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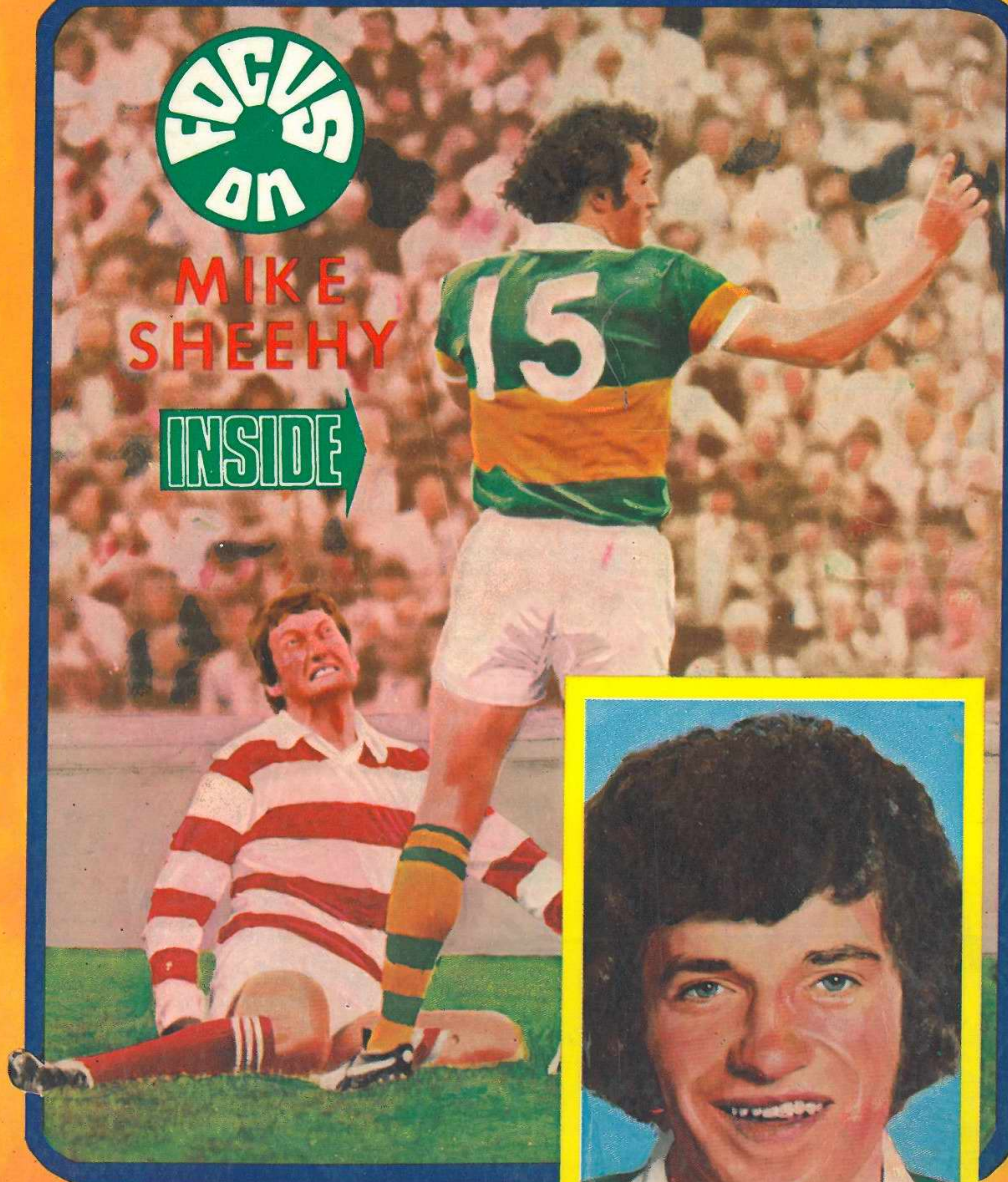
THE
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IRELAND'S LEADING GAELIC GAMES MAGAZINE PUBLISHED MONTHLY

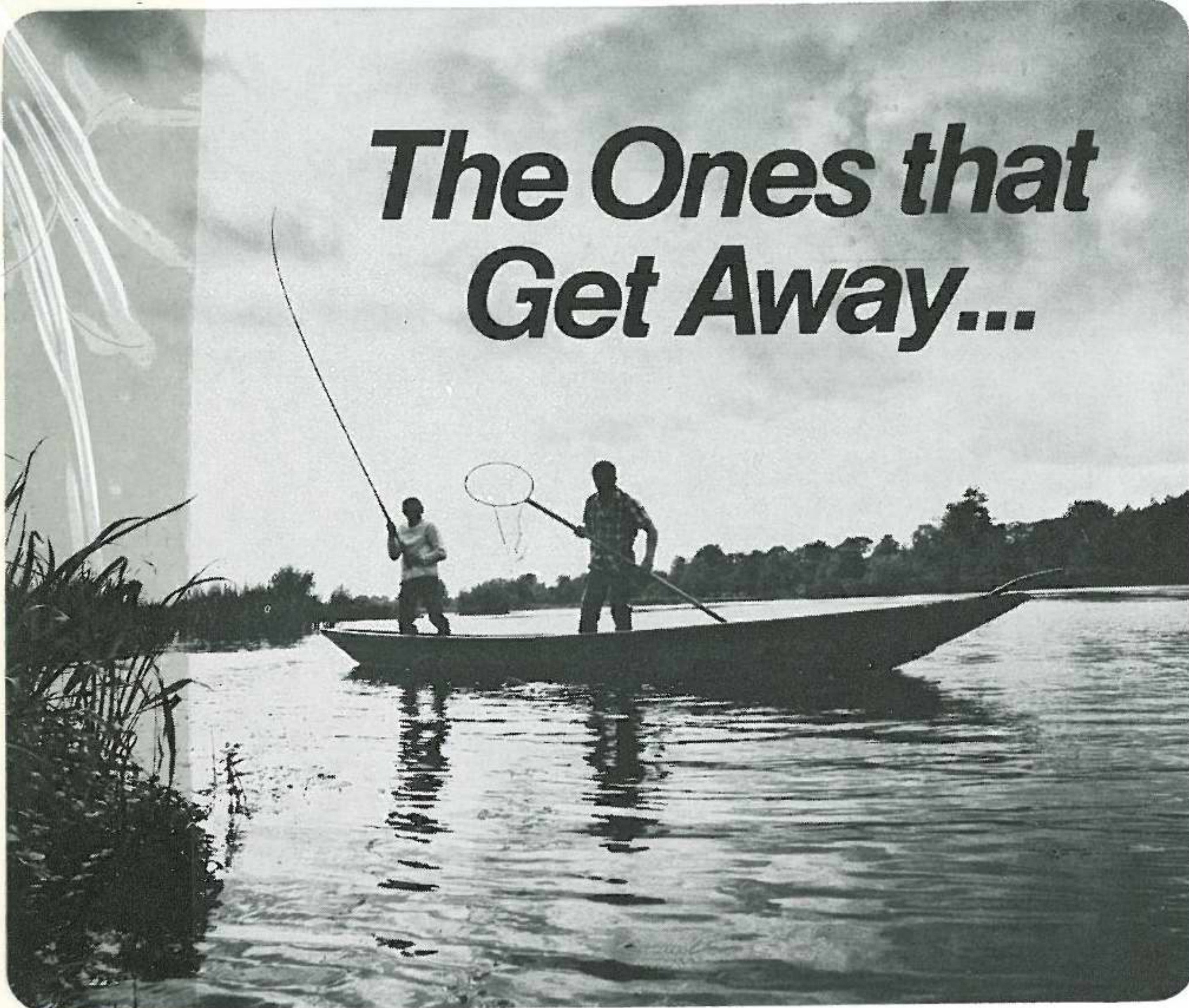


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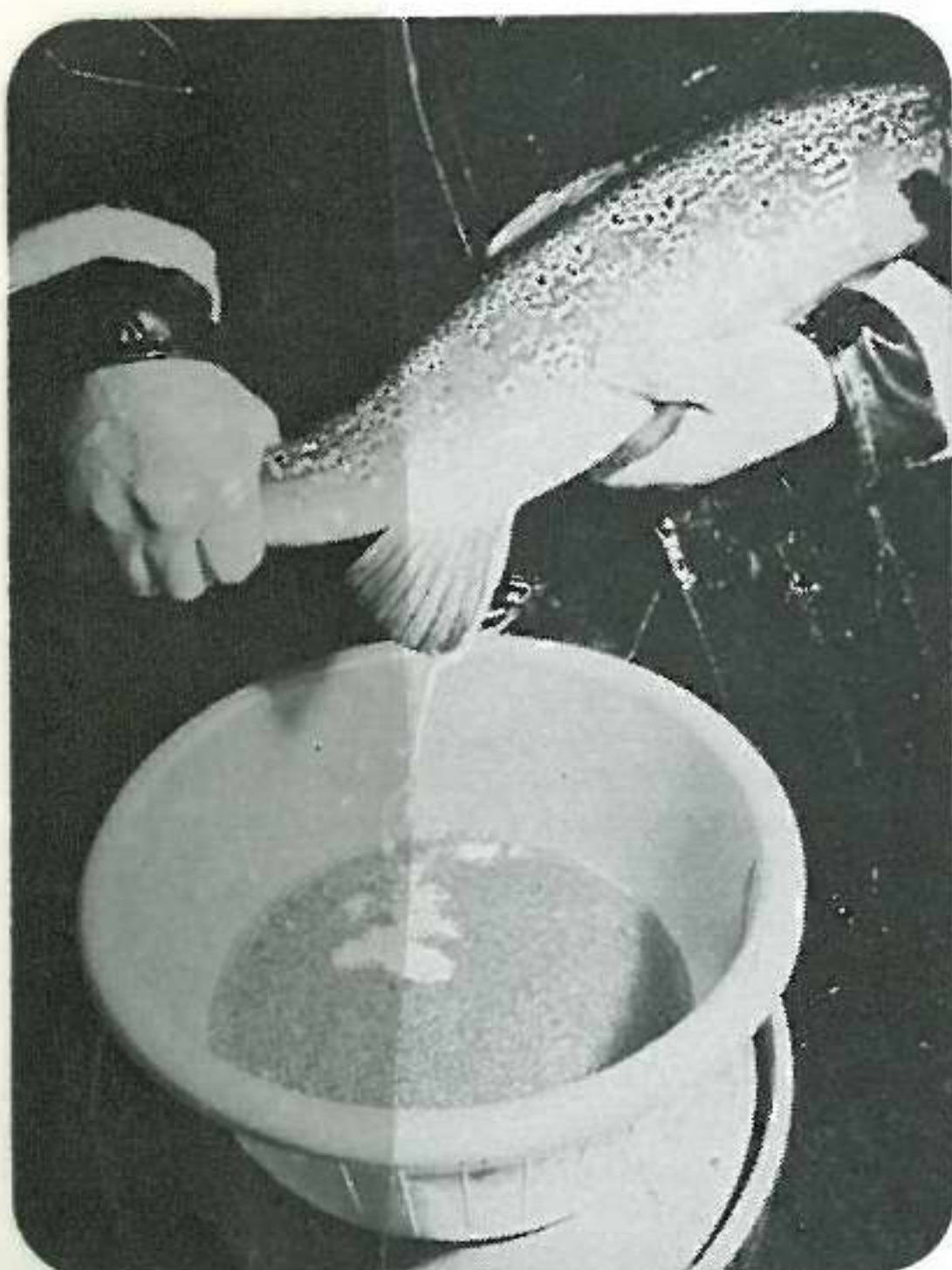
INSIDE



The Ones that Get Away...



Salmon angling at Castleconnell, Co. Limerick.



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Gaelic Sport

Vol. 22 No. 8 August 1979

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IF the provincial senior championships proved anything this year it is that the time has long since passed for a radical reappraisal of the inter-county fixtures schedule in the interests of improving general standards in hurling and football.

The Munster senior hurling final, lauded repeatedly as one of the best reasons for maintaining the status quo, did little to help the hurling revival, while uneven standards in football were emphasised by run-away wins by Kerry and Dublin over Clare and Louth respectively.

There is little point in calling now for the open-draw in the senior championships. The traditionalists have dug in their heels so firmly against change at Congress each year that there is no reason to believe recent events have encouraged second thoughts.

But the energy crisis might result in a rethink. Few of the non-partisan supporters who used up hard-to-get petrol on travelling to Thurles are likely to be tempted back in the future on the strength of the fare provided in the Cork-Limerick clash. It is bound also to weigh with such enthusiasts that the Munster final has not been delivering the thrills in recent times.

Similarly with the "David and Goliath" affairs in football. Supporters are not going to use up vital fuel supplies in travelling to such matches in the years ahead.

So, the fuel crisis, allied to the lack-lustre fare of recent weeks, could see a fall off in attendances at many future ties in the championships. That would not be a bad thing —if it prodded the traditionalists into action.

There is little point in getting bogged down here on the merits or otherwise of the open-draw in the championships. These factors have been argued so long and so often that discussions have become wearisome.

More progressive is to consider ways in which the lobbies on both sides can be brought together in a new schedule with a view to introducing a much needed wind of change to the scene.

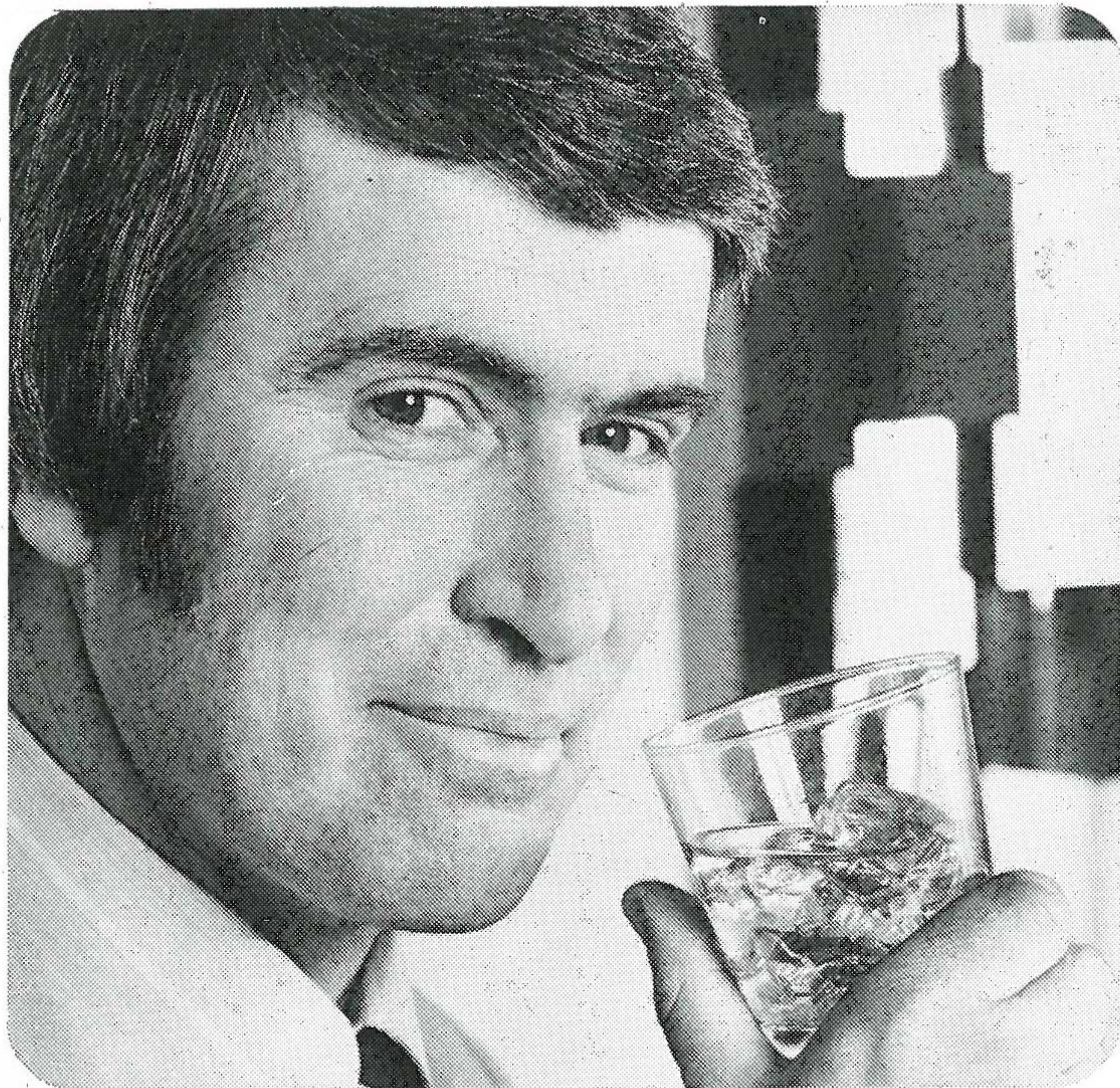
An opportunity is provided by discussions going on regarding the proposals for a new set-up for the National Football League for the cycle starting in 1980-81.

Why not start the annual programme as such in February, rather than October, with the first rounds of the Leagues, and continue until October when the finals of the points competition could be staged? League and championship games would overlap during the summer and autumn, but that would not prove a serious problem.

The arrangements would ensure that counties would have worthwhile programmes of competitive fare early in the year to enable them build up teamwork and strength for the championships. That would help towards keener competition in the knock-out tests, and lead to improved standards in time.

COVER PHOTO

MICHAEL SHEEHY, our cover personality, is Kerry's greatest score-getter since Mick O'Dwyer, and one of the best ever in football. His career is put into focus by Owen McCann on Page 17.



He joined the light
brigade

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Paddy

And see the light.



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rich
8
ARKS



Tyler

Roscommon lead the

Top Ten

way in football

THE provincial senior title wins of Cork and Kilkenny in hurling, and Roscommon in football, as well as the continued progress achieved by Monaghan and Donegal in Ulster, are all reflected in the TYLER TOP TEN charts this month, which cover games played from June 24 to July 15 inclusive.

Understandably, competition for places was particularly keen. But some performances still stood out prominently — notably those by Martin O'Doherty and Brian Murphy in the Southern hurling final, and by Mick Brennan in the memorable Kilkenny-Wexford show-down at Croke Park.

O'Doherty and Murphy did much to enhance the disappointing occasion that was the Cork-Limerick final at Thurles. The big full back from Cork fully justified the money spent on his long journey home from California with a power-packed display, but he still had strong opposition from Murphy.

The right full back was very much on his game, cool, progressive all through, and over-all he proved a vital plank in the winning Cork framework.

As for Mick Brennan, he really stole the show among the forwards when Kilkenny retained their title in another thriller with their traditional rivals. The Noresider was sharp and clever in his general play, and he also slotted over eight superb and vital points to finish the top Kilkenny scorer.

The performance had the

added merit of the fact that it was forged out in the white heat of a really competitive struggle. And, that is the main reason why the Kilkenny right full forward wins the top spot in our hurling review on 42 points.

This puts him one point clear of O'Doherty, and two ahead of Brian Murphy. All three are appearing in the line-up this year for the first time.

Only two hurlers improve their ratings over-all — Joe Hennessy, who had a fine game at midfield against Wexford, and moves up to 61 points for the season so far, and P. J. Molloy, a Galway match-winner supreme in their All-Ireland quarter-final against Laois. He now has 60 points.

In football, it is an indication of Monaghan's re-emergence as a power in Ulster that Des Mulligan, of Castleblayney, captured enough points this month to send him rapidly up the listings to second place over-all in the code for this year. He now has 73 points, ten fewer than the pace-setting Dermot Earley.

Mulligan takes third place this month in a chart headed by two of the stars of Roscommon's first ever sequence of three Connacht senior titles in a row —

Tony McManus and Sean Kilbride.

McManus improves his position over-all to 67 points, while former Mayo star Kilbride is making his debut in the charts this month.

The leading trio in each chart over-all are:

HURLING: 102: F. Loughnane (Tipperary). 71: J. McKenna (Limerick). 70: N. O'Dwyer (Tipperary).

FOOTBALL: 83: D. Earley (Roscommon). 73: D. Mulligan (Monaghan). 71: D. Murray (Roscommon).

This month's charts:

HURLING

42	M. Brennan	(Kilkenny)	...	42
41	M. O'Doherty	(Cork)	.....	41
40	B. Murphy	(Cork)	.....	40
38	P. Prendergast	(Kilkenny)		38
36	J. Hennessy	(Kilkenny)	....	61
36	G. Henderson	(Kilkenny)		36
36	R. Cummins	(Cork)	.....	36
33	P. J. Molloy	(Galway)	...	60
32	E. Walsh	(Wexford)	.....	32
32	S. Foley	(Limerick)	.....	32

FOOTBALL

44	T. McManus	(Roscommon)		67
40	S. Kilbride	(Roscommon)		40
38	D. Mulligan	(Monaghan)		73
37	J. Mooney	(Offaly)	.....	37
36	F. Ward	(Donegal)	.....	36
34	A. Hanahoe	(Dublin)	.....	34
32	B. Morgan	(Cork)	32
32	S. Lowry	(Offaly)	32
32	P. Spillane	(Kerry)	32
30	E. Sharkey	(Donegal)	...	30

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ANDY CROAK

The writer with the rasping comment

OUR Editor always gives me a sheaf of proofs to scan before GAELIC SPORT goes to press. This is not to keep me abreast of the contents and save me 30p when the magazine comes out.

You see, I'm pretty well up in the Law so the Editor wants me to make sure that nothing libellous, or such like, slips into his pages.

"Andy" he says, "take damn good care that we don't end up in the High Court".

Come to think of it, my own contributions probably put him at far greater risk than anything else. He has never told me what senior counsel he has hired to scan my proofs!

All that is only by way of explaining how I know what Eamonn Young is writing about in GAELIC SPORT this month.

As I read through the proofs I was stopped in my tracks when I came across Eamonn's article about the rule changes in Gaelic games and what he calls the "emasculatation" of football.

I had written a nice piece myself about the considerate way spectators are treated at G.A.A. grounds, especially with regard to four-page programmes which sell for 20p, but I threw it in the basket, homed in on my typewriter again and gritted: "I can't let Youngy get away with that".

Eamonn's article appears further out, so read him first and then come back to me. That will save me quoting him at length.

He says that "misguided men have been working sincerely at what they call cleaning up our games".

He deplores the change of rule which protects the goalkeeper from the charges of forwards inside the square. He can-

not stand the "derisive spectacle" of a goalie hopping the ball, as in soccer, before passing it to a team-mate.

There is a new book out called "A Legion of Memories", a history of the Legion club in Killarney. I haven't read it yet, but I did read in the papers that the great Kerry footballer, Jackie Lyne, has an article in the book in which he looks back nostalgically to the days when goalkeepers were taken off on stretchers.

They say Jackie was only joking. Is Eamonn joking, too?

Has Eamonn asked any goalies, especially hurling goalies, how they felt about the change of rule? Did they enjoy those violent charges, all "for the honour of the little village", which often buried them in the back of the net?

I suppose the Christians of old also enjoyed those wonderful afternoons at the Colosseum when the lions came roaring in to devour them. The Roman nobility used to get great excitement out of that, too. But, as time went by, that great sport of Rome was, unfortunately, emasculated!

I exaggerate, of course. The comparison is hardly fair, but I hope Eamonn takes the point.

Gaelic games are tough, physical-contact games, and I am at one with Youngy in hoping that they will never lose their manliness. Goalkeepers were often charged fairly before the change of rule, but Eamonn must agree that there were plenty of times when the 'keeper was "steam-rolled" by forwards with total disregard for the safety of life and limb.

Getting rid of dangerous play can hardly be called "emasculatation".

Let nobody try to tell me that the sight of a goalkeeper being

Our 'hit-man' takes on Eamonn Young!

taken off on a stretcher was "racy of the soil" or part of "our ancient Gaelic culture". Let nobody try to tell me either that fights on the field, mostly the result of dirty or dangerous play in every position, fitted into either bracket.

Youngy speaks of the "venom" in Borg's play on the tennis court. But Borg thumps no-one on the gob, pokes him in the back or pulls him down. You'll find plenty of venom in individual games. You'll find it in squash and table tennis, too, and even in chess and "twenty-five".

Eamonn mentions Joe Frazier's ferocity in the ring. Good for him—I mean for Frazier. The whole point of boxing is to hit the other fellow as hard and as often as possible, and to avoid getting hit yourself. But if Frazier struck an opponent below the belt or on the back of the neck, he'd get disqualified.

That's the parallel, Youngy, not legitimate ferocity.

Please don't think I'm saying that Gaelic games are full of "digging". On the contrary. We've all seen and known dirty stuff, but the new rules have helped to cut it out, especially around the goalmouths.

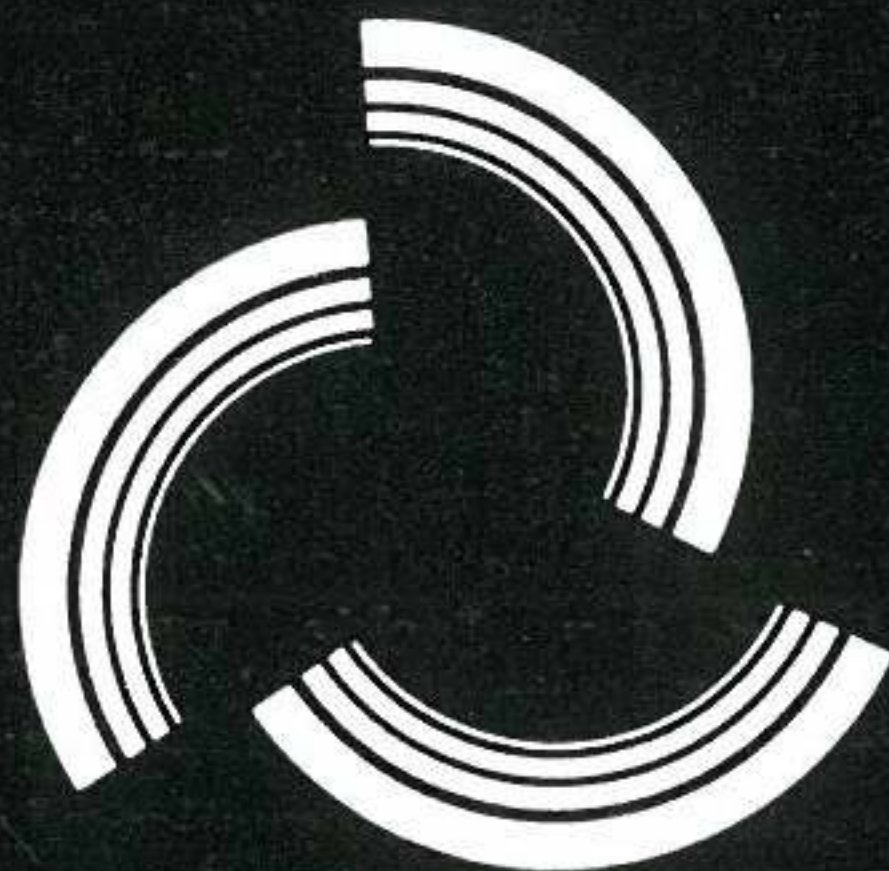
I am pleased with that, and you must be, too, Eamonn. Now I'll ask you one question, but I'm not demanding an answer. Please yourself about that.

Do you agree that since the square was enlarged and the goalkeeper protected, we've seen fewer losses of temper and "fisticuffs" around the goal areas; and if you agree, are you glad?

Finally, let me say that I admired you greatly as a footballer. Now I admire you as a colourful and trenchant writer.

But that doesn't mean I have to agree with your opinions.

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FÉILE GIVES GREAT HOPE FOR FUTURE

HOW safe is the future of hurling? Assured, anyone would say who saw not alone the skills but the dedication of the juveniles and their mentors from all over Ireland who for the second successive year gathered into Kilkenny for Feile na nGael. Gloomy, would be the answer of those who have watched the championship games at older levels. Oh, I know we saw two excellent semi-finals in Munster, and the Páirc Uí Chaoimh clash will be talked about for many a day far beyond the confines of Cork and Tipperary. Likewise, the Limerick v Clare confrontation provided some excellent passages in the closing stages. But then the game from which most was anticipated, the Munster final, did not even reach towards the heights it was confidently expected to attain. I know the injury to Pat Horgan was probably a factor that psychologically affected the approach of both teams, but the fact remains that it was, as a Clareman said to me on our way down to Liberty Square afterwards "Very humdrum sort of hurling, and only for Martin O'Doherty we wouldn't have a great deal to talk about".

Those who watched the B championship and the Leinster semi-finals were unable to find a great deal to praise either, so that it would seem that the promise shown at juvenile level is not being carried forward to adult ranks except in those few 'traditional' counties that always seem to regain former greatness in the closing stages of the championship. In some respects it is very hard to analyse what is wrong with the efforts of many of our senior hurlers, but one fact sticks out like a sore thumb. Far too many of them just refuse to get rid of the ball when they should. Now I am not, at this stage, talking about the players who insist on trying to lift the ball when every circumstance of the play is crying out for a quick ground stroke. I will come back to that aspect again.

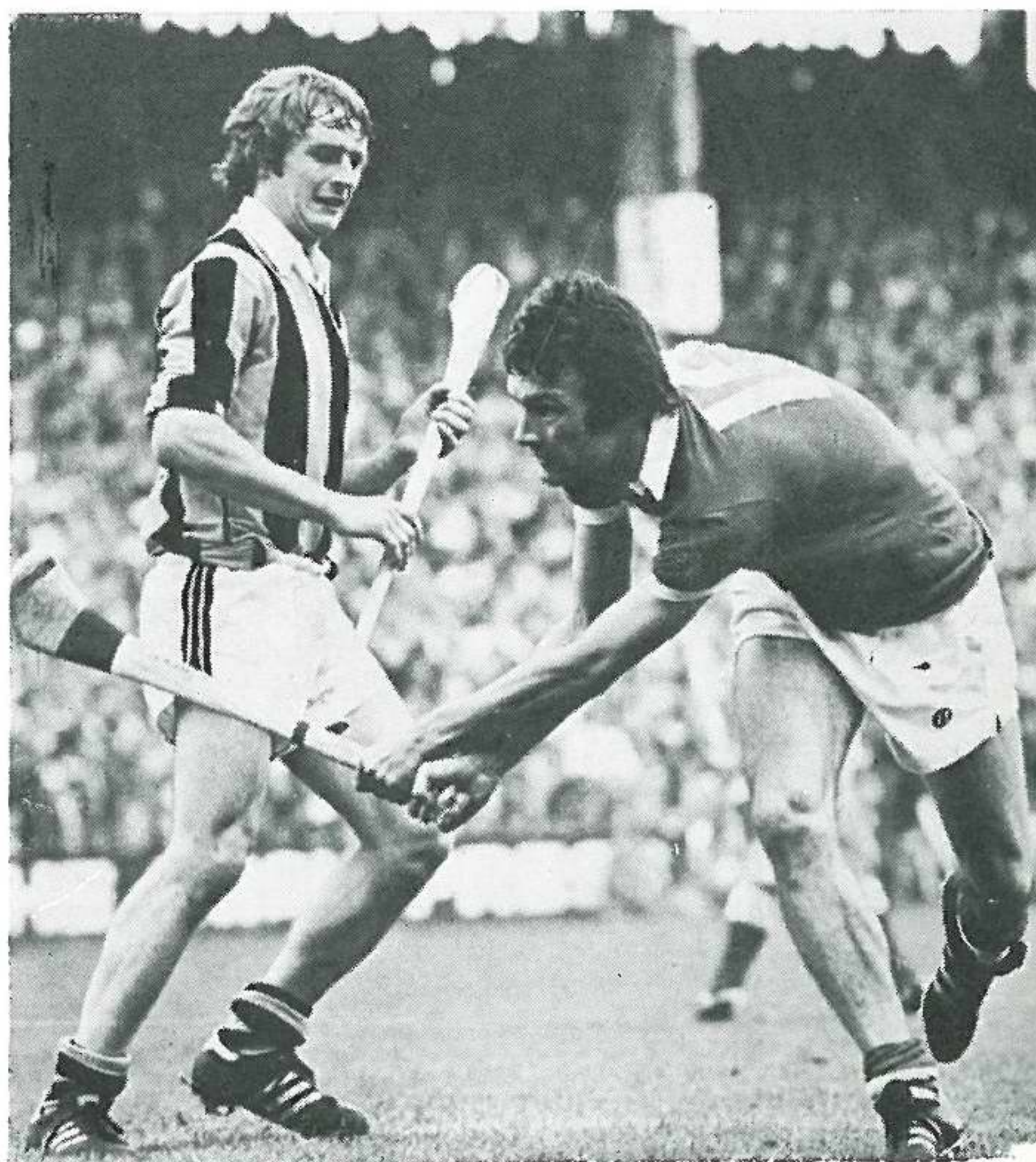
The man I am talking about is the player especially in defence and around mid-field who finds himself with the sliothar in his hand and plenty of room and time to dispatch it to best advantage. But does he do so? Seven times out of ten he does not. Either he starts on a solo, or he decides to beat another opponent.

MOONDHARRIGS DIARY

If he goes soloing, it is to me an even-money bet that he will lose possession and will be caught out of position if there is a quick return of play. If he strives to beat one extra opponent, and succeeds, he is, in the process, likely to have to move off his original course, with the result that, when he does puck the ball, it does not go exactly where he had meant it to go in the first place.

There was very clear proof of this in the Munster final where several Limerick clearances, that should have been dispatched far down-field, were delayed, and were then sent into touch with, on at least one occasion, disastrous consequences.

● TO PAGE 11



● Jimmy Barry-Murphy of Cork, "whipping the ball on the ground" past Kilkenny's Joe Hennessy in last year's All-Ireland final.

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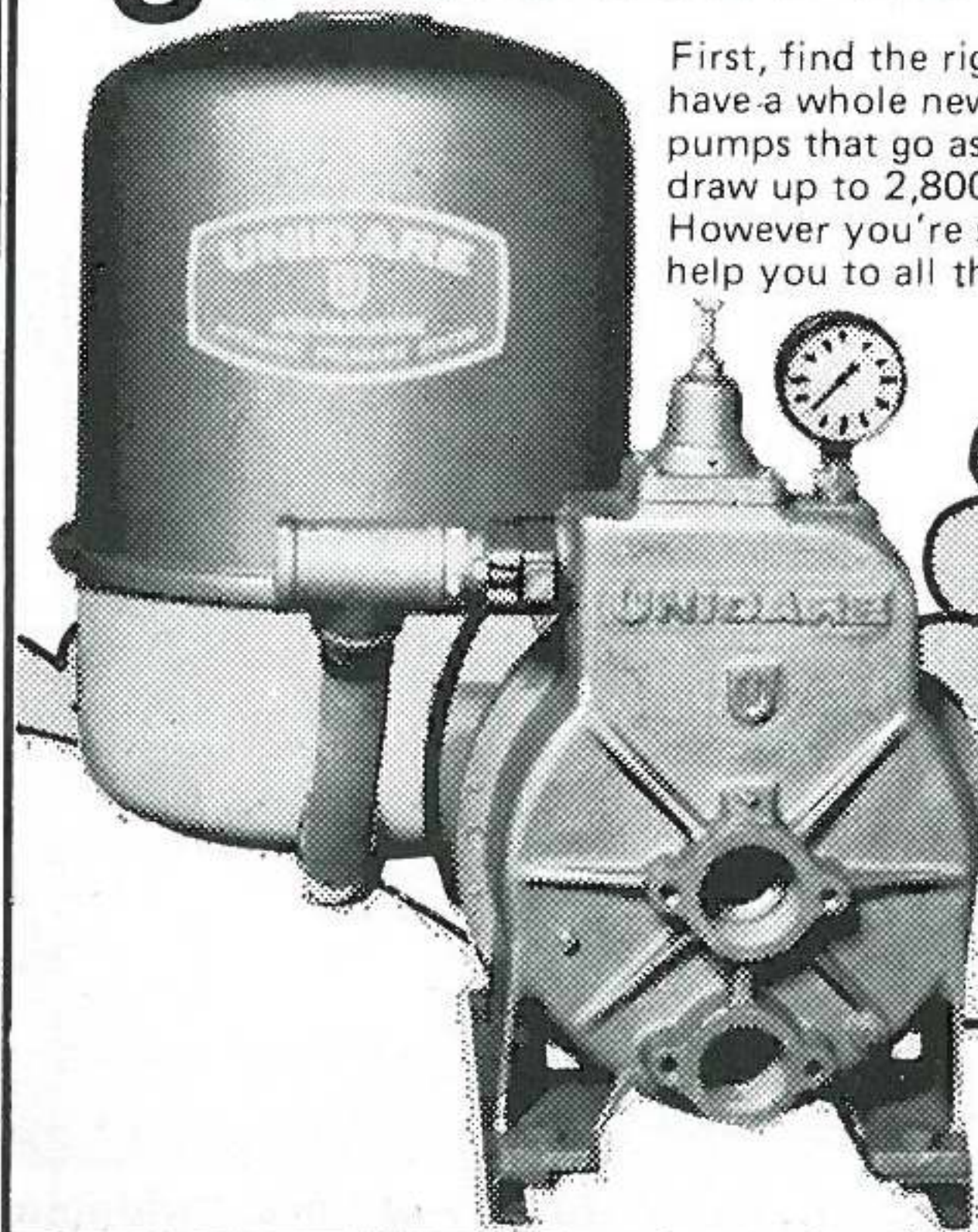
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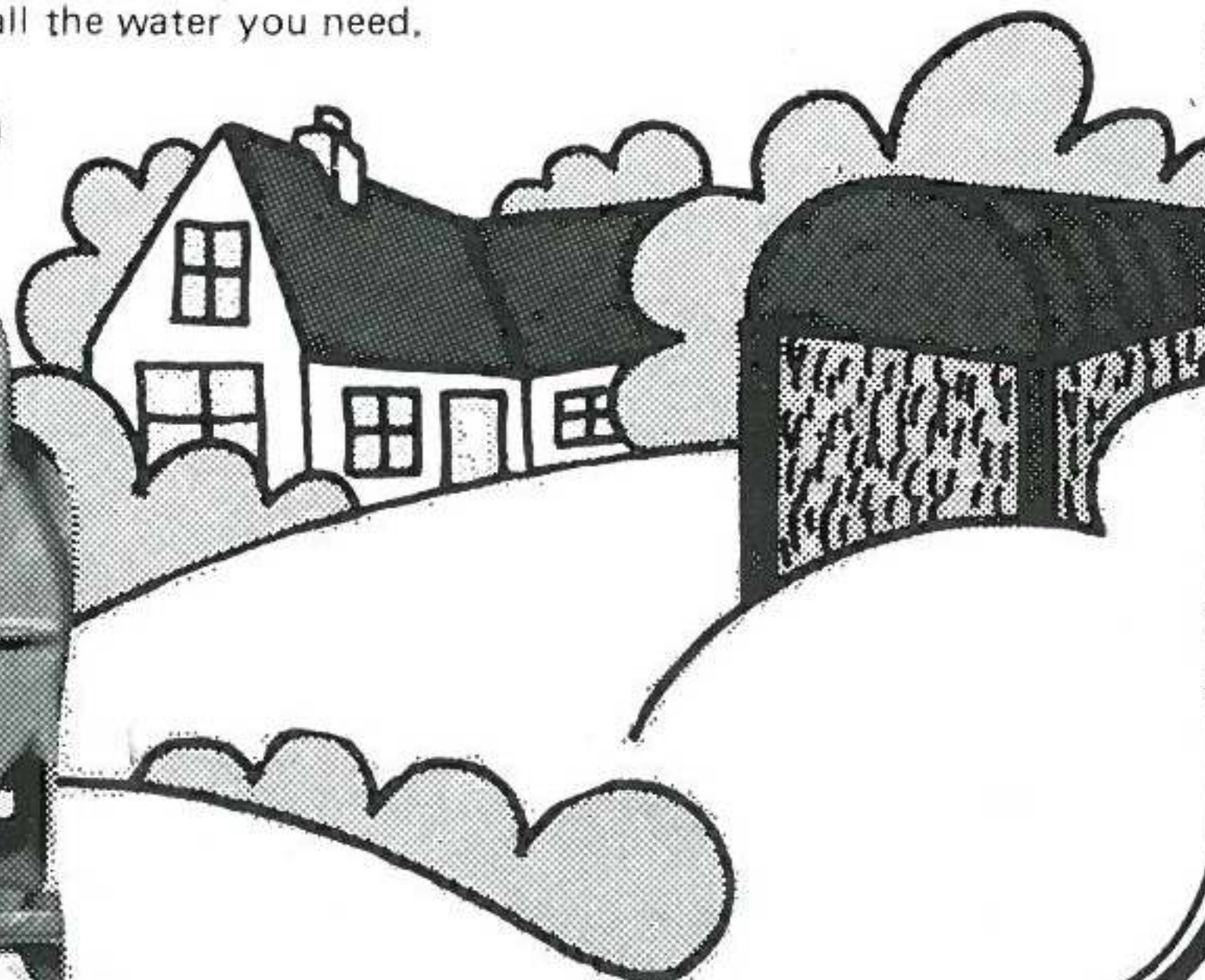
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The Cork minor hurling team—All-Ireland champions 1978. As Moondharrig says in this month's Diary
 "... Cork minors . . . nothing to learn about the arts and skills of the game."

● FROM PAGE 9

As for the pick-at-all-costs merchants, every hurling county has them in super-abundance, and I think one of the great reasons for Cork's All-Ireland dominance in recent years is that the champions still have a high proportion of players who can whip the ball, not alone on the ground, but also in the air and on the drop, and who do not hesitate to do so when occasion affords. Remember those goals by Charlie McCarthy and Ray Cummins in that same Munster final?

That the art of hurling is still alive in Cork was amply proved for me on that same day by the performance of a couple of the Cork minors who had nothing at all to learn about the basic arts and skills of the game.

But before leaving the Munster final, it was an old Tipperary man who said to me, as I headed back for Dublin as dusk came down over the Cathedral Town, "There is something we would need to guard against and that is the over-glamourisation of the Munster Final as a unique occasion. It is a unique occasion, but it is a hurling occasion, not a week-end carnival, and I am afraid that, this week-end at least the game itself was not the major part of the occasion as far as a certain section of the people who came to Thurles were concerned. I am told there were some so busy celebrating they never managed to go near the game at all!"

Well, I suppose those are just some of the irritations we have to suffer from the affluent society, though that affluence may not affect the position for all that much longer, if we are to judge by many signs and tokens.

Believe me, Liberty Square, as night fell on another Munster Final Day was, from many points of view, a somewhat bedraggled scene.

But, if hurling by some regrettable catastrophe were ever to die, it is consoling to think that so much of all that the greatest field game in the world means to us, and has meant to all the generations who have gone before us, has been preserved by a Thurles man, Sam Melbourne. He brought part of his own collection of hurling memorabilia to the Museum that was for me the most frustrating experience of Feile na nGael.

The reason for my frustration was that it would have needed the entire Feile Week to properly study and savour all the riches that were on display, and, that is without delving into the scrap-books which would have needed a week's study, for themselves. God bless you, Sam Melbourne, and may God spare you long to continue your wonderful work of preserving the tangible evidence of the lore and legend of the greatest of our hurling men, past and present. Sam has assembled, through his own efforts the nucleus of a Museum that should some day grace the new Ceannaras.

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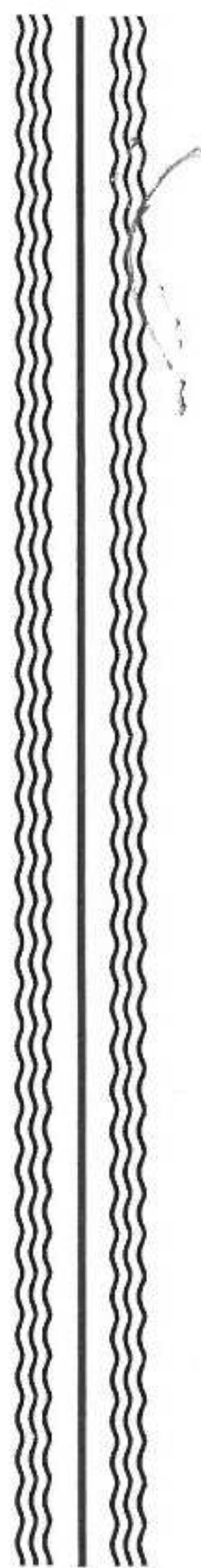


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75th Anniversary Tour by U.S. team



By
Agnes
Hourigan

IN this historic year, the 75th Anniversary of the Camogie Association, the visit of an American team from Philadelphia could not have come at a more fitting time.

Barney McEnroe and Seán O'Reilly, who are the team's coaches, traced for me the history of the club which was founded in 1974.

This team was named "Cavan" as the founders were all from Cavan and also included Bridie Coyle, Patricia Lynch, Rose Curran and her daughters, Maureen and Debbie.

The girls mentioned above found the remainder of their team from the local High School where the daughters of Barney McEnroe, Mary and Eileen, went to school.

The first game was between two Cavan teams at a field-day. The youngsters from the High School became very interested and very soon the club had an affiliation of 50 players.

In the following year a Mayo team was started and in 1976 two more teams, Tyrone and Finn Harps, sprang up. The Kevin Barry club first affiliated in 1977. Most of those interested, except in the Mayo team, were from the North.

Cavan has been the strongest team and has been the champions both in senior and junior in 1977 and 1978 and were North American Champions in 1977.

The goalie, Eileen Kennedy, is Scotch-Irish and is very good in her position. Mary Farrelly (nee McEnroe), full-back, Maureen Angstadt (nee Curran) and Liz Coster (Italian) are in the half-back line. Beth Wilson, first generation Irish, Terry Cassidy, second generation, and Maureen Murphy, fourth generation, make up the midfield line. Franie Ranft and her sister, Caroline, are of French extract. Bernadette

McCreesh is the daughter of an Armaghman. Susan McCoy, Patricia Lynch and Margaret Foley are of Irish descent.

This team takes part in the North American Camogie League in which there are six senior teams. The games are played in conjunction with hurling and football and all three teams travel the huge journeys to the different cities on the one day in order to save expense.

The party has had a most enjoyable trip. They were hosted in Cavan and have travelled to play a South Down selection with whom they finished level. In their game with the Cavan selection the home side won by one point, and in their trip to Dublin, on the invitation of Sliabh Bloom, they emerged victorious. They got matches with the Cavan champions Ballymachew and the league winners Drumgoon.

They wear a royal blue skirt and white shirt. They have reached a good standard and place a strong emphasis on combination. Their positional sense is also good. A similar visit from an Irish team to Philadelphia would be very welcome.

* * *

The Feile Competition was once again a huge success and congratulations to Woodville Dublin who won the A Division and Avoca Wicklow who won through in Division B.

At the time of going to Press two new champions must emerge in 1979. Cork, the senior champions, were eliminated by Kilkenny in the Preliminary Round, and the Junior Champions, Derry, have entered the Senior Grade. The Minor Willwood Tailteann Champions, Cork, are in the Munster Final against Clare and are still in the Championship race.



Marie Françoise André, 17 Rue St. Dominique, Paris.

At home with Kerrygold.

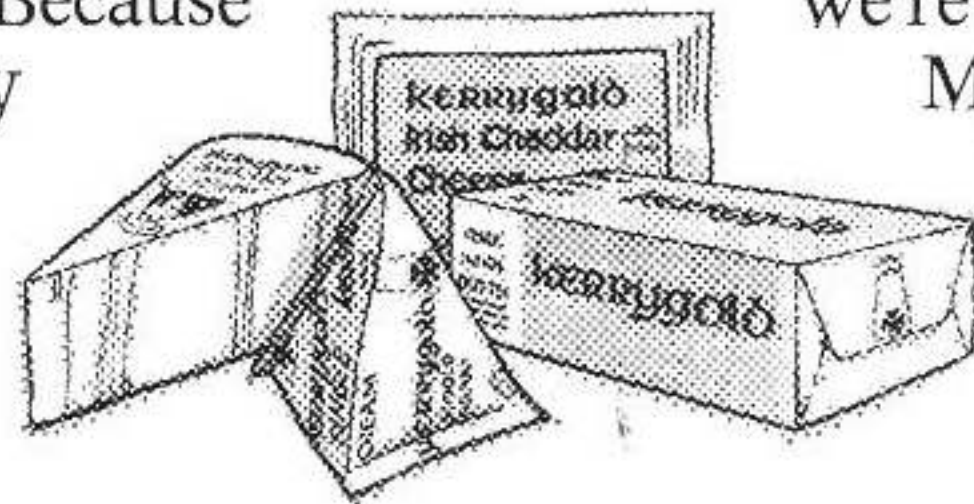
Thursday in Paris. And Marie Françoise takes an afternoon shopping break.

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Has the Cork hurling team begun to slip?

Asks Neil McCavana



Martin O'Doherty
(Cork)

I AM one of those who contend that hurling needs the stimulus of new faces and new champions at regular intervals if the game is to have any chance at all of making worth-while progress. But, having said that, I must also concede that record-equaling attempts on a par with the latest four-in-a-row bid by Cork in the All-Ireland senior championship this year, can also do much to focus the type of nationwide interest that results in a new impetus and appeal for the code.

Certainly, the Cork-Galway meeting in this month's All-Ireland semi-final takes on a new glamour generally by virtue of the fact that it is a stepping stone in the Leesiders' quest for a feat that would prove unique for the hurlers themselves, and for so many enthusiasts in general. After all, much water has passed under Patrick Street bridge in Cork city since the days of the code's only sequence of four All-Ireland senior championships in succession in 1941-44 by a brilliant company of Leaside hurlers.

Were the men who wrote that special chapter for Cork better than the giants of the late 'Seventies? It is probably too early at this particular juncture of the 1979 championship to start making comparisons, but what can be said right away is that the current heroes can undoubtedly walk tall with the giants of any past era.

After all, they have already achieved something extra special by taking five Munster senior championships in a row.

True, that feat was accomplished once before by Cork — in 1901 - 1905. But such are the intense pressures on hurlers nowadays, allied to the strong competition, competition which I believe is keener all round than in the distant past, that I am prepared to argue that the latest run has more to recommend it than that in the early years of the century.

Be that as it may, no one can dispute the fact that it was a superb performance by the Corkmen to make it five titles in a row last month at the expense of Limerick. Nothing that may happen in the future can take in any way from that.

Yet, for all the merit in the unbeaten run by Cork in the South, already enriched by three All-Ireland title wins, I still find myself wondering more and more these days if the champions are as strong as in recent years.

I saw them get their 1979 programme off by pipping Tipperary at Pairc Ui Chaoimh by a point in a match that I certainly enjoyed, but did not rate as quite superb a game as so many maintained at the time. It seemed to me that some of the Cork stars had lost something of their old sparkle.

I was also at Thurles for the

provincial final, and while the holders looked much sharper all round than against Tipperary, one cannot overlook the fact that Limerick were a big disappointment in that match. In the circumstances, it might be unwise to read too much into the comprehensive 11 points win.

At the same time, Cork have many important assets, in addition to the more obvious and so vital one of the tremendous know-how that practically all of their hurlers possess from the recent glory-run.

One of the newer assets is John Fenton, the only member of the Munster senior final winning side, who did not play against Kilkenny in last year's All-Ireland summit.

One had to be impressed by the exciting way that Fenton took his first really big senior championship chance at midfield against Tipperary. I made him Cork's outstanding hurler in that match, and, although he did not leave as big an impact against Limerick, he still got through an amount of valuable work, and hit three vital points.

Fenton was a member of the official substitutes panel for last year's Liam McCarthy Cup tie with Kilkenny. He appeared regularly with the county side during last season's National League.

Fenton won an All-Ireland under-21 medal in 1976, and plays his club hurling with Mid-

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Kilbride and Carney can inspire their adopted counties

MUCH was written and spoken of the prominence in the ranks of Roscommon of Sean Kilbride, whose long service to Mayo gained him a name and fame before he changed to the gold and blue, and of the comparable role of Martin Carney in Mayo's colours after gaining national prominence with Donegal.

The fact that any real interest at all is generated by such changes of county jersey is explained mostly by the unusual nature of the occurrence compared to, say, thirty or forty years ago when it was not at all strange to find players changing from county to county without being questioned or having their motives called in doubt.

There was, so to speak, a greater mobility of players because of the lesser mobility of transport systems. Whereas today there seems no special reason for a young player who moves from home to some other part

of Ireland to contemplate leaving his home club, there was every reason for it in those times.

Today, therefore, moving house to another place does not automatically mean that a player will change his club or his county allegiance. For students and those who are unsettled and finding out where their roots will eventually be put down, it is not unnatural to maintain their membership of the home club and to act as though still in that club neighbourhood.

But there are many others who have taken to themselves a relatively permanent way of life, have set up home and begun to rear a family and who still line out for the team "down at home". Many, many young men of that sort do not, in fact, realise that they have settled in a place and are making all the basic moves consistent with becoming a permanent member of the developing community.

Only when they see their own son or daughter going out to play or cheer for the local team will they finally touch the earth and recognise the fact that they have been living in the past. It is a nasty wrench when a father first sees that his club and his little boy's club are different clubs. At last reality strikes home and he has to adjust to the change-over which, coming so late in the day, is, perhaps, never complete and motivated rather by the sons' allegiances and interests than by his own convictions.

That is an extreme case, of course. There are many who read the signs of the future at a much earlier stage and there are some realistic enough to see that movements which suggest permanence should be accepted and their tide allowed to carry one along.

While many say that there is

far less pressure on the player who lives away from his club area because he misses the build up and the expectations and the tension and the worst part of the after-match analysis. Equally, however, it can be said that he will often misunderstand the climate and the importance attached to each particular game.

At inter-county level there was even less mobility of later years so that it is considered normal for players—even those prominent in clubs in other counties to declare for their home county in inter-county competition. It is a tendency which was exaggerated and overdone, perhaps, in the wake of the Dublin decisions to field teams of native-born footballers and hurlers. All Dublin resident country lads had to focus their attentions on their home county team; often that meant it was necessary to play for a home club in order to have a chance of being noticed.

Examples of players moving from county to county have been noted lately and ought to be considered a more correct thing, perhaps, in the long run. Either way, the transfers of Kilbride and Carney have been appreciated in their new counties where the input of outside influence could be expected to cross-pollenate effectively.

Obviously, Sean Kilbride's advent made a considerable difference to Roscommon: where could they get a ready-made, grown, matured footballer, and with an incomplete team at the time, where could they complete it with inexperience alone?

It is not entirely coincidence therefore, that Roscommon began to reach their full fruit when Kilbride had settled in. It pegged down a position in the forward line which one could forget about. One place fewer to fill.

MIKE SHEEHY,

MASTER

OF ALL THE

ARTS

OF FOOTBALL



● Mike Sheehy (Kerry) looks on approvingly after one of Kerry's goals in the 1978 Munster final. Billy Morgan of Cork, however, looks anything but happy.

I SUPPOSE it is inevitable that whenever Michael Sheehy's career is recalled nowadays comment immediately turns on his goal that changed the face of last year's All-Ireland senior football final. Few scores have aroused so much comment, or received such blanket exposure, thanks in the main to the nature of the occasion, and the presence of the television cameras, than that quick-thinking goal from a free three minutes from the interval that brought the Kingdom back into the hunt against Dublin, and in effect also set them up for their runaway Sam Maguire Cup triumph.

There are those who argue that the goal was one of the greatest of all time. Others contend just as strongly that the score had the element of luck about it that robbed the goal of ranking among the truly golden ones.

But surely what must transcend all the arguments is the singlemindedness, alertness and coolness displayed by the Tralee

man at that precise moment. It was his ability to size up the situation in a twinkling, and to capitalise on the opportunity presented in the best possible way, that underlined that when it comes to snapping up even the half chance, Sheehy is a five-star master.

This match-winning art has been consistently polished up by the Kerryman right throughout his career . . . perfected to a degree of excellence that has long since established him beyond dispute as the best score-taker to emerge in the South since the days of Mick O'Dwyer.

A heavy bag of goals and points tucked away in effortless and exciting fashion testifies to this special place of the young Kerry ace in Munster. Pick any year, in fact, since Sheehy

found his feet as a senior after stepping up to the county's premier side late in 1973, and you will find this lively and incisive raider flying high.

In his first full season in the top grade he succeeded O'Dwyer in 1974 as Munster's leading marksman for all competitions, as well as Railway Cup ties and challenges, for the annual programme, and he has held the No. 1 position without a break in the meantime.

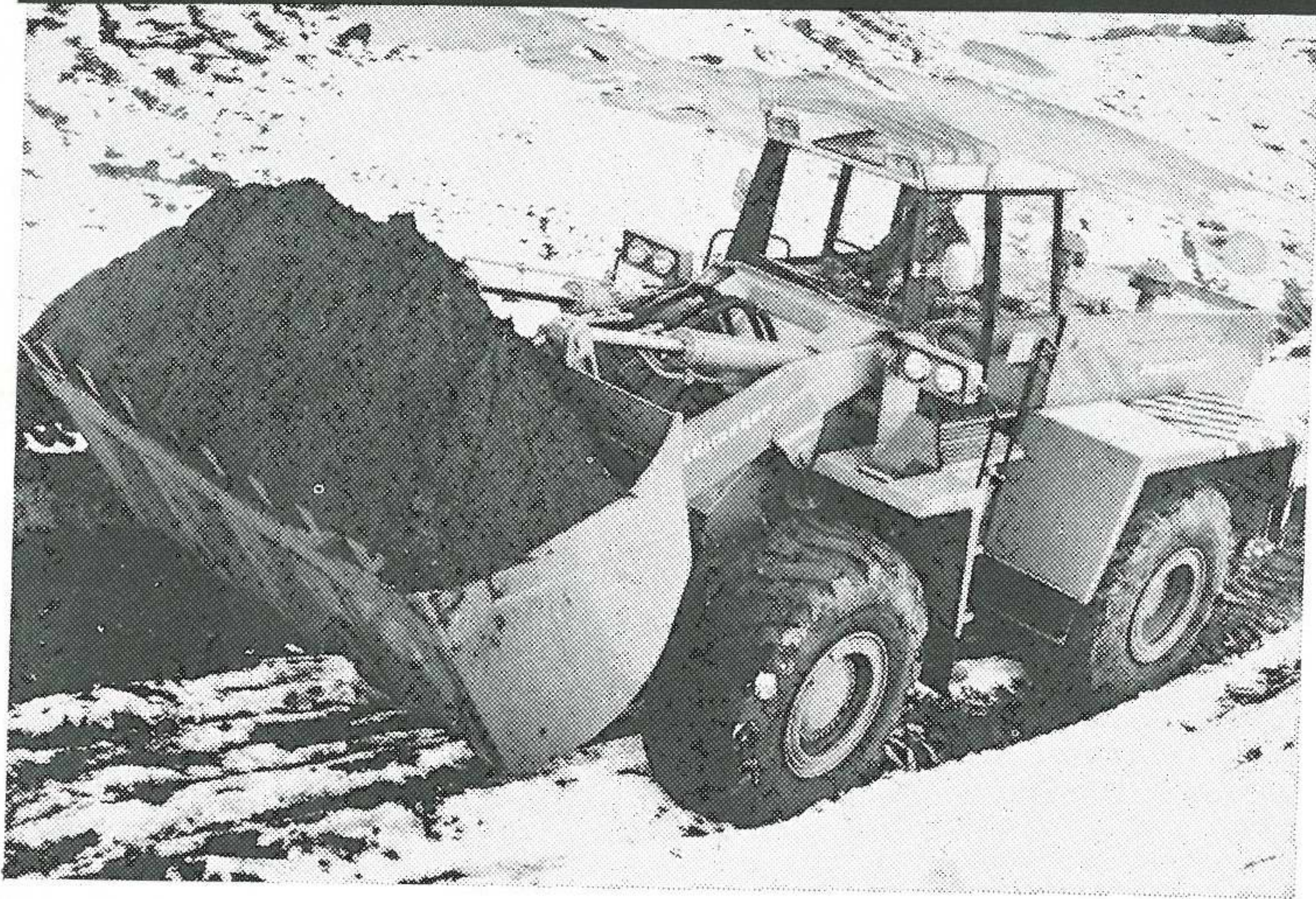
No other footballer in any province can point to such a rating each year on the provincial scale in the same period.

Some might knock this wonderful Sheehy record on the grounds that he has still to take the coveted premier position nationally in an annual chart for

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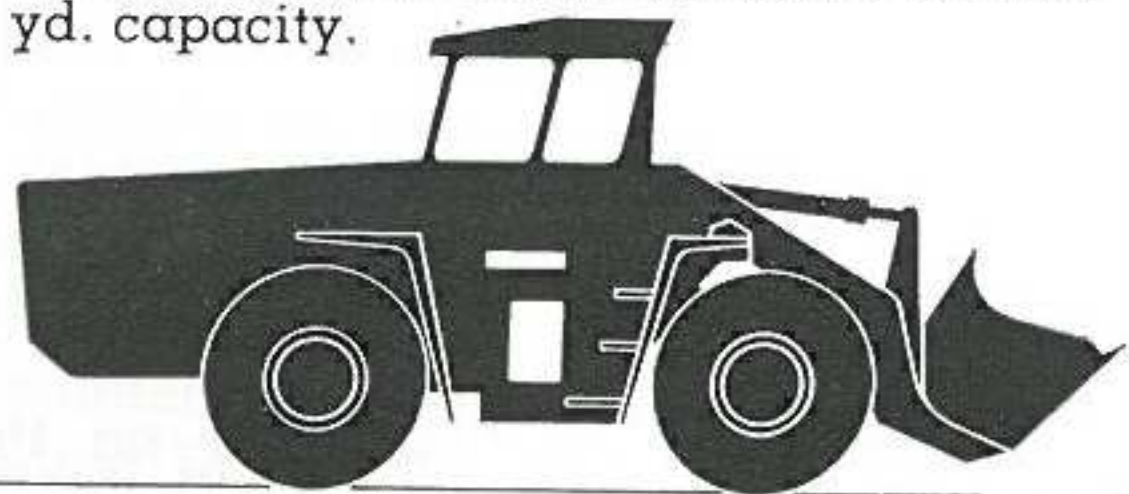
By Owen McCann

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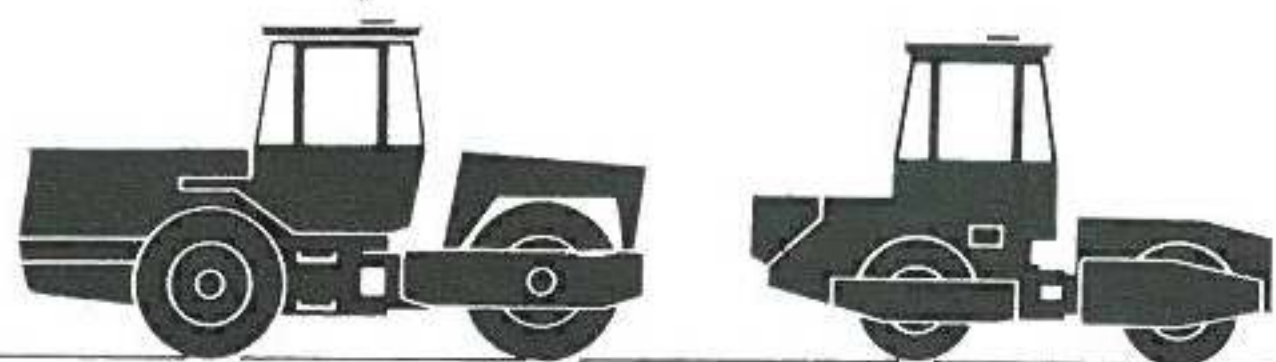


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all competitions and challenge games—a distinction, incidentally, no Munster footballer has achieved since O'Dwyer back in 1971.

I would immediately counter that on two levels:

ONE—The accurate shooter from the Kingdom has already achieved much more in the goals and points stakes than most forwards of his own age.

TWO—As he is only 25, time is still very much on the side of Sheehy not only to get the South back “in out of the cold” in the listings of annual chart-toppers nationally, but to go on to some impressive achievements of his own in this regard.

The Austin Stacks club man had his best annual haul in 1976, when he finished in second place in Ireland with 89 points (10-59) in 16 games. That is also one of the leading annual markers in recent years.

There is another little known fact that gives a further dimension to Michael Sheehy's special position in Southern scoring records of late. The South's bid for a record five Railway Cup football titles on the trot was only spiked at the final hurdle by Ulster last March, and during that great sequence, Sheehy knocked home 5-27 (42 points) in seven appearances, to finish as the top scorer for the run. He also played in all final winning teams, except 1975.

Michael Sheehy lost no time in getting among the goals and the medals at All-Ireland final level. As a 19-year-old he was the finisher who punched home a

goal nine minutes from time against Mayo at Ennis in the 1973 All-Ireland under-21 final to prompt Kerry to victory.

His points scoring was one of the best features as the “Young Lions” of Kerry shocked the polished and confident Dubliners in the 1975 showdown for the Sam Maguire Cup.

And (shades of 1978!), I also still vividly recall how Michael Sheehy himself virtually “killed” Dublin hopes in an All-Ireland under-21 final.

The game was the 1975 summit, played at Tipperary Town, and it was Sheehy who grabbed a goal with the match only seconds old, and went on to provide further instances of his lethal finishing by slotting over six valuable points. Kerry had five points to spare at the final whistle.

Those early years as a senior and under-21 inter-county footballer were highly successful ones for the speedy and clever forward, as he was also on duty when Kerry won the National League in 1974.

He has come a long way since those days, and also provided some of the best moments in football, both with his creative general play, and in the most valuable aspect of all in forward play—notching the scores from play and frees. As a free-taker, in fact, he must hold his own with the very best football has ever seen.

A cool, confident and patient approach sees him turn most frees from scoreable positions into scores, and that is a key reason why Kerry have enjoyed

so many successes of late.

Michael Sheehy collected a second National League medal in 1977, when Dublin were beaten in the decider. His stellar role in the downfall of the Dubs in last year's Sam Maguire Cup tie brought an added bonus as the Kerry marksman supreme was later honoured by the Carrolls All Stars selectors. That was his second such award, the first having been gained in 1976.

Despite the heavy demands of inter-county and provincial fare, Michael Sheehy has also maintained his high standard of play and accuracy throughout his career on the club scene. It was in such a setting, in fact, that he put over one of the best points I have seen at Croke Park in any football match—club or inter-county.

The score was from a sideline kick underneath the Hogan Stand, some 21 yards out from the Railway goal late into the 1977 Austin Stacks-Ballerin (Derry) All-Ireland final. There was also a tricky wind to contend with, but Sheehy judged all the elements superbly to float over a peach of a point.

The score edged the Kerry champions into a one point lead, with less than five minutes remaining, and they eventually added another title to the Kingdom's collection.

In every possible way, then, Michael Sheehy has had a very busy and highly competitive spell in his early years in big time football—and has earned a Master's Degree in all aspects. Who is there to argue that the best is not yet to come?

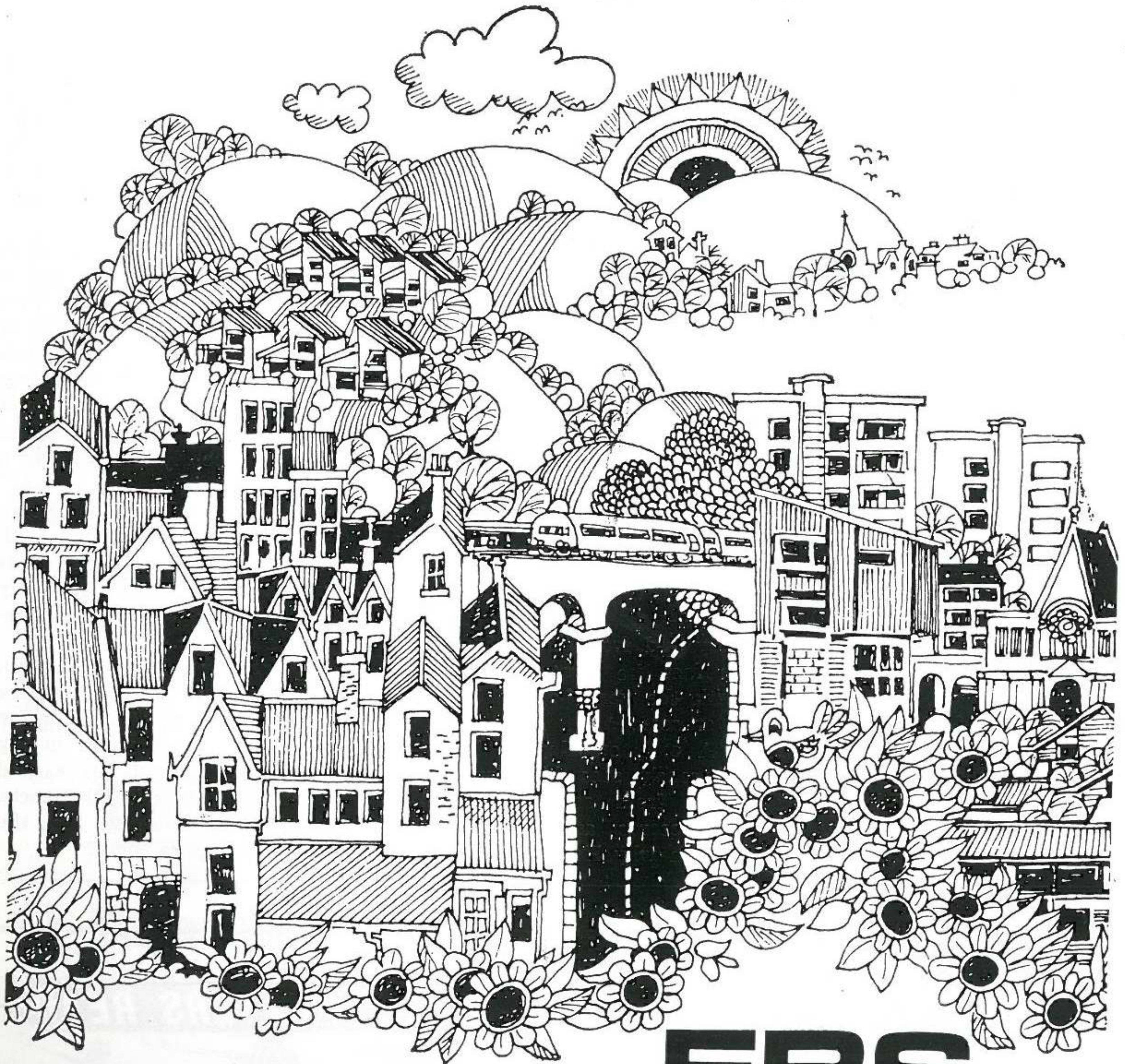
GAELIC SPORT—THE MAGAZINE THE PLAYERS READ

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Look what they've done to your game!

By EAMONN YOUNG

A FEW years ago I read of a document which said that the youth of today were going to blaze and that life generally had deteriorated so much that it was doubtful if the high standard of former years could ever again be restored. Perhaps the writer was on the ball. He was a Chinaman of four thousand years ago. He would meet many adherents today.

It is fashionable and unfortunately often correct to bewail today's standards in society and in that important facet of it called sport. In our own games there is always something to be criticised and indeed that is a good thing, for games change along with the people and often have to be changed back again. Criticism also is based, at times, on mood and it is very true that we do sometimes look at games through really jaundiced eyes one day, while on the next occasion we bring out our most expensive rose-coloured glasses. I try to bear these things in mind when I'm asked if the games are deteriorating as a spectacle.

Far from going back, some aspects of football have improved. The modern ball is far easier to drive and so the dead ball kicking of today is generally improved. In addition the regularity of the penalty-kick award has urged men to practise this shot which, apart from its mathematical merit, is a wonderful moment to raise the spectator pulse-

beat.

Players are togged out more stylishly now. The cut of a man's togs doesn't improve his game any more than making the sign of the cross before taking a free increases accuracy, but the tasty and colourful rig-out of today's men with the numbers on their backs (in almost all grades of competition) is a distinct improvement. Punctuality, not by any means the strongest point of the Celtic fraternity, is also improved, and no matter how we may criticise journalistic hysteria, and the far flung metaphors (often mixed) of our enthusiastic scribblers—self included—we will admit that the newspapers, the radio and television have all combined to open a colourful window from which we can see and observe the manly struggle of man with man in this wonderful thing called sport.

In some ways I suppose we have gone back, but then such retrograde movement, if indeed there is, may be only temporary and can so easily be remedied at annual conferences.

Generally I am against scoring with the hand in both games, feeling that the more we depart from the kick or the stick, the less will be the character of the pastime denoted by the name. There is however a fisted score in football which has always raised my heart, and that's the ball that rockets off the fist of a corner forward who comes tear-



ing in from the side and launching his body with power, grace, and precision connects with the leather and drives it to the net. Most of those scores are now outlawed and thus I feel we have removed an exciting skill. With the aid of the camera and a few hours study I think we should be able to work out a rule that would allow it back.

Soccer is a good game though I boast no real knowledge. Its restriction to one score and the outlawing of those important things called hands, makes it for many an artificial game, which perhaps grew because it was suitable to confined spaces, which eventually developed confined mentalities. Soccer will set the pulse racing no doubt but will, I fear, give it many, many, periods of boredom. Rugby where virility has not been restricted so much, retains the affection of its followers, and more important makes them really excited very often over the game period. In recent times some decent and misguided men have been working sincerely at what they call cleaning up our games. Sad to relate they are likely to be completely successful if the present trend towards emasculation continues.

Once men charged in on the goalie and tried to put him through the back of the net. Then the backs decided that this wouldn't happen and there was

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Brangan Luhmann Knight

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great gas with a few chaps getting belted in the process. A lot of it was overdone and the time came when we decided the goalie would be charged only from the side. But simply because too many refs didn't give the forwards fair play the rule had to be changed to stop the tough full-back from converting the square into Hell's Kitchen. Now the thing has deteriorated into a derisive spectacle of the football goalie hopping the ball, as in soccer, while he makes up his mind to whom he will hand pass the leather. All very stylish, but where is the goalmouth excitement, gone? And remember when we reduce excitement we reduce the game. Look at the venom of Borg in tennis or the ferocity of Joe Frazier in the ring. Class wins our applause but what tears at our guts and sends us roaring is the struggle.

It is not true that in today's football the shoulder is outlawed, but it is true that many fair shoulders are punished by frees, simply because so many refs have been trained in the drawing-room school, and abhor such punishment. It is logical to assume that to carry on this emasculation will turn away the more virile spectators and players to rugby, and attract a few substitutes who would normally be happier in the excellent game of table tennis.

And of course we must do something about the hand-passing. That is hardly the correct name, for throwing is more accurate. When I was young the thing had been perfected by Kildare and after them by Cavan until Alf Murray, Kevin Armstrong, Harry O'Neill and the others from Armagh and Antrim, all fine players, waltzed their way through the best defences in the land. Backs gritted their teeth and gave punishment, some fair, and some foul. Eventually An-



● Goalmouth excitement from yesteryear. Down's Sean O'Neill (fist raised) attempts to fist the ball past Galway defenders Noel Tierney and Johnny Geraghty in the 1968 N.F.L. semi-final.

trim themselves seeing a deterioration, proposed the abolition of the handpass.

To-day the throwing is quite efficient and I wish they would all stop talking about the way to handpass the ball. Let's throw it honestly and be done with it, and let's throw a dozen balls into the other fellows net. Let him do the same if he can. And then we can as Doney O'Sullivan of Kildarney suggested in a national newspaper about two years ago, invite over a team of tall basketballers from Alabama to play the All-Ireland champions. The Americans would probably win.

At the moment I think if a trainer works very hard at a

team's speed and quick reaction, if he speeds up their hand-passing and increases their accuracy with the hand, if he gets them to use the solo-run as complement to the ball-throwing skill, his side will be hard to beat. But will he have a football team? That's for the followers of football to decide. I can only hope that some day we'll go back to the game where passing the ball with palm or fist solo-running, shouldering, fetching, kicking and blocking down are all allied to manliness, courage and roguery to re-make this, the great game of Gaelic football, a pastime which just now perhaps we are losing.

The faces now in shadow yet shine in our memories

ONE of the eternally-interesting aspects of competition is the never-ending stream of new players. Very often they are young; sometimes they've been around for a while but nobody has heard of them. Then one day they come, bathed in light, out of the shadows and stay with us in manly glory until the wheel turns its inexorable way and they join the rest of us on the line.

In Munster just now there are hundreds of hardy fellows in their teens and twenties whose faces may yet shine in our memories. It takes a lot to make the grade. The initial ability is only the entrance fee to the game and this has to be developed, sharpened, and refined over the years until the man of twenty-five is four times as good as when he was twenty. A man is a man at twenty, undoubtedly, but he doesn't become a crafty, scheming, determined and versatile competitor until he has had further training and above all more time to think about his play.

To the dismay of so many sportsmen the All-Ireland football champions recently saw fit to humiliate hopeful Clare and destroy some of the confidence built up by genuine men. But Clare will be back, perhaps in Connacht, with young players working to get through the stone wall created by teams from a greater population area, which breathes the air of sophistication. Jim MacGrath the Dublin-based Garda at twenty, Noel Nor-

By

EAMONN YOUNG

moyle the Kilmichil midfielder, seventy-three inches at eighteen, Declan Casey the full forward who had 1-1 on John O'Keeffe in the championship, twenty year old Paddy O'Shea of Kilkee, a

centre forward and Noel Roche a nineteen-year-old also from Kilkee, are all men who will carry the Clare flag further. The aim of the men behind the teams now is to gain more success. This

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shadows may memories

will not be achieved by being over-matched. The solution sought by agile minds, of which the county produces more than the average quota, I have always thought, will indeed be interesting. In football P. J. Kennedy, Joe Hurley and Noel Walsh will have something to say about it.

Waterford have sent out some grand footballers over the years and in my own youth, pride often suffered at the unceremonious hands of Déise sons. To-day the

flying John Hennessy from Ard Mór is the county's foremost player and his Railway Cup medal was richly earned. Power and speed packed into a compact body along with grand ball-control on the solo make Hennessy a formidable opponent. Then there's the Stradbally half-back Michael Coffey whose alertness and quick dashes outfield make him a very tasty player. Richard Dunford his clubmate is a natural centre-fielder with a



Denis 'Ogie' Moran (left) and Ger Power (right), both of Kerry, are helping to train Tipp's under age players in the arts and skills of football.

grand appetite for work and the tall Micheál Phelan of Affane near Cappoquin combines a clever head with swerve and a slim strong pair of legs. On his day Phelan is a class player. Tom Casey who has played some fine games also with the Déise hurlers is accurate from the dead ball and in the half-forward line plays with a poise and steadiness that enables him to pick off the vital scores while Tramore's Billy Fleming is another of Waterford's bunch which like all the sides that don't appear in Croke Park simply lack a few extra good men that the playing population of the stronger counties throws up. But the man who always personifies for me the spirit and power of Waterford is the big centre-fielder Tom Moore of Dunhill. Son of Ned Moore, himself a powerful man in the Waterford jersey thirty years ago, and first cousin of that grand athlete Georgie Bennett of Killeady in Cork as well as Osmond Bennett the Tipp trainer, Tom Moore the young farmer would win his place on any side in the land.

Limerick have a bunch of young players who one of these days are going to make us all take notice if the coaching and organising now being done by

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Tim Ryan of Galbally, Des Mac Donnell and Dave Weldrick the Dublinman who trains the youth of Ireland in the P.E. school at Castletroy is followed up. Michael Quish the farmer's son from Galbally, at 22 has won Railway Cup recognition and inspires the young lads. Tim Cummins the minor who scored five neat points against Clare, a strong and clever half forward, Sean Landers of

Kilmallock, an improving half back and his clubmate Barra O'Dwyer along with the dual players Pat Collins of Croom and Gerald Magner of Kileedy are all men of the future.

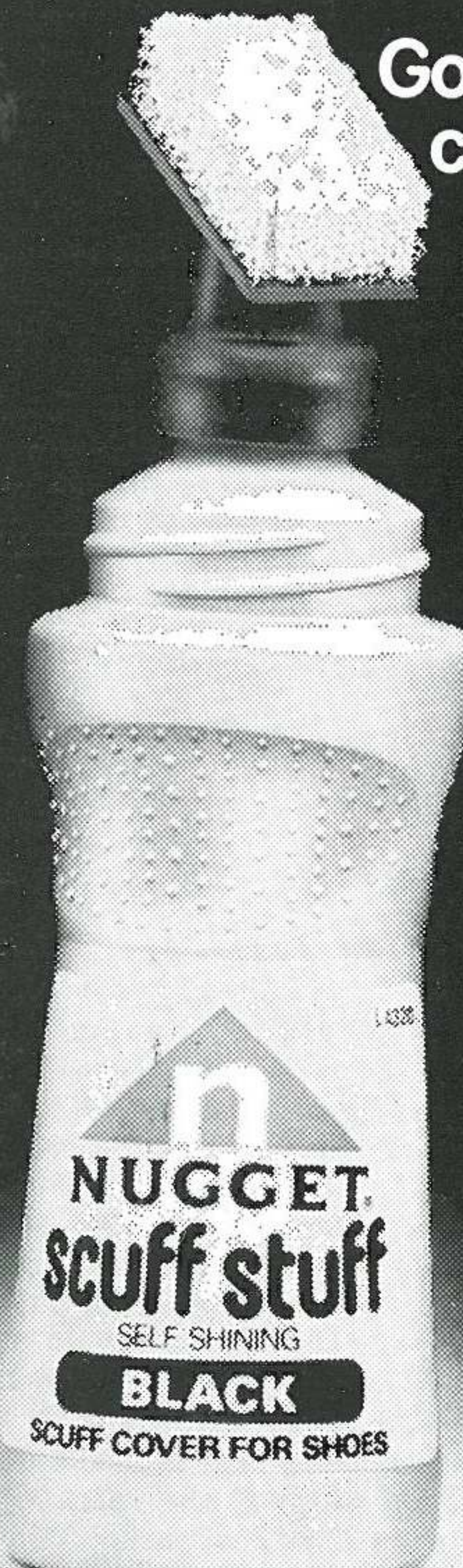
Eugene Coffey of na Piarsaigh another half back, Timmy Burke of Drumcollogher and Derek Mac Carthy who captained the county minor football side this year are three more with their eyes on the future but perhaps the most

promising of the lot is young Anthony Howard of Croom, centre back on the county minor side. He plays in the goal with the Croom senior hurling side and it seems only a matter of time before he moves out the field to take on further responsibilities which, people expect, will be steadily shouldered by his seventy-four inch frame. With continued encouragement Limerick's young men will soon be heard of and when one remembers that Monaleen gave Austin Stacks a great game in the club championship it is easy to suggest that if the dedication lasts there will be a break-through. An important fact in that game was that no less than six of the Monaleen side were minors.

Mick Frawley the chairman of the Munster Council who played his heart out for Tipp in the sixties is the driving force behind the coaching and organising being done these days in Munster. In Clonmel among the several who show their affection in a very practical way for Tipp football is the urgent and consistent John McNamara, whose hope is that in every Tipp club there will be a dedicated and qualified coach and trainer. In Tipp they were very happy that men like Gene MacCarthy of Cork, Mick Fleming and Pat Griffin of Kerry, Mick Kilcoyne of Westmeath, Ger Power of the present Kerry side combined with John Whelan and Pat Moroney of Clonmel to train the young lads in the Spring. Especially welcome was the affable instruction and pleasant personality from Pallaskenry Ogie Moran. If such men return to Clonmel in the Autumn I feel they'll do a lot of good for coaching and along with the good Tipp players of the senior side they could lay out a path of real advancement for the youth.

Sean Kearney a grand player

Good players take care of their boots.



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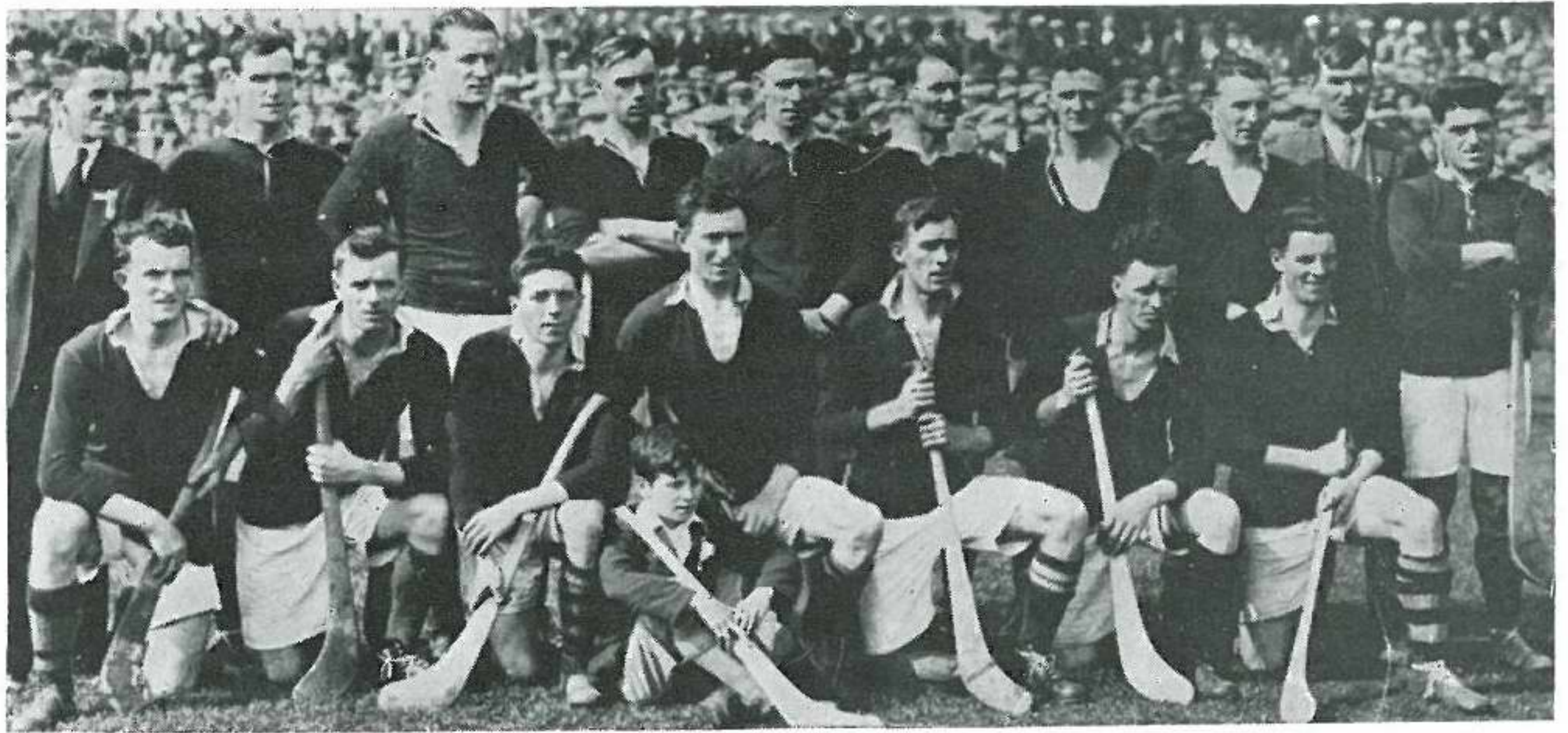
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● FROM OPPOSITE PAGE

now based in Mitchelstown, Gene MacGrath the Railway Cup player also teaching in Pallas-kenry, Tom MacGrath of Loughmore who packs a powerful shot in that left foot, John Keane of Fethard a tidy player with a big heart, nineteen years old Paudie O'Neill of Commercial who has a long drive on a dead ball and reminds one of Kerry's Paudie O'Shea . . . these are the boys who form the framework of the Tipp side backed up by men on the line who in spite of many defeats continue to work for the break-through. It was encouraging for them to hear the sophisticated and critical Phil Shea who starred with the fine Tipp sides of the thirties, approve the progressive work of the present Tipp organisers and this is only a step on the ladder.

Kerry's squad of best players is reasonably young and many of them will keep going for a long time. There are a few more coming along, perhaps not quite as many as older Kerry men would wish but then these Kingdom judges ask for such a high

standard—and they're right of course—that they are slow to talk about any young player unless he's very promising. Joe Keohane after the under-21 game in which they were beaten by Cork commented favourably on the stylish half forward John MacElligott whose speed and ball control made me his admirer also before the game was up. Gabriel Casey a very competent half back is a son of Bill's and so a cousin of Dublin's Brian Mullins. This young slim and tidily-built half back kicks a good ball for Lis-pole and may be heard of again. There's a forward in the Legion named Diarmuid O'Donoghue who has learned his football well in a good school and we'll see him again while the big man in every sense of the word is the Spa all-rounder Tim O'Regan who stands almost six and a half feet with a pair of shoulders and legs to match. Tim is a star basket-ball player and now that he's moving faster than a few years ago we may hear more of this fellow who looks like a big brother of Owen Liston.

In Cork the younger men are also making their way up. Brian MacSweeney of Millstreet. Jimmy Murphy of Castletownbere, Jim Kerrigan of Nemo, Mick Moloney the centre back from Macroom are all following on the heels of the high-catching Vincent Coakley, and the fast moving corner man Christy Kearney. Sean Murphy after a spell at law studies is back at right half forward . . . a good player, and we may yet see Baile Mhuirne's Diarmuid Mac Cárthaigh turn the lights that shone in his minor days full on in the senior arena.

Many more young men there are in Munster, whose names I have not quoted and who, I hope, will show both myself and the reader in the next few years that they should have been included here. To them all I take off my cap. Let the best horse jump the ditch, and may our hottest endeavour, our greatest games always be crowned not by the mature craft of wisdom and age but the glorious abandon of tempestuous youth.

Save for something special

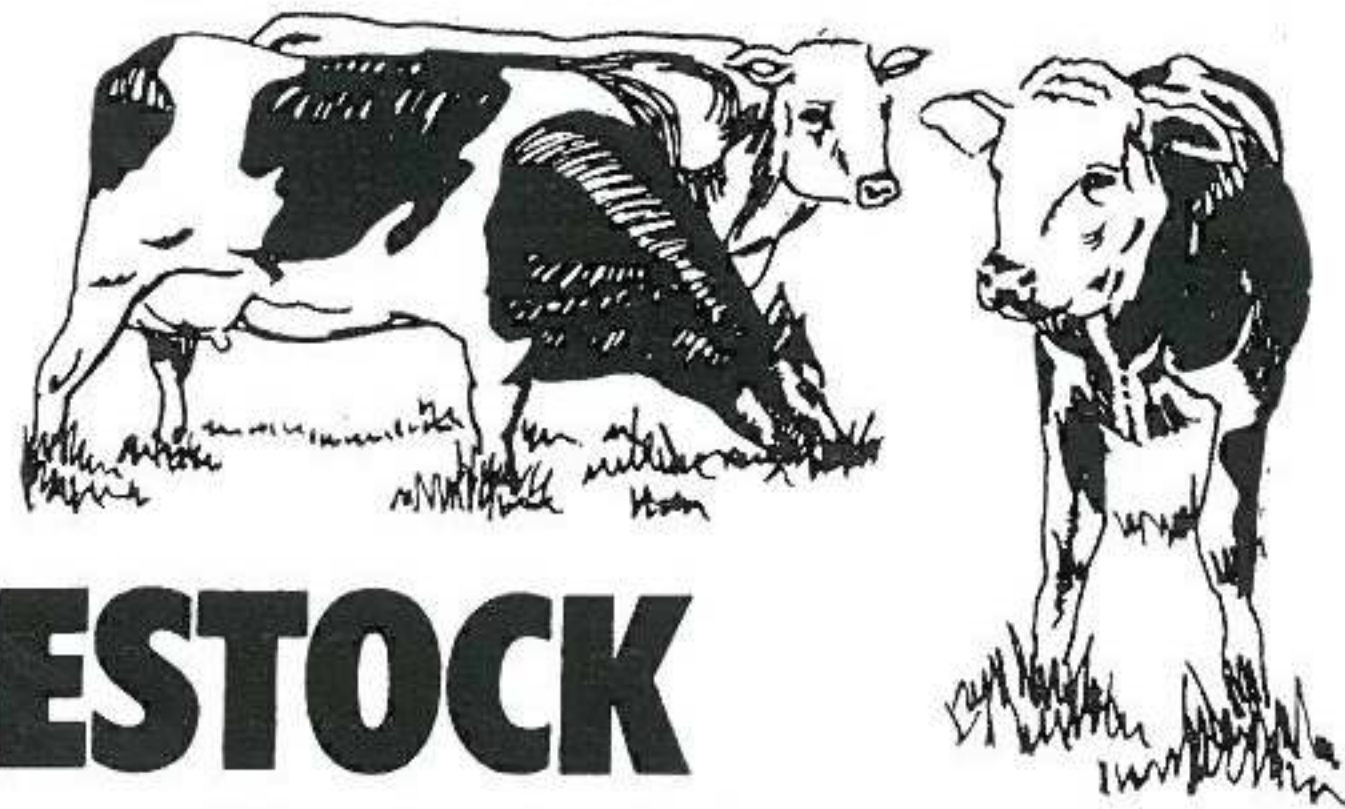


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Game fires on all pistons

HANDBALL memories during the past six months were many and varied and provided a pointer for me that the game is firing on all pistons. The year opened in a blaze of excitement as the International Trials made their entry and for the next six weeks entertained the handball fan with many thrilling games.

In the final analysis, Peadar McGee, that great Mayo exponent of the handball code won out in the final of the Open Trials and thus joins the Ryan Brothers, Tony and Noel, from Ballypatrick in County Tipperary, winners of the under 22 section, on a trip to the U.S.A. later in the year.

That party will be completed, one need hardly mention, by Pat Kirby, who was chosen automatically in view of his complete mastery of the 40 x 20 code.

It is interesting to note that in the case of the Ryans it was the first time ever for a family combination to achieve the distinction.

Indeed, as one might expect from the tension of such trials, there were the inevitable hard luck stories. I recollect, for instance, that Pat Delaney of Offaly was generally tipped to be a strong contender, but when the chips were really down his effort failed.

Then there was Michael Henighan of Mayo, who followed one good display with an even better one, only to fail at the final hurdle.

As Spring dawned, the Gael-Linn Competitions, now re-struct-

ured to cope with the traditional and American-styled courts, came to finality with Pat Kirby again proving supreme at the 40 x 20 code and Kildare's Tom O'Rourke carving a new niche for himself by winning the 60 x 30 title. That win set O'Rourke on a course that could, in the very near future, bring him to the top rung in Irish Handball.

About this time, too, one was confronted with the usual ritual of conventions and general meetings, but the Annual Congress of the Irish Handball Council did provide me with a number of memories. Not the least of these were the spontaneous plaudits given to Joe Lynch, who had completed a twenty-five year term as Secretary of the Council.

Joe, it was recalled, was one of the most dedicated handball administrators ever to appear on the scene and had literally "stuck with it", even when the grey clouds did not appear to have a silver lining.

That Congress was also noteworthy for the fact that the appointment of part-time paid handball officials at provincial level was mooted for the first time. In the intervening months that same idea has been developed considerably, to the extent that it will become a permanent facet in the structure of the game, in the very near future.

Tom Walsh, President of the Irish Handball Council, is the chief motivator behind this scheme, and he is of the opinion that the work of these officers would be complementary to that

of the existing officials, without interfering with existing structures.

Back to the ballcourts and to my star of the past six months.

He is Mike McDonnell, who won an All-Ireland 40 x 20 Novice Doubles Title for Mayo. Nothing extraordinary about that might be the justifiable retort until one realises that in achieving his ambition McDonnell made the journey from New York, where he is based, for each of his matches.

In the circumstances his ultimate victory was widely and deservedly acclaimed.

The Willwood Tailteann Championships have, as usual, produced their quota of thrills and provided young players from all parts of the country with valuable exercise and competition for the last couple of months.

The occasion could not be allowed pass without paying special tribute to the young Kilkenny player, Billy Burke. He won a Willwood Tailteann Gold medal this year for the sixth consecutive time, thus setting a record that is not likely to be erased for many a day.

The Coca Cola Championships have also been in full swing for the past couple of months, and such has been their keen competitive element, that it is very difficult to make predictions.

Handball, viewed from practically any angle has flourished in the first half of this year, and, if it maintains its present momentum, the 1979 memory lane will be a pleasant one for the handball journeyman.



G.A.A.

ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINALS

i bPairc an Chrócaigh

5 August, 1979: CORCAIGH v GAILLIMH

IN SENIOR AND MINOR HURLING

12 August, 1979: ULAIDH v MUMHA

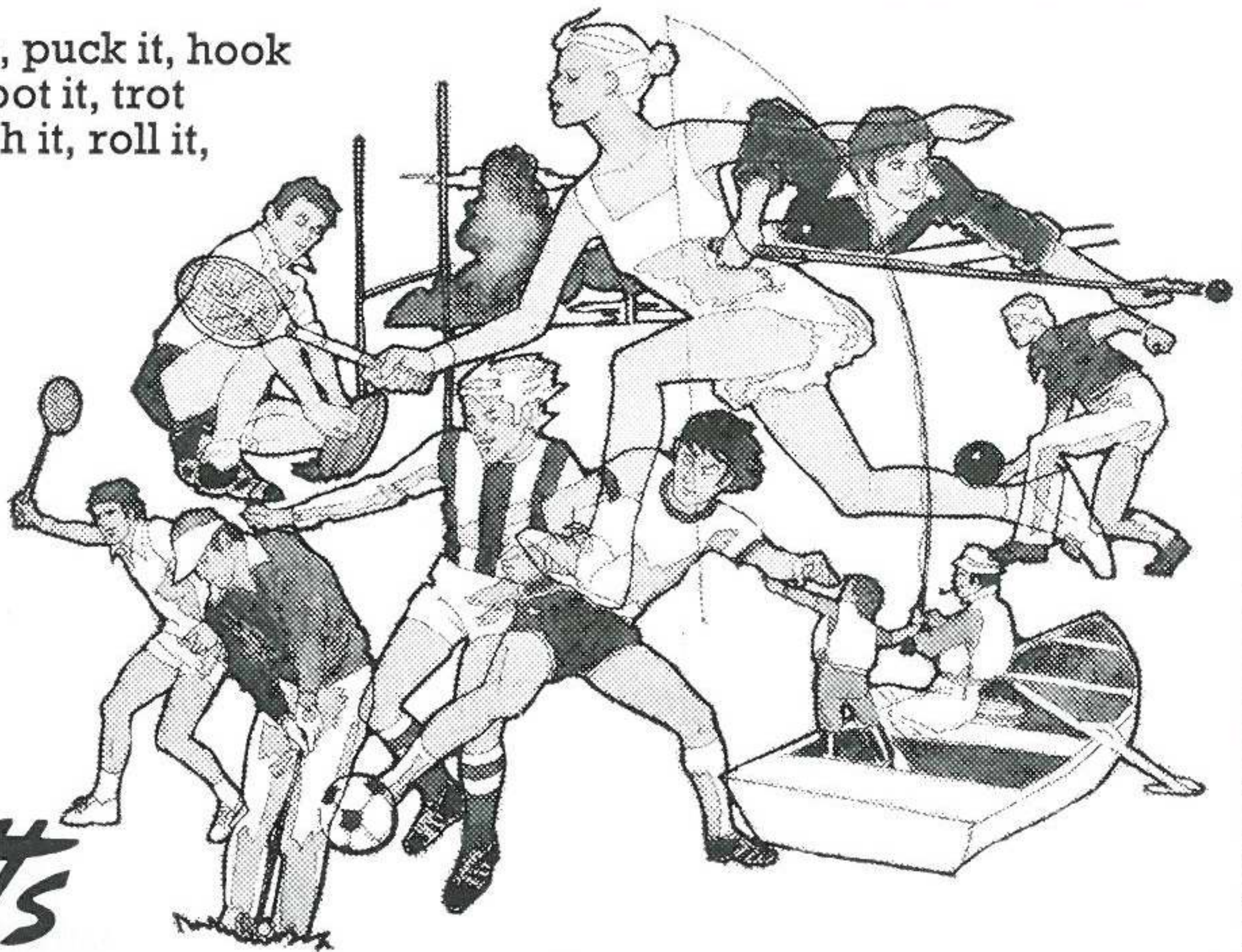
IN SENIOR AND MINOR FOOTBALL

19 August, 1979:

CONNACHTA v LAIGHIN

IN SENIOR AND MINOR FOOTBALL

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Book Review

LEGION HISTORY SETS A SPLENDID STANDARD



Pat Spillane

BY TONY KEEGAN

A HISTORY of any club, no matter how well researched and attractively produced, or how famed the club concerned, can more often than not, prove of little genuine interest to the non-member. That, however, is not a weakness that can be levelled at **"A Legion of Memories"**, a history of Killarney Legion G.A.A. Club, 1929-1979.

This is one of the most appealing and ambitious publications of its kind, in fact, that I have come across. It is eye catching for a start, with 196 big pages of informative articles, photographs running to 200, and cartoons, all set off by a splendid full colour cover. All in all, a thoroughly professional presentation.

And, points of interest for enthusiasts outside of Killarney, and Kerry? Well, take some comments by Johnny Culloty on the hand-pass.

Culloty, of course, is a Legion club man, and led Kerry from goal to their "coming of age" All-Ireland senior football title in 1969. In a splendid feature by Ian O'Leary, Culloty, who started his senior inter-county football career as a forward, reveals that he feels "there is much more bunching in the game today than in his own playing years, and he lays the blame for this on the handpassing and the development of the game into a type of basketball".

Gerald O'Sullivan, another former county footballer, is also critical of the handpass. He was one of the stars of the Legion team that won the club's first county senior football title in 1946, and was in the Kerry party for the historic Polo Grounds All-Ireland final of 1947 in New York. He won All-Ireland medals in 1953 and 1955. O'Sullivan says that "most scores of the handpass variety can be deemed a foul".

Jackie Lyne is one of the all-time greats of Killarney and Kerry football. A brilliant defender, who got among the Railway Cup and All-Ireland senior medals in the late 'Forties and early 'Fifties, he has some eye catching remarks on goalkeepers:

"The goalie of today is like a spoilt child used to getting his own way; he is minding everyone's business instead of minding the net, the job he was picked to do."

Pat Spillane is not a member of the Legion club, but he has strong family connections with the club. He records in an article in the publication that his late father, Tom Spillane, was a Legion player, and also probably earned a unique ranking by winning a Railway Cup medal with Munster in 1948, even though he never played senior championship football with Kerry. I am convinced, too, that non natives

of the Kingdom will find much fascinating reading in the highlights of the club's history, which are detailed over every year from the foundation.

Here is just one little gem: The club's first set of jerseys were bought from a sum of £25 earned from a promotion that saw the introduction of electric hares for coursing to Killarney in 1929.

Eleven attended the inaugural meeting of Killarney Legion in March 1929. An indication of the tremendous development in the half century that has passed since then is shown by the growth of the membership to three hundred, and the number of football teams to eleven.

"A Legion of Memories" was produced by a committee chaired by Weeshie Fogarty, the well-known referee, who recently became the first to introduce the yellow and red cards to football and hurling.

This committee can feel justifiably proud of the finished product. It is the first club history to be published in Kerry, and will make a splendid addition to any enthusiast's library. I have no hesitation in recommending the publication wholeheartedly.

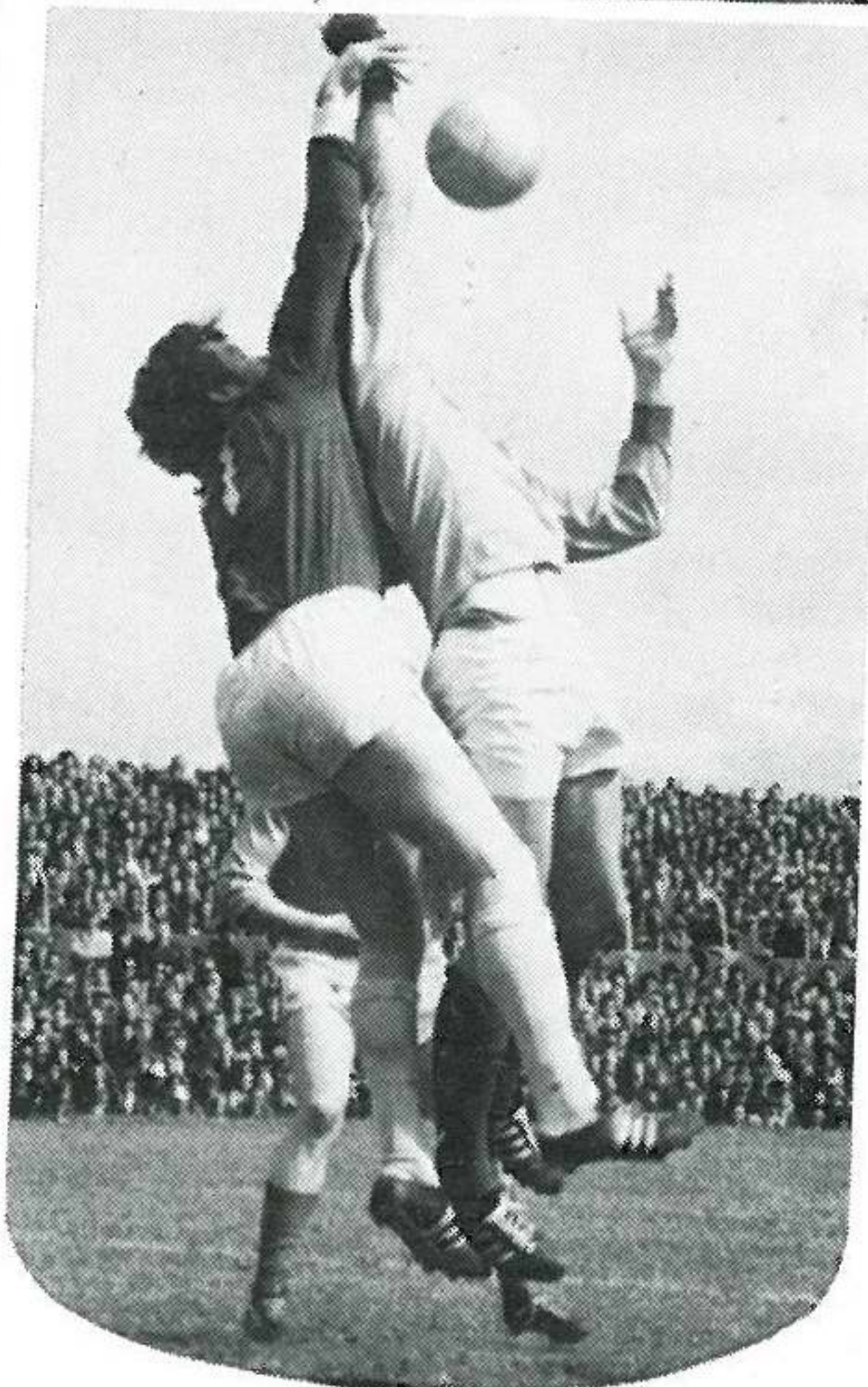
"A Legion of Memories", A History of Killarney Legion G.A.A. Club, 1929-1979. Editor: Finbarr Slattery. Available directly from 24 O'Sullivan's Place, Killarney. £3 (incl. postage).

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SENSIBLE MOTORING

By Joe Collins

AS we approach All-Ireland Final time there is going to be a lot of travelling done by G.A.A. fans. Whether it is going to see your favourite team training or coming up for the All-Irelands themselves, sensible motoring is to be recommended.

With the cost of petrol and the uncertainty of supply uppermost in our minds, strict petrol economy is here to stay. The idea is to cut down your driving to the essentials and do your driving the right way.

A lot of petrol can be saved by going easy on the accelerator; the harder you press the quicker the petrol flows. Smooth acceleration cuts petrol consumption.

The engine will only perform economically if it is regularly tuned and serviced. If you cannot do it yourself, expert attention is always available at your local garage. With regard to the engine, a basic economy check includes spark plugs and points, ignition timing, idling speed and air filter. A badly tuned car can use up to 50% more fuel than a correctly tuned one. Find out in your car handbook what the correct tyre pressure is and check it weekly—do not forget the spare!

Always maintain a comfortable cruising speed. The speed limit is 55 m.p.h. and most cars are at their most economical between 30-40 m.p.h. At any speed pick

the gear in which the engine neither labours nor races. Get into top gear whenever you can—it is by far the most economical. The choke should be used spar-

ingly and shut off when the engine is warm.

A good idea is to try and think ahead and steer clear of traffic jams and rush-hour congestion.

● OVERLEAF

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gether and should only be switched on for a minute at a time. It might be a good idea to have an automatic cut-out switch attached to this. For winter driving remember that the heated rear window is not a de-icer but a demister and ice should be cleared from the back window manually.

In ordinary conditions once your battery is correctly fitted in the car you can leave it alone between servicing. Only in very hot weather will it be necessary to top it up. If there is need to top it up only use pure water. In most parts of Ireland tap water will do the job but you should check this with your local garage to make sure. The top of the battery should be dry and clean and terminals should be smeared with petroleum jelly.

And make sure you Buy Guaranteed Irish.

● FROM OVERLEAF

Weight that is not necessary, such as a roof-rack or golf clubs in the boot, should be carried only when required.

There are many other aids to sensible motoring such as car sharing arrangements on alternate days — with someone driving the same route 50% of fuel can be saved. If there is a train or bus going your way it is 100% saving and no parking problems at the other end!

A point sometimes missed by motorists is that money spent on servicing is money well spent. With motoring costs soaring the

temptation is to “cut corners” here. If you do, the safe life of your car is shortened and in the long run it will cost you a lot more money. Servicing by a qualified person can also spot trouble before it becomes critical and makes rectification less expensive.

Your manual, the least read book in your home, should be carefully read. It is no good waiting for the car to break down on a country road before reading this essential book. Careful attention to the correct running sound of the engine and noticing any change in perform-

ance can give advance warning of impending disaster. Always keep a torch in your car and make sure there are batteries in it.

As you set off for the All-Ireland series this year, what you are going to need more than anything else is plenty of energy. You have often heard the expression — “If you drink don’t drive” — but a couple of bottles of Lucozade will see you there and back in good health and leave you with plenty of voice to encourage your favourite team — don’t forget a couple for the kids as well!

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● The 1975 Galway team. Galway that year caused a major surprise by beating Cork in the All-Ireland semi-final.

Galway—pleased to face Cork

SAYS JAY DRENNAN

THE emergence of Cork from the province as champions of Munster for the fifth time in a row would normally be expected to strike most future opponents with a spirit of foreboding. Cork are now such an experienced and such a complete team, compensating with ease for any indecision or weakness that might surface anywhere.

But they are now to meet Galway and Galway see no such reasons as we have cited for feeling that they will have to bow the knee to the Rebels. In fact, Galway may well be pleased that it was Cork which reached the semi-final stage rather than some surprise packet. They know Cork. Besides they have every good reason to believe that they are able for them.

Galway will remember, and many of those playing will have reason to boast that they were in the line-out that guzzled Cork for the best part of half an hour in the semi-final of 1975 and held

out to win and make a rare All-Ireland final appearance.

Though the final outcome was less satisfactory in 1977, nevertheless Cork had to struggle and Galway made their best efforts to thwart them. In a League play-off just over a year ago they held Cork scoreless through the first half and beat them out of sight. Why then should Galway fear Cork?

Though these and other games with Galway suggest that Cork have had as much or more trouble from Galway as they had from any team, it need not necessarily be so again. You cannot

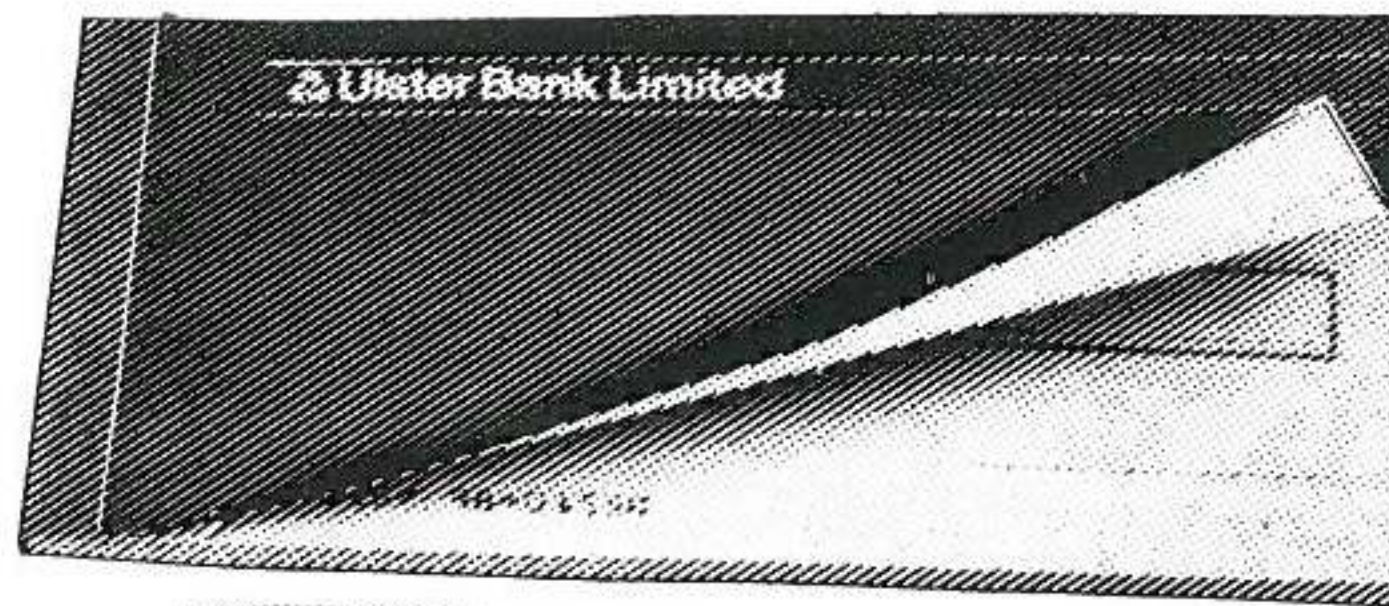
deny the possibility though and that lends uncertainty.

Strangely the defeat in the League final at the hands of Tipperary need not be a cause for writing Galway's chances down to nil. The fact that they reached that final may now be more significant. Realisation of the position in which they found themselves with all their time dribbling away and nothing yet achieved of what they set out to do in 1975, may well bring Galway to the decision to make one more great drive for the top.

Changes have been made: forwards are in short supply, it is true, but, if forwards are not there they will try backs—or so the selectors have indicated. It is a bold policy; it guarantees no certain victories; but it might

● TO PAGE 48

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GOOD NEWS FOR CLUBS

By Owen McCann

If at first you do not succeed try again" . . . that age old adage came home to me once more when I was considering the ambitious G.A.A. Club of the Year award launched recently by the Allied Irish Banks, and details of which were published in last month's issue.

The reason the saying struck me so forcibly was that on going over the details of the promotion yet again I thought one aspect did not come across quite as strongly as it might, and is well worth stressing here.

This has to do with participation, and a splendid incentive for clubs taking part in the inaugural scheme. Those who fail to "make" the awards this season will, on entry again in 1980-81, be awarded marks for improvements in performances over the year. Thus, participation this season could help to lead to greater things for the clubs that fail to get among the awards.

The idea — and a very laudable one it certainly is — is to encourage clubs to keep on trying.

Allied Irish Banks have produced a very attractive and informative booklet giving full details of the scheme. This may be obtained at any AIB branch office, and also contains the official Entry Form.

Having held positions in clubs in a number of counties, I fully appreciate that form filling can be somewhat off-putting, with so many other matters at club level pressing for attention. But, really, little effort is needed to complete the Club of the Year entry form.

All the questions are straightforward, and not much time is needed to go through the list. Nor is much effort required in complementing the official form with a presentation folder giving fuller details of the club's achievements.

And, for my own part, I think it is a great advantage that the entire presentation can be dropped into the nearest AIB branch office. That avoids the worry of searching for stamps, or post times.

The over-all effort could bring a handsome dividend. I don't think it is really necessary for me to list again the various prizes on offer, including the AIB trophy and the Development Grant of £1,500 for the winner of the Club of the Year.

But what about what I call the "extras" — track suits, club jerseys and the like? If anyone offered my own club 21 jerseys, or a set of track suits free of charge, I can assure you the offer would be gratefully accepted.

I think it is very inviting, then, that the organisers have decided that each club submitting an entry will be eligible for a free draw. And, the prizes are certainly worth-while:

- ★ A set of 21 Club Jerseys.
- ★ A set of 21 Club Track Suits.
- ★ A set of 21 Club Sports Bags.
- ★ A Hamper of Club Equipment, including footballs, hurling balls, and handballs.

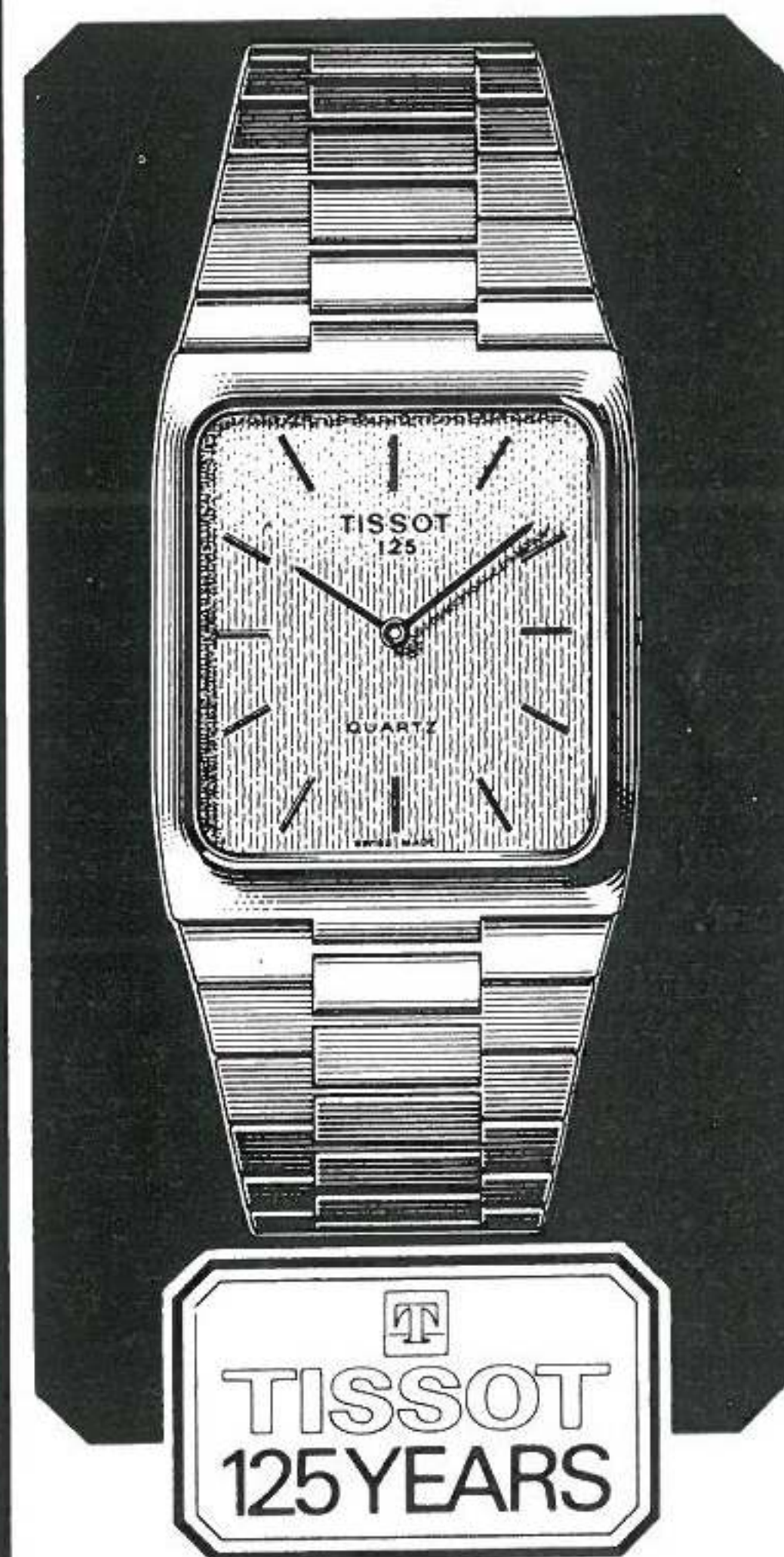
The results of the free draw, by the way, will be announced in December.

Time is already getting short. The latest date for receipt of applications is September 30, The adjudication will take place during October, November and December.

Overall, the Allied Irish Banks G.A.A. Club of the Year award opens a broad new horizon for the clubs. It is one of tremendous potential, and I hope that support from the clubs will be such as to encourage the promoters in embarking on even more ambitious steps in the future.

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Quintet of likely Bank of Ireland All Stars selected

BY NOEL HORGAN

AS we are now into the heart of the G.A.A. season, it might be interesting to focus attention on some players who have been performing so impressively that they stand an excellent chance of receiving All-Star awards, a venture being sponsored by the Bank of Ireland this year.

Admittedly, there are many vital games ahead but the provincial championship and league competitions have already yielded candidates with strong claims for recognition by the All-Star selectors.

Tipperary have made a big impression this year, winning the hurling league and giving All-Ireland champions, Cork, a real scare in the championship.

One of the stalwarts in Tipp's return to hurling's upper echelons was their splendid goalkeeper, Pat McLoughney. Pat was utterly dependable as Tipp took the League title but it was in the pressure-filled championship clash with Cork that the young Tipp man really showed star quality. He was almost unbeatable in the face of immense Cork pressure, displaying cool-

ness and confidence which helped to keep Tipp within striking distance throughout. One save towards the end of the game was particularly memorable.

As Cork led narrowly, they had an excellent chance of sealing Tipp's fate when Eamonn O'Donoghue gained possession at the edge of the square. The Corkman wasted no time in pulling with power and speed and his rising ground shot seemed destined for the net. But Pat McLoughney's eye had followed

the flight of the ball from the moment it left O'Donoghue's hurley and his reactions were razor-sharp.

Pat not only stopped the sizzler but controlled it brilliantly before delivering a lengthy clearance. McLoughney's gallant efforts did not, however, receive their due reward that day as Cork's overall strength proved too much for Tipp. His selection on the All-Stars would nevertheless provide the Tipperary star with adequate compensation. It would be no more than he deserves.

With the Cork hurlers prominent again this year, the Leesiders should be well represented on the All-Stars. One player who seems assured of his third such award is Martin Doherty, undoubtedly the best full-back in the game since he settled into the No. 3 position in 1977.

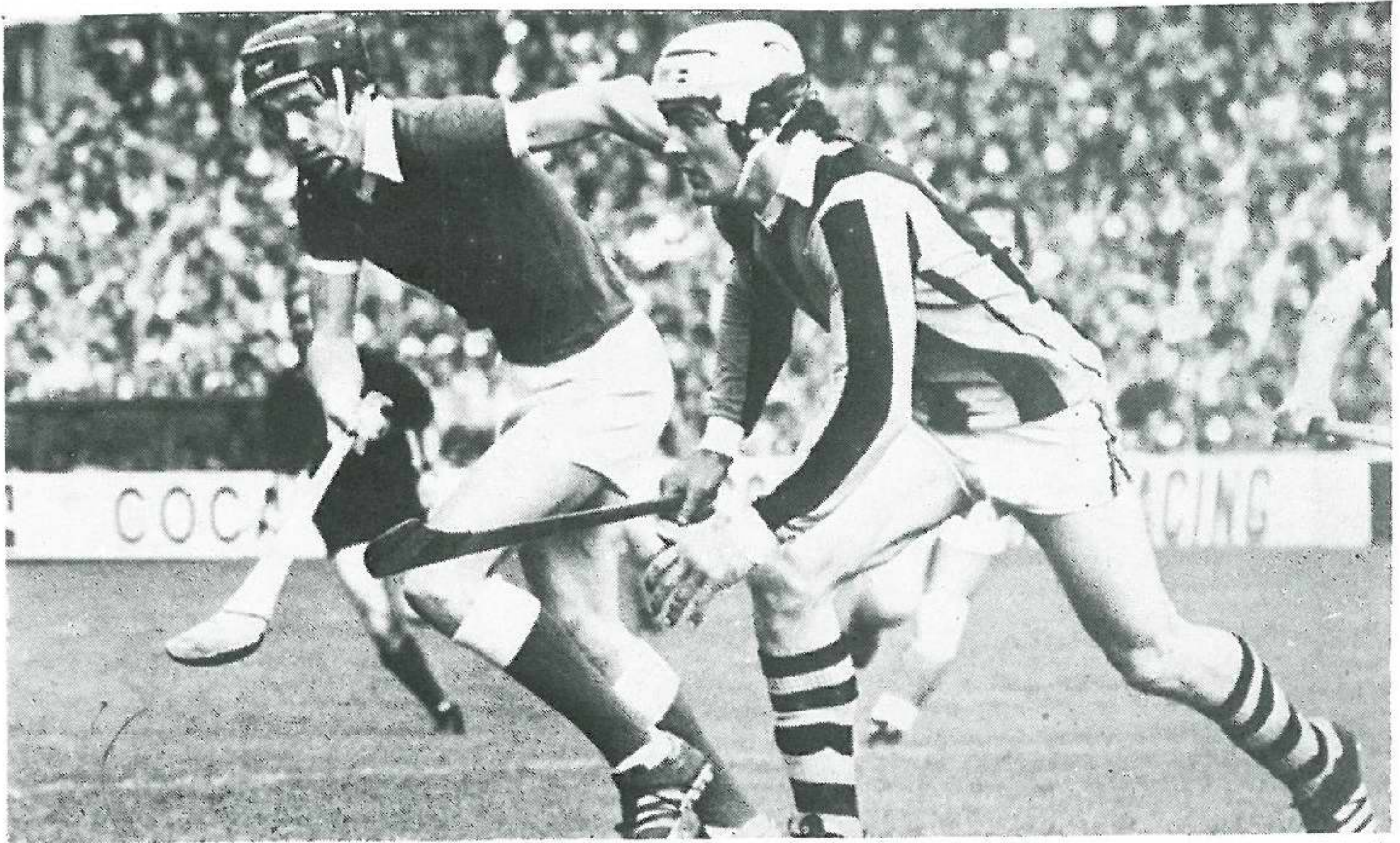
Martin was a towering figure when Cork beat Tipp but he emigrated to America shortly afterwards and some observers suspected that his hurling career was at an end.

The Cork mentors decided to

● TO OPPOSITE PAGE



● Dermot Earley (Roscommon)
... in line for a second All-Star
award.



● Cork's Ray Cummins and Dick O'Hara (Kilkenny) in a race for the sliothar in the 1978 All-Ireland. Ray is Noel Horgan's choice for a record sixth All-Star award this year.

● FROM OPPOSITE PAGE

fly him home for the Munster final, but even then it was suggested that his preparations for such a demanding occasion might not have been adequate. Martin answered his doubters in no uncertain manner, giving one of the best-ever exhibitions of full-back play.

The Glenman's display was flawless and it became inevitable that he would again return to finish out the championship. No matter how Martin fares in future outings, it seems as if he has already done enough to keep his All-Star place.

A man who could well gain a record sixth All-Star trophy this year is Cork full-forward, Ray Cummins. The great Blackrock veteran has had no equal in his attacking role since he first burst on to the inter-county scene in 1969.

Ray dazzled again in this

year's Munster final, torturing the Limerick rearguard without undue effort. It was a typical performance from Cummins who already has three All-Star hurling awards and two football trophies to his credit.

On the football front Roscommon have been a major success this year. Two players who have been instrumental in steering the westerners to the forefront are the ageless veteran Dermot Earley and budding wing-back Danny Murray.

Dermot has been a great servant to Roscommon, carrying their chief hopes on his broad shoulders for well over a decade. Often he seemed to be doing it alone. It all changed this year, however, as Roscommon met Cork in the league final with fifteen determined and talented footballers in their side.

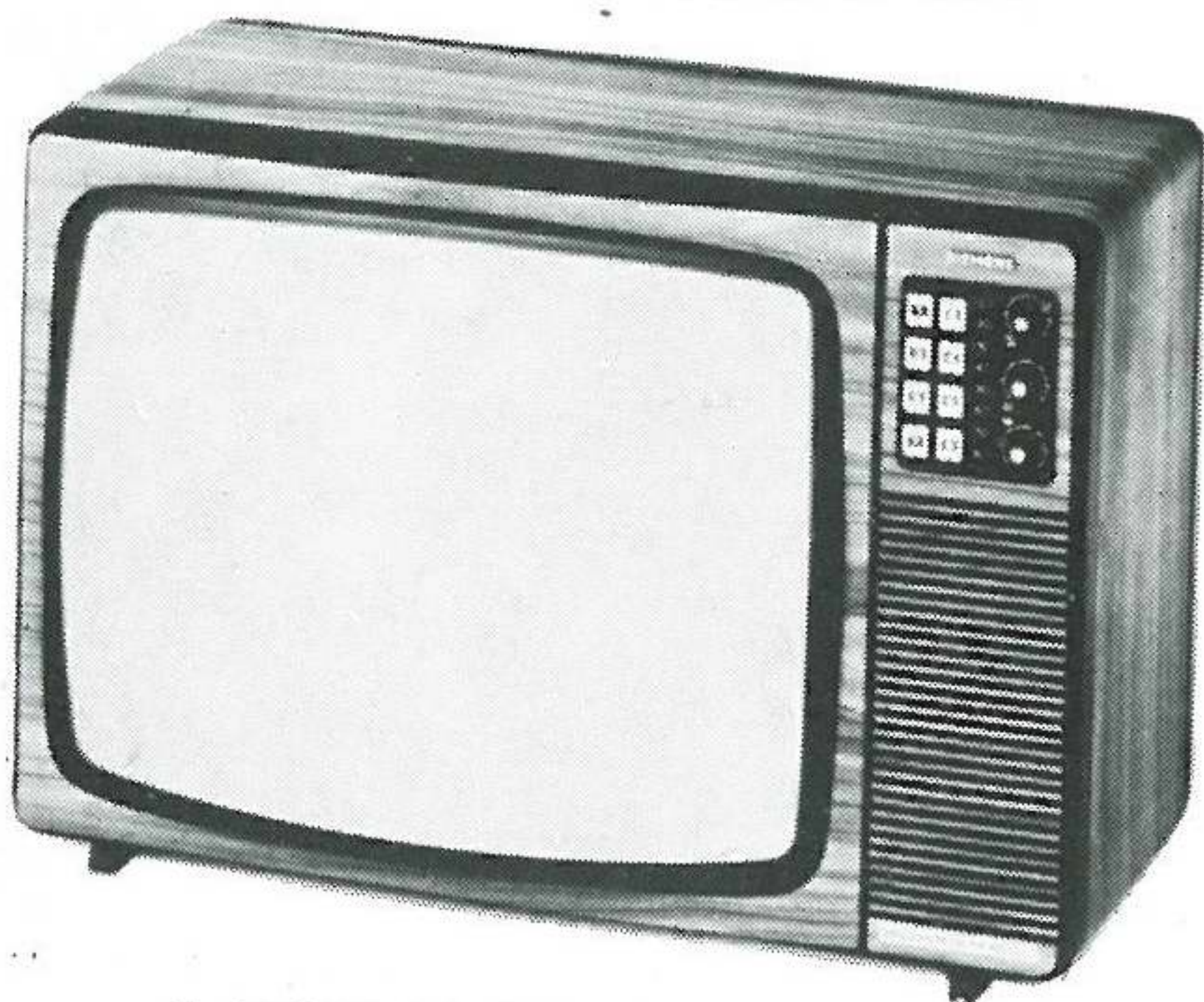
Giving a fine exhibition of football, Roscommon took the

league title easily. And, although their win was essentially a magnificent team effort, the great Dermot Earley still managed to stand out amid his colleagues. He was majestic in the centre, fielding immaculately and spraying constructive passes about with pin-point accuracy. It was a display which the All-Star selectors will find difficult to overlook.

Danny Murray was also superb in that game and throughout the season. His dazzling solo-runs and clever attacking play from wing back has earned enormous respect in a comparatively short period. Although opposition for half-back positions with the All-Stars will be keen, Danny Murray appears to be well in contention for selection at this stage.

A quintet, therefore, who look likely All-Star material for 1979. And I, for one, will not be surprised if they all make it.

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● FROM PAGE 15

leton. He is speedy, clever and works tirelessly from first to final whistle. I am convinced that he is destined to figure prominently in the Cork plans for the thrust towards a golden finale to that four-in-a-row bid.

Even though the champions wound up with a noteworthy 2-14 in the provincial final, I feel their defence is by far their strongest suit.

Martin O'Doherty has rightly been lauded for his tremendous part in the downfall of the Shannonsiders, but I was also greatly taken by the cool, competent, one could almost say professional, job of work by Brian Murphy.

And, if among the other backs, Denis Coughlan was the one whose elegant play caught my eye, that is not to say that the others did not also pull their weight in fine style.

Cork's midfield has much to recommend it. I am less enthusiastic as yet about the forwards in general, but on the other hand, any division with finishers of the calibre of Charlie McCarthy—he scored a superb goal against Limerick—and Ray Cummins has a great deal going for it.

All in all, then, I am looking forward with particularly keen interest to Cork's outing against Galway. It is the type of game that could tell us much about Cork's chances of the four-in-a-row—providing, of course, they get over the Westerners.

That's by no means a certainty, despite what so many would have us believe. Remember, it was Galway who inflicted the last defeat on Cork in the senior championship in the 1975 semi-final.

Remember, too, that while Cork avenged that defeat in the 1977 semi-final, Galway have a capable squad, and their hurlers are also unlikely to be in the least inhibited by having to tackle the champions.

FOUR IN-A-ROW LOOKS GOOD

By Noel Horgan

THE Cork Hurlers strengthened their already formidable claim to greatness by defeating Limerick comprehensively in a disappointingly one-sided Munster final last month, a result which leaves the Leesiders just two games away from the elusive four-in-a-row.

Since they began their current victory run by defeating Tipperary in the Munster semi-final of 1976, this mighty Cork side has gone undefeated through twelve tough championship tests. Such was the awesome power of Cork's hurling against Limerick at Thurles that only the bravest or most foolish of those present would bet against Cork continuing on their winning way this year.

In my view the greatness of the Cork team is beyond question at this stage, though some observers are strangely reluctant to agree with this viewpoint. Criticism of Cork's poor league form in recent years has been plentiful and when the Leesiders

were relegated last year, they again took "a bit of stick".

But hurling is essentially a summer game and Cork's talents were regularly stifled in the muddy, treacherous conditions that are prevalent during most of the league competition. On a livelier sod Cork's vast array of talents inevitably surfaced and they invariably crushed opponents who had challenged their supremacy during the winter months.

On numerous occasions Cork's courage and character have been sternly tested by teams of differing styles and traditions. But the Leesiders have adapted to meet the demands of every challenge at championship level.

The men behind the scenes, the Cork mentors, deserve the highest praise for keeping the county in the forefront for so long. They have made many shrewd, brave and not always popular decisions which have often been vital and seldom, if ever, mistaken. Their ability to

have their charges "peaking" at the right time must also be admired.

Cork were powerful against Limerick. The Shannonsiders, possibly attaching too much significance to their league victory over the Corkmen, came to Thurles quietly confident of dethroning the champions. They were completely out-gunned however, by a Cork team that went about their task with clinical precision.

Pat Hartigan's absence was a morale-shattering blow to Limerick but it is doubtful if his presence would have made a major difference. Pat has always found Ray Cummins difficult to handle and he has himself experienced the type of roasting which the unfortunate Jim O'Brien received from the great Blackrock full-forward. No, there was nothing to deny Cork success on their Munster final form.

What impressed me was the deliberate way the Corkmen went about their task. Oozing with confidence, they were completely unruffled by two Limerick points from Eamonn Cregan inside the first two minutes. The players showed no signs of strain or panic and trotted back to their positions with the icy-coolness of Bjorn Borg. Clearly these were men possessing an unshakeable belief in their ability to succeed. And after they had taken the early sting from the Limerick challenge, they proceeded to unleash their immense hurling skills and shatter their opponent's ambitions.

Martin Doherty was the star of the day at full-back. John Fenton, Ray Cummins, Brian Murphy, John Crowley, Denis Coughlan, Charlie McCarthy and Dermot McCurtain were others to play particularly outstanding

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3 IN-A-ROW



The 1978 Cork Hurling team which with one change in personnel is on target for their fourth title in a row. Back row (from left to right): Fr. Bertie Troy (coach), Jimmy Barry Murphy, Johnny Crowley, Tim Crowley, Ray Cummins, Martin O'Doherty, Pat Moylan, John Horgan, Denis Coughlan. Front row (from left to right): Tom Cashman, Dermot McCurtain, Sean O'Leary, Charlie McCarthy (capt.), Martin Coleman, Brian Murphy and Gerald McCarthy.

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roles. But it was essentially a team victory from a Cork fifteen that included potential match-winners in almost every position.

The fact that a player of Sean O'Leary's calibre was forced to sit out the Munster final on the reserves' bench is adequate substantiation of that comment.

Galway provide Cork's opposition in the All-Ireland semi-final. The Leesiders, though entitled to be favourites, would be unwise to underestimate this challenge. Al-

though inconsistent, Galway have shown in the past that they are capable of matching the best.

They can produce some splendid combined hurling, have the ability to pick off long-range points and seem to reserve their best form for All-Ireland semi-finals. They greatly troubled Kilkenny last year and did likewise to Cork and Wexford in the preceding years. And Galway were the last team to topple Cork in the championship when they shocked the Leesiders in 1975.

An interesting duel is in pros-

pect, therefore, with old reliables like John Connolly, Iggy Clarke, P. J. Molloy, Sean Silke, Joe McDonagh and Frank Burke, fine hurlers all, spearheading the westerners' challenge.

Cork's experience, their greater all-round strength and their ambition to capture the fourth-in-a-row should see them through against a Galway team whose lack of championship match-practise must be a handicap.

Whether Cork win or lose against Galway, their greatness cannot be disputed at this stage.

Results Summary

ALL-IRELAND "B" HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

Final Replay: June 24. Athy: Laois 1-20; London 0-17. Top Scorer for the entire series: F. Keenan (Laois) 4-23 (35 points) in five games. Average: Seven points a match.

ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Senior Hurling Quarter-Final: July 1: Birr: Galway 1-23; Laois 3-10.

CONNACHT CHAMPIONSHIPS

Senior Football: Semi-final: June 24: Roscommon: Roscommon 3-11; Galway 1-11. **FINAL:** July 15: Castlebar: Roscommon 3-15; Mayo 2-10. Attendance: 30,000. Top Scorer for the entire series: J. McGrath (Mayo) 5-6 (21 points) in two games. Average: 10.50 points a match.

Under-21: June 28: Ballina: Mayo 0-13; Roscommon 1-10. **DRAW.**

Minor Football: June 24: Roscommon: Galway 0-7; Roscommon 0-6. Ballymote: Sligo 2-9; Leitrim 1-6. July 1: Ballina: Mayo 3-8; Sligo 2-5. **FINAL:** July 15: Castlebar: Mayo 5-11; Galway 3-7.

LEINSTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

Senior Hurling Semi-finals: June 24: Athy: Kilkenny 4-15; Dublin 4-11. Wexford 0-17; Offaly 2-10.

FINAL: July 15: Croke Park: Kilkenny 2-21; Wexford 2-17. Attendance: 24,991. Top Scorer for the entire series: N. Buggy (Wexford) 1-16 (19 points) in two games. Average: 9.50 points a match.



Mick Brennan, Kilkenny's top points scorer with 0.7 in their 2.21 to 2.17 defeat of Wexford in the Leinster Hurling Final on July 15.

Minor Hurling Semi-Finals: June 27: Carlow: Kilkenny 1-14; Wexford 1-7. June 30: Croke Park: Antrim 3-11; Down 1-1. **FINAL:** July 15: Croke Park: Kilkenny 5-13; Antrim 1-9.

Senior Football: July 1: Newbridge: Dublin 3-13; Wicklow 2-7. July 8: Croke Park: Offaly 0-16; Meath 2-6.

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JUNIOR DESK



By
**JACK
MAHON**

THANK God the postal strike is over. At least we can get on with JUNIOR DESK again. So if you haven't started writing to me start right away. Write about anything — your favourite players — the provincial finals — if you want a PEN FRIEND — the new R.T.E. Sunday show called "The Sunday Game" — the cut-out. Anything you like. Next month I will give 5 prizes for the best letters received. Please write on one side of the page.

"THE SUNDAY GAME"

I've only seen the first show as I write and even though there are some teething troubles, it is the type of G.A.A./R.T.E. show that we have been clamouring for for years. Very nice to see Jim Carney back in action again after a serious accident last September. The man has an infectious enthusiasm for sport. Before the end of the present series in late September Jim will have established himself in this programme. He will be less edgy and the show will carry much more SPONTANEITY than on the first occasion. I suppose it was a relative miracle to have an edited version of the game ready for 8 p.m.

LIZ HOWARD

I've known Liz Howard for some time. She is a very committed G.A.A. person, Tipperary to the core and is the girl whose nephew received the coloured photograph

from Jimmy Barry-Murphy which I wrote about two months ago. She has always been a keen fan of "Junior Desk" and knows the names of all of our regular writers. First comments from G.A.A. fans who saw the show were a certain aversion to a girl commenting on G.A.A. players. By the time we read this even these will have accepted Liz as someone who knows G.A.A. from A to Z. She is a lovely girl and epitomises all that is best in the G.A.A. She loves the G.A.A., is not a spoofer and unlike both of her male colleagues on the first show namely Seamus Durack and Eddie Keher was prepared to be critical of the players. And this is good "telly". She has a winning smile too and I know that Marie Boran and all my female readers will be thrilled to find that the female sex have a place in a G.A.A./R.T.E. show. Liz, keep smiling and of course reading "Junior Desk". And don't forget readers to write and tell me what you think of Liz and the Show generally.



★
*Dermot
McCurtain
(Cork)*

★

CUT-OUT

Our CUT-OUT this month is Declan Barron of Cork and Bantry Blues. Declan's display of power fielding in last year's Munster final was a relic of the old days, a memory that helped to sustain the belief that this great skill of Gaelic football is still alive and well. His duels with John O'Keeffe in the 1976 Munster Finals (draw and replay) were very absorbing. Barron has twice been honoured with a CARROLLS ALL-STAR award.

THE MUNSTER S.H. FINAL

The inability of Pat Hartigan to play in the Munster S.H. final robbed it of a lot of its glamour. John Fenton has emerged as a young Cork Star with a fine ability to strike effortlessly. Dermot McCurtain is becoming one of the stars of the team. It was a pity we had the bottle throwing by the small section of "supporters" behind the Limerick goal. Why do we have to copy all that is worst in the English scene both Sporting and POP. Ray Cummins rightly condemned this rabble element of the Cork support who have latched on to Cork's winning team. The same Ray deserves our congrats for winning his ELEVENTH successive Munster Senior medal.

Now that is some record. How can Martin Doherty be leaving such a glorious scene behind him? That's one of the questions

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JUNIOR MISCELLANY

- Compiled by Tony Keegan

WITH the postal situation back to normal again, we are looking forward to our usual bumper post-bag of letters from now on for JUNIOR DESK. So, if you have not yet got around to writing to Jack Mahon, now is the time to get out the pen and paper.

I have enjoyed my brief spell on the JUNIOR DESK filling in for the absent letters pages, and I hope that you found the series of questions and answers and miscellaneous items both interesting and informative.

It is amazing how time flies! Here we are already looking forward to the All-Ireland semi-finals, with Cork, of course, in a special place as they are on the trail of a record-equalling four All-Ireland senior hurling championships in succession.

It was between 1941 and 1944 that Cork recorded the only run of four successive All-Ireland championships in the code at senior level. Their great teams of that period included such as the late Christy Ring, Jack Lynch, now An Taoiseach, and Con Murphy, the immediate past President of the G.A.A.

Cork have fared remarkably well to advance so close as of now to equalling the four in a row run. Their last championship defeat was at Croke Park on August 17, 1975 when, interestingly enough, they went under in a high scoring game to the John Connolly-led Galway by 2-19 (25 points) to 4-15 (27 points). Galway lost the final to Kilkenny.

Cork took their revenge for that defeat when they accounted for Galway by 3-14 to 1-15 in the 1977 semi-final. So, it can be

said that it is "Even Steven" as far as recent semi-finals between these counties are concerned.



They will be in opposition again on August 5.

Here are some other back-

ground features to the up coming All-Ireland senior semi-finals:

● The Connacht senior football champions have not reached a final since 1974, when Galway beat Donegal by 3-13 to 1-14. Galway lost the final to Dublin.

● Ulster's last win was by the colourful Armagh footballers of 1977, who beat Roscommon by 0-15 to 0-14 in a replay.

● The Munster senior champions last lost an August game in the series in 1977, when Kerry went under to Dublin by 1-13 to 3-12 in a memorable match.

● Leinster, represented by Dublin each year, have had a direct interest in every Sam Maguire Cup game since 1974.

Let's see, now, what YOU remember of happenings last August in the minor championships. This five question quiz will show just how you measure up in this regard:

MINORS 1978

1. New York were in action in a quarter-final a year ago, and were well beaten by the Connacht champions. Name their conquerors?

2. Who were Ulster's representatives in the football semi-final against Dublin?

3. Kilkenny's win over Galway in hurling put them in line for their second successive All-Ireland championship. True or false?

4. List the counties of Barney Rock, Billy McEvoy and Adrian Garvey, all of whom were en-

● TO OPPOSITE PAGE

● FROM OPPOSITE PAGE

gaged in the minor semi-finals last August? It may help you to know that two played in football, and one in hurling

5. Finally, what county represented Munster in the last four in football?

Four points for each question answered correctly. Maximum points possible: 20. YOUR SCORE

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Under-21 Football: June 27: Croke Park: Louth 3-6; Meath 0-9. Portlaoise: Offaly 0-12; Kildare 1-8. **FINAL:** July 15: Navan: Offaly 4-14; Louth 5-4.

Under-21 Hurling: July 8: Kilkenny: Kilkenny 6-18; Meath 2-7.

Minor Football: June 20: Navan: Dublin 4-13; Louth 0-6. July 1: Newbridge: Dublin 3-11; Wexford 0-8. July 8: Croke Park: Meath 3-9; Offaly 2-5.

MUNSTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

Senior Football: June 24: Clonmel: Cork 2-18; Tipperary 0-5. July 1: Miltown-Malbay: Kerry 9-21; Clare 1-9.

Under-21 Football: July 13. **FINAL:** Limerick: Cork 1-11; Clare 1-9.

Minor Football: July 1: Miltown-Malbay: Kerry 1-8; Clare 0-6. July 12: Dungarvan: Cork 6-11; Waterford 3-6.

Senior Hurling: **FINAL:** July 8: Thurles: Cork 2-14; Limerick 0-9. Attendance: 47,849.

Top Scorer for entire Championship: E. Cregan (Limerick) 2-16 (22 points) in three games. Average: 7.33 points a match.

Minor Hurling: June 29: Nenagh: Limerick 6-4; Clare 2-3.

REPLAY FINAL: July 8: Thurles: Cork 3-18; Limerick 4-4.

Back again to the All-Ireland senior semi-finals scene, and last year's hurling match featured Galway against Kilkenny. That was the game in which Joe Hennessy scored a memorable point following a grand run some fifteen minutes into the second half to help the Noresiders to a 4-20 to 4-13 victory.

The Leinster champions have a bye this year to the All-Ireland final. And, the Liam McCarthy Cup, which is the trophy for the

All-Ireland senior hurling championship, was last brought to the East in 1975. Kilkenny beat Galway, and Eddie Keher won his sixth and last All-Ireland senior medal.

Finally, let's end with a picture quiz. The four players on page 46 all played in last year's All-Ireland semi-finals. Who are they? Five points for each player identified, making 20 points in all on offer. YOUR SCORE

ANSWERS PAGE 48

ULSTER CHAMPIONSHIPS

Senior Football: June 24: Cavan: Monaghan 2-10; Armagh 2-8. July 1: Omagh: Donegal 2-9; Derry 0-14.

Under-21 Football: July 8: Dungannon: Tyrone 3-10; Cavan 2-5.

REPLAY.

Minor Football: June 24: Cavan: Down 0-7; Armagh 1-2. July 1: Omagh: Tyrone 2-8; Cavan 0-3.

1979-80 NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

July 11: Bennettsbridge: Wexford 5-12; Kilkenny 0-9.

HURLING SHINTY INTERNATIONAL

July 12: Isle of Man: Ireland 7; Scotland 3.

CAMOGIE

Senior Championship: July 15: Russell Park, Dublin: Limerick 3-6; Dublin 3-5. Moneygall: Tipperary 4-3; Down 2-1.

HANDBALL

All-Ireland Coca Cola Open Championships

SINGLES: June 24: Croke Park: P. Ryan (Dublin) bt J. Doyle (Dublin). Mullinavat: T. O'Rourke (Kildare) bt P. Hughes (Kilkenny). C. Winders (Kildare) bt J. Bennis (Limerick). G. Scully (Galway) bt S. Buggy (Wexford).

Ballina, Co. Tipperary: M. Walsh (Roscommon) bt Dan Kirby (Clare). T. Morrissey (Tipperary) bt John Kirby (Clare). N. O'Brien (Tipperary) w.o.; P. McCormack (Mayo) scr.

July 7: Clonmel: P. McGarry (Limerick) bt A. Greene (Kilkenny). T. Morrissey (Tipperary) bt N. O'Brien (Tipperary). P. Reilly (Kilkenny) w.o.; P. Lee (Wicklow) scr.

July 8: Croke Park: R. Lyng (Wexford) bt C. Winders (Kildare). T. O'Rourke (Kildare) bt J. O'Brien (Roscommon). P. Ryan (Dublin) w.o.; J. Goggins (Wexford) scr. Mullingar: O. Harrold (Kilkenny) bt M. Walsh (Roscommon). G. Scully (Galway) bt P. McGee (Mayo).

July 15: Croke Park: P. Reilly and O. Harrold (Kilkenny) bt T. O'Rourke and C. Winders (Kildare). R. Lyng and S. Buggy (Wexford) bt J. Doyle and N. Cahill (Dublin). J. O'Brien and P. Clarke (Roscommon) bt P. Lee and J. Clery (Wicklow).

Clonmel: John and Dan Kirby (Clare) bt P. McGarry and M. Hogan (Limerick).

DOUBLES: June 30: Cashel: C. Winders and T. O'Rourke (Kildare) bt M. Kirby and F. Killeen (Clare). P. McGarry and M. Hogan (Limerick) bt T. Morrissey and N. O'Brien (Tipperary). Arklow: J. Doyle and N. Cahill (Dublin) bt M. Purcell and P. Winders (Kildare).

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building up of the national economy. Some 54 years ago the then Irish Government called Siemens in to help originate our first ever generating plant for electrical power. The result, the now famous Shannon Scheme has served this country well and truly.

Among more recent projects the name N.E.T. stands out and a more recent assignment still is in the lovely County Wicklow in Turlough Hill where Siemens is engaged on the building and development of what is one of Ireland's most novel and economically useful electric power sources.

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time the games were ever broadcast in colour and Siemens were chosen to equip a television centre capable of sending 12 simultaneous picture transmissions and 60 commentaries in 45 languages. In addition, Siemens had to supply a closed circuit network on the Olympic grounds, five giant computers, an "on call" heart X-ray system, floodlighting — natural daylight fully duplicated for television — super lexicon, telephone network, miles of cable, etc.

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ANSWERS

MINORS 1978

1. Mayo, who won by 36 points.
2. Tyrone, beaten by 1-9 to 5-7.
3. True, they won the 1977 All-Ireland title, but lost the 1978 final to Cork.
4. Barney Rock (Dublin); Billy McEvoy (Kilkenny); Adrian Garvey (Mayo).
5. Kerry, beaten by Mayo by 0-10 to 1-10.

PICTURE QUIZ

1: Billy Fitzpatrick (Kilkenny). John McCarthy (Dublin); John Egan (Kerry); Iggy Clarke (Galway).

● FROM PAGE 35

well bring Galway once more to the threshold.

The present side which promised so much and seemed about to come into its own after its defeat of Cork in the All-Ireland semi-final of 1975, is reaching a stage where disillusion, if not age, is likely to take a heavy toll. They cannot keep on promising and failing forever. Perhaps they have crossed the brow of the hill and will not seriously bother Cork? Or, perhaps, they have one great leap in them still and may now choose to produce it? So, whatever else, you cannot ignore Galway. And neither can Cork.

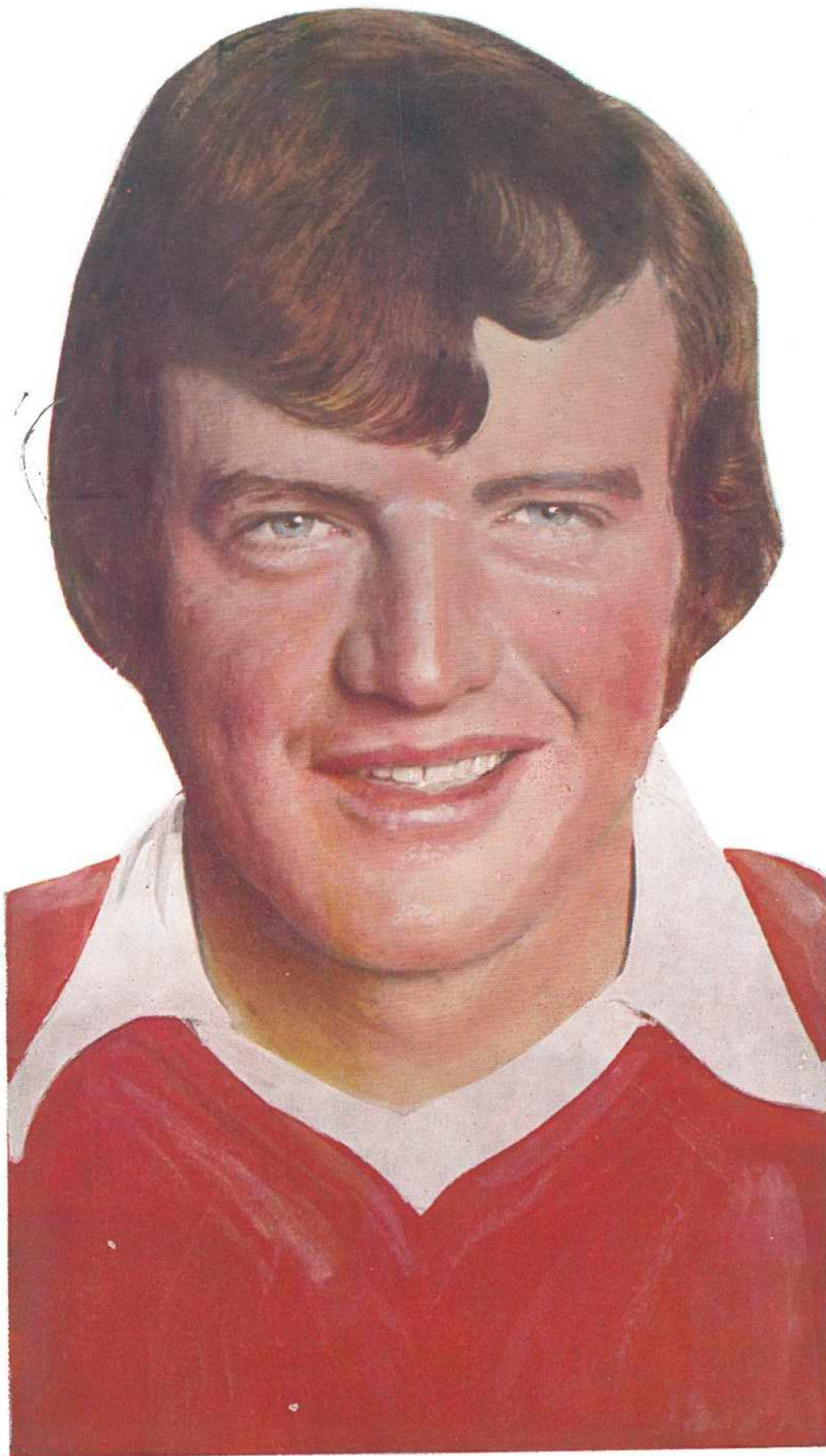
JUNIOR DESK

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so many G.A.A. fans are asking especially in the light of his fantastic Munster final display. But it's an amateur game and there is no compulsion on anybody to keep at it. Perhaps that's the strong point of the G.A.A. As Jimmy Barry-Murphy said in interviews: "If the G.A.A. ever goes professional count me out."

Till next month and, we hope, a huge "MAILBAG" fáigaim slán agaibh.

Jack Mahon



**DECLAN
BARRON
(Cork)**

Age: 28
Height: 6 ft.
Weight: 12st. 7 lb.
Position: Full forward
Club: Bantry Blues
Senior Inter-County Debut: 1971

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Declan Barron, one of the finest fielders in the game, won his second Carrolls All Star award last December at centre half forward, having been honoured in the same position in 1974.

He had a very successful career in under-age competitions, winning All-Ireland medals at minor (1969) and under-21 (1970 and 1971), and was one of the heroes who struck a rare blow for Cork football nearly six years ago by bringing the Sam Maguire Cup to the county for only the second time. Declan, has worn the Munster jersey, but he has not got among the Railway Cup medals.

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