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EDITORIAL COMMENT

IT is a happy coincidence that the clubs and the players are very much in the sponsorship spotlight just now. Happy, because the progress of the G.A.A. ultimately depends on the well-being of the club structure, the corner-stone of the organisation, and also on the dedication and loyalty of the playing membership.

Fortunately, these are vital areas that provide little genuine cause for concern. But any move that helps to strengthen the power-base over-all are especially welcome.

The players have once more this year the great incentives presented by the continuation of the All Stars awards under the new sponsors, the Bank of Ireland.

Under the banner of Carrolls these annual awards quickly earned ranking as among the most coveted in Gaelic Games. And, already there has been ample evidence of the determination of the Bank of Ireland to ensure that the awards receive the same high standard of treatment that established the entire promotion as one of the outstanding features of the Irish sporting scene.

Then, there is the Allied Irish Banks G.A.A. Club of the Year award, which has just been launched. This new promotion has the type of potential necessary to benefit the organisation as a whole.

The scheme will give a new impetus to voluntary effort throughout the country, and provide great encouragement to the many dedicated officials who are devoting so much of their time and efforts to running clubs and teams. Some are also digging deeply into their pockets to provide their cars free as transport for players.

Apart from giving such enthusiasts new heart, the move is also bound to strengthen the club base in time.

The All Stars promotion and the Club of the Year award are two separate and distinct promotions, each a major facet of the Gaelic Games scene in its own right. But taken in conjunction they form a virile link in the over-all chain of activities that can give a powerful thrust in helping to propel the organisation firmly on the road to the Centenary Year of 1984.

Meantime, on an entirely different train, many will regret that Clare hurlers are no longer in the race for the All-Ireland senior championship. They brought a welcome wind of change to the scene, and the game would have profited from a national championship success by the Banner County.

But sport is no respecter of sentiment. Nonetheless, Clare must be commended on their achievements in recent years, and all will share the hope that they will come back strongly from the recent set-back.

COVER PHOTO

TWO of the most exciting personalities in Gaelic Games, Joe Hennessy (Kilkenny) and Jimmy Barry-Murphy (Cork), who have provided so many golden moments already, are our cover personalities this month. Owen McCann puts the spotlight on both on pages 22 and 23.

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Tyler Cregan gains top spot for Limerick

Top Ten

EAMONN Cregan's high quality work in Limerick's march to the Munster senior hurling championship final not only earns him his place in the TYLER TOP TEN charts for the first time this year, but sends the Cloughaun club man to pride of place in the current listings with the highest points tally for both codes. The games under review covered the period from May 20 to June 17 inclusive.

Cregan had a splendid match as Limerick got their Munster title bid on the rails with a big win over Waterford at Pairc Ui Chaoimh. He also finished the team's top scorer that day with 2-4.

The long-serving Limerick man starred again in the semi-final against Clare, and he was also prominently among the scores yet again, finishing with seven points. All of which results in Cregan gaining the top spot on 44 points . . . five points more than football's leader.

But Cregan still had powerful opposition from his full forward colleague, Joe McKenna. The Offaly-born Limerick hurler also turned on the style in the wins over Waterford and Clare with his good general play, and goal-grabbing flair. He hit four goals in those outings, plus five points for good measure.

McKenna takes second spot in hurling, just two points behind Cregan, and he has the added distinction of being one of only

three hurlers to improve their positions over-all. McKenna made his initial entry in April-May on 29 points, and he now has a total of 71.

The two meetings of Meath and Kildare in the Leinster senior football quarter final dominate the football returns. Colm O'Rourke was a commanding figure for Meath in the drawn encounter, while Mick Ryan, who also did many useful things in that match, grabbed the scoring limelight in the replay with 1-7.

Then, there was the splendid come-back of Ken Rennicks, who only went in as a substitute in the first match, proved his fitness, and then had a fine game in the replay.

All three win their places in the football chart, with O'Rourke gaining the No. 1 placing on 39 points.

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). 71: D. Murray (Roscommon). 69: S. Hayden (Roscommon).

This month's charts are:

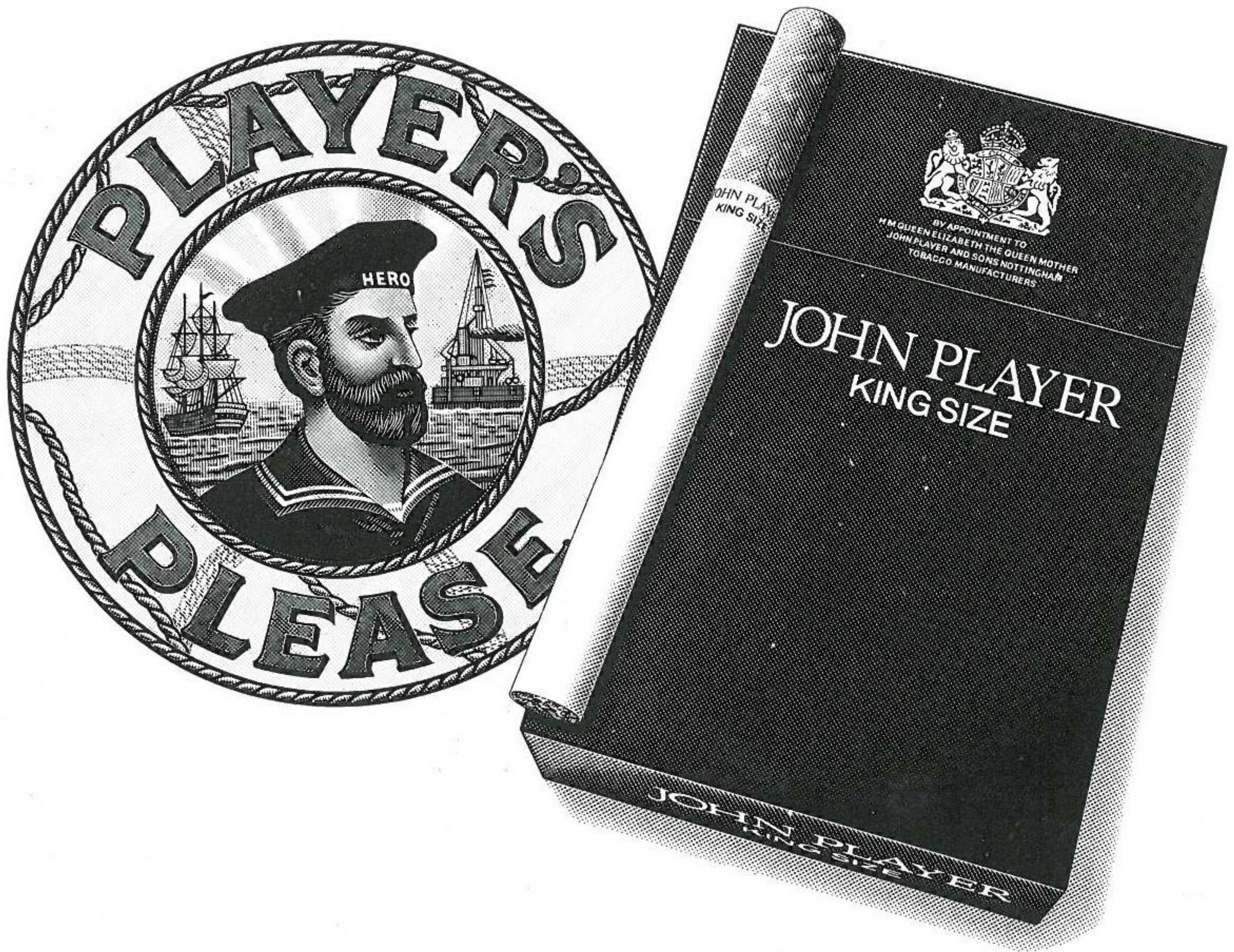
HURLING

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FOOTBALL

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32	M. O'Brien (Derry)	32
31	K. Rennicks (Meath)	31
29	M. Griffin (Donegal)	29
28	M. McGee (Wexford)	28
27	M. Coffey (Wicklow)	27

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ANDY CROAK

The writer with the rasping comment

Urgent work for the top GAA men

THE new Director General of the GAA, Liam Mulvihill, slipped quietly into office on June 1. It appears that pressmen were called in to meet him at Croke Park a few days later, but it was a low-key affair, according to reports.

You will have noticed that Croak never gets asked to these things, and perhaps it is just as well. As you well know, he is not a man to toe the party line!

Anyway, as I was saying, the new D.G. is now installed and we're all waiting to see the mettle he's made of. No doubt, he will take a while to settle in, so we shouldn't expect grand gestures and far-reaching decisions immediately.

Nevertheless, I believe that certain matters need the urgent attention of Liam Mulvihill and the president of the Association, Paddy McFlynn.

In the opinion of yours truly the most pressing of these is the proposed trip to Australia by the All-Stars football team.

You know the background. It was announced a few weeks ago that the GAA proposed to the Australians that the All-Stars would travel to Australia on October 29, after finishing their United States tour.

According to press reports

(and I have no reason to doubt them) that proposal received a cool reception from Harry Beitzel and his friends Down Under.

And that is putting it mildly. You see, Beitzel wanted to bring an Australian team to Ireland in October and then travel home around the same time as the Irish team were setting off for the Southern Hemisphere.

The GAA wouldn't wear an Australian visit here. They said they couldn't fit it in with National League fixtures and the American tour, which starts on October 12.

So now, the grand design seems to be falling into a shambles. And that's a shame.

Here, again, was a tremendous opportunity to get **real** international competition for football off the ground.

Alas, that opportunity now appears to be slipping away. I hope I'm wrong. But if I'm right, I believe it fair to ask this question:

Who in the GAA was responsible for throwing away such a marvellous opening? Was it not possible to arrange affairs here in such a way that the Australians could be accommodated?

The Australians want international competition of some

kind. We talk about it here, but do little or nothing to pave the way for a regular series of games between Ireland and Australia.

To be sure, there were difficulties to be got over. But they were not insurmountable. Where there's a will there's a way.

The change in the dates of the American tour, from Spring to Autumn, was one major obstacle. But even that problem was not insoluble.

Are there men of vision in the GAA? I put that question to Liam Mulvihill and Paddy McFlynn. Both are men of proven ability and they have the power, if they have the will, to salvage the Australian tour.

Hopefully, before this column again appears in print we will have heard that they made some imaginative move to satisfy Beitzel and his associates and ensure that the tour of Australia will go on.

* * *

I have been one of the great fans of the Dublin football team over the past five years. But, in company with many followers of Gaelic games, I was saddened at the way they treated the official opening of the Tom Russell Park

● TO PAGE 43

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CORK LAY PLANS FOR VITAL CLASH WITH KERRY

EAMONN YOUNG

*looks
forward to
the Munster
Football Final*

IT seems only yesterday since they beat us in Cork and here we are again on the high road over the County Bounds for the town that sits facing the sun, and gazing in prosperous tranquility at the purple Reeks to the southwest. Cork out once more to topple the champions as we have done before.

What a debacle that Roscommon game was. Remember how happy we were with our new team as we carved a steady path through a League full of fallen heroes. The injuries before the Roscommon game were not exaggerated but in spite of them we felt the boys had a good chance. We had two chances as it proved — slim and none. The Connacht men showed up our fitness and we came back very quiet boys. I remember the frozen quiet in the carriage as we flopped down at the end of the rush from the pitch. After a long vicious silence the man beside me grated, "What a waste of a bloody day".

But it was a good lesson and since then Billy Morgan, Frank Cogan and the selectors have seen that the preparation for that game wouldn't be good enough for the championship. So there has been a lot of work done; it had to be done, for we all knew well that John MacNamara and the boys in Clonmel would die happy if they could win that first round game over Cork on June 24.

I can reveal now that the training plan drawn up late in May

for the Cork side was aimed at the middle of July and Killarney. The Tipp game was just a rung on the ladder. A very tough step it was expected, but still there was no way these boys intended to be stopped. If they had of course, we would have been sacked by the Munster Council for the gate would have taken a nose-dive. I remember Runai Doney Nealon's corrosive words after the Roscommon game. We would have drawn bigger crowds as League champions.

Sean Murphy was dropped from the wing for Cork after last year's Munster final. He had been in good form but was going through a fit of urgency directly related to his post-graduate legal studies. He got fussy, for that's the effect study has on many players especially when they know there's a lot more to be done. Anyway he was axed and wasn't heard of until we saw his photo showing academic success. Since Christmas Seán has been working at this football game and in the match with Kerry in Spa recently showed form good enough to please the selectors. Dave MacCarthy who played a lot of manly football in the centre of the field with Denis Long rested in Clonakilty for much of the winter teaching the lads at school and getting himself back to form by diligent training in the Spring. Now he's getting his chance again and provided he will police his place diligently and avoid too frequent absences from it his good

football ability and honest determination should be a real help. Namesake Diarmuid Mac Carthaigh is playing well, Christy Kearney the corner forward is getting more confident and deadly while Christy Ryan the big defender has come along a mile since Christmas. Tom Creedon is back from Africa and showing good form; he's a real independent half back.

The old reliables are playing well. Billy Morgan is like armour plate and Kevin Kehilly, fiery and restless, is a real hard nut to crack. Denis Allen is recovered from the knee injury and is flying in the open spaces, while the computer brain of stylish Barry Murphy is sending messages that usually etch numbers on the score-board. The man with the silken fingers Declan Barron from Bantry has done his training and the public are happy to welcome back the tall man from Blackrock Ray Cummins whose alert eye spots the vital opening to a score. I see Cork playing a good game in Cill Airne.

Kerry have a team that is much more settled than Cork. These are the boys who have been drawing the crowds for the last few years. They are the champions and feel that way. That in itself is a plus but many of them — probably all of them — want more than a medal this year and hard to blame young lively men if they want to take a trip to what was once the

● TO PAGE 11

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● The late Paddy Kennedy and young mascot lead the Kerry team in the parade before the 1944 All-Ireland Final against Roscommon.

● FROM PAGE 9

New World. I remember long ago when Joe Keohane did a dirty trick on us he excused himself years later, while crocodile tears coursed down his cheeks. "Don't blame me Youngy" he whimpered "I could see the Manhattan skyline".

Anyway on to this Kerry panel has come Tim O'Regan who was scoring regularly from full forward a few years back. They must have thought they hadn't enough height in Owen Liston's six feet three for O'Regan is six feet five. He's very accurate in the hand-pass as one could expect of an Ireland basket-baller and as that's the kind of football favoured by many of the younger lads nowadays he should be useful

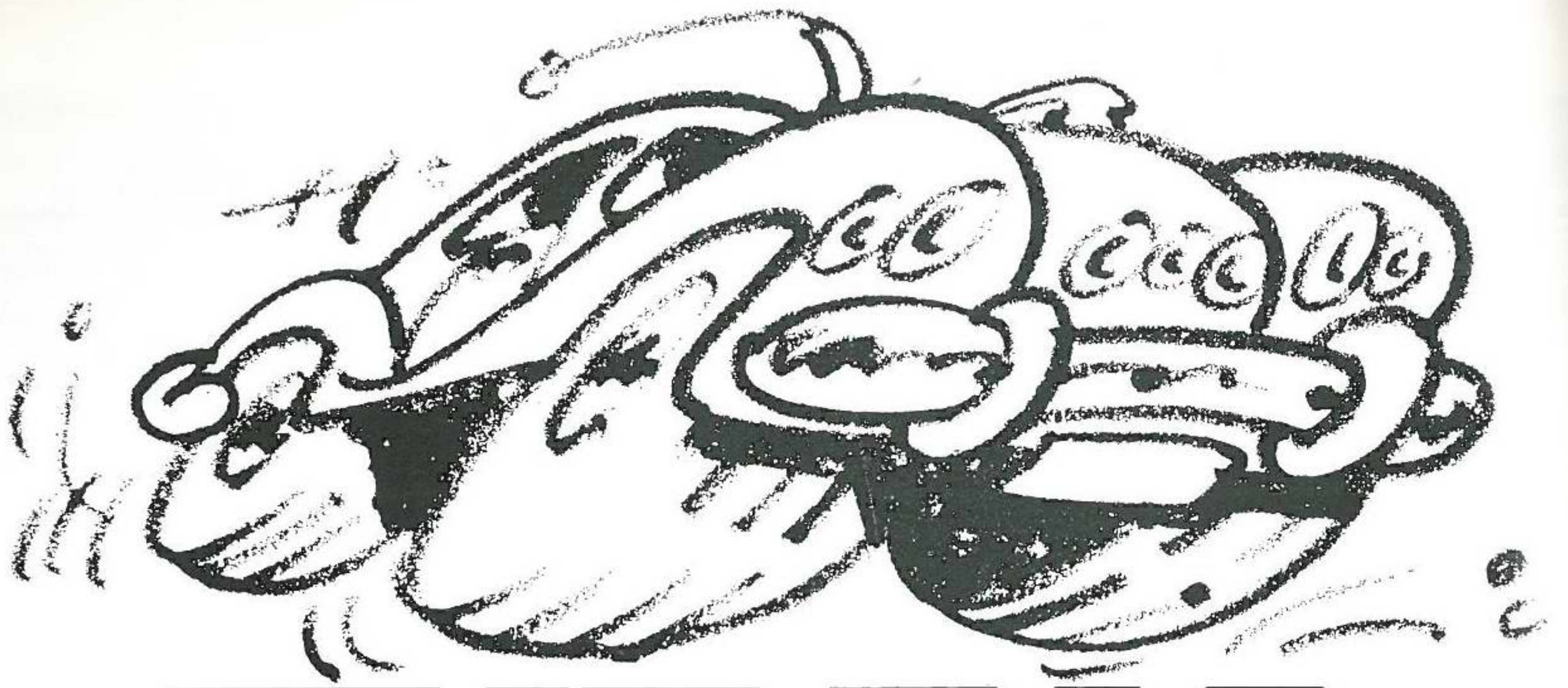
when the ball comes high and fast. The old game is changing and whether for the better or worse the way to get scores is to exploit the rules as laid down by older but perhaps not wiser men. The day of Doney O'Sullivan's prophecy may yet come true. "The Kingdom corner back, who used make the ball moan when he drove the kick-out said in one of his airy and inspired moments that as Gaelic football rules are now framed a team of tall basket-ballers from Alabama could come over and destroy the All-Ireland champions." The Kerry-Australian game in Cork last Winter half proved it. Anyway Kerry will be good to-day whether I like their style or not, and the team that's a point ahead

of them at the finish will earn every inch of the victory.

* * *

The three of them grew up together in the football sense. Paddy Kennedy, Seán Brosnan and Bill Dillon first saw daylight in that glorious peninsula where the medieval town of Daingean Uí Cúise nods to Mount Eagle and Dún Caoin smiles across the deep blue sound to Inis Tuaisceart and the Great Blasket. Along with Paddy Bán Brosnan and his brother Timolín Deas, Bill Casey, Gega Connor, Batt Garvey, Dan Kavanagh, Tom Ashe and a dozen more fine players the three faced the high-road and "hog, dog or devil" for

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But where's the 'keeper?

We are all familiar with the saying "Sending the 'keeper the wrong way." The idea being, when taking a penalty, to aim the ball in one direction and have the custodian go the opposite way. But in this picture, Jimmy Keaveney seems to have out-done even the great Houdini. The ball goes smack into the back of the net—but where's Charlie Nelligan? Up in the 'Hogan'? Kerry's Tim Kennelly seems utterly bemused by the whole manoeuvre.

The action is from the Kerry v Dublin '77 League Final at Croke Park.

Despite Jimmy's conjuring, Kerry went on to a two points victory.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



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MOONDHARRIG'S DIARY

Midfield change might have saved Tipperary

AFTER that runaway victory over Galway in the League final I was not surprised to find such a tremendous upsurge of euphoria among the hurling followers of Tipperary. When it looks as though the hurlers are on the march, the whole of the Premier County goes on the march behind them.

That was obvious from the number of fans that, despite the petrol shortage made the trek South to Pairc Ui Chaoimh, and came away so sadly disappointed, despite the fact that the margin against their favourites was only a single point, and that the visitors almost snatched a last second draw. The inquests in Tipperary have been long and doleful since then, and far be it from me to add to the arguments, but I did think that the Tipperary mentors were unduly slow to react to the situation in which they found themselves.

It was obvious from the very start that the area in which the League champions were losing ground was at mid-field. Yet, when a substitute, John Grace, was sent in, he was sent in at right half-back, although he is a proven mid-fielder.

Perhaps the selectors were not certain of his full fitness after a fairly long lay-off, but it was obvious by the interval that Grace was not alone one hundred per cent fit but was in top form. So, when the teams lined out for the second half, I fully expected to see him at mid-field with young Gerry Stapleton possibly in the half-back line where he had done so well when he came in as a substitute during the semi-final against Clare.

Cork's mid-field superiority grew more and more pronounced during that second half. Then Tipperary sent in Jim Kehoe, a man who has also been seen to effect at mid-field, but he was sent in at full-forward, a position from which, he had of course, destroyed Galway in the League final. But the tall man from Kilsheelan, more recently playing his club hurling in Carrick, cut no ice there this time. Speaking, of course with the wisdom of hindsight, one wonders would the selectors have guessed to better effect if they had chanced him at mid-field assuming, of course, that his suspect ankle was up to it?

But when one considers that only a puck of the

ball carried the day for Cork, and that, despite obvious lack of experience when the real crunch came, Tipperary's youngsters gave a reasonably good account of themselves, it is hard to account for the utter dejection one found among so many of their supporters afterwards. One feels that, perhaps, they had built their hopes too high on three previous games, the victory over Cork in that end-of-January League game at Pairc Ui Chaoimh, the League semi-final win over Clare at Limerick and that subsequent sweeping League Final demolition of Galway.

Now it should have been remembered that, when Tipp travelled to Cork at the end of January, they had already had a couple of sharpening-up matches, and were far fitter than the somewhat rusty Corkmen. Against Clare, too many people forgot that Clare seemed through to yet another final until Tipp. snatched that last minute goal. And they then caught Galway on one of the Westerners almost inexplicable "Off" days. But all that much said, I still think the Tipperary supporters were wrong to be so discouraged.

After all, their youngsters, and they comprise almost half the side, have their best days ahead of them, and with other up and coming stars to reinforce them, must be an even greater force in next year's championship.

The great blow to Tipperary pride was, however, that it is now six long years since they won a match in the Munster Championship. That gap will be extended to seven years by the time the next senior championship starts, and the veterans, Francis Loughnane, Tadgh O'Connor and Noel O'Dwyer, will also all be a year older then. Moreover, not since 1971 have Tipperary won the Munster and All-Ireland senior titles, and that is an unacceptable lapse by traditional Tipperary standards.

Yet, while Cork fans left Pairc Ui Chaoimh overjoyed on the evening of that first Sunday in June, they have an awesome amount of work to do if they are to sharpen up enough to be completely certain of winning that fourth title in a row and thus equalling the achievement of Jack Lynch, Christy Ring and company in 1941-44.

● TO PAGE 35

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HURLING TAKES NOSE-DIVE IN WATERFORD

BEATEN out of sight having given a hopeless performance in the Munster senior hurling championship; outplayed by Kerry in the Under-21 championship; beaten to a frazzle in the minor hurling first round — it all adds up to one of the most nightmarish years Waterford has yet endured in hurling.

Mind you that is saying a lot, for this is not a county unfamiliar with failure. On the contrary, the sturdy independence of Waterford's hurling men was strengthened and based in the fact that defeat and disappointment was nothing new to them and merely heightened their anticipation of the day when everything clicked and famous victories brought clearly remembered delight.

Therefore, it is not lightly that they say it is a desperate hurling picture which faces them in this year of 1979. One well-known authority probably stated the case in his most jaundiced moments when he said: "Very little at the

top, and almost nothing coming up."

To find men involved with hurling in Waterford in a state of depression is truly alarming, because it is no more than four or five years ago that the county staged a splendid, organised effort to lift themselves from a patch of poor form. In that time we can all recall that they were involved in two or three of the most thrilling surprises or near-surprises of the championship: those games that are the life-blood of any game and most of all of hurling.

In that time, too, we recall two stirring League campaigns in succession in the first of which they began their rejuvenation by sweeping through Division 1B and beating New York afterwards in a final game. The following winter, the hurling world was agog for several months during which time Waterford either led or challenged for leadership of Division 1A.

Somewhere in that same time

sequence we recall a splendid U-21 team from the county (which, incidently, overcame the Clare side in which many of the successful players of the last few years held positions) which went within an unlucky pucker of winning the All-Ireland.

In other words, within that number of years — five or six — Waterford appeared to have plenty at the top or near the top and a lot more material on the way up. Now, the opposite seems true. Surely a situation which demands analysis and immediate remedy.

The only trouble is that immediate remedy is seldom possible in any game, and, in hurling in particular, it is usually quite impossible. Remedies are, by their nature, long-term, for there is no way to the hurling lime-light except through long and tedious hours of practice. By the time crises appear at the level of inter-county hurling on any level — senior, U-21, minor or Club — you can rest assured that years of neglect of the practice and the perfection of the skills of the game lies behind the scenes.

One item which immediately comes to mind as, perhaps, a symptom of whatever illness there is, concerns the outstanding success which De La Salle College, Waterford enjoyed in the schools and colleges soccer championships this year — runners-up at senior level; winners at junior grade. Yet, this is the school which was a most lively contender for Munster hurling honours until the last year or two.

There is still a great deal of attention given to hurling in De La Salle, of course, and to football, too, but the concentration of

● OVERLEAF

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the boys on soccer suggests a trend that could only detract from the standard of hurling eventually.

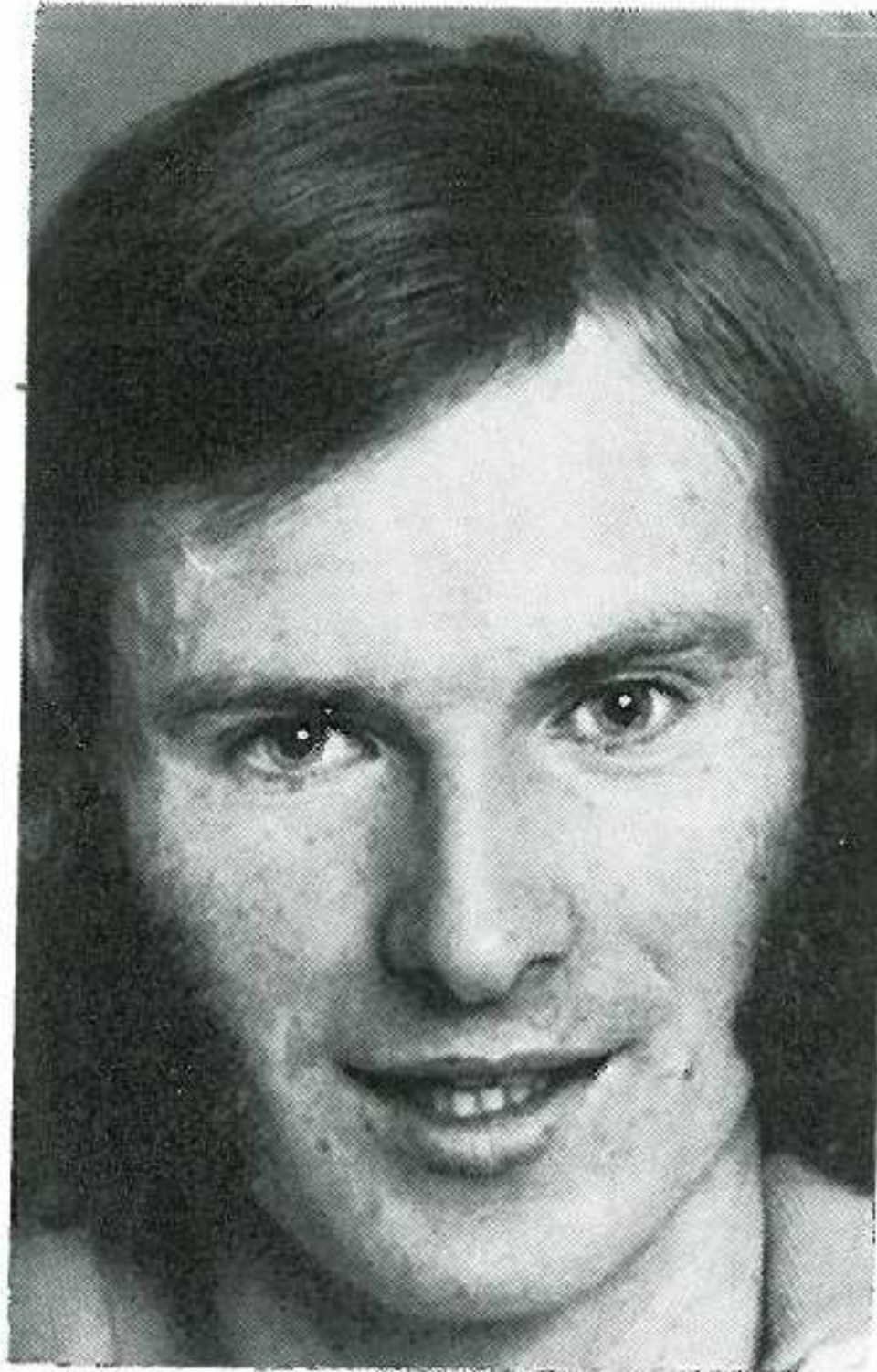
This is not an unique case. Indeed, while Mount Sion, the other great nursery of hurlers in the past, may not have pushed into such a prominent position in soccer competition, they are just as preoccupied with the game. Certainly, there is nothing like the flow of technically perfect young hurlers from the Monastery as in the decades right down to, say, 1960.

To seem to be alarmist in this is very easy. Therefore, one should indicate the relevance of any falling away in the influences of the schools — in particular, Mount Sion. No one needs to think overlong to recall such names as Seamus Power, Martin Og Morrissey, Frankie Walsh, Mick Flannelly, Phil Grimes, Sean Hayden, Fred O'Brien, Dickie Roche, Larry Guinan, and others who leaped, full-grown from their school teams into inter-county minor, club senior and, a little later, inter-county senior.

The reason was in some part an accident of birth, in some part the chance that so many well-endowed youngsters came together in the same area. But, it was mainly, of course, brought about by the timely and thorough attention which these fellows received at the hands of dedicated Brothers and other teachers in Mount Sion, polished off and reviewed, no doubt, by the late John Keane and all his generation who said the encouraging word.

Yet, Mount Sion as a club has not lost its position of importance in the game of hurling in Waterford, though this must be considered as a relative importance — a much smaller fish in a much smaller pool.

Apart from a fine De La Salle



● John Galvin a member of the Waterford hurling team defeated so comprehensively by Limerick in the first round of the Munster S.H. Championship.

team which showed great promise a short time back, there has been very little impact by any school team in schools' competition, and where there has been success it has been in lower quality competition.

This repeats a pattern which has been experienced in many counties since the re-vamping of the educational system in the mid-60s. Since it was a problem aggravated by transport-problems and distances and the complications of time-tabling for larger numbers, it had to be conceded as one of those penalties which have to be paid for progress. It became the obligation of the clubs to supply for the gap which the schools left.

Easier said than done when one recalls that most clubs now expected to play a major role were completely unequipped for it. Many have set about the job with a will; many wonderful officials have given time and energy beyond reason. But there

is, by the nature of things, a problem in regard to continuity. The championship or some other competition creates a focus for work and practice in a club. Once over, the push is no longer there. In school, it was a week by week, day by day thing that encouraged towards constant effort and unbroken contact.

The unbroken hurling atmosphere created the environment in which it was a way of life to become more and more perfect at the challenges offered. The broken continuity of interest makes it a natural thing for the youngsters to look for other amusement ... and, so, many gravitate towards other pursuits, having fun at many games and sports, but dividing their time so that they remain moderate at all.

It would seem that it is so with the younger generation in Waterford just now. They have many talents and they wish to use all of them at the same time. In such a position it is always hurling which must lose most — for it is by far the most skill-intensive and the most demanding in order to bring it to a high-stage of perfection.

Intensive work, therefore, needs to be done at the level of the club and at the level of the primary school, probably, if Waterford is to pull itself together: at second-level, too, if that is feasible. But intense effort demands not only input from the young hopefuls learning the game, but also from those instructing and encouraging them. And, at a casual glance, perhaps it is in this area that Waterford is most seriously affected. Where are the hurlers of former great days — not just the top twenty but the dozens who were nearly as good but got none of the limelight? It is now that their county needs them most of all.

WILL CORK NOW MAKE IT FOUR IN A ROW?

BY NOEL HORGAN

WHEN the Cork hurlers conquered league champions, Tipperary, in that hectic Munster hurling semi-final on the first Sunday in June, they firmly installed themselves as favourites to take their fourth successive All-Ireland title.

Many shrewd observers, including the late, great Christy Ring, had predicted early in the year that determined Tipp would prove to be Cork's toughest obstacle on the road to championship glory. The Tippetmen, starved of national success since 1971, were under-going a hurling revival.

A victory at the expense of Cork was just the incentive Tipperary needed to help them in their resurgence. Their impressive league win had boosted Tipp's morale but hardly sated their hunger for real success and they came to Cork with a neatly blended side of youth and experience and hopeful of toppling the champions.

The fact that Tipp were tamed and their revival temporarily halted in that classical confrontation was not so much an indictment of the men in blue and gold but a further tribute to the character of the Cork team. Clearly,

the Leesiders will to win is as strong as ever in spite of the provincial and national successes the county has enjoyed since 1975.

Cork displayed such fire and enthusiasm in the Tipp game that it was hard to believe that a good few players are approaching the twilight of their careers. Admittedly, they won by a mere point but over the 70 minutes they had a decided edge over the spirited Tippetmen.

When one considers that Cork are usually at their most vulnerable in first-round games and invariably improve as the championship progresses, one realises that, despite their league form, they are the team to beat again this year. There is, however, room for improvement on the team.

The Cork attack promised much in the early stages but were untypically prodigal as the game aged. Never have I seen the lethal Leeside full-forward line of Charlie McCarthy, Ray Cummins and Sean O'Leary so well policed. Tipp's Pat Williams, Jim Keogh and Tadhg O'Connor deserve huge credit for subduing the Cork trio.

Gerald McCarthy was another



John Horgan
(Cork)



Francis
Loughnane
(Tipperary)

Cork stalwart below form in attack, yet he and the front-runners are four of the finest forwards in the game. The fact that Cork could afford to have this quartet playing below form and still winning is, indeed, a tribute to the team's general effectiveness.

Comparative newcomer John Fenton was superb at midfield against Tipp and could emerge as Cork's find of the year. The Midleton man possesses abundant skill, has a lengthy delivery and, after three years on the periphery of the Cork team, is more than keen to establish himself.

His partner, Pat Moylan, hero of the '76 All-Ireland, is in top form at the moment and it was the Fenton-Moylan combination that dominated the midfield exchanges in the Tipp encounter. The Cork defence was also magnificent that day with Martin Doherty a towering figure at full back.

Martin is due to emigrate to the States shortly and Cork's mentors are presently pondering

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NEW ERA FOR THE ALL-STARS

IT is a new era in more ways than one for the ALL STARS promotion. As well as the change of sponsorship from CARROLLS to the BANK OF IRELAND, the tour will this year take place in October—a sharp contrast with former seasons when matches were played in the spring.

As a result, the timetable for the nomination and selection of the All Stars will be extremely tight this year. The teams will leave for the U.S. on October 12, and matches will be played in Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles. Details of the New York games had not been finalised as we went to press.

Plans are very well advanced to cope with the new situation. A nomination panel of 33 sports journalists was drawn up some weeks back, and the final selections will be made by a panel of 15 journalists.

As in previous years the nominations will be based on the 1979 Leagues and championships,

and the nominations will be released on August 22 (hurling) and September 10 (football). The final selections will be announced on September 6 (hurling) and September 20 (football).

The hurling and football All Stars selections will make the U.S. tour with the All-Ireland champions in each code. It is very probable that the footballers will travel on from Los Angeles for a three Sunday tour of Australia.

There will again be a presentation banquet in Dublin. This has been arranged for December 7, and the awards will be presented by An Taoiseach, Mr. Jack Lynch, T.D.

New trophies have been specially designed for the BANK OF IRELAND ALL STARS awards winners. These have been designed by young and talented Dublin-born sculptor, Rowan Gillespie, who made the trophies to meet the Bank's need for something distinctive, beautiful and expressive of the national games.

At the formal inauguration of the BANK OF IRELAND All Stars awards scheme, Frank O'Rourke, Chief General Manager, said:

"The Bank does not regard this as the first year of the Bank of Ireland All Stars but as the ninth year of the All Stars scheme, which was initiated by the Gaelic Games Correspondents, and sponsored by Carrolls.

"We are fully conscious of the status of the All Star Awards in the world of our national games and we are genuinely proud to be involved in this very direct way with a major area of our tradition and culture".

Mr. O'Rourke continued:

"For this reason, we intend to accord to these awards the same high standard of treatment that was given to them up to now. As evidence of our commitment, we are showing for the first time the new trophies by Rowan Gillespie".

● FROM PAGE 19

on flying him home for future games. While this is clearly not an ideal arrangement, it is infinitely better than the prospect of a Cork defence without the sturdy Glenman.

John Horgan, Denis Coughlan and Dermot McCurtain were others to perform stoically in defence. Horgan was an inspirational captain and achieved the remarkable feat of not merely holding Francis Loughnane to three points (two from frees) but scoring almost as much himself! Stylish Denis Coughlan, showing no after-effects of his recent illness, hurled with his usual style and the dashing young Dermot McCurtain was his reliably consistent self.

Add in names like John Crow-

lev, Denis Burns, Brian Murphy and utility player, Tom Cashman who came on as a substitute in the Tipp game and Cork's richness in defensive talent becomes obvious. Magical Jimmy Barry-Murphy and hard-working Tim Crowley were Cork's best forwards last time out but with a return to form by Cummins, the McCarthy's and O'Leary, the Leaside will, indeed, be a powerful championship force.

Complacency at this point, however, could be fatal. Be under no illusions, Cork's road to another All-Ireland is laden with pitfalls. The Munster final itself will be a real test despite the fact that Tipperary have now been mastered.

Inconsistent Galway will meet the Munster champions in the

All-Ireland semi-final and the Tribesmen, on their day, are capable of matching the best. Kilkenny or Wexford cannot be underestimated either.

To succeed, therefore, Cork's approach to every game must be similar to that which they adopted when toppling Tipp. Needless to add, this point will be hammered home by the astute Cork mentors whose shrewd switches at vital stages have been a major factor in Cork's current run of success.

The players themselves realise what is necessary to win the four-in-a-row. They know that victory over Tipp, despite its immense satisfaction, was not the ultimate goal. And in view of this Cork in quest of the 1979 title will be a hard team to stop.

Two of the bright stars of this decade

IT is that exciting dual star Jimmy Barry-Murphy who is yet again in the spotlight! GAEILIC SPORT had hardly arrived on the news stands last month carrying among the features a brief but interesting sidelight by Jack Mahon in Junior Desk on the brilliant Cork star, than the Leaside finisher was capturing the headlines as the All-Ireland senior hurling champions got their four in a row titles bid off to a dramatic start with a one point win over Tipperary.

Now, here is this two-games hero from the South sharing this month's cover with another of the many bright young talents who are providing so much to enthuse over in Gaelic Games—Joe Hennessy.

This pair provide an interesting contrast in many ways. Barry-Murphy will only be 25 next month, but he has still been one of the outstanding personalities in senior competitions for close on six seasons, and has collected practically all of the game's top honours.

Hennessy is at 23 an established defender of genuine class with an impressive array of medals also to his credit, but still to savour the satisfaction of the game's most prized award—an All-Ireland senior souvenir.

Then, the Cork star has also the added virtue, of course, that he has long since made the grade in impressive style in football as well as in the more ancient game.

By OWEN McCANN

Hennessy's high qualities at right half back did much to fuel Kilkenny's revival in the Leinster senior championship last year. Yet, while I have many memories of his progressive work as the Noresiders regained the provincial crown after a three year break, and later of his play in the All-Ireland campaign in general, what I remember best

of all from the entire series is a spectacular point by the James Stephens club man.

It came about fifteen minutes into the second half of the All-Ireland semi-final. Galway had cut back an interval deficit of eight points to four, and were going great guns when Hennessy stepped in to strike a decisive blow. He went off on a cheeky run along the right before cracking over a superb point, and a

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score that, furthermore, steadied Kilkenny, and set them back on course for their victory effort.

It also underlined the half back's enterprise and gave added point to his capabilities as an attacking defender of real class.

Barry-Murphy has provided some of the best moments of all in modern-day scoring returns in hurling as well as football. I was at Pairc Ui Chaoimh last month when the St. Finbarr's club man

whipped home Cork's only goal of the game in the 13th minute of the second half, and like Hennessy's point in last year's All-Ireland semi-final, that was a score that did much to set the scene for a winning outing.

The goal was Barry-Murphy's seventh since Cork started off on their unbeaten sequence with a one point victory over Tipperary in a cracker of a first round Munster tie at Limerick in 1976



Jimmy
Barry-Murphy
(Cork)

Joe Hennessy
(Kilkenny)

It also leaves him as Cork's leading goal-getter in this particular era of unbeaten championship play.

My earliest memories of Barry-Murphy, in fact, are as a goal-getting teenager, but in football and not hurling. He hit 2-1 when Cork beat Tyrone in the 1973 All-Ireland minor final, and just over a year later he repeated that exercise as a senior, to complete a rare and possibly unique double of its kind.

The game was Cork's win over Galway for the 1973 Sam Maguire Cup, and Barry-Murphy finished, as against Tyrone minors a year earlier, with exactly the same tally — 2-1.

No Ulster man, either, will need reminding of the smooth and efficient showing from Barry-Murphy that paid off in a bag of four goals as Munster got a golden era in Railway Cup football off to a great start with a 1975 final win over the North. Munster went on to equal in 1978 the records of Leinster, in the 'Fifties, and Ulster, in the 'Sixties, of four titles in succession, and the lively opportunist from Cork played in all four final winning sides.

One way and another, then, Jimmy Barry-Murphy has had a career in both games that is nothing short of remarkable. He won an All-Ireland minor hurling medal in 1971, and soon after that triumphant day against Tyrone minors he was called up to the senior football side.

● TO PAGE 24

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● FROM PAGE 23

In the meantime he has undoubtedly proven one of the real glamour figures of Gaelic Games — a pulse-raising performer whether in football or hurling, and a man who has repeatedly

coloured the scene with his dazzling gifts.

Although he has not got among the Railway Cup medals in hurling — he has played in the code, however — the Cork man has been honoured in both games by

the Carrolls All Stars selectors.

He was only 19 and at that time the youngest player to gain an award when he was included in the football selection of 1973. He collected a second award in the code a year later, and his vital contribution to the great three-in-a-row sequence of All-Ireland senior hurling titles has been recognised at All Star level with selection in 1976, 1977 and 1978.

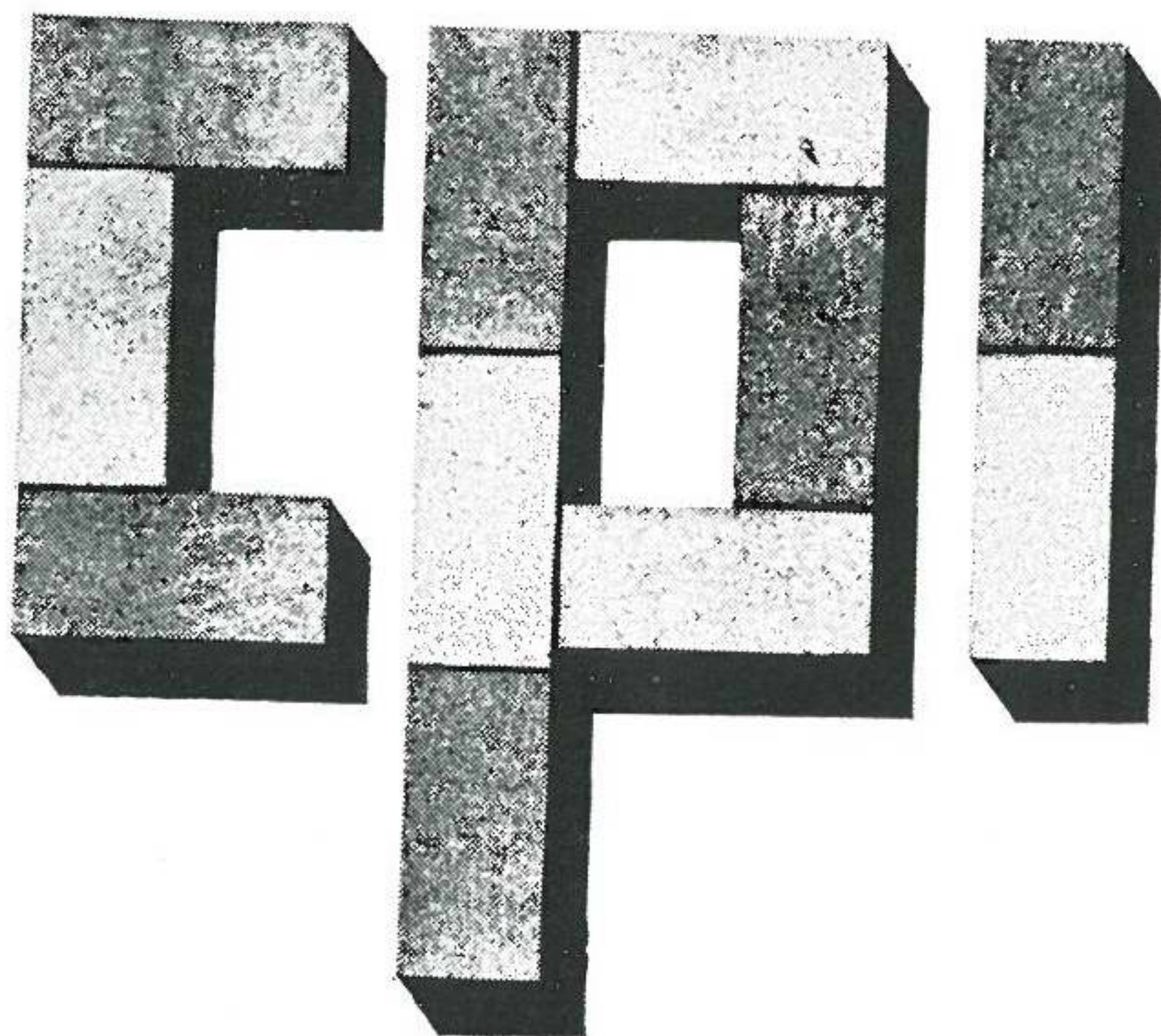
Weigh in a brace of national club championship senior medals with St. Finbarr's, and it adds up to an amazing collection by any standard.

Hennessy is a history-maker in his own right. He was on duty as a forward when James Stephens earned a unique ranking in hurling in 1976 by bringing the All-Ireland club title to Leinster for the only time so far. He did, though, play in the half back line in earlier games in that glory campaign.

Hennessy also has got among the All-Ireland inter-county medals with Kilkenny at minor (1974), under-21 (1975 as a forward), and 1977 at right half back. He was a brilliant No. 5 for Leinster when they beat Connacht at Thurles in April to regain the Railway Cup after a two year interval.

Cool under pressure, clever with sound positional sense and a good clearance, Hennessy joined the ranks of the Carrolls All Stars in the very last hurling team just nine months back.

Many of the pessimists would have us believe that the stars of today are not a patch on the men of yesterday. Yet, much as I respect and admire the "Golden Oldies", I still maintain that the wonderful achievements of men like Jimmy Barry-Murphy and Joe Hennessy and the brilliant manner in which they have honed their superb skills to such perfection illustrates in the best possible way that today's heroes can walk tall with the giants of any of the past.



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WORLD TESTS MUST RESUME

THE revival of the World Handball Championships is overdue. The last series was held in 1970 at the New Court in Croke Park when Pat Kirby won out, but, thereafter, the event seems to have disappeared from the charter of handball programmes and more is the pity.

During their existence these championships, even if they did only include the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Philippines, Australia and Ireland succeeded in glamourising the game and whetted the enthusiasm of sports-minded people, particularly in the country where the games are held.

This was certainly the case in this country after the 1970 World Championships. They were instrumental in opening up a completely new vista for the uninitiated, which led to the construction of new courts and the refurbishing of others from end to end of the country.

A pity then that they lapsed and I am making full allowance for the variance in court sizes in the different countries, the expenses involved in travelling and the complex extremes of professionalism and amateurism in the U.S.A.

Contra that, it is the desire of every player to see handball emerge as a worldwide sport that could take its place, for instance, in the Olympic Games. And, while the pundit might shout "impossible", the reality of the situation is that there is a real basis for new initiatives to promote the game.

Besides the countries I have already mentioned one can determine South Africa as another promotional base.

Irish Emigrants have already

brought the sport to many locations in that continent and in some instances it still survives.

In many cases, particularly in European countries, tradition and mythology provide a pointer that handball could also be included in the charter of sports. For instance, we read, that, in the Tailteann Games of old handball occupied a most important role. Despite communication difficulties European inhabitants are credited with travelling thousands of miles to battle for the crown of champion.

Likewise, in the context of the ancient Olympic Games of Greece and those who have acquainted themselves with Homer, we recall his elation with the handballing feats of Anagalla, Princess of Cercyre. She is reputed to have distinguished herself as a handballer who could throw down the gauntlet to the male heroes of her time.

Handball also enjoyed immense popularity in France during the reign of Charles V under the name of palm play. The nobility were particularly attracted to it, with the gambling aspect being a major incentive.

Pelota, the national sport of the Basques and popular in Spain and Central America, also has a common bond with handball. In fact, both games are so akin to each other that Irishmen and Spaniards have, on occasions, met in competition.

In Wales, handball was the popular game some years ago in the mining village of Nelson, North of Cardiff. It is believed that the game was introduced by Irish emigrants who went to work in the mines and steel industries during the Famine.

Three Irishmen, namely Richard Andrews, believed to be a native of Cork and locally known as "Dick Ted", Tom Phillips, another Corkman and Jim Coleman displayed their prowess at Nelson and often played for side bets of as much as £50.

The game can also be traced to England where it is known as "Fives". Indeed, thanks to the initiative of the Belfast Handball Association there is a close affinity between the two sports. During the past twelve months members of the Belfast Group have played in the "Fives" championships, and two "Fives" players have competed in Irish Competitions.

Tony Wynn from Manchester and Chris Heron from Harrow competed in the recent Wilson Bros "Colt Cup" at Queens University, Belfast and expressed satisfaction with the handball code as played in the 40 X 20 court.

It appears, then, that a valid argument can be made for the promotion of handball on an international scale, in a real sense, and, in turn, the revival of the World Championships.

After the World Championships in 1970, Delegates from the Competing Countries elected Irish Administrator Joe Lynch as Chairman of the World Handball Council. No specific arrangements were made for a further series and in the interim the event has remained dormant.

At this stage, I am of the opinion that, in the best interests of the game, on a universal basis, the World Championships should be revived.

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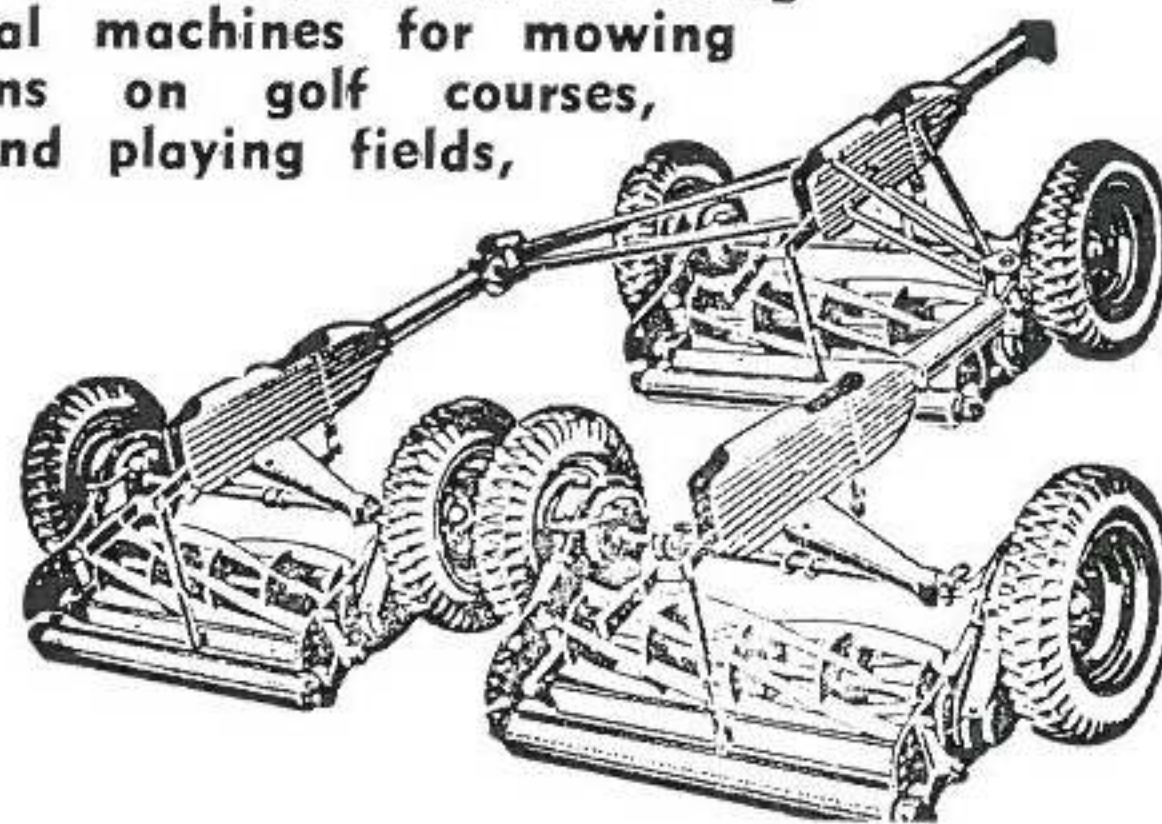
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FEILE HAS HAD BIG IMPACT ON CAMOGIE

BY
AGNES
HOURIGAN

FEILE NA nGAEL has done a great deal for the future of hurling by spreading a love of the game among juveniles in counties where it was hitherto little practised. Yet in its own way, Feile na nGael can claim to have made an even greater impact on Camogie since the game for girls was first added on at Limerick, in the second year that the Festival of Juvenile Hurling was held in the Shannonside City. One feels that was the spur Limerick Camogie teams needed to achieve Munster and All-Ireland victories something that was achieved very shortly afterwards.

Then the Feile moved on to Cork, and there too there was an upsurge in interest among the juvenile Camogie players that has resulted in Cork doing so very well in under-age ranks ever since. In the following years the Feile moved to Waterford and though the success on the inter-county fields that followed the Feile in Cork and Limerick was not repeated in the Decies the interest in the game was intensified and has since been maintained at local level.

However a new trend had by then become evident in the Feile Camogie set-up, with teams from the weaker counties becoming increasingly eager to win a place. Last year the Camogie Feile expanded to accommodate twenty four teams, twelve from Kilkenny and twelve from other counties, equally divided between weak

counties and strong counties.

This year the number of teams has been extended to 32—sixteen from counties outside Kilkenny and an equal number from the home host county. The list is very impressive for Division A — Armagh, Kildare, Dublin, Limerick, Galway, Donegal, Wexford and Cork. Division B — Waterford, Roscommon, Kerry, Carlow, Antrim, Wicklow, Meath. But even more satisfactory from the viewpoint of the future of Camogie in the county where the Feile is staged is the fact that the 16 Kilkenny teams cover every area of the county. In proof, here they are:— Castlecomer A, Freshford, Ballycallan, Urlingford, Tullaroan, Thomastown, Piltown, Mooncoin, Gowran, Castlecomer B. Blacks and Whites, Clinstown, Kilmacow, Mullinavat, Slieverue, Danesfort.

In addition the skills competition, won in its first year at Kilkenny in 1978 by a girleen from Cork, will have representatives from each county this year.

The Feile Camogie series is for under-14s, and there is a spin off, if that is the proper word into the Community Games later in the year. Many of the players, who figure on Club teams in the Feile, subsequently line out for their Community teams at Mosney.

The vast increase in interest through the Feile and the Community at Under-14 level has already led to an appreciable im-

provement in standards in the All-Ireland minor competitions, which are for the Under-16s and has also led to a great levelling up between the counties. There was scarcely a puck of the ball between the several Leinster teams in the recent provincial champions in this grade with Wexford just pipping Dublin in a very exciting final. This is the first time Wexford has ever won a Leinster minor title, but they will have to wait until the end of August to play in the concluding stages of the competition.

Due to the new arrangement decided upon by the Easter Congress in Cork the semi-finals of the minor championship, which nowadays is also the Willwood Tailteann Camogie championship, will be played over one week-end at the same venue, rotating through the provinces in turn.

Connacht is the first province to have the honour of staging the series but the venue cannot be decided until the Connacht champions are known. The semi-finals will be on Saturday, August 25, with the winners meeting in the final on the following day, and the beaten semi-finalists playing off for third place.

Meanwhile the Coaching Courses will continue as usual this year at Gormanston College with the National Course from July 20-22 and the special students and teachers Colleges Course August 10-12.

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TOM HAS SHOWN HIS

TEAM THE

WAY TO THE STARS

By Jim Bennett

TOM HENEGHAN of Roscommon went up for a ball with such determination during the second half of the National League final that he knocked himself out in the tumble which ensued. He said afterwards that he could only recall sketches of the first half and that from the time of the knock onwards he remembered nothing.

In one way, I suppose, it was as kindly a disposition of things as might have been arranged, for there is little doubt that every second was beginning to weigh like a minute at that stage. Roscommon had played with wonderful vivacity throughout and their lead was such that victory was already much more than a vague thought.

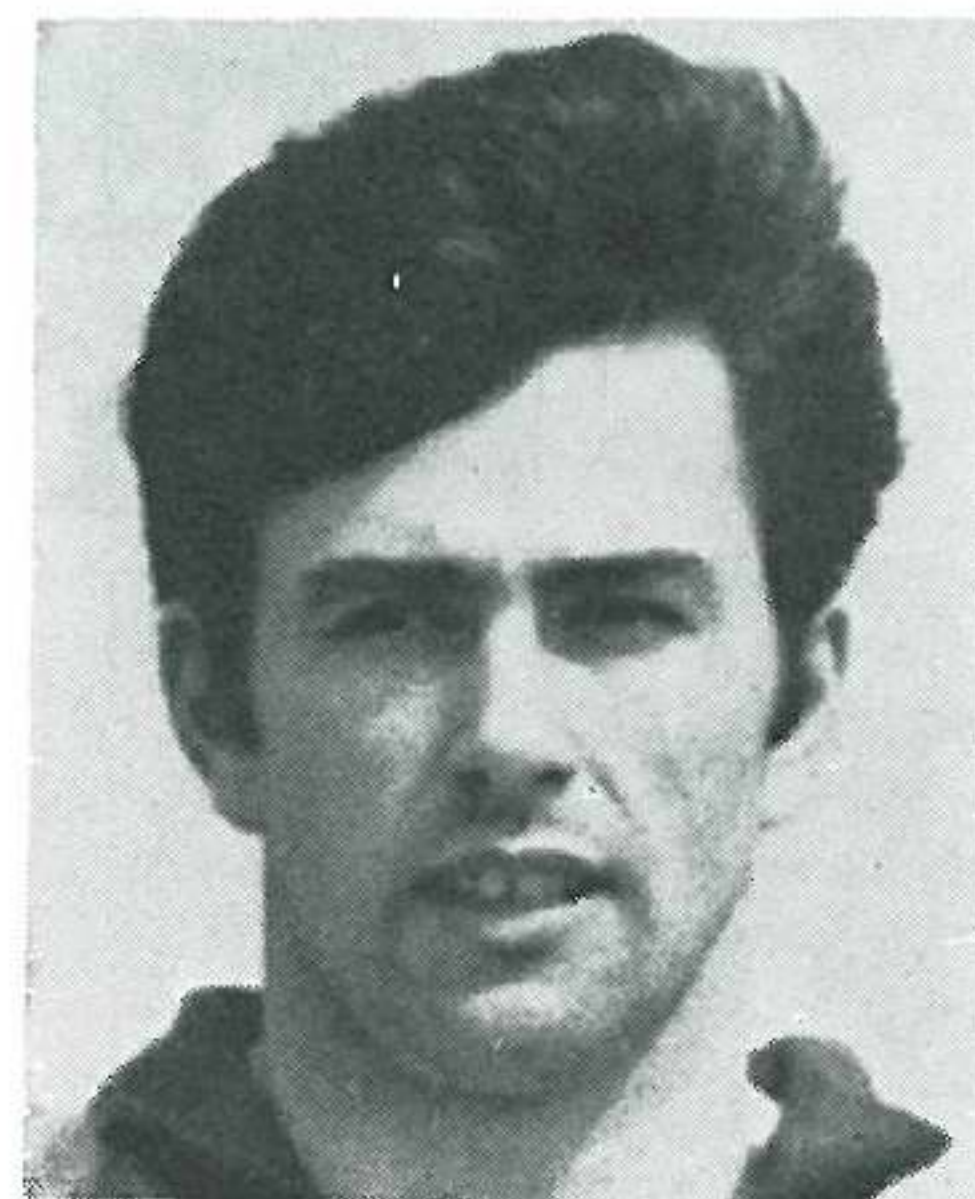
But for Tom Heneghan and Roscommon and for all the generations who had worn the jersey in the course of the 35 years, the lessons of victory lavishly promised were bitter ones. How many other days did the important match appear to be more than half-won only to be wrenched away from them before the last whistle.

Even neutral followers do not need long memories to recall the great disappointment of another League final in which a goal by John Egan of Kerry made a draw out of it when even Kerry had given up thoughts of saving the day.

And more recently those of the present team had endured the agony of seeing Armagh chip away at a fine lead in the All-Ireland semi-final until it was all gone. They could recall the horror of it all, for it was as though there was some malign Fate pulling them back as Armagh, against all probabilities, went about closing the gap. Where even, was the physical effort?

They seemed drained of all ability to protect themselves. The draw at the end was like an echo out of a series of bad dreams that began with the goals by Paddy Burke and Gega O'Connor that robbed them in 1946. The replay had a sense of inevitability about it. Armagh won it; or was it that Roscommon lost it, unmanned by Fate?

So it was not just a matter of playing out time for the rest of the second half and putting in the effort as enthusiastically as they had from the beginning. No doubt that realisation had some-



Dermot Earley (Roscommon) at last a NFL Medal

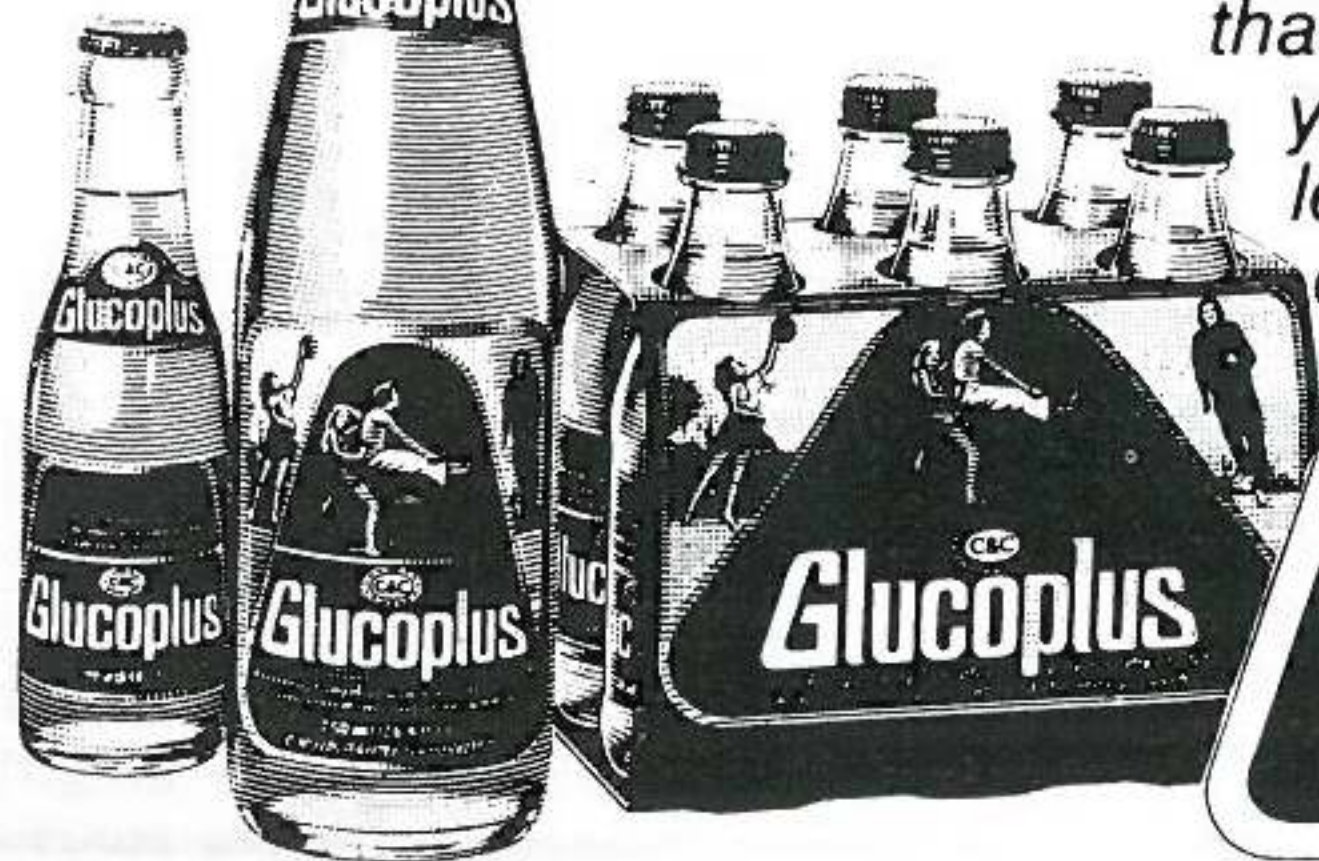
thing to do with the excess of zeal which caused Tom Heneghan to crash to the ground and knock himself out. The screw was just beginning to turn. Perhaps, then, it was a kindness that he did not have to suffer the crawling minutes.

And, yet, we know that this is not the way it was. For to wish the moments of high drama to be anaesthetised even though they be painful and agonising indicates a certain lack of courage and a fear to reach for the stars lest they burn at the touch.

Heneghan is the man who has finally convinced Roscommon players to arrest their downhill slide and scramble up with him to pluck down fistfuls of stars; convinced them it was no more hurtful than plucking apples from the bough.

Such a man with such a conviction and such a capability of convincing others would not have willed away the agonising moments of final achievement, however much they grated on the nerve-endings. He would have wanted to hoard the minutes as the wages of all that effort, and delight in the heightened awareness of such a special occasion.

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FEED THE CHAMPIONS

By Linda Collins

NEVER before have the people of the world been so conscious that "you are what you eat". The point is illustrated dramatically when you look around at your fellow humans. The listless undernourished children of the underdeveloped world are obvious cases of protein deficiency while the fat character opposite you in the bus, though he or she **could** just be suffering from a glandular condition, is probably fat due to over-eating, or eating the wrong things.

SUSTAINED ENERGY

For those involved in sport and athletics, eating (and drinking) the right things can dramatically improve performance.

For instance if you've seen Bjorn Borg on T.V. slip something into his mouth between sets, he's not popping a pill, he's taking a Dextrosol. Dextrosol "sweets" are available to you too, from your local pharmacist or supermarket, and are a tasty way to replace lost energy. Ideal for

children and adults alike, Dextrosol contains glucose and unlike most sweets does not contain sugar — therefore it can't harm your teeth. Dextrosol quickly restores glucose levels in the body and therefore can sustain your level of performance. You can buy Dextrosol, for no more than the cost of an ordinary packet of sweets, in five refreshing flavours — Natural, Orange, Lemon, Lime and Raspberry. According to market research seventy per cent of Dextrosol users today are housewives—presumably it helps them to zip through the housework. With Borg's example before us, sportsmen and athletes should soon change that pattern.

QUICK SNACK

On occasions when a quick snack is all you have time for, but what you really need is a bit of solid nourishment, the creamcracker can come to the rescue. Jacob's Creamcrackers are the

obvious choice and they combine well with cheese to give you a lot of protein. Cheese'n creamcrackers are acceptable eating at any time but creamcrackers combine well too with hard-boiled eggs, sardines — they even taste great when piled high with baked beans so if you want your protein in another form besides cheese, just get a packet of Jacob's creamcrackers and get cracking.

GOOD PACKAGE

The egg has been called the handiest form of protein ever invented — and it was invented entirely by Mother Nature. Her prepackaging of the egg has never been surpassed for simplicity of design and pleasing contours. Fresh eggs taste so much better than ones which have been laid for a while that one is forced to conclude they must also be better for you.

● TO PAGE 33

CORBY ROCK FARM EGGS

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How does Bjorn Borg keep going? Ask him. And he'll recommend Dextrosol. Dextrosol glucose sweets are power-packed with high energy. Dextrosol will keep you going, at home, at work or while playing sport. Five refreshing flavours recommend themselves. Try Dextrosol. The results are energising!



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "Bjorn Borg". The signature is stylized and slanted to the right.

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● FROM PAGE 31

Corby Rock Farm of Monaghan and also of Coolock, Co. Dublin, take their duty to provide fresh eggs very seriously. Their eggs travel in special "cooler" vans from them to the retailers so they reach you, the consumer, in prime condition.

RECIPE FOR FITNESS

Gaelic Sport has sung the praises of Flora margarine frequently and informed opinion has swung around to the idea that if you want to guard against high cholesterol levels in the blood, you can help yourself by using this spread on your bread. It is light and appetising and its main constituent is vegetable oil. Flora contains no animal fats — as anyone who takes even a minimal interest in health matters must know by now, cutting down on one's consumption of animal fats is almost a standard recommendation for people who need to keep their cholesterol levels under control and thus avoid the hazards of high blood pressure and other ills.

ENERGY DRINK

Eighteen months of intensive research and planning went into the development of Glucoplus, Cantrell and Cochrane's glucose-rich drink which specifically aids sportsmen, athletes — and children too — by quickly raising blood sugar levels before or after exercise. Apart from giving you more quick energy, it is worth noting that Glucoplus is quite a nice drink, too, with a pleasant lemony flavour and a bit of fizz in it. And while it gives you that extra zest, it contains no harmful ingredients at all — it is free from caffeine, say the makers.

So before or after sports, or any sort of physical exertion, or even to buck you up after a hard

day's work, Glucoplus is the drink to turn to. Many of Ireland's top athletes and sports players make a habit of downing a glass of Glucoplus before major competitions to help them perform better.

The secret of Glucoplus, say Cantrell & Cochrane who are Ireland's leading makers of soft drinks, is that the pure glucose it contains is absorbed into the bloodstream and converted quickly into energy. It can be bought anywhere, your local supermarket or off-licence is sure to have it. The small-size bottle of Glucoplus offers a good option in the pub to anyone who wants a palatable soft drink.

EASY COOKING

Choosing the right foods is one thing, cooking them is something else again. Energy is becoming

scarcer and it might be back to the pot over the the turf fire for us yet! But to ensure that we don't have to forsake the convenience and cleanliness of electric cooking for a while longer, Tricity have introduced their new "President" cooker with economiser plates. The economiser idea really works. The plates are designed in such a way as to beam all the heat generated at the bottom of the cooking utensil — with conventional plates quite a bit of it disperses elsewhere. Tricity say they are positive that using the new President will save an average family something like ten per cent of its cooking costs. Yet another economy feature of this cooker, incidentally, is the grill. You can switch on the whole grill at one time, or only half of it which is handy when you have only small quantities of food to grill.

Jacob's

Lucht Déanta
na
mBRIOSCAÍ.

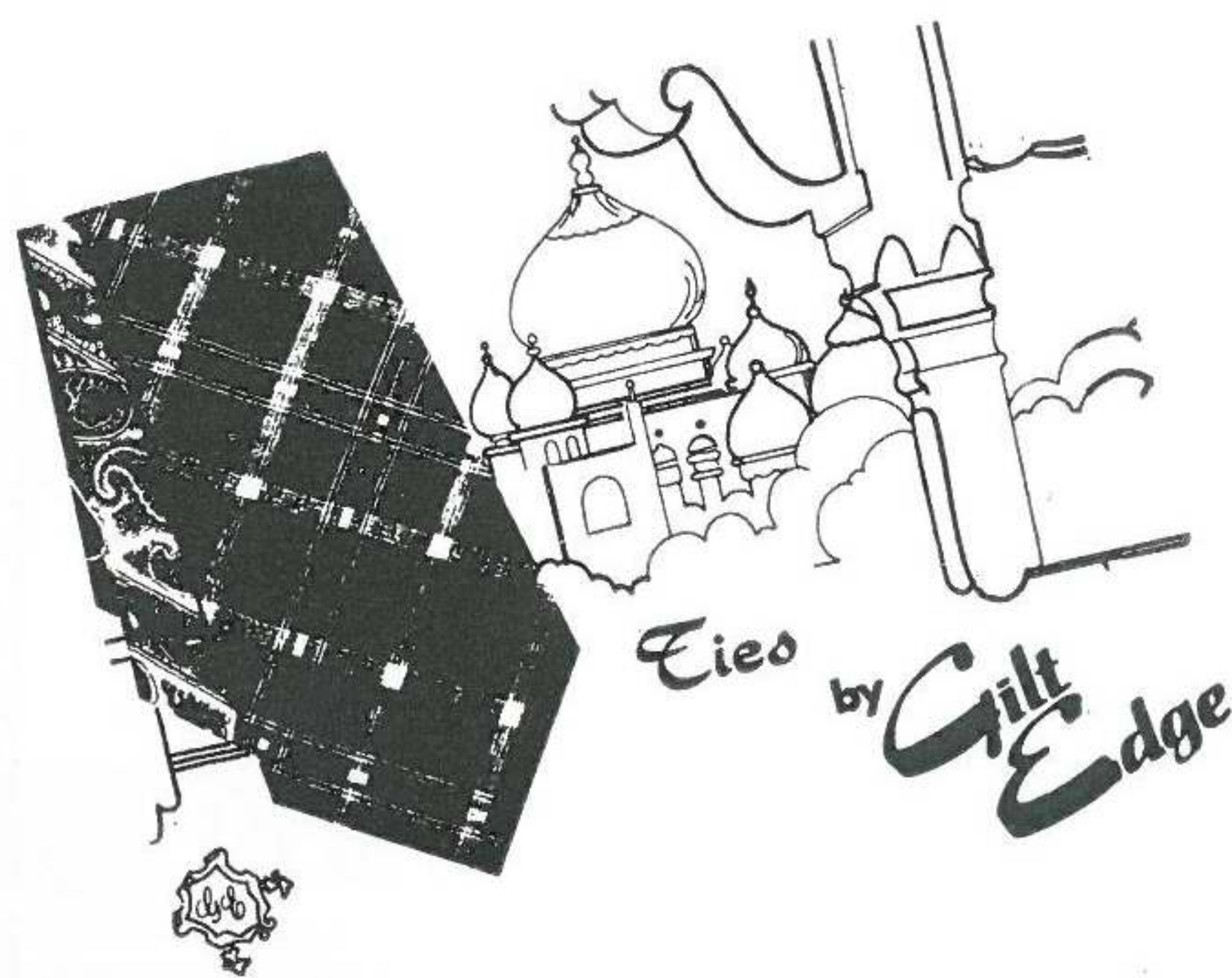


the New **Tricity** **President** **Economiser** **Cooker**

This is the great new cooker from Tricity. One of its major features is the economiser ring which saves you money every time you cook. A saving of electricity of as much as 10% without loss of speed or efficiency.

A family of four, for example, could save enough electricity over a year to run a 5 cu. ft. refrigerator for some 6 months . . . absolutely free. That's real economy. And the new Tricity President carries the Carlile Long Life Guarantee.

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● FROM PAGE 15

At the other end of the country and in the other Gaelic code the big surprise of the early round of the Ulster football championship was the first-round victory of Monaghan over Down. Now, on the day, Monaghan won very deservedly, and played some very good football in the process from time to time. But the good football was overshadowed by the almost unbroken succession of fouls petty and otherwise from both sides for at least fifty minutes of the game.

To make matters worse this was a "match-of-the-day" on television that Sunday night and, before noon in Dublin on the following day I was accosted by a lady who said, "and you are the man that wants my son to play Gaelic football!"

Indeed, when the Director-General Liam Mulvihill began his Croke Park career by meeting the Media in the Headquarters Council Chamber, this was among the first matters raised by one of the journalists—persistent fouling in football matches, everybody accepting that nothing like the same problem is to be found on the hurling fields.

Mulvihill, who had earlier revealed that, if and when opportunity affords, he would still continue to field out for his County Longford Club, said that, from his playing experience, there was nothing wrong with the rules. What was wrong was the attitude and approach of the players, too many of whom were too often afflicted by an excessive win-at-all-costs spirit.

Now, I am all for the full vigour and rigour of the game, but frontal tackles that consist of running through a man rather than seeking to side step round him should not be permitted on any field. Neither should bone-crushing tackles from behind. In my view the sooner we get those yellow and red cards into full operation the better. And that conviction does not come from the Castleblayney match



● Seanie O'Leary (left) and Cork have some formidable opponents yet to overcome before they can claim their fourth All-Ireland title in-a-row. Here Seanie bursts past a Waterford defender in the 1978 Munster Championship semi-final.

alone. There have been other matches in other provinces where the same tough tactics were ruthlessly exposed by the television cameras.

Liam Mulvihill said he does not want to see the television cameras used as a Court of Appeal against referees. But those same television cameras can tell referees a lot about the approach and the tactics of certain players.

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Roscommon also tops for neat and smart appearance

By Mick Dunne (*RTE Sport*)

FOOTBALL followers warmly welcomed Roscommon's capture of the National League title because it had been so long since the county tasted senior success at national level. Even Cork followers, when the initial disappointment of losing the final wore off, did not begrudge the westerners their triumph.

The victory by Roscommon was a most impressive one; their football in the latter stages of the league was refreshingly direct, full of purpose and played constructively and with conviction. Their first National League title was a very deserved reward.

There was also another feature of Roscommon's performance in the league final—less significant perhaps than the victory itself, but nonetheless pleasing: the admirable appearance of the players, smartly and uniformly togged in their yellow and blue. The way the team dressed for the final was as impressive as the football they played. The blue shorts, adopted as part of their playing attire in the interval between the semi-final against

Offaly and the final with Cork, added considerably to the team's appearance.

While no one would suggest that our major matches should be turned into fashion parades, the wearing of proper playing gear is an aspect of our games that is very important in this modern age. If teams come onto pitches togged in untidy and slovenly fashion they detract greatly from the image of the game and the Association.

Due largely to the efforts of both the Central Activities and Communications Committees in recent years there has been very definite improvement in this matter. Therefore it is now rare, but still unfortunately not completely uncommon, to see teams taking the field for major matches attired in a variety of different stockings, shorts or even jerseys with varying styles of numbering.

Yet, on a very personal level—and it is a very personal viewpoint—one detail of playing attire continues to aggravate me throughout the season. It is the

failure of teams to adhere strictly to their registered colours even in the most important matches.

This has been a "pet peeve" of mine for many years and something I have mentioned more than once to leading county officials who admitted that they have never given it any serious consideration.

For decades all GAA teams wore their registered colours only on jerseys; white shorts were the traditionally acceptable attire for counties and clubs—even those who did not have "white" in their registered colours. This is now changing as sportsgear all over the world becomes more colourful and more varied, and Roscommon are the most recent example of a side discarding the white shorts in favour of one of their registered colours.

The first significant alteration in shorts was made by Down, who wore white in their first two All-Ireland triumphs (1960 and '61). They changed to black knicks for their April 1962 National Football League semi-



● The All-Ireland winning Down team of 1968 in their now familiar black and red strip. As Mick Dunne tells us in the accompanying article Down wore this combination for the first time against Carlow in the NFL semi-final in April 1962.

final with Carlow because red and black, rather than, red, black and white, were their registered colours.

I believe Donegal were the next to change when they arranged a Croke Park challenge with Kerry in the early 1960s. Since their green and gold jerseys were exactly similar to Kerry's they acquired a completely new strip of yellow and green shorts and have retained it since then.

Several others have also changed. Dublin adopted navy shorts for the 1974 Leinster football final, Monaghan and Waterford—both with white and blue—have gone over to blue shorts in latter times and some of Meath's teams (their minor side at Croke Park on June 10 last, but not the seniors) tog-out in green shorts.

But to me the real mystery is

why so many counties wear the jerseys we have so often seen them in. Why, for instance, did Kerry have a white collar, white vee-neck and white cuffs on their jerseys in last year's All-Ireland football final? Green and gold are the historic Kerry colours. Not green, white and gold which are Offaly's colours. No Kerryman talks about the famous green, white and gold, no Kerry supporters appear at a match with a tricolour flag, so why does the team use white on the jerseys?

Similarly why had Kilkenny white collars, v-neck and cuffs in last year's hurling final? This was totally acceptable for Cork since they register red and white. The same with Louth and Limerick, Galway and Westmeath: all four use white as one of their two registered colours. But Kilkenny's unique and traditional attire is a combination of black

and amber!

Could it be that this is a very minor detail which gets little attention from busy officials who have many other things occupying their thoughts in the run-up to major games? Or might it be nearer the truth that the sports-gear manufacturers are only now coming around to the recognition that white collars should not be standard on every jersey except those for counties which have white incorporated in their colours

Even the GAA itself is not blameless in this respect as can be seen from the team colours chart it issued in co-operation with Lucozade some years ago. There the drawings of several jerseys—notably Kerry, Mayo, Kilkenny, Armagh and Antrim—have white colours, but none of these counties registers white in their colour scheme.

NEW INCENTIVES FOR CLUBS

By Owen McCann

ALLIED Irish Banks have just launched the Allied Irish Banks GAA Club of the Year award, which will give recognition to voluntary effort and, by highlighting achievements, encourage clubs to improve.

Clubs will be judged for the awards mainly on their achievements over recent years.

There will be three main categories of club, classified on a membership basis. Two main prizes will be awarded in each category, as well as supplementary awards for different aspects of a club's activity.

The total prize fund will not

be less than £7,000, but the Board of Assessors reserves the right to reallocate the supplementary awards in the light of the entries received in various categories.

In all there will be over 30 prizes, the top award being a specially designed A.I.B. Trophy and £1,500.

As a further incentive to GAA Clubs to enter for the award, every entry qualifies a club to take part in a free draw for excellent prizes for club equipment. There are also special awards for clubs promoting hurling and handball.

A marking scheme has been devised under various headings which will ensure that medium sized and smaller clubs will have as good a chance of winning an award as a large club. Every club entering will be notified of its marks and Certificates of Merit will be awarded to clubs reaching a designated level.

The award categories are under five separate headings:

"A": Confined to clubs with over 200 registered members, adult and youth, and not less than ten teams.

"B": Confined to clubs with

● TO OPPOSITE PAGE

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● **FROM OPPOSITE PAGE**

100-200 registered members, adult and youth, and not less than six teams.

“C”: Confined to clubs with less than 100 registered members, adult and youth, with a minimum of two teams.

“D”: Best Handball Club.

“E”: Special award for a club

for doing most to promote hurling, limited to clubs in counties eligible to take part in the special Under-16 Hurling competitions.

The top overall “Club of the Year” is likely to be selected from category “A” or “B”.

To be eligible for consideration a club must submit an entry

form, and if possible a presentation or folder giving more details of achievements with supporting material such as samples of documentation, photographs, slides illustrating club activities.

The completed entry form must be countersigned by the County Chairman and County Secretary. It should then be enclosed with any further documentation and handed in to the nearest AIB Branch on or before 30th September, 1979.

★ ★ ★

**Former
Kilkenny star
Eddie Keher
who is an AIB
manager in
Kilkenny has
been appointed
to the Board of
Assessors for
the Club of the
Year award.**

★ ★ ★

The marking system will be as follows:

Games: 100 maximum. Facilities: 100 Maximum. Administration and Finance: 100 maximum. Cultural/Social Activities, Communications, Youth and General Effort each carry a 50 points maximum, making the overall total 500.

Seven former Presidents of the G.A.A. are on the Board of Assessors—Hugh Byrne (Wicklow, Dr. Donal Keenan (Roscommon), Pat Fanning (Waterford), Alf Murray (Armagh), Con Murphy (Cork), Seamus O Riain (Tipperary) and Dr. J. J. Stuart (Dublin).

Also on the Board of Assessors are Eddie Keher and Tom Moriarty. Finally, each club submitting an entry for the award will be eligible to take part in a free draw for:

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 adjudication will take place between October and December, 1979, and the results will be announced in March, 1980. By that time, of course, the All-Ireland club championship finals will be holding the stage.

There will be a function in Dublin that month to present the Prize-winning awards.

Results Summary

SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Connacht Football: May 27: Galway: Galway 2-20; London 3-5. June 3: Sligo: Leitrim 1-13; Sligo 0-12. June 17: Carrick-on-Shannon: Mayo 3-12; Leitrim 1-10.

Leinster Football: May 20: Croke Park: Louth 1-14; Longford 1-6. Tullamore: Laois 4-13; Westmeath 2-8. May 27: Kilkenny: Carlow 0-12; Wexford 2-6. **REPLAY** and **SECOND DRAW.** June 3: Kilkenny: Wexford 1-12; Carlow 0-7. **SECOND REPLAY.** Navan: Dublin 4-16; Louth 0-4. June 10: Croke Park: Meath 0-12; Kildare 1-9. **DRAW.** Carlow: Wicklow 3-11; Wexford 0-13. June 17: Croke Park: Meath 1-20; Kildare 3-9. Tullamore: Offaly 1-12; Laois 0-13.

Munster Football: May 20: Clonmel: Tipperary 1-14; Waterford 0-7. Limerick: Clare 1-15; Limerick 1-9.

Munster Hurling: May 27: Cork: Limerick 5-11; Waterford 2-11. June 3: Cork: Cork 1-14; Tipperary 2-10. June 10. Thurles: Limerick 3-19; Clare 4-12.

Ulster Football: May 20: Dunganon: Tyrone 2-9; Antrim 2-5. May 27: Castleblayney: Monaghan 0-14; Down 0-10. June 3: Lurgan: Armagh 5-3; Fermanagh 1-7. June 10: Cavan: Derry 2-12; Cavan 1-13. June 17; Ballinascreen: Donegal 1-11; Tyrone 1-9.

ALL-IRELAND "B"

CHAMPIONSHIP HURLING

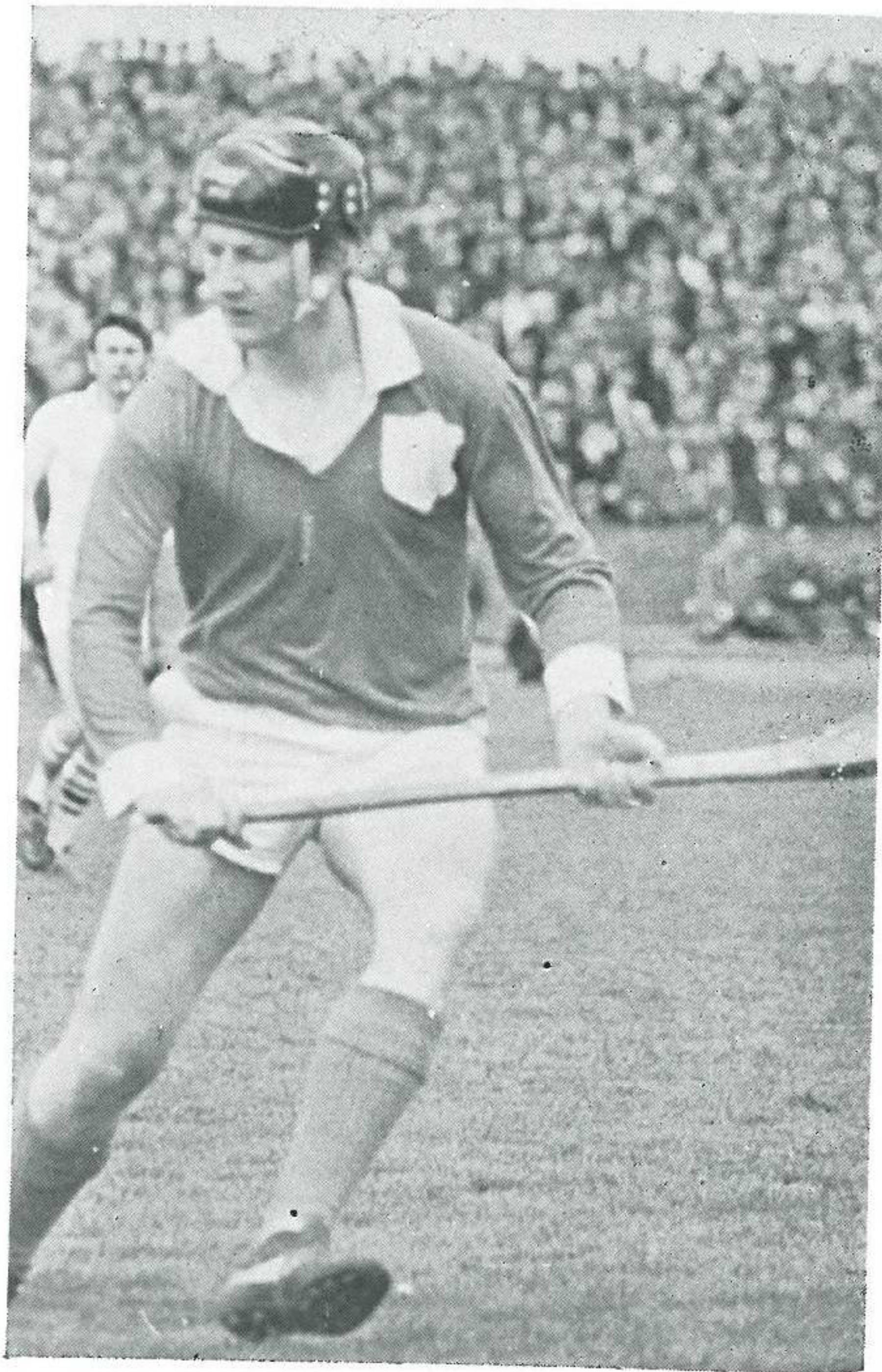
May 27: Semi-Finals: Croke

Park: Kildare 2-12; Antrim 1-12. Caherconlish: Laois 2-14; Kerry 3-6. "Home" Final: June 3: Navan: Laois 3-16; Kildare 2-8. Final: June 17: Tullamore: Laois 2-13; London 3-10. **DRAW.**

UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Leinster Hurling: June 6: Portlaoise: Kilkenny 2-10; Laois 0-3. June 10. Croke Park: Offaly 0-14; Dublin 1-7.

● **TO PAGE 43**



● Eamonn Cregan of Limerick who contributed seven points to his sides 3.19 to 4.12 defeat of Clare in the semi-final of the Munster Senior Hurling Championship.

JUNIOR DESK



By
**JACK
MAHON**

I'M sure you are all as tired of the postal dispute as I am. Hopefully it will be over when this reaches print. I wrote this last month, too, I know, but poor old **JUNIOR DESK** depends on the post for everything. I have received one letter since I last wrote. It's from old friend **Marie Boran** of **Lismorane, Foxford, Co. Mayo**. Marie has just finished her Intermediate Certificate. She was looking forward in her letter to the opening of Michael Davitt Park in Swinford by Dr. Padhraic Carney who flew from California for the occasion. Marie tells us about a new club formed in her home parish Killasser by their new curate Fr. Dan O'Mahony "who used to play for Sligo and is football crazy".

CUT-OUT

Our Cut-out this month is Armagh's Joe Kernan. Joe's tour de force in the All-Ireland final of 1977 v Dublin earned him an All Star. His courage in running at the Dublin defence and ramming in two goals brought the crowd to its feet. We welcome Joe to our Cut-out series and wish Joe, Armagh and their new Cardinal, Tomás Ó Fiaich, himself a great G.A.A. enthusiast, well.

THE CORK v TIPP. EPIC

I was at the Cork v Tipperary epic in Páirc Uí Chaoimh. There was great atmosphere at the game and it was a marvellously full-blooded encounter. Pat McLoughney, the Tipperary goalkeeper, emerged as a real star. Cork deserved to win but Tipperary were unlucky not to have drawn in the end. Once again Jimmy Barry-Murphy of the twinkling feet was in his element and got the important goal but Pat O'Neill also impressed me as a forward of great balance. I hope we haven't seen the last of him. And when I remember Cork and the fury of it all I will remember most of all the sporting embrace of Denis Coughlan for his downhearted opponent Pat O'Neill as the whistle sounded and Pat O'Neill was so obviously overcome with the "what might have been" feelings. Coughlan, a prince of sportsmen, immediately sensed the occasion and in a very moving scene tried to console his opponent in his own thoughtful way, out of his vast well of experience. While we have moments like this, hurling and the G.A.A. are safe. This is sport and thank God for it.

PROVINCIAL FINALS

This is the month of the Pro-

vincial Finals and I love it. Sunday after Sunday we have them. Now they have become great festivals. Roscommon's great win in the National League (F.) has really opened up the whole football scene. No longer are Kerry and Dublin the only teams to consider as potential All-Ireland champions. I was thrilled for Roscommon. It is a great G.A.A. county. Organisation within the county is superb. The followers have remained loyal through thick and thin. And Dermot Earley continues to play better and better. But the younger players like Hayden, O'Connor, Finneren, Murray and the McManus brothers have really brought confidence to the team. It is great to see a new team back on the top. This gives hope to every county. Monaghan and Leitrim at the time of writing have had their big moments, too. A few new names in the All-Ireland series would be just great. Keep reading us and when you can please write again.

Jack Mahon

JUNIOR MISCELLANY

Compiled by Tony Keegan

THIS month our second section in JUNIOR DESK is devoted to a Miscellany of Gaelic Games affairs in general. Here we briefly put the spotlight on some players who have been in the news of late, and also deal with some leading team achievements. In addition, there are a couple of short quiz sections.

For a start, let's concentrate on some leading players of the moment. This particular section may help to provide some brief new insights into the careers of the players concerned. We call this part of our review:

DID YOU KNOW THAT...?

John Fenton, who was such a bright star in midfield for Cork in their Munster senior hurling semi-final win over Tipperary, plays club fare with Midleton, and won an All-Ireland under-21 hurling medal in 1976 at right half back.

Jimmy Keaveney, whose sharp-shooting and general play has meant so much to the Dubs, has won every major football honour but one. He has not played on a Railway Cup final winning side.

Jim McKerr, Armagh's brilliant half back, and an Ulster senior football medalist in 1977, won an All-Ireland hurling medal. He collected that award in 1973 in the under-16 grade.

Dermot Earley, who at last got among the national senior medals when Roscommon recently won their first National Football League title, played minor, junior, under-21 and senior with the county and interprovincial fare with Connacht in 1966-67. He thus became the first footballer to play in every possible

grade of competitive fare in what was the same season.

Noel Skehan was deputy to Ollie Walsh in the All-Ireland senior hurling finals of 1967, 1969 and 1971, and then captained Kilkenny to the 1972 title. He won further All-Ireland senior medals in 1974 and 1975.

Now it is time to get on the thinking caps. This is the first of our quiz sections, and will test your knowledge on recent events in the

PROVINCIAL FINALS

1. Who won the Leinster under-21 football final last year?

2. When were Cork last under-21 football champions of Munster?.....

3. You will hardly need reminding that Roscommon were well beaten by Kerry in last year's All-Ireland senior football semi-final. But who were the defending champions in the West in 1978?.....

4. Name the county beaten by Armagh in the 1977 Ulster senior football final?.....

5. Kilkenny regained the Leinster hurling title last July by beating Wexford. Who captained the Noresiders?.....

Collect four points for each question answered correctly. Maximum points total possible: 20. YOUR SCORE.....

Time to relax again, so let's take a look now at some team achievements in:

COUNTY REVIEW

Kilkenny and Wexford have

been the dominant forces in Leinster hurling. They have been in opposition in each final since 1969. The sequence was broken that year by Offaly, who shocked Wexford in the semi-final but lost the decider to Kilkenny.

Cork's last win in the Munster senior football championship over Kerry was in the 1974 final. They were then defending the Sam Maguire Cup as well as the Munster title, and won that meeting at Killarney by 1-11 to 0-7.

Cavan, who have won at 47 titles, more Ulster crowns than all the other counties together, have been out of the honours list in the province since 1969. This is the longest absence yet from the Roll of Honour.

The last draw in a Connacht senior football final was in 1976 at Dr. Hyde Park, Roscommon. The home county and Galway each scored 1-8, and Galway won the replay at Tuam.

Now it is time to tax the memory once again, as we come to the second quiz section. We call this:

IN THE PICTURE



1. Pictured above are two prominent midfielders. Who are

● TO OPPOSITE PAGE

● FROM PAGE 40

Ulster Football: May 20: Ballinderry: Down 4-4; Derry 1-8. May 27: Cavan: Cavan 1-12; Tyrone 2-9. DRAW.

MINOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

Leinster Football: May 20: Croke Park: Louth 1-12; Longford 0-12. Tullamore: Westmeath 2-4; Laois 1-6. May 26: Portlaoise: Kilkenny 2-16; Offaly 2-7. June 3: Kilkenny: Wexford 3-6; Wicklow 0-6. June 10: Meath 2-10; Kildare 1-7.

Leinster Hurling: May 26: Mul-

● FROM OPPOSITE PAGE

they, and what have they in common, other than they are both All-Ireland senior medalists and midfield men. It may help you to know that one was not born in the county with which he has captured so many honours.

2. Who are the hurlers pictured



above? And have both been honoured by the Carrolls All Stars?

On offer here are 40 points. 20 for each correct answer. YOUR SCORE.....

ANSWERS PAGE 44

lingar: Down 4-15; Westmeath 2-7. Portlaoise: Kilkenny 2-16; Offaly 2-7. May 27: Croke Park: Antrim 2-8; Dublin 1-2.

Munster Football: May 20: Clonmel: Cork 1-10; Tipperary 1-5.

Munster Hurling: May 18: Nenagh: Limerick 2-7; Clare 1-10.

● FROM PAGE 7

Andy Croak

in Blanchardstown on Sunday, June 17.

Originally, Dublin were to have played Meath on that date. Meath were engaged in a championship replay with Kildare on the same day, however, and the organisers in St. Brigid's club asked Monaghan to stand in against the Dubs.

It was still a good draw and some eight thousand people turned up, each paying £1.00 a skull. But they were bitterly disappointed to discover that Dublin fielded a skeleton team.

What a way to treat faithful fans—and the host club!

* * *

And now for the long range forecasts. Who will wave the banners of All-Ireland victory come September? Cork look a good thing for the hurling title—and that coveted four-in-a-row. And Croak predicts that Kerry will retain their football crown. But if you want a good "outsider" in the big ball game you could place a few bob on Roscommon or Dublin.

May 25: Limerick: Cork 1-8; Tipperary 2-4.

Ulster Football: May 20: Dungannon Tyrone 0-6; Antrim 0-6. DRAW. May 27: Castleblayney: Down 1-15; Monaghan 1-4. June 3: Armagh 2-13; Fermanagh 1-4. June 10: Cavan: Cavan 3-10; Derry 2-12 Tyrone won their first round replay with Antrim. June 17: Ballinascreen: Tyrone 1-10; Donegal 0-3.

ALL-IRELAND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

Football final replay: May 19: Sligo: Derry 1-5; Mayo 0-6.

Hurling final replay: May 20: Borrisokane: Clare 4-5; Kilkenny 1-8.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE 1978-79

May 20: Division II "Home" Final: Navan: Armagh 2-12; Offaly 1-11.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE 1979-80

May 20: Killybegs: Fermanagh 1-9; Donegal 0-4.

May 27: Clonmel: Tipperary 0-16; Limerick 2-3. May 27: Dundalk: Louth 2-9; Antrim 3-6.

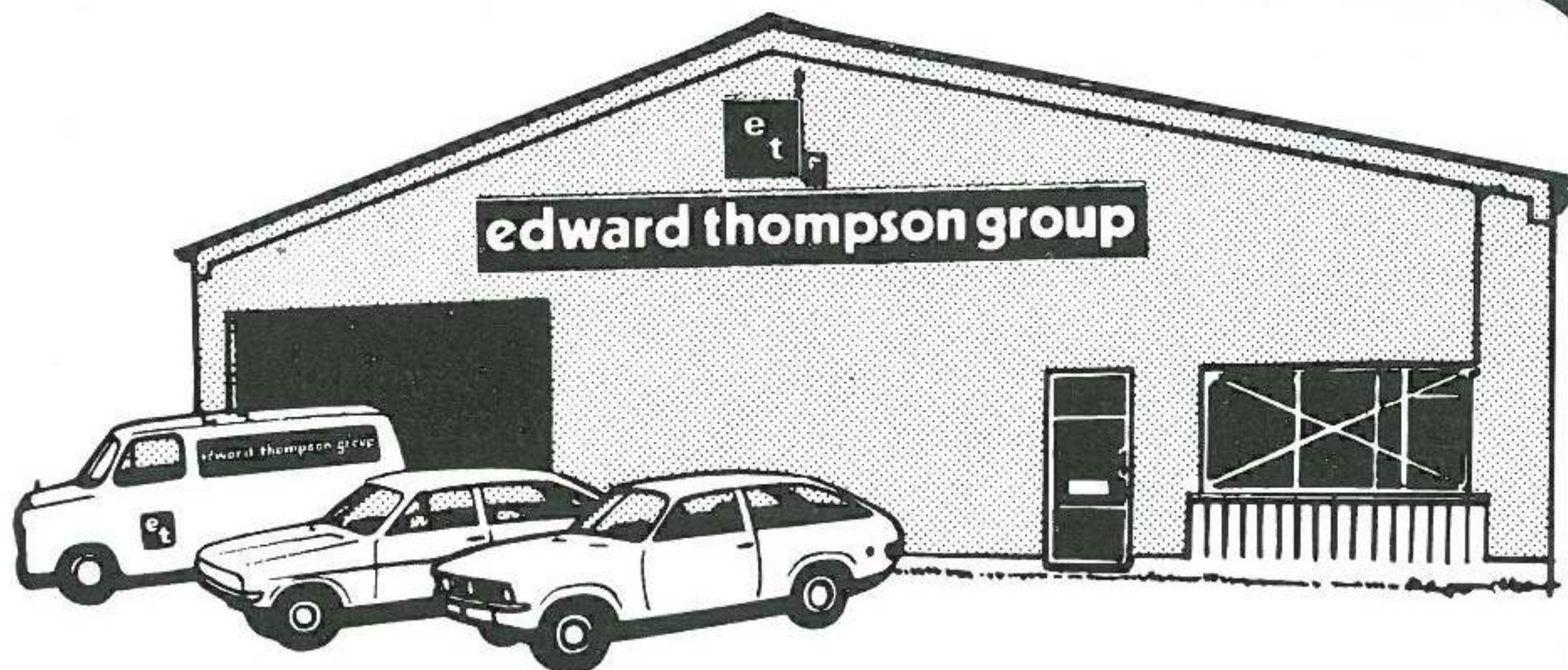
GAEL-LINN CUP

Senior Football: June 4: Tuam: Galway 1-7; Mayo 1-6.

CAMOGIE CHAMPIONSHIP

Senior: June 10: Bellaghy: Dublin 6-5; Derry 2-2. June 17: Cork: Kilkenny 4-5; Cork 0-10. Ballinderreen: Antrim 3-9; Galway 0-2.

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EAMONN YOUNG FROM PAGE 11

the honour of West Kerry. These were talented, crafty, and very sophisticated footballers. How could they avoid being well schooled in the game when they were playing successfully since their early teens. These fellows know football inside out: the short game, the open space, the hand-pass, the high fetch, the long delivery from defence, the curling shot for the point and the tearway rocket — shot for the back of the net. As one who often felt the spark of their fire I know that they could win fair play for themselves if the ref. wouldn't give it to them — as Gega said to me one day in the first ten minutes over in Kenmare. And he wasn't joking.

Sean Brosnan the black-haired midfielder of the one-handed

fetch, Bill Dillon the lean hard-hitting and long-kicking half back, and Paddy Kennedy the superb half-way line man and forward who, in one Munster final, starred at centre-back, won and held their places on the best panel of clever hard footballing men it has been my privilege to see. They contested five successive championships and won four. In eleven successive years they won it five times and went down gallantly in three.

That record stands on its own and indeed the days of their glorious youth were fresh in the mind the last time I had an evening of happy conversation with Bill Dillon in Paddy Bán's place in Dingle. Their names will be spoken to-day in Killarney. What more can a champion player ask?

ANSWERS

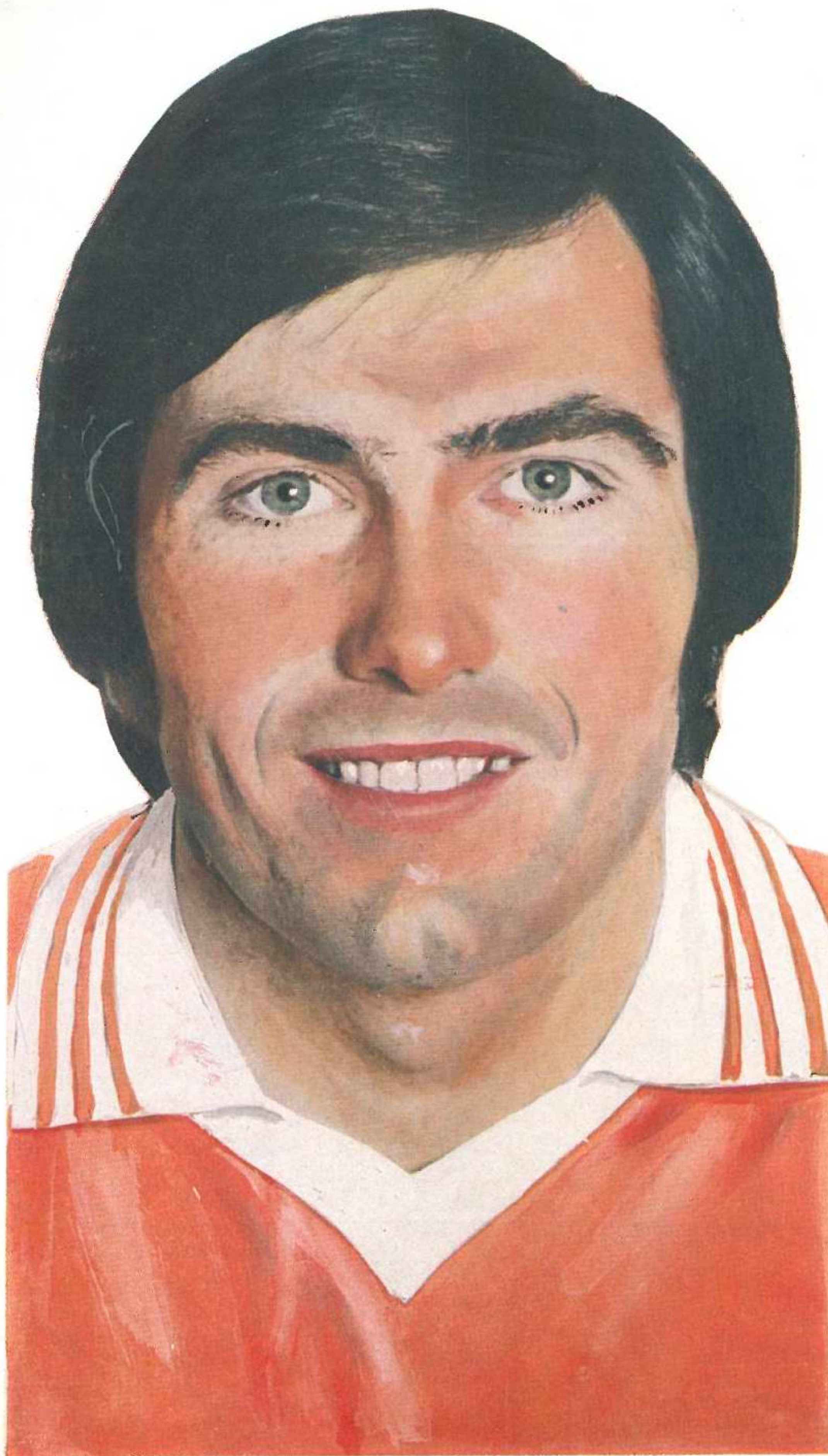
● FROM PAGE 43

PROVINCIAL FINALS

1. Louth.
2. 1974.
3. Roscommon were themselves defending champions in 1978, having beaten Galway in the 1977 final.
4. Derry.
5. Ger Henderson.

IN THE PICTURE

1. Brian Mullins (Dublin) and Colm McAlarney (Down). Both were born in Dublin.
2. Seamus Durack (Clare) and John Connolly (Galway). Both won Carrolls All Star Awards.



**Joe
Kernan
Armagh**

Age: 25
Height: 6ft. 1in.
Weight: 13st. 8lb.
**Position: Centre
half forward**
**Club: Crossmaglen
Rangers**
**Senior Inter-
County Debut:
1971**

**CAREER
HIGHLIGHTS**

Joe, a former minor and under-21 county player, is a versatile footballer. Since joining the county senior side early in 1971 he has starred as a midfielder, full back and attacker.

He was at midfield when Armagh regained the Ulster senior title in 1977 after an interval of 24 years, and it was in this role that he won some months later his only Carrolls All Star award.

Joe, who has got among the county senior medals with his club, was prominent at centre half forward when Ulster regained the Railway Cup in March — his first interprovincial medal. He started the current championship campaign at centre half forward.

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