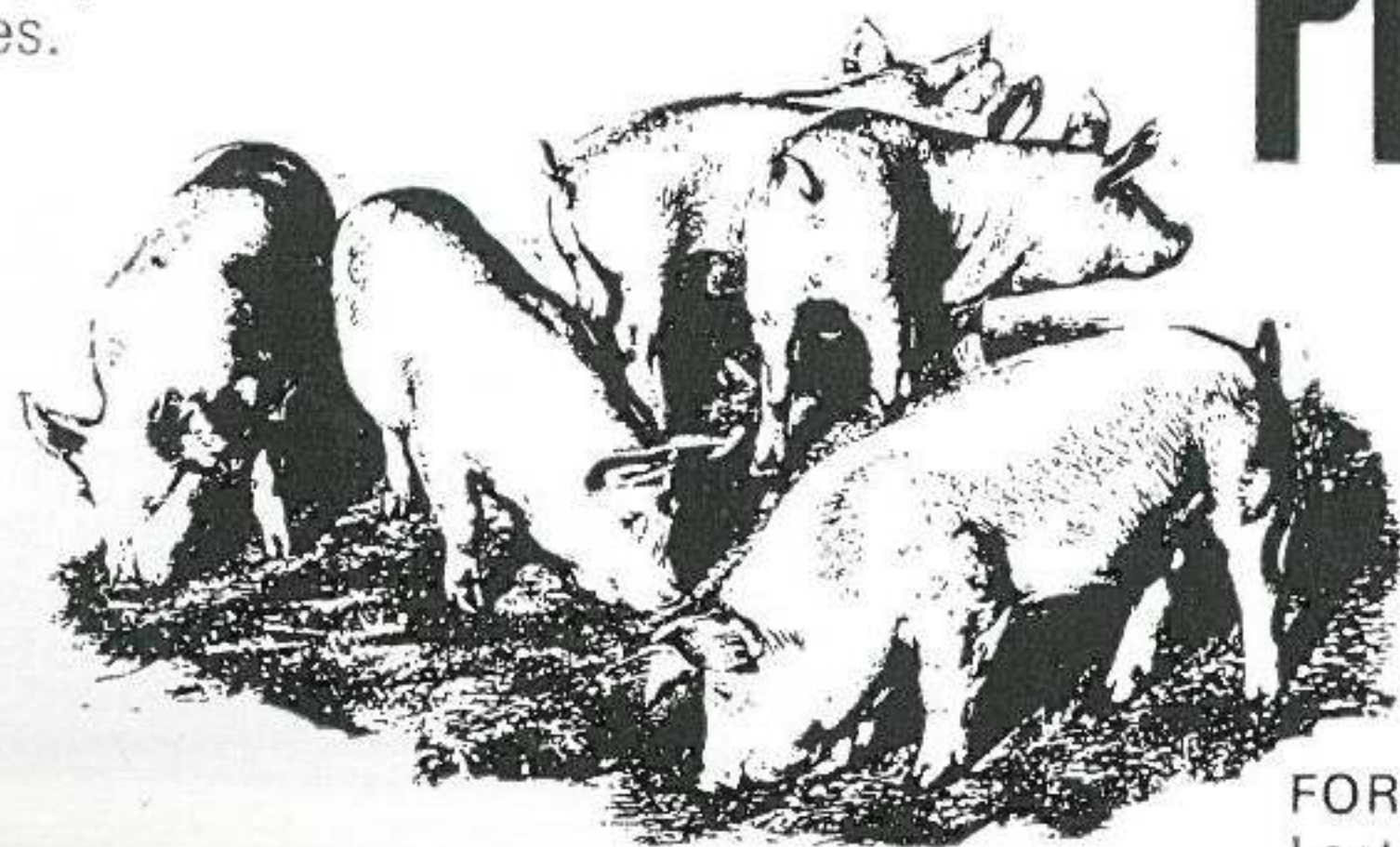
Do you know these basic facts?

1 There are four types of worms. Most pig farmers are well aware of the harmful effects of large roundworm (ascaris). But stomach worm (Hyostrongylus), nodular worm (Oesophagostomum) and lungworm (Metastrongylus) dangers, are not so well known. Today, these three worms are probably more important than the large roundworm as a major cause of loss in productivity. In recent years piperazine has been used to control roundworm, and has been combined with other drugs to control stomach and nodular worms. **But none of these preparations control lungworm.**

2 Long before worms show, they can cripple herd performance. Sows can eat greedily, but fail to make proper use of the food. So infected sows rarely produce enough milk to suckle bonhams properly. Result? Growth rate reduced and needless expense on extra feeding incurred. And if infection becomes heavy, you can suffer ruinous bonham losses.

3 Most pig farms show infestation by two or three worm types. Use a wormer which copes with *all* types of worm. Irregular dosing with outdated preparations may not only endanger herd health, but can be largely ineffective. If you are going to dose at all, then it makes sense to do the job properly.

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MY HEAD VOTES FOR GALWAY

MY HEART HOPES FOR DUBLIN

By RAYMOND SMITH



NO matter how the Final goes, I shall remember it as the season of Dublin's return—the season when suddenly overnight there was a new feeling of excitement in the air and in the days that followed the Metropolitans' memorable win over Cork, you could sense something of the build-up that was so evident in the lead up to the 1955 Dublin-Kerry decider.

No team can set the adrenalin coursing in the veins as can a good Dublin side when they sweep back after a period in the wilderness. It was not alone the fact that they toppled the 1973 champions in the semi-final that set the football world talking, but the impressive manner of their victory. Even after their five successive victories in taking the Leinster crown, there were many people who were still not prepared to accept that "The Dubs" were back. But the semi-final success changed all that. Physically I thought they were one of the finest Dublin sides I have seen to grace Croke Park and in fielding they had the edge on Cork all the way.

It was football that won for Dublin in the end, football of such a refreshing, purposeful standard that after all the dragging and pulling I had seen in matches that were merely apologies for the code of "gaelic", I felt like someone who had arrived in an oasis after being too long in the desert. It takes Dublin to create a sense of rejuvenation.

Along with good football, teamwork of a high order and a commendable do-or-die spirit, they brought atmosphere too—and vocal backing that showed that their supporters would not hear of defeat. Who can forget the spontaneous victory scenes and the way Sean Doherty, the captain was chaired all the way down the touch-line and then raised a giant panda aloft in a salute to the dancing enthusiasts on Hill 16 and behind the Railway goal?

What will it be like when he leads them out on All-Ireland Day? And what will the scenes be like if Dublin pull it off? These thoughts alone make us look forward with great eagerness to the day and personally I am not all that worried who wins—it promises to be a hum-dinger of an occasion.

My fear is that like Holland in the World Cup, Dublin may have reached their peak in bringing about the downfall of Cork, as the Dutch maestros reached theirs in beating Brazil. Jimmy Duggan made the point to me that Galway attained their peak last year in halting Offaly's bid for the three-timer. And he said too that while Dublin had a number of really outstanding individuals against Cork (he mentioned Doherty, David Hickey and Steve Rooney, in particular), few Galwaymen had really starred against Donegal. That in itself made him happy. They must be better on the day that mattered.

It's to Galway's advantage also

that three of their players (Liam Sammon, Jimmy Duggan and Colie McDonagh) have already won All-Ireland medals with the 1966 team and will actually be appearing in their third Final. At least five others have played in two and most have played in one. Dublin, with all the pressure on them and their supporters not prepared to even countenance the word defeat, would not be human if they did not feel the tension in the dressing room. Some of them could be affected in the early stages of the game and this is the period in which Duggan, Sammon and McDonagh and quicksilver Johnny Tobin, destroyer of Donegal, will be hoping to strike early and decisively.

Against that, however, I formed the definite impression in the Donegal-Galway match that if the Galway defence left the wide open gaps against the Dublin attack that were presented to the Donegal attackers, then Jimmy Keaveney and company must have a field day. Nothing Sean Doherty saw in that game has shaken the belief he formed after the defeat of Offaly that this is going to be Dublin's year.

Galway will counter by pointing out that stalwart centre-back Tommy Joe Gilmore had been suffering from 'flu and that they were short regular corner-backs Joe Waldron and Brendan Coleran. Granted. But I came away with the feeling that the speed

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● FROM PAGE 49

and verve that Dublin had shown against what had looked a fine Cork defence against Kerry could really trouble this Galway back line and Dublin, believe me, won't be dropping them in high, almost with frost on them, against Jack Cosgrove as Donegal were. The tactics will be quite different.

So much will depend on mid-field then—and that is not said lightly. Either attack can win it with the right flow of the ball and Galway weren't impressive in this sector against Donegal, whereas Dublin certainly were against Cork. I thought nothing could stop Cork retaining their crown after watching them beating Kerry in the rain in Killarney and shouldn't I, therefore, be plumping for Dublin now?

But Cork weren't the team they were on All-Ireland Day last year and Sean Purcell remarked to me that a county cannot set the League aside almost and hope to touch peak form on a day of their own choosing. It doesn't always work out that way. Cork just weren't fit enough.

I like the strength and experience of the Galway line down the centre. They say it's the hallmark of an All-Ireland winning team. The Galway players who have already lost two chances of an All-Ireland medal this decade don't want to hear of losing a third. It's a great spur in itself. But Dublin, in turn, have the kind of support and the confidence now, after that victory over Cork, that could carry them all the way—as in 1963.

I find it very hard, indeed, to make a definite forecast—so many imponderables but on the score of experience and the fact that they have been "there before", I give Galway the vote. But for the future of football and gaelic games in Dublin city, my heart will be secretly with the Metropolitans.

IT ONLY BEGAN IN 1960

THE fact that the Cork minors will be in action at Croke Park on All-Ireland final day hardly comes as a surprise to anyone today. Why should it, seeing that those young footballers in the red jerseys have been there for five of the last seven finals?

In fact, the Leesiders' recent run of success has placed them third in the honours list behind Dublin and Kerry, who each hold seven All-Ireland minor titles to Cork's five.

It seems a long time now since that overcast afternoon in 1960 when I was almost crushed to death in the huge crowd congregated near the Cusack Stand. History was made that day—the Sam Maguire Cup was taken across the border for the very first time—and everybody was saying it was good for the game.

But for the Cork supporters in the 87,768 attendance there

wasn't much to get excited about. Pat Curley, the McGanns and the other Cork minors were no match for a Galway side which was happily sowing the seeds of future greatness in senior ranks. In order to do so they beat our lads by thirteen points.

Still, you can't expect miracles to happen the first time you reach an All-Ireland final. Cork were back in Croke Park the following year and this time there were no mistakes.

With Ray Cawley in goal and a stolid full-back line, Des Nagle, John McGrath and Vince Cronin fronted by Gussie Harrington, Brendan Larkin and Jim O'Donoghue, the Mayo forwards hadn't a hope of achieving anything like the 4-9 scored by Galway the previous year. In fact, they had to be content with five points.

A lively youngster named Frank Cogan was there at midfield with Ned Coughlan, and the forwards, who upset the Mayo backs to the tune of 3-7, were Flor Hayes, Donal Barrett, Denis Philpott, Tom Burke, Mick Archer and Tom Monaghan.

These were the lads who helped Cork win their first minor football title in 1961 and, appropriately, the biggest atten-

dance ever recorded at Croke Park (90,556) saw them do it.

In 1964 the Cork boys returned to Croke Park and Charlie McCarthy was one of the players seeking two All-Ireland medals that year. He got one—the hurling award—but Tony McTague ensured that Offaly won the football title.

Two years later Ray Cummins captained the Cork side, which reached the semi-final, but Mayo, the ultimate winners, checked their progress that summer.

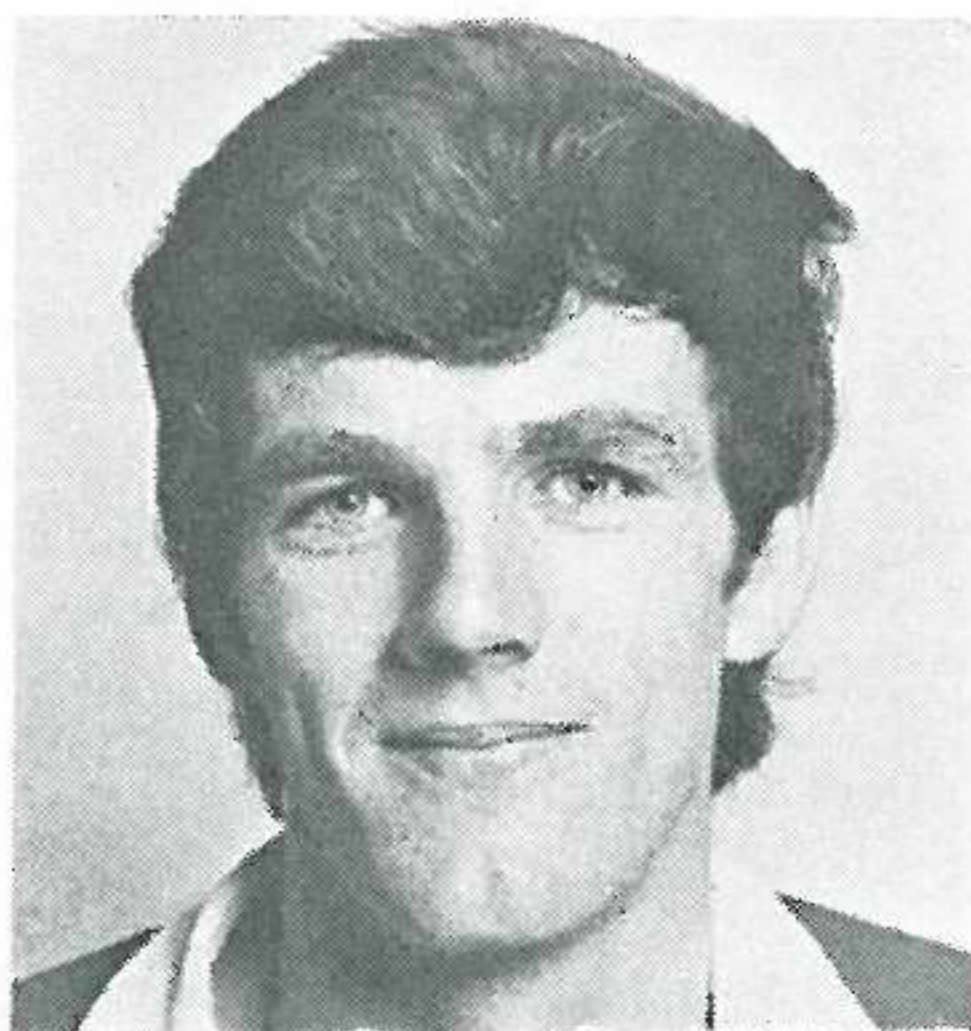
The following year, 1967, the Cork minors won their second title with the aid of future senior players, Jimmy Barrett, Denis Long, Donal Hunt, Ned Kirby, Kevin Kehilly, Seamus Looney, Teddy O'Brien and Simon Murphy.

Sixty-eight brought title No. 3 and the promising new players who collected their medals included Declan Barron, Connie Hartnett, John Coleman, Tony Murphy and Martin Doherty.

There can be no doubt that these minor wins of '67 and '68 paved the way for Cork's senior success last year. And just to ensure that the future remains bright for the county footballers, two more titles were collected in '69 and '72.

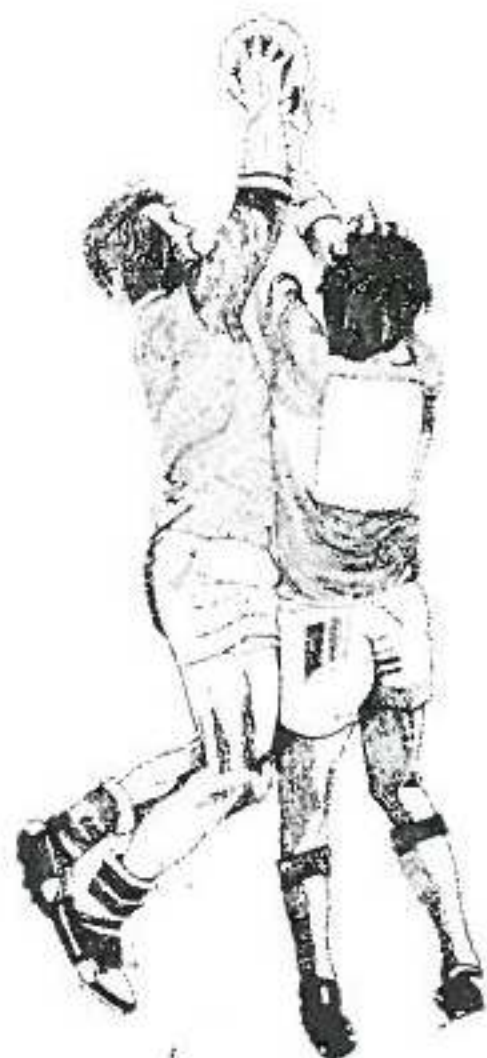
The present Cork minor team have a fair crop of budding stars in their ranks as well. Eugene Desmond is captain and Tadhgie Murphy, Tom Cashman, Johnny Crowley, Ritchie Kenny, Declan Murphy, Jim Stanley, Dermot McCarthy and Finbarr Delaney are the boys to watch.

They have a tough task in store for them against a giant-sized Mayo team but this shouldn't deter them from following the great example of their recent predecessors. A Cork victory won't surprise anybody.



● RAY CUMMINS
Brilliant minor of '66

GAA Reporting by Paddy Downey in THE IRISH TIMES



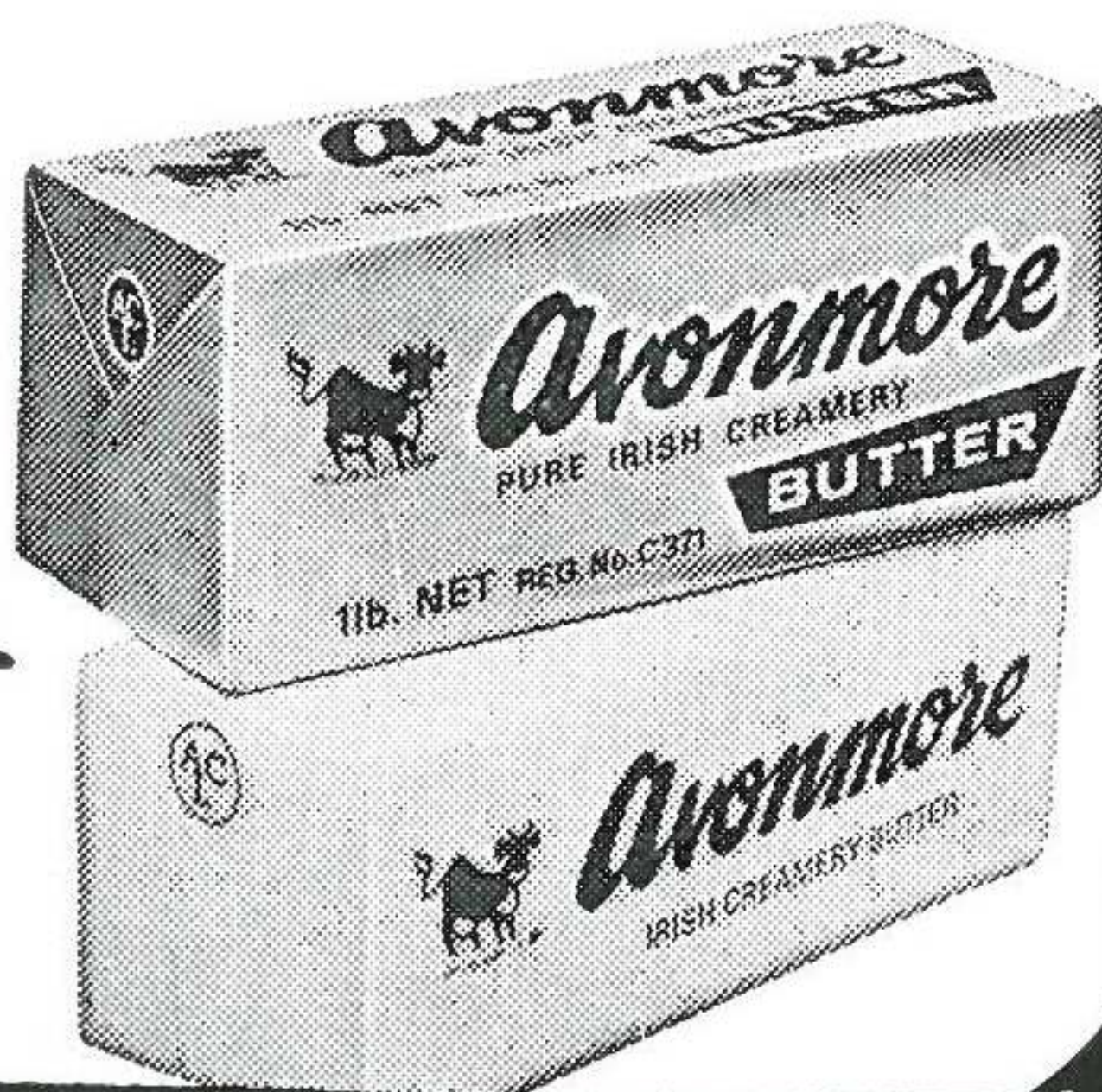
Paddy Downey, Gaelic Games correspondent, writes with knowledge, insight, sound judgement and a flair for capturing the colour and thrills of the big occasion and big occasions are many in Gaelic Games. His reports and comments are balanced and fair but then, you'd expect all that from a writer who has won the **Gallagher Award** for the best National Sports Story of the Year — not once but twice in succession — and that's the highest prize there is in Irish Sports journalism. Read **The Irish Times** and judge for yourself. Of course it's not just a one-man team. You'll like the rest of them too.

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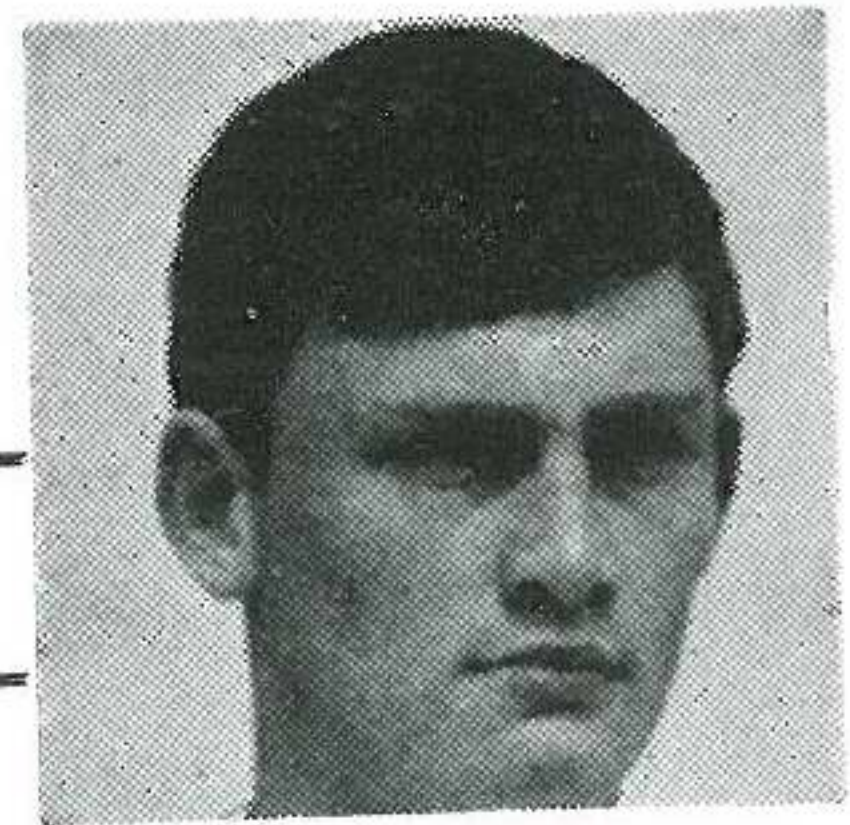


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THE COROFIN STYLIST

... Jimmy Duggan's the name



● Jimmy Duggan

By EAMONN YOUNG

BIG, broad-shouldered, square-jawed and black-haired he swept past with the ball in his big hands, dug a left heel into the soft ground and swung a mighty right-footed belt away down the field. Hard, direct, powerful . . . this fella Duggan meant business.

That's thirty-four years ago now when Cork played Galway over in Loughrea. Tull Dunne was in the centre of the field and John Burke that grand Clare footballer was flying on the forty and arguing with our man, another fine player though lesser known (for Cork wasn't mapped then) named Dick Harnedy.

Joe was this Duggan man's name. A schoolboy athlete in Roscrea who as a student at UCG represented Ireland at the White City. In 1940 Joe won the National shot-putt and 16 years after won discus, shot and 56 pounds at the age of 39.

In '38 Galway beat Kerry in the All-Ireland but didn't get that far in '39. In '40 with Joe Duggan at centrefield with John Dunne the future seemed bright but Kerry won it. In the following year with the same centrefield, Brendan Nestor, Bobby Beggs and the others playing well that magnificent Kerry side again came through. When Dublin beat Kerry in '42 it was surely Galway's year with Joe Duggan at centre back. But what a blow to the men of the West when Peter O'Reilly and the others nailed the Galway effort.

"My father certainly had wretched luck and so had those fine players we had then," said Jimmy. "Beaten in three successive finals was a murderous blow" and with a laugh he added, "I've been on the losing side in '71 and '73 to Offaly and Cork. I don't want another in '74."

Joe married Norah Stephens from Corofin (there's another in Clare) whose brother Paddy won an All-Ireland with Galway in '34 so Jimmy didn't get his football from the bushes. From Anach Cuan near Corofin he came, a name corrupted like another thousand beautiful place-names to Annaghdown on the eastern shore of the lower Corrib about ten miles from Galway, a spot where a sad memory is perpetuated by the lovable Mayo poet Rafteri.

"Mise Rafteri an file, lán dócais is grá . . .

Féach anois mé is mo aghaidh ar balla

Ag seinm ceoil do phócaibh folamh".

The boatload of men and women was rowing its way down the Corrib probably heading for Gaillimh (now they call it Galway!). The day was calm and they were dressed for the day out in town. Suddenly one of the sheep on board thrust a sharp hoof through the canvas and the water poured in. Panic . . . frenzied efforts to patch . . . screams, shouts . . . silence. Nineteen corpses they laid out on the shore, and the poet's heart wept

as sorrowing women silently identified their dead.

Anyway it was at Corofin beside Anach Cuan that young Jimmy Duggan was born but at the age of two he moved (not of his own volition of course) to Claremorris where engineer Joe still lives and works and it was there he grew up to wear his first county jersey the green and red of Mayo. Not in football either but in minor hurling and they put up a good fight against Roscommon. No doubt in Tipperary or Kilkenny young Duggan would have been a first class hurler. In Cork of course . . . but then let's not be boasting.

Anyway the Jarlaths man moved into the big world ready for the challenge of commerce and of sport and at eighteen the bank official won his first All-Ireland. When Galway beat Meath in the final.

Since then a lynch-pin at centre-field or centre-forward the Corofin stylist has always been the cynosure of opponents' eyes as he moved, schemed, swerved and fetched in relentless but harmonious concentration of body and mind that yielded a harvest of Galway scores.

"I didn't play well against Donegal," he said, "and I must make up for it the next day." A man who says things like that is a good chap to have on your side.

"We had a simple plan that didn't come off but if I had been a bit faster into position I might

● OVERLEAF

● FROM PAGE 53

have got two goals. I won't tell you what it is in case we might like to try it once more—against a bunch of lads from Dublin.”

What does he think of Dublin?

Fit, fast, strong, running in packs, and very formidable.

“The last twelve months should surely give us a clue”, says the fair-haired Galwayman. “Cork were beaten in San Francisco,

didn't do well in the League, and we beat them in Wembley. Last year we were at our best against Offaly in the semi-final but this year should be better. Cork probably were not good against Dublin and while our opponents are good, that day they may have looked better. I wonder if they reached their peaks in that game. If they did and if we can improve on the Donegal game, which I think we can, we should just about manage it.”

As I'm convinced that all inter-county teams have slipped up this year in not working on the palmed pass since last Easter I put the question to Jimmy Duggan—“I don't know much about it,” he says, “I suppose you must grow up with it.”

Frankie Byrne of Meath told me in Croke Park in August that in a recent TV All-Stars game against Cavan a bunch of veterans led by Mick Higgins, Tony Tighe, Edwin Carolan, played hell using the old (or new) hand-pass. It is far more efficient and accurate than the fist-pass, though I'm not convinced that we need it.

Jim Duggan approves of the present protection given to the goalie but is not in love with the big square. “Forwards are already trying to work a penalty,” he says “and backs have become rather hesitant. There's a certain lack of virility in the thing. I wonder is it doing the game harm.”

So there goes Jimmy Duggan seed and breed of footballers reared in the All-Ireland tradition and educated in competitive sport until he has become a great player for a great county—one of the names we will remember. Today, however, its the present not the future that is his task and I feel that this probing, searching restless football brain will play a bright part in the shaping of football history before the sun sets on September 22nd.

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"TOM MARKHAM" TO GO WEST

MAYO must have established something in the nature of a record in the scoring line when they recorded a decisive win over Cavan to clinch this All-Ireland minor football show-down with Cork. They hit thirteen scores in all—their actual tally was 3-10—and every single one was from play.

That's a good tribute to the clever approach work, and the spot-on finishing of the forwards. It's a factor that augurs well, too, for the bid to regain a title won by the county for the fourth time in 1971 in a clash with Cork.

The sharpness around goal is not the only important factor that the Connacht champions parade. They are a well-drilled outfit, with height—ten of their players are over six foot—plenty of football ability, and all round balance and drive to recommend them.

So far they have won all their games in clear-cut fashion. They had ten points to spare over Galway in the opening round, and won the Connacht final next time out against Roscommon by the handsome margin of fifteen points. Then came that nine points success against the Ulster champions.

This is the type of pre-final run-in that should have the players in great heart for the big game, and so do much to ensure that they mark the occasion with the type of firing-on-all-cylinders showing that is likely to be needed if Cork's undoubtedly strong and well-balanced side is to be foiled.

All the Western forwards will have to be closely watched. However, the Burkes, Jimmy, of Aughamore, and Michael, of Kilmaine, could pose extra special problems for the Munster rear-guard.

Jimmy capped a good display

at full forward in the win over Cavan by helping himself to two goals and two points, while Michael, sure in his fielding and progressive in everything he did, was a very effective unit at centre half forward.

However, a good attack needs to be backed up solidly out the field if it is to turn the key on victory. And, in this respect Mayo have a lot going for them.

I was particularly impressed by

Offaly G.A.A.

GOOD news for Offaly supporters is that Fr. T. F. Gillooly (Tullamore) has been re-elected as trainer to the Senior football team for 1974/75 and he will be assisted by Co. Board Chairman, Alo Kelly.

On the football selection committee Jimmy Hanlon (Gracefield) and Brendan Clarke (Ferbane) join outgoing selectors Alo Kelly (Tullamore), Paddy McCormack (Edenderry) and Sean Brerton (Daingean).

The hurling selection committee is as follows: Billy Burke (St. Rynaghs), Andy Gallagher (Tullamore), Gerry Kirwan (Ballyskenagh), Joe Dooly (Drumcullen) and Michael Spain (Birr).

Andy Gallagher (Tullamore) will act as trainer in place of Rev. Bro. Denis, who did not seek re-election.

the showing in the All-Ireland semi-final of midfielder Willie Nally. This Hollymount club player, who is only sixteen, is a potential match-winner. He is expert in his fielding, lays the ball about with creative purpose, and is a tireless worker.

Nally got good support, too, against the Ulster champions from capable Patsy Mohan, of Garrymore.

The Western standard-bearers are well organised at the back, and topped off by the individual talents of Dominic Conway (Garrymore), a capable full back, John Gallagher (Belmullet), who is cool and competent at No. 4, and solid left winger John Brennan, of Kiltimagh.

Will Mayo, however, still be good enough to set the Galway seniors the right example? I must admit that I have a high regard for the Cork side, which I put well up to the standard of the county's last championship winning squad of 1972.

All the same, it seems to me that from goal out, Mayo have the equipment that is needed to win a national final, and given the luck that every team needs at this stage, they could well regain the Tom Markham Cup for the West.

The trophy commemorates a Dublin Gael, Mr. Tom Markham, and was presented by the Central Council. The first winners in 1941 were Roscommon.

If Mayo make it, they will join Cork on a third place ranking in the Roll of Honour. They won the first of their four titles in 1935, while Cork's five championships were won between 1961 and 1972.

Dublin and Kerry set the pace jointly with seven wins.

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● Alan Larkin

FROM POVERTY TO PLENTY IN TWELVE SHORT MONTHS

By MICK DUNNE of RTE Sport



● Paddy Cullen

FROM poverty to plenty. This is the remarkable turn of fortune Dublin experienced in the space of a year. During the third weekend of September they have been finalising their preparations for the All-Ireland final. Yet at the very same time, exactly 12 months ago, the championship was the thing farthest from their thoughts.

On the third Sunday of September 1973 it was Cork and Galway who were busy getting ready for the football final. The same day Dublin's footballers were pre-occupied with a football engagement far less newsworthy and not nearly as exciting as the All-Ireland final.

September 16 last year had them in Castlerea bent on survival among the elite of football in Division 1 of the National League. Because of a combination of circumstances the vital League tie with Roscommon to decide which stayed up and which made the drop to Division 2 had been left over until the autumn. A 3-7 to 0-11 defeat meant Dublin had to face the loss of status and prestige—and a sizeable reduction in the number of people who watched them play football—by being in the lower section of the league.

In the months that followed there were times when only hundreds bothered to see them play; now they have been most recently seen by 37,000 and 42,000 crowds and a huge throng is bound to follow them into Croke Park on Final Day.

Dublin's emergence from the shadows and return to the full glare of the limelight has been welcomed by everyone in football. Well, maybe not in Cork, especially since August 11.

Against Cork in the semi-final Dublin blossomed into full bloom as a complete football side. Needless to say it took many of us, in addition to Cork, by surprise. There was utter dedication in their hunger for work, an almost life-and-death urgency in their hunt for the ball, but all the eagerness and activity was never aimless. There was method and style—and no little skill—in their play.

Of course, with Kevin Heffernan — one of the game's truly great forwards—there was bound to be a great emphasis on combination and teamwork.

Maybe their passing movements aren't quite as scintillating as those of the 'fifties or 'sixties, but at the same time overuse of the ball isn't a fault either.

Moreover, they have a much greater ability to kick long-range points than any of the Dublin sides in modern times. Granted they kicked 15 wides in the semi-final, but their willingness to have a go from outfield even if they miss must be seen as something more positive than attempts to "walk" the ball into the net.

The two features of this side, which have most impressed me, are their all-round physical strength and their splendid fielding. No one could say the '63 team was a bunch of midgets, especially with men like Lar and Des Foley, John Timmons, Bill Casey, but their forwards—like some in the 'fifties—could be legitimately pushed around.

The present side has weight and strength right through the field and Bobbie Doyle, David Hickey, Anton O'Toole and Keaveney are big men. The midfielders, Stephen Rooney and partner, are strong and powerful and the defence is physically well endowed. The two smallest on the field—wing half-backs Paddy Reilly and Georgie Wilson—are as tough as nails as they say.

So often in the past it was in the air that Dublin teams were surpassed by their country cousins, but this team has a higher degree of safe fielding and catching than ever before.

Nor could their goalkeeper be overlooked—not that that's likely in the case of 6 ft. 2 in. Paddy Cullen: With the emergence of the present side Paddy's true worth is being appreciated and throughout the year we have seen many examples of the magnificent goalkeeping some of us were fortunate enough to witness when he played for the All-Stars in San Francisco last spring.

Whatever happens Dublin in the final there's no doubt this team has done a lot to revive the county's pride and self-respect. That alone is a considerable achievement—and a splendid step-forward since September 1973.



● Liam O'Neill

WORTHY FINALISTS



● Jack Cosgrove

By OWEN McCANN

AN interesting point about the Dublin march is that Jimmy Keaveney, who has proven such a key figure in the comeback, was not in the side that set Dublin on the road with a first round win over Wexford at Croke Park.

The St. Vincent's man returned to the side after an absence of around two years when he lined up for the second round game at Navan, and he proved a star in the win over Louth.

Since then, Dublin have played all their games at Croke Park. They marked their Championship return there with the win that really raised hopes that they were at last on the way back—a 1-11 to 0-13 triumph over Offaly, who were chasing their fourth Leinster title in a row this year.

In an exciting game, marked by some grand passages of football, a last second point by substitute Leslie Deegan clinched the home win. Paddy Cullen, Paddy Reilly,

Steve Rooney and Jimmy Keaveney were among the bright stars of a triumph that raised great hopes for the future by the Liffeside.

Kildare provided the opposition in the next round, and once more a penalty kick played a prominent and successful part in the Dublin triumph. That came at the end of the third quarter, when Kildare were putting the pressure on Dublin, and trailed by only two points. Then came

ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS

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the penalty, and Brian Mullins sent the shot home to put the Metropolitan firmly on the road to the final—1-13 to 0-10.

Anton O'Toole, Sean Doherty and substitute Pat Gogarty were to the fore in a success that brought Dublin up against old rivals Meath in the provincial decider. And, with Steve Rooney, David Hickey, Paddy Reilly and Jimmy Keaveney showing the style, they ended the county's long spell out of the provincial honours list with a 1-14 to 1-9 win.

Dublin turned on a top-class show in the All-Ireland semi-final with Cork. They combined well, moved with great heart, and competitive spirit, and, with every man pulling his weight in great fashion, they were well worth their 2-11 to 1-8 win.

Thirteen minutes from the end Dublin were awarded their fourth penalty of the series, and Brian Mullins made it the perfect record from three attempts.

And Galway? Their march was not quite as spectacular as Dublin's, but they still did everything that was asked of them in a fashion that leaves no doubt they are right worthy finalists.

They met the first challenge to their Connacht title at Tuam in June when Mayo threw down the gauntlet. Tommy Joe Gilmore and Jimmy Duggan were particularly brilliant in helping to fashion a 3-11 to 0-13 win.

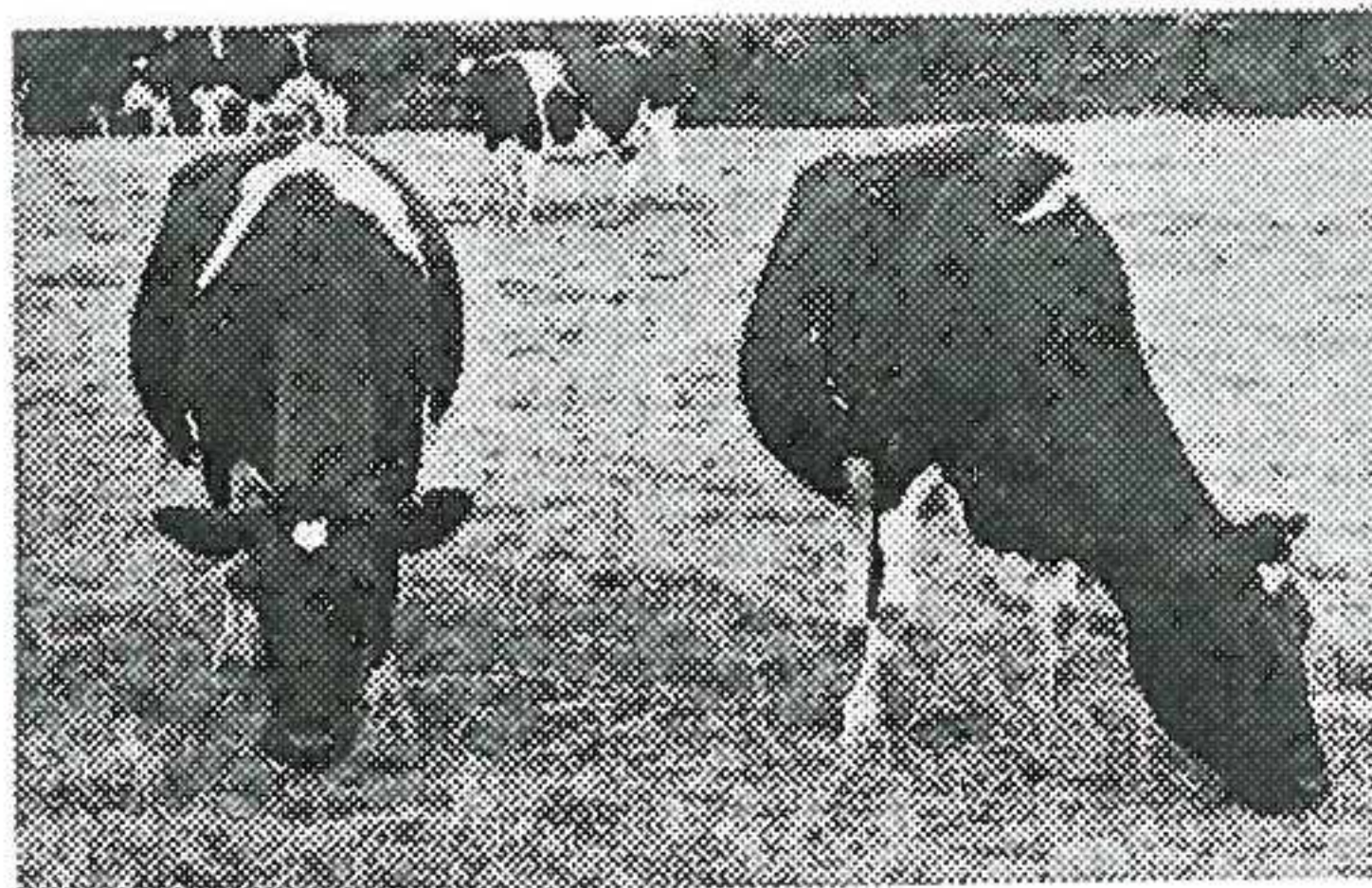
In the Connacht final at Pearse Stadium, Galway, Roscommon provided the opposition. However, Liam O'Neill, Gilmore and Johnny Hughes put up an unyielding barrier at half back, John Tobin was spot-on in his finishing from frees and play—he hit 0-6 from placed balls and three points from play—and Liam Sammon converted two penalties, to provide the foundations for a comprehensive 2-14 to 0-8 victory.

Galway had to fight all the way against luckless Donegal in the All-Ireland semi-final. Nonethe-

less, with John Tobin again very target conscious—he shot 2-6—Coilin McDonagh, Billy Joyce, Liam Sammon and Jack Cosgrove also in the vanguard, they well merited their 3-13 to 1-14 win.

Three Galway regulars this season have already won All-Ireland senior medals — Coilin McDonagh, Jimmy Duggan and Liam Sammon, who all played in the 1966 win over Meath.

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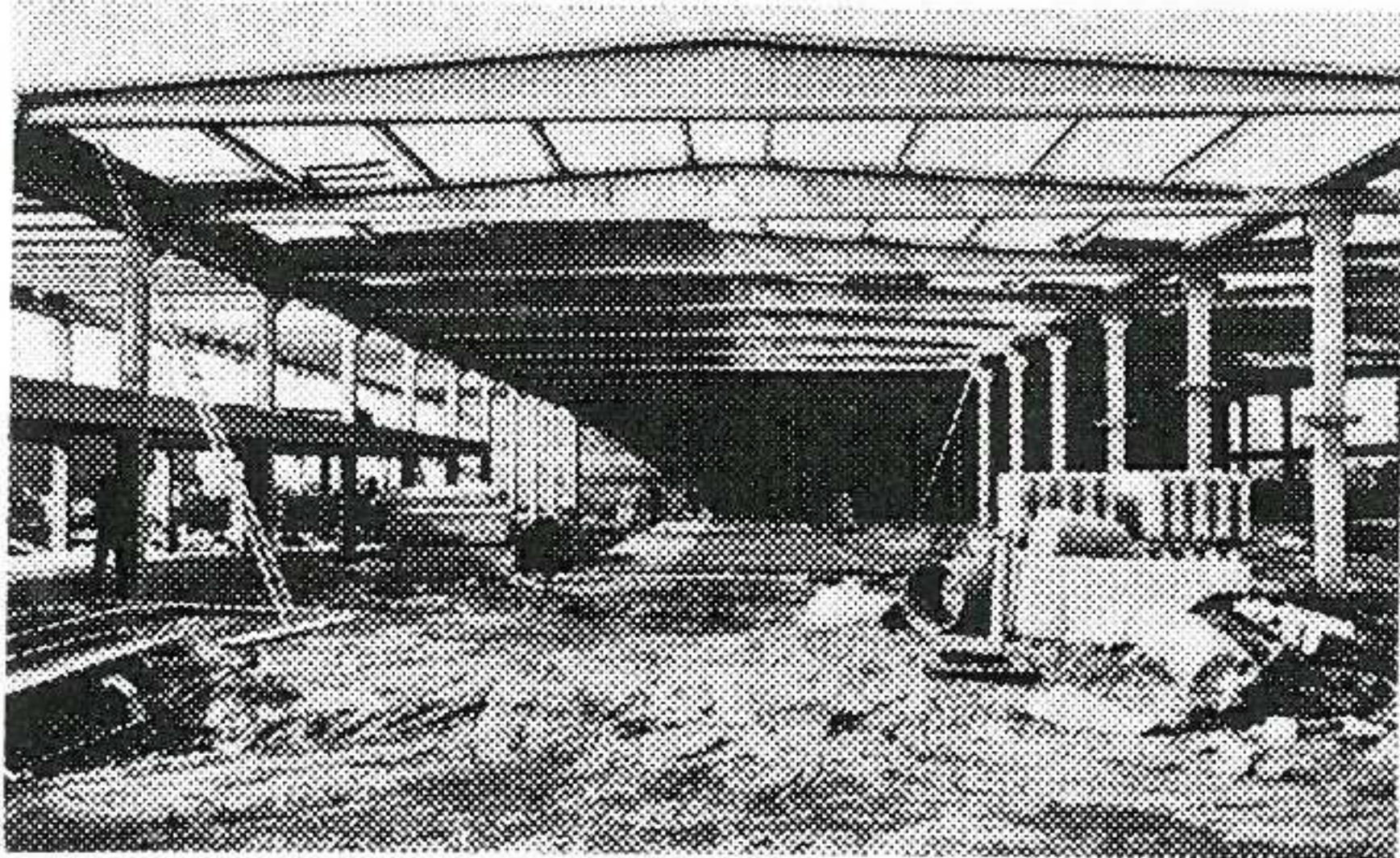
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JUNIOR DESK: DEVISED AND EDITED BY JACK MAHON



DEVOTED TO THE VIEWS OF OUR YOUNGER READERS

IT'S All-Ireland Football Final issue again. As a Galwayman I'm proud that we are in another final. It's a great feeling. Wonderful too to have Dublin back on the football scene again even if we are getting a bit too much of them in the paper! "HEFFO'S ARMY" is a good gimmick although I'm confused by the papers on the name. Sometimes they refer it to the team. Other times it refers to the supporters. I think it should refer to the supporters in much the same way as Arnie's Army referred to Arnold Palmer's great following on the golf courses of the world.

Still we shouldn't cavil. One minute we are grumbling that the G.A.A. is not getting enough publicity. The next minute we grumble when the papers start hogging Kevin Heffernan's every footstep. But Heffo is no paper figure. The man was always a great competitor—the greatest corner forward I ever saw. Just the night before last year's final I had a chat with him about Dublin's future football prospects. He didn't expect results straightaway but he felt even then that given time Dublin would be soon on the road back to the brilliance of his own days.

CUT-OUT

Our Cut-out this month just had to be a Dubliner or a Dub, whichever way you want it. **The Dubs are Back** said the banners on semi-final day. That they are is in no small way due to their brilliant left half back George Wilson, an O'Dwyer clubman who has a brilliant future ahead of him. I'm reminded of the late

Nicky Maher (goggles and all) who also played that position so well in the 'fifties. **Junior Desk** salutes the return of the Dubs and hopes they stay at or near the top where they belong for many years to come.

My colleagues are all writing about the Galway v Dublin game so I won't preview it here. But I won't be surprised if 80,000 people squeeze into Croke Park or Croker (as the Dubs call it) again.

FOOTBALL BOOKS

As this is football final issue I'm including a list of G.A.A. books available that cover football specifically and other recently published annuals, etc.

1. **Fitness for Gaelic Football**, by Joe Lennon (Down). Price



● **JOE
LENNON
(Down)**

45p. 130 pages including pictures and illustrations. (J. F. & A. Lennon, Gormanston, Co. Meath).

2. **Twelve Glorious Years**, by Jack Mahon (Galway). Price 35p. 200 pages including photographs covering the 1954-'66 era of Galway football. (Same as No. 6).

3. **Gaels in the Sun**, by Peter McDermott (Meath). Price 85p. Story of Meath's great trip to

Australia in 1968. Colour photos. (Peter McDermott, G.A.A., Navan, Co. Meath).

4. **Peil**. Price 25p. Instructional booklet on the skills of Gaelic football, with pictures. (C.L.C.G., Páirc an Chrócaigh, Ath Cliath 3).

I include in the list a number of other G.A.A. books recently published that are of general interest.

5. **Our Games Annual, 1974**. Price 45p. (C.L.C.G., Páirc an Chrócaigh, Ath Cliath 3).

6. **Connacht Gaelic Games Annual, 1974**. Price 50p. (M.D. Publications, 29 Oaklands, Salthill, Galway).

7. **Cuchulainn Annual, 1974**. Price 50p. (Fostra Press Ltd., 5 Seville Place, Dublin 1).

8. **Cork '74—Official Cork Co. Board G.A.A. Yearbook**. Price 40p. (Gaelic Sport Publications, 80 Upper Drumcondra Road, Dublin 9).

9. **Michael O'Hehir—World of Gaelic Games**. Price 65p. Published Easter '74. (Gaelic Press Ltd., 21 Great Denmark Street, Dublin 1).

10. **Players No. 6 Book of Hurling**, by Raymond Smith. Price £1. (Creation Press Ltd., Botanic Road, Dublin 9).

11. A limited number of copies of **The Football Immortals** (1973 edition) by Raymond Smith are still available. Details about future editions and availability of any other previous editions from Creation Press Ltd., Botanic Road, Dublin 9).

12. **Handball**, by Ray Doherty. Price 35p. A Handball Coaching

● **OVERLEAF**

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Book published in 1970, with Rules, Statistics and many personality pieces, spiced with photographs. (Published by Comhairle Liathroid Laimhe na h-Éireann, 12 Bóthar na nGabhar, Baile Átha Cliath 14).

13. **Camán—2000 years of Hurling in Ireland**, by A. Ó Maolfabhail. Price £3. (10 Beech Park, Castleknock, Co. Dublin).

That is enough about books. A number of readers have written asking for details of M. O'Hehir's book. It is listed above at No. 9.

COMPETITION

For the 5 best replies to the poser "Name Your Provincial Final Stars" I am giving a copy of Raymond Smith's **Players No. 6 Book of Hurling**. The following are the winning entries:

1. **Pat Dillon, Woodlawn, Balinasloe, Co. Galway.**

"My stars were John Tobin (Connacht), Donal Monaghan (Ulster), Brian Mullins (Leinster) and Mickey Sullivan (Munster). In hurling my stars were Pat Hartigan (Munster) and John Quigley (Leinster). By the way I am a nephew of Tom "Pook" Dillon, a Galway star in 1956."

● *No better man to play with than The Pook. (J.M.)*

2. **John Crowley, 26 Feradale Road, Finglas East, Dublin** who is obviously enthused over Dublin's return to power says his stars were "Sean Doherty, great at full back, Paddy Reilly's

lengthy kicking, the domination of Steve Rooney and Brian Mullins at mid-field and the carry-



★ **BRIAN MULLINS**
(Dublin)

★ **TONY HANAHOE**
(Dublin)



ing of Dave Hickey and Bobby Doyle in attack. Oh yes and the scoring of Jimmy Keaveney."

● *What a very nice tribute. (J.M.)*

3. **Patrick J. Reid, Esker, Banagher, Co. Offaly.** "My stars were Jack Cosgrove, John Quigley, Liam O'Brien, Bernie Hartigan, Seamus Durack, Denis Coughlan, Paudie Lynch, Donal Monaghan, Seamus Bonner, Tony

Hanahoe, Jimmy Keaveney and Jack Quinn."

● *Now that's a fine array. (J.M.)*

4. **Noel Twomey, Abbeyswell, Lombardstown, Mallow, Co. Cork** nominated his stars as "John Tobin, Humphrey Kelleher, Pat Hartigan, Donal Monaghan, Noel Skehan and George Wilson who impressed with his wholehearted approach to the task on hand."

● *I'm glad you included Humphrey Kelleher for his really brilliant game of football in the Munster final rain at Killarney. His was a full back Tour de Force. (J.M.)*

5. **Joseph Woods, Gloneyogan, Lahinch, Co. Clare** pays tribute to "Pat Hartigan's impeccable defensiveness, the reflexes of Noel Skehan, Colm Honan's accuracy, the craft of Jimmy Keaveney, Donal Monaghan's dynamism, John Tobin's marksmanship, Humphrey Kelleher's soundness and Billy Morgan's anticipation."

In the September issue you read of the introduction of the SHOP to Croke Park. I'm extending that competition to include this issue and ask you to tell us in not more than 30 words what you would like to see on sale in the new G.A.A. Shop apart from what is listed in the advertisement on page 56. A new style G.A.A. shoulder bag will be awarded for each of the best 3 suggestions as well as other consolation prizes. Final date for receipt of entries is October 1.

From the Mailbag

Michael Darcy, Cahermurphy, Cree, Kilrush, Co. Clare thinks Eddie Keher must be the greatest hurler on the scene since Christy Ring.

Gerry Pender, Ballymorris Upper, Aughrim, Arklow, Co. Wicklow paid tribute to Down's half-back line of Mark Turley, Cathal Digney and Martin Slevin.

James McCarthy, Carrigfadda, Reenascreena, Rosscarbery, Co.

Cork nominates as his favourites Eddie Keher, Richie Bennis, and John Horgan. He wants a Cut-out of a Cork footballer.

Terry Doyle, Ballymorris Upper, Aughrim, Arklow, Co. Wicklow nominates the Leinster hurling final as his match of the year.

● *It was mine too Terry. (J.M.)*
Harry Kavanagh, Kish Cottage,

Wexford Road, Arklow pays a great tribute to Dublin star George Wilson, while **Des Kelly, Ballycoogue, Woodbridge, Avoca, Co. Wicklow** pays tribute to Robbie Kelleher, Paddy Reilly, Brian Mullins, Bobby Doyle, Anton O'Toole and Jimmy Keaveney.

Eoghan Corry, Luslia, Straffan P.O., Co. Kildare is an eager programme collector and collects all

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● This flashback to Galway's three-in-a-row glory days shows Johnny Geraghty, one of the greatest ever goalkeepers, in action.

sorts of sporting programmes. He has 20 G.A.A. programmes out of a total of 210.

● Now that's a collection. (J.M.)

Donal Murphy, West End, Rathmore, Co. Kerry pays tribute to Pat Hartigan, John Quigley, Liam O'Brien for his solo-runs and Ray Cummins.

James O'Donnell, Derry, Donadea, Naas, Co. Kildare plays football with his school under-14 and also for his club under-14 team. James is a great admirer of Michael O'Hehir.

Martin Fox, Printinstown, Delvin, Co. Westmeath praises Pat Hartigan ("The Iron Man from South Liberties"), Noel Skehan, Sean O'Neill, and Jimmy Duggan.

John Keane, Emmet Place, Ycughal, Co. Cork thinks Dublin were faster and fitter than Cork. John pays tribute to Waterford hurlers, very unlucky to lose to Limerick.

Joseph Woods, Cloneyogan, Lahinch, Co. Clare pays tribute to Junior Desk for the excellent work it is doing for young G.A.A.

fans and wants a Dublin Cut-Out.

● You should be happy with this month's Cut-Out Joseph. Thanks for the tribute. Since we began 53 months ago (thanks for the information Patrick Leogue) you have been one of our most faithful friends. (J.M.)

Patrick G. Reid, Esker, Bannagher, Co. Offaly, would like a Cut-Out of John Connolly, whom he considers a great hurler and would like to see Offaly hurlers Barney Moylan, Pdraig Horan or Damien Martin honoured with a Cut-Out.

PEN-PALS

James O'Donnell, 12 years, Derry, Donadea, Naas, Co. Kildare would like a Pen-Pal in the Dingle area of Co. Kerry.

James McCarthy, Carrigfadda, Reenascreena, Rosscarbery, Co. Cork (Aged 13), wants a Pen-Pal (boy) around the same age as himself. His own hobbies are G.A.A. scrapbooks, athletics and other sports. His favourite star—Eddie Keher. His favourite teams—Kilkenny, Cork and Galway.

That is it for this month. Hope you enjoyed the All-Ireland hurling final. We will talk about both later during the long nights of Winter. Write to me telling me who your stars were, what you thought of the All-Ireland programmes, the best outfitted teams, the G.A.A. Shop, the referee . . . Write to me if you want a Pen-Pal to:

**JUNIOR DESK,
GAELIC SPORT,
80 Upper Drumcondra Road,
Dublin 9.**

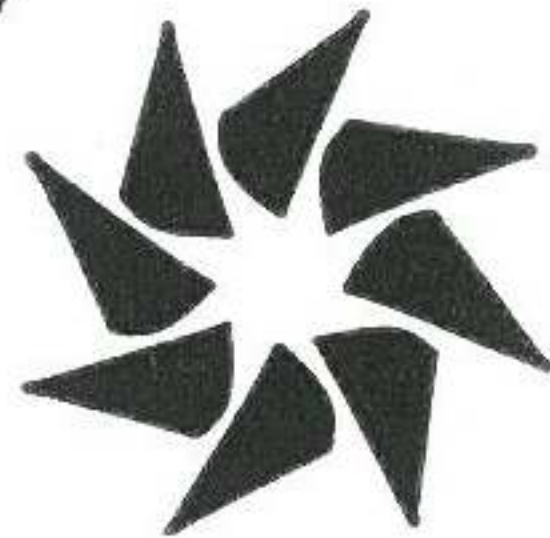
Jack Mahon

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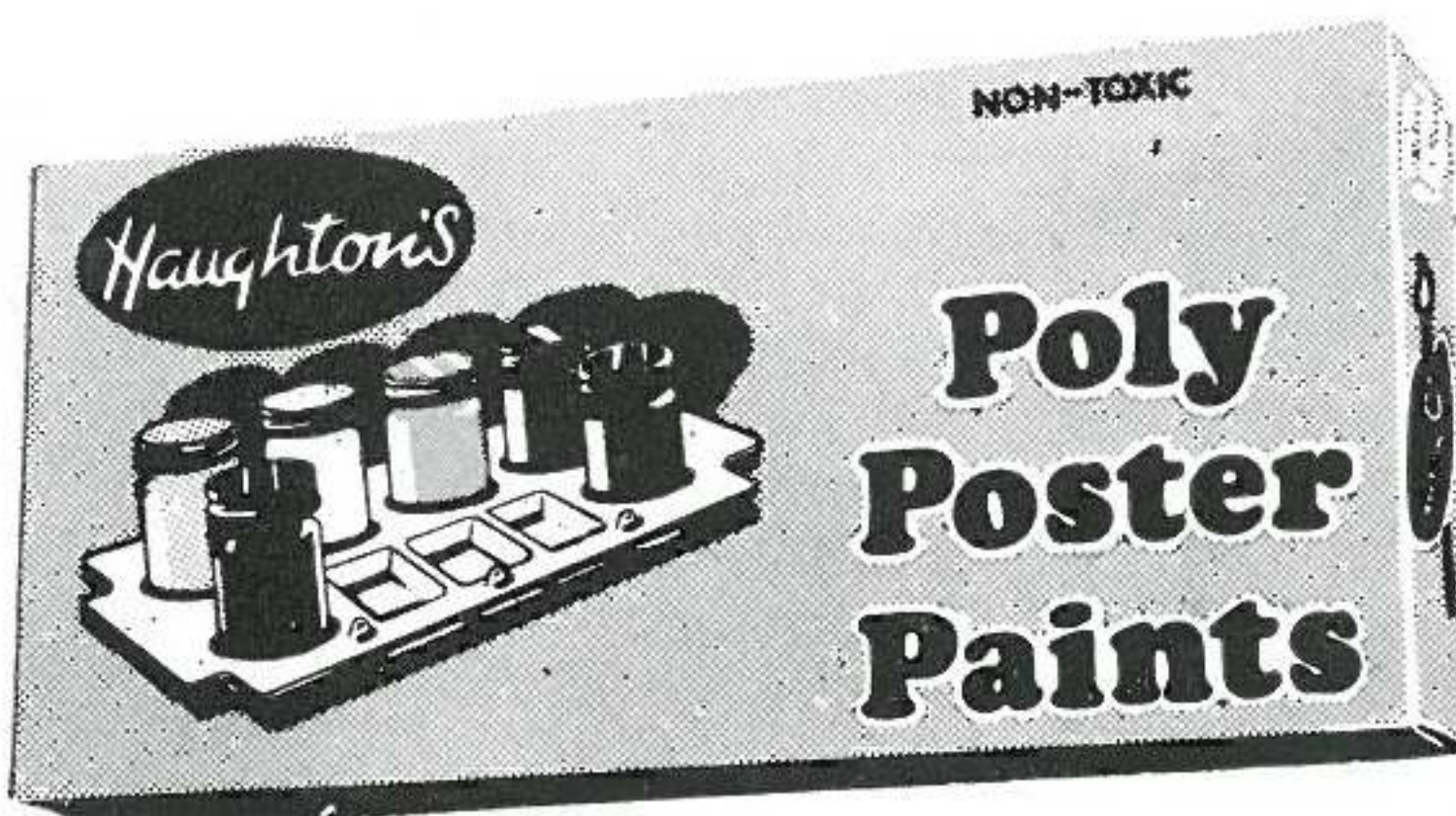
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**George
Wilson
Dublin**

Age: 26
Height: 5-8
Weight: 12 st.
Club: O'Dwyer's,
Balbriggan
Position:
Left half back
Senior Inter-
County Debut:
1970

**CAREER
HIGHLIGHTS:**

George has given sterling service to the Dublin senior team over the past four seasons or so. He graduated to the premier side after having played with Dublin in the minor and under-21 inter-county ranks. Now firmly established as one of the most exciting and effective wing backs in the game, he won two Leinster jerseys earlier in the year, and also collected a Railway Cup medal. In July he played a big part in the return of the Leinster senior title to Dublin after an interval of nine years. He has helped his club side to a number of important successes, including a Dublin Senior League title win.



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