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SEPTEMBER, 1978

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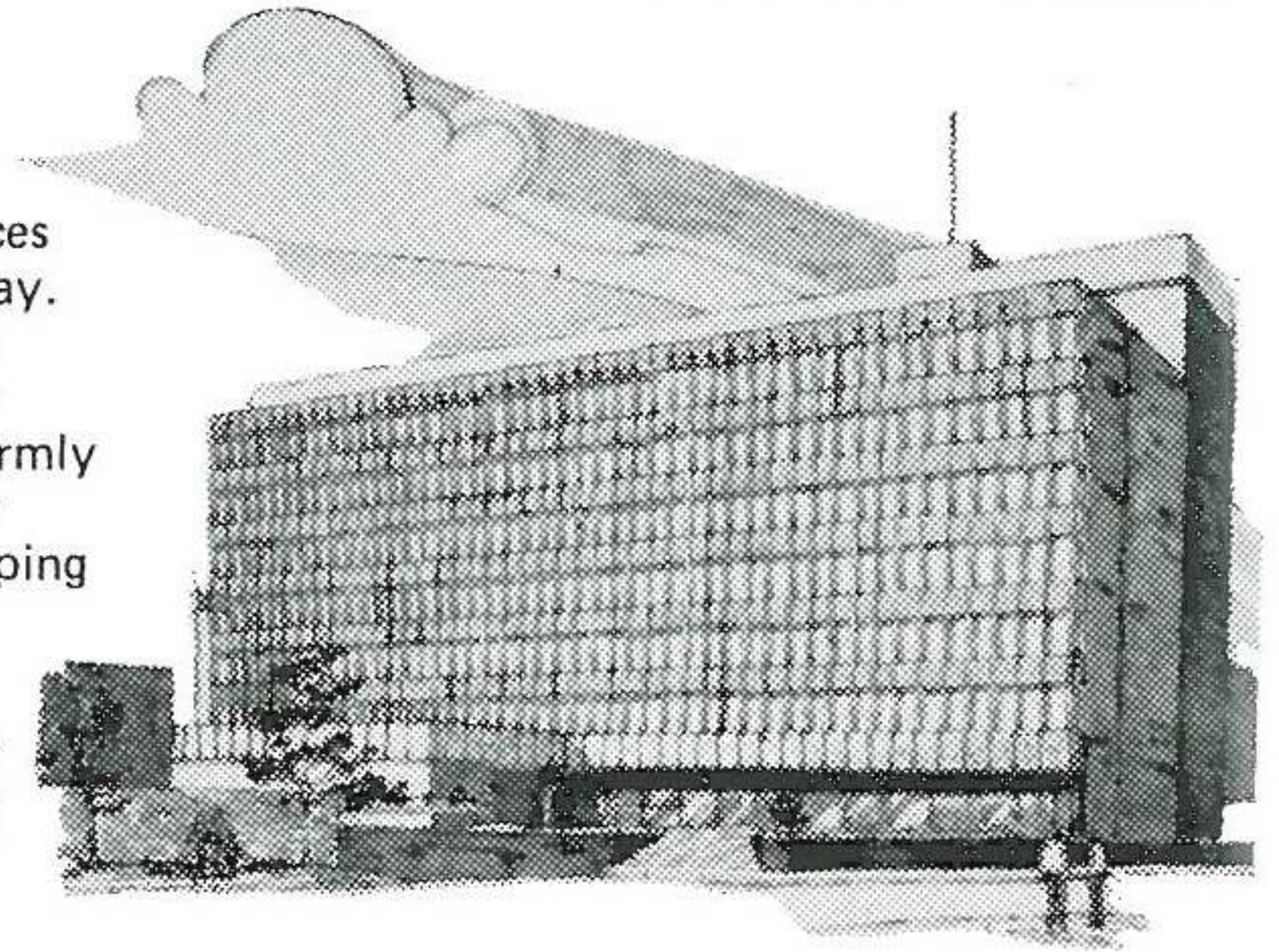
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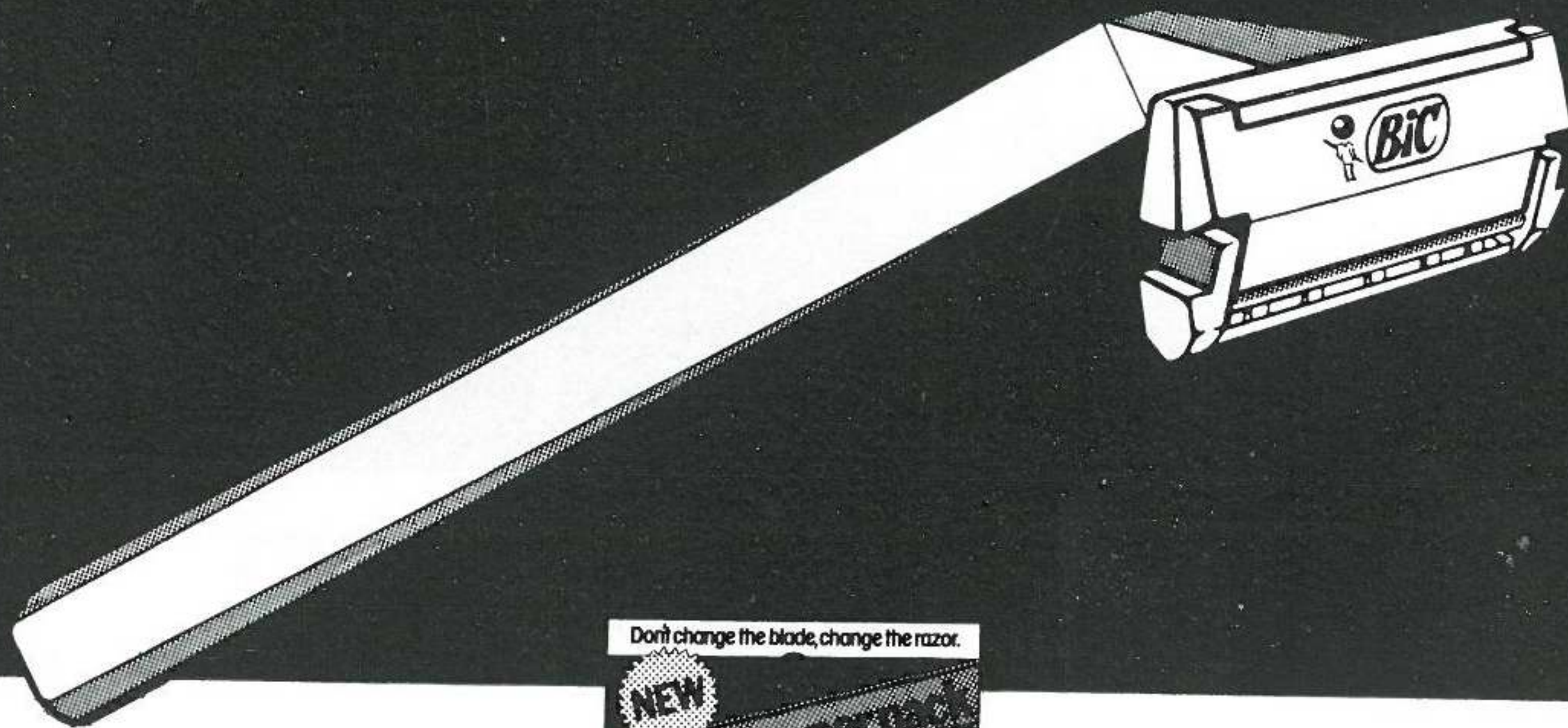
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## EDITORIAL COMMENT

IT is a tribute to the resilience and dedication of the senior hurlers of Cork that they have earned the right to contest yet another All-Ireland senior championship final.

The county's shock defeat by Offaly last April in a National League relegation tie was the type of set-back that could have heralded a spell in the wilderness. It would have been understandable, in view of all they achieved over the past two championship campaigns, if the Leaside hurlers had found it difficult after the Offaly game to regain the necessary motivation for further successes at provincial and national level.

Yet, they not only rose to that challenge, but did it in style by retaining the Munster crown in deserved fashion at the expense of probably the best Clare team of all time.

Some will argue that tradition had a lot to do with the Cork come-back. Certainly, tradition is important — but it will not win titles on its own.

Kilkenny had their share of disappointment, too, last Spring when they lost the National League final for the second successive year to Clare.

But, as in the case of Cork, they picked up pieces again so superbly that they were able to beat Wexford in a provincial final that was a grand advertisement for standards in Leinster, and then handle the challenge of a capable and gallant Galway side.

Kilkenny can also match Cork in tradition. Their record in the championship is one of the proudest in the land, and spans almost the entire history of the series. And, that record is liberally sprinkled with exciting clashes with Cork for hurling's greatest prize.

These counties set a unique standard in 1931 with three memorable games in the All-Ireland final before Cork came out on top. Those stirring matches helped to cement a rivalry and friendship that has over the years made a major contribution in furthering the great game of hurling.

Cork and Kilkenny have the hurlers to superbly uphold the old tradition when they renew their championship rivalry after a six year interval.

The present teams may lack the flair and all round class of some of the great sides of the past, but they have a wealth of skill and top-class experience. And, there is nothing like an All-Ireland final for evoking an extra special response from the hurlers.

The 1978 encounter, then, has the makings of a splendid game, rich in classical hurling, and with sportsmanship once more a dominant feature.

## COVER PHOTO

OUR front cover, this month, features the All-Ireland hurling finalists, Kilkenny and Cork.

**KILKENNY**—Leinster Champions. Back Row (from left): Murt Kennedy, Matt Ruth, Dick O'Hara, Paddy Prendergast, Billy Fitzpatrick, Frank Cummins, Brian Cody, Phil 'Fan' Larkin. Front row (left to right): Joe Hennessy, Kieran Brennan, Mick Brennan, Ger Henderson (capt.), Richard Reid, Noel Skehan and Liam O'Brien.

**CORK**—Munster Champions: Back row (left to right): John Horgan, Ray Cummins, Martin O'Doherty, Jimmy Barry-Murphy, Johnny Crowley, Tim Crowley, Denis Coughlan. Front row (left to right): Mick Malone, Pat Moylan, Tom Cashman, Charlie McCarthy (capt.), Dermot McCurtain, Gerald McCarthy, Denis Burns and Martin Coleman.

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# Tyler

## Down and Kilkenny

# Top Ten

## men to forefront

**W**ITH so many of the principal matches of the year having been played between June 25 and August 6 inclusive, the period covered by the latest Tyler Top Ten review, it is hardly surprising that competition was particularly keen for places in this month's charts.

Colm McAlarney, for instance, was very prominent in Down's successes against Derry and Cavan, and also won the Man Of The Match award in the Ulster final.

Then, Anton O'Toole and Kevin Moran, in particular, did much to help Dublin brighten up their image after the close call from Offaly by comfortably taking care of Kildare in the Leinster final, and Denis "Ogie" Moran turned on the style, first at left half, and later as pivot when leading Kerry to their Munster final triumph at Páirc Uí Chaoimh over Cork.

In hurling, Tom Cashman struck an exciting blow for young talent with an eye-catching and thoroughly efficient midfield show that made him a shining star in Cork's successful defence of their provincial crown at Clare's expense at Thurles.

Those golden moments just had to be reflected in the charts, but even so, the men who come out on top in our line-up are not any of those spotlighted above, but Cathal Digney and Ger Henderson.

Digney was very much in the vanguard of the Casement Park win over Derry, and he really

excelled in the Ulster decider at Clones. His football at right half back was masterly — cool, progressive and consistent. He proved not only a major stumbling block to the Cavan attack, but the springboard for many Down raids.

Consequently, the 25-year-old Saval club man edges ahead of his county team captain, McAlarney in the football chart on 38 points. This is his debut in this year's tables.

But McAlarney still strengthens his position as the over-all leader of the year. He picks up 36 points to send his record up to 104 points for the season — 42 more than his closest rival in the code, Anton O'Toole.

The Dubliner makes his second appearance of the year, and as a result, has put himself well in line to challenge strongly for the final honour.

In hurling, Ger Henderson is enjoying much success in his latest role as Kilkenny's captain. In fine form against Offaly, he had a stellar game in the Leinster final, and was prominent again in the All-Ireland semi-final.

Accordingly, the Johnstown

club man makes a noteworthy entry into this year's review by topping the current chart on 40 points, four ahead of Tom Cashman. This is also the Cork man's first appearance this year.

The leaders for 1978 after six reviews are:

**Football:** 104 points: C. McAlarney (Down); 62: A. O'Toole (Dublin); 57: J. Keaveney (Dublin); 56: D. Earley (Roscommon); 54: T. Prendergast (Laois).

**Hurling:** 104 points: S. Durack (Clare); 74: N. Buggy (Wexford); 68: M. Walsh (Waterford); 64: N. Casey (Clare); 59: P. Hartigan (Limerick).

This month's charts:

### FOOTBALL

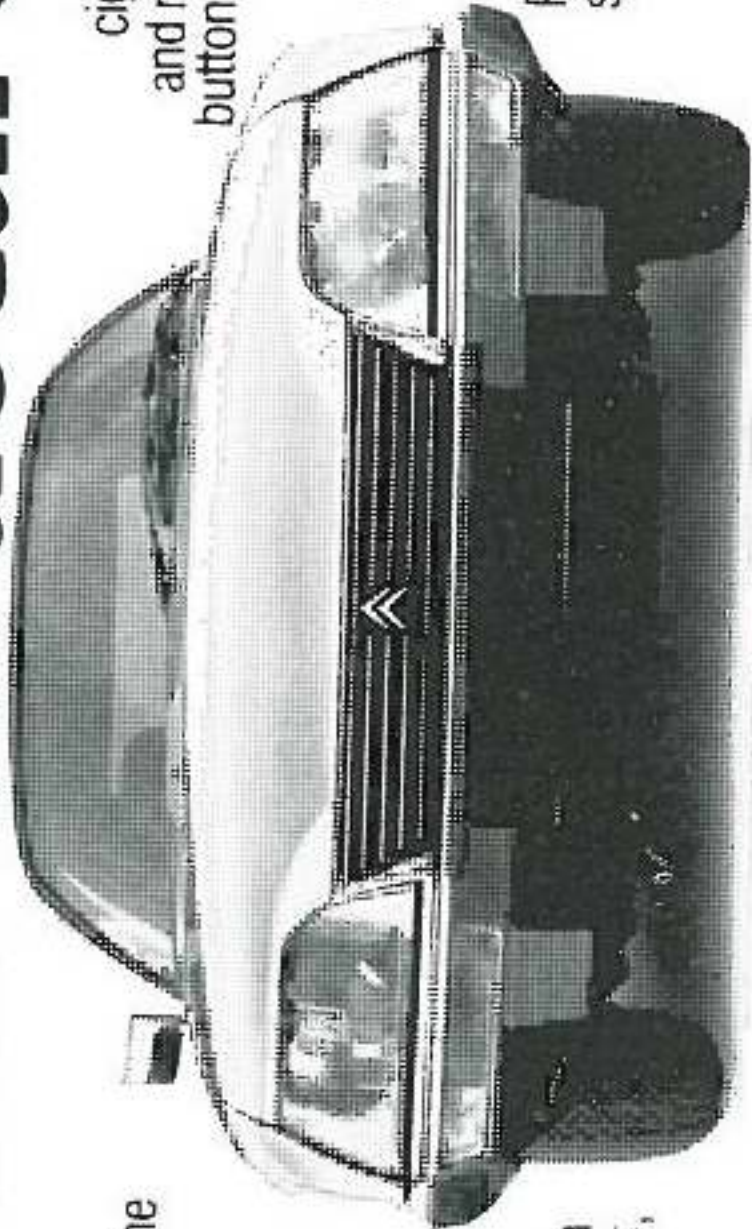
38	C. Digney (Down)	38
36	C. McAlarney (Down)	104
34	A. O'Toole (Dublin)	62
32	J. Keaveney (Dublin)	57
30	K. Moran (Dublin)	30
30	D. Moran (Kerry)	30
28	M. Freyne (Roscommon)	28
27	D. Earley (Roscommon)	56
27	M. Sheehy (Kerry)	50
24	J. O'Connor (Roscommon)	48

### HURLING

40	G. Henderson (Kilkenny)	40
36	T. Cashman (Cork)	36
35	R. Reid (Kilkenny)	35
35	J. Hennessy (Kilkenny)	35
33	D. McCurtain (Cork)	33
32	J. Crowley (Cork)	32
28	J. Lucas (Galway)	28
26	P. J. Molloy (Galway)	26
24	S. Durack (Clare)	104
20	G. Loughnane (Clare)	48

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**B. Fitzpatrick**  
(Kilkenny)



**F. Cummins**  
(Kilkenny)



**Matt Ruth**  
(Kilkenny)



**Noel Skehan**  
(Kilkenny)

# KILKENNY TO LIFT 21st TITLE

**T**HE ability of the forwards to tuck away the scores in fine style is the real key to the success at national level, and that's the reason why I believe that Kilkenny will break Munster's present monopoly of the major hurling titles by spiking the Cork ambitions of a rare All-Ireland senior championship treble.

Granted, the Leinster champions can no longer count on Eddie Keher for his usual generous quota of valuable points. It must also be conceded that in the absence of the Rower-Inistioge sharpshooter, and such other crafty units as Pat Delaney and Kieran Purcell, now all out of the side for some time, the forward division does not appear to pack the all round punch of recent final winning attacks.

But consider these points. The

## BY TONY KEEGAN

Cork attack, for all the undoubted scoring potential of men like Charlie McCarthy, Ray Cummins and Jimmy Barry Murphy did not cut much of a dash in the Munster final.

Indeed, the finishers between them only managed to hit seven of Cork's moderate haul of thirteen points, and that's not the type of scoring that encourages optimism about the Leesiders' chances.

On the other hand, if Kilkenny are still leaning somewhat heavily on Liam O'Brien for scores, and are also unsure about their ideal attacking formation, their forwards have still been generally showing an encouraging line in finding their way through to

the target.

Matt Ruth was among the goals in the wins over Wexford and Galway, and Brian Cody, that one-time giant of the rear-guard, has also shown a refreshing ability for tucking the sliothar into the back of the net since taking over his new role at full forward.

Billy Fitzpatrick, who led Kilkenny to their last All-Ireland senior title in 1975, coloured some splendid work in those two wins in the previous rounds by sending home very valuable scores.

Over-all, then, if the challengers' attack lacks a proven sharpshooter like Eddie Keher, there is still plenty of scoring power spread over the division as a whole.

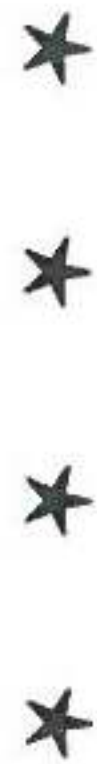
### ● OVERLEAF



**J. B. Murphy**  
(Cork)



**R. Cummins**  
(Cork)

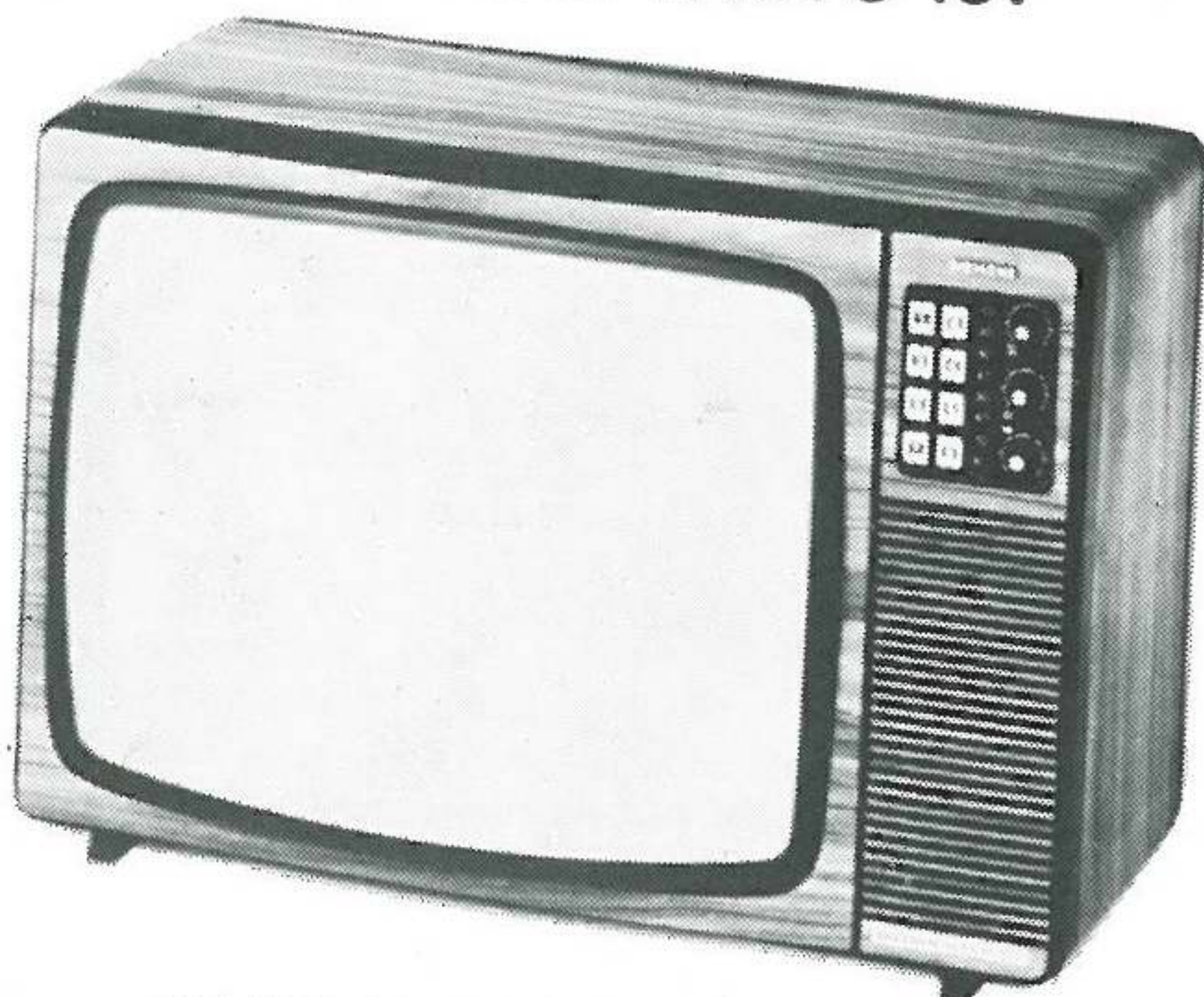


**M. O'Doherty**  
(Cork)



**Denis Coughlan**  
(Cork)

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● FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Cork folk will probably argue that their defence will present the Noreside forwards with their most searching examination of the series, and that in the Munster final their attack was up against one of the best rear-guards in the business. Two valid points, certainly. But it is also well to remember that when it comes to putting up a solid barrier in front of their own goal, Kilkenny need lessons from no one.

Their powerful new half back line has understandably come in for much praise, and Kilkenny can also point to the fact that in Noel Skehan, at 34, and Phil "Fan" Larkin, 36, they have also two of the best match-winners in the defensive business. Dick O'Hara, 21, and Paddy Prendergast, 20, are also pulling their weights in impressive fashion.

Similarly, with the champions' back division with the brilliant skills of men like Dermot McCurtain, Johnny Crowley and canny Denis Coughlan marshalling matters, Cork need have no qualms about facing up to the Kilkenny scoring division.

But, as I said at the start, scores win matches. Kilkenny have shown a more exciting all round flair in this regard than the Munster men, and I'm also convinced that they have achieved this against worth-while opposition.

So, while Cork have their great tradition, that vital finals experience, and above all the eagerness to bring up that rare title treble, I believe that Kilkenny, no way inferior to Cork in the tradition line, have the men with the talents in the attack to find enough answers to ensure that 1978 will prove the year of the 21st All-Ireland senior championship for the Black and Amber brigade.

# BRIAN CODY

... HE COULD DEVELOP INTO ONE OF THE GREAT FULL-FORWARDS OF MODERN TIMES

BY SEAMUS O'BRAONAIN



BRIAN CODY

**B**RIAN CODY was quoted after the All-Ireland semi-final against Galway as saying that he "enjoyed the game", hardly a kind of terminology used normally by hurlers at this level when sounded for their reactions.

From most one would have expected estimates of the game and the team and, perhaps, an estimate (honest or otherwise) of their own play; many players would be expected to make denigratory statements of their own play (half in earnest) or sweeping comments on that of their colleagues.

Brian Cody, however, felt only the need to express what fun he had and how he loved the chance to play in that game and the chance to qualify for another All-Ireland final. And, because of what happened to Cody's absolutely sparkling career just when it seemed to have been launched properly, it is easy enough to understand his statement.

The facts are, of course, that many had written Cody off as inter-county material — not, however, because he did not have it in him, but because some blight had fallen on his marvellous early promise.

Few will have forgotten the impact which this massively-built young man made in hurling when he forced his way into the Kilkenny defence in 1973 — and what a jungle the Kilkenny defence of that time was for unwary youngsters trying to capture a permanent place. Pat Henderson was the lynchpin, of course, Larkin and Jim Treacy

immovable corner men, Pat Lalor in great form, Jim Lynch playing well at full-back. And waiting for emergency calls there were classy veterans Pa Dillon and Martin Coogan.

Admittedly Eamonn Morrissey had left and that offered ambitious young defenders a gleam of hope. At the start of the Leinster championship Pat Henderson had an injury and Cody was given the No. 6 jersey. A fine opportunity to catch the selectorial eyes, yet, without doubt, a blind alley also since Henderson was certain to take over again the moment he was fit.

Sure enough Pat returned for the Leinster final and Brian dropped out again. But, between the Leinster final and the All-Ireland final, Cody got great chances to impress in the Walsh Cup semi-final and final.

Simultaneously, as readers will remember, Kilkenny hit a plague of injuries, Jim Treacy in defence going down along with Keher and Purcell. Cody clinched the place created by Treacy's absence and Morrissey's non-availability, playing left-half with Cullen from Bennettsbridge in Treacy's corner spot.

It was not a successful All-Ireland debut, to put it in a nutshell, and opinion expressed considered him to be too one-sided in his play. Next year Ger Henderson had arrived to further complicate the defensive issues.

Cody would probably have been as well not getting such rapid promotion, but he had

shown great promise since minor days when he led the winning 1972 side from centre half-back. In 1974 he was holding a similar cardinal role in the U-21 side, magnificent throughout.

As Treacy called it a day, Cody benefited by taking his place the following year, winning the championship which ended with the victory over Galway. With the slump in Kilkenny form that kept them two years out of All-Ireland contention, a slump in Cody's form occurred, too.

He had lost some of the dominance; he was far from fit enough; had a tendency to knee troubles because of his lofty build and considerable weight; a tendency to weight problems did not help. Confidence failed. It looked as if the brilliant promise of the early days was to be allowed to lie fallow.

Occasional appearances did not convince those who needed convincing . . . It seemed like a desperate throw — the signal of abandoned hope when he was tried at full-forward. But, at once, it became apparent that his size and strength would be great assets and that his ball-play would mean a lot.

Not that he set the Shannon (or Nore) aflame . . . but more recently and with more familiarity with the position, Brian looks as if he will develop into a major threat in front of any opposition. The earlier part of the Galway semi-final gave ample evidence of the threat he poses.



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# KILKENNY'S FUTURE IN SAFE HANDS

BY TERENCE ROYNANE

IT is odd when you come to think of it, but this is the first time since 1957 that Kilkenny go into an All-Ireland senior final without Eddie Keher being a member of the panel. Then a minor star, Eddie was added to the senior panel for the replay against Waterford in 1959 and came on as a substitute in the closing stages of that game.

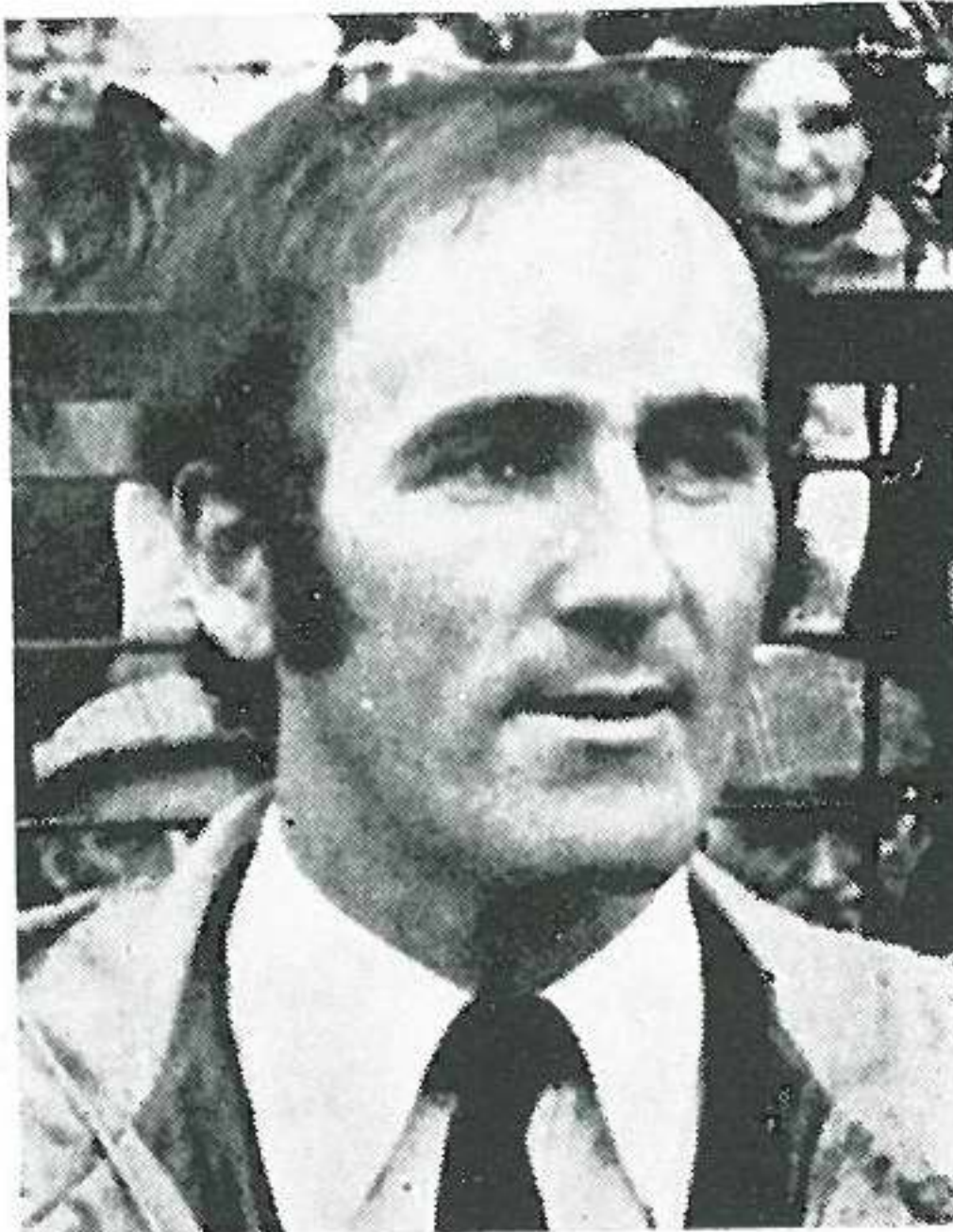
But everyone knows, of course, that Keher will be close as ever to the team in training and in advice, and deep down he must be regretting that he has not the chance of another crack at the Corkmen with whom he had so many tremendous and so often victorious clashes in the past. It is only three years since Kilkenny last appeared in an All-Ireland final, but it is remarkable how many changes there are on the line-up since they marched past Galway in 1975.

Seven of that team are gone, Nicky Orr, Pat Delaney, Kieran Purcell, Eddie Keher, Pat Lawlor, Tom McCormack and Pat Henderson, though Henderson is still among the reserves. They have been replaced by Paddy Prendergast, Dick O'Hara, Joe Hennessy, Ger Henderson, Richie Reid, Kevin Fennelly and Matt Ruth.

All of these, except Ruth, have come up from the Under-21 champion sides of recent years, and most of them have won minor medals a well. Add on the fact that, in 1975 Brian Cody and Billy Fitzpatrick were no more than youngsters, and it will be seen that more than half of the present Kilkenny side are 24 years of age or younger. Prendergast, O'Hara, Hennessy, Reid, Ger Henderson, who captains the

side, and Kevin Fennelly have never played in a senior All-Ireland, so that would seem to set them at a disadvantage against the Corkmen, all of whom have not alone won senior medals but almost all of whom are seeking their third title in a row.

Ever since the Leinster final of July, 1977, Kilkenny have been team-building and the selectors have had to proceed in many instances by trial and error. They had an advantage from the start that they had a more or less readymade half-back line of Hennessy, Ger Henderson and Reid, all rich in talent but needing to be battle hardened in senior experience. They steadily gathered that experience through



**EDDIE KEHER . . .** Kilkenny's first final without the maestro since 1957.

an arduous League campaign in which the reorganisation process eventually carried the Kilkenny team to the final, much, one feels to the surprise of themselves, their mentors and their followers, since at one stage they seemed

doomed to relegation.

True, in that final they were deservedly beaten by Clare but it was a defeat that taught players and mentors alike some very valuable lessons. Since then the full-back line has been reorganised, and so has the entire forward division.

At the back the selectors took two steps that at the time seemed drastic. They moved the relatively diminutive Fan Larkin to full-back and tried Brian Cody at full-forward.

Thus far those experiments have turned out to be completely successful. The tenacious Larkin, despite his lack of inches, has performed admirably against such noted opponents as Paraic Horan of Offaly, Tony Doran of Wexford, and a variety of Galway rivals, though he did make at least one uncharacteristic mistake in that semi-final. He has proved very successful, despite giving away more than a foot in height, against Ray Cummins before now, both in club and County games. Again in the full-back line, the Kilkenny mentors, after the Offaly game, took what must have been the extremely painful decision of dropping a man than whom the black and amber has had no more faithful servant, Pat Henderson.

Again the selectors seem to have guessed right, for daring Dick O'Hara has been hurling with tremendous power at left full-back, while former Colleges star, Paddy Prendergast, has been equally impressive on the right flank. Indeed one can foresee a day when either O'Hara or Prendergast may move out to

● TO PAGE 15

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● FROM PAGE 13

centre-half, thus releasing Ger Henderson, perhaps, for mid-field.

Mid-field has been something of a problem for Kilkenny. Several different partners have been provided for Frank Cummins, but not till they reverted to the old pairing with Liam O'Brien did we see something of the 1974-1975 power. Murty Kennedy is on his way up but has not arrived thus far to anything like the same extent as others of his Under-21 team-mates.

The attack has the advantage of having seasoned units in Billy Fitzpatrick, Mick Crotty, Mick Brennan and Matt Ruth, though Brennan has not recovered anything like his best form, or his former confidence. Again the experiment of playing Cody at full-forward has, on the face of it, been successful, although one wonders has he the mobility to

transform himself from a defender into a consistently dangerous attacker. After a promising championship debut at full-forward against Offaly he could claim little more from the Leinster final than that he kept Willie Murphy extremely busy, no mean feat probably in itself, but he started off in the All-Ireland semi-final as though he was going to destroy Galway on his own. I still cannot make up my mind as to whether the Galway defence found the answer to the Cody threat after the first quarter, or whether the run of play did not favour him thereafter. But these early scores of Brian's must be haunting Cork.

The return to form of Mick Crotty must be something of a bonus for Kilkenny and the same applies to Billy Fitzpatrick, two particularly encouraging omens, especially as the younger for-

wards on the Kilkenny panel have not risen notably to the occasion when tried, although Kevin Fennelly had a couple of very well-taken scores against Galway.

At the moment this reconstructed Kilkenny side looks well short of the admittedly very high standard set by the teams that won the All-Irelands of 1972, 1974 or 1975. They need a greater steadiness yet in defence, more consistent power at mid-field, and, dare I say it, greater cohesion up front.

But they showed an admirable capacity to pick off long-range points against Galway, they are improving on every appearance. If they do not win the All-Ireland this year, and I am not saying they won't — especially if Mick Brennan returns to his best — they will be a power in the land through the next few seasons.

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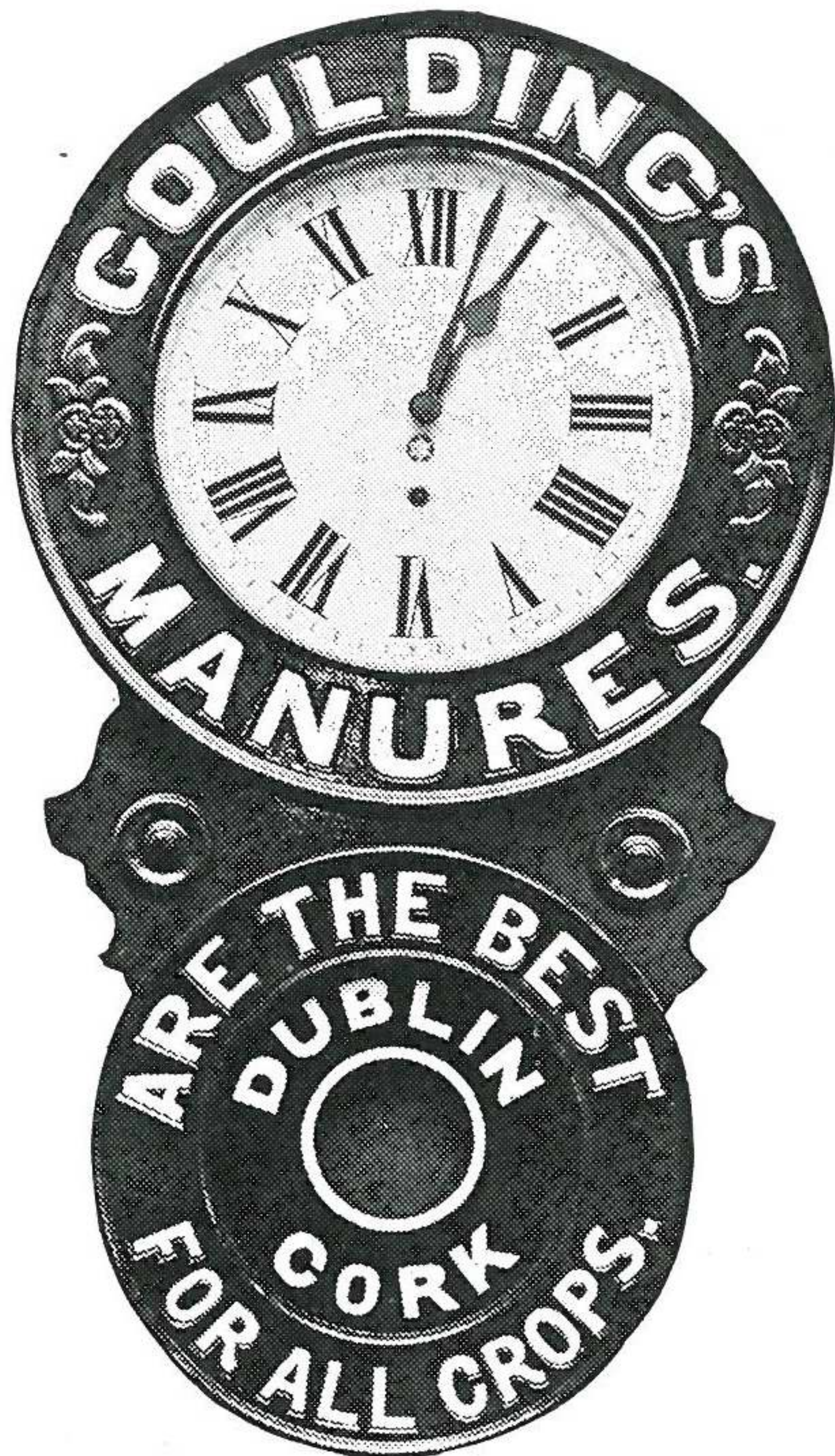
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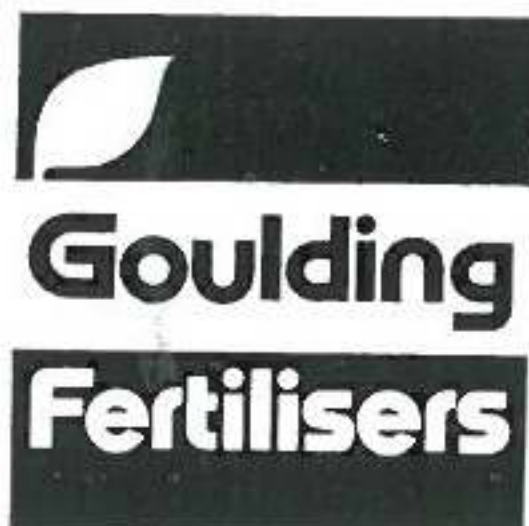
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**WE'VE BEEN A LONG TIME  
A-GROWING...**



# 'Remember '69 and '72' — my advice to Cork

WITH due respect to Wexford, Kilkenny's emergence as Leinster champions and their subsequent exciting victory over Galway has added extra spice to this year's All-Ireland final. Cork folk in particular welcome the Noresiders for, though the men from the Lee have taken the last two All-Ireland titles, many in Munster feel that a hurling side hasn't proved itself until it has defeated Kilkenny in the national final.

This may be stretching things a bit far but it cannot be denied that there is something special about Kilkenny in an All-Ireland final. Steeped in tradition, their style of play, speedy and skilful, invariably entertains, and no matter how unfancied they may be Kilkenny can never be underestimated on the first Sunday in September.

In recent times no county has had more cause to appreciate this than Cork. In 1969, for instance, the Leesiders won the National League and cruised comfortably through Munster to be hot favourites for the All-Ireland. But Kilkenny, inspired by Eddie Keher at centre-forward, gave a devastating display in the last quarter and stunned the Corkmen who had looked so confident earlier on.

In 1972, it happened all over again. Having won League and Munster titles impressively Cork were odds-on to take All-Ireland honours. But unheralded Kilkenny came up trumps again and with Liam O'Brien in fine form at midfield they put in a

tremendous performance in the last quarter to win decisively a game which, at one stage, they seemed certain to lose.

Yes, Kilkenny are a law-unto-themselves on All-Ireland day. The present team is generally regarded as a developing squad rather than a settled side. Many new faces have appeared to replace such memorable names as Keher, Purcell, Delaney and Treacy. But Kilkenny showed against Galway that the team is developing very fast indeed.

The new men have slotted in neatly and, with a few veterans from that great '74-'75 side remaining, Kilkenny now have a nice blend of youth and experience. What impressed me most about their victory over Galway was the enormous enthusiasm and exuberance they displayed.

Clearly, Kilkenny's hunger for success is rampant once again. And no line illustrated this fact more than the youthful half-back line of Joe Hennessy, Ger Henderson and Richie Reid. Henderson is a great centre-back and may in time surpass even his brother, Pat, now a substitute. Reid is a confident economical wing back and Hennessy, full of fire, not only defends but finds time to create attacks. He scored two splendid points from play in the Galway game.

Behind these, Kilkenny have two more forceful young defenders, Paddy Prendergast and Dick O'Hara, while Fan Larkin adds the vital touch of defensive experience.

Little Fan Larkin is a strong

determined player who hurls it hard and fair while his opponent Ray Cummins relies on delicate skill and intelligent distribution to his colleagues to make his mark on the game. In the past two finals Cummins' play at full-forward was instrumental in

★

Mick Crotty

★



★

Paddy Prendergast

★



★

Dick O'Hara

★



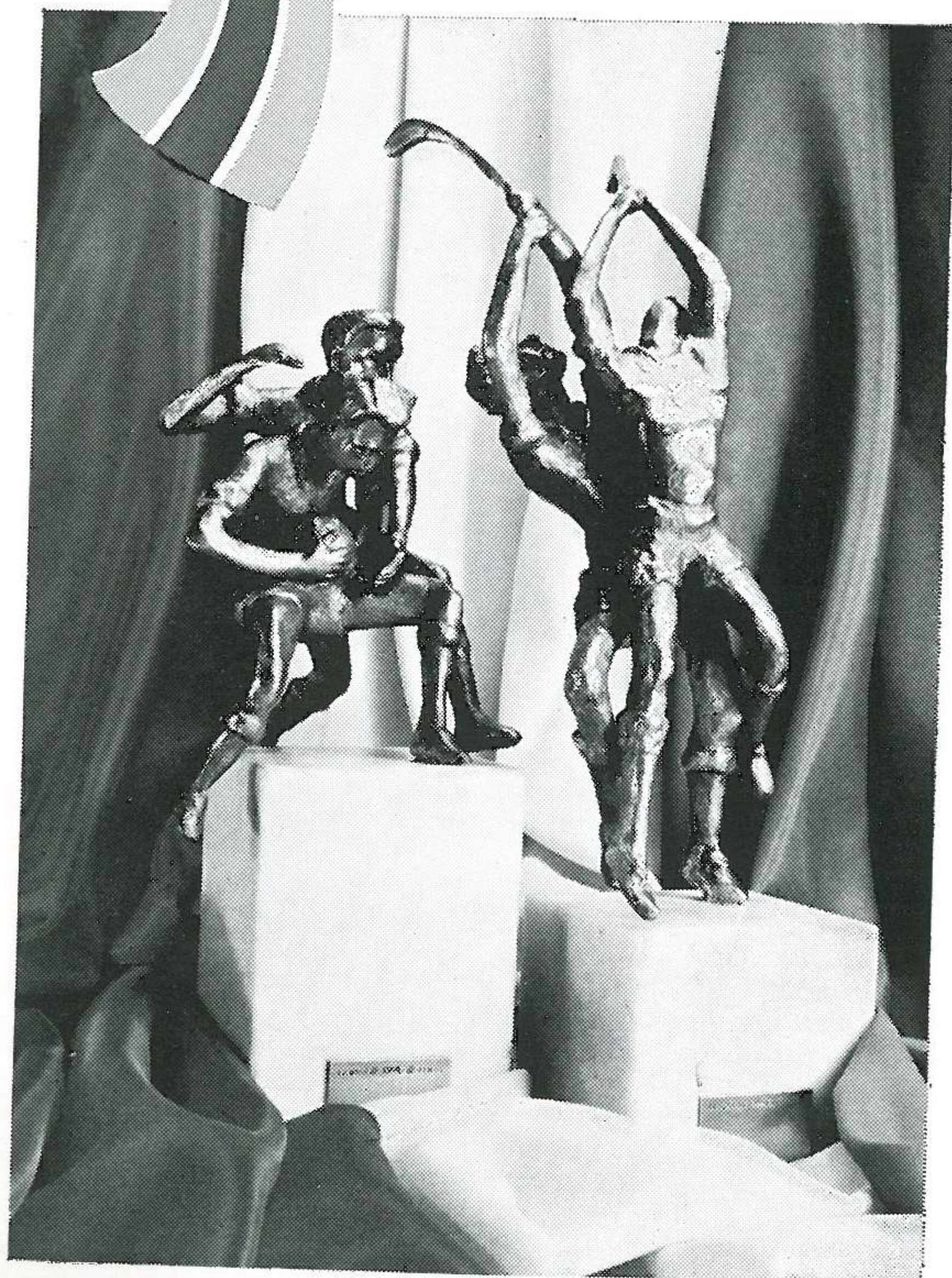
achieving Cork victories and the clash between himself and Fan Larkin will have a vital bearing on this year's result as well.

Noel Skehan may not be as sharp in goal as he used to be but he is still a good goalkeeper

● TO PAGE 58

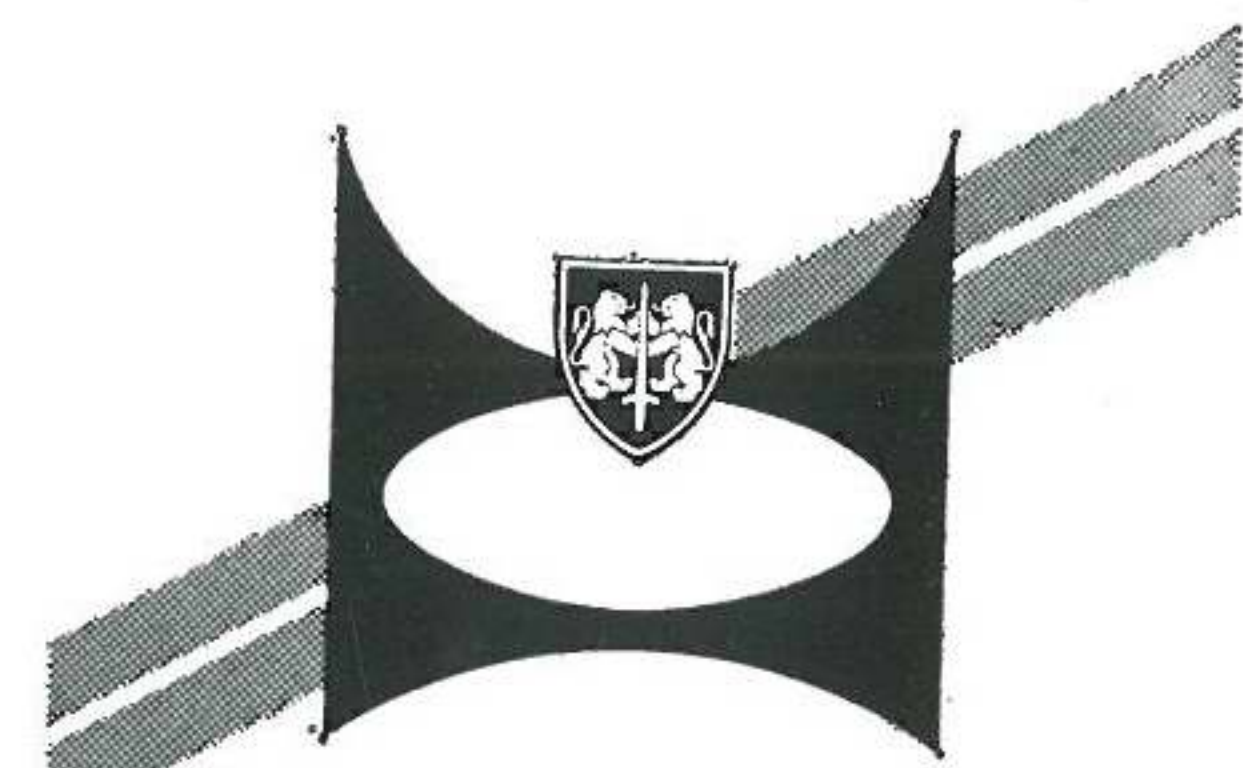


# CARROLLS **GAA** allstars



These magnificent trophies are awarded to the 15 hurlers and 15 footballers who, throughout the year, have performed with outstanding skill and have consistently shown their superiority on the field.

“Bronntar Tabhartais Carrolls G.A.A. Allstars ar na hiománaíthe agus ar na peileadóirí is mó cáil i rith na bliana ach ’sé an brí is mó atá leo ná aitheantas a thabhairt don tréithíocht sportúlachta is aoirde in ár gcluichí náisiúnta.”



**P.J. Carroll**

# CORK'S DEFENCE AND KILKENNY'S HALF-BACK LINE HAVE BEEN MAIN FACTORS IN THEIR MARCH TO THE FINAL

**C**ORK, who are in line for their first All-Ireland senior hurling treble since 1952-54, had two games so far, while Kilkenny had three engagements on the way to their first final since 1975.

The holders started their defence against Waterford at Thurles. A goal inside two minutes by Ray Cummins set them firmly on their way, and they went on eventually to a comfortable 3-17 to 2-8 win.

The Munster final show-down with League champions Clare at Thurles did not produce the brilliance and sparkle expected. Yet, although Cork had to line out without two of their original selection, Brian Murphy and Sean O'Leary, they still proved equal to the challenge.

Top hurling in mid-field from Tom Cashman, and a superb defence, in which John Horgan coloured his powerful work by shooting four crucial points, were the key factors in paving the way for a two points — 0-13 to 0-11 — success in the first Munster final without a goal in 15 years. That feat earned Cork their fourth provincial title in a row, and their 37th in all.

The champions scored 3-30 (39 points) in the South, and they conceded 2-19 (25 points).

★  
By  
**Owen  
McCann**  
★

It is probably an indictment of their finishing power that John Horgan shares leadership in their scoring returns with Charlie McCarthy, each having popped over seven points. Jimmy Barry-Murphy, Ray Cummins and Tom Cashman come next with 1-3 each.

Sean O'Leary scored three points against Waterford, and Gerald McCarthy and Tim Crowley with two points apiece, complete the scoring returns.

Of the side that lined out against Clare, Denis Burns, who was called in at right full back in the absence of Brian Murphy, was the only hurler who had not made an All-Ireland senior final



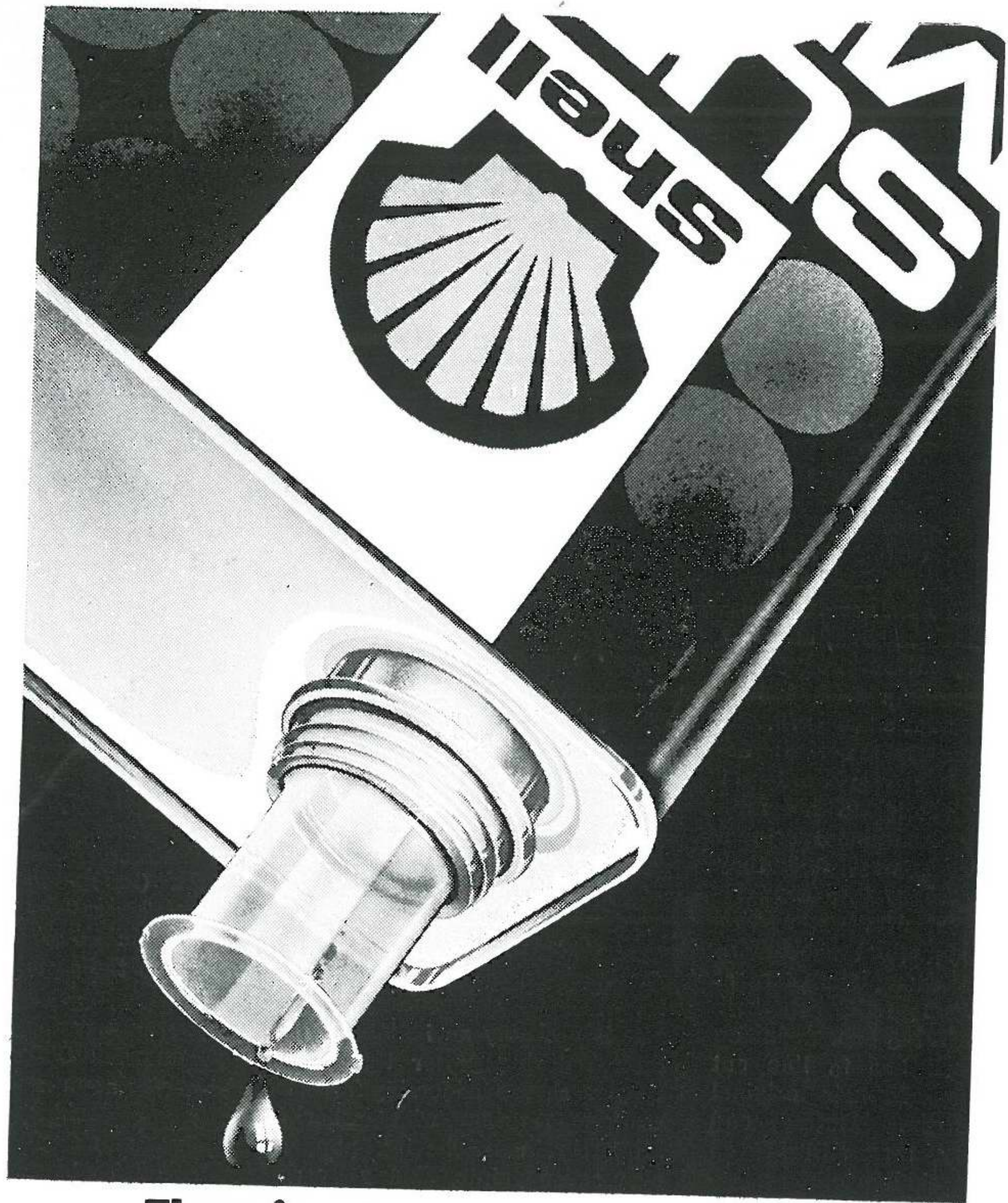
● SEANIE O'LEARY (left) — all followers of the rebel county will be keeping their fingers crossed that the dynamic Youghal man will be fit to play in the decider.

appearance.

Eamonn O'Donoghue, who went in as a substitute in the Munster decider, made an appearance as a substitute in Cork's 1976 Liam McCarthy Cup win over Wexford. Pat Horgan was another substitute called up by Cork from the bench during the provincial final, and he is another who has yet to turn out in the senior showpiece match of the year.

Kilkenny started their campaign against resurgent Offaly—the Midlanders, it will be remembered, beat Cork in a National League relegation tie last Spring. That game was played at Portlaoise, and Kilkenny, with Brian

● TO PAGE 53



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-WITH SHELL SUPER MULTIGRADE.**







Pat Moylan  
Cork

---

JAY DRENNAN SPOTLIGHTS THE SEE-SAW CAREER OF PAT MOYLAN

---

## FROM THE RANKS TO THE PEAK OF PERFECTION

SOME players have the strangest triflings with fortune. To be the one who showed a lot of promise as a youth and in underage competition, to have worked hard at acquiring the skills of hurling and polishing them assiduously, yet to have lingered on the edge of the big-time, apparently unable to force a break-in — that might be thought unlucky, even sad, but it would, to some extent have been consistent with the experience of many another player.

Given opportunities as a result of a vacancy brought about by injury or unavailability, when such a one tries his heart out but never quite convinces the eagle-eyed selectors that he has quite the edge to his play that would convert a good craftsman and a club jewel into a good inter-county player, it is usually the end of the story at that level.

A handy substitute to have on the panel because he will, at least, have the ball skill to drop in at any given time to a variety of positions — and they may be the limit of his expectation. Yet, occasionally, such a one has a strange purple patch when he shows a burst of form that tempts the selection committee to try him again in the county side. And the result is sometimes happy enough in so far as our subject enjoys a modest success by holding his place for a few games or, perhaps, a whole season, and looks at the episode as a bonus he doubted.

But, what if our friend did not just have a modest plateau of

performance but went through the ceiling of all previous form and played with freedom and confidence and, indeed, dominance, making the midfield position his own and proving to be the more accomplished of the players in that area, going forth from strength to strength until he finally peaked with a display of such consummate brilliance and smoothly exquisite stroke-making that all were lost in awe at his mastery of the ball.

And when that peak was reached in the All-Ireland final under all its pressures the worth of the effort will be even more extravagant. When the outcome is a string of superbly struck points from all kinds of distances and angles and in spite of all kinds of hindrances, it is little wonder that the player is hailed as a world-beater, the star of the game, the dominant force in that particular All-Ireland, star of the week, the month, the year . . . ! And it all sounds a little like a fairy-tale and definitely too much for the average hurling sceptic to swallow.

There are few fairy-tales in hurling; not many fairy god-mothers to wave magic wands and transform cinderellas into glamorous princesses. Indeed, let us be realistic and say there are no such benign influences. And if the remarkable tale should ever come about it has to be explained by reasons and facts other than those of the imagination.

That this rise from the ranks to the peaks of perfection did, in

fact, occur in the case of the Cork and Blackrock hurler, Pat Moylan, makes him quite special among hurlers. He did not seem to be about to make the grade for a number of years in which he was given chances and allowed to linger on the fringe of things.

His opportunities in the Cork team provided undistinguished though usually adequate performances. Then the All-Ireland final of 1976 changed all that; his display of fluid hurling and his command of strokes from all angles and distances marked him as a player apart.

Yet, after a number of months in which he continued in this vein of golden form, Moylan dropped away again and ended last season by sitting on the substitutes' bench at the All-Ireland final.

Once more he has used the months of the League and championship to impress his worth on the selectors, but they are not quite convinced, and, if they are, they are not quite sure where he should play—in his earlier wing-forward position or his later centre-field role.

It is painful for the hurler himself to be so subject to the variations of form. Perhaps it is not really form that varies but physical and psychological fitness. When all geared up he seems to do everything with such confident accomplishment; when a little off key or a little fearful his game slows and loses edge until no better than many another's.

“Comhar foirne, ciallaíonn sé sin  
 tacú le chéile an tslí ar fad - sin  
 é atá le déanamh agatsa  
 agus agamsa. Is cuid sinn  
 go léir de fhoireann na hÉireann,  
 agus is féidir linn  
 tacú le chéile trí thacú lenár  
 dtáirgí féin sna siopaí.  
 Sin é an cineál tacaíochta a  
 rachas chun sochair do chách.”



Glacfaidh sé comhar ceart  
 foirne le 10,000 post a chur  
 ar fáil. Tá páirt thábhach-  
 tach le déanamh ag gach  
 éinne inár gcomhphobhal:  
 lucht siopaí, déantúsóirí,  
 ceardchumann, dream-  
 anna sóisialta agus gairme.  
 Tá sé de chumhacht ag  
 gach éinne againn an clár a chur ag  
 obair.

#### **Gaelearraí Iontaofa**

Seo é siombal Ghaelearraí Iontaofa - an  
 tslí éasca le táirgí Éireannacha a aithint.  
 Gheobhaidh tú é ar na mílte d'earraí

coitianta inár siopaí.  
 Déantar Gaelearraí  
 Iontaofa ag oibrithe  
 Éireannacha - agus  
 ráthaíonn na déantúsóirí  
 duit ardchaighdeán,  
 sásamh agus freagra luath  
 ar aon ghearán. Ciallaíonn

tacú le Gaelearraí Iontaofa go bhfaigh-  
 eann tú táirgí den scoth - agus bíonn páirt  
 rithábhachtach agat freisin i gcruthú an  
 10,000 post sin. Cuid de fhoireann na  
 hÉireann sinn go léir, agus Gaelearraí  
 Iontaofa ár suaitheantas. Ciallaíonn tacú  
 leis todhchaí níos fearr do chách.

# **Gaelearraí Iontaofa**

**Cuirimís an obair í gcrích le chéile.**

# How goes the game in Ulster?

IT seems to have been an accepted fact down the years that handball in Ulster was placed in a lower category from the rest of the country. That image was created by the fact that players from the Province appeared to be struggling when matched with their counterparts from other provinces or that the general development of the game was not making any headway.

I do not propose to start a controversy on the subject, but to divert my views in a more positive direction by asserting that, irrespective of the past, the game in Ulster is now on the move.

This is the conclusion I have arrived at following discussions with some prominent officials in the province and, indeed, after having a physical insight into some of the activity now in vogue there.

I was particularly taken by the progress made in the field of court construction and immediately one must point the finger of admiration at St. Macartan's College in Monaghan, where four courts — two conventional and two American style were built in the past couple of years.

I am sure the Authorities were giving congrisance to the great work of Father Sean Nolan when they made the decision to build these courts.

He has been one of Handball's greatest administrators in the North for a long number of years.

Not alone has he succeeded in grooming some stars in St. Macartan's itself but has contrived to assert his influence on the

development programme of the province. Until recent times he also carried the additional responsibility of Provincial Secretary.

Jack Foley, a teacher in the Comprehensive School in Cotehill has also helped to a large degree in putting Monaghan Handball on the map. A competent player, who lines out with the county, he has devoted much of his spare time to the promotion of the game amongst youth.

Handball in Fermanagh through the years has, literally, been a non-event, but signs are that a new era is dawning.

A 40 x 20 court has been sanctioned by the District Council to be built in Irvinestown and plans are already in hand for the formation of a County Committee.

This certainly is encouraging news and must represent a major break-through in the development

By

SEAN CLERKIN

of the game in the Province.

The success story of Ulster is carried a step further by enthusiasts in Tyrone who have a very able worker in Laurence Campbell of Pomeroy.

A 40 x 20 court is being built in Drumquin while the progressive Loughmacrory Club which has one of the best 60 x 30 courts in the country is now in the throes of providing a small court also.

When we revert to Cavan our thoughts in a handball sense are directed towards the Kingscourt

Club, which kept the game to the fore in the county, when handball was not the fashionable game to play.

Kingscourt recently opened a new 60 x 30 court and will shortly have two 40 x 20 courts to supplement this facility.

Victor Sherlock, the famed footballer of yesteryear plays a big part in keeping Cavan Handball to the forefront and, even this year, made an impact in the Masters' Championships.

The other well-known champions of more recent vintage — Greg and Dominic Sheridan must also be lauded.

They do not confine their activities solely to the playing courts but are often seen to lend their administrative abilities to club and county alike.

Action Call is the bye-word in Armagh.

The County Committee which has an able worker in Niall Donaghy is presently in negotiations with the Community Association for the construction of a 40 x 20 court in Armagh city.

The Eugene Quinn Club will also be providing the city with a 60 x 30 court, while the progressive Clann Éireann G.A.A. Club has plans to roof one of its 60 x 30 courts and to convert the other two on the American Style basis.

There is still little handball activity in Down though Tony Campbell who teaches in St. Colman's College is still confident that a resurgence can be initiated.

The handball flag in Donegal is carried by the Falcarragh Club

● TO PAGE 33

## verdict: handball is gameball

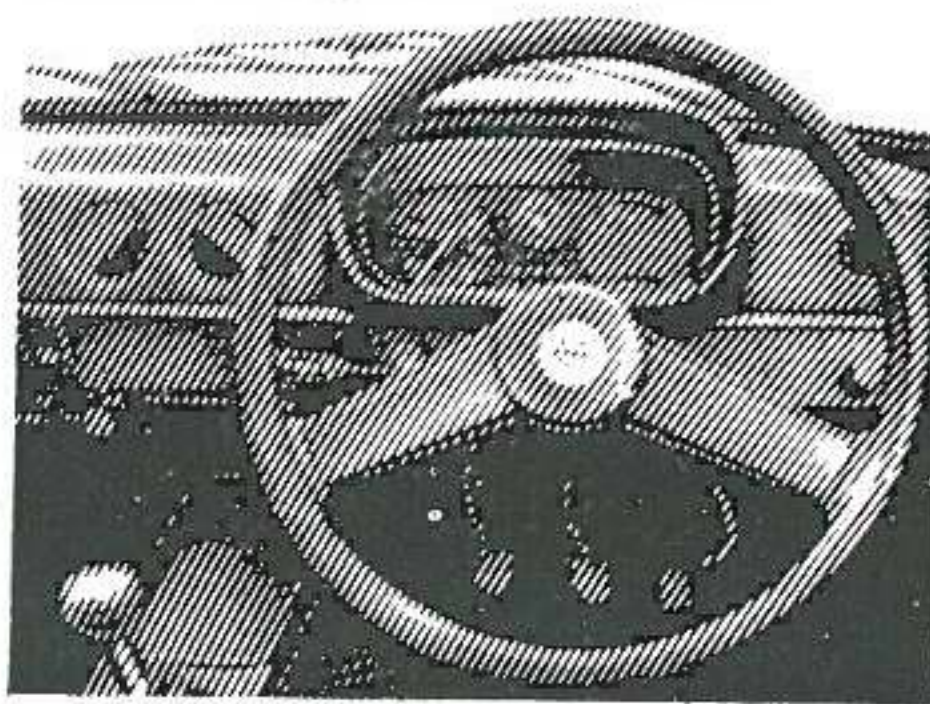
# Economic miracle



In these days of ever increasing fuel costs, isn't it nice to know that the Opel Kadett still does up to 43 mpg, and that's on economy grade petrol too!

And if that doesn't impress you, take a look inside. You'll find fully fitted carpets, body contoured seats, flow-through ventilation and ignition/steering lock, while the

1.2 litre Kadett 'S' has the added refinements of heated rear window, reclining seats, cloth trim, plus the added

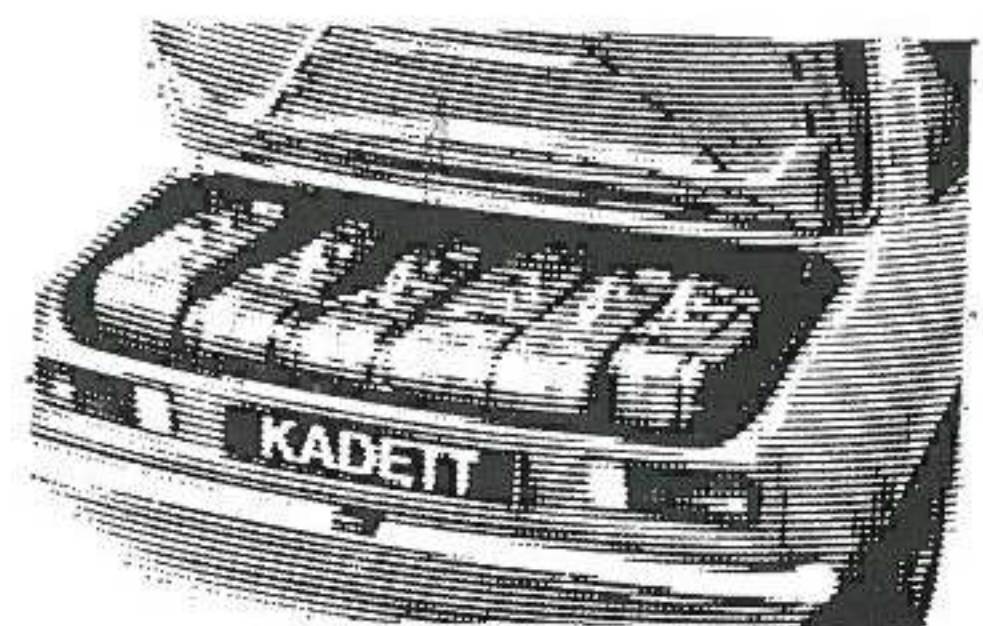
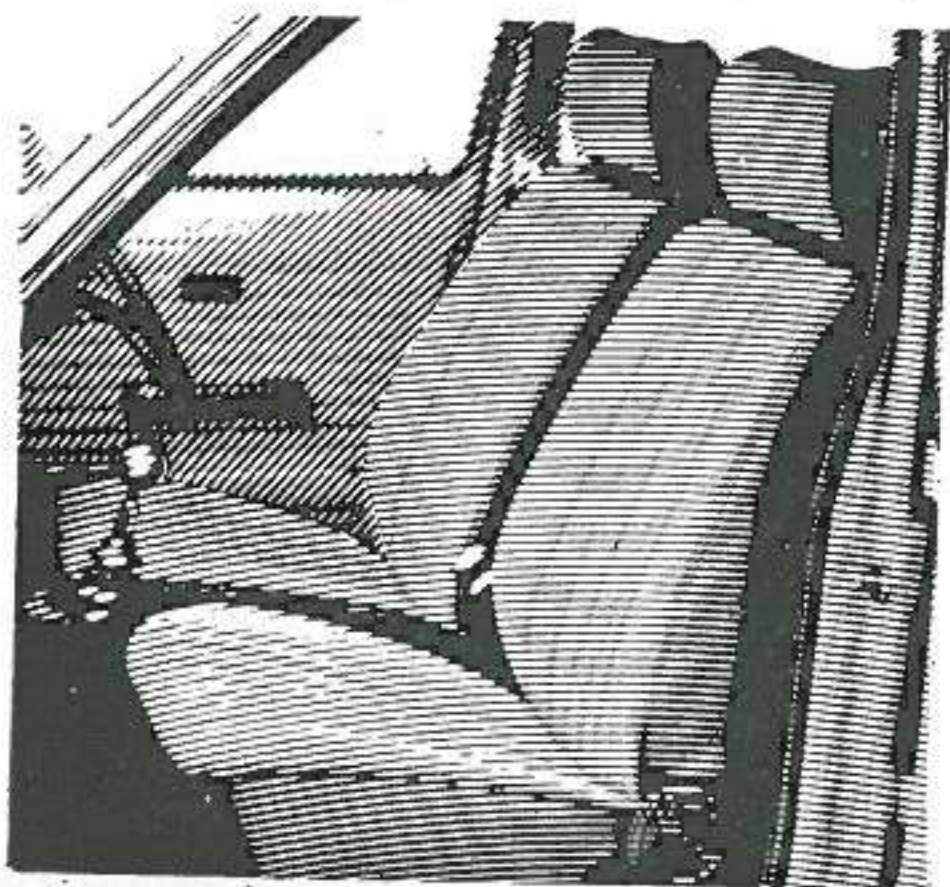


safety features of radial tyres and front disc brakes with booster. And now the 1.2 litre Kadett de Luxe (illustrated above) is available, featuring re-designed front end, de luxe trim, head restraints, sports

wheels, side mouldings and optional automatic transmission.

And all in a sleek aerodynamically designed body shell with 11 cu. ft. boot, 4-coat paintwork, unlimited mileage warranty and a host of safety features, whichever Kadett you choose.

So, for economical family motoring, think Kadett — you'll never regret it!



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Brindley

# ON THE SPOT . . .

by Tony Keegan

AS we eagerly await yet another chapter in the exciting and pulse-raising story of All-Ireland senior hurling finals, the players and personalities of the moment are very much in the limelight. So much so, in fact, that it would not prove a very testing exercise to devote this month's ON THE SPOT . . . exclusively to issues surrounding the final teams, and the men who will be out there battling for 1978 glory.

To give a sharper edge, then, to the quiz, I have decided to feature events relating to All-Ireland finals in general, and not merely senior games. The emphasis in the main is on recent events in order that younger readers can keep in step with their elders.

But young and old alike who are eager to show just how expert they are in recalling past events will also have a special chance to shine in this department as well.

There are five separate sections, with a couple of innovations this month. See how you measure up by adding on your score at the end of each group.

For a start, five short, snappy questions on modern-day events.

### SCORING FEATS

1. Eddie Keher's bag in the 1971 summit against Tipperary ranks as the individual record for an All-Ireland senior final. Did he set that marker at 1-16, 2-11, or 0-14? .....

2. Who was top scorer in last year's senior final? .....

3. The first goal in that summit was grabbed by Tony Doran, Charlie McCarthy or Ray Cummins. Your choice .....

4. Pat Moylan popped over nine points from frees in Cork's win over Wexford in 1976. Did he score at all from play? .....

5. How many goals were scored in the Kilkenny-Galway clash for the 1975 title? .....

Each question is worth five points making the total on offer at 25. Your record: .....

Now, the hurlers come very definitely into the picture as we look at the

### PERSONALITY PARADE

1. Who is the odd man out in this quartet of stars, and why—Tadhg O'Connor (Tipperary), Nicky Orr (Kilkenny), Sean Foley (Limerick) and Ray Cummins (Cork)? .....



2. Pictured above are two hurlers who were team-mates in an All-Ireland winning team early in the present decade. Who are they? .....

3. Now for those with long memories. Who filled the centre-half positions in the 1956 classic in which Wexford foiled Christy Ring's hopes of a ninth senior medal? .....

Five bonus points if you name both hurlers correctly.

4. Back to the modern era, and a question that will prove just how keenly you have been following minor affairs. Sean Fennelly led Kilkenny in their replay win over Cork last October, but can you say what position he filled in the defence? .....

5. Name the last Leinster man to referee an All-Ireland senior hurling final, and the year in question? .....

Score five points for each question correctly answered. The bonus at No. 3 boosts the total to 30 points maximum. Your Score .....

Now for the first of our "New Look" questions.

Here your exercise is to complete a brief **Profile** of the player pictured on Page 29. He is one of "Yesterday's Heroes."

2: Native county .....

3: What county did he lead to victory in a final? .....

4. He twice led Liam McCarthy Cup winning teams, in fact. List the successful years? .....

5. Position in which he starred? .....

Five points on offer once more for each question, plus a bonus of five for going through the card. Total marks possible, then, are 30. Your Score: .....

A chance here to see how you measure up on events in the more distant past in:

● TO PAGE 29



By our brilliant performance, it's easy to see  
Why we're All-Ireland Champions, this Goodyear and me.  
But in rainy conditions, goals gave me the slip,--  
Till my boots were re-fitted with Goodyear, for grip!

**GOODYEAR**  
The Choice of Champions.

● FROM PAGE 27  
**GOLDEN OLDIES**

1. How many games were needed to decide the 1931 All-Ireland hurling final? .....

2. Who won the All-Ireland senior final of 1937? .....

3. Why does that particular game hold a special place in the annals of the championship in modern times? .....

4. List the years in which the following captained title winning teams since the late 'Forties: Pat Stakelum (Tipperary), Paddy Barry (Cork) and Eddie Keher (Kilkenny)? .....

A whopping ten extra points if you come up trumps all the way here.

5. All the Munster counties have won the national senior hurling crown — true or false? .....

That bonus for No. 4 brings this section up to a points value of 60, each of the other questions being worth ten points. Your Rating .....

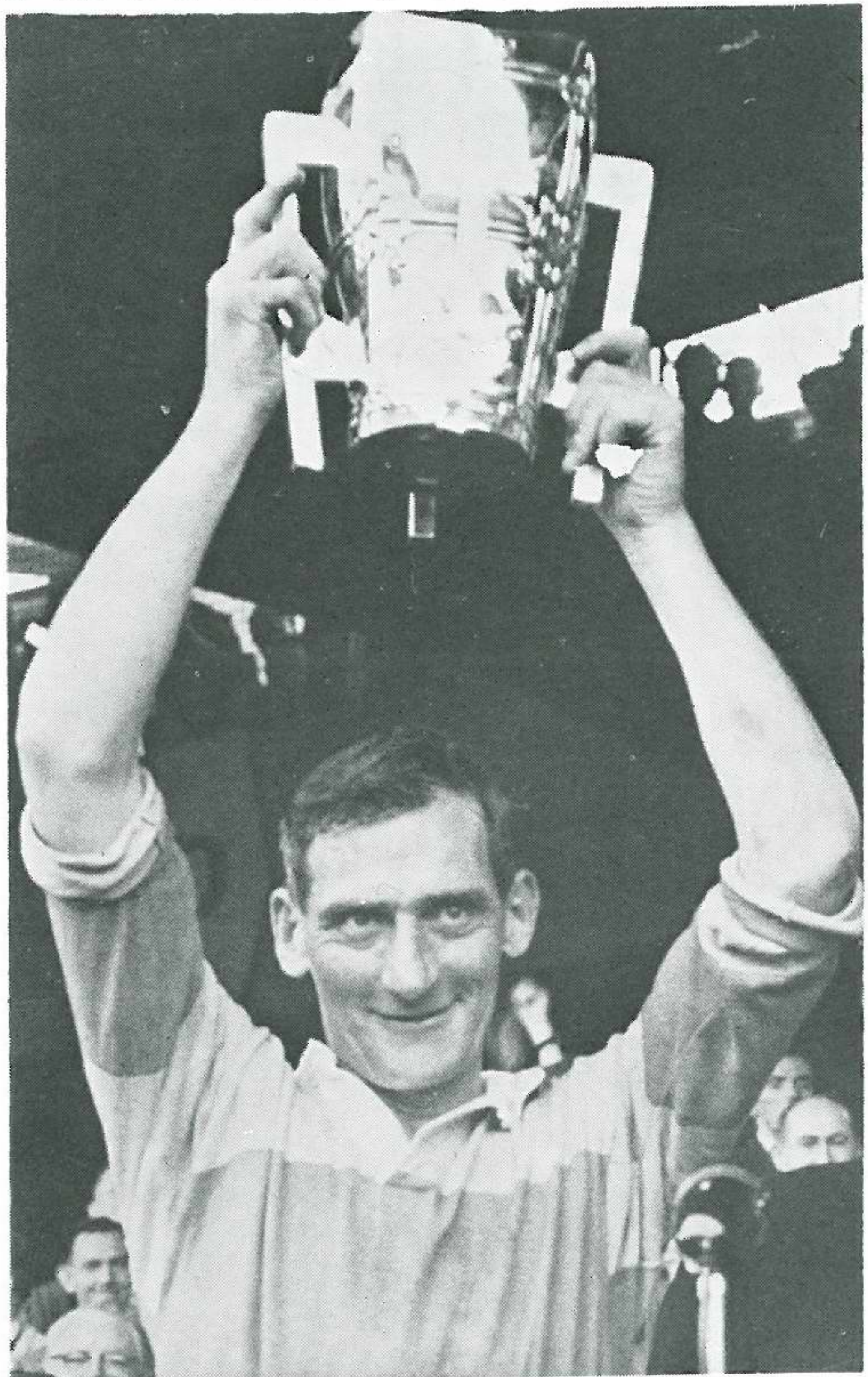
Finally, our second innovation of the month. We call this

**PAIRING**

Pictured below are four hurlers. What we want is each paired against the appropriate caption.



# PROFILE . . . ?



1. A recent final captain .....

2. A classic save .....

3. Starred as a colleges' footballer .....

4. A finalist from Clare .....

Five points for each question,

plus a five points prize for an all-correct answer.

**RATING**

Maximum points possible: 170. An excellent report if you score 120 or more. A marking of 90 to 120 is very good, and from 70 to 90 is good.

## ANSWERS

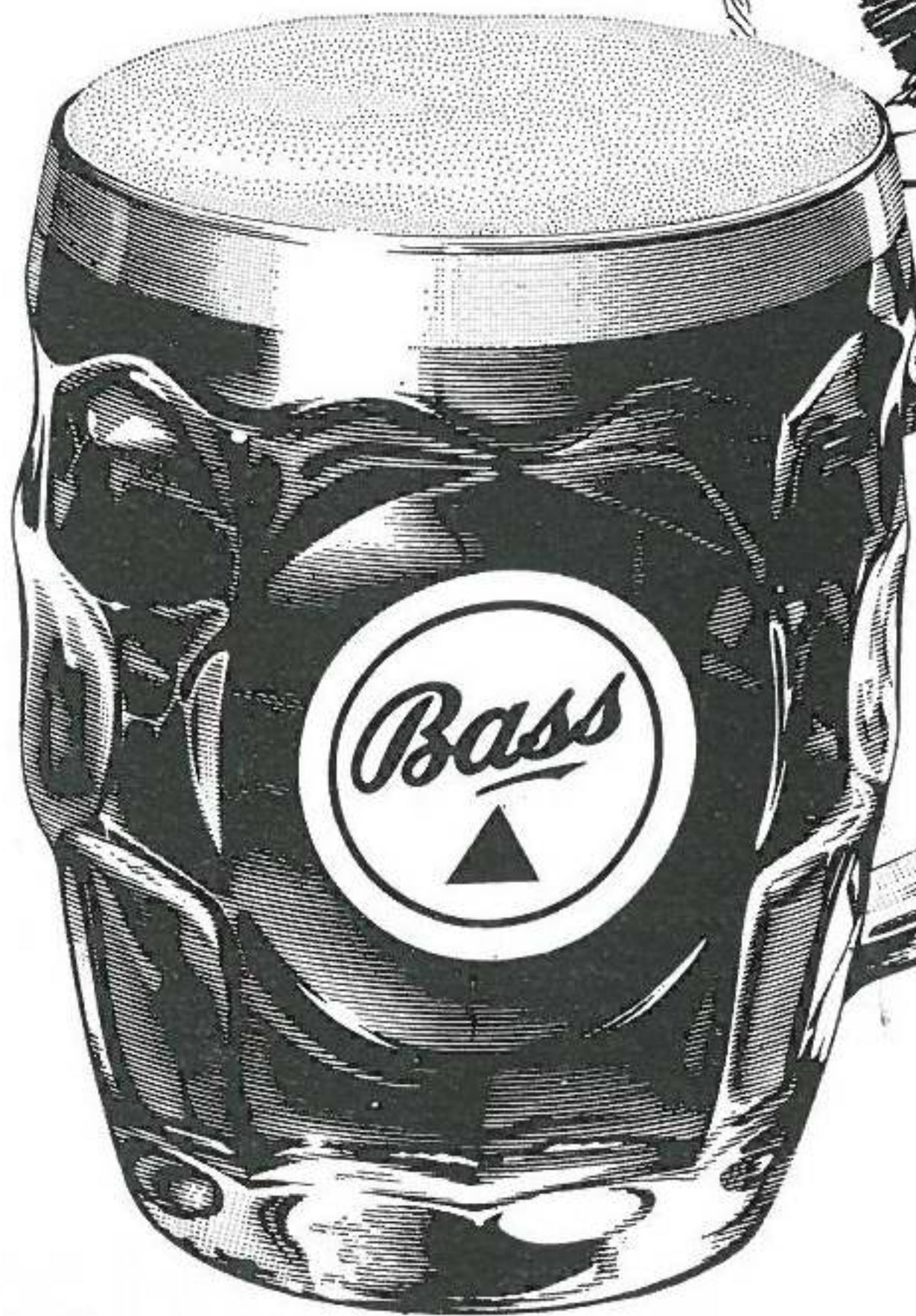
**PAGE**  
56

# *Bass* SPORTS

Ah...that's

# *Bass*

***best in beer  
best in sport***





Lynchs  
we had  
in plenty  
—even a  
JACK  
LYNCH—  
but  
Cottril?  
a  
foreigner  
surely!

IN that far-off innocence of our youth with its travel-restricted summers, when our horizons were contracted by the scarcity of petrol coupons and television was unknown as a means of bringing hurling and football into our homes, our sole contact with All-Ireland finals was dependent, totally, on the golden voice of the youthful Michael O'Hehir.

Even "radio" was not a word we used then in everyday language and the "tranny" was a yoke still to be invented. No, indeed, the faithful old wireless set, huge and majestic — and somewhat awesome — connected to the large dry-cell battery and the acid-filled glass one it needed

to bring it to life, was the medium through which we grew familiar with the celebrated football and hurling names Michael rattled out at us.

Some of those names were among the greatest ever to grace the Croke Park sward as O'Hehir looked down on from his green, wooden perch set between the old Hogan stand and the long-since demolished Long stand. But one, in particular, fascinated those of us reared in the Midlands where we had never come across anyone called Cottril.

Lynchs we had in plenty — even a Jack Lynch who was a regular visitor to our home — Murphys too (and some Cork ones), the village had its own Jim Young, but Cottril might well have been a name from a foreign land. Thinking back now, I am not too sure that we might not have regarded as a far-off, if not foreign, land the county of Cork, where Cottril was a household name. Con Cottril had won fame as Jack Lynch's (theirs, not ours) midfield partner in the All-Ireland triumphs of 1943 and '44.

Very frequently since those distant times it has struck me that one of the privileges sports journalism confers on its practitioners is that it allows us meet the illustrious players who were the "giants" of our starry-eyed youth. Because of my early fascination with his name it gave me special pleasure to spend some time visiting Father Con Cottril in Cork prior to the 1970 All-Ireland hurling final.

It was a delight to be in his company. He talked about many things: games and players, past and present. But I still remember the pride and pleasure with which he drew my attention to

the fact that into the Cork panel for the 1970 championship had come the first member of the Ballinhassig club since he himself had worn the red jersey in the 1940s.

Nearly thirty years was a long time for the small town of Ballinhassig, which lies about six miles south of Cork city, to await being listed again on a form team alongside the mighty of hurling like Glen Rovers, Blackrock and the Barrs. But it was worth it, surely, for Martin Coleman — now Cork's regular goalkeeper, has brought his native place many hurling honours just as Con Cottril did three decades before.

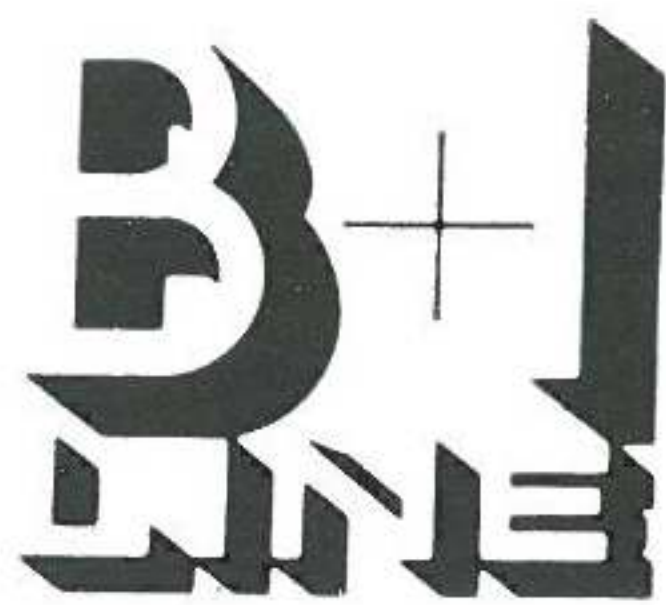
In late August 1970 Martin was still relatively unknown. He was in the panel as understudy to Paddy Barry and had only one senior championship appearance — the All-Ireland semi-final a few weeks previously when he deputised for Barry against London in Limerick. Now, of course, he is known from Cork to California.

Perhaps, the place where they might wish they had never heard of him at all is county Wexford. Assuredly he, and he alone in a

● TO PAGE 33



"Our sole contact with All-Ireland finals was dependent, totally, on the golden voice of the youthful Michael O'Hehir."



*g.a.a. personality  
of the month award*



Congratulations to recent award winners:  
Pat Kirby (Clare), Joe Byrne (Down),  
Ignatius Clarke (Galway), Sean Stack (Clare),  
Pat Hartigan (Limerick).

# MICK DUNNE

● FROM PAGE 31

way, deprived Wexford of at least a draw in last year's final when with amazing agility he got his hurley to the blasting shot that appeared to most of us to be rocketing straight to the net from Christy Keogh. Unquestionably it was one of the great saves, coming so close to full-time and in a game of such importance, of modern times — bracketed alongside Art Foley's save from Christy Ring in the 1956 final — and it deservedly earned him the RTE Sport "Save of the Year" trophy.

Coleman and Wexford had crossed paths more than once in his career. When he was reserve goalkeeper to the 1967 Cork minor team he collected his first All-Ireland medal when Wexford were the beaten finalists. The following year, though, when he had become the regular keeper Wexford won 2-13 to 3-7, but Martin has his revenge in 1970 on many of the players in the purple and gold whom he had encountered as a minor. That year he was the under-21 goalkeeper who prevented Wexford getting a goal when Cork won 5-17 to 0-8. His under-21 teammates included John Horgan, Pat

*Just as Con Cottril had brought fame to Ballinahassig thirty years earlier, Martin Coleman now brings further fame and glory to the small townland.*



McDonnell, Pat Moylan, Brendan Cummins, Seanie Leary and footballer Jimmy Barrett and Wexford opponents like Colm Doran, Martin Quigley, Mick Butler and Martin Casey he would face later in senior ranks in two All-Ireland finals.

Martin Coleman, 28 early last

month, is a carpenter by trade and his brothers John K. and Brendan have also worn the Cork colours at hurling.

# HANDBALL ● FROM PAGE 25

which has produced many champions over the years and has the added distinction of bringing home many titles in the ladies' code. John Gallagher who works meticulously for the game in the county can foresee the day in the not too distant future when a few G.A.A. Clubs in Donegal will build handball courts.

Various efforts have been made to organise the game in Derry and while nothing in the nature of a productive result has yet emerged, the fact that a coaching

course will be held shortly in the county gives a ray of hope.

In Antrim handball fervour is at fever pitch. Dick Murphy, Bobby Maguire and Brendan Harvey, the county's administrators, have performed heroically in getting the game organised on a secure footing within the county.

Queen's University is the hub of activity and besides lauding the players from the club for their many successes on the playing courts, it is nice to be able to pay tribute to the Universities Authorities for providing playing

facilities for the many new clubs in the Belfast area.

Handball in Ulster would appear to be spiralling towards a new era of success.

One is confident that the mood of progress which is so evident in many counties will become contagious and that eventually the Province may be to the forefront in the fields of activity and development.

We wish Chairman Mick Leddy and Secretary Bobby Maguire every success in bringing these aspirations to fruition.

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# **Man for man, this Cork team is as good as the '52-'54 sides *LEAVING OUT RINGEY, OF COURSE***

BY MOONDHARRIG

**H**AVING put well behind them the humiliation of National League demotion, (indeed that very fact probably added edge to their championship ambitions), Cork will come more than hopefully to Croke Park on the first Sunday in September in quest of their third successive senior hurling All-Ireland.

In 1976 and 1977, what is largely the same side got the better of Wexford, and against Wexford this time they would again start warm favourites because there is no reason to believe that this Cork side is not as good, indeed it is possibly better than it was a year ago. After all the three youngsters on the side, Johnny Crowley, Dermot McCurtain and above all Tom Cashman have matured and improved a great deal since then and there is little cause to believe that any of their colleagues have fallen unduly through the twelve months since last All-Ireland day.

In assessing Cork's All-Ireland chances, we can forget about the League campaign, because rarely was the side that took the field anywhere near full strength. Yet once, before Christmas, they did show their power and their pride, and that was against Clare in the League at Pairc Ui Chaoimh in the early winter. That day, as I saw it, the Cork lads went out to prove that they would have won the 1977 Munster final, irrespective of whether Jim Power had been sent off or not, and they really ran rings around Clare in the last fifteen minutes.

Indeed, looking back on it now, I am inclined to believe that was the day when this year's Munster Final was lost and won. That day the Cork players proved to themselves that they had the beating of the Claremen at any time, and even though Clare

players themselves would be the last to admit it, that I feel was the day when deep down, some of the Bannermen may have been psychologically convinced that, maybe, after all, they had not the beating of the Corkonians.

Certainly when you look back on it, it looked at half-time in Semple Stadium on the last Sunday in July as though there was then no way in which Clare could fail to win their first Munster title since 1932. Against a fresh breeze, they had not only held Cork to a two point lead but no opposing forward had scored.

True, Cork had had much of the play, and had shot 13 wides, but it's the shots that go between the posts that count. So Clare, the wind not quite so strong, nor so directly behind them, still looked as though the title was theirs for the taking.

But that was when the Cork lads showed their true worth. Their defence completely dominated the Clare forwards, a switch between Pat Moylan and Tim Crowley led to an improved performance by both men, while the introduction of Eamonn O'Donoghue seemed to make all the difference to the Cork attack.

Indeed the real puzzle about the second half was that Cork were still only two points in front at the finish, a fact not entirely explained by the goal-keeping of Seamus Durack, the wonderful hurling of Ger Loughnane and the refusal of the Clare full back line to panic.

Yet, looking back on Cork's performance over the entire game, there is plenty of room for improvement. True, the defence was very solid from start to stop. Martin Coleman was rarely troubled in goal, Martin O'Doherty, uncertain enough against

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**CORK 1954:** Back row — A. Scannell (selector), D. Creedon, G. O'Riordan, J. Lyons, D. Hayes, M. Fuohy, G. Murphy, P. (Fox) Collins (selector), J. Barry (trainer).

Front row — E. Goulding, W. J. Daly, T. O'Shaughnessy, J. Clifford, J. Hartnett, C. Ring (capt.), P. Barry, V. Twomey, W. Moore.



★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Clare the previous year, was unbeatable this time.

In the corners, John Horgan was his usual ebullient self on the left, not to mention those four invaluable first-half points from long-range frees while Denny Burns proved a very valuable deputy for hamstrung Brian Murphy. In the half-backs McCurtain and Johnny Crowley vied for top rating and if Denis Coughlan has lost some of his speed he is still a very elegant ball-player.

Cashman was the mid-field star, and, though it took Tim Crowley a long time to get going he was very effective when he did get in tune. I was very disappointed with the showing of the forwards in the first half of that Munster final. Jimmy Barry-Murphy and Gerald McCarthy both were amazingly ineffective, but both improved after the interval without ever reaching top form. Mick Malone, a late deputy for Seanie O'Leary, was obviously not fully recovered from injury, so, assuming that neither of these two might be fully fit by final day, I would not be at all surprised to see Eamonn O'Donoghue in the starting line up then. Certainly both Ray Cummins and Charlie McCarthy seemed to benefit greatly by his arrival.

One thing puzzled me about the tactics of the Cork bench at Semple Stadium. Just when Pat Moylan was beginning to hurl well they took him off, but he is too great a player to leave on the sideline. When they are all on song, there are no weak links on this Cork team, and yet one recalls those two other games at Thurles this year, both in the League, first against Galway, then against Offaly, the first for a place in the knock-out stages, the second a relegation battle, and on both occasions

they were well beaten.

**But the championship is another story and that third in a row must be very much on the cards, if the forwards now play as well as the backs did at Thurles.**


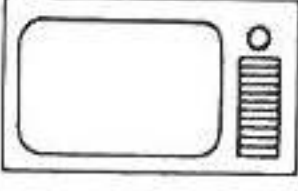

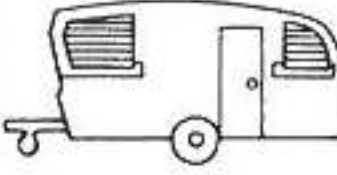


How would I compare the present side with the team that achieved the three in a row in 1952-3-4? In one sense comparisons are impossible because that team of the 50s had Christy Ring, and in those Ringey was a host in himself.

That team of twenty-five years ago also had solid defenders in Dave Creedon, John Lyons, Gerry O'Riordan, Matty Fuohy and Vin Twomey, Gerry Murphy, God rest him was there through all three victories at mid-field. But Ring had very able aides in attack. Remember Willie John Daly, Glanmire Paddy Barry, Josie Hartnett, Liam Dowling, Eamonn Goulding, Johnny Clifford?

There are those who say those were 'soft' All-Irelands. Maybe the first one was soft enough against a lack-lustre Dublin outfit but the medals were not easily won either against Galway in 1953 or against Wexford in 1954. Indeed I still believe Wexford must have won that final had Nick O'Donnell not been forced to retire with a broken collar bone in the third quarter, even though Bobby Rackard gave an exhibition thereafter when he went back to full-back.

Still, Ring excepted, I feel that man for man the present Cork line-up is a better all-round team than the last winners of the three in a row. They will definitely prove that impression of mine true if they can succeed in winning a third successive title for themselves.

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# CAMOGIE AFFAIRS

By  
AGNES  
HOURIGAN

AS this is being written we do not yet know who the Camogie finalists will be as the semi-finals, between Wexford and Dublin and Cork and Clare, were scheduled for the second half of August. On the form to date, Cork and Wexford seem the most likely finalists but we have had a number of surprises in the championship already, and who is to say that these will not continue?

For instance, in the National League earlier in the summer, Tipperary scored an easy win over Clare and Galway defeated Cork, yet in the championship quarter-finals, Cork scored an easy win over Galway while Clare reversed the League verdict over Tipperary.

In the other end of the draw, the results were also slightly surprising. Kilkenny, who had defeated Wexford with something to spare in last year's All-Ireland final, failed rather badly to the Wexford girls in the opening round of the current championship. But then this Kilkenny side, despite having won three of the last four All-Irelands, are always most vulnerable in their first game of the campaign.

In the other early game Limerick, last year's junior champions, and unbeaten in three League outings, were confidently expected to advance when Dublin came to visit them, but had to give best after the most exciting match of the competition to date.

So, between the four remaining teams in the senior grade all is still to play for, but the odds

seem to favour a Wexford v Cork final. If that does come to pass, Wexford would have to be favourites on the form-book as they defeated Cork in the League final in the Spring, admittedly at a Wexford venue.

However, Cork are the only county with a chance of bringing off something never yet achieved, a Triple Crown of Camogie championships, senior, junior and minor since there are Leaside teams, as I write, in all three semi-finals. But what has been very good to see is the great improvement of such counties as Roscommon, who won the Connacht minor title, and Wicklow who have put up some very fine performances in the junior grade in Leinster.

Also, although they failed in two finals, no county in the North have given a better account of themselves in recent times than Monaghan.

But that, I find, is the big difference nowadays and what the game was a couple of decades ago. The over-all standards have improved out of all knowledge. While the number of counties who have won the All-Ireland senior title is still limited to five, Dublin, Cork, Antrim, Wexford and Kilkenny, it is interesting to note that, although these last two counties only began the breakthrough for the first time in 1968, Wexford and Kilkenny between them have won six of the last ten All-Irelands.

At junior level, the evening-up of standards is even more obvious as in the same decade in addition to Dublin and Cork, Clare, Limerick, Derry, Down and

Galway have all brought home the title.

This amply demonstrates the wonderful effect coaching, at both adult and Colleges level, has achieved especially in imparting the basic skills of the game to juveniles even in non-hurling areas. And that, I think, is the fundamental difference between the countryside aspect of the game today and what Camogie was in its early days.

Then many of the great stars of the game were girls who had learned their skills from hurling to and fro with their brothers and neighbours.

Many of the great stars of the past would, of course, have been equally effective in any era, one recalls in particular such greats of the early competitive days as Maura Gill of Dublin, Peggy Morris of Galway, Lil Kirby of Cork and Kathleen Hanratty of Louth, but they too often seemed to carry the weight of a whole team on their individual skills.

And that is where, perhaps, Camogie has improved most of all, in the vast improvement in team-work, combination and the blending together of individual skill with united effort from every player on the side.

Brilliant stars there still are on every county side, but, thanks to good coaching most of these players on the successful teams do not have to play a lone hand now. They play for the team, and the rest of the team equally plays for them. The National Coaching courses have therefore had a major role in making Camogie a truly national game.

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**SOME** time ago I took driving lessons and as you all undoubtedly know they eventually lead to the "Test." I hate that word, why should anyone have to endure a test. I suppose its the only real way to separate the sheep from the goats though mind you there must be something amiss somewhere because the few strays still manage to get through. Anyway I had the application form in my bag for months and it was only when they put a halt to my "provisional" gallop that I eventually sent off my form. It's a funny thing but I hate filling up forms. There's something terrible upsetting about giving ones track record without really giving it if you know what I mean. Having posted the form I promptly forgot about it and I think the powers that be did likewise because it was ages and ages before I heard from them again. Not that I had too many sleepless nights over that, but everyone else seemed intent on driving me to distraction over the whole business.

**Eventually the word came** to report at a given location at four o'clock on a certain Friday evening. Well when I saw the day they picked I nearly passed out. Anyone who drives

through Dublin on a Friday and survives deserves to be given the Freedom of the City. Unfortunately most survivors would be in no fit condition to accept such an honour. You see they are worn out from rolling the window up and down to shout or throw a fist at the fellow cutting in and out of lanes.

**It was pelting rain** the day of the Test. I went to work that morning but I was most ill at ease. I told a couple of the pals about my pending trial. They were rather amused and one of them said she could never imagine me driving. That, I needn't tell you, boosted my confidence enormously but I said nothing. Word filtered through the ranks and by the time dinner hour came I had had several well wishers. They were all getting their kicks at my expense but I was determined to keep the good side out. Of course there was no end to the goings on inside my head. I had all kinds of wild imaginings. What would happen if a young one on a bike wobbled across in front of me or if I didn't notice the old lady with the carton of milk stepping on to the pedestrian crossing. That was bad enough but the thought of the big articulated trucks — sure you could disappear under one of them and the driver wouldn't even notice the bump. Oh I'd probably be dug out, head first, in Australia but what when the Driving School start looking for their car. It was all too much — horse power should be left with the horses, it's so much safer that way.

**I came back** to the flat at dinner time and rang the school to confirm that I would be collecting their car. The fellow there was all for taking the car there and then and getting

a practice run. Ah now there was no way I could endure that. The Lord knows I was bad enough as things were but I couldn't risk asking the nervous system to withstand any extras. I decided to get out of the flat, my own company wasn't at all congenial. I went down to a nearby restaurant for lunch. Lunch how are you, the very look of food made me turn the other way. I settled for the pot of tea and toast and sat down with my paper. Soon I was joined by a nice gentleman who too proceeded to read. He got tired of that and after a couple of sighs he announced it was a miserable day. I immediately agreed with him but couldn't help wondering if I might be seeing the best of it.

**Funny too the way people** start talking. He asked me where I worked and I told him. Ah he said, you're very lucky, I'm redundant myself. I felt sorry for the poor devil really because he was by no means an old man. He said being out of work made him very useless. I could have told him that I felt that way all the time, but I feared he might think I was being facetious. We chatted away then about the terrible cost of everything and as for the Government — well, we both agreed on their worth. I was just beginning to see the funny side when I was grounded once more. You know, he said, I envy you, there you are without a care in the world. Now I ask you how is that for cheek. Before I got a chance to recover he was standing up to go. Goodbye now, he said, and enjoy the rest of the day. I will indeed, said I, tongue in cheek but smiling away to the bitter end. Just my luck . . .

**How is it** I never get anyone to listen to my troubles. I saw

● TO PAGE 41



**Gabriele Lüttmann, Amsterdam Strasse 2, Düsseldorf.  
At home with Kerrygold.**

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## ● FROM PAGE 39

someone else coming. Now if this woman sits in here I'll get in first with my woes. True to form she sat accross the table from me. She had two kids with her and obviously was after doing the shopping at the Supermarket next door. One of the bags was a string one and when she left it down the contents spilled over onto the floor. Tins of peas and beans and all kinds of niceties rolled under the chairs and she detailed the young fellow to retrieve them. He did that and was rewarded with a plate of chips. They were all grand and quiet and minding their own business for about five minutes. Can I have my car mammy, asked the younger fellow, and the Mammy duly picked up her handbag and produced a little toy car. 'Twas one of those friction ones which he ran up and down the table with alarming determination.

**Did he really have** to rub it in.

Why couldn't he have brought Cowboys and Indians, even a gun, anything but a car. Of course the young fellow was as happy as Larry. The mother saw me looking at him so I decided I'd better say something. I assumed a real casual air, nodded my head in the direction of the car and said "That reminds me, I'm doing my test this evening". Such nerve — there was I in bits and nearly pretending I needed a reminder about the test. Oh, she said isn't it well for you, I'd love to be able to drive. She proceeded then to tell me how she always wanted to learn to drive and to swim. Now what the connection between the two activities might be is something I failed to figure out. Maybe it's the idea of deep water, I don't know. Anyway like the man before her she ended up telling me she envied me as well so I de-

ecided I must really be far better off than I realised. Time was moving on and I had to do likewise.

**I went down to the school** and collected the car. The fellow who put in his Purgatory teaching me the tricks of the trade accompanied me to the centre. You know, he said, I've every confidence in you. I thought that was real nice of him — another fellow would tell the truth and be finished with it. The centre is a dreary looking haunt. You'd think they'd paint over that awful drab grey on the outside and a few flowers on the window- ledges wouldn't go astray either. The inside was even worse. The decor left a lot to be desired. There were long faded chipped benches along the wall from which many were called but few got up. I had the Rules of the Road (or the Quiz Book if you prefer) in my bag and I was wondering if I should have a last bash at mixing them all up together. I could see yellow lines and white lines and crossings of various swipes and stripes. They were all in a right mess but it was too late at this stage to sort them out. I might as well wait and hope for the best. Anyway, the most important thing is to keep the composure—people who give themselves away are not always charitable.

**My name was called** and I sprung forward. My bag fell out of my hand — it must have been the shock of hearing the sound of my own name. I picked it up and gripped tight this time — anything at all to hang on to was a help. I sat accross from the examiner. To give him his due though, he was alright. At least, with the questions, I felt he did his best to entice the right answer from me. Having got over the first hurdle we set off on the real mission. I got into the car first and then your

man sat in. I checked to see that his door was closed properly but forgot to check my own. Imagine the confusion if I had to explain how I lost myself. Anyway, we were ready for the off. I turned on the engine, looked in my mirror and over my shoulder. I let out the clutch and pressed the accelerator. It conked out but we definitely moved. I tried again. This time we took off — the handbrake really makes all the difference! We motored on.

**My first bit** of difficulty presented itself when I tried to cross a main road. I could see a car coming but with the rain it was difficult to establish how near it was. What should I do? I decided to take the chance and I crossed over in front of him. Well the oncomer was not at all impressed. He flashed lights and hooted for all his worth. This is it mate, I said to myself, if Pal Joey is in a bad twist now you can forget about it. I was going to say something but the best way to save face is to keep the bottom half shut. We kept on going. I was told to turn right and left and go straight on—that's the worst of these fellows, they can never make up their own minds. After that, we had a session going around in circles and I had a three point turn, a hill start, and a reverse around a corner. I was doing remarkably well — could it ever be that my luck was turning. We met a dog who made life a little difficult for me till he hopped back on to the footpath. The time flew and the next thing I recognised was the centre. We were back where it all started. Park here now, he said and I obliged without taking anything with me. We went inside. He filled in a form and asked me to sign along the dotted line. I couldn't believe it. I thanked him profusely and disappeared before he could change his mind.

Illustration shows design from reverse side of five pound note.



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# JOHN HORGAN

## Cork's blonde bombshell is in tremendous form. Kilkenny take note.



JOHN HORGAN

By Noel Horgan

WHEN a depleted Cork team triumphed over adversity to take their fourth consecutive Munster title at the expense of League champions, Clare, in July, they showed, in a tense southern decider, that their sights are set squarely on a third successive All-Ireland victory.

Although the Munster final did not produce the expected hurling treat, it was nevertheless, a notable achievement for the Leesiders. They entered the game without the services of Sean O'Leary and Brian Murphy and, when their usually brilliant forward line hit 13 wides in the first half, Cork looked most precariously positioned with only a two-point lead at the interval and a strong breeze to face in the second half.

After the respite, however, the Corkmen emerged transformed, to produce a display filled with courage, determination and skill and went on to retain their provincial title. In the process they emphasised what a fine side they are, possibly better now than when they took All-Ireland honours in 1976 and '77. I say this for a number of reasons.

Most observers would agree that Cork's successes in recent times have been due largely to the brilliance of their forwards. The genius of attackers like Ray Cummins, Jimmy Barry-Murphy, Charlie McCarthy, Sean O'Leary and Gerald McCarthy is acknowledged as the main reason why Cork have managed to stay in front of counties like Clare, Kil-

kenny, Wexford and Galway in the competitive and finely balanced hurling world of today.

### Seanie O'Leary, a huge loss

These are the hurlers who have made Cork a great rather than a good team. Yet in the Munster final the Cork forward line did not excel. Sean O'Leary was a huge loss, Jimmy Barry-Murphy and Gerald McCarthy were below form, Charlie McCarthy was tightly marked by Clare's John McMahon and while Ray Cummins had a great second half and was as creative as ever throughout the game, his promptings were not always availed of by his fellow forwards.

So the Cork followers turned to other sectors to see them through. And the Leaside rear-guard and midfielders rose to the occasion in splendid style with Tom Cashman, above all, displaying tremendous artistry. Cork's form in the Munster final proved that there is a maturity and balance about the team that make it difficult to see them failing to retain their All-Ireland crown.

The forward division is unlikely to be as subdued again and the defence has proven itself a tightly-knit and compact unit capable of holding the most vaunted forwards.

Young players like Dermot McCurtain and John Crowley have come up from the underage ranks to make the successful transition to the senior grade.

McCurtain is a brilliantly consistent wing-back and Crowley a pivot who, having mastered such notables as Wexford's Martin Quigley and Galway's John Connolly in last year's championship and Clare's Noel Casey this year, must be regarded as one of the best centre-backs in the game. Completing the half back line is the stylish veteran, Denis Coughlan, whose superb displays in the last two All-Ireland finals are still vivid in the memories of hurling purists.

Behind them, the brilliant and, in my view, under-rated corner-back John Horgan is in tremendous form at the moment and has excelled in both Cork's championship games this year. Martin Doherty, after seasons of uncertainty, emerged last year as a top-class full-back, while newcomer Denis Burns showed at right-full back in the Munster final that he is also a defender of rare ability.

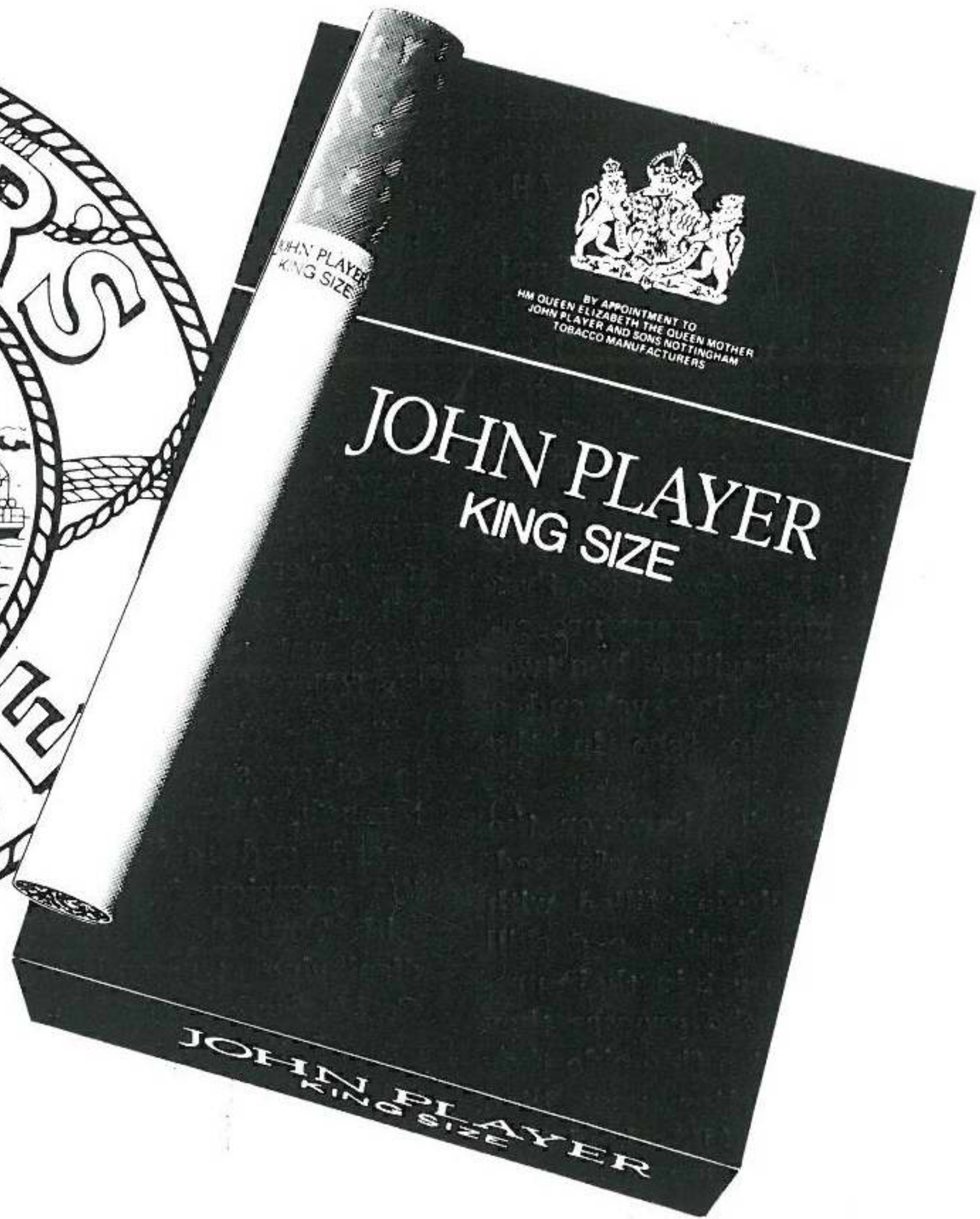
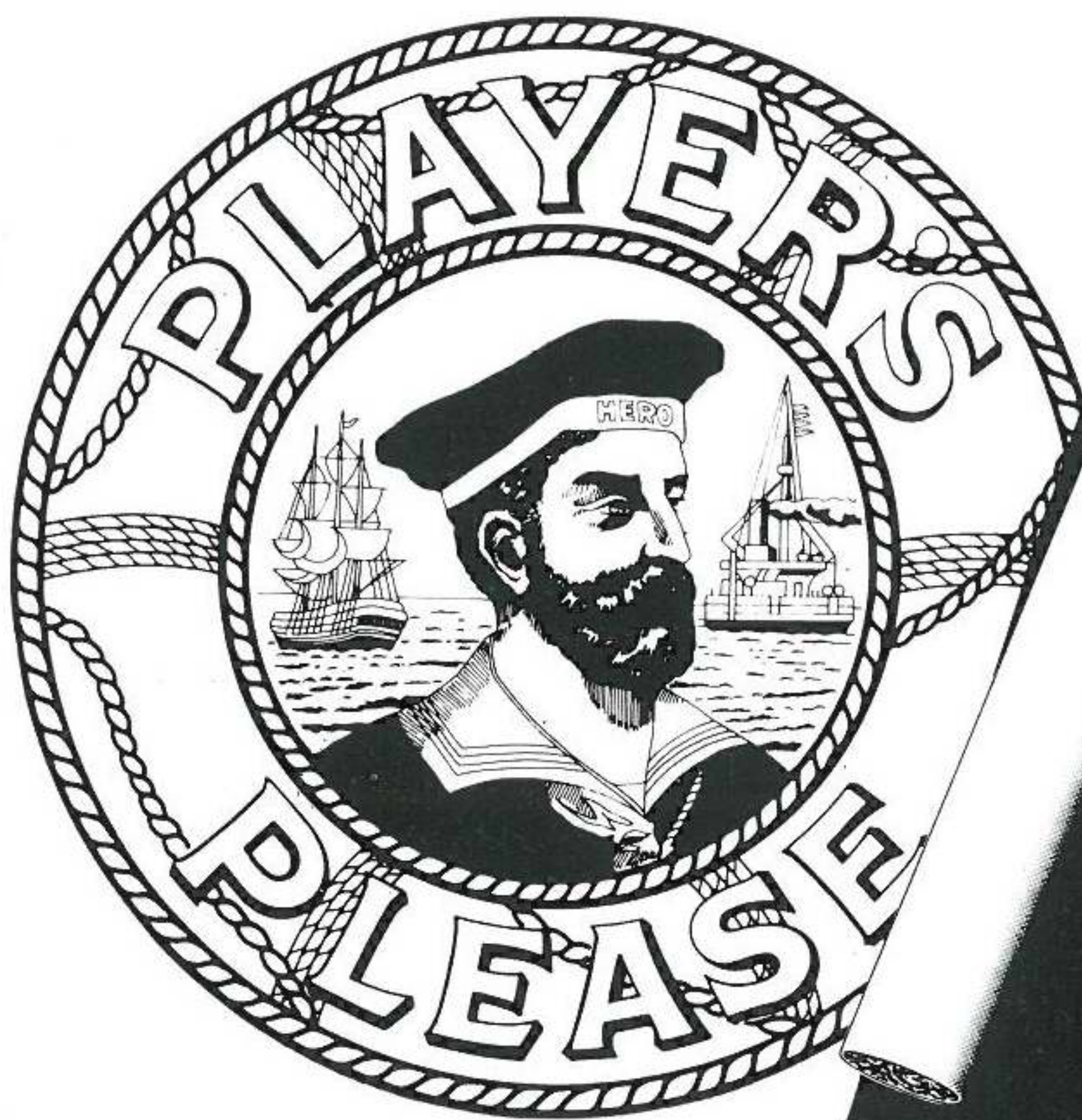
### ADDED ADVANTAGE

Goalkeeper Martin Coleman has been suspect on occasions but he can also be outstanding as Wexford know to their cost, while his lengthy pucks-out are of great benefit to the forwards. In the second half of the Munster final, for instance, Coleman's deliveries against the wind landed well beyond midfield and were vital to Cork's success.

At midfield Cork have 21-year-old Tom Cashman, the son of

● TO PAGE 52

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JPKE 26

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# CASHMAN AND CROWLEY COULD GIVE CORK THE EDGE AT MID-FIELD

BY NEIL McCAVANA

ANY team with a progressive midfield has much going for it. Admittedly, the long puck-out in hurling can by-pass the centre field men and, as a result, there are those who will argue that it is more important to have class and power at the back and up front these days, rather than in the middle of the park.

The fact remains, however, that long puck out or not, many vital exchanges take place around the middle of the park in every match . . . exchanges that frequently have a vital bearing in shaping the eventual outcome. Certainly, it is in any team's best interests to have the men on hand with the qualifications necessary to make a worth-while impact in the centre.

And, if the midfielders have also the flair to slot in effortlessly as well during any match either as attackers or backs and the ability to help out in defence or up front while looking after their own area of play, then, so much the better.

The point could well be hammered home yet again by Cork during their bid to bring up a rare hat-trick of All-Ireland senior titles. No one who has followed their days of mixed fortunes in recent times, ranging from last year's successful defence of the Liam McCarthy Cup, to League relegation last

spring, and back again to a fourth Munster crown in a row, will seriously dispute that the Leesiders are better served than most in centre field talent.

In renewing their efficient partnership against Clare, Tom Cashman and Tim Crowley did much to shatter the Banner County's bright dreams of a rare glory day. They may not have



T. CASHMAN T. CROWLEY

dominated the scene during the first half, but Cashman was particularly prominent, while Crowley also got through much useful work.

In the second half Crowley emphasised his versatility by showing up well on his transfer to right half forward, while Cashman continued to pull his weight in the centre in splendid fashion, so much so, that many made him the man of the match.

The Munster decider was the first game this year at home that this talented twosome lined

up in the centre for Cork since a dismal day at Thurles back in April when Offaly sent the All-Ireland senior champions plunging to National League relegation.

The careers of this pair provide an interesting contrast in the fickle fortunes of sport. Crowley was 25 when he won the first of his two Munster senior championship medals in July of last year, while Cashman was not even 20 when he took his place the same day among the provincial senior medalists.

That Munster decider of 1977, in fact, marked the first time that this pair lined up in the centre for Cork in senior championship play. But, both had played with the premier county side before that.

Crowley is a solid, progressive worker, with a thundering shot. A member of the Newcestown club, he stands over six foot, and, like so many more in the top grade, he has graduated to the big time from the Colleges' and under-age inter-county ranks.

It was at midfield that he won his first All-Ireland medal. That was at under-21, and his power-packed hurling in the area was one of the best features of the 1973 national success by Cork. He appeared in the half-forward line with the county senior side, before taking over at midfield in last year's Munster final, and it was there that he also helped the county to retain the All-Ireland crown last September. That was his first senior final appearance.

## Tom Cashman, a rare talent

The stylish Cashman must rank as one of the most exciting young talents to arrive on the

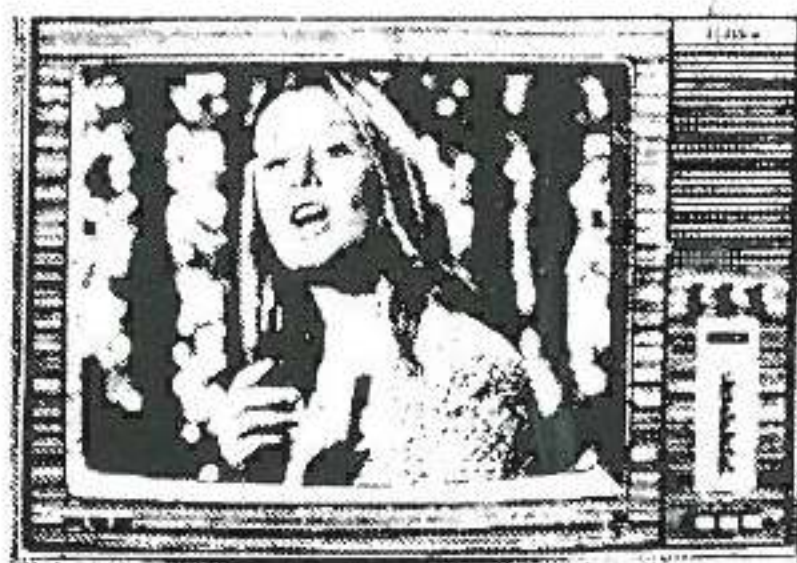
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# RTV RENTALS

## ● FROM PAGE 17

to the summit they scored very efficiently, and Eddie Crowley, Pierce Phelan and Mick Hefferan, in particular, have featured prominently among the scorers.

The defence, with towering pivot Pat Gannon, Leo Hennessy, who is brother of senior half back, Joe, and O'Hara, setting a high standard, is very dependable, and I have been impressed by Willie Walshe and Johnny Moriarty in the centre of the park.

Kilkenny, then, have what it takes all round to make a powerful bid to retain the title. If they are successful they will join Cork on second place in the All-Ireland winners ranking with twelve crowns. Tipperary lead with 13 titles.

Can the Leinster boys do it? I'm not so sure. I feel that their strong framework from last year gives Cork a vital edge, and for this reason, plus the tremendous scoring potential they have, I fancy that the southern champions will come out on top this time.

The winners receive "The Irish Press" Cup, and Kilkenny carve out a slice of history if they retain the title. That would result in their name going on the trophy for the ninth time, a distinction not yet achieved by any county.

Tipperary, who were the first winners of the Cup in 1949, and Kilkenny share leadership in regard to trophy wins with eight each.

Cork are in line to take the Cup for the eighth time. The first year their name went on the plinth was 1951.

Cork were the first winners of the All-Ireland minor hurling championship, beating Dublin in a replay in 1928. Their last glory was in 1974.

Kilkenny lost their debut in the concluding round in 1930, and went all the way the following year. They last won two titles in succession in 1972-73.





*The Kilkeny team that defeated Cork in the thunder and lightning final of 1939. Can you spot Paddy Grace and Jimmy Langton? The first reader to correctly identify this pair will win a (sur) prize.*

## SEPTEMBER 3rd - a fateful day?

By MICK DUNNE *RTE Sport*

**F**OR the majority of over 60,000 hurling enthusiasts September 3 means nothing other than the first Sunday of the month and the day they must be in Croke Park again, but there are others who will see it as something more than a date on the calendar. The coincidence of All-Ireland Day falling on September 3 once more may well have brought a stab of unpleasant memory, if not the merest twinge of anxiety, to Corkonians, An Taoiseach, Jack Lynch, and Dr. Jim Young, and Kilkennymen Paddy Grace and Jimmy Langton as they set their minds on September 3 to be in Croke Park for the finals.

All four have been in the stadium before on a September 3 —

although each one in circumstances different to this year's appearance — and no one of them will recall it as a day when "God was in His Heaven and all was right with the world." Things were far, indeed, from being right with the world on All-Ireland Day 1939, the first time Kilkenny and Cork met in a September 3 final, and even Grace and Langton — members of a victorious team that day — will not recall it with the happiest of memories.

It is a safe bet that An Taoiseach was struck with the significance of the date when he pencilled-in the All-Ireland final for September 3 among the numerous engagements in his packed diary. His thoughts were bound

to have turned back over the decades to the day he first captained a Cork team in an All-Ireland final and, being a politician, he must have reflected what an ominous day that September 3 was for previous generations of politicians — abroad and here at home — as he prepared to lead the 1939 Cork team onto Croke Park. For September 3, 1939, was a day that — in one way or other — touched all of our lives.

For months the war clouds hung dark and low over Europe; diplomatic note followed ultimatum across the continent and on the very day before the All-Ireland final — although one, of course, had nothing to do, with

● TO PAGE 57

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# Under-age talent in abundance

By MICK DUNNE, RTE Sport

**E**VEN without the help of hindsight it would not be stretching credibility too far to argue that there was an inevitability about Cork and Kilkenny being this year's All-Ireland finalists. Their achievements in the present decade all but guaranteed they would be in Croke Park on the first Sunday in September.

As far as championships have been concerned so far in the 1970s, they were the only counties to matter. An examination of the records reveals that they have almost monopolised hurling between them.

To date in this decade they have three senior championships each — Cork being champions in 1970 and for the past two years; Kilkenny having taken the title in 1972, '74 and '75. Indeed only two championships in this period have gone outside Cork or Kilkenny — the 1971 title to Tipperary and the 1973 one to Limerick.

But even more significant — and very relevant to their appearance in this year's senior decider — is the regularity with which they appropriated almost every title in the under-age competitions. Thus far in the Seventies there have been 16 championships between under-21 and minor and all but TWO have gone to Cork and Kilkenny: the 1972 under-21 championship won by Galway and the 1976 minor title captured by Tipperary.

The remaining 14 have been split evenly between Kilkenny and Cork. Under-21 championships were won by Cork in 1970, '71, '73 and '76 and they took the minor titles of 1970, '71 and '74. Kilkenny won the under-21 in 1974, '75 and last year and the

minor grade in 1972, '73, '75 and '77. Hardly any others got a look-in. The relevance of those facts to the senior final of 1978 must be suggested to you with a striking impact.

Unless each member of the under-age teams in the two counties over the past eight years

active in the game there had to be a great reservoir into which the senior selectors could cast their lines for promising young stars.

Which, of course, has been the case. And no better examples with Cork than Dermot McCurtain and Tom Cashman, who made it quickly from the lower grades onto the senior team and contributed very pertinently to last year's All-Ireland triumph at senior level. Similarly with Kilkenny. This has been underlined more than once in the current championship by the displays of their splendid half-backs, who are still in their early 20s — Joe Hennessy, Ger Henderson and Richie Reid.

At 24 centre half-back Henderson, carrying on a tradition established with such distinction over many years by his older brother, Pat, is the most experienced of the three. He was a substitute on the 1975 Senior team that won Kilkenny's 20th. title and he came in as left half-back alongside Pat later that year before taking over the centre late in 1976.

Yet, when Kilkenny played, and lost to, Cork in the 1972 minor final Ger was only a substitute, but two years later he was right half-back on the under-21 team that beat Waterford in the final and he was in the No. 5 berth again a year later when Kilkenny beat Cork in the decider.

All three, in fact, won All-Ireland medals in finals against Cork. Joe Hennessy, who got his minor medal as right half-back in the 1973 final against Galway, was the right half-forward in the

● TO PAGE 59

★  
**KIERAN BRENNAN**  
Kilkenny

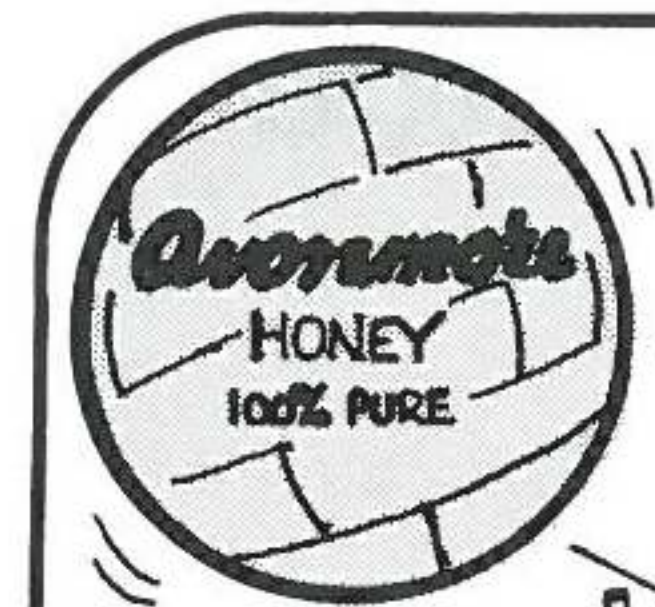


★  
**DERMOT McCURTAIN**  
Cork

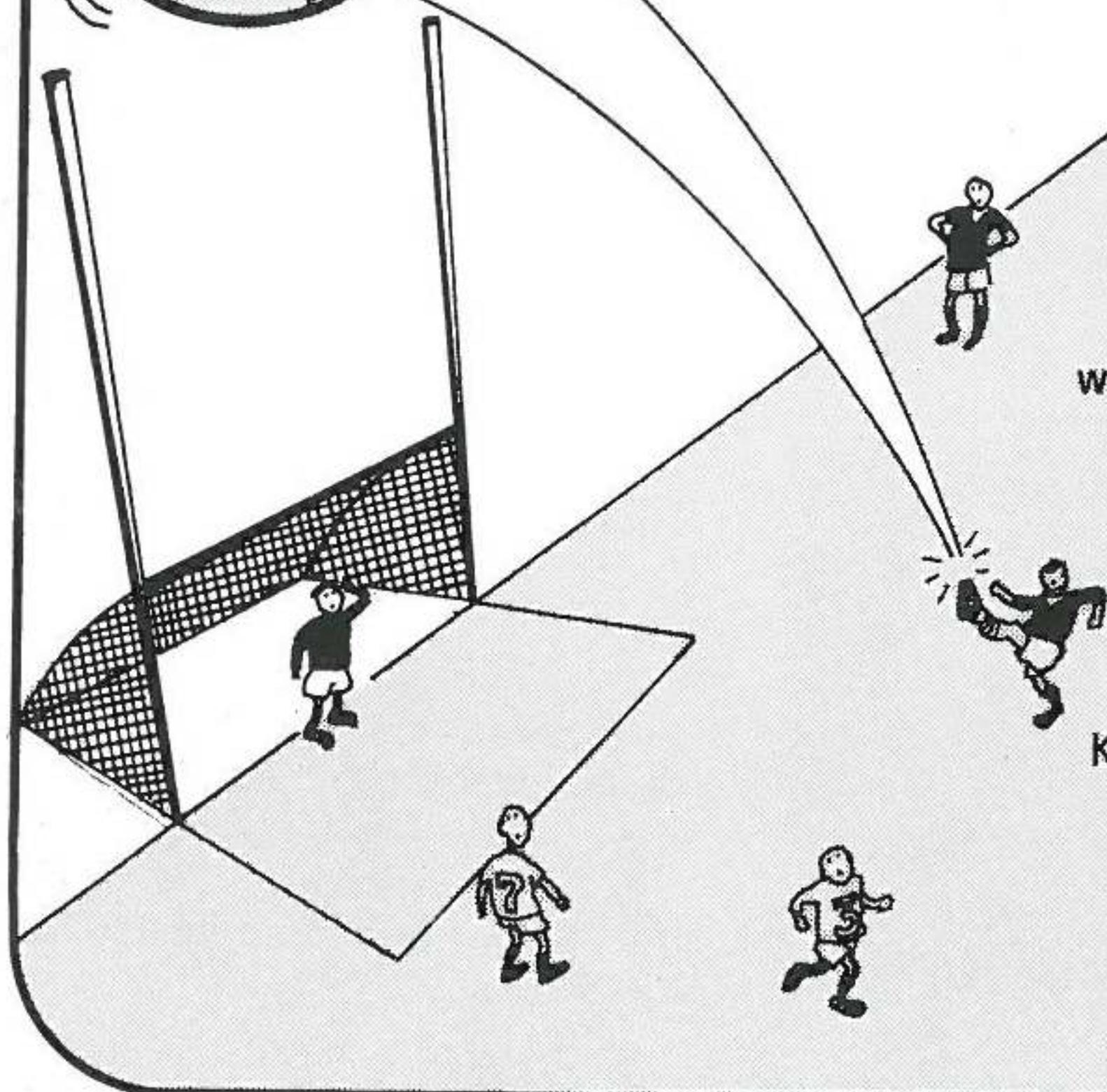
★  
**MURT KENNEDY**  
Kilkenny



immediately took off for the most isolated depths of darkest Africa both Cork and Kilkenny must have been positively assured of a vast pool of young hurling talent. Even if only half of those minors and under-21s remained

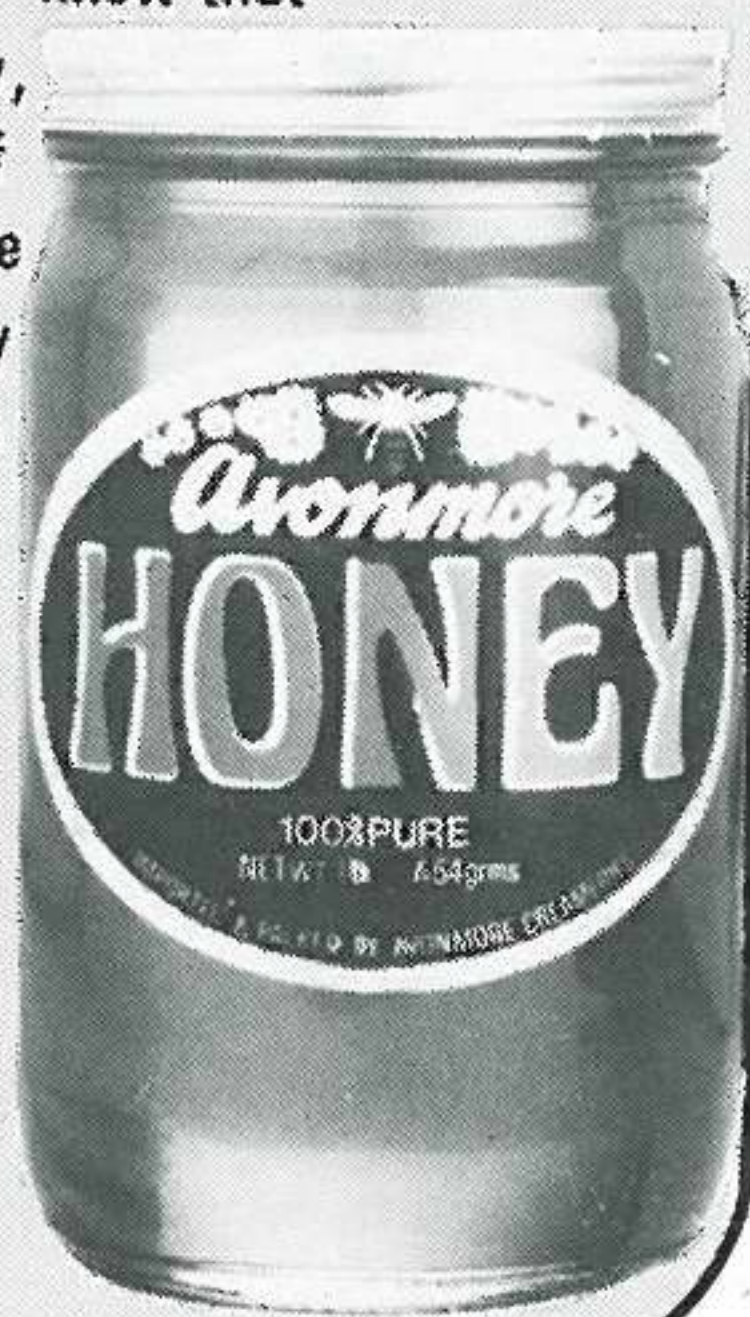


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# CROSSWORD

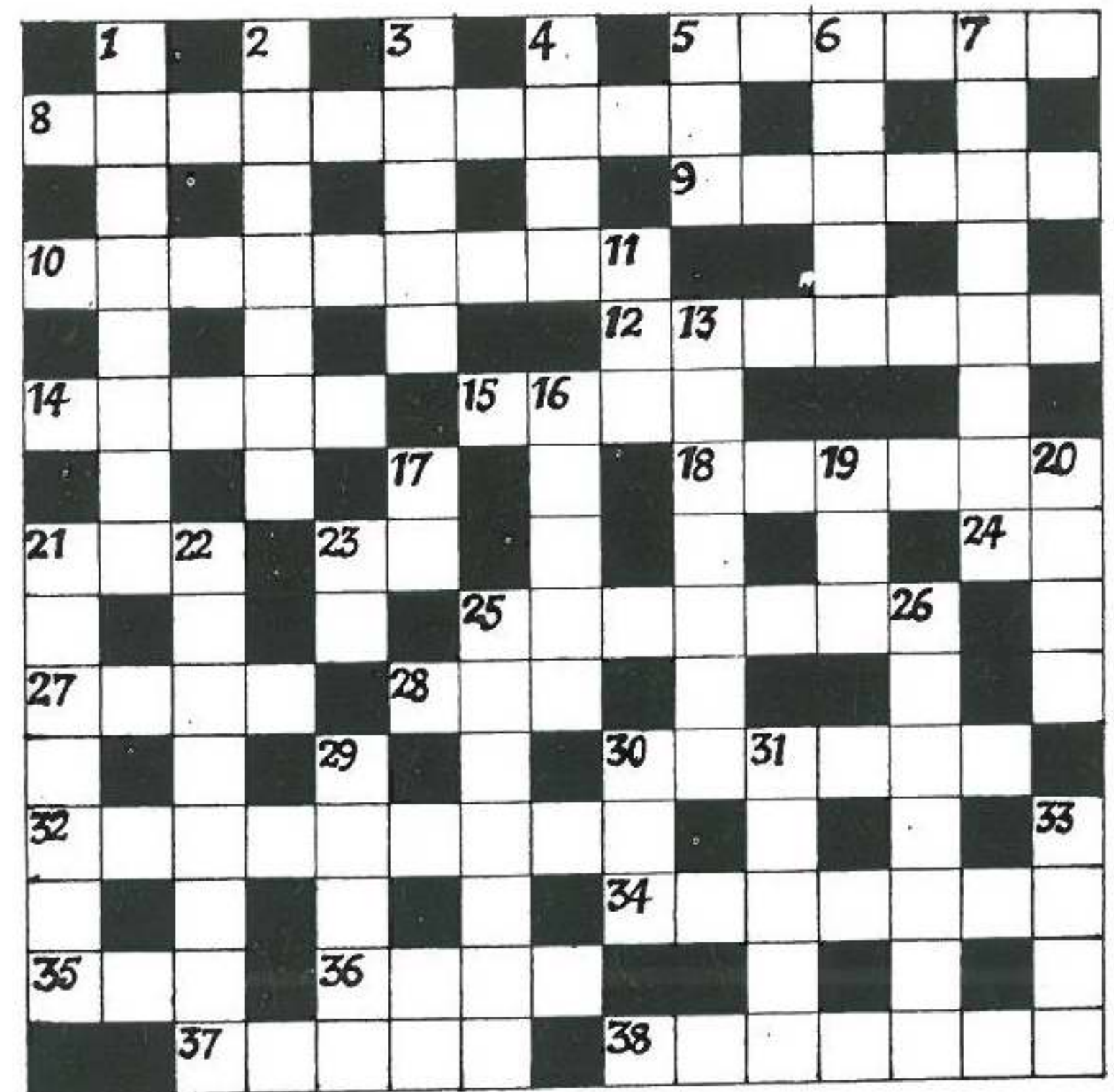
By PERMUTER

## CLUES ACROSS

- 5—Knocknagoshel man at left half-back in the historic Polo Grounds final. (1, 5)  
 8—Veteran Offaly hurler with years of successful scoring behind him. (1, 1, 8)  
 9—All-Star goalkeeper. (6)  
 10—Home of The Fenians Hurling Club. (9)  
 12—Galway hurler—with Dutch connections. (7)  
 14—The atmosphere of defeat though it starts with a quick goal. (5)  
 15—Do this over opponents who fail to field. (4)  
 18—Kildare S.H. champions. (4, 2)  
 21—Free passage to the next round. (3)  
 23—Has taken over where his elder brother left off for Kilkenny. Initials. (1, 1)  
 24—Briefly refer to. (2)  
 25—Where St. John's is a champion club. (7)  
 27—Lore that fits one to play a part. (4)  
 28—To do so is human, but seldom forgiven in games. (3)  
 30—Often partnered Ray Carolan at centre-field for Cavan. (6)  
 32—Arrange with O.C. for a haughty sense of superiority. (9)  
 34—For a good hurling pitch the grass should be treated by an M.D. with a mitre. (7)  
 35—Nearly a duel for what is properly owed. (3)  
 36—Came out of retirement in 1977 for Tipperary. (4)  
 37—Result of the game before the replay. (5)  
 38—One of the many who have played for Sligo—John, P.J., or Mattie, for instance. (7)

## CLUES DOWN

- 1—Top-scoring Galway hurler. (1, 1, 6)  
 2—Waterford and Munster corner-back in hurling. (1, 6)  
 3—Select an upper-class of players. (5)  
 4—H. was a half-back for Westmeath hurlers. (4)  
 5—Brought by the final whistle. (3)  
 6—Usually the month for Congress. (5)  
 7—Well-known Limerick referee. (1, 7)



- 11—Main winter competition for hurlers. (1, 1, 1)  
 13—One of a number who play for Austin Stacks. (7)  
 16—Regan seems overcome with an emotion. (5)  
 17—Young Waterford and Munster hurler sadly forced into retirement with a knee injury. Initials. (1, 1)  
 19—An Irish race — cycle or otherwise. (3)  
 20—Equipment all the rage. (4)  
 21—St. Vincent's goalie, a sub. for Dublin. (7)  
 22—An increase in size suffered by the "square" some time ago. (8)  
 23—A Clare All-Star. Initials. (1, 1)  
 25—The Park at Loughrea is named after St. — (7).  
 26—Such a one fits in with his colleagues on the side. (4, 3)  
 29—G.A.A. or a Roscommon midfielder. (5)  
 30—Do you get ten points if you put the ball in it going backwards? (3)  
 31—Kildare colours. (5)  
 32—Putting an advertisement in creates a noise like a raucous crowd. (1, 3)

● SOLUTION PAGE 63

● FROM PAGE 43

former goalkeeper, Mick. Last year Tom became the youngest hurler ever to receive an All-Star award but his superb display of hurling skill in this year's Munster final surpassed anything he produced in the past. Many people now rate the Blackrock man as the best midfielder in the game today.

The Cork attack on form can be really devastating. The great

Ray Cummins is the orchestrator ensuring with his clever distribution that most of Cork's sweetest movements revolve around him; veteran and captain Charlie McCarthy is the opportunist capable of grabbing the half-chance, Sean O'Leary possesses the individual flair, strength and skill to snatch the inspirational score while lethal Jimmy Barry-Murphy is blessed with the uncanny knack of being in the right place

at the right time to make score-taking look very simple.

Add in names like Tim Crowley, Pat Moylan, Mick Malone, Eamonn O'Donoghue and the extremely versatile Gerald McCarthy and one realises the wealth of forward talent Cork possesses. With a fine blend of youth and experience on the team, the Leesiders appear to be stronger and better balanced now than at any time during the past few years.

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● FROM PAGE 21

Cody slotting home 2-2 from his new full forward role, and Liam O'Brien also in sharpshooting form, finishing with nine points, swept away to a handsome 16 points victory — 2-17 to 1-4.

The Leinster final with a Wexford side that was chasing a hat-trick of provincial crowns was a real thriller. The holders held a point lead at the interval, but Billy Fitzpatrick got through ten minutes into the second half for a vital first goal for Kilkenny.

The challengers were then on their way, and, although they had to battle hard all the way, they eventually regained the title on a

KILKENNY'S FORMIDABLE HALF-BACK LINE



**RICHIE REID**



**GER HENDERSON**



**JOE HENNESSY**

2-16 to 1-16 scoreline, and so became Leinster champions for the 47th time.

Much of the credit for that

success went to a power-packed half back line of Joe Hennessy, Ger Henderson and Richie Reid, and to Mick Crotty, who was introduced to the attack at the start of the second half.

The All-Ireland semi-final drew a splendid attendance of 16,299 to Croke Park, and saw Kilkenny build up an early six point lead, went on to an eleven points advantage at one stage before the interval, and then withstood a strong second half rally by the Connacht champions to eventually get home by 4-20 to 4-13.

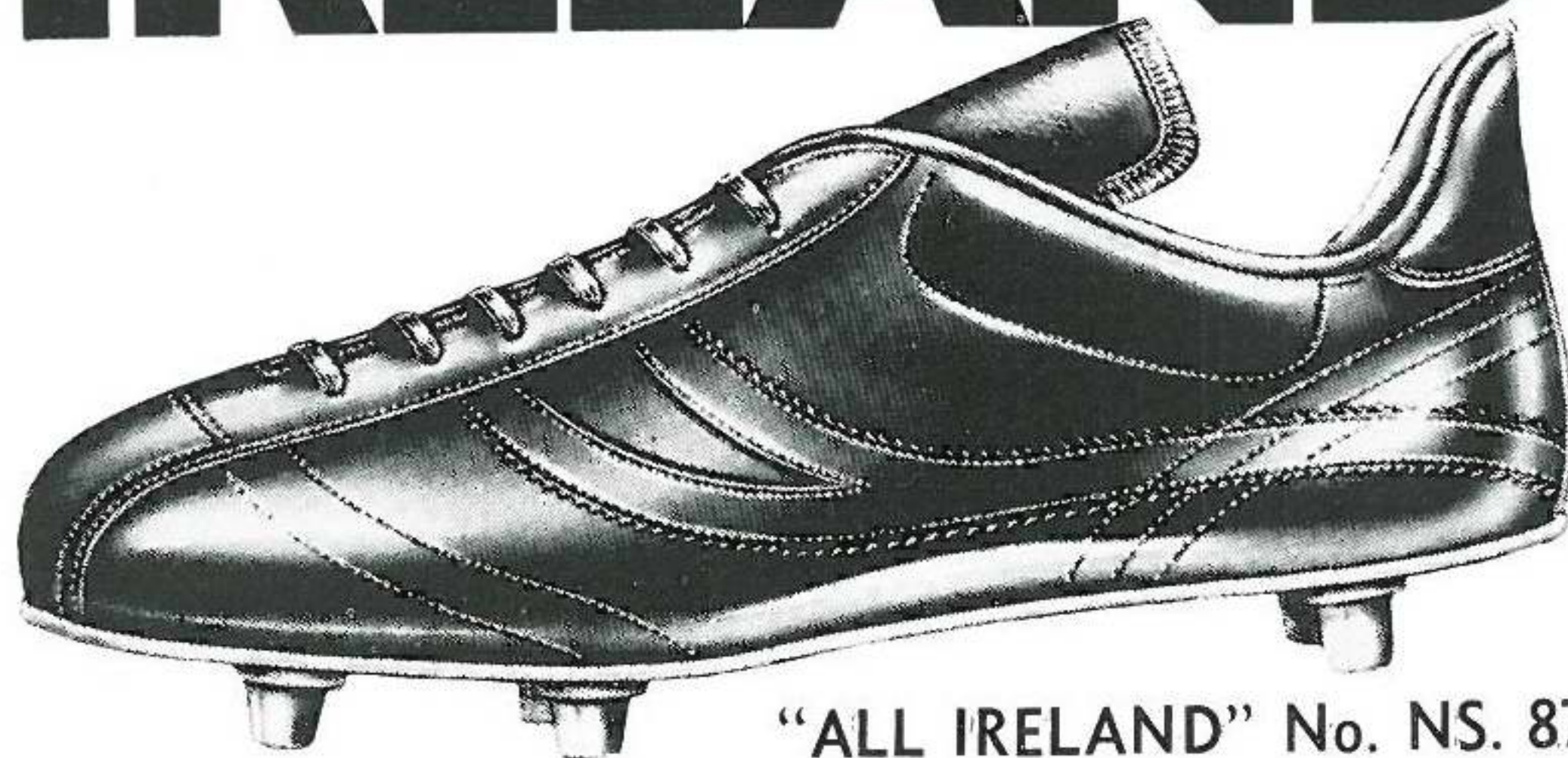
Once again Kilkenny's half back line had a big say in shaping the victory effort, while Liam O'Brien and Billy Fitzpatrick were others to impress for the Leinster champions.

Kilkenny scored 8-53 (77 points) in their three match programme, and they had 6-33 (51 points) scored against them.

Liam O'Brien tops their scoring chart with 1-17 from three games, while Brian Cody, in his latest role at full forward, has been finding the target so well that he takes second place with 3-5. Matt Ruth, with 3-4, comes next for Kilkenny.

Of the team that beat Galway, Noel Skehan, Fan Larkin, Brian Cody, then at left full back, Frank Cummins, Liam O'Brien, Mick Crotty, Billy Fitzpatrick and Mick Brennan were in the squad that won the 1975 All-Ireland senior championship.

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1888	Unfinished due to U.S. "Invasion"*	1918	LIMERICK	1949	TIPPERARY
1889	DUBLIN	1919	CORK	1950	TIPPERARY
1890	CORK	1920	DUBLIN	1951	TIPPERARY
1891	KERRY	1921	LIMERICK	1952	CORK
1892	CORK	1922	KILKENNY	1953	CORK
1893	CORK	1923	GALWAY	1954	CORK
1894	CORK	1924	DUBLIN	1955	WEXFORD
1895	TIPPERARY	1925	TIPPERARY	1956	WEXFORD
1896	TIPPERARY	1926	CORK	1957	KILKENNY
1897	LIMERICK	1927	DUBLIN	1958	TIPPERARY
1898	TIPPERARY	1928	CORK	1959	WATERFORD
1899	TIPPERARY	1929	CORK	1960	WEXFORD
1900	TIPPERARY	1930	TIPPERARY	1961	TIPPERARY
1901	LONDON	1931	CORK	1962	TIPPERARY
1902	CORK	1932	KILKENNY	1963	KILKENNY
1903	CORK	1933	KILKENNY	1964	TIPPERARY
1904	KILKENNY	1934	LIMERICK	1965	TIPPERARY
1905	KILKENNY	1935	KILKENNY	1966	CORK
1906	TIPPERARY	1936	LIMERICK	1967	KILKENNY
1907	KILKENNY	1937	TIPPERARY	1968	WEXFORD
1908	TIPPERARY	1938	DUBLIN	1969	KILKENNY
1909	KILKENNY	1939	KILKENNY	1970	CORK
1910	WEXFORD	1940	LIMERICK	1971	TIPPERARY
1911	KILKENNY	1941	CORK	1972	KILKENNY
1912	KILKENNY	1942	CORK	1973	LIMERICK
1913	KILKENNY	1943	CORK	1974	KILKENNY
1914	CLARE	1944	CORK	1975	KILKENNY
1915	LAOIS	1945	TIPPERARY	1976	CORK
1916	TIPPERARY	1946	CORK	1977	CORK
		1947	KILKENNY		

## U.S. Invasion

Quoting Maurice Davin "the Gaelic Athletic Association is now an established fact and it has reached a point at which it can be developed into an institution most beneficial to the country". "Games and pastimes peculiar to our race should be made a prelude to an exhibition of our industries at an international Celtic festival, say every five years". The Association's first President led the U.S. "Invasion" with a party of fifty of Ireland's outstanding athletes, which included the cream of the country's hurling talent. Consequently, there was no All-Ireland Championship contest in 1888.

# ANSWERS

## SCORING FEATS

1. 2-11. 2. Ned Buggy (Wexford) with 1-4. 3. Tony Doran. 4. Yes, one point. 5. Four. Kilkenny 2-22; Galway 2-10.

## PERSONALITY PARADE

1. Sean Foley. All the rest captained All-Ireland senior title winning teams. 2. Tony Maher, right full, and Paddy Barry, goalie, in Cork's 1970 outfit. 3. Willie Rackard (Wexford) and Willie John Daly (Cork). 4. Centre half. 5. Paddy Johnston (Kilkenny), 1976.

## PROFILE

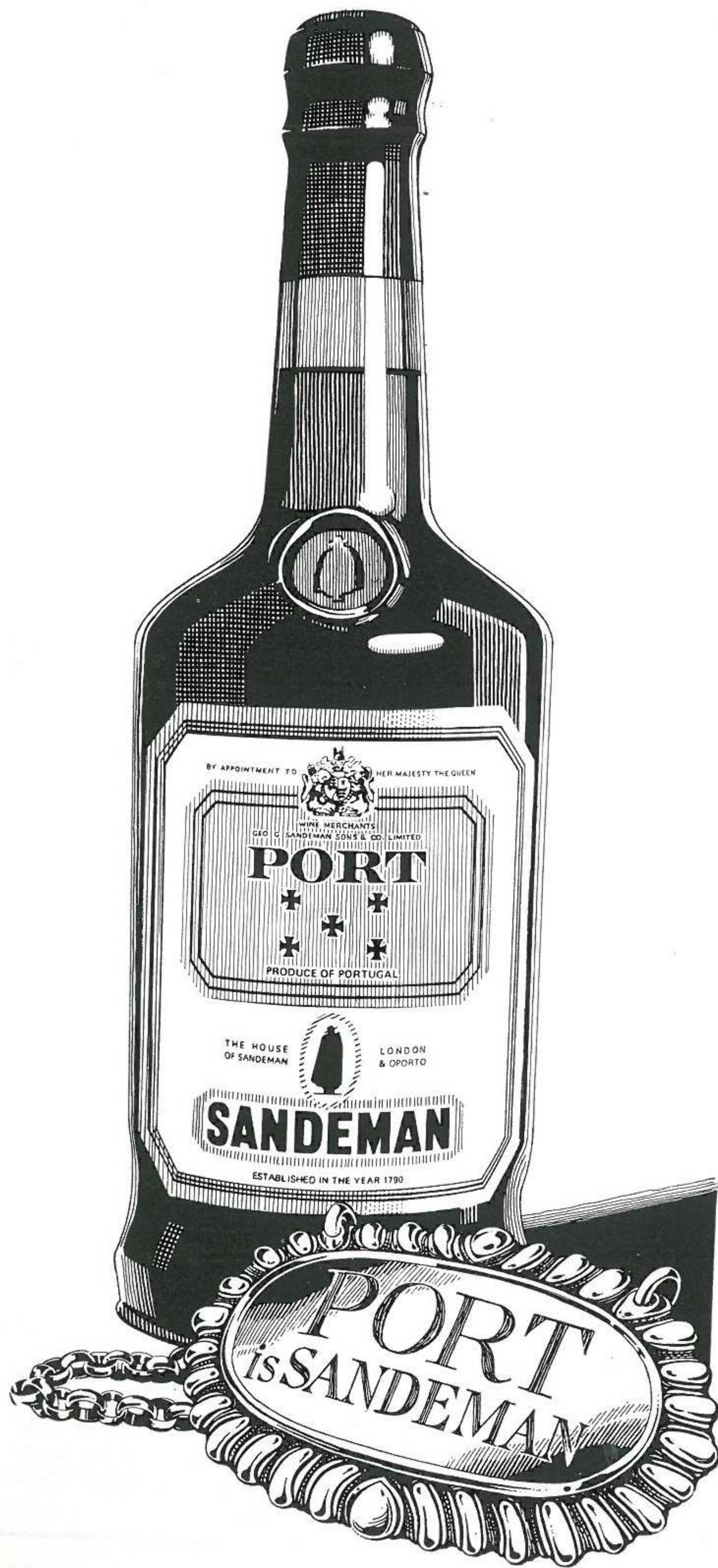
1. Nick O'Donnell. 2. Kilkenny. 3. Wexford. 4. 1955 and 1960. 5. Full back.

## GOLDEN OLDIES

1. Three. Cork beat Kilkenny in a second replay. 2. Tipperary. 3. That was the only hurling final since 1912 played outside of Croke Park. The venue was Killarney, and at that time the Cusack Stand was being erected. 4. 1949, 1952 and 1969. 5. Kerry may have caught you out here, but they won the 1891 title, so the answer is "True."

## PAIRING

1. John Connolly, top left, who was Galway's captain in 1975. 2. Seamus Horgan, bottom right, who brought off a superb save at the expense of a point in the sixth minute of the second half in Limerick's 1973 win over Kilkenny. 3. Frank Cummins, bottom left, who played in an All-Ireland football final with Belcamp O.M.I., Dublin, in 1965. 4. Niall McInerney, a native of Six-milebridge, who was in Galway's 1975 team.



● FROM PAGE 47

the other — our newspapers informed us that Britain and France had sent their final demand to Hitler.

But late Sunday morning, when the thousands of Kilkenny and Cork supporters were making their way to Dublin for the two finals — they were in both minor and senior then just as now — and when some fans were already in the ground, the news everyone feared, but hoped not to hear, flashed from wireless sets around the world: "Britain has declared war on Germany." It was 11 o'clock, France almost immediately issued their declaration and World War II, in fact, if not in effect, had begun.

The impact may have been slight on the Cork and Kilkenny folk heading for Dublin — and many of them might not have heard it until much later in the day for cars were not then usually equipped with radios and there were no pocket transistors. Yet, their mood could not have been gay because there were low clouds over the city. By half-time of the senior match the elements, as if to compound the world's predicament, were bleak and threatening. Soon cracks of thunder and flashes of lightning were followed by torrents of rain that fell through most of the second half. Perhaps, to this day the All-Ireland final of 1939 is remembered by the 39,302 crowd more as the "Thunder and Lightning Final" than as the occasion of Kilkenny's 2-7 to 3-3 victory.

That was the first time Kilkenny and Cork met on September 3 but it was not the first coming together of All-Ireland Day and September 3. That happened in 1933 when Kilkenny and Limerick played and, would you believe? Kilkenny won that one, too.

Indeed there is a feature of hurling history that Cork, although the champions for the past two years, might do well to

● TO PAGE 60

## JACK SCORES AGAIN

By Owen McCann

**J**ACK MAHON, who needs no introduction to readers of *Gaelic Sport*, has produced another winner in his latest publication, *Gaelic Games Quiz Book 2*, which runs to 82 pages, and covers a wide range of affairs on the national sporting scene, embracing hurling, football, handball and camogie.

The former Galway footballer has followed the successful format of his *Gaelic Games Quiz Book 1*, published three years ago. There are 20 sections, each of 15 questions, and these are set off by equally appealing pictorial questions.

It enhances the appeal of the publication that the author has managed to provide much valuable information in framing his questions.

For example, we learn that Paddy Flanagan, the well-known official noted for his efficiency in the G.A.A. public relations field, is a former star footballer for his county, and that the trophy for the county senior football championship in that county bears his name.

And, in yet another question, Mahon reveals that since the Texaco (Caltex) awards were inaugurated in 1958 the awards for hurling and football have gone on all occasions to a current player, except on one occasion.

No less intriguing are the pictorial questions. These, too, are given an added dimension by the fact that they do not concentrate exclusively on players. Personalities associated with the games, including officials of the various Associations, are featured, and the referees are not overlooked

either.

And, if all this was not enough, Jack Mahon gives added depth and quality to the publication with a series of interesting and informative paragraphs throughout the book. I find these, in fact, among the best features. Here we are given details about the first man to referee both senior finals in the same year, and Offaly's poor home record in championship play.

Moreover, in these days when Gaelic Games are packing in the followers as rarely before, it is sobering to reflect that at the appointed time for the throw-in at an All-Ireland semi-final at Jones's Road, now Croke Park, between Metropolitans and London, there was not a single spectator in the ground!

Yes, indeed, Jack Mahon has provided an invaluable service in compiling *Gaelic Games Quiz Book 2*. And, the printers, the *ROSCOMMON HERALD*, Boyle, deserve congratulations as well for a very professional production.

All in all, it adds up to excellent value for only 80p. A "must", in fact, for anyone interested in any way in Gaelic Games.

For those who may be considering taking part again in *SCOR* — and the new season's All-Ireland talent competitions will soon be getting under way — this quiz book will prove a mine of information, and could do much, in fact, in turning the key in the door to success.

**Gaelic Games Quiz Book 2** by Jack Mahon. Published by the author at 29 Oaklands, Salthill, Galway. Price 80p. This price does not include tax or postage.



● FROM PAGE 49

1975 under-21 success over Cork and was right half-back when Cork were again the victims last year. In the meantime, though, he had been introduced into the senior side, having played for most of the second half of the drawn 1976 National League final against Clare.

The youngest of the trio — Richie Reid — made his debut on the senior team in October last

year just a week after collecting an under-21 medal in the final against Cork. He was introduced at left half-back for the opening league tie against Tipperary when Kilkenny omitted several players who were, then, still involved in the county championship. But Richie, a member of the Shamrocks club and an All-Ireland colleges' medalist with St. Kieran's in 1975, made such a good impression in Semple

Stadium that he was retained for later games in the league. He has now made the No. 7 jersey his own with incisive and self-assured hurling.

Now these three face their first senior final, but no one in Kilkenny lacks faith in them. How could they when, between them, these half-backs already have so much experience gained in playing in seven All-Ireland finals at under-age level.

## Garda club are not resting on laurels

OFFICIALS of the Garda G.A.A. Club in Dublin are not content to rest on their laurels. Last year they brought an exciting new dimension to the club scene in Dublin by launching a knockout senior football tournament for county club sides, and this season went a progressive step further by playing some of the games in the second annual promotion at venues in the provinces.

Eight teams vied for the 1978 crown—Nemo Rangers, of Cork, Kenmare, Kilrush Shamrocks, Summerhill, of Meath, St. Joseph's, Laois, St. Mary's, Sligo, Roscommon Gaels and the promoting club's Dublin-based squad.

Páirc Uí Chaoimh and Summerhill were the provincial venues for some of the games.

As the final was provisionally fixed for August 26, after this particular issue went to press, we can't obviously carry details of that game. But it was evident from the matches played up to press time that the competition was proving an even greater success than the initial promotion.

Indeed, the achievements of 1978 must give the Garda Club officials great encouragement in striving for their ultimate aim,

which is a competition embracing teams from all 32 counties.

The Garda G.A.A. Club was formed in Dublin as far back as 1923, a year after the self-governing Irish State came into being. General Eoin O'Duffy formed the Coiste Siamsa, whose aim, he said, "is not the production of champion athletes, but to ensure that the Garda as a body should contain a high proportion of men who can hold their own with the average athlete in every form of sport".

### Legendary Larry

The main rivals of the Garda Club in those early days were O'Tooles, O'Dwyers and U.C.D. The legendary Larry Stanley played with the Garda Club.

It was in 1927 that a then record gate receipts of £218 were recorded in a county final between the Garda Club and O'Tooles.

In the early 'Sixties, the Garda Club suffered a decline and was not reorganised until 1969. In 1971 and 1972 the club won two Dublin senior leagues. In the following year, Garda were beaten by famed St. Vincent's in a replay of the senior championship semi-final.

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(Opposite Thompsons)

● FROM PAGE 57

take heed of: Kilkenny have been remarkably successful in finals played on September 3. Of the seven staged on that date they won four, Tipperary were winners of two and Cork only one. Moreover, in 1972 — the last time Cork and Kilkenny were the finalists — the first Sunday of September was the 3rd of the month.

These were the results of September 3 finals:

1933—Kilkenny 1-7, Limerick

0-6.

1939—Kilkenny 2-7, Cork 3-3.

1944—Cork 2-13, Dublin 1-2.

1950—Tipperary 1-9, Kilkenny 1-8.

1961—Tipperary 0-16, Dublin 1-12.

1967—Kilkenny 3-8, Tipperary 2-7.

1972—Kilkenny 3-24, Cork 5-11.

So maybe Cork should — if not look for a postponement to September 4 — certainly keep their fingers crossed until they get the 3rd behind them.

## PROTECT YOUR BOOTS

**F**OOTWEAR has been used for protection of the feet, and as a decorative part of apparel since the days of ancient civilisations. But when it comes to football boots, these are far from being merely decorative.

They are vital equipment for any player with designs on either getting to the top in the sport, or fully enjoying each game.

What about wet or muddy boots? Well, they should be wiped clean with a damp cloth, filled with crumpled paper and dried well away from direct heat.

Then, when thoroughly dry, the boots should be cleaned in the usual way with polish, but to restore suppleness or to clean harder or solid leathers, it may first be necessary to treat them with leather soap before drying and polishing.

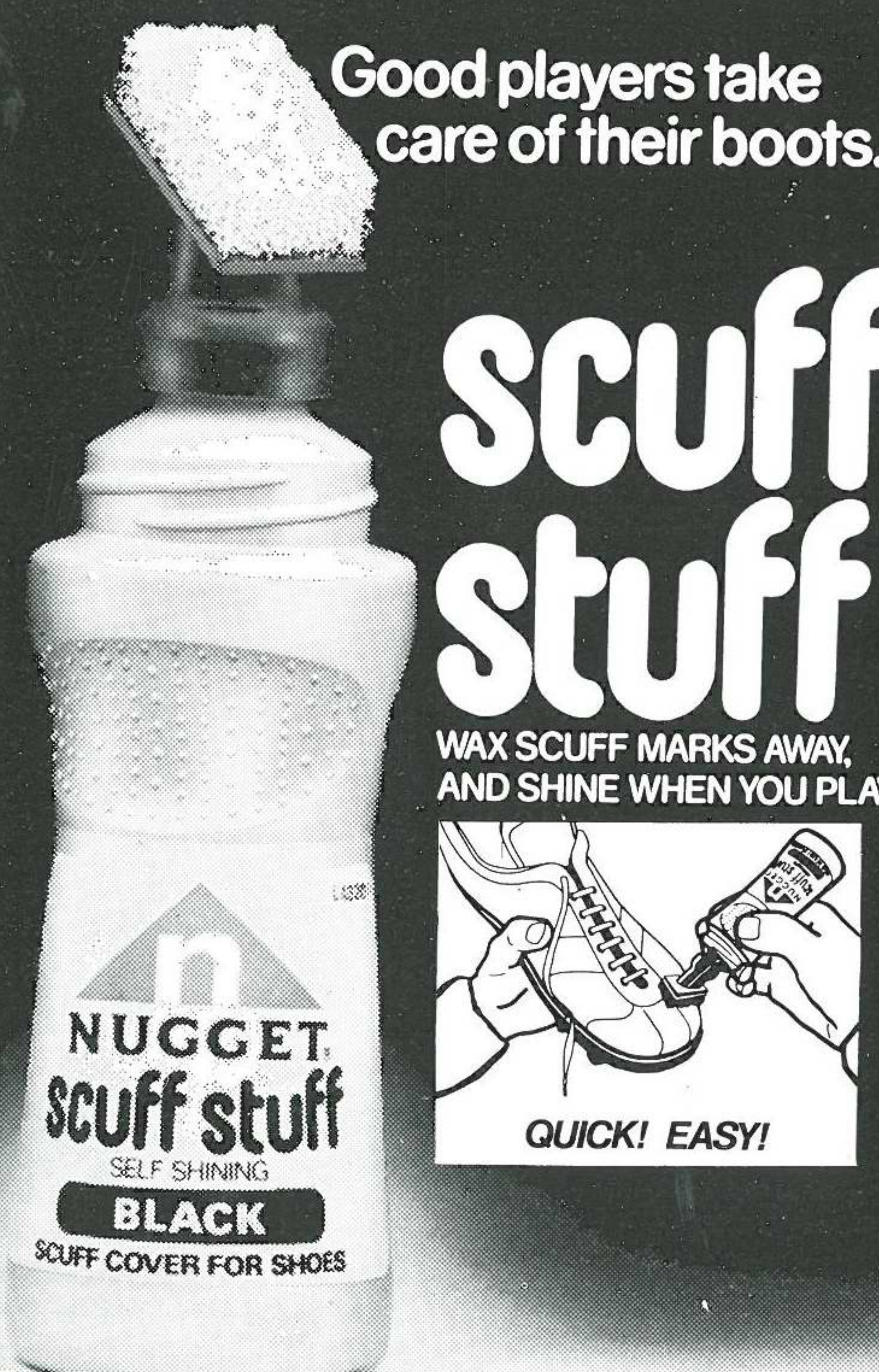
And, here is another tip — an obvious one but nonetheless valid for all that. After wear, keep your boots or shoes for that matter, in shape with trees or alternatively crumpled newspaper.

A big advantage in the care of boots and shoes is the fact that Nugget have now an easy clean self-shining polish on the market. This is called "Scuff Stuff".

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So, let Nugget help you protect your boots, improve your game, and add to your enjoyment.

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## ● FROM PAGE 45

scene in years. Certainly, his cool, mature and progressive hurling belies his youth — he was 21 on August 28.

In a way, though, it is not surprising that the Blackrock club man has come such a long way in such a short time, as he is following brilliantly in a family tradition. His father, Mick, played some great games for Cork in goal without getting among the All-Ireland senior medals. He had better fortune, however, with Munster in the Railway Cup, and his tally of six medals between 1957 and 1963 is a record for a goalkeeper.

### PLAYED MINOR AT 15

Tom Cashman was only 15 when he was called up to the minor inter-county grade in 1973, and what a remarkable career he had in the under-18 ranks! He wore the county jersey in football as well as hurling, and highlighted those days with All-Ireland medal wins in both codes in 1974 as a half back.

The sure-striking young hurler, who now stands 5ft. 10½ins., collected a further All-Ireland souvenir in 1976 at under-21 before opportunity began to knock in a big way in the premier ranks.

He started out as a forward in the autumn of 1976 and later appeared at centre half back before settling in at midfield for the start of last year's championship, and went on to prove in double quick time one of the real masters of the area in present-day hurling.

The Carrolls All Stars selectors acknowledged that by awarding

Cashman his first statuette last December, while Munster kept in step in the Railway Cup, and at Pairc Ui Chaoimh last May the dynamic young Cork star marked his interprovincial final debut with a top quality performance when helping Munster to regain the trophy.

So, although only really on the fringe of his senior inter-county career, he has every major

honour to his credit, other than a National League souvenir.

In Tom Cashman and Tim Crowley, then, the All-Ireland senior champions have a couple of proven performers with the class and flair to deliver the goods in midfield, or indeed, in other areas if needed. And that must give them great encouragement as they build up for this latest challenge to their supremacy in championship play.



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# RESULTS SUMMARY

## CHAMPIONSHIPS SENIOR FOOTBALL.

**Connacht:** Final. July 9. Galway: Roscommon, 2-7; Galway, 0-9. Top Scorer for series: M. Hoey (Sligo) 3-12 (21 points) in two games. Average: 10.50 points.

**Leinster:** June 25. Portlaoise: Offaly, 0-16; Laois 2-8. July 2. Croke Park: Kildare, 4-14; Wicklow, 2-6. July 9. Portlaoise: Dublin, 2-9; Offaly, 0-12. Final. July 31. Croke Park: Dublin, 1-17; Kildare, 1-6. Top Scorer: T. Carew (Kildare), 2-17 (23 points) in four games. Average: 5.75 points.

**Munster:** Final. July 16. Cork: Kerry, 3-14; Cork 3-7. Top Scorer: M. Sheehy (Kerry), 4-13 (25 points) in two games. Average: 12.50 points.

**Ulster:** July 2. Belfast: Down, 1-14; Derry, 2-8. July 9. Castleblayney: Cavan, 2-13; Antrim 1-10. Final: July 23. Clones: Down, 2-19; Cavan, 2-12.

Top Scorers: G. Keane (Derry), 1-9 in three games. Average: Four points. D. Donohue (Cavan), 0-12 in three games. Average: Four points.

## SENIOR HURLING

**Leinster:** June 25. Portlaoise: Kilkenny, 2-17; Offaly, 1-4.

Final: July 16. Croke Park: Kilkenny, 2-16; Wexford, 1-16. Top Scorer: N. Buggy (Wexford), 1-15 (18 points) in two games. Average: Nine points.

**Munster:** June 25. Thurles: Cork, 3-17; Waterford, 2-8. July 2. Thurles. Clare, 4-12; Limerick, 3-8. Final: July 31. Thurles: Cork, 0-13; Clare, 0-11. Top Scorer: C.

Honan (Clare), 0-15 in two games. Average: 7.50 points.

## ALL-IRELAND QUARTER FINAL

July 23. Croke Park: Galway, 4-19; Antrim, 3-10.

## ALL IRELAND SEMI-FINAL

August 6. Croke Park: Kilkenny, 4-20; Galway, 4-13.

## "B" CHAMPIONSHIP.

**Hurling.** All-Ireland final. June 25. Croke Park: Antrim 1-16; London, 3-7. Top Scorer for the series: S. Carney (Meath), 2-13 (19 points) in two games. Average: 9.50 points.

## UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIPS FOOTBALL

**Connacht:** Final. July 23. Balinasloe: Roscommon, 3-9; Galway, 2-11.

**Leinster:** Final. July 23. Croke Park: Louth, 2-8; Offaly, 2-7.

**Ulster:** Final: August 6. Castleblayney: Down, 0-11; Cavan, 1-6.

## HURLING

**Leinster:** July 2. Birr; Offaly, 5-9; Wexford, 1-10. Final: July 26. Carlow: Offaly, 2-4; Laois, 2-7.

**Munster:** July 12. Waterford: Tipperary, 3-15; Waterford, 1-6.

## MINOR CHAMPIONSHIPS FOOTBALL

**Connacht:** June 25. Roscommon. Mayo, 2-10; Roscommon, 1-8. Tubbercurry: Galway, 2-13; Sligo, 0-8. Final: July 9. Galway: Mayo, 2-6; Galway, 0-4.

**Leinster:** June 24. Navan: Dublin, 5-14; Westmeath, 1-5. Mullingar; Longford, 1-10; Offaly 1-8. July 1. Tullamore: Longford, 2-10; Laois, 0-14. July 2. Croke Park: Meath, 2-7; Wexford, 2-7. Draw. July 9. Portlaoise: Dublin, 2-13; Longford, 1-7. July 22. Athy: Wexford. July 31. Final: Dublin, 3-12; Wexford, 0-11.

**Munster:** July 5. Cork: Cork, 2-11; Limerick, 1-4. July 16. Final: Cork: Kerry, 1-4; Cork, 0-6.

**Ulster:** July 2. Belfast: Tyrone, 2-4; Down, 0-9. July 9. Castleblayney: Monaghan, 2-11; Armagh 0-7. July 23. Clones: Tyrone, 3-11; Monaghan, 2-9.

**All-Ireland Qualifying Game:** July 30. Croke Park. New York, 3-3; Warwickshire, 1-9. Draw. August 4. Croke Park: New York, 3-4; Warwickshire, 1-9. Replay. Quarter-final: August 6. Castlebar: Mayo, 8-18; New York, 1-3.

## HURLING

**Leinster:** June 24. Carlow: Laois, 2-8; Wexford, 2-8. Draw. July 5. Portlaoise: Kilkenny, 6-11; Offaly, 5-6. July 6: Carlow: Laois, 1-11; Wexford, 3-4. Replay. July 16. Final: Croke Park: Kilkenny, 4-19; Laois, 2-6.

**Munster:** June 25. Thurles: Cork, 3-17; Waterford, 0-6. July 2. Thurles: Tipperary, 1-11; Clare, 0-3. Final: July 31. Thurles: Cork, 1-14; Tipperary, 3-6.

**All-Ireland Semi-final:** August 6. Croke Park: Kilkenny, 3-13; Galway, 1-8.

## DR. McKENNA CUP

**Senior football semi-final** July 16. Irvinestown: Fermanagh 2-14; Down 1-11. July 31. Irvinestown: Tyrone 3-7; Fermanagh 0-15.

## CAMOGIE

**All-Ireland Senior Champion:** ship: June 25. Adare: Dublin 3-1; Limerick 1-4. Clonroche: Wexford 5-7; Kilkenny 4-3. July 16. Belfast: Dublin 2-4; Antrim 0-2. July 23. Cork: Cork 3-13; Galway 0-3. Ennis: Clare 1-1; Tipperary 0-3.

## NATIONAL LEAGUE

June 25. Ennis: Tipperary 1-7; Clare 0-2. July 31. Ballyragget. Kilkenny 6-8; Antrim 1-8.

## HANDBALL

**Coca-Cola All-Ireland Championships:** Singles: June 25. Ballymote: P. Walsh (Sligo) bt

**GAELIC SPORT—THE MAGAZINE THE PLAYERS READ**



B. Colleran (Roscommon) T. O'Rourke (Kildare) bt P. Clarke (Roscommon). Arklow: P. Lee (Wicklow) bt P. Winders (Kildare). S. Buggy (Wexford) bt J. Doyle (Dublin). Mullingar: D. Kirby (Clare) bt P. Ryan (Dublin). M. Walsh (Roscommon) bt

M. Brady (Dublin). Ballina: J. O'Brien (Roscommon) bt D. Sheridan (Cavan). P. McGarry (Limerick) bt G. Sheridan (Cavan).

July 9. Clonmel: P. Lee (Wicklow) bt S. Buggy (Wexford). A. Greene (Kilkenny) bt D. Kirby

(Clare). P. Reilly (Kilkenny) bt T. O'Rourke (Kildare).

Roscommon: O. Harrold (Kilkenny) bt P. Walsh (Sligo). J. O'Brien (Roscommon) bt P. McGee (Mayo). R. Lyng (Wexford) bt M. Walsh (Roscommon).

July 23: Clonmel. A. Greene (Kilkenny) bt O. Harrold (Kilkenny). P. McGarry (Limerick) bt J. Goggins (Wexford).

July 31. Croke Park. R. Lyng (Wexford) bt P. Reilly (Kilkenny). J. O'Brien (Roscommon) bt P. Lee (Wicklow).

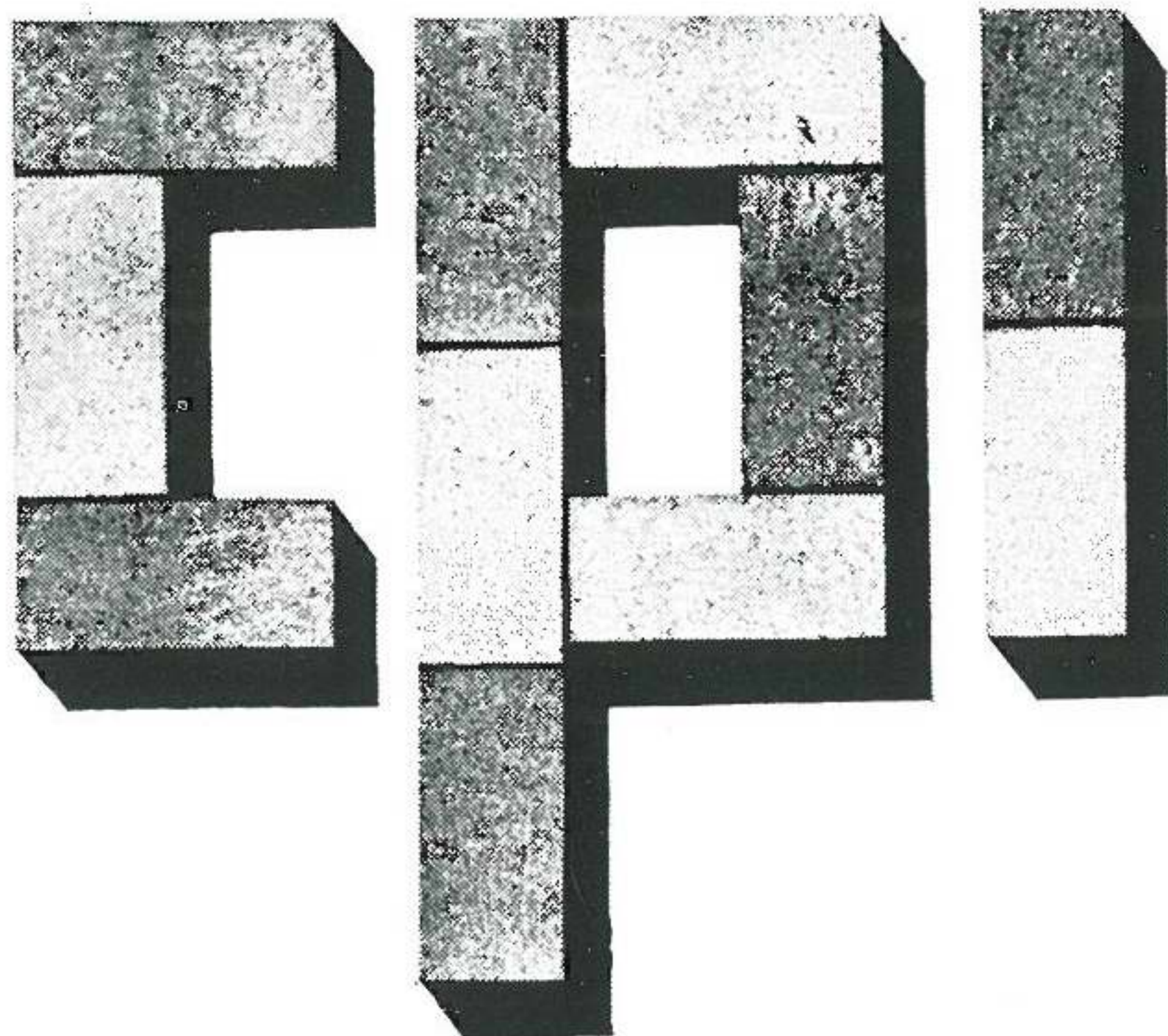
#### DOUBLES

July 1-2: Mullingar: C. Winders and T. O'Rourke (Kildare) bt M. Walsh and P. Clarke (Roscommon). Croke Park: P. Reilly and O. Harrold (Kilkenny) bt J. Benis and V. Moane (Limerick). A. Greene and P. Hughes (Kilkenny) bt P. Ryan and T. Hurley (Dublin).

July 16-17. Mullingar: J. Clery and P. Lee (Wicklow) bt R. Greene and C. Young (Kilkenny). Croke Park: P. Reilly and O. Harrold (Kilkenny) bt T. O'Rourke and C. Winders (Kildare). R. Lyng and S. Buggy (Wexford) bt J. Howlin and J. Goggins (Wexford).

#### HURLING - SHINTY

International July 1 at Fort William, Scotland; Ireland 7; Scotland 3.



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#### CROSSWORD SOLUTION ● FROM PAGE 51

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	L	N	E		11I	12L	L
14G	L	O	O	M	15W	16A	L
	O	N		17A	N	18E	I
20Y	21E		22H		23G	24E	25A
	E	N	L		26E	L	F
27O	L	E		28E	R	R	F
	N	A		29E		30E	31M
32A	R	R	O	G	A	N	C
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35U	E		36R	Y	A	N	T
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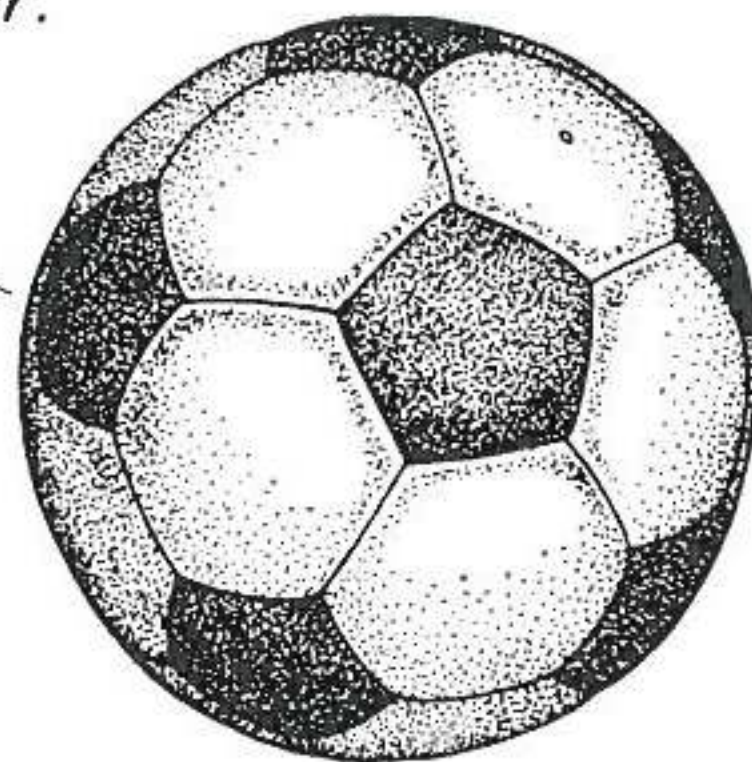
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# JUNIOR DESK



By  
**JACK  
MAHON**

**A**LL-IRELAND Hurling Final issue here again. Hasn't the year really flown? Cork v Kilkenny once again. Could there be a better pairing unless a novel one like Clare v Galway? But both Clare and Galway had their chances and the honours deservedly rested with Cork and Kilkenny respectively.

Wasn't Tom Cashman's display in the Munster final brilliant? And he is such a sporting player. What a great model for all young hurlers? One had to admire too the spirit of his Clare opponents (Seamus Durack and Ger Loughnane. Another brilliant newcomer is Kilkenny right half back Joe Hennessy. A brilliant sticksman like Jim English of Wexford fame. So crisp. And Galway's Joe Greaney who had a disastrous first half v Kilkenny and a marvellous second half.

It takes a great player to make a comeback like that. And don't forget Dermot MacCurtain or Finbarr Gantley or Billy Fitzpatrick. I hope we have a great final like 1972 or '47 or '31. It certainly will have plenty of atmosphere.

## CUT-OUT

Our Cut-out this month is the well built Mount Sion and Waterford hurler Jim Greene. Whether in defence or attack this man from the Decies always gives his best. Trying to the end of every game Jim epitomises the great spirit of his club which has been the hub of Waterford hurling practically since its foundation. His club's most illustrious son must have

been the late John Keane a marvellous hurler/sportsman. Or Pat Fanning. Or Frankie Walsh that brilliant forward. Or Martin Og Morrissey. Or . . . Jim Greene represents the club tradition very well.

## Mailbag

**Pat Twomey, Currahy, Ballingearry, Co. Cork.** "Declan Barron is the best I ever saw for fielding a ball. I would like a Cut-out of him".

● *His display in the Munster final was marvellous. Vintage Mick O'Connell or Paddy Kennedy. (J.M.)*

**Gerald Corbett, c/o A. Sloan Ltd., 19 Eyre Sq., Galway** wants the following programmes:—

1954 Connacht Final at Tuam. Galway v Sligo; 1955 Connacht Final at Tuam. Mayo v Roscommon; 1957 Connacht Final at Pearse Stadium. Galway v Leitrim; 1958 Connacht Semi Final at Tuam. Galway v Mayo; 1959 Connacht Semi Final at Pearse Stadium. Galway v Roscommon; 1962 Connacht Final at Castlebar. Galway v Roscommon.

● *Gerald, are you a member of the Programme Collector's Club in Croke Park? If not join and the club will put you in touch with many collectors like yourself. (J.M.)*

**Brian Sexton, 2, St. Joseph's Villas, Curraheen, Carrigrohane, Co. Cork.** "I play hurling and football for my school Ballinora.

We beat St. Joseph's in the Cork City U-12 H. final by 7-0 to 1-0. I got 2 of our goals. The celebrations were unbelievable. Our teachers Mr. Cronin and Mrs. Scannell deserve great credit. We got a big cup and five medals."

● *Congrats Brian and for scoring the 2 goals and best of all remembering to thank your teachers you win a Cork scarf. My own son Pearse captained his school team Scoil Einde N.S. to win the Galway City Schools F. title. So I understand the excitement. (J.M.)*

**Gerry Pender, Ballymorris Upper, Aughrim, Arklow, Co. Wicklow** sent me on the Gaelic Games page of the **Wicklow People** which had a photo of the Wicklow team of 1957. The team included Lorcan Redmond the current Dublin selector. Dublin beat them in the Leinster S.F. final by 3-9 to 0-9.

● *I knew that team well having played against them quite often. They were never better than in the N.F.L. of '54-'55 and beat Galway down in Aughrim where we all got a roasting including myself when my opponent was, namesake Gerry Mahon. That was a fine team — Rogers, O'Reilly, Timmons, Jameson, McGauley, Deering, Mahon . . . and they gave Dublin a rare fright later in a low scoring N.F.L. game in Croke Park. (J.M.)*

**Sean Hickey, Dromahane, Mallow, Co. Cork** is another scribe who complains about the attire of the linesmen for the Louth v Kildare S.F.C. game in Navan.

● **OVERLEAF**

# JUNIOR DESK :: JUNIOR DESK :: JUNIOR DESK

## ● FROM OVERLEAF

**Muredach Noone, Corrimbla, Ballina, Co. Mayo** wants to see more competitions in GAELIC SPORT and thinks Dublin football gets too much space. "I would like to get a cassette tape of the 1950 and '51 All-Ireland S.F. finals. Stephen Sweeney deserves to be captain of the Mayo team. He must have one of the longest kicks in Ireland."

● *Stephen is a long kicker and played a fine first quarter v Roscommon in the Connacht S.F.C. But afterwards he failed to mark opponent Mickey Menton who had a blinder. (J.M.)*

**Paul Gallagher, 24, Main Ave., Derrybeg Park, Newry, Co. Down** is very proud of the Down team and asks us to watch out for Mickey Cunningham. Paul has a great regard for Kildare's football ability. His personal favourites are Colm McAlarney, Dermot Earley, Tommy Carew, Anthony McGurk and Gerry McElroy of Fermanagh, who is a gem of a player. Players like McElroy don't get the recognition they deserve as the All Stars system is very unfair. It seems to be only those teams who win provincial finals who merit All-Star rating. I would like to hear other readers' views on the latter topic.

● *Very good letter Paul and you win a Down Bob-cap. You are right. Great players like Gerry McElroy aren't seen by enough of the All-Star selectors and are seen far too seldom. Colm McAlarney is playing tremendous stuff and what about my old friend the current Down team manager James McCartan. He was a marvellous player/personality. (J.M.)*

**Denis Kirby, Brickfield, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick** thinks the present N.L. set up is wrong as the weaker teams have little chance of success. The N.L.'s should be dropped and Provincial Leagues should take their place with the top two teams from each province to go through to the quarter

finals of the N.L. to be finished on a knock-out system. The advantages would be:—(a) Saving of expenses i.e. In '78-'79 N.H.L. Cork must play Antrim; (b) Giving weaker teams a better chance; (c) Providing more exciting games. Please ask readers to give their views.

● *My own first reaction was to say no. The Leagues have improved and it is possible for a Division 2 team to win out as both Galway and Limerick, Dublin and Meath proved. Still I'd like readers like Seamus Woulfe to comment. (J.M.)*

**Kevin Daly, Maulagow, Leap, Co. Cork** wants to see the teams in colour on the cover of the All-Ireland issues of GAELIC SPORT and wants pen pictures of the teams as well. Kevin wants a cut-out of Dave McCarthy, Donal Hunt, Declan Barron or Denis Coughlan.



**Seanie O'Leary (Cork)**



★  
**Fr. Bertie Troy (Cork Coach)**



**Finbarr Walsh, 7 Mac Curtain's Villas, College Rd., Cork** loves GAELIC SPORT and thinks Offaly didn't deserve to lose to Dublin. Finbarr wants a Carrolls All-Star Chart of 1974.

**Sean Twomey (12 years old**

brother of Pat — address earlier) writes for the first time and wants a Cut-out of Jimmy Barry-Murphy.

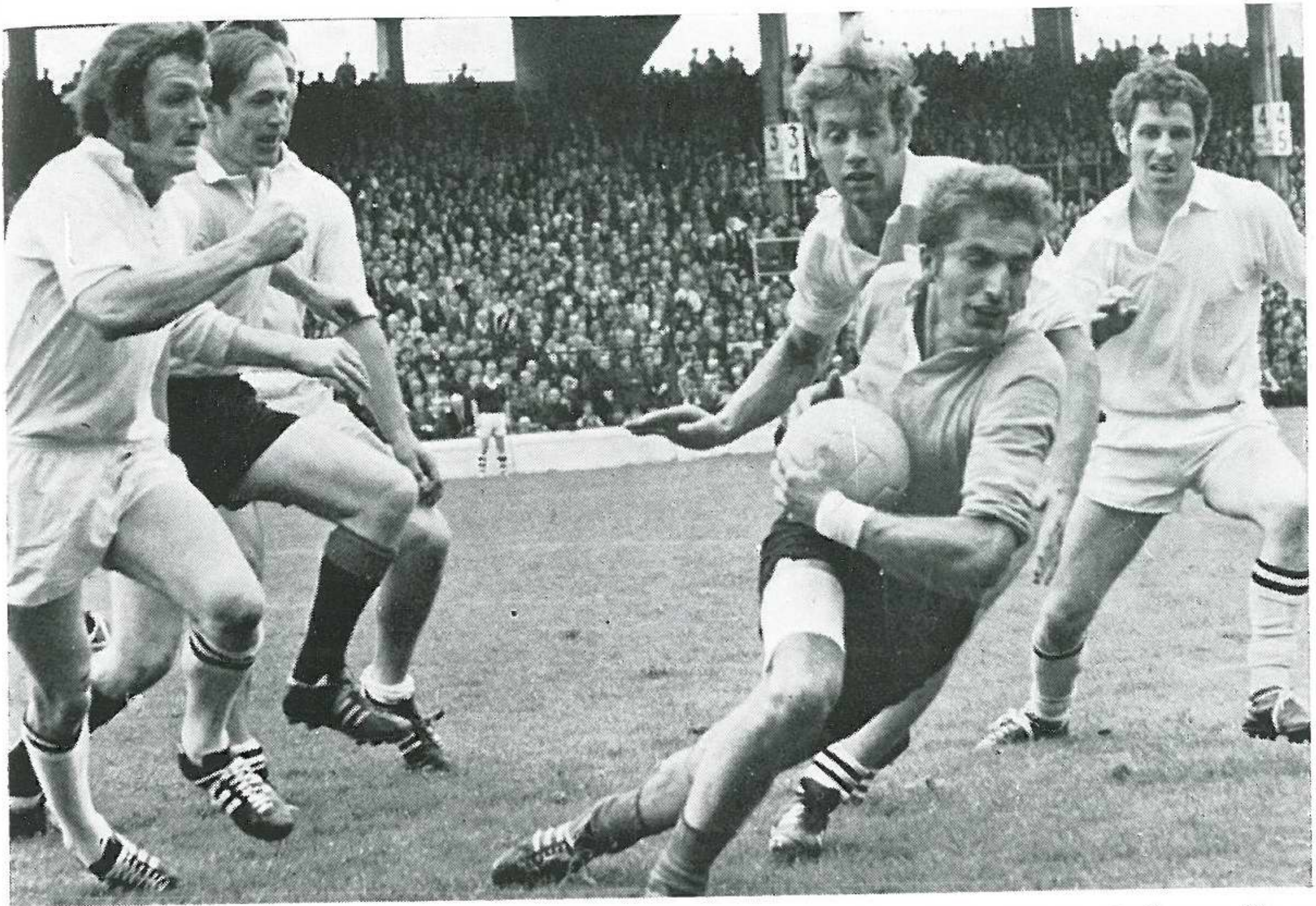
● *Sean you win a Cork bob-cap. (J.M.)*

**Philip Maher, Clashagad, Dunkerrin, Birr, Co. Offaly** tells us about the festival in Dunkerrin. "There was hurling and a tug of war and penalty kicks. I was playing hurling. We got to the final but we lost it. There will be a parish tournament in Moneygall for Moneygall and Dunkerrin in U-11 and U-14 H. I will be playing for the U-11. The captains are Sean Delaney and John Kenny from Dunkerrin and Eamon Boland and Jimmy Dwyer from Moneygall. The winners get a trophy."

● *Philip, I hope you played well and whether you won or lost that you enjoyed it and played the game and shook your opponents' hand afterwards What about a prize of a shoulder bag and that's enough prizes this month. (J.M.)*

**Marie Boran, Lismorane, Foxford, Co. Mayo** is full of praise for Owen McCann's book "The Greats of Gaelic Games" and for Mick Dunne's programme on RTE on the state of football. She feels the personal foul rule should be strictly enforced and that the Dubs use "an element of toughness in their play." She wonders are referees afraid to send a Dublin player to the line in Croke Park in fear of 'The Hill' as a leading Kerry player remarked in an interview. If the latter is true she thinks it is a sad reflection on referees. "The way players are togged out even for big matches often leaves a lot to be desired. In this resepot Charlie McCarthy is to be admired for his neatness and he always has everything in order. Others would do well to follow his example.

Though I have earlier used harsh words on the referee I take his part in giving stern marching



● Specially for Paul Gallagher of Newry we include this splendid action shot of Colm McAlarney. Shown here in full flight during Down's All-Ireland Semi-Final outing against Galway in 1971. He is currently setting the standard in the Tyler Top Ten Football Chart.

orders to those mentors who sail on to the field at will. They know their place and there they should remain.

The treatment of injured players on the field is also a bit careless. Last year I saw one player who was clearly concussed being dragged up and shaken. People qualified in this regard are the only people necessary in such a situation.

That's enough for now. I'm looking forward to the big matches ahead."

● No, Marie I cannot agree. Referees aren't intimidated or they would give up the job. They use commonsense. Thanks for another great letter. (J.M.)

Our final letter this month is from old friend **Donal Ring, Coolevokig, Lissacreasig, Macroom, Co. Cork** feels that the organisation and the punctuality of the World Cup set a headline for the G.A.A. He agrees with P. McEvoy and D. McCarthy that the G.A.A. should have their own sticker album.

That is all for the MAILBAG for the Hurling final issue. Tell me what you think of the final, the stars, the T.V. presentation, the build-up, the march-round, the atmosphere, the referees, the up and coming minor stars, the

official programme. Write in about anything — a pen pal, a cassette, an old programme, just anything associated with the G.A.A. Hope you all enjoy the finals. Write in to:—

*Jack Mahon*

**JUNIOR DESK,  
Gaelic Sport,  
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Dublin, 9.**



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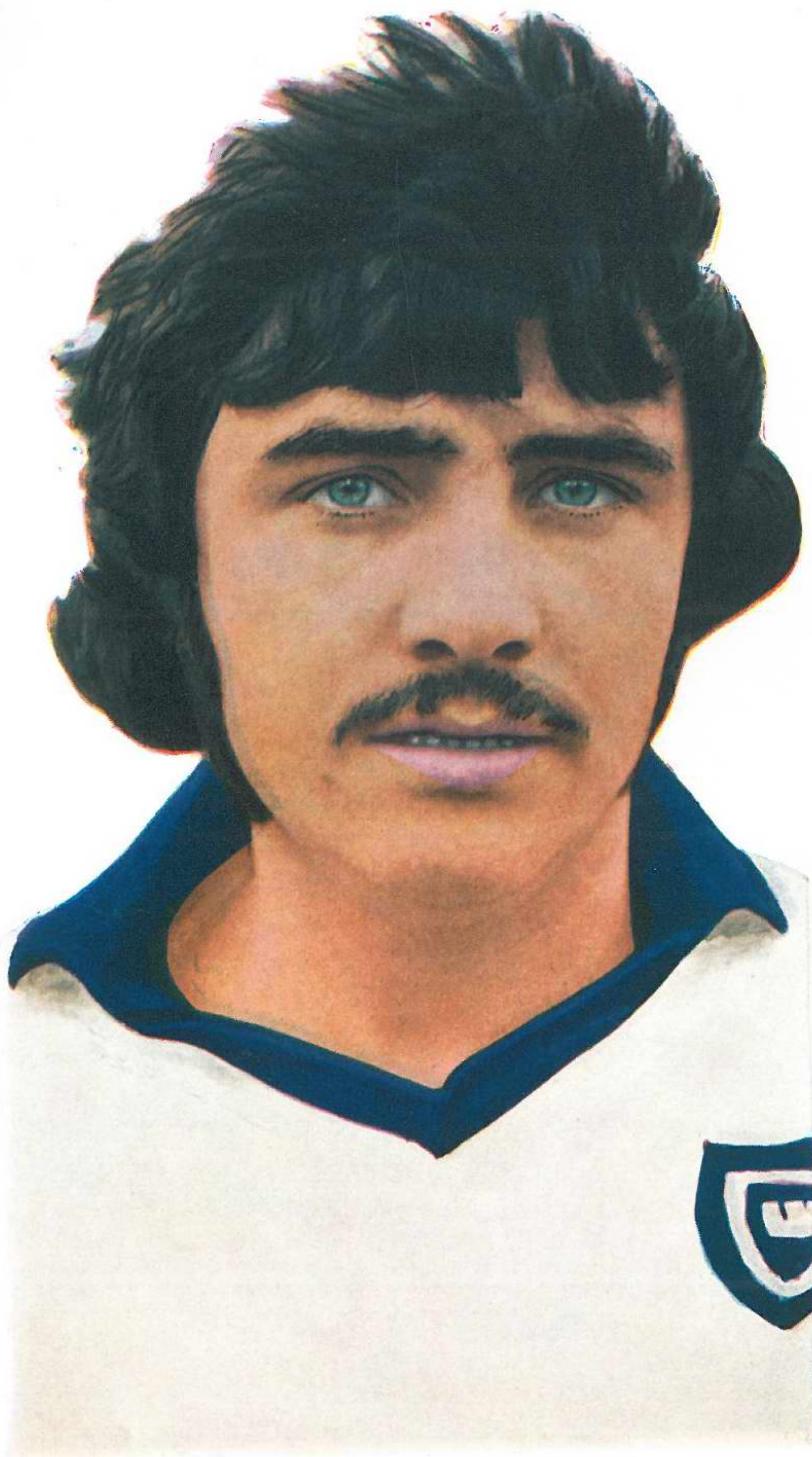
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## Jim Greene (Waterford)

Age: 29  
Height: 5 ft. 8 ins.  
Weight: 12 st.  
Position: Full  
Forward  
Club: Mount Sion  
Senior Inter-  
County Debut:  
1968.

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

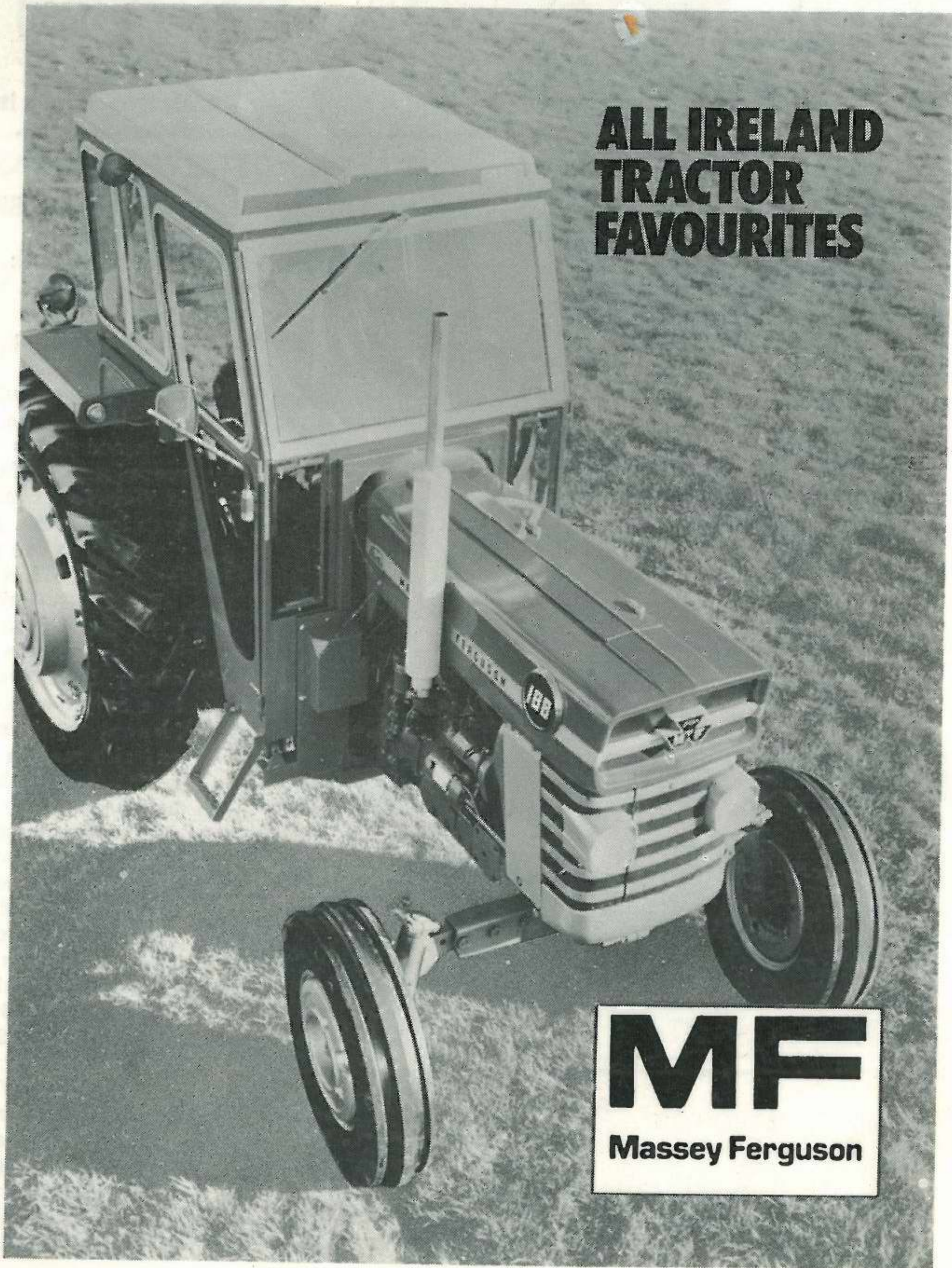
Jim's exciting ability to impressively tuck away the goals and points proved a major factor in Waterford's march back last season to a place among the elite for the 1978-79 N.H.L.

But full forward is not the only role he has filled for the county. He starred in a couple of other forward positions, and also made a big reputation at centre half back.

A former minor and under-21 county hurler, he has been a key figure with his club for some years, and helped them to their county senior title wins of 1969, 1972, 1974 and 1975.

Jim, who captained Waterford in 1972, is maintaining a family tradition. His brother, Stephen, and father, Paddy, both wore the county senior jersey.

# MASSEY FERGUSON



**ALL IRELAND  
TRACTOR  
FAVOURITES**

**MF**

Massey Ferguson