

174 GAA

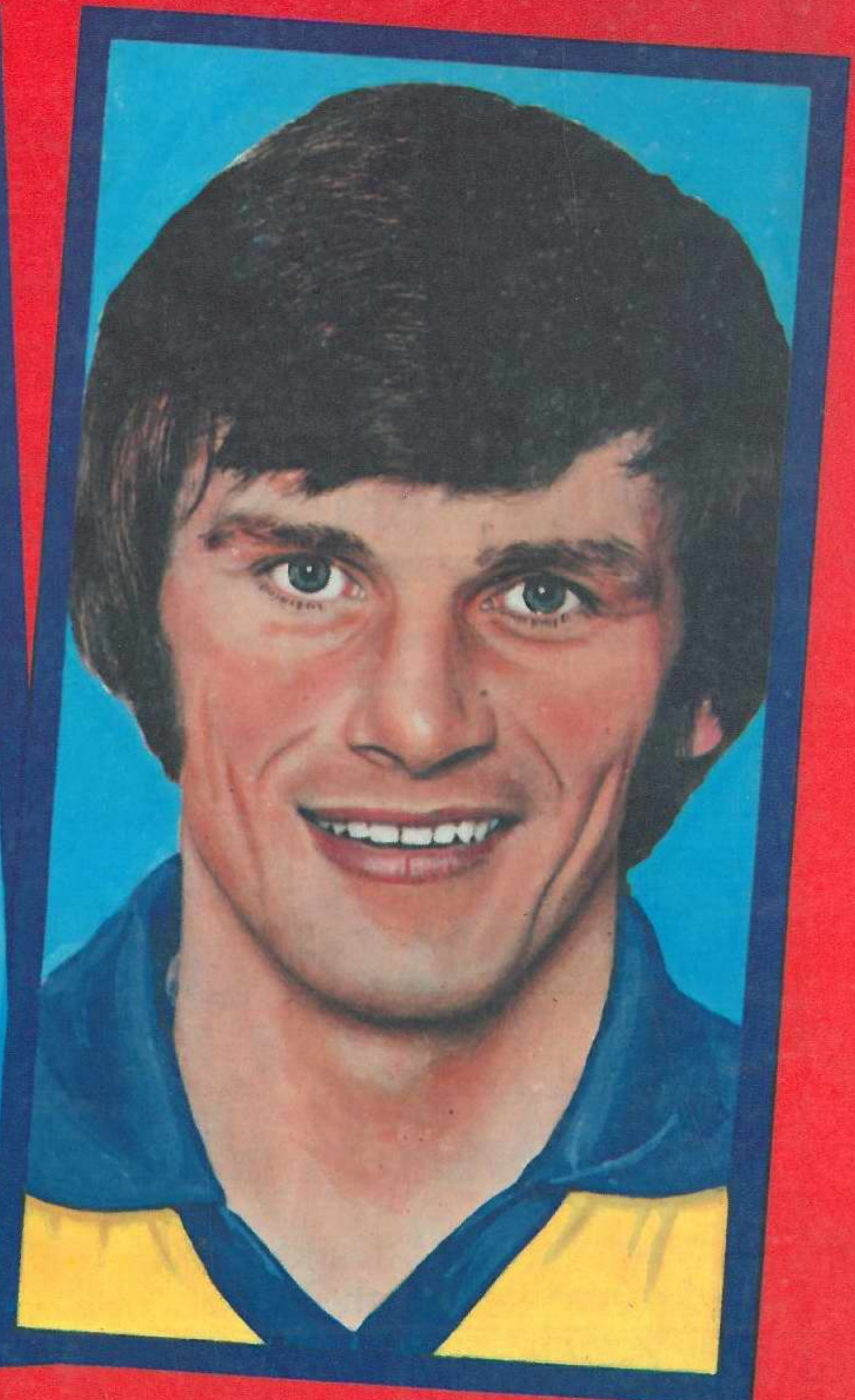
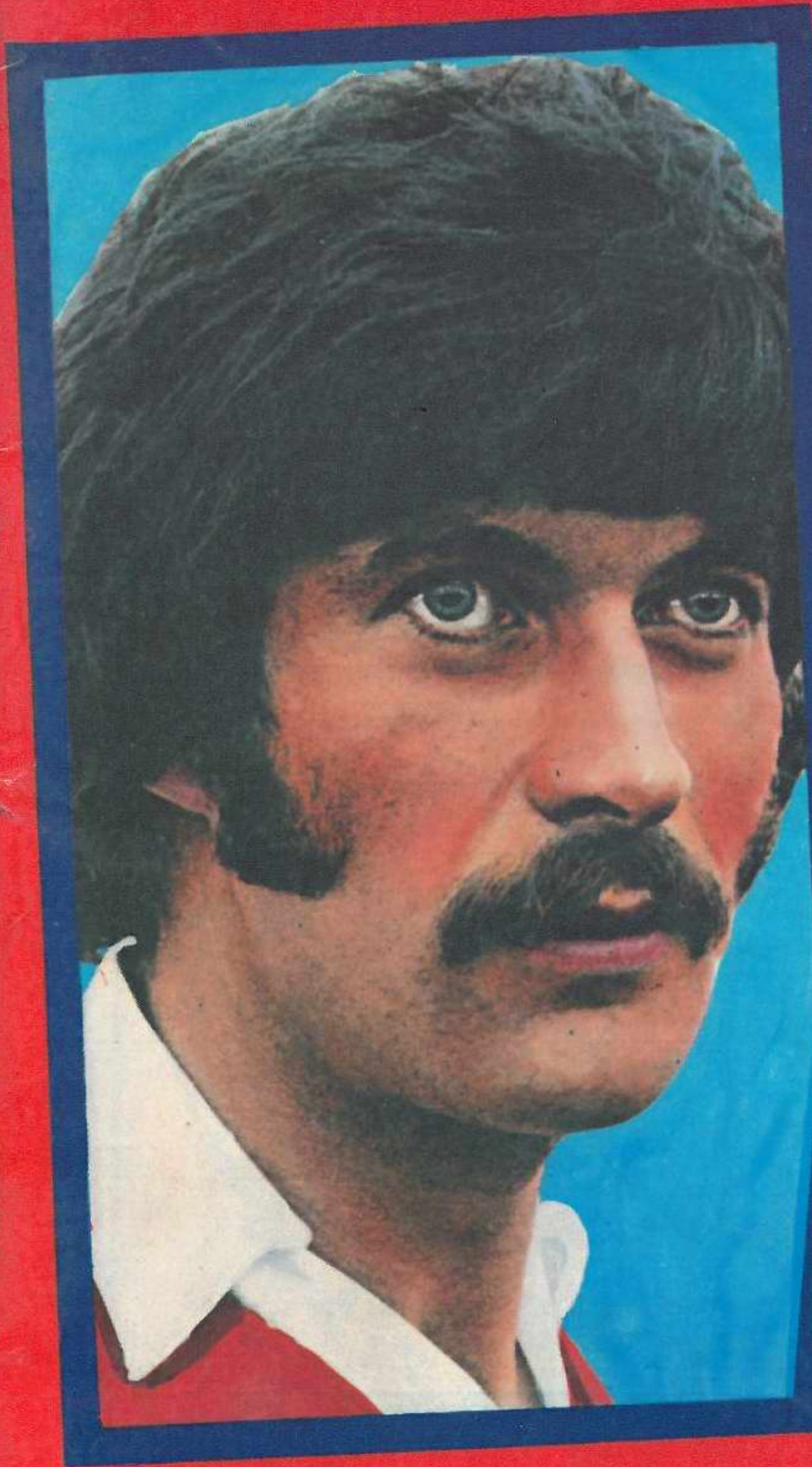
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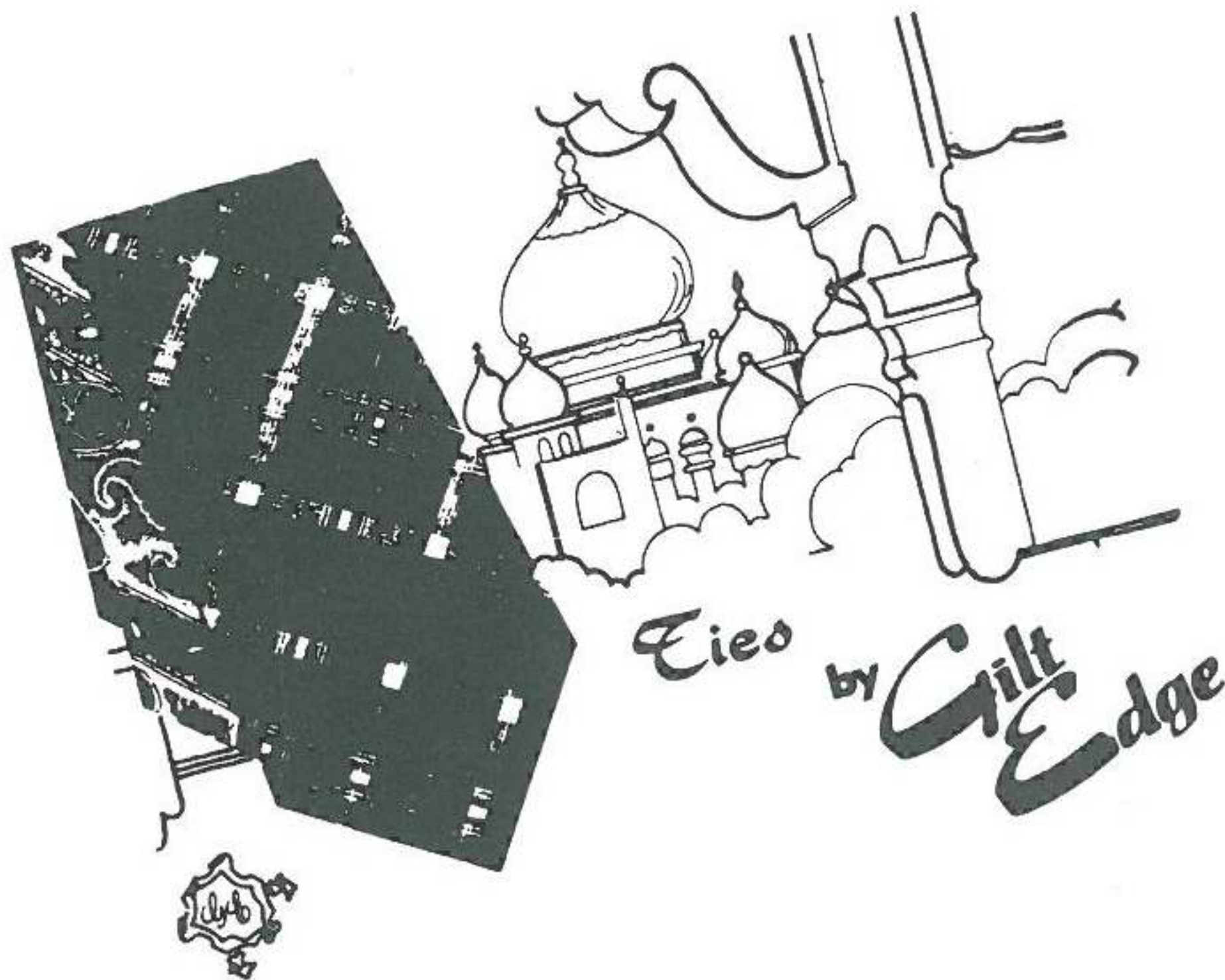
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IN SENIOR AND MINOR FOOTBALL

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Ag obair ar son na Gaeltachta



Údarás na Gaeltachta.. Is curam linn a thodhchaí.



Gaelic Sport

Vol. 23 No. 8 August 1980

Offices:

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EDITORIAL COMMENTS

WELL done, Offaly hurlers! In saying that we are in no way departing from our long standing neutral stance of not taking sides with any county in important games or occasions.

But from time to time events occur that make it only right to depart from the norm. And, even the most ardent Kilkenny supporter will concede that Offaly's win over the Noresiders for a first Leinster senior hurling title last month was something out of the ordinary.

Offaly achieved more than a first provincial senior title win in the ancient code. They proved, in the best possible way that, despite the absence of tangible rewards in the form of major titles, dedication and non-stop effort over the years, allied to individual skills and teamwork can in the end **pay off in a handsome dividend.**

Hurling within Offaly has become more alive, more meaningful. In addition, the game on a national level has taken on a new dimension as a result of the Offaly break-through.

A Leinster final that to so many looked assured of producing a predictable result has, instead, given a fresh wind of change to the ancient game. Many who were only passingly interested in hurling have been caught up in the enthusiasm of the Offaly history-making feat, and of their prospects in the All-Ireland series.

That's what hurling needs. Granted, Kilkenny, Cork, Wexford and the like, with their long traditions, and regularity in the national spotlight, have created the legends that have kept the torch burning brightly over the years.

Nevertheless, it must be admitted that for too long now the major titles have been monopolised by the same small elite group of counties. That has not helped the advancement of hurling in general.

Offaly have finally broken the mould. Kilkenny will be back again in the winning list, just as will Wexford surface on top in Leinster in the future. But for the moment, let's salute the gallant Offaly men for the merit of their achievement in its own right, and for the new impetus they have given to hurling.

Their success, apart from ensuring a "platform" that will be of immense value to Offaly in charting the way to further successes in the code in the years ahead, must give great heart to Kildare, Carlow, Laois in Leinster, and further afield to such as Antrim, Down and Kerry.

SAD DAYS

A SHADOW was cast over Offaly's win in the Leinster hurling final by the sudden death on the evening of the game of Mr. Thomas Horan, father of the county's captain and full forward, Padraig.

Some days earlier there was the double murder of Detective Garda John Morley and Garda Henry Byrne.

John Morley thrilled many with his high standard football and sportsmanship in the Mayo and Connacht jerseys. Like so many in the Gardai he continued after his playing days to be deeply involved in the promotion of the game.

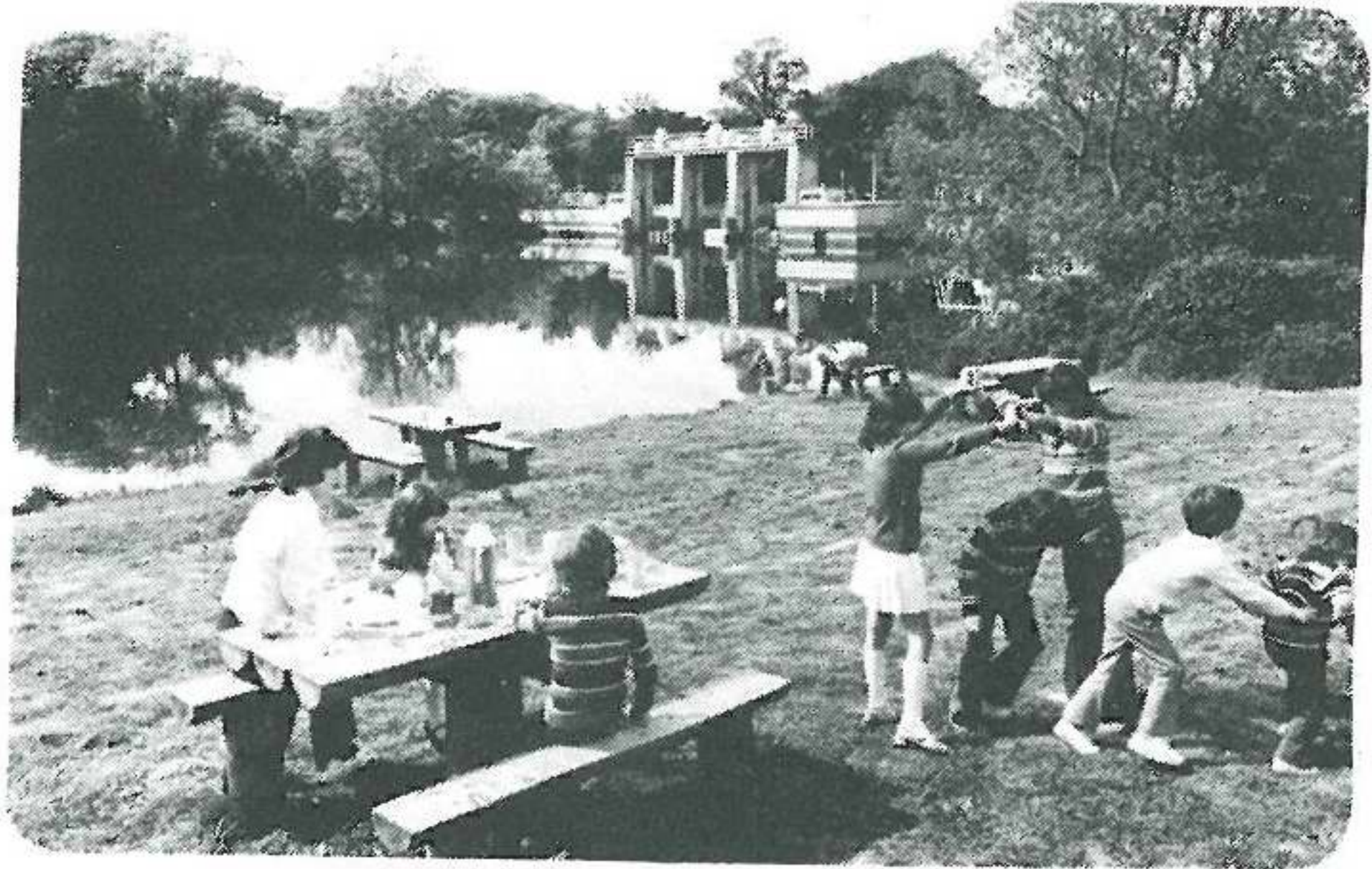
To the relatives of John Morley and Henry Byrne, to the Gardai, who have played such a prominent role in the G.A.A., and to Padraig Horan, we extend sincere sympathy.

A Question of Caring

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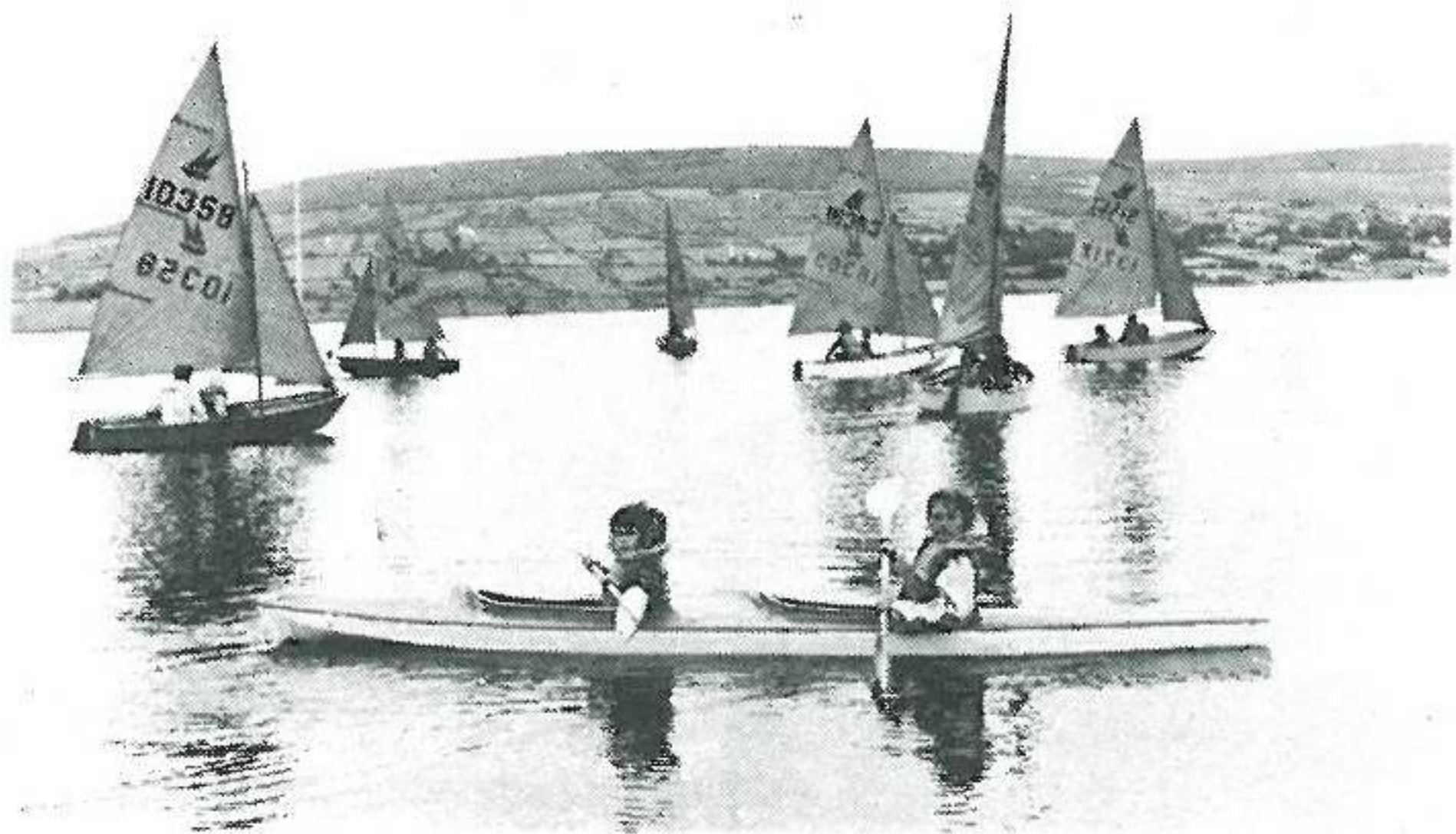
Landscaping, tree and flower planting at ESB stations, rearing and planting-out young salmon and trout in rivers and lakes, these are just some of the ways in which the ESB conserves and improves the environment for the people whom it serves.



A family picnic near an ESB station.



Angling in a river stocked with salmon by the ESB.



Sailing on Poulaphuca Lake.



Tyler Top Ten

Offaly and Kerry share football honours

KERRY'S resounding win over Cork for a sixth Munster senior football title win in succession was the only provincial final triumph recorded in the period covered by the latest TYLER TOP TEN charts, which feature games played from June 15 to July 6 inclusive.

The fine achievement sees the All-Ireland football champions well represented in the current chart in the code, but the premier position still goes to a player from another county — Offaly's Murt Connor. His display of forward play in the Leinster semi-final triumph against Kildare was one of the best features of the year so far.

Connor had a memorable outing. In a game of missed chances on both sides, he showed what efficient forward play is all about with his clever football and accurate shooting that yielded at 2-8 a career scoring best. He finished with a point more, in fact, than Kildare scored.

As a result, the young Walsh Island club man gains his place for the third time this year, and a 36 points tally sends him speeding up the cumulative chart to the premier position over-all with 89 points. He has passed out the earlier pace-setting Kevin Kehily (Cork) by nine points.

Although Kerry scored freely in that win over the National League champions, one of their best performers was a defender. Mick Spillane had an outstanding game at No. 4, turning on the style to such good effect that he emerges as the TYLER TOP TEN star of that particular match with 34 points.

As the Kerry man collected 30 points in April-May, he is nicely placed now to make a challenge for further honours with 64 points already to his credit.

Eoin Liston, with two good goals and a point, also earns recognition on 30 points to come into the spotlight for the second time this year. He made his debut in April-May on 24.

In hurling, Cork's win over Tipperary for the right to contest their sixth Munster senior final in succession has strengthened the county's prospects of providing a season's chart-topper for the first time for a full season's programme.

Denis Coughlan, who was leading the way at the start of the present review, is down the field somewhat in the current chart, but his latest bag of 24 points will strengthen greatly his grip on that top place over-all at this vital stage of the season. He now has 124 points.

Top billing this month, however, goes to Billy Fitzpatrick, whose expert markmanship — he scored a superb 1-11 — did so much to enable Kilkenny to foil Wexford's thrilling second half rally in the Leinster semi-final in mid-June. He makes his season's debut on 34 points.

The leading trio in each code from the start of the year up to and

including this month are:

Football: 89 points: M. Connor (Offaly). 80: K. Kehily (Cork). 69: D. Allen (Cork).

Hurling: 124 points: D. Coughlan (Cork). 94: E. Cregan (Limerick). 88: T. Cashman (Cork).

This month's charts:

FOOTBALL

36	M. Connor (Offaly)	89
34	Mick Spillane (Kerry)	64
30	E. Liston (Kerry)	54
28	Pat Spillane (Kerry)	28
26	A. O'Halloran (Offaly)	26
26	P. Kerlin (Tyrone)	26
26	T. Drumm (Dublin)	58
24	J. Kernan (Armagh)	24
23	K. McCabe (Tyrone)	23
22	M. Gavin (Mayo)	22

HURLING

34	B. Fitzgerald (Kilkenny)	34
32	John Henderson (Kilkenny)	32
30	E. Cregan (Limerick)	94
29	J. Horgan (Cork)	57
28	B. Murphy (Cork)	28
26	L. Enright (Limerick)	64
26	P. Delaney (Offaly)	26
24	D. Coughlan (Cork)	124
22	Colm Doran (Wexford)	22
20	M. Kennedy (Offaly)	20



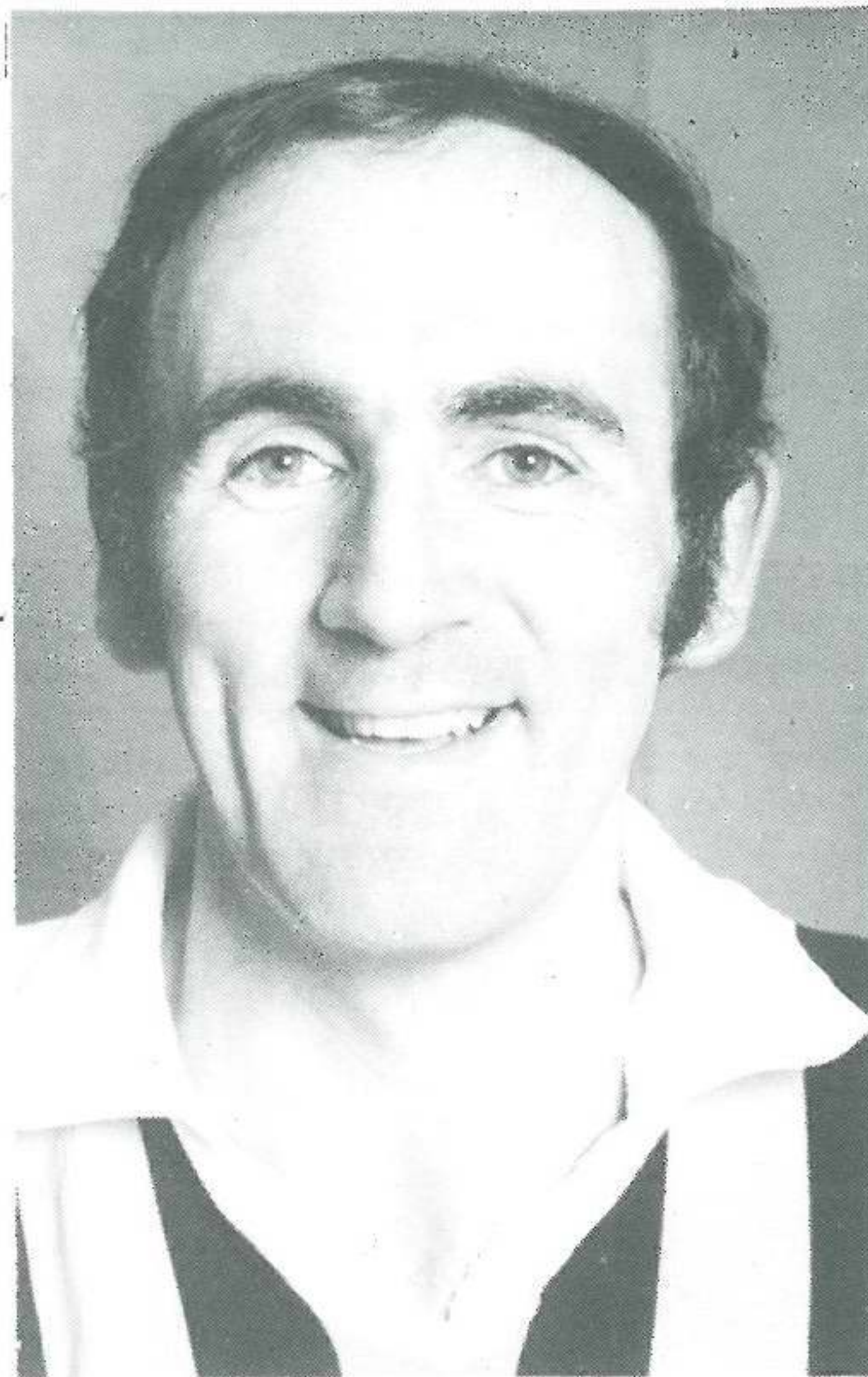
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on the right pitch

Eddie Keher: Kilkenny's Scoring Machine (Mk II)

By SEAMUS O BRAONAIN



● Eddie Keher (Kilkenny)

COINCIDENCE and its long arm have a way of reaching out across the years to knit a pattern in our lives that would defy the laws of probability. It was in April of 1957 that a Morris Minor load of us, trekking indomitably towards Dublin and Croke Park for a NFL semi-final between Kerry and Cavan, found ourselves stranded in Athy. The faithful, hard-worked steed had finally sighed and subsided by the roadside.

Garage arrangements having been completed for the care of the ailing vehicle on the following day, and some sustenance having been taken, we were faced with the decision of what to do with ourselves. Should we begin at once to thumb our way back to Carlow, an area in which we were based — temporarily — at that point? It was too late to try to complete the trip to the League match.

Someone remembered a Colleges game; a check in the newspaper

showed that, indeed, the Leinster hurling final was to be played in Athy between St. Kieran's, Kilkenny and Patrician College, Ballyfin. We consoled ourselves that here we would see the hurlers of the future, some compensation for missing seeing the footballers of the present.

As it happened, from the impressions left in the memory, it was not a great contest, for Kieran's played a sweeping brand of ground hurling and showed a fine sense of teamwork and movement that was too much for Ballyfin. They went away comfortable winners, 6-3 to 3-0. I recall that it would have been a heavier defeat by far but for Tom Bowe in goal and Sean Buckley, tirelessly holding the Ballyfin team together at midfield.

The players who most impressed us all in the Kilkenny side and who were pencilled into our mental notebooks were the midfielders Ollie

Harrington and Kevin Mahony and, to a lesser extent, Dick Dowling and Dick Walsh in attack.

There was a slim, youthful, speedy lad playing on the wing for Kieran's, but we did not think of him then as much more than a good man to have to fill in the forward line. Later in the month when the interest aroused by the Leinster final brought me to Thurles to see the All-Ireland final for the Croke Cup, I went away with a far different impression of this young man. His speed, decisiveness and skill were the factors that raised Kieran's from a forlorn position, nine points behind with forty-five minutes gone, to a thrilling win by 4-2 to 2-7. He either scored or created the four goals that swung the game to Kilkenny's way.

At that stage Eddie Keher was already a Kilkenny minor, having subbed on the 1956 selection. He went on to represent the county for

● TO PAGE 9

Team spirit



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• FROM PAGE 7

four years as a minor. Later in that year of 1957 we saw him again in the All-Ireland M.H. final against a fine Tipperary side that contained the brothers Jimmy and Paddy Doyle.

Tipperary were too strong and a little better off as regards experience and won 4-7 to 3-7 despite Keher's four points and a general array of wing talents that caused one good judge to write that his craft and striking on the wing was "reminiscent of Terry Leady and Jim Langton". A heavy burden for a 16-year-old.

Paddy Moran and Ted Carroll were earning their spurs with Keher at that time. Martin Coogan was a colleague in the 1958 team and Fan Larkin in 1959 when Keher's last minor final was another losing one despite an impressive personal effort. A series of spectacular solo runs towards the Railway goal in the second half stand in the memory. Faced by the sticky John Carroll, a nephew of Phil Purcell, he did not get the return in scores that possession demanded — a fact very

RECORD BREAKER

By Tony Keegan

EDDIE KEHER, who is one of the backroom boys with the Kilkenny county senior hurling team, must rank as the game's outstanding forward of the modern era.

A product of the famed St. Kieran's College, he won All-Ireland medals in Colleges' and minor grades before making his senior inter-county championship debut in the 1959 All-Ireland final replay, in which Kilkenny lost to Waterford.

That was the start of one of the most remarkable and successful senior careers on record . . . a career that stretched right until late in 1977, and during which the Kilkenny stylist won every honour in the game.

Keher has left behind a host of memories as a hurler par-excellence, and probably the greatest score-taker of them all. He broke scoring record after scoring record almost with monotonous regularity.

He helped Kilkenny to six All-Ireland senior titles between 1963 and 1975, and captained the 1969 title winning team. He won a record (for Leinster) nine Railway Cup medals, and was an ever-present in the first five Carrolls All Stars selections.

So, the great game of hurling owes much to Eddie Keher, who has inspired so many by his high qualities and sportsmanship, and who is continuing to advance the cause of the game with his valuable work for Kilkenny as a selector.

much out of tune with his later career.

If not an infant prodigy then, Eddie was, at least, a fine hurler at

an early age. He won Under-14 medals with Inistiogue; 2 Colleges All-Irelands; 3 Leinster Colleges senior and two junior titles. And the race to waste no time about his progress which might have been the keynote of his hurling life was already in evidence when he moved from his last minor championship in 1959 to the Kilkenny senior substitutes' list for the replay of the S.H. final of that year a few weeks later.

Indeed, Eddie came on as a second-half substitute to try to pull the game from the heart of a glowing fire with Waterford in full stride for their second All-Ireland. Doubtless, the quick transition suited him, posing a new challenge and a vastly different kind of opposition. It forced him to tighten his game, concentrate on getting simple things well and quickly done, to forget the frills and perfect the skills.

Instead of looking for broader pastures in midfield or even in the half-backs where many minors have found a comfortable entry into senior ranks by using their younger

• TO PAGE 12



★
• Eddie in the company of the former G.A.A. President, Dr. Donal Keenan, receives the B + I Award.

★

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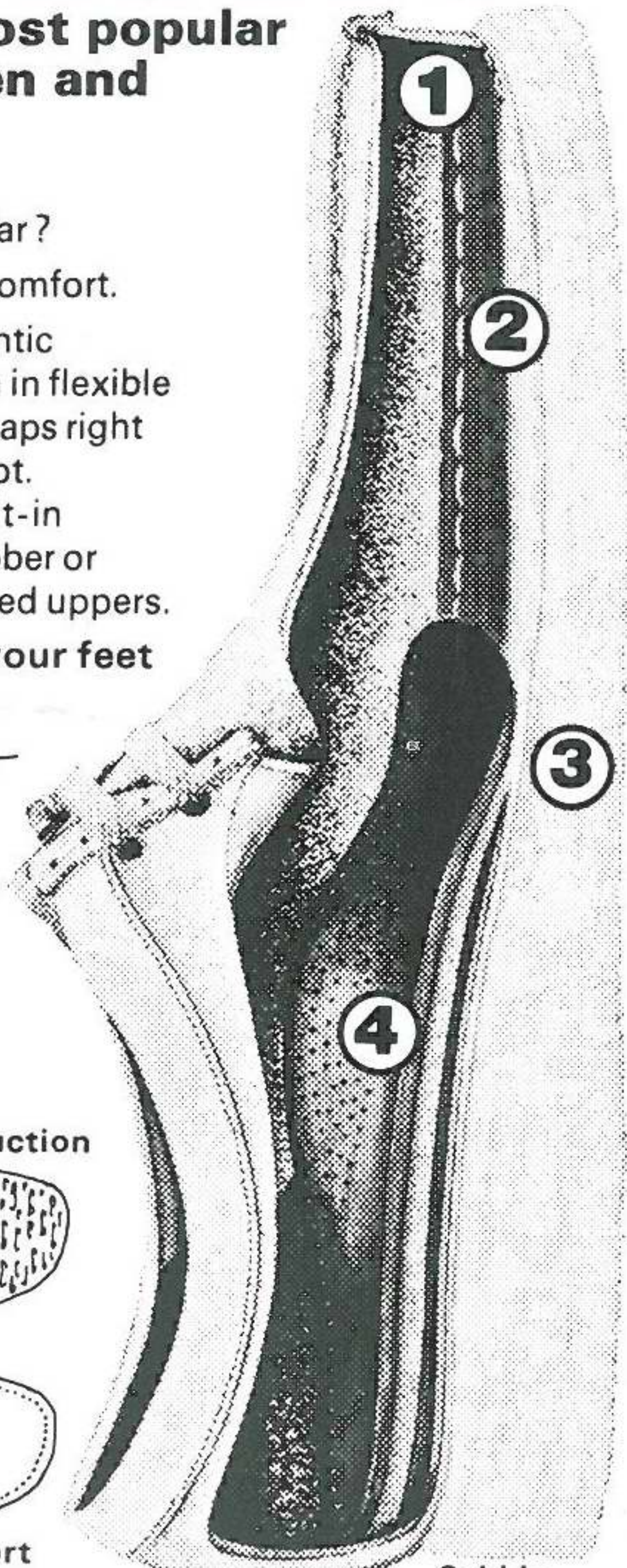
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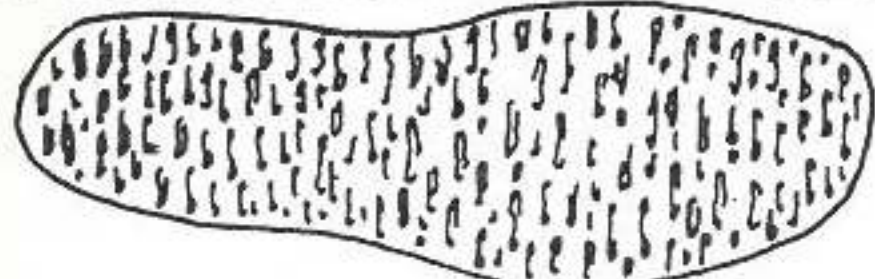
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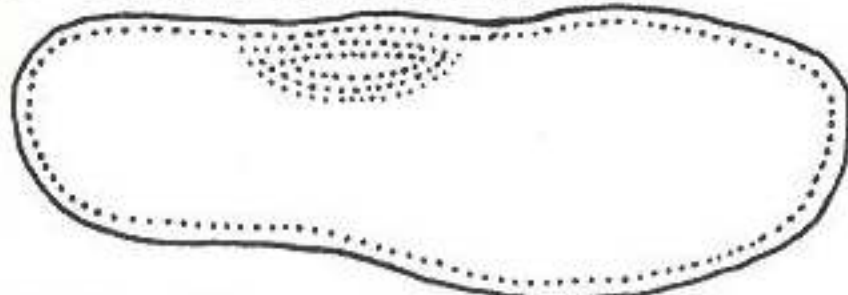
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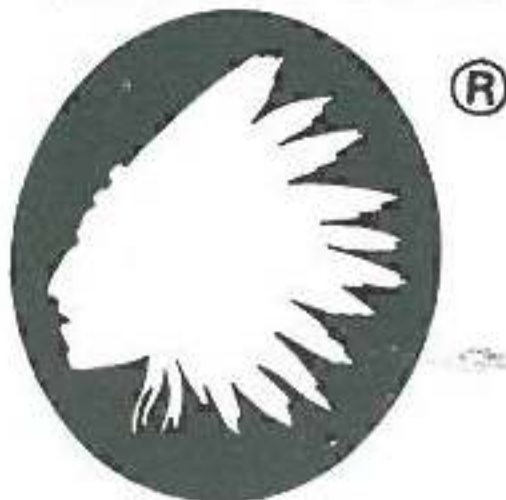


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● A young fan watches his hero anxiously as Eddie Keher leaves Croke Park with a facial injury at the end of a big game.

● FROM PAGE 9

legs to save them perfecting their skills, Keher stayed where he was and worked at his game to make it fit for senior. That was an expression of his natural inclination, I am sure, for he has never seemed to have any object in hurling that was not closely connected with scoring. Attack was his natural element and he was not happy elsewhere.

It was well that it was so, because the very qualities which came clearly across in that very first All-Ireland Colleges game are those best suited to a forward. Speed and skill — the very things that made him lethal to the end of his playing days. But even they might not have been enough, for many a schoolboy has been lightning quick and effortlessly skilful without ever making or keeping a mark for himself.

Decision was Keher's jewel — when to race and when not to move at all. No dithering, no indecisiveness! Click! He switches on, swoops like some great striped gull, snapping up the sliothar and whipping it over or under the bar. The speed of the take-off made the room by its surprise. The unerring pick-up, snap or control of the ball provided the ammunition without loss of space. And the precision of stroke, which one saw as a boy, and which became more wonderfully accurate with the years, gave him the means of converting the possession and the space into points and goals. His skill with frees goes without saying; but his temperament with frees (and every other phase of play) was more important. He never tensed up, became rigidly nervy, always was relaxed enough to strike with delicate timing.

The solo-run disappeared from his play almost entirely, unless it was to shorten the distance for certainty. The first-time ground hurling was accepted as a schoolboy basis useful in its solidity, but of rare application to the style of speciality which Eddie was to perfect.

Unnecessary clashes for worthless proofs of hairy-chested manhood were excised from his vocabulary.



● Eddie Keher keeps his eye on the ball as he bursts past his Limerick opponents in the 1974 All-Ireland Final.

Doublers in the air were practised only in the event of those neutral balls dropping in a cluster of players outside the goalmouth. The General Practice of hurling was not for Keher, because it did not suit him either physically or temperamentally. Nothing could be more unsuitable as a model than the ebullient, unstoppable Mackey who so gloried in physical exuberance that he would gaily solo his way through a stone wall.

Nor would the model of Ring suit any better, for he was also a man for every need, impatient to heal every ill himself and often superhuman because he could heal most of them.

But Keher was neither physically indestructible, like Mackey, nor consumed with uncontrollable inner fires, like Ring. His fire was cold and precise and his physique wiry but exhaustible, so he realised that his strength would be in specialisation.

As such he reached such peaks of efficiency that he lifted Kilkenny to triumphs as great as ever they had in the golden days. And if the name had not been coined for Jimmy Kelly three-quarters of a century ago, Eddie Keher might well have been known as **The Scoring Machine**.

NEXT MONTH MICK KING OF GALWAY.

SOMETHING MUST BE DONE!

CORK'S crushing victory over Limerick in this year's Munster football semi-final illustrated again the glaring gap in standards which currently exists in the southern province between the "big guns" Cork and Kerry and the rest of the Munster counties, a gap which appears to be increasing every year.

Let me state, for a start, that I did not agree with the new Munster championship format in football this year. In the first place, I felt it was unfair to plunge Kerry immediately into the white heat of a Munster final against opponents who had enjoyed the benefit of an earlier championship outing. Secondly, I failed to see the point of the new set-up.

Presumably, the idea was that Munster's weaker counties — Limerick, Tipperary, Clare and Waterford — should compete against each other so that the winners of the group might develop sufficient confidence and team spirit to trouble Cork in the only semi-final.

It was wishful thinking on the part of Munster Council officials to expect that they could balance the scales in the province in this manner. Let's be honest about it, no manipulation of the fixture list can alter the fact that Limerick, Tipperary, Clare and Waterford are all traditional hurling strongholds and always have been.

It must be accepted, therefore, that the bridging of the gap in Munster, if it ever occurs, is very much a long term proposition. In the meantime, what can be done to ensure that the annual slaughter of the football innocents is brought to a halt, as it surely must if only for humane reasons?

Open draw advocates will vociferously make their case, as they invariably do when a trouncing is dished out in football, but I am not a devotee of that particular brand of football opinion.

By NOEL HORGAN

In the first place the open draw would not guarantee the end of the David-Goliath confrontations which currently crop up in football. Secondly, as a Munster man, I regard the provincial final as an integral part of the G.A.A. year, atmospherically unique and almost as important as the All-Ireland decider itself.

To my mind the solution lies in the introduction of a 'B' All-Ireland championship, similar to that which already exists in hurling.

Initially, the G.A.A. could decide which counties should contest the 'B' championship but after the first year entry could be optional. Of course, the competition would be played on an open draw system as a traditionally strong football province like Connacht would probably have only lowly Leitrim competing.

I would propose that any county successful for two seasons on the trot in the lower levels would be obliged to sample top-class fare again the following year. And if the number of entrants to the 'B' competition was, at any stage, minimal, then a league style championship could be operated with the top two or four teams engaging in a knock-out system to decide the eventual winners.

Moreover, with entry optional, a county could, without winning the 'B' championship, freely return to top-class fare if it was felt that the time was right for a bash at the "big guns".

The scheme would give the weaker counties something realistic to strive for and provide the good players from poor counties with a genuine opportunity of success at inter-county level.

Above all, it would minimise 'massacres' like the Cork-Limerick semi-final. Such contests hardly

enhance the image of Gaelic football.

And if there is any truth in the adage that success breeds success, then the 'B' All-Ireland might, more effectively than any pointless fixture manipulation, provide some weaker counties with the confidence to compete in the top flight.



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LET'S NOT GO UNDER . . . BUT GO DOWN UNDER!

ISN'T that fetching marvellous? . . . and they're able to fist the ball accurately. Those Australians are great men . . ." and he strode quickly away from me. Half-time it was on a grey winter day under the cavernous stand in Pairc Ui Chaoimh about a year ago. The man who spoke was Jim Regan who played football for Cork and Munster as well as Cork hurlers in the twenties and the thirties when he picked up four All-Ireland senior medals. I was delighted to agree with him.

Outside on the field Kerry and the Aussies had just given us half an hour of the most manly and exciting football I had seen for a while. When an Australian ran to fetch the ball he gathered his body and took a few long strides like a high jumper prancing in towards the lath. Then the footballer from Down Under heaved himself well up into the air and with hands strained upwards dragged the ball from the skies, his knees at the Kerryman's shoulder in the jump. They fisted the ball forty yards and the comrade leaped again. Their kicking was atrocious and I suppose the oval ball does make a big difference. That was the day when the contest was mainly between Australia and Charlie Nelligan. But for the Kerryman's superb handling and wizard anticipation the visitors would have

By
**EAMONN
YOUNG**

won by five goals. In the pavilion afterwards we all said that we must see more of the Australians.

Well not all. Minorities are always vocal but that's their right. More important Jack said we must look after our own games (and God knows they were weak enough in places) and not send players around the world for fun. The men who would go were the chaps who are always moaning because they have too many matches to play. Already the programme is too heavy for them. Of course none of them would turn down a trip. But the game (indeed the games, including hurling and handball) should be watched here at home and in the weaker counties as well as the weak areas in the strong counties the enthusiasm and efficiency of our organisers should be concentrated on them instead of skylarking to other lands in



● An example of high fetching and close combat in the Australian Rules game.

the name of international sport.

In any case chimed in his associate Dinny (who never agreed with Jack in his life except in this argument) what rules would be used? "Sure, the Aussies out there to-day would beat the socks off the Kingdom if they played with an oval ball. As it is they should have won. What rules would we use in the name of heaven. In Ireland we could play under our own rules but Down Under they would insist on theirs and we would be laughed out of the stadium".

And what about the cash? asked Jack. It seems that he (who never to my knowledge paid a household bill in his life), had suddenly blossomed into a financial whiz-kid. Yes, he was well aware that the money had not been right in these tours and they would lose cash because there wasn't

● TO PAGE 16

● FROM PAGE 15

adequate organisation by either of the two groups and either of them didn't trust the other and they only started fighting among themselves about it all. This incidentally was

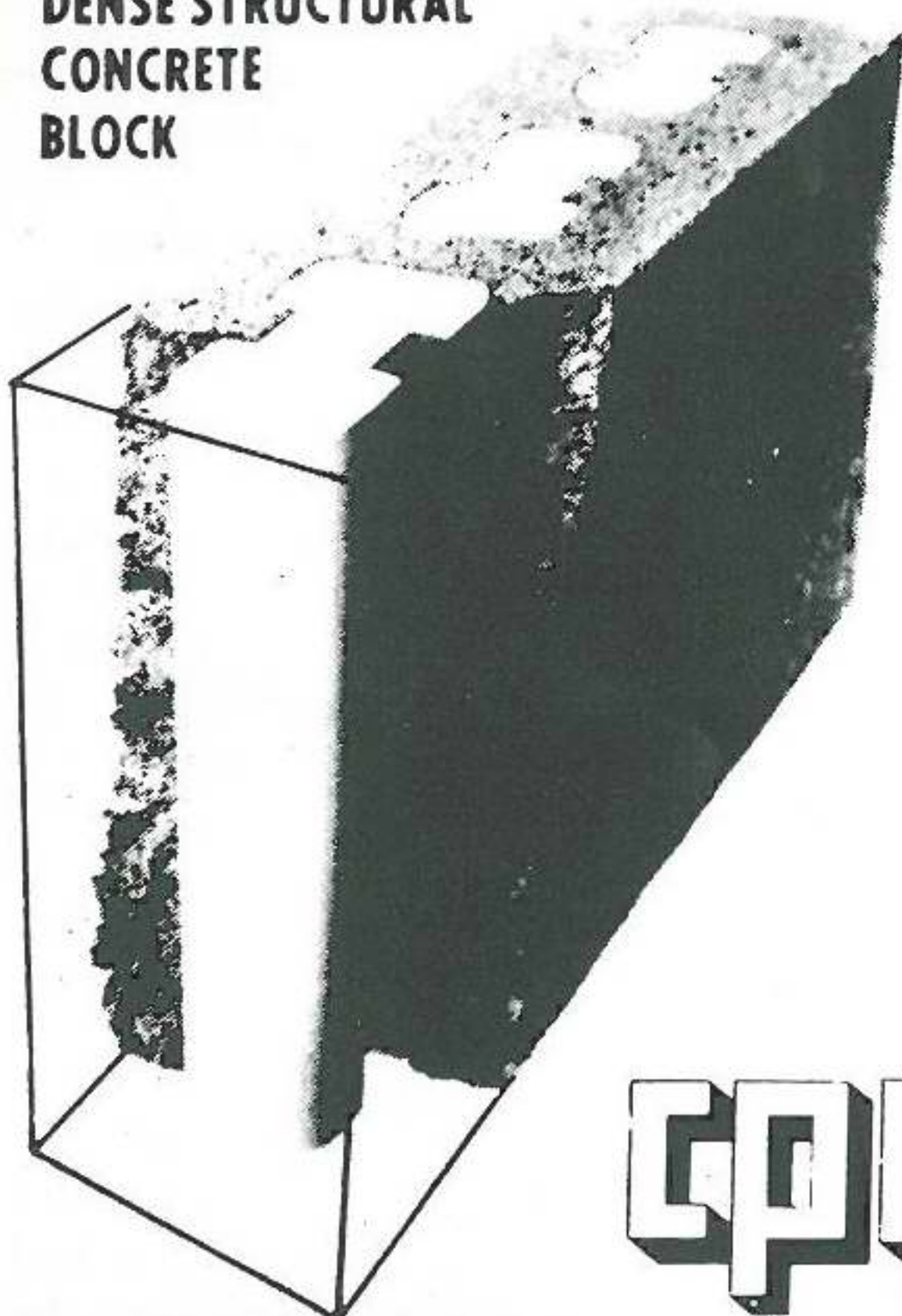
complete news to me so I bowed to either superior knowledge or invention.

"No" the two boys concluded happily "It's all right to see a good exhibition game in Pairc Uí

Chaoimh now and then but the more important thing was to look after ourselves here at home, help Macroom to win the Cork football championship and beat Kerry in Killarney.

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But surely international competition in sport is good. Just now we've been confronted with the pressure of politics in sport and here let me say that if England was doing half as much to us, as Russia is to the peasants of Afghanistan, there would be mile murder from every third generation Irishman around the world to stop athletes from going to an Olympic games in London. Anyway to get back to international sport the general effect is good. Players and athletes have their minds broadened and their athletics standards raised by contact with other nations. Outside influences are not always good but we can't build a wall around the Emerald Isle which itself isn't exactly sacrosanct in the moral, social or sporting sense. Our young men will have their minds broadened by their overseas visits and should generally be better Irishmen and manlier sportsmen as a result.

Though the top players are indeed over-committed (especially if they're ambitious enough to seek fame in both games) the trip to Australia would probably not be regarded as an extra competitive commitment so much as a relax which does not mean that a man wouldn't play just as hard. It's only fair to say that the players who delight us on the field and who help to draw big crowds to stadia (erected mainly by good men who never played top grade) should be rewarded in every reasonable way. This applies especially in the case of men who do not win All-Ireland medals or enjoy the resultant trips.

The Bank of Ireland All-Stars selection gives recognition to the player from Leitrim, Carlow and Fermanagh. We who grew up in strong counties often forget the wonderful dedication shown in the

weaker areas in spite of perennial defeat. There is no greater G.A.A. man than the chap who recognises a side that hasn't won a provincial championship for twenty years and the men who play their hearts out on that team deserve any reward we can give them.

My regret is that on the Bank of Ireland All-Stars sides most of the places go to men who please us on the big day. That's only fair but I always wonder if there aren't men elsewhere who are just as good though perhaps not as polished or sophisticated for lack of big and frequent competition. However there are solutions to selection of touring teams. A man might not be selected on two successive years. An allotment of places could be made to each province. This would not weaken the sides for there are dozens of good footballers.

I'm not very happy about the compromise rules. This is quite natural after being so pleased by the Kerry v Australia game where the only real change seemed to be in the case of the round ball. Our kicking would certainly not be as good with an oval ball and that slick pick-up (usually off the ground with the hands) would probably not be so effective. But then perhaps before we sent the touring side we could get in a lot of practice and select a team as a result of a hard trial played under what I'll call tour regulations. The problem isn't insurmountable.

The nub of the whole question would appear to be not in the entertainment of the game or the travel-readiness of the players, but in the successful organisation and timing of the trips. It is obvious that close harmony should exist between Melbourne and Dublin and therein lies the key to the lock.

When I see how a poor game like soccer can sweep the world and an epic pastime like hurling struggling along in a remote island I long to show Gaelic football to men and women who get excited over lacrosse, cricket and basket-ball. Regular Australian tours? Why not?

● **Another spectacular shot of an Australian Rules player airborne for a high ball.**



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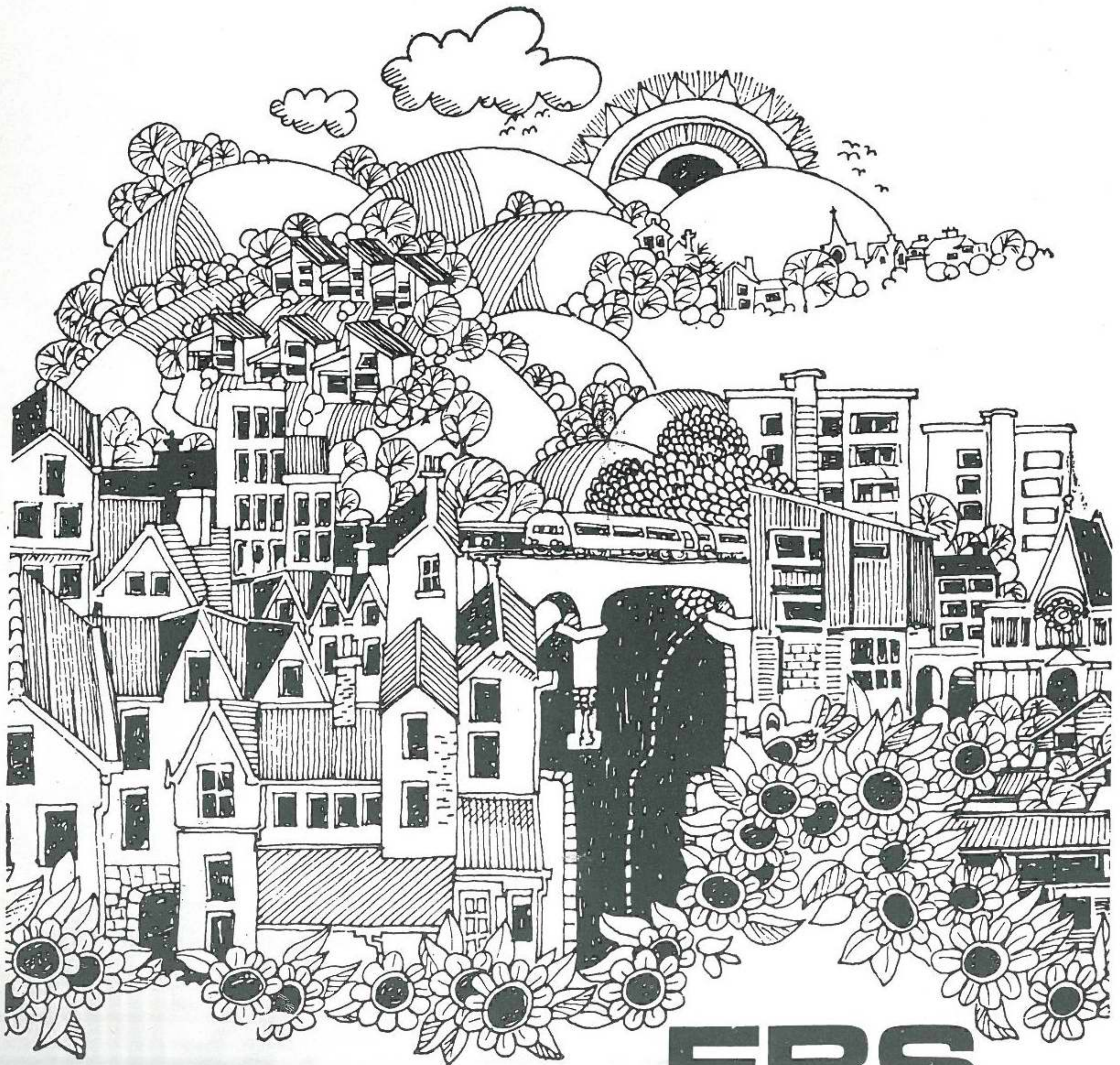
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Pat Kirby third from the left who won the U.S. Masters Championship from an entry of one hundred and three. Pat is seen here accepting B + I Personality of the Month award from Frank Scully, Assistant General Manager B + I Line. Also present were (from left) Michael Tyrrell (Munster Handball Secretary), Mrs. Pat Kirby, Caimon Jones (Sect. Clare Co. Handball Board) and Noel Howard (Chairman Clare Co. Handball Board).

THE FABULOUS KIRBY

By SEAN CLERKIN

PAT KIRBY, whose name has brought distinction to Irish sport over the last ten years has again catapulted to the forefront following his great win in the U.S.H.A. Masters Championships at Tucson Arizona.

It was a victory fashioned from the fruits of dedication, determination and fitness.

From an entry of one hundred and three players he streaked his way to the top, leaving the hopes of many top class players unfulfilled in his wake. Kirby was seeded No. 7, an obvious indication that those who determined the seedings had not been keeping abreast of his handball exploits in Ireland.

Into his stride from his first match, Kirby showed that he was in tune and for a full week the music of his handball fluency never abated.

Kirby had a bye in the first round and therefore followed the

humiliation of Ron Groff from Tacoma, Washington on the scores 21-5: 21-1. R. J. Harrison of Denver, Colorado fared little better as he bit the dust 21-7: 21-4.

The No. 2 seed Cordy Garcia of Albuzerque was to suffer a similar fate with only seven and three aces respectively to his credit in the two games.

There was an air of inevitability about the series at this stage as self respecting handballers lined up for a whacking from Kirby.

Bill Kish from St. Paul, Minnesota was beaten 21-4: 21-4, while in the semi-final the No. 1 seed Tom Natale from Lindenhurst, New York could do no better than score five aces in the first game and ten in the second.

Maybe Rene Zamorano was to salvage the pride of American Handball and put his own native

Tucson on the map by winning the final. An early flush of aces indicated that a thriller was on the cards but the effort dissipated as Kirby, first of all held the challenge, then unleashed the full wealth of his handball reserves to squash the hapless Zamorano.

The unfortunate local only scored a solitary ace in the second game.

Thus, the King of Irish Handball had extended his kingdom to cover the USA, Canada and Mexico. Well done Pat, and let us hope that the rumours of your intentions to take up residence in the USA on a permanent basis are without foundation.

Irish sport needs a player of Kirby's calibre and if incentives are needed to keep him here they should be forthcoming.

While the fortunes of our other players have not provided startling

● OVERLEAF

AN GÚM

Síle ar Scoil

Taitníonn scoil le Síle. Má tá aithne agat ar pháiste ar fearr leis fanacht sa bhaile b'fhéidir go n-athróidh sé a intinn tar éis an scéilín seo a léamh. Máire Aine Ní Dhonnchadha a chuir i nGaeilge do leanaí faoi bhun 7 mbliana. **Praghas 45p**

Síle agus a Madra Beag

Beidh an-spórt agat le Síle agus a peata beag. Má thaithníonn Síle ar Scoil leat níl aon rogha agat ach an leabhar seo a cheannach chomh maith. Tá sé níos saoire ná madra nua a cheannach pé scéal é. **Praghas 45p**

An Capaillín Cróga

Bhí Donn bocht bacach ach thug Deirdre aire dó. Leabhar gleoite ón Spáinn. Leagan Gaeilge le Máire Ní Chéileachair do pháistí faoi bhun 7 mbliana. **Praghas 15p**

Pedro An Gaucho Beag

Léiríonn an tsraith seo "Tíortha agus Nósanna" an éagsúlacht iontach atá ar fáil sa domhan seo. (San Airgintín atáimid an turas seo le Pedro an gaucho! Cén rud é gaucho? Faigh amach duit féin! (Aoisghrúpa 7-11) **Praghas 60p**

An Táin

Ceann de mhórscéalta na tíre seo agus an domhain curtha in oiriúint do leanaí 8-11 bhliain ag Liam Mac Uistín. Maisithe ag Michael Macnamee. Sa tsraith chéanna le **Mír agus Éadaoin** **Praghas 70p**

Gráinne agus Peadar

"Ní maith liomsa buachaillí a bhíonn salach, giobalach!" Sin Gráinne ag caint. Peadar bocht! An mbeidh sí cairdiúil leis go deo? Máire Ní Chéileachair a rinne leagan Gaeilge do pháistí faoi bhun 7 mbliana. **Praghas 15p**

Katia An Cailín Ungárach

Cheana féin sa tsraith seo tá Eiscimeach, Gaucho, Ollannach, Seapánach, Meicsiceach agus scata eile. Seo anois Katia, Titfidh tú i ngrá léi! Eoghan O Collla a d'aistrigh do leanaí 7-11 bhliain. **Praghas 60p**

Máirin An Rinceoir Beag Bailé

Má tá aithne agat ar chailín óg a dhéanann bailé seo an leabhar di. Is cinnte go spreagfaidh sé go leor cailíní óga agus a dtuismitheoirí chun spéis a chur san ealaín seo. Gilbert Delahaye agus Marcel Marlier a scríobh agus a mhaisigh. Siobhán Denman a d'aistrigh do pháistí 8-12 bliana. **Praghas 50p**

Dubh agus Breac: Scéal Dhá Chat

Máire Ní Chéileachair a chuir an leagan Gaeilge in oiriúint do leanaí 7-10 mbliana d'aois. Beidh siad ag crónán cois na tine a léamh. **Praghas 50p**

*Le ceannach díreach ó
Oifig Dhíolta Foilseachán Rialtais
An Stuara, Ard-Oifig an Phoist
Baile Átha Cliath 1
nó ó dhíoltóirí leabhar*

● FROM OVERLEAF

headlines, it must be recorded that none of them were disgraced. John Fleming, who, incidentally, was sadly missed by the Wexford hurlers against Kilkenny went to the third round of the under-23 section.

Pakie Ryan from Dublin and Tony Ryan from Tipperary compensated for their early dismissals in the major open championships by reaching the fifth round of the consolation Competitions.

We also had five competitors in the Women's Championships at Tucson. This was the first year they were held and there was an entry of twenty three players. Rosemary Belini from New York was the outright winner.

It will be recalled that she played here a few years ago under the managership of Jim Fitzpatrick, the former USA Masters Champion. She threw down a challenge to our own champion Mavis O'Toole and despite the fact that she had not played on the big court previously, won readily.

At that time, handball historian John K. Clarke, was instrumental in having the Larry Roe Perpetual Cup, in memory of that great Dublin player of the same name, made available for the contest. In latter times, young Geraldine Hill went to New York to try and wrest the Cup back but failed in the attempt.

Indeed, Rosemary Belini, who played throughout the series with a steel brace on her knee seems destined to remain to the forefront of Women's Handball for quite some time.

A general analysis of the most recent trip seems to indicate that from an Irish viewpoint it was an unqualified success.

Pat Kirby's win made it all so much worthwhile and the performances of our other players indicate that the gap in standards is diminishing.

It is encouraging to be in a position to state, once again, that Irish Handball continues to reach for new horizons.

THE CORKMAN'S VIEW OF FRANK CUMMIN'S

By NOEL HORGAN

ASK a Corkman his opinion of Frank Cummins and the question will probably provoke a mixed reaction. On the one hand he will visualise Frank as the stalwart Blackrock clubman whose powerful play in the famed green and gold colours of the fishing village has thrilled thousands of Corkonians in the county championship.

Conversely, Cummins will be seen as the Kilkenny hurler whose formidable feats have repeatedly posed problems for Cork teams during the 'seventies and late 'sixties.

However, the Corkman will be unable to conceal his admiration for Frank Cummins as a top-class performer or hide his respect for the Kilkenny man as a sportsman supreme. And that in itself is an immense tribute to Frank Cummins.

Cork folk are proud of their hurlers and regard their club championship — "the little All-Ireland" — as the best in the land. The fact that Frank Cummins, an outsider, could come to Cork, play in the county championship and capture the hearts of Cork's hurling public makes him someone very special indeed.

Cummins has been a tremendous asset to the 'Rockies since he joined them in 1970. The former Garda initially sampled hurling in Cork with Cobh — home town of the legendary pugilist, Jack Doyle — but it was with Blackrock that he emerged as a major figure in Cork club hurling.

Frank produced many outstanding displays as a half-back and midfielder with the 'Rockies,

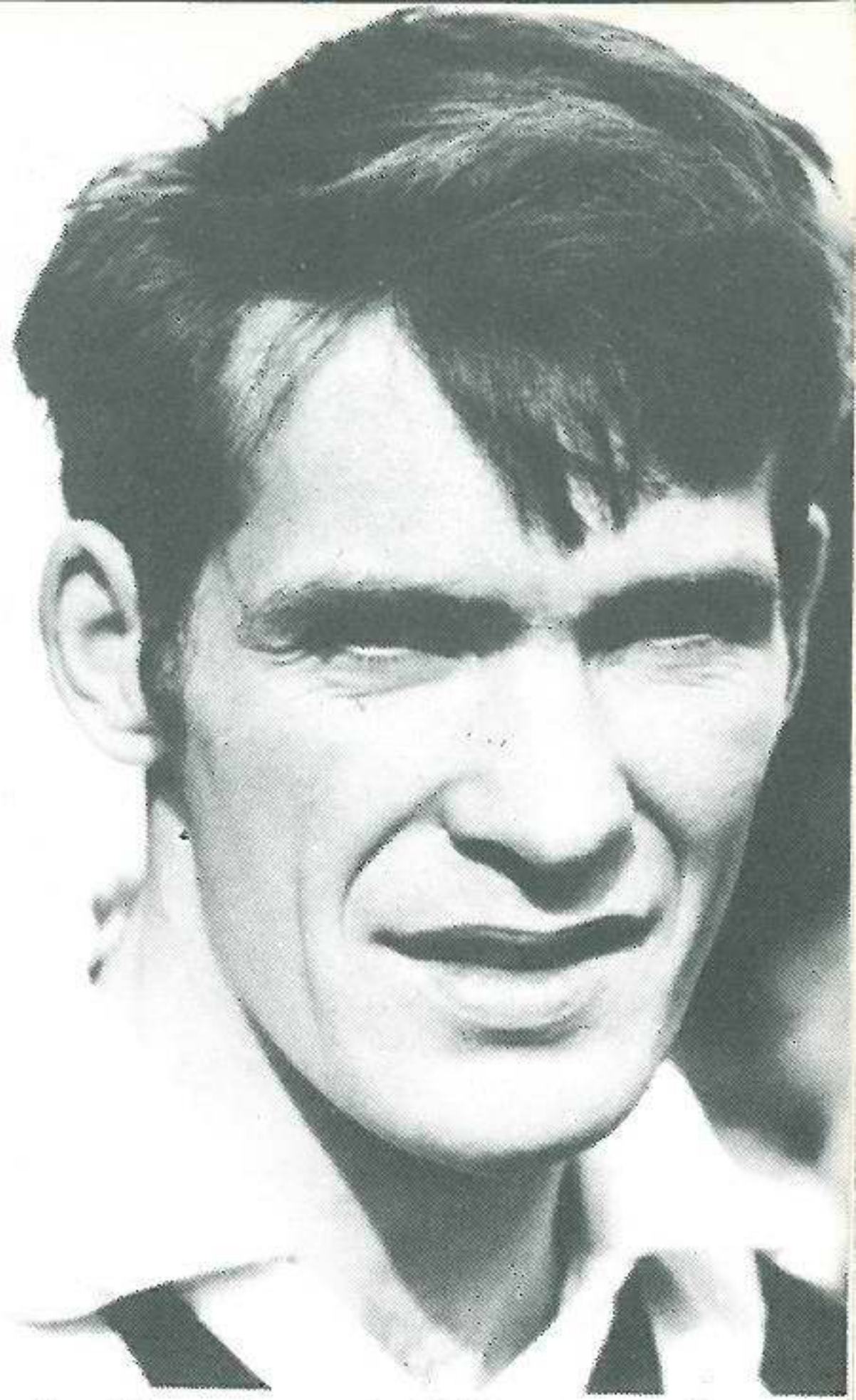
sharing in their five county title wins of the 'seventies and helping the Corkmen to All-Ireland club successes in '72, '76 and '79.

Possibly, his finest hour in the Blackrock jersey occurred in the '78 county final against Glen Rovers. On paper star-studded Blackrock looked odds-on to succeed in that game but their failure to come up trumps, when similarly fancied in preceding championships, caused many to doubt if the 'Rockies could still match the Glen's spirit.

Blackrock silenced their critics with a convincing victory and Frank Cummins produced a tour-de-force in the pivotal post to vie with Ray Cummins and Dermot McCurtain for the "man of the match" tag.

Significantly, perhaps, many of the unashamedly loyal Cork folk deemed Kilkenny's Cummins to be the 'Rockies main hero that day. Ironically, however, the '78 season was the one in which Frank's Jekyll and Hyde role was never more forcibly brought home to Cork fans.

The Leesiders, seeking the three-in-a-row, met Kilkenny in the All-Ireland decider in September and midfielder, Tom Cashman, star of Cork's Munster final victory over league champions, Clare, was



Frank Cummins of Kilkenny and Blackrock.

expected to play a major role.

Frank Cummins, a club mate of Cashman's in Cork, was burdened with the task of curbing the stylish Corkman in the final. His close-marking, his physical advantage and his unorthodox style combined to knock the classy Cashman completely off his stride in that game.

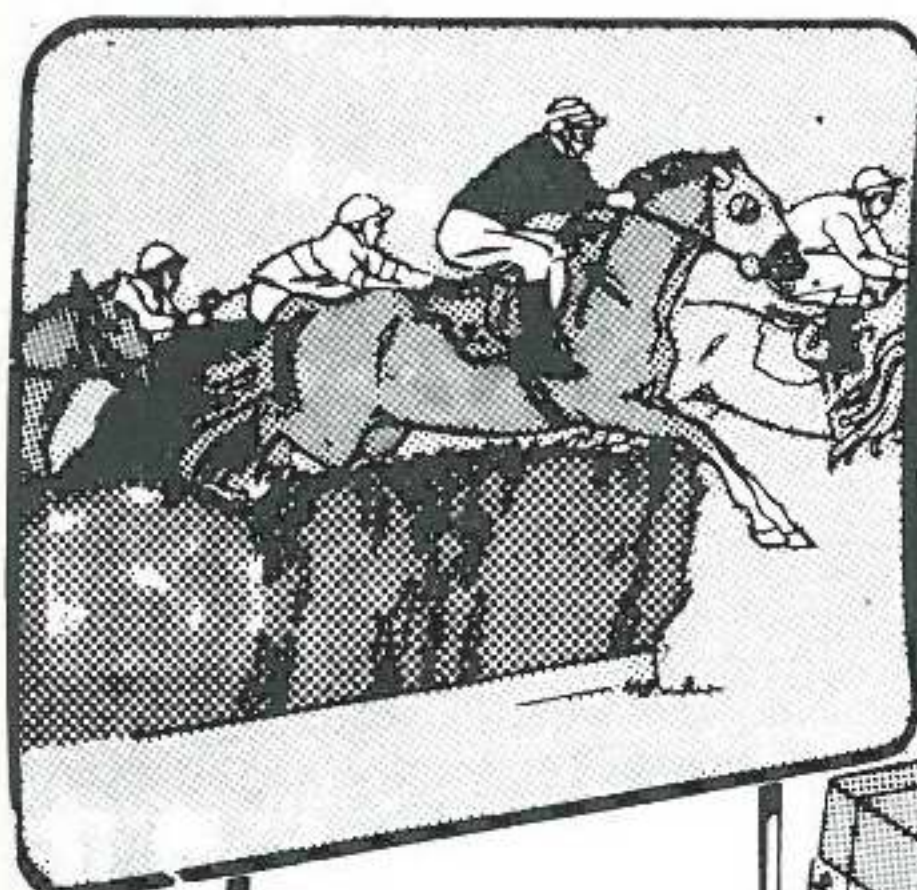
And though the better-balanced Cork team emerged victorious, their fans never quite forgave Frank Cummins for his spoiling but sporting tactics, despite the fact that within weeks he was delighting many of those Corkmen with his superb county final display.

An injury kept Frank Cummins side-lined for most of the winter months this season. He returned to the Kilkenny colours for the Leinster semi-final against Wexford and showed that the long lay-off has not diminished his effectiveness.

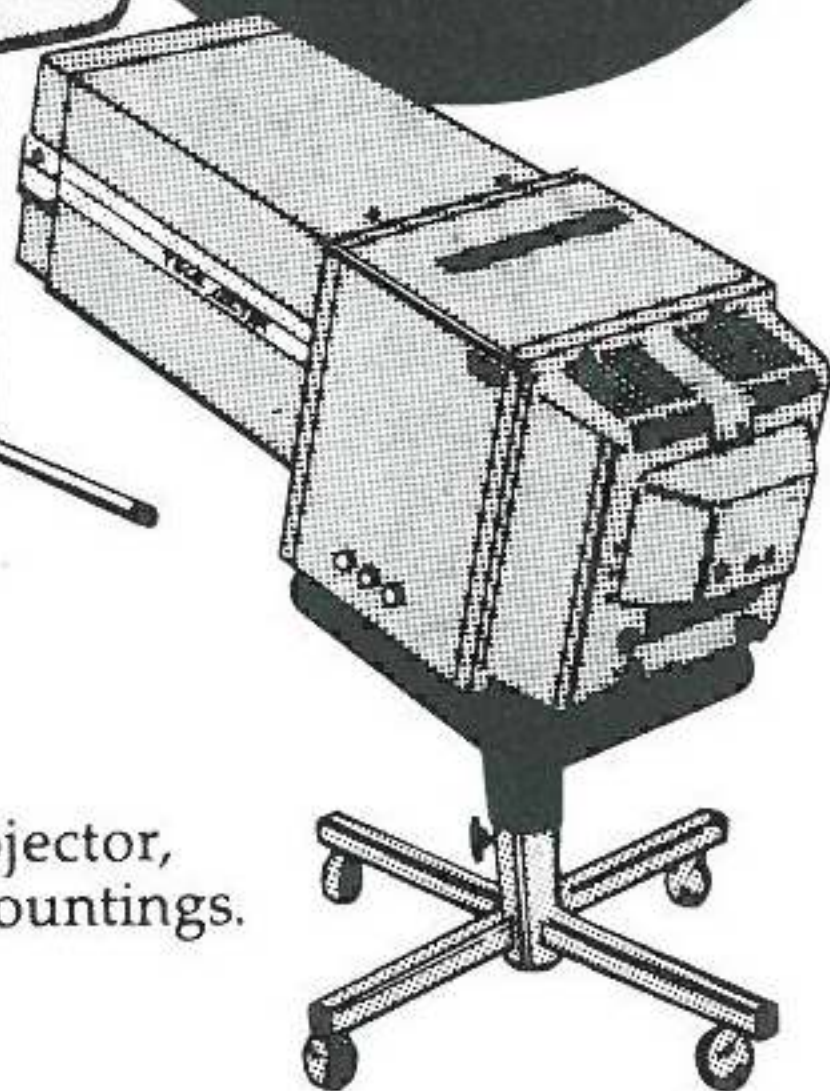
It would appear, therefore, that the big Frank Cummins is destined to play his Jekyll and Hyde role in the eyes of Corkmen for some time to come, continuing a successful career which has already brought him five All-Ireland senior medals and every other major award that the game can bestow.

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EASTERN

ON CAMOGIE FIELDS

Kilkenny now in strong position

By AGNES HOURIGAN

KILKENNY, the new National League Champions, have now placed themselves in a very strong position in the Championship race, after their convincing victory over Tipperary in the Final.

The Noresiders, who had to reshuffle their team, because of the absence of their regular goalie Teresa O'Neill, made no mistake when they selected their brilliant centre-back Bridie Martin to take charge of the goal position.

From Bridie in the goal, right through the field, Kilkenny were well on top. Anne Downey never played as well at full-back where she caught and cleared almost every ball with skill and determination. The half-back line of Anne Holden, Liz Neary and Mary Canavan was in control throughout the game. Midfielders Helen McCormack, Margaret Farrell and Bidy O'Sullivan more than matched the opposition while the attack excelled.

Angela Downey with a personal tally of 2.4, Mary Purcell 1.1 and Kilkenny's latest senior Anna Whelan with a solid three points from play all contributed to Tipperary's defeat. Jo Dunn also did a power of work for the other forwards.

Tipperary never reproduced the form that brought them out of their Zone and that gave them the passport to the final after they defeated Dublin in extra time in the semi-final. It was most

disappointing for the Munster girls, who promised so much. They never really got started. One point from a free was their only score in the first half. Their best period was in the last ten minutes after they scored the goal. However they tried hard but on the day they could not match the winners.

Comment on how the big games in the Championship will go before publication date has to be influenced by the form in the concluding stages of the Senior League.

Dublin and Tipperary are again in opposition in the Championship quarter final. There was so little between them last time that Dublin could have learned a lot from their mistakes in the League semi-final and may go forward to the semi final of the Championship against Cork, who knocked out the All Ireland Champions, Antrim.

Kilkenny must now be strong favourites to advance to the semi-final at the expense of Galway, although the Westerners put up a good performance against the League winners when they met in that competition. The score was 1-10 to 1-5.

The fourth quarter-final between Derry and Limerick is fixed for a Derry venue. The Shannonsiders have been very disappointing this season. They lost their League games to Kilkenny and Cork and only succeeded in defeating Galway



Bridie Martin
(Kilkenny)

by one point.

In addition, Limerick were trounced in the Munster Final by Cork so how they will fare at a Derry venue against the local team is hard to foresee.

Derry were quite promising in their League engagements but if the Shannonsiders could recover the form that gave them such a reputation over the past two seasons they should gain the fourth place in the semi finals against Kilkenny or Galway.

There have been several surprises to date in the Junior provincial Championships. Leinster champions Dublin were defeated by Louth in the semi final. Ulster winners Cavan lost to Antrim and the biggest surprise of all was the defeat of Armagh by Tyrone. Armagh, who recently played brilliantly in the Junior League Final against Kildare, were expected to be a force in the All Ireland Junior Competition.

Kildare have reached the Leinster Junior Final against Louth. Cork are in the Munster decider against Tipperary, Antrim and Tyrone are the Ulster Finalists and Galway and Roscommon are in the Connacht final. The All-Ireland semi finals will be played on August 10.

The semi-finals and finals of the Willwood Tailteann under 16 All-Ireland Championship are arranged for an Ulster venue on August 30 and 31.

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ON THE SPOT . . .

by Tony Keegan

HOW time flies! It seems like only the other day that we were looking forward to the provincial championships, yet here we are with the majority of the titles in the provinces won and lost for another season, and already talking in terms of the All-Ireland semi-finals.

The games that made the headlines at that stage of the championships last August form the basis of the latest edition of ON THE SPOT . . . The innovations introduced in the quiz last month, covering the sections matching the goalkeeper, midfield partner or scoreline, appear to have gone down really well judging by the reaction of readers.

So, I have decided to include a number of similar sections again in the latest quiz. In addition, encouraged by the response to our prize winning quiz of five questions published in June for a year's free subscription to GAEILIC SPORT (the result is published on page 42 this month), we have decided to present a similar "test" in this issue.

Again the first all correct entry received at our office on the coupon published on page 48, and opened after the closing date of August 29, will earn the lucky reader a free copy of GAEILIC SPORT every month from October for twelve issues.

Now on to the quiz, remembering again that in covering football, hurling, handball and camogie, we are concentrating on events of August last year. And, as usual, points are awarded at the end of each section to add to the interest.

MATCH THE PARTNER

Who partnered John Connolly at midfield in the hurling semi-final win by Galway over Cork? If you

can answer that one correctly you are on your way in good style in this section, in which we want the missing partner in each case.

- John Connolly and.....
- Jack O'Shea and.....
- Wexford handballer Dick Lyng and.....
- in Coca Cola Doubles semi-final.
- Hugo Clerkin and.....

Five points for each partner correctly named, which adds up to twenty points for an all correct return. YOUR SCORE

A chance now for all you keen statistician who can remember scorelines without any trouble. What we want is the appropriate scoreline against the team concerned, again in relation to last year's semi-finals, in this exercise called:

MATCH THE SCORELINE

- Kerry minor footballers.....
-
- Monaghan senior footballers.....
-
- Tipperary against Limerick in senior camogie.....
- Galway senior hurlers.....
-

The scorelines from which to make your selections are: 1-6; 2-14; 1-15 and 0-7.

Five points for each correct scoreline, making a further twenty points on offer in all. YOUR TALLY.....

PICTURE PARADE

Pictured here are two hurlers who were in action at senior semi-final level last August. Who are they? Who is the odd man out? And why?

.....

 Help yourself to five points for



each player named, and five points for each of the remaining sections correctly answered. So, Picture Parade can boost your over-all tally by 20 points. YOUR RETURNS...

We end this section of the quiz over-all with ten questions dealing with winning performances last August. See how you measure up in this snappy.

TOP TEN

1. Who won between Tipperary and Limerick in the senior camogie semi-final?.....
2. Who beat Down in the minor football semi-final?.....
3. Offaly beat Cork in the under-21 football semi-final. True or false?
4. Who won between Antrim and Wexford in the senior camogie meeting of the counties?.....
5. The player pictured on page 28 was on a winning under-21 semi-final side last August. Who is he?
6. Name the footballer who was very prominently among the scores

• TO PAGE 28

● **FROM PAGE 27**
 in a winning display a year ago, finishing with 3-5?.....

7. Tipperary booked their place in the under-21 hurling final at the expense of what county?.....

8. Who scored the last and winning point of the Dublin-Roscommon semi-final in senior football four minutes from time — David Hickey, Brian Mullins or Mick Hickey?.....

9. Dublin's winning margin against Mayo minor footballers?....

10. Only one county scored more than one goal in the football senior semi-finals. True or false?.....

Fifty points on offer here, at five per question answered correctly.
YOUR SCORE.....

HOW DO YOU STAND?

The points on offer over-all in this edition of ON THE SPOT... add up to 110. Take a bow if you finished with 90-plus. You can also feel well pleased if you scored between 80 and 100. A good rating for 60, and under that, well, better luck next time!



0-7. Tipperary against Limerick in Monaghan senior footballers and Kerry minor footballers and 1-15.

MATCH THE SCORELINE

Noel Lane (Galway) and John Horgan (Cork). Noel Lane. He did not win a provincial senior medal last year; Horgan helped Cork to retain their Munster title.

PICTURE PARADE

1. Tipperary by 1-6 to 0-6. 2. Kerry. 3. False. Cork won by 1-8 to 1-7. 4. Antrim, successful by 3-5 to 0-1. 5. Liam Austin, who helped Down to beat Galway in the under-21 semi-final. 6. Michael Sheehy in Kerry's decisive win over Monaghan. 7. Antrim. 8. Mick Hickey. 9. One point. 10. True. Kerry scored five goals. Roscommon scored one goal and Dublin and Monaghan failed to land a goal between them.

TOP TEN

SEE PAGE 48 FOR SPECIAL WRITE-IN COMPETITION

ANSWERS

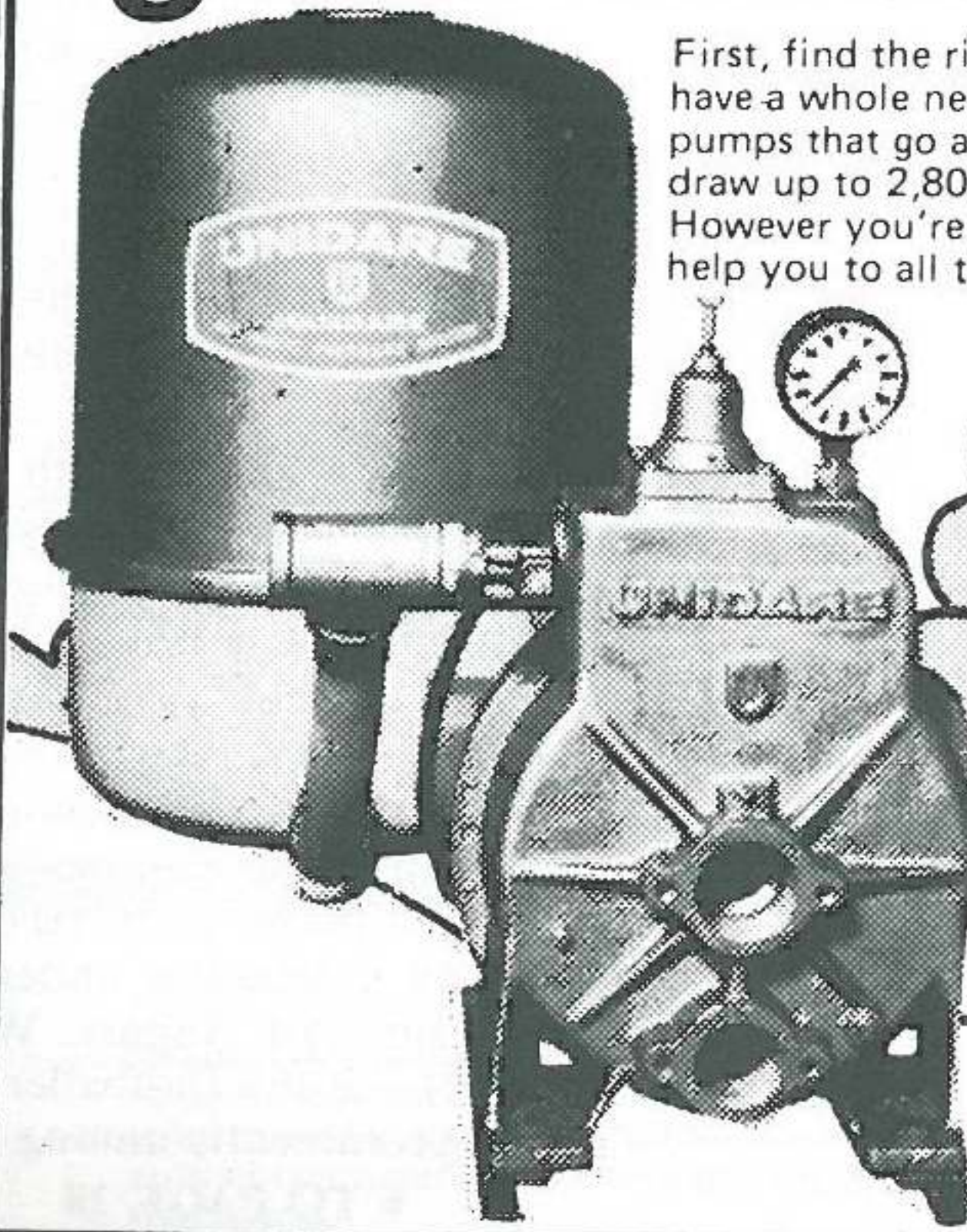
(Printed in reverse to avoid distraction)

John Connolly and Steve Mahon. Jack O'Shea and Vincent O'Connor. Dick Lyng and Seamus Buggy. Hugo Clerkin and Gerry McCarville.

MATCH THE PARTNER

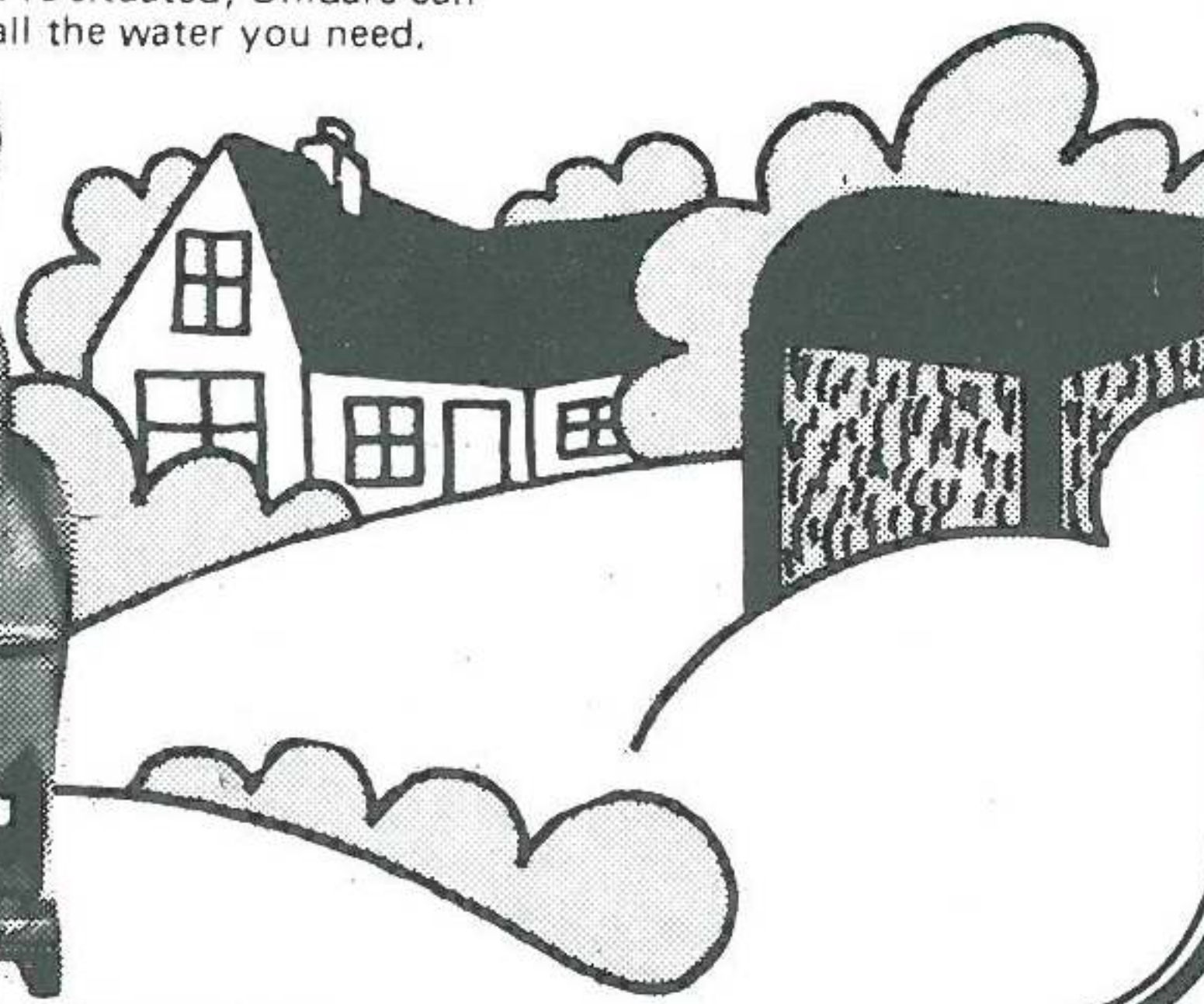
senior camogie semi-final and 1-6. Galway senior hurlers and 2-14.

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SPOTLIGHT ON TWO GREAT DEFENDERS

By MICK DUNNE (RTE Sport)



• Kevin Kehily
(Cork)



• Harry Keegan
(Roscommon)

IRONIC indeed are the contrary twists that fate can take in sport and Kevin Kehily of Cork has been the living proof of it over the past five summers. Although recognised as one of the outstanding defenders in football in that period the only success he has enjoyed at All-Ireland championship level is through his peripheral involvement in hurling.

This, of course, has come through his position as trainer to the Cork hurling team that captured the three successive All-Ireland titles in 1976-'78. His expertise in the field of physical education was responsible for turning out those hurlers in top condition during that run of success.

But an even greater irony lies in the fact that it was while gaining his knowledge as a physical education teacher at Loughborough College in England that he missed being a participant in Cork's only senior football triumph (1973) of modern times.

Kevin, who hails from Newcestown and is one of three brothers to play football for Cork, has, however, tasted some football success at under-age level. He was the left-back on the Cork side that won the 1967 All-Ireland minor championship and three years later was centre half-back on the under-21 side that took the football title. On that latter team three of his teammates were Martin O'Doherty, John Coleman and Declan Barron.

In 1972 he first appeared on the Cork senior team but soon

"disappeared" from the team while he was studying at Loughborough and it was 1974 before he came back into the side for the championship. That year he replaced John Coleman during the Munster final in Killarney and he went into the All-Ireland semi-final for Kevin Jer O'Sullivan the following month when Cork were trying — unsuccessfully, as it turned out — to hold off the challenge of the then-resurgent Dublin.

With Humphrey Kelleher and Brian Murphy, in turn, holding down the full-back berth on the Cork team Kevin appeared as a half-back in three Munster finals (1975-'77). He missed the provincial final two years ago because of suspension, but later in 1978 during the early part of the National League he took over as the full-back.

Kevin is not in the usual mould of towering full-backs, but he is physically strong and earnestly tenacious. He is most mobile and a very quick tackler as well as an eminently safe and sound high fielder.

He played a very large part in Cork's National League successes all through last winter. Indeed his displays in the latter stages — especially holding Kerry's high-scoring Eoin Liston to only one point in the final — contributed significantly to Cork's win in the decider. However, the big Kerry full-forward turned the tables on Kevin in the Munster final last month when

he outwitted him for two of the Kerry goals. His display in the League final earned him the B and I personality of the month award for May.

This summer again has divided his time between training with the football team for the Munster championship and being trainer to the hurling side as they advanced in the championship.

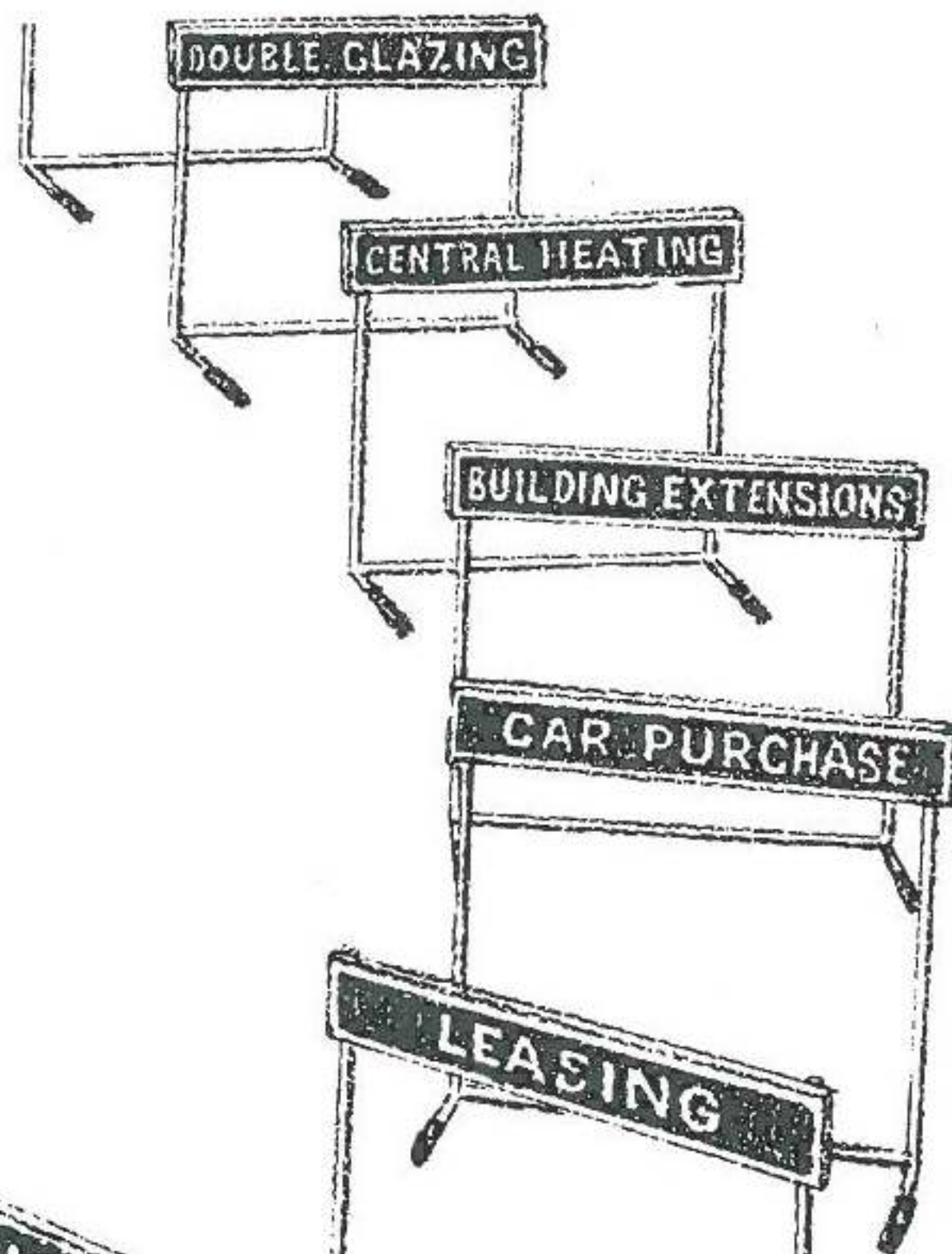
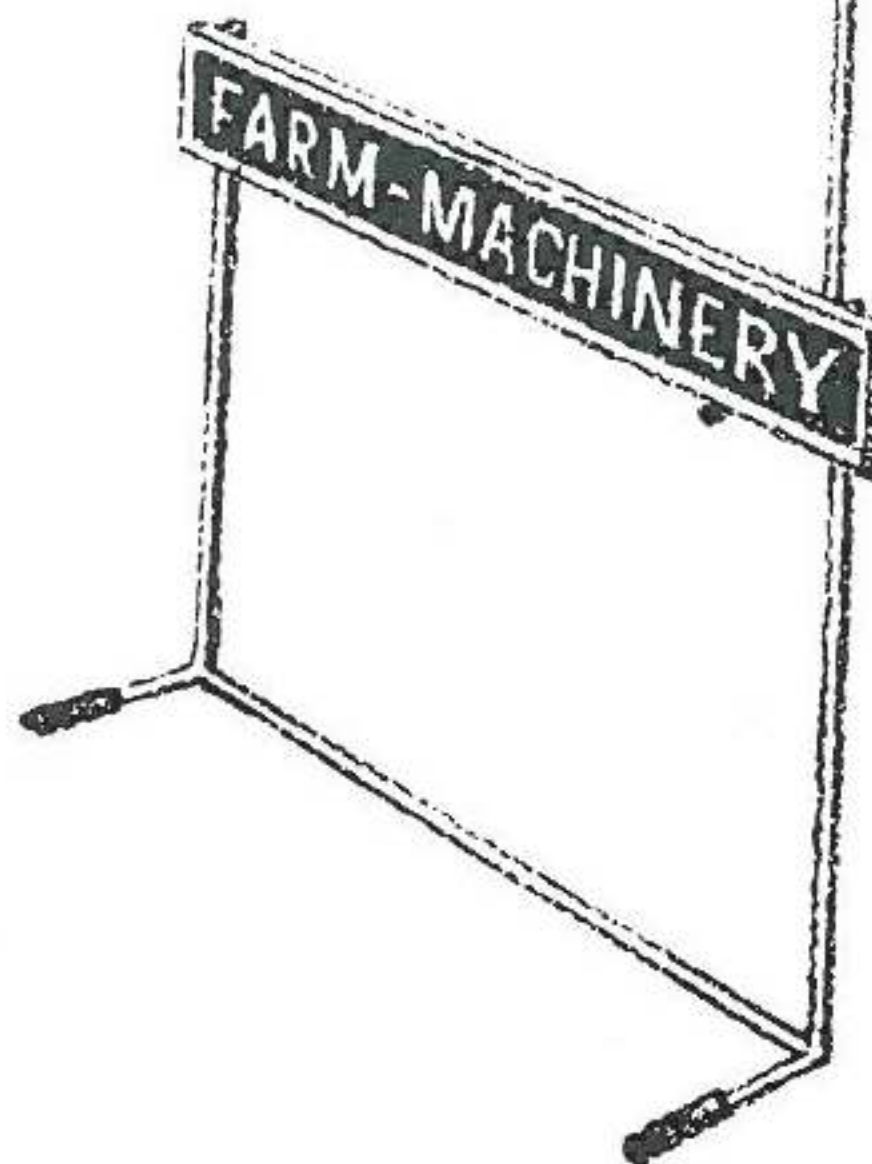
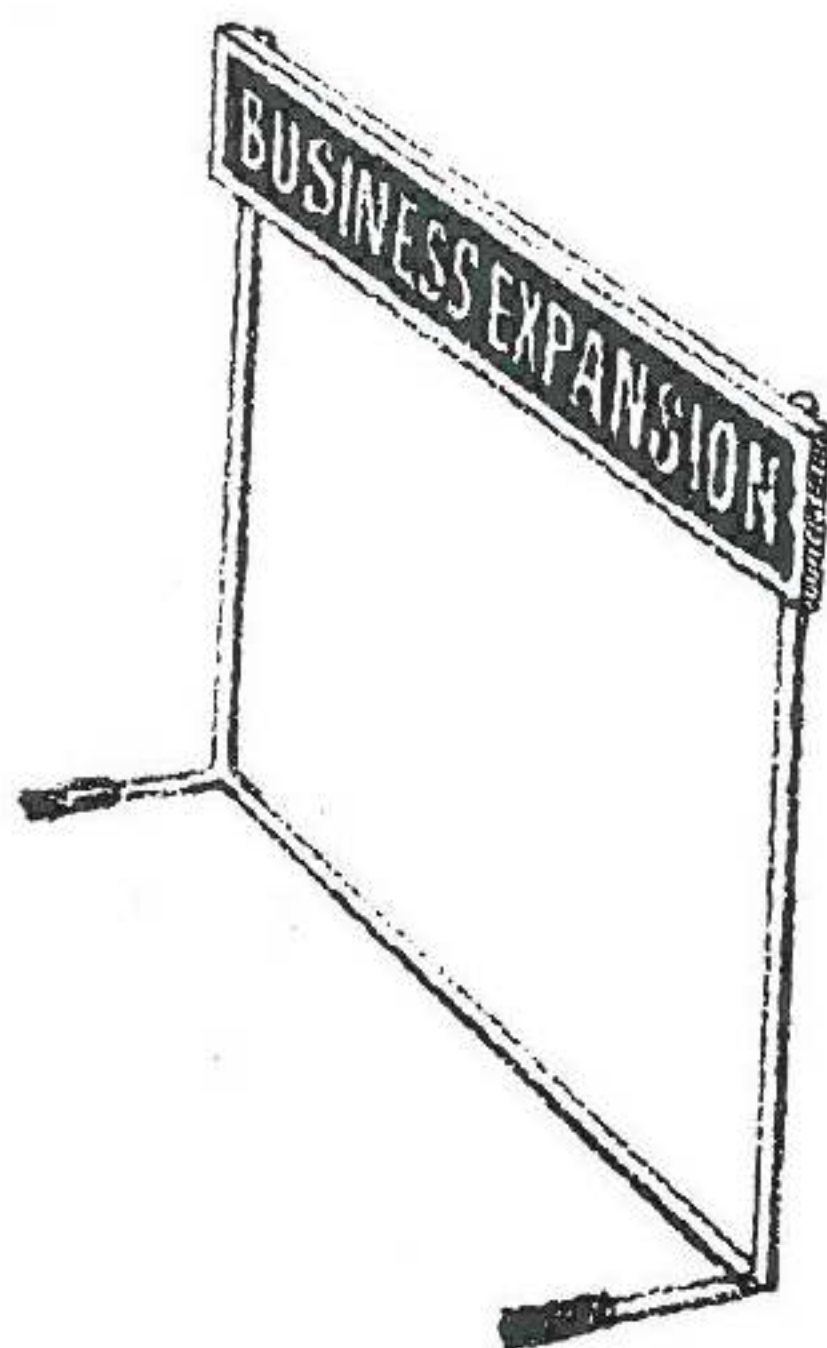
Another prominent defender — Harry Keegan of Roscommon — has had very restricted activity over the past year or more. He had to cry-off the team that won the National League final in May last year and returned to major competition only when he replaced Tom Heneghan during the Connacht championship match against London two months ago — although not everyone would agree that London, no matter who they play in Connacht championships provide major competition.

For the provincial semi-final against Galway he had regained his old right full-back position, the berth in which he gained a Carrolls All-Star award in 1978.

A son of Bill Keegan, who as a goalkeeper won an All-Ireland junior football medal with Roscommon in 1939, Harry works in Dublin but continues to play his football with Castlerea St. Kevins and he has won county championship medals in every grade.

• TO PAGE 42

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Results

Summary

PROVINCIAL SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

CONNACHT FOOTBALL

June 8: Sligo: Mayo 2-11; Sligo 1-7. Semi-Finals: June 15: Tuam: Roscommon 1-14; Galway 0-10. June 22: Crossmolina: Mayo 1-17; Leitrim 1-8.

LEINSTER FOOTBALL

June 8: Tullamore: Dublin 2-14; Laois 2-8. June 15: Tullamore: Meath 4-12; Westmeath 1-5.

Semi-Finals: June 29: Croke Park: Offaly 2-14; Kildare 1-10. July 6: Navan: Dublin 3-13; Meath 2-7.

MUNSTER FOOTBALL

Semi-Final: June 8: Limerick: Cork; 5-19; Limerick 1-6. FINAL: July 6: Pairc Ui Chaoimh: Kerry 3-13; Cork 0-12.

ULSTER FOOTBALL

June 8: Ballinascreen: Cavan 2-9; Derry 2-7. June 15: Irvinestown: Tyrone 1-17; Donegal 0-9. Semi-Finals: June 22: Cavan: Armagh 0-12; Monaghan 0-5. June 29: Clones: Tyrone 2-12; Cavan 1-9.

LEINSTER HURLING

Semi-Finals: June 15: Croke Park: Kilkenny 4-18; Wexford 3-16. Offaly 0-18; Dublin 0-10.

MUNSTER HURLING

Semi-Finals: June 15: Limerick: Limerick 3-13; Clare 2-9. June 22: Thurles: Cork 2-17; Tipperary 1-12.

MINOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

CONNACHT FOOTBALL

June 22: Crossmolina: Mayo 2-8; Sligo 0-9.

Semi-Finals: June 29: Carrick-on-Shannon: Mayo 5-10; Leitrim 2-3. Ballinasloe: Roscommon 1-9; Galway 1-8.

LEINSTER FOOTBALL

June 28: Mullingar: Dublin 2-6; Longford 1-6. June 29: Croke Park: Kildare 1-11; Louth 1-8. July 6: Navan: Meath 3-7; Dublin 3-5.

LEINSTER HURLING

Semi-Finals: June 26: Portlaoise: Dublin 4-12; Offaly 1-5. June 29: Wexford: Wexford 1-12; Antrim 1-10.

MUNSTER FOOTBALL

FINAL: July 6: Pairc Ui Chaoimh: Kerry 1-12; Cork 1-10.

ULSTER FOOTBALL

June 8: Ballinascreen: Derry 0-14; Cavan 0-5. June 15: Irvinestown: Donegal 1-9; Antrim 0-8.

Semi-Finals: June 22: Cavan: Armagh 1-13; Down 3-4. June 29: Clones: Derry 0-11; Donegal 0-6.

MUNSTER HURLING

Semi-Final: July 10: Limerick: Tipperary 1-14; Cork 1-7.

GAEL-LINN CUP FINAL

Senior Football: June 29: Ballinasloe: Galway 3-12; Roscommon 1-15. In Extra Time.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Division II "Home" Final: July 6: Croke Park: Wexford 5-14; Fermagh 0-10.

"B" HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

Semi-Finals: June 8: Croke Park: Kildare 3-9; Antrim 2-10. Tipperary Town: Carlow 1-17; Kerry 2-9.

"Home" Final: June 15: Tullamore: Kildare 5-21; Carlow 3-16.

FINAL: July 6: Croke Park: Kildare 2-20; London 2-14.



UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIPS

LEINSTER FOOTBALL

Semi-Finals: June 18: Tullamore: Kildare 2-7; Meath 2-6. June 26: Newbridge: Dublin 5-18; Carlow 0-7.

ULSTER FOOTBALL

Semi-Finals: July 6: Dungannon: Tyrone 2-9; Cavan 1-9. Newry: Down 4-3; Derry 0-5.

LEINSTER HURLING

June 8: Tullamore: Westmeath 2-6; Offaly 0-8.

Semi-Finals: June 26: Carlow: Wexford 2-18; Laois 2-3. June 25: Portlaoise: Kilkenny 8-10; Westmeath 0-3.



CAMOGIE

All-Ireland Open Senior Championship

June 8: Mobhi Road, Dublin: Dublin 2-9; Clare 2-4. Adare: Limerick 2-7; Down 0-7. June 15: Pairc Ui Chaoimh: Cork 5-10; Antrim 0-1. Monamolin, Wexford: Kilkenny 4-11; Wexford 1-1.

NATIONAL LEAGUE FINAL

June 29: Roscrea: Kilkenny 3-8; Tipperary 1-3.

● TO PAGE 48

The new Citroën Visa. A full five seater, five door, hatchback family saloon. Designed from the outset to achieve outstanding fuel economy. In fact you can confidently expect up to 50 miles per gallon of today's very pricey petrol. But the Visa is no pared to the bone miser. As standard, it's probably the best equipped car of its size you can buy.

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(fully reclining front), interior headlight beam adjustment, two speed wipers with electric washer, two speed heater with special rear seat heating, rear door child safety locks, finger tip 'satellite' controls, a quartz clock - the list goes on and on.

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CITROËN 

SAFE SENSIBLE MOTORING

by JOE COLLINS

ITS that time of the year again when G.A.A. fans are setting out in their cars every Sunday and driving hundreds of miles to see their County team in action. Whether it is going to see their favourite team training or coming up for the All-Irelands themselves, sensible, safe 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 sparingly 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. 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 alternative days — with someone driving the same route 50% of fuel can be saved. If there is a train or bus going your

• TO PAGE 35

BATTERY NEWS

A CAR battery is something that we tend to take for granted and only notice its existence on a frosty morning.

If, however, your car is fitted with a Guaranteed Irish Dagenite battery, you can be sure that it will not let you down. Provided, of course, that you have been sensible about its care and maintenance. Even 30 x 5 second attempts at starting results in only a 25% discharge of a Dagenite battery. If, however, after these 30 attempts the car will not start, it is a good idea to check the plugs and points before continuing to run down the battery.

A battery is only as good as its regulator setting. If the regulator is set too low, the battery can never be fully charged.

The heated rear window can use double the power of the headlamps, wipers and heater together 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 deicer but a demister and ice should be cleared from the back window manually.

In ordinary conditions once your low maintenance Dagenite 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.

To make life even easier for the motorist Dagenite tell us that the sealed battery which requires no maintenance whatsoever is on the horizon.

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● FROM PAGE 33

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. Figures recently released by the National Road Safety Association show that one out of every five cars examined by them in 1979 had at least one major defect — a defect that could make it unsafe for use. 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

Good Book

before reading this essential book. Careful attention to the correct running sound of the engine and noticing any change in performance can give advance warning of impending disaster. Always keep a torch in your car and make sure there are batteries in it.

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● ALL-IRELAND FINAL ACTION ●



Flashback to the 1975 All-Ireland Final meeting of Dublin and Kerry shows Mike Sheehy of Kerry (left) attempting to sidekick the ball past a diving George Wilson of Dublin while Dublin colleagues Alan Larkin and Sean Doherty (captain) look on apprehensively. Referee John Moloney of Tipperary is in the background.

Revolutionary Projection

by CONOR KEEGAN

I SUPPOSE all of us have been to a match where incidents have occurred which we would wish to see a second time. Perhaps it is a score, or particular piece of good play. Whatever it is, in this day and age, we are so accustomed to the use of the action replay technique that we come to expect it.

Well, thanks to Eastern Distributors and their Telejector system, this facility is within the reach of all County and Club teams in the country. The basic system, as their Marketing Director — Michael Colohan, told me, is a colour television set, a projector and a screen. Either the projector or the screen — or both — can be fitted to the floor or ceiling. All this costs less than £2,000. When used in conjunction with a freeze frame,

Video recorder and Video camera, your Club can (with a little practice) film a match or training session. Afterwards the Video recording can be viewed and the action stopped, when required, to show particular strengths or weaknesses, positional play, exciting passages — all in full living colour. It is a whole new training method in itself and the system is already in use by football clubs in U.S. and U.K.

Screens come in either 50" or 80" sizes and can be used to show live T.V. in the Clubhouse when required. Both projector and screen can be positioned to your rooms best advantage and with remote control also a part of the system, club personnel can be at all times fully in control of what is being shown. With more and more Video recordings of sporting occasions and

major events (such as last year's Papal visit), now available the long winter evenings can be used to full. Think of the luxury of being able to see the top match of the year in the comfort of your Clubhouse, or in your own home, and being able for instance, to take part in a panel discussion on what you have just seen.

If some extra revenue is required — how about considering a Video Disco for your Club? There are very many Video Disco tapes for hire and with the facility for extension speakers available, a swinging Disco is a distinct possibility.

The Telejector system is essentially simple and straightforward but if anything should go wrong, there is a Dealer network throughout the country, to put matters right immediately. Why not write today for full colour details to the main dealer — McHugh Himself, 39 Talbot Street, Dublin 1.

HURLING: AILMENT GOES DEEP

By JIM BENNETT

HOPEFUL expectations that the tide will turn and those now in control will yield place to others is a healthy thing. It probably helps more than any other attitude in keeping the Association going from year to year.

It often held a certain element of truth in it, for there was reason to hope in the case of many counties. To-day, however, it must be close to the time when such expectations are nothing more than wishful thinking. There are few counties in hurling, in particular, who have any real reason for thinking they will come to the top of the tree next year or the year after, when their turn comes.

It is not a matter of one's turn coming — without the material and the background work there is no chance whatever that a county can come miraculously from nowhere and shove the Corks and Kilkennys unceremoniously from their pedestals.

It is also very fine to have the "good word" and likewise it is a wholesome thing to "think positively". But that is just the way in which we fool ourselves sometimes into covering the reality in a fog of good-will.

Good-will is nice and cosy and it is like the heated atmosphere in a greenhouse in which plants will flourish if placed there. But if there are no plants all the heating and air-conditioning in the world will not make them grow.

It is long past time when the facts should be faced. The standard and spread of hurling in the schools is incredibly poor. The standard of minor inter-county hurling has

drifted away to such an extent that one wonders how it could deteriorate further. Worst of all, the patterns are repeated year after year with such regularity that the other counties are fast losing heart of ever again seeing Cork or Kerry dethroned, or Kilkenny or Dublin embarrassed.

Naturally, if patterns of playing strength cannot be changed at school or at minor inter-county level they cannot be changed at all. Senior teams do not spring fully-armed into being.

But, the study of minor teams and of schools and colleges competitions shows that it is the strong who are again strongest. Cork have established something of a monopoly of the Munster championship; Kilkenny have produced a string of good sides although they suffered a nasty shock at the hands of Antrim this year.

Tipperary produced one minor team during the 1970s that was worth its salt; Limerick strain the memory in search of a great minor combination; Clare have got nowhere so often; Waterford have scarcely contested even first rounds with any chance of victory. In Leinster the position is the same with only occasional rare glimpses of anything stirring outside Kilkenny, and — sometimes — Wexford and Dublin.

The repeated supremacy of Cork is a particular example. It is the case that typifies all others. Their strength in senior inter-county has not wavered since 1966 when they

broke a long losing sequence. The minors took over completely from Tipperary (occasionally Limerick) and their under-21s have, with very few exceptions, maintained the stranglehold.

This has been so because, further down the roots the hurling of the colleges and schools at every level in Cork has been winning freely over all comers. Inter-club repeats the pattern. Now, in the name of all that's holy, how is a county with a background like that ever going to be beaten in the future by any of the other Munster counties.

The ailment goes deep. And because it is so deep and so enervating it snaps the spirit. And where the spirit fails everything is lost. In a materialistic world we often bewail the dispensation of things which ordains that the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. In frustration we complain of being locked into this system. It would appear that the picture of things in hurling (and football, too, though not so obviously) strongly suggests that the same futility is repeated there and the same sickness unto death.

Offaly gave some hope to the also rans among the hurling counties when they defeated Kilkenny in this year's Leinster decider. But Offaly have been knocking on the door of championship success for some years now and their League campaigns had served to sharpen their skills. The real gap between the top hurling counties and the others was shown by Galway's facile win over Kildare (B champions) in the All-Ireland quarter final.

★

MEETING MARTIN O'DOHERTY

★

A Profile
By EAMONN YOUNG



THE big fellow across from me sat relaxed against the upholstery of the suburban pub, a glass of yellow orange where floated blobs of ice in his hand. Twenty eight years he is, weighs thirteen stone five and stand six feet two. I'll let him tell his own story.

Speaking slowly, almost meditatively he looked across the big room at the rows of bottles and began. "I've been playing all sorts of games since I was a child and games run in the family. My brothers are fairly good at various sports and John is ranked fairly high in the squash world. My father played soccer fairly well and my late mother from Mullingar was a good camogie player. For Glen Rovers and St. Nicholas I played hundreds of games and I was happy to have worn the red jersey for Cork in both codes and in many grades. I was lucky enough to be on winning sides on some important days.

'A few years ago I travelled to California with Cork to play the All-Stars and I liked the state quite a lot. I made some friends there and the visit set me thinking about my future. Anyway to make a long and interesting private story short, I emigrated last year and went to school in California at Pierce College, Los Angeles where I am now studying Business Administration. I have completed one year study now and will soon move to the state university for two years after which I hope to graduate. There is a wonderful variation in academic opportunity

over there. A man can study simply anything starting at the grade suitable to himself. The choice is wonderful. In fact it was this unequalled opportunity that decided me for I realised that in leaving home I would have to end my career as a hurler. However I simply can't have it both ways.'

The people over there are very friendly and I think they generally like Irish people. On the streets, in the stores and supermarkets you'll meet many people who treat you so politely and with such friendliness that it makes life there pleasant. The facilities for sports are out of this world and if I weren't so engrossed in my studies I would go in for something seriously. I like swimming and have an interest in athletics also but of course my time was taken up completely here by hurling and football. In California I tried to keep myself reasonably fit by running three times a week but there is no competitive hurling so staying in championship form is impossible. The activities of the Irish society are more social than competitive, as one can imagine, but we do get out for a few pucks at times.

The chaps here at home knew I was returning to Ireland in the summer so they asked me to come a little earlier and stay a little longer. Needless to say that was a pleasant prospect and the only thing that worried me was the fact there was a hurling commitment tacked on to it. I

was anxious as ever to play for Cork but due to lack of match practice I wasn't at all sure how I'd get on. Then I knew that some good hurler was going to lose his place and that didn't help.

I knew that Brian Murphy would prefer his corner job to that of full-back but then someone would have to go to the line anyway. What one important man said to me was "Don't worry. We had nine months to fill in your place. It's there for you again and a man has to take up the job he's given." That put me at ease. I was worried before the Munster final also as the lack of match-practice is very serious and only the player who has been active in hard competition for years realises this. Besides my right hand is hurt and I wasn't able to hold the stick with full power. Meeting Joe MacKenna again was no cause for comfort either because we all know what a fine player he is.

Martin told me that he congratulated Limerick on their Munster Final success. Both teams gave their all but on the day Limerick deserved to win. On All-Ireland Final day I'll be many miles away in California getting married. The Final should be a great game and while wishing both teams the best of luck I have a suspicion that Limerick will carry the day for Munster.

I found the spirit of this Cork team very refreshing. No doubt the defeat last year by Galway was a terrible blow as we really set our sights on the four-in-a-row. As a result of that defeat the lads were very keen this year and they were very hard to stop. Here I cut in to tell of my

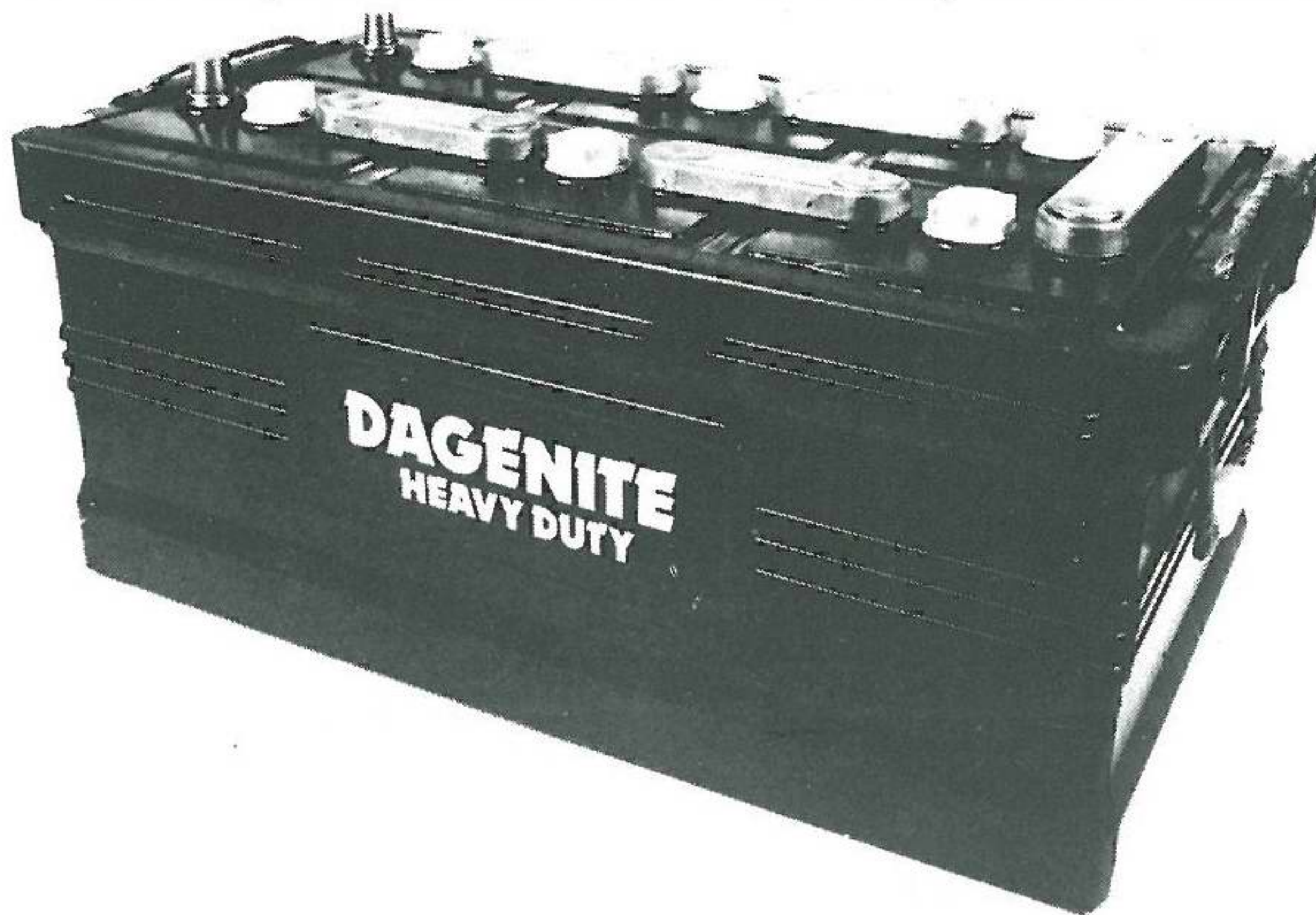
meeting with Eddie Keher and Ollie Walsh at a coaching week-end in Dublin in May. Trying to rise them before they started to rise me I asked if they had any chance against Wexford in the first round" Ollie replied with a grin "That's enough now. We'll be waiting for ye . . . if ye get there" Keher's eyes twinkled with delight. The way matters have worked-out since neither of us will be there!

"I see there has been talk about my entry into politics" continued Martin Doherty. "I have no plans for that life at all and in fact my study is the first thing in my mind. I think I'll have to spend the rest of my life studying to make up for all I didn't do since I left school" and he laughed thinking of the many hours he had spent running around various fields. "Games are great for young people and I had a ball, but the other aspects of life cannot be neglected either."

"Anyway I'm a little bit lonely at the thought of leaving Ireland again and of giving up the hurling. It's the price I must pay for the way of life I've chosen and only hope I'll have a bit of luck in it . . . the luck I so often had when trying to do my best for the Glen and Cork."

The tall well-set young man walked away to his car and one could not but wish him luck. He had the courage to take a big step out of one life into another and all sportsmen who watched his manly play and especially the magnificent hour he had last year against Limerick will wish him a bright and progressive future in the sunny land of California.

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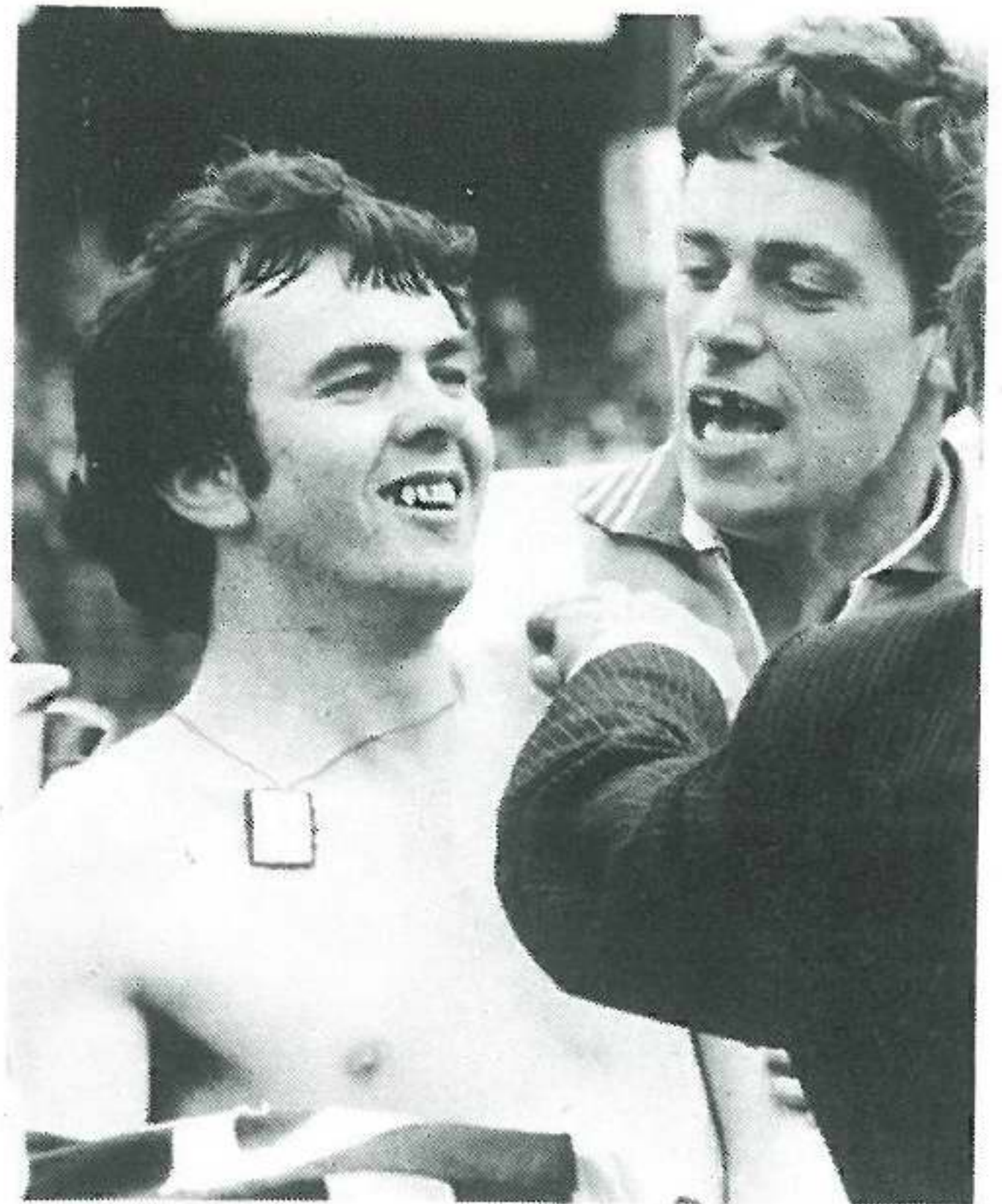
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Offaly gain a victory for hurling

by Frank Coogan



• Mark Corrigan of Offaly (left) in happy mood after his team's defeat of Kilkenny in the Leinster Hurling Final.

THE glorious uncertainty of sport has been underlined yet again in the best possible manner by Offaly's splendid and deserved win over Kilkenny last month for their long-awaited first Leinster senior hurling championship.

Kilkenny looked provincial champions in waiting after their win over Wexford in a thrilling semi-final at Croke Park in mid-June. Not so much because of their wonderful tradition, but for the very concrete fact that the standard in their semi-final was much superior to that in the Offaly-Dublin match, which opened the headquarters double bill that afternoon.

Offaly did flash some warnings in their semi-final. Their finishing was well above what many expected as they rattled over eighteen splendid points, they displayed plenty of skill in all departments, and they would also have won more handsomely than the eight points they had in hand at the end but for the brilliance in the Dublin goal of Michael Bollard. He brought off some superb saves.

Nevertheless, while one took all those factors into account, it still appeared that Kilkenny, with their wealth of experience and that long established tradition, plus the fact that they had overcome the Wexford hurdle, were good enough to remain Kings of Leinster. That was

undoubtedly a key factor in keeping the attendance down to a moderate 9,000-plus on final day.

But how the many keen students of hurling who stayed away must be kicking themselves! There is always something special about being in on a history-making event, and when it is carved out with a degree of aplomb and merit that marked the Offaly break-through, then the occasion is all the more pleasing to savour.

Offaly left no doubts about their right to wear the Leinster crown for the first time. They had many assets, but one of the best was the great character the team displayed in the final.

A blistering and morale-boosting start that brought them 1-4 to a solitary Kilkenny point in the first eight minutes looked like proving all to no avail as the defending champions came back strongly to gain a two point lead at the break. I must admit to being among those who at that stage had dismissed the Offaly chances of recovering lost ground in the second half.

But it was in that period that we

saw the great character and heart of Offaly hurling that I have already singled out for special mention. Far from throwing in the towel, they were good enough to pick up the pieces again to get a point clear, only to fall three points in arrears with fifteen minutes of play remaining.

It was then that Offaly's great character surfaced yet again.

Far from wilting under the new challenge, they struck doggedly to the task to eventually survive a last gasp Kilkenny goal for a deserved one point (3-17 to 5-10) victory.

I don't think any team can win a provincial senior title for the first time, and against tradition-steeped opponents, in a more worthy manner than that Offaly triumph.

The Midlanders had many heroes, but high on the list must be the oldest member of the squad, Johnny Flaherty, who played in the 1969 Leinster final outing, and who is thirty-four.

He cracked home his team's opening goal in three minutes, and it was the No. 15 from Kinnity who took a pass from team captain Pdraig Horan to send home Offaly's third goal with 11 minutes remaining. Two of the most crucial scores of the game, and ones that

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● FROM PAGE 29

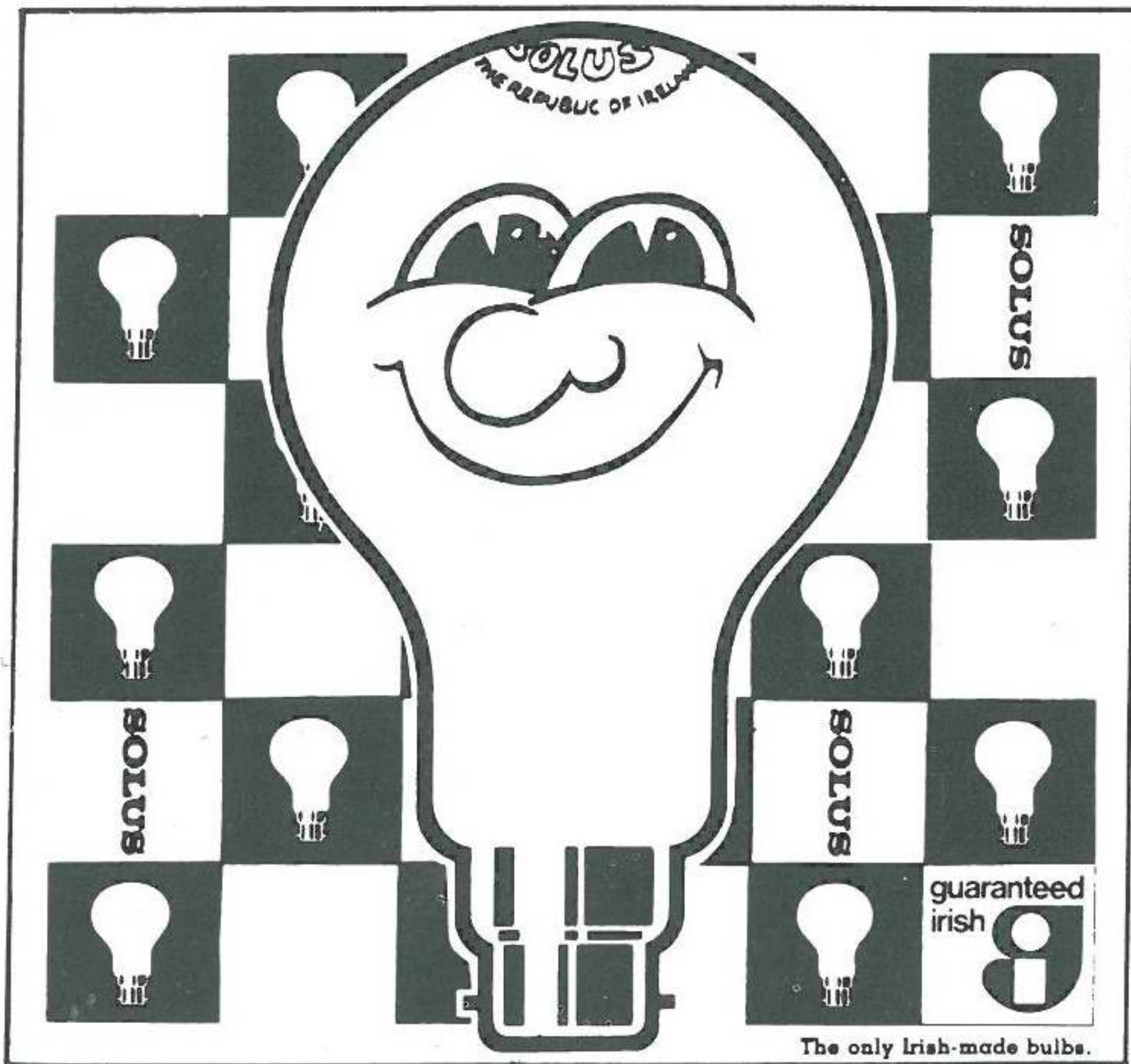
His first appearance in the yellow and blue of the county was as a minor in 1969 and he was on the side again the following year. An under-21 in '71 and '72 he made his debut on the senior team in a match against Kilkenny and he has been

thrice picked for Connacht.

An extremely tenacious and dependable defender before unfortunate injuries took him out of the game, his return to top-class football was welcomed not only by Roscommon supporters but by all who admired his extreme

tenaciousness and dependability as a defender.

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Big Response To Quiz

THERE was a splendid response to our special quiz for readers of ON THE SPOT... published in the June issue. In that edition we posed five questions, and offered a copy of GAELIC SPORT free by post every month for twelve issues to the reader who submitted the first all correct coupon drawn after the closing date of June 30.

After making the draw we went through the other entries, and in the majority of cases all the questions on the coupon were answered correctly. So, obviously, readers of GAELIC SPORT are very well versed in the affairs of Gaelic Games.

Now to our winner, and it is well done and enjoyable reading over the next twelve months to:

David Tormey, 36 Ardcollum Ave., Artane, Dublin 5.

The five questions posed in the quiz, and now with the correct answers:

1. Who captained Monaghan to win out in Ulster in 1979? Answer: Brendan Brady.

2. The provincial senior championships in senior camogie are played independently of the All-Ireland championship. Who won the Leinster title — Kilkenny or Dublin? Answer: Dublin.

3. Name a provincial hurling medalist in goal last season? Answer: Noel Skehan (Kilkenny) or Martin Coleman (Cork).

4. Who refereed the Ulster senior football final last July — Hugh Duggan (Armagh) or Seamus Mullan (Derry)? Answer: Hugh Duggan.

5. Tom O'Rourke and Cecil Winders won the Leinster senior hardball doubles title in handball last season. They are natives of what county? Answer: Kildare.



● Offaly's No. 15 Johnny Flaherty (left) scoring his first goal in the Leinster Hurling Final despite John Henderson's valiant attempt to intercept.

● FROM PAGE 41

allied to Flaherty's good general play, mark this wily campaigner out as my man of the match.

Full marks must still go, however, as well to his team-mates in general, and to centre half back Pat Delaney, Brendan Bermingham, on the "40", long-serving goalkeeper Damien Martin (what price another All Star award this year for the St. Rynagh's man?) and Mark Corrigan in particular.

How will Offaly fare in their All-Ireland senior championship debut? I am prepared to see them give an excellent account of themselves.

The fact that they have put out such an experienced combination as Kilkenny should ensure that they will be in no way overawed by the occasion, and therefore express themselves fully. And, make no mistake, Offaly have much to offer.

Hurlers like Martin, Horan and Joachim Kelly, who have played in Railway Cup final winning teams, Pat Fleury, captain of the U.C.G. side that won the Fitzgibbon Cup (Universities' Championship) in 1977, and of course the much travelled Flaherty (he has played with New York in Europe, Asia, Australia and America) give the

Midlanders a solid and steady base of crafty campaigners so vital at this stage of the championship.

Youth is blended in superbly by such as Mark Corrigan, who is only 20, Paddy Kirwan, Brendan Keeshan, each 22, and Ger Coughlan, who is only 23.

So, one way and another, Offaly have struck a superb blend of experience and youth, a blend that is working out superbly just now. I would not be prepared to take any bets that Offaly have reached the pinnacle of their 1980 endeavours with that smashing win over Kilkenny.

New faces are welcome on hurling scene

ANDY CROAK
The writer with the rasping comment

IT'S been a long time, longer than some of us care to remember, since the closing stages of the All-Ireland hurling championship took on such a look of freshness and vibrating new life.

What I mean to say is that none of the "big four", Cork, Tipperary, Kilkenny or Wexford have come through their provinces, leaving the scene, at the time of writing, in the hands of Limerick, Offaly and Galway.

Of course, there are many who will regret that at least one of the traditional hurling counties is not still in the running for the All-Ireland title. But, in my humble opinion, the manner in which the "cookie crumbled" can do nothing but good for the game, not only in Limerick, Galway and Offaly, but in other counties who have not made their mark in the championship.

Reading back what I've already written, I notice that I may be dragged severely over the coals for suggesting that none of the three counties in the closing stages can be called traditional hurling areas.

What I am trying to say is that the counties which have won most of the All-Ireland championships, Cork, Tipperary and Kilkenny, are commonly known as the "strongholds" of the game, while in fact, Limerick and Galway, and, indeed, Offaly, too, boast a hurling tradition as long (if not as successful in terms

of titles won) as those mentioned above.

I have nothing against Cork or Kilkenny, but it was a great day for hurling (should I say, great days?) when they were knocked out of the running. A change of scenery was badly needed and we've certainly got it in 1980.

Have no doubt, however, that Kilkenny and Cork will be back on the winning trail soon again — and that's needed for the health of the game, too. But, in the meantime,

hurling has received a tremendous boost, particularly with Offaly's well-deserved win over the 1979 All-Ireland champions.

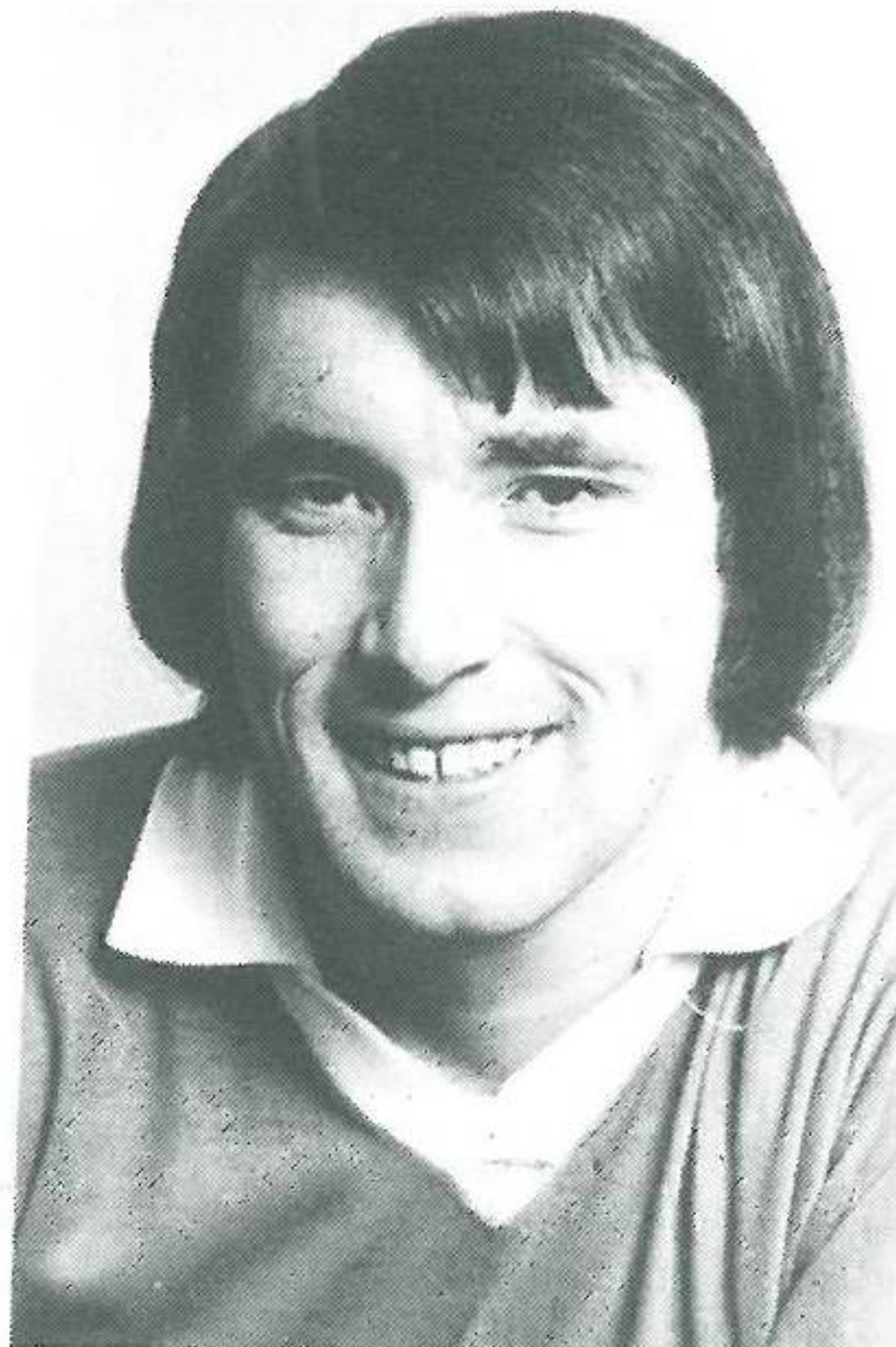
Here, let me say that I am sorely tempted to give up reading the newspapers and listening to the radio. It was understandable that Kilkenny were red-hot favourites to win the Leinster crown with the various commentators and correspondents, but what surprised me greatly was that none of them I heard or read gave Limerick any chance of beating Cork in the Munster final.

★ ★ ★

Now, that was rank bad judgement. Was it so quickly forgotten that Limerick drew with Cork in the National League final as recently as May and, though they were beaten in the replay, it was conceded, even by Cork players, that the winners' margin of nine points was very flattering?

Therefore a win for Limerick in the Munster decider could not be validly ruled out in any pre-match calculations.

And in the event, their triumph over the League title-holders was thoroughly deserved. They played with tremendous commitment and luck had no hand, act or part in their victory.



● Seán Foley (Limerick)

● TO PAGE 48

JUNIOR DESK



By
**JACK
MAHON**

FLYING from Pisa to London I read on the Daily Telegraph the news of the tragic murders of Henry Byrne and ex Mayo star John Morley. And I was shocked. I knew John Morley well from his days in St. Jarlath's College, Tuam when he travelled to games with my late brother Fr. Paddy. They were great buddies. And he was a brilliant college star. The best Mayo player since 1960. He was so often described as a tower of strength. So true in John's case. To his wife and family we tender the sincere sympathy of all Junior Desk readers and we include also the wife and family of the late Henry Byrne as well. Go ndéanfadh Dia trocaire ortha.

NED BUGGY

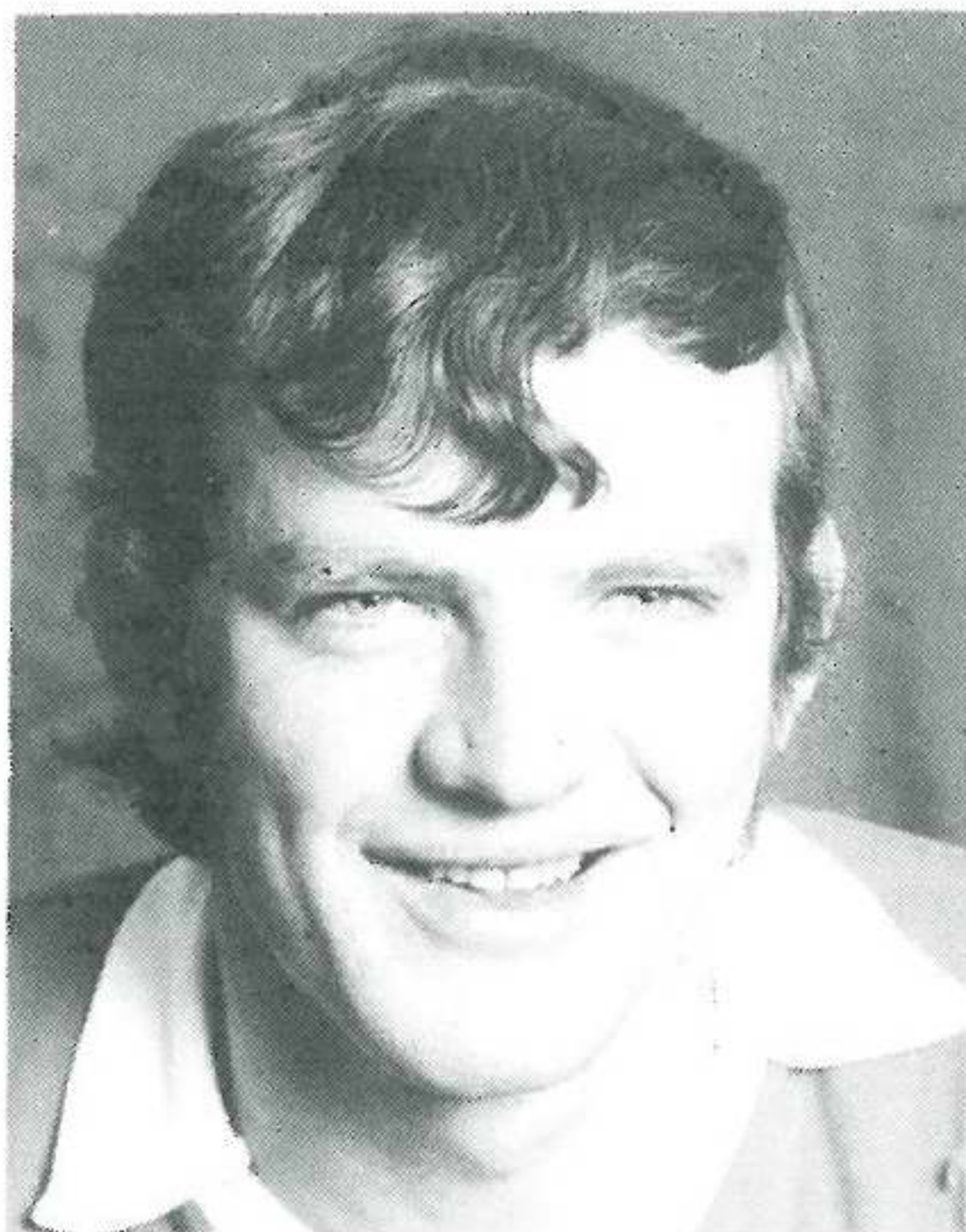
Our Cut-out this month is Wexford's hurling sharpshooter Ned Buggy, surely one of the best forwards in the game for the past few years. He starred in this year's epic game v Kilkenny getting a marvellous goal at a crucial time. When I was in Italy I spent a week on the Island of Elba (Napoleon's Island). There I met a cousin of Ned's whose father now lives in Wales. Isn't it a small world Ned? She was a Thompson Tour Guide and she hopes to see her cousin play hurling in the future. I told her she is in for a treat Ned!

Mailbag

Dermot McCarthy, Carbery, 20, Fairfield Rd., Bath, BA16JG, England, is a very loyal contributor to Junior Desk. He writes to tell me

of the great programme collection of **Pat Ryan, 5, St. Thomas Road, Harlesden, London NW10,** "second only to Eoghan Corry". Pat wants a copy of last year's N.F.L. final between Cork and Roscommon. He will be in Ireland for the All-Ireland semi-finals. Dermot himself has got some programmes of the All-Ireland finals in the 60's and early 70's. Dermot is still very proud of Clonakilty's contribution to Cork football. He also sent me on copies of the programmes for the English Cup semi-finals. "The Cup Final Programme was almost identical to last year's. Except for the price — up from 50p to 80p — outrageous."

• *Collectors are asked to note the contents above. Hope to meet Pat Ryan at one of the semi-finals (J.M.).*



• **Declan Barron of Cork and Bantry Blues** included specially for Declan Cronin.

Tony Sheehan, Kilmurry, Kilworth, Co. Cork thinks Junior Desk is great. His favourite player is Jimmy Barry-Murphy also Christy Ryan and John Fenton.

Sean Furlong, Kilmaclegue, Dunmore East, Co. Waterford was delighted that Iggy Clarke was selected as our Cut-out recently. "He is one more for my bedroom wall. I now have 14 on it." Sean loves Junior Desk and Gaelic Sport. "The magazine has been in our house since I was born. The first time Dad got it was in 1962 when it was 1/6 (old money). I saw you at the Scór All-Irelands and was thrilled Waterford did so well especially Pat McEvoy in the Aithriseoireacht section with Maggie Flynn."

• *Sean you win a Waterford G.A.A. scarf. Why didn't you introduce yourself to me at Scór? I thought Pat McEvoy's performance was excellent too. Keep pasting cut-outs on the bedroom wall. (J.M.).*

Declan Cronin, Chapel Rd., Durrus, Bantry, Co. Cork. "Writing to you is one of my hobbies. I was at the 3 League Finals in Páirc Uí Chaoimh. Declan Barron was great. The following Sunday he was playing for his club Bantry Blues in Balineen and he was like dynamite. Denis Coughlan was my man of the match in the N.H.L. final I'm looking forward to "The Sunday Game" again. My father says; the best full back of all time in football was Noel Tierney".

• *D. Barron was a big loss to Cork in the Munster final. And D. Coughlan seems to get better with age. Yes Noel Tierney was very good. (J.M.).*

• **OVERLEAF**



● Offaly goalkeeper Damien Martin attempts to tap down the sliothar to one of his backs during the Leinster Hurling Final at Croke Park in which Offaly defeated All-Ireland champions Kilkenny 3-17 to 5-10.

● FROM OVERLEAF

Michael Fox, Strathmore College, P.O. Box 25095, Nairobi, Kenya. This will hardly qualify for Junior Desk; however I take the liberty of dropping a line to greet yourself and colleagues in Gaelic Sport (especially the efficient Miss Mason

in Circulation Dept.). In addition, I would like to make a few suggestions about your magazine, and also put forward my best football team, for the 1940-70 period with which I am most familiar. Perhaps my team will shock some people; perhaps some others may wish to 'complete' it with

names from the pre-40 and post-70 years.

SUGGESTIONS

Results Summary: Try to give each game a line of its own. If home team is put first, venue may be omitted in most cases.

Monthly Review: Try to analyse each month's results, with brief comments on the progress, significance, surprises, merit, etc.

League: During the season, try to give the group standings as they are at date of each issue.

The Past: Re-live a little of the past by means of an article on some of the great matches — the build-up, the story of some of the match itself, the aftermath.

Individuals: Try to have regular articles on some current player, concentrating mainly on such as his family background, his job, his youth, his non-sport interests, etc.

TEAM SELECTION

D. O'Keeffe (Kerry), M. O'Brien (Meath), P. Prendergast (Mayo), S. Flanagan (Mayo), Sean Murphy (Kerry), G. O'Malley (Roscommon), S. Purcell (Galway), M. O'Connell and P. Kennedy (both Kerry), T. Tighe (Cavan), M. Higgins (Cavan), P. Carney (Mayo), K. Heffernan (Dublin), S. O'Neill (Down), P. Doherty (Down)."

● *Delighted to hear from you Michael. Sorry no copies of Twelve Glorious Year's or Three in A Row. Your team is very good - Marvellous. I had the pleasure of meeting Paddy Kennedy the year before he died. Great to see you keep up your G.A.A. interest in Keyna. (J.M.).*

Joseph McElligot, Glenoe, Listowel, Co. Kerry.

"The N.L. finals should be changed back to Croke Park. It is the National Stadium. I totally disagree with the playing of the 1984 All-Ireland S.H. Final in Thurles. Taking the S.H. final from Croke Park is the same as taking the F.A. Cup Final away from Wembley."

● *Other readers are asked to give their views on this. (J.M.).*

Eileen Murphy, Railway View, Rathmore, Co. Kerry.

"Congrats on 10 years of Junior Desk and long may it continue. My



● Cork's left corner-back John Evans sprints past Kerry half-forward Tom Doyle during the National League Final at Páirc Uí Chaoimh on April 27. Cork defeated Kerry 0-11 to 0-10 and so achieved the first half of a historic National League double that their hurlers completed by defeating Limerick after a replay at the same venue.

hopes are pinned on Galway in hurling and Kerry in football. It would be great if John Connolly, Sean Silke and Iggy Clarke got the ultimate reward at last.

● *So it would (J.M.).*

Gerard Smith, 3, South Lodge, Browningstown, Douglas, Cork, feels that football will die in the four weaker counties in Munster unless something is done. "The open draw is not the solution because it would take away all the glamour of a provincial final". Gerard is anxious to buy tapes of Munster S.H.C. and All-Ireland S.H.C. games for the period 1976-'79 inclusive.

Paul Maher, Clashagad, Dunkerrin, Birr, Co. Offaly is delighted to have his Inter Cert over, thrilled too that his club Moneygall won the A.I.B. club award in the B Division. He was very disappointed with Tipp's display v Cork in Thurles. The only Tipp stars were Pat McLoughney and Dinny Cahill. "The new stand is lovely. The Cork followers were very badly behaved. Dublin had hard luck in losing Brian Mullins. I hope he has a quick recovery."

● *We send our best wishes from Junior Desk to Brian Mullins for a speedy and full recovery. (J.M.).*

And that's all from the Mailbag this time. Now please write on any topic to me during August. Tell me what you think of the new "Sunday Game". How you like Liz Howard, and Enda Colleran and Seán Óg. Write about Mick Dunne's Gaelic Stadium. Anything of a G.A.A. nature. I love August and the All-Ireland semi-finals. Write to me at:

Junior Desk,
Gaelic Sport,

80, Upper Drumcondra Rd.,
Dublin 9.

HAVE A GO

ON THE SPOT . . . PRIZE
WINNING STYLE

OUR competition this month deals, like the general quiz, with happenings last August at All-Ireland semi-final level.

1. Who refereed the Kerry-Monaghan senior football game — Paddy Collins (Westmeath) or Tommy Moran (Leitrim)?.....
2. John Connolly scored four, five or six points, in Galway's sensational hurling win over Cork. Your choice?.....
3. This footballer went in as a substitute during a senior semi-final, and scored his team's solitary goal. His name, please?.....
4. Name the All-Ireland minor hurling semi-finalists.....
5. Pat Lindsay captained Roscommon in their unsuccessful bid against the Dubs. True or false?

Name.....

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Results Summary

• FROM PAGE 31

HANDBALL

All-Ireland Coca-Cola Senior Championships

Singles: June 14: Baltinglass: A. Greene (Kilkenny) bt. C. Winders (Kildare). S. Buggy (Wexford) bt. F. Carroll (Meath).

Ceannus Mor: P. Hughes (Kilkenny) bt. J. O'Brien (Roscommon). M. Walsh (Roscommon) bt. J. Doyle (Dublin). J. Molloy (Meath) w.o.; P. McCormack (Mayo) scr.

June 28: Croke Park: P. Kirby (Clare) bt. J. Molloy (Meath). Ballymote: M. Walsh (Roscommon) bt. P. McGee (Mayo). Cappagh: Dan Kirby (Clare) bt. J. Bennis (Limerick). John Kirby (Clare) bt. W. McCarthy (Tipperary).

Doubles: June 21: Croke Park: T. O'Rourke and C. Winders (Kildare) bt. J. Quigley and P. Murphy (Wexford). P. Clarke and N. Walshe (Roscommon) bt. F. Carroll and J. McGovern (Meath). P. McGarry and J. Bennis (Limerick) bt. Greg and Dom Sheridan (Cavan).

June 29: Talbot's Inch: T. Morrissey and T. Ryan (Tipperary) bt. P. Ryan and G. Scully (Dublin).

July 6: Roscommon: M. Walshe and P. Clarke (Roscommon) bt. J. O'Brien and P. J. Moran (Roscommon). Talbot's Inch: T. Morrissey and T. Ryan (Tipperary) bt. A. Greene and P. Hughes (Kilkenny). Kells: T. O'Rourke and C. Winders (Kildare) bt. N. Cahill and J. Doyle (Dublin). Ballina: P. McGee and P. McCormack (Mayo) bt. W. McCarthy and N. O'Brien (Tipperary).

U.S. MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIP

June 22: Tucson, Arizona: Final: Pat Kirby (Clare) bt. Rena Zamorano (U.S.) 21-13, 21-1.

Andy Croak

• FROM PAGE 44

Limerick are now through to the All-Ireland final and are there with a solid chance of winning their eighth title.

I am well aware that Galway and Offaly (who will be meeting in the semi-final almost as soon as this issue of GAELIC SPORT appears on the newstands) have other ideas, but it seems to me that Limerick are a stronger team than either of them and that Sean Foley will bear the McCarthy Cup home to Shannon-side next month.

* * *

Whatever about Galway, it is too much to expect Offaly to win out in their first year as Leinster champions. As well as making history, they have given hurling a gigantic fillip in their county by winning the provincial title for the first time, and I believe that we shall see the effects of that in the form of more and, perhaps, bigger prizes in the immediate years ahead.

One could liken Offaly's success to the resurgence of Wexford in the early 1950s. After more than 30 years in the wilderness, Wexford came back to win the Leinster crown in 1951, but lost the All-Ireland final to Tipperary later in the season.

The experience stood to them, however, and they were back again to contest the All-Ireland finals of 1954, '55 and '56 — winning the second and third of those games.

Let us hope that Offaly will follow in their footsteps.

• Incidentally, it is 32 years since none of the "big guns" of hurling appeared in the All-Ireland final. The season was 1948 and Waterford — the winners — and Dublin were in opposition for the blue riband of the game.



Ned Buggy

(Wexford)

Age: 31
Height: 5ft. 10ins.
Weight: 11st. 7lb.
Club: Faythe Harriers
Position: Right full-forward
Senior Inter-County Debut: 1967

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

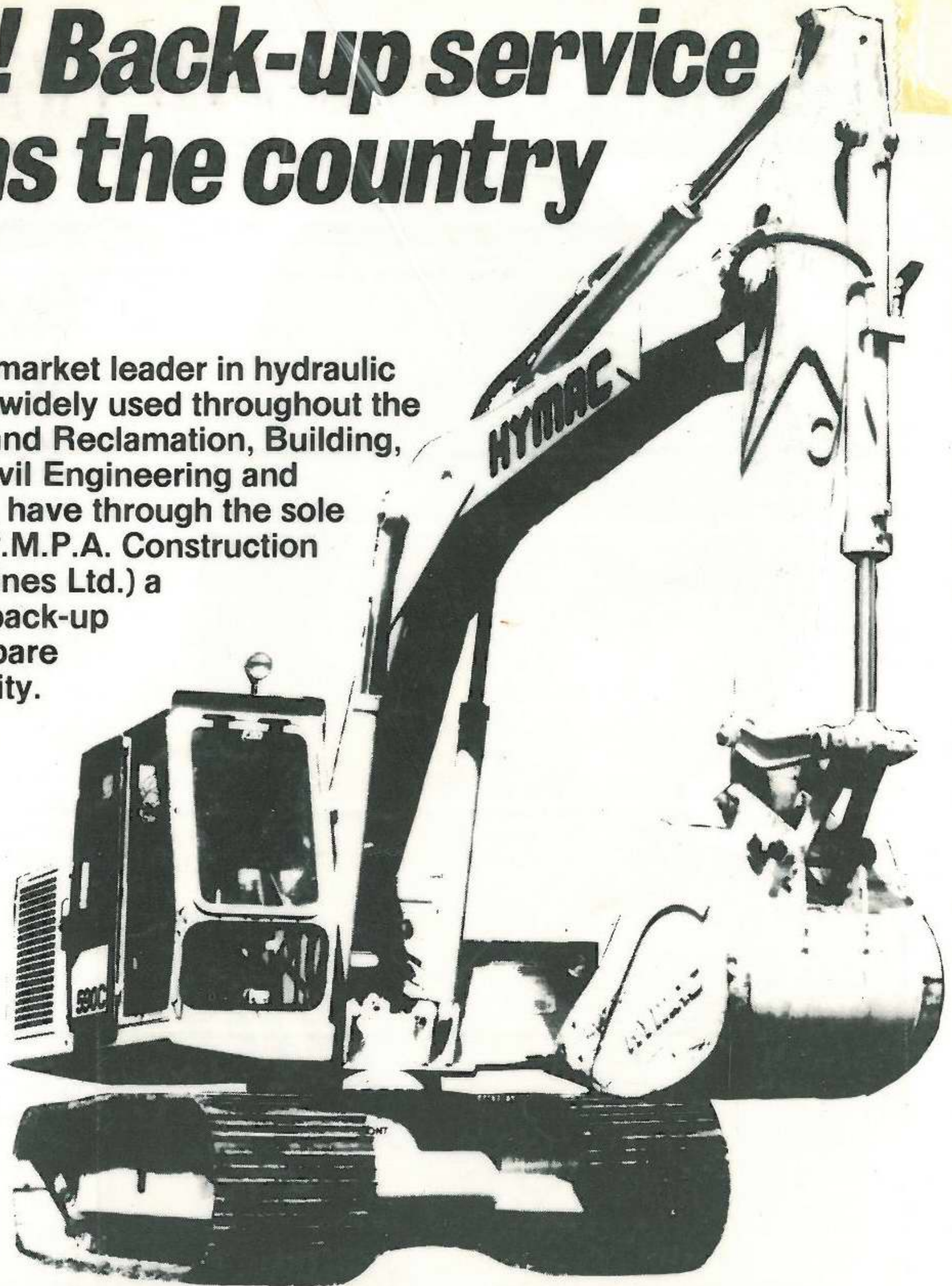
Although best known nowadays as a score-getter of exceptional ability, it was at left half back that Ned won an All-Ireland minor hurling medal in 1966.

He has also played with Wexford in defence and at midfield as a senior, and lined up in the centre in the county's last League title winning side seven years ago, and with Leinster in their 1977 Railway Cup win.

But as one of the most accurate finishers in the game in recent times, Ned got among the Oireachtas Cup souvenirs, collected a second Railway Cup medal in 1979 and was at No. 15 in the first Bank of Ireland All-Stars selection last year.

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