

JANUARY, 1980

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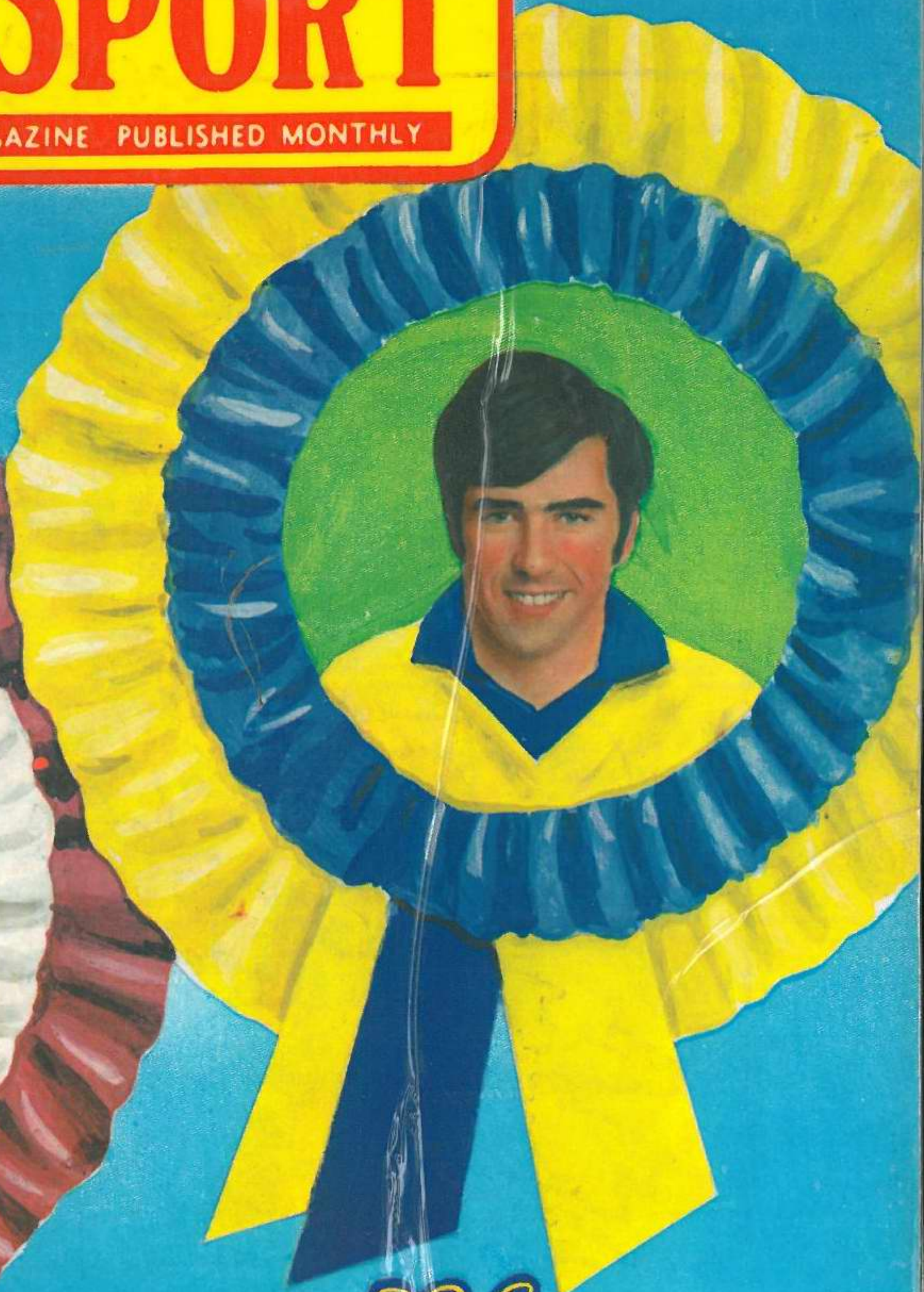
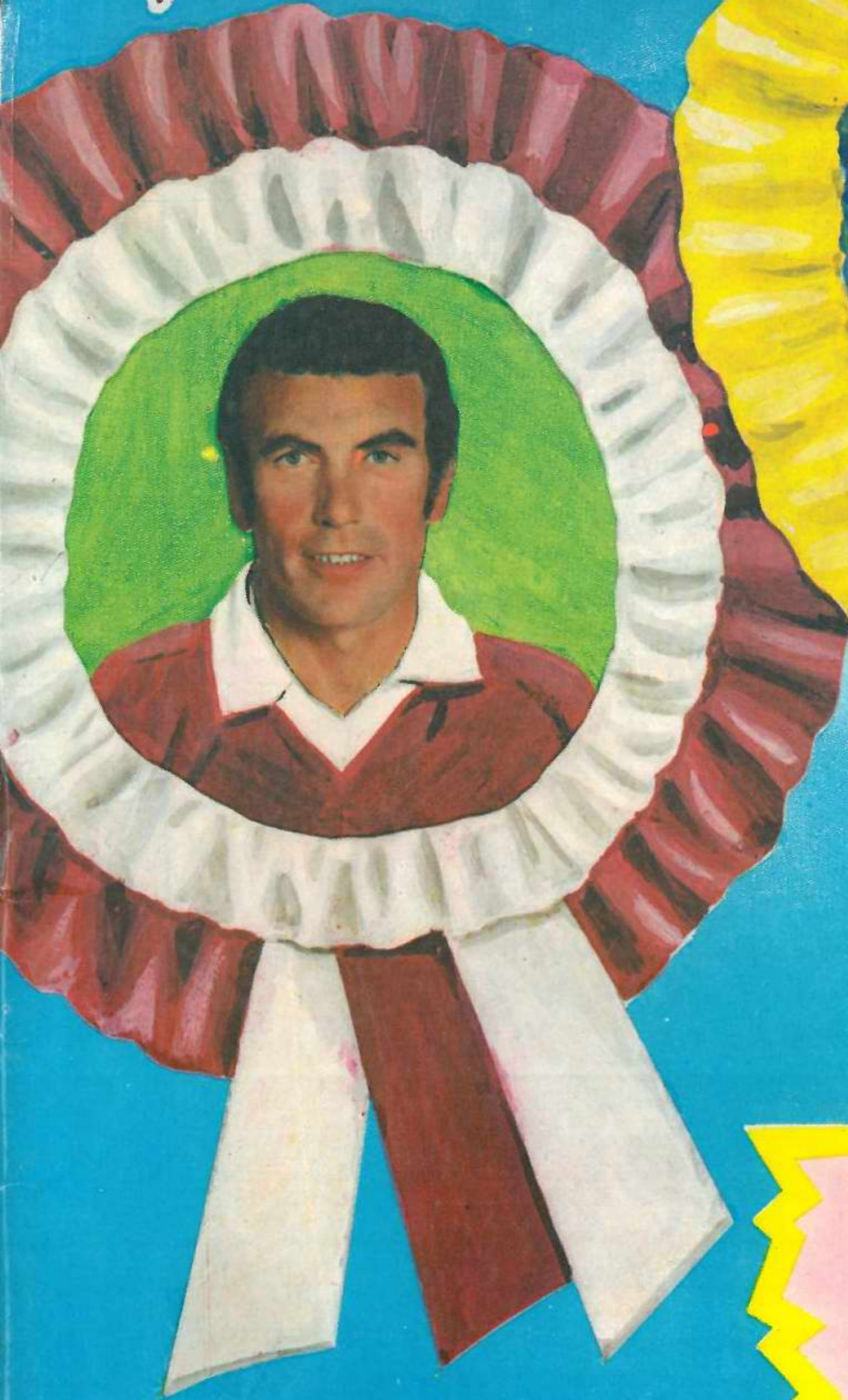
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GAELIC SPORT

IRELAND'S LEADING GAELIC GAMES MAGAZINE PUBLISHED MONTHLY

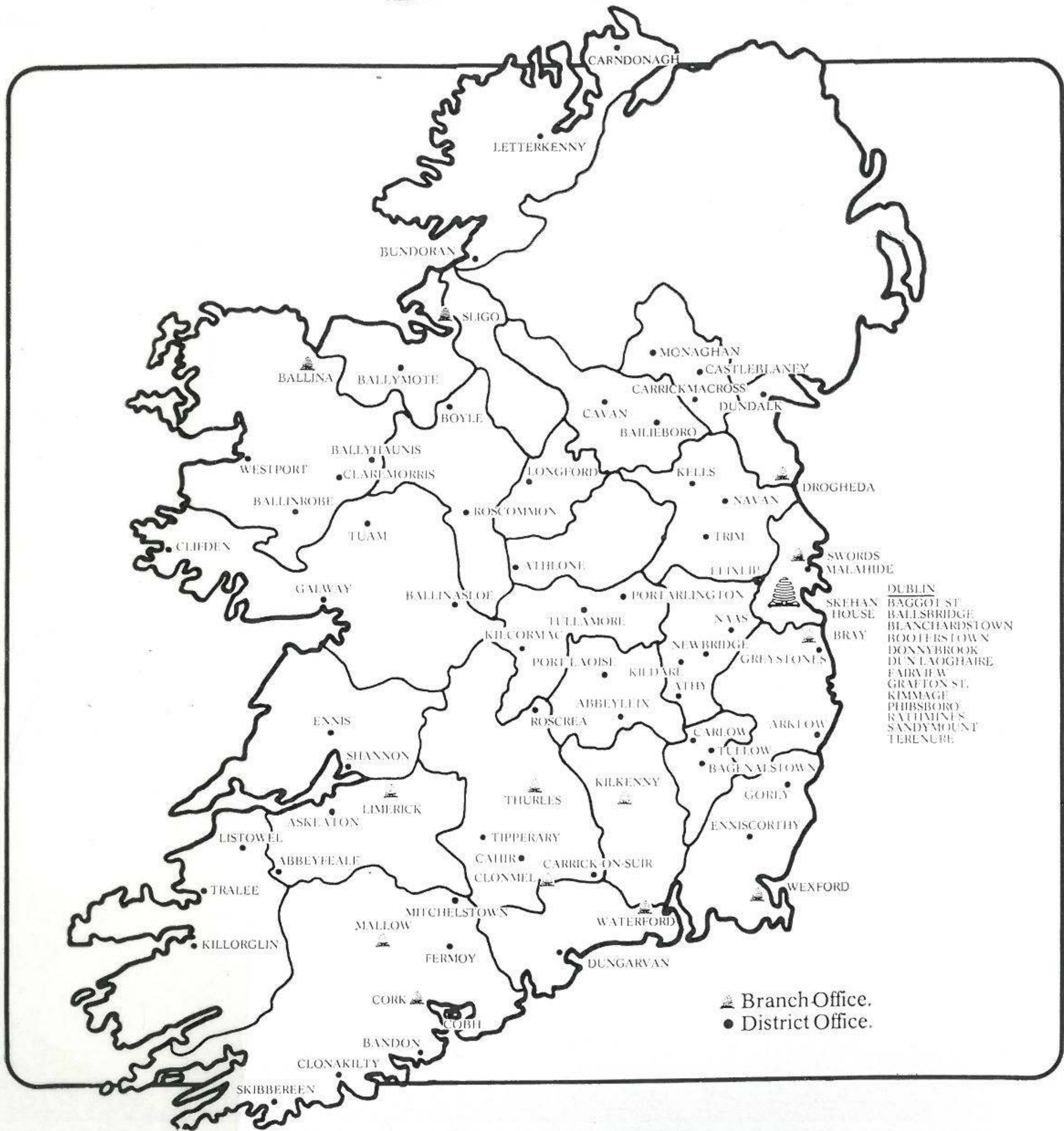
John Connolly



Dermot Earley

**Tyler Top Ten
Stars of 1979**

OUR NATIONAL NETWORK



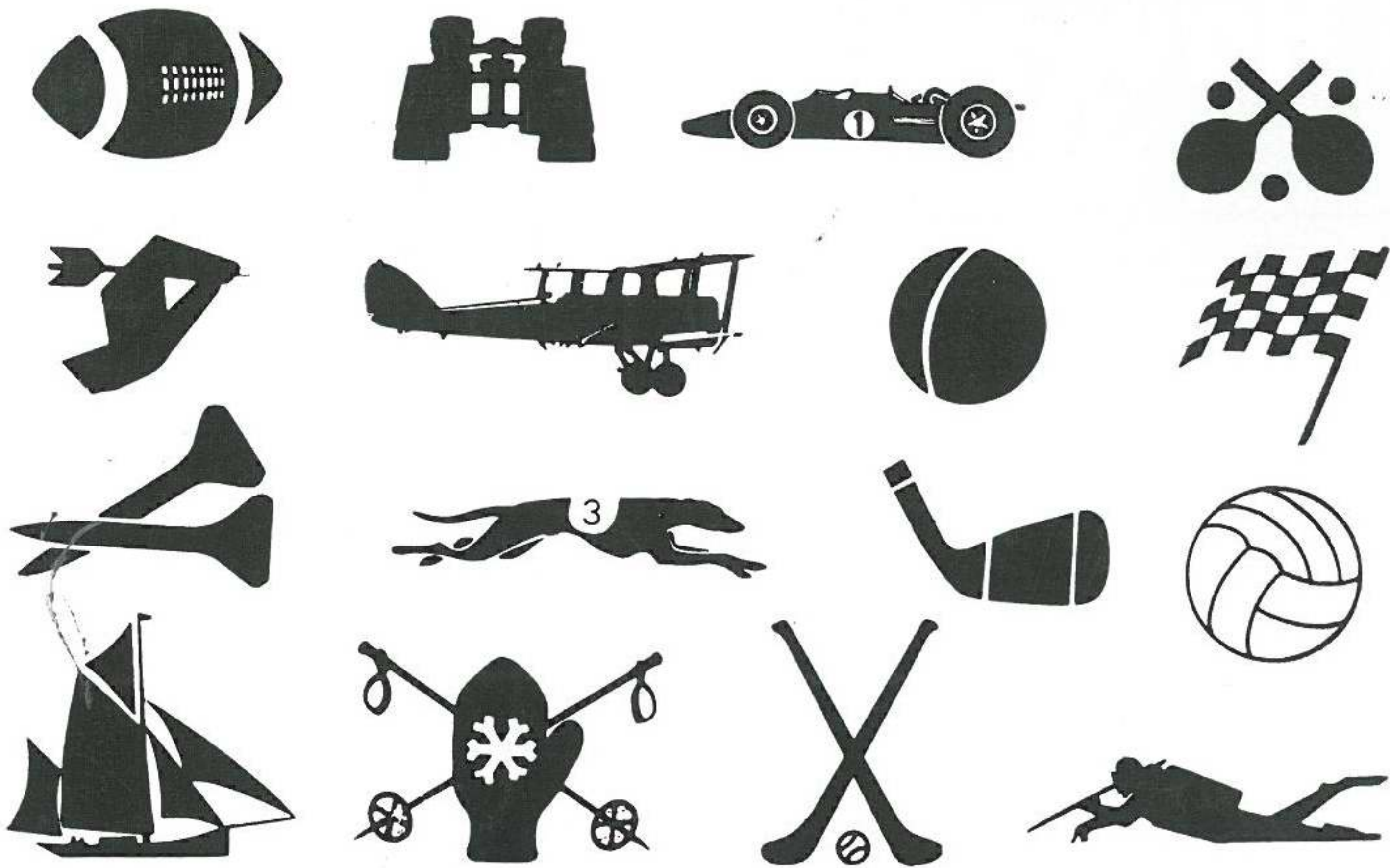
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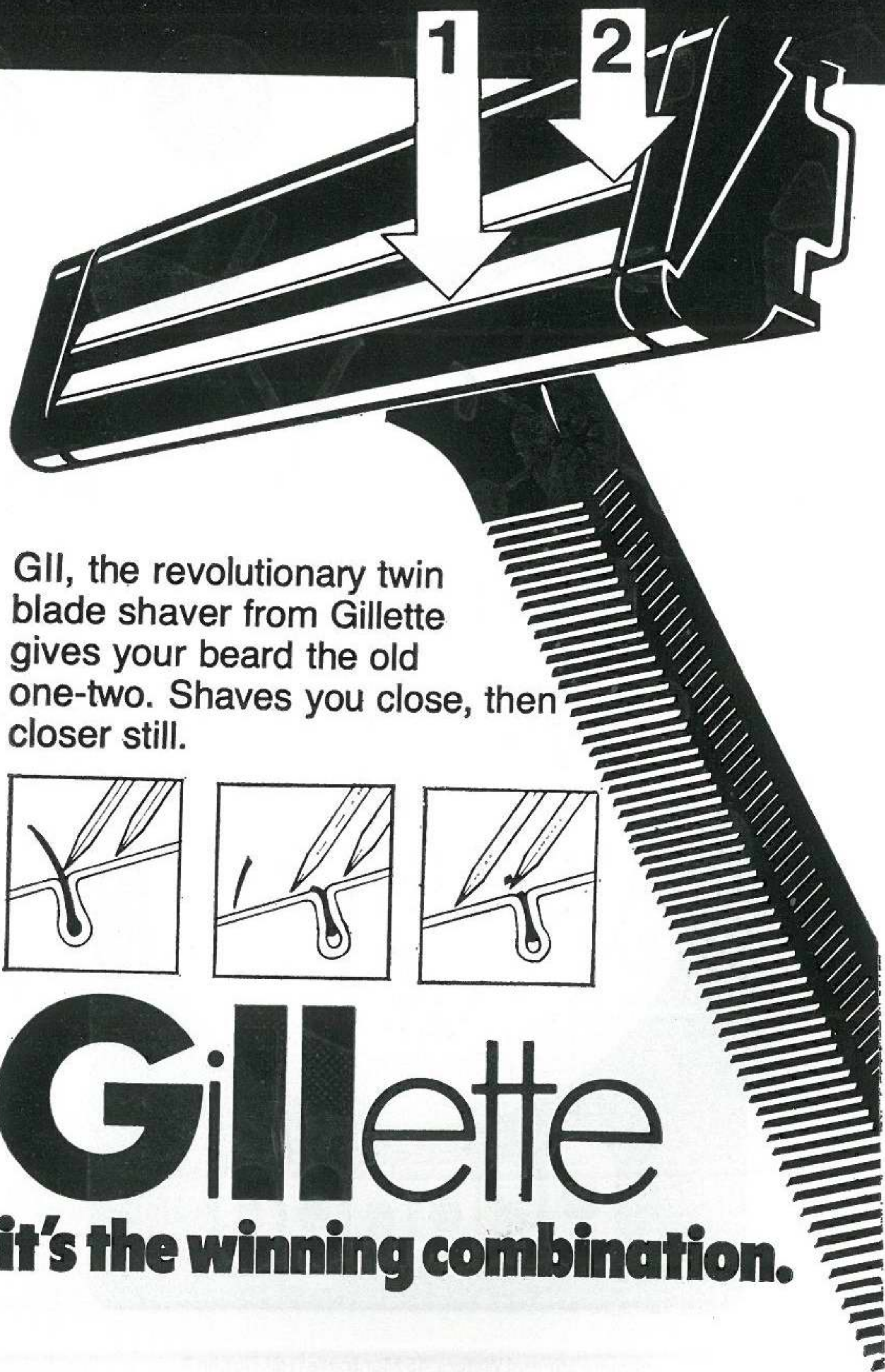
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enjoyment



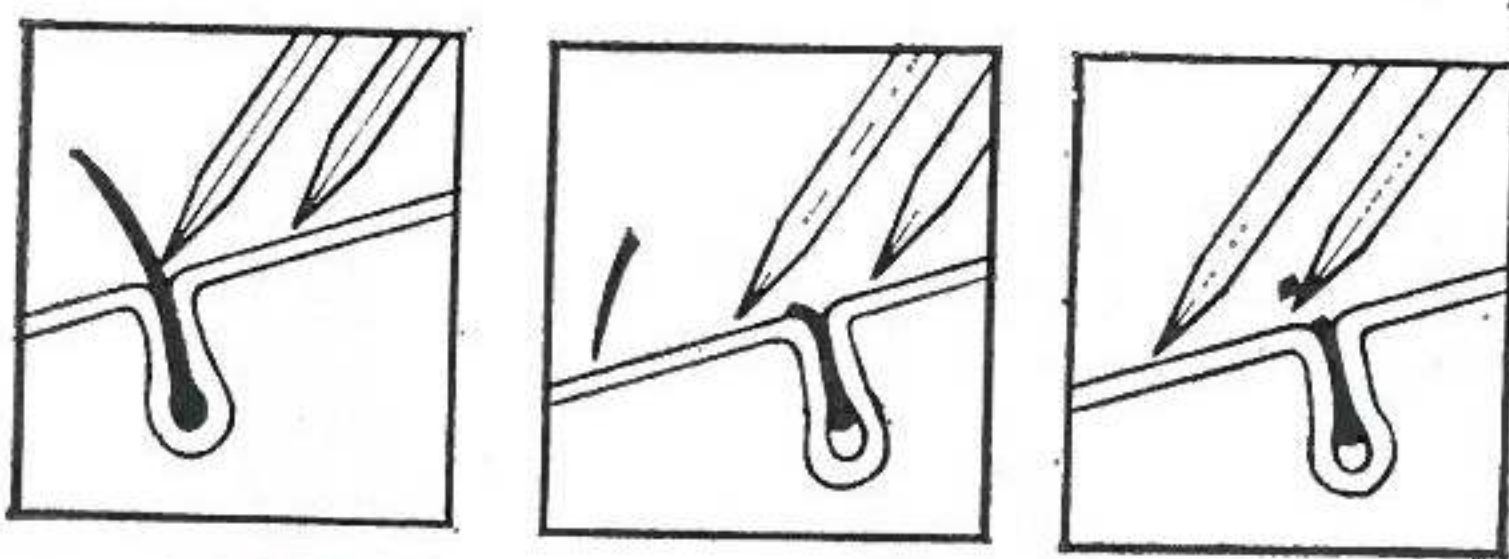
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Gaelic Sport

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

THE opening years of the 'Eighties will doubtless see much time and effort devoted in the G.A.A. to preparations for the Centenary Year of 1984. Rightly so, as this will be an outstanding event, not only for the Association but the nation in general, and it is only proper that no efforts should be spared to ensure that the great occasion is marked in the best possible way.

But the Centenary Year is only one aspect—admittedly an important one—of this brand new decade opening up. The 'Eighties will bring many complex challenges for the G.A.A.—challenges that will have to be met with imagination and drive if the Association is to maintain its position as the premier sporting organisation in the land.

The G.A.A. has a lot going for it. Hurling and football continue to command powerful support on the playing fields from schoolboys and adults. Competitions are well organised generally, and strong and successful structures on the administrative side have been developed.

But there are still warning signals flashing strongly for the G.A.A. Facilities at many grounds, for example, need to be improved in the interests of spectators.

If the past decade proved anything it is that followers at all sporting fixtures are becoming more selective. They want comfortable accommodation and are prepared to pay for this.

But at many Gaelic Games grounds, covered accommodation of any sort is lacking. At other centres where this is provided, the accommodation is entirely inadequate on big match days. This is a situation that must be acted on quickly by the organisation if our games are to continue to prove major crowd-pullers.

Then, there is the state of the games themselves. Hurling continues to prove an exciting and fast spectacle and needs few, if any, refinements.

But the steady decline of the game continues. This has been going on for years, and it is past time for a positive move to arrest the position. Even if this means ending the traditional championship structures that have held sway for so long.

Football continues to fail to reach anything like its full potential. Changes in the rules have been commonplace over the years, but the game still has many weak features that hit the sport as a spectacle.

The time may also have come for a comprehensive overhaul of the rules, followed by an adequate period for the regulations to be honed and perfected by the players.

There may also be a case for looking towards the provision of indoor sporting facilities for followers. A recent development in the North especially has been the development of leisure centres and these have helped to accelerate the advancement of some indoor sports.

Handball alone caters for the indoor games follower. Fortunately, this sport is making rapid strides forward, with more and more roofed courts throughout the country. But over-all, this is a complex and challenging area that the G.A.A. might examine with profit.

After all, if we can have indoor hockey and soccer, why not indoor Gaelic and even hurling?

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Tyler

CLEAN SWEEP

Top Ten

BY CONNACHT

"THE West is awake" in a big way as far as the third GAELIC SPORT TYLER TOP TEN award winners are concerned, with Connacht capturing both titles for 1979 through the consistently high quality play of Dermot Earley and John Connolly.

It was a close finish in each code, however, and the big centrefield player from Roscommon, and Galway's hurling giant only edged home in the final weeks over razor-keen Des Mulligan (Monaghan) and Kilkenny's stylish Joe Hennessy. The final charts covered the period from November 4 until the end of the year.

Earley finished with only four points to spare over Mulligan, while Connolly did somewhat better, getting home by 17 points.

The Roscommon footballer was setting the pace in his code until mid-summer, but then lost his place on top to Mulligan. Nevertheless, Earley was still only two points behind the Ulster man starting the final run-in.

Mulligan lost valuable ground by failing to gain a place in the

last month's chart. However, he gave a fine display when helping Monaghan to their Ceannarus Tournament final win over Roscommon, and in subsequent National League ties, and as a result, the Castleblayney club player returns to the chart this month with 30 points.

During the same period Roscommon had a lean enough spell. As well as losing their Ceannarus Tournament title, they went un-

der to Down and Armagh in the National League.

But Dermot Earley still managed to leave an imprint on the scene. He only made an appearance as a substitute against Kerry in the Ceannarus semi-final, but had a big say in the win by shooting 1-1, and providing other vital match-winning touches.

The Army officer also caught the eye in a big way with his powerful football in midfield in Roscommon's League win over Tyrone before having to retire with an injury. Then, in the clashes with Down and Armagh he proved one of his team's most effective performers.

So, Earley gained enough points to take fifth place in the final table on a 36 points ranking. That bag just edged him clear of Des Mulligan for rating as the GAELIC SPORT TYLER TOP TEN footballer of 1979. He finished with 145 points to Mulligan's 141.

Consistency, as already indicated, is the key note to success in these records. In this regard, Earley is out on his own in football in that he appears for the fifth time in the charts this month — a record unequalled by any other player in the code.

He made his debut in the February-March issue on 16 points,

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

HURLING

- 145 John Connolly (Galway)
- 128 J. Hennessy (Kilkenny)
- 115 P. McLoughney (Tipperary)
- 110 M. Brennan (Kilkenny)
- 102 F. Loughnane (Tipperary)
- 99 I. Clarke (Galway)
- 93 D. Coughlan (Cork)
- 78 Ger Henderson (Kilkenny)
- 78 N. Buggy (Wexford)
- 78 P. Fitzelle (Tipperary)

FOOTBALL

- 145 D. Earley (Roscommon)
- 141 D. Mulligan (Monaghan)
- 120 M. Sheehy (Kerry)
- 96 D. Murray (Roscommon)
- 80 P. Spillane (Kery)
- 73 E. Hughes (Monaghan)
- 72 J. O'Keeffe (Kerry)
- 69 S. Hayden (Roscommon)
- 67 A. McManus (Roscommon)
- 66 S. Darby (Offaly)

● OVERLEAF



★ ★ ★

Dermot Earley (Roscommon) who is our Tyler Top Ten Footballer of the Year. This is the eight year in which Dermot has figured in our Top Ten of the Year and his first one to top the chart.

★ ★ ★

● FROM PAGE 5

and found favour again in April-May with 27 points. Then, in June he took a major step towards the latest honour by collecting his best bag of the year at 40.

He was runner-up in that particular chart, and it is interesting to note that not once during the campaign did Earley earn a top-of-the-chart position.

Following June he did not again appear in a review until November-December, gaining a further 26 points and now comes his latest rating to clinch the annual award.

Earley is the first Connacht footballer to win the trophy. The initial winner in 1977 was Pat O'Neill, that stylish Dublin half-

back, while last year, Colm McAlarney brought the coveted Cup to Down and Ulster.

Mulligan, unlike Earley, was a late starter in the charts. He did not make his debut until June when he gained 35 points. Two months later he took third position with 38 points, and then in September his cool, progressive football and vital points scoring in the Ulster final were rewarded with another bonus of 38 points, and with it the top of the chart role last month.

His latest appearance in the review marks his fourth of the series.

Spearheading the challenge for Munster is Kerry's sharpshooter supreme, Michael Sheehy. The Kingdom's elimination from the National League by Roscommon

in a quarter-final back in April did not help the Tralee club man's chances, and it was as late as October before he made his initial entry.

However, Sheehy packed a tremendous amount of football into the concluding months of the year, what with the All-Ireland final, the U.S. tour, and a busy pre-Christmas schedule in the National League.

He also delivered the goods as well, both in general play and with his accurate finishing, and the clever forward from Kerry appears in a review for the third successive issue this month to bring his over-all to 120 points.

Danny Murray, who takes fourth position on 96 points, is, like Earley, a link with the initial charts of the year in February-March. He picked up 28 points that issue, but did not gain a place again until June.

It was a spectacular comeback for the talented Roscommon half back, however, as his top class play in the League final helped him to a rating on 43 points, and with it the top of the chart spot in the code that month. Indeed, Roscommon fares well in the final line-up, taking four of the positions. Kerry comes next with three.

A total of 69 footballers appeared in the rankings over the year. Dublin and Roscommon top the list of counties with players honoured, each having had nine of their stars honoured. Kerry come next with eight players.

John Connolly trailed Joe Hennessy by 11 points starting the final weeks of the campaign. He made only one appearance in the concluding period under review, against Kilkenny in the League at Pearse Stadium in early November.

The accomplished Galway man did not exactly set the scene alight in that game, but his cultured hurling and dependability at centre half still had a lot to

do in shaping a two points win for Galway.

So, Connolly just makes it in the final chart in tenth position on 28 points, and that enabled him to pass out Joe Hennessy for the premier award. He finished with 145 points, as against the Kilkenny man's 128.

Hennessy was on duty for Kilkenny in their failures to Galway and Offaly in the League. In the final match of the year against Limerick in mid-December, his transfer from right half-back to midfield for the second half was one of the match-winning moves by the All-Ireland champions.

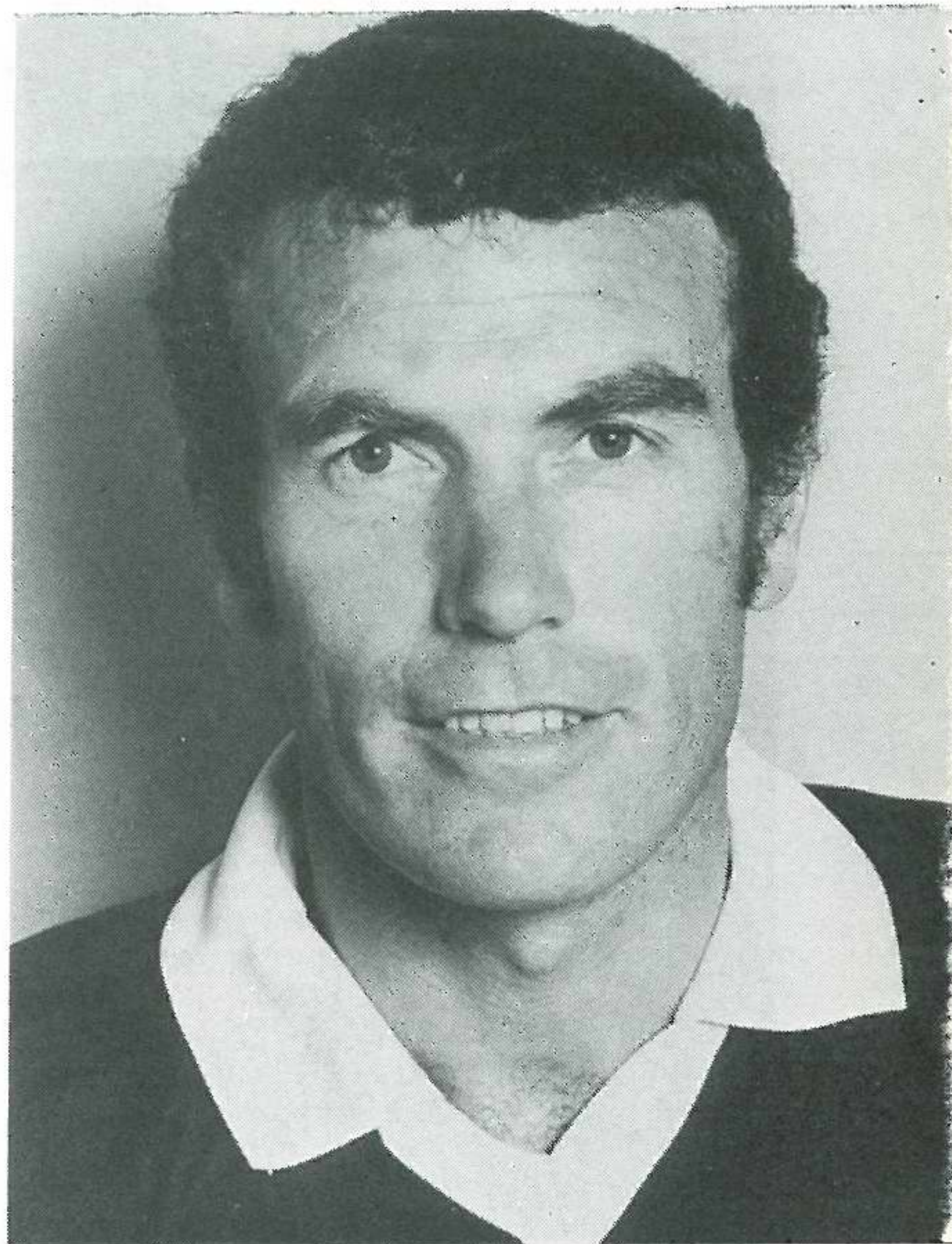
Yet, although Hennessy was very prominent in that second half, the competition was so keen for places in the Top Ten for January that the brilliant James Stephens' club man still did not make the concluding line-up of 1979.

Back to John Connolly. He first appeared in the review in April-May on 33 points and in second spot in that chart. He did not win a place again until September, when his powerful hurling in midfield in Galway's memorable All-Ireland semi-final win over Cork earned him a further 38 points,

★ ★ ★

**Galway midfielder
John Connolly,
Tyler Top Ten
Hurler of the
Year for 1979.**

★ ★ ★



and his first chart-topping role of the year.

The long-serving Castlegar club man was back again in November-December to head the review once more with 46 points, due principally to his grand work as

the All Stars captain on the U.S. tour. Now comes his fourth appearance in the charts.

Hennessy first won his place in June with 25 points before his name. He was back in August on 36 points, but was down to fifth spot, and his cultured hurling and dash in the All-Ireland decider brought further recognition with 34 points in October.

In November-December, Hennessy took over the No. 1 place in the general review from the long-time leader, Francis Loughnane. The brilliant Noresider gained 33 points to up his status to 128.

Loughnane was up as high as 102 points back in June, but he failed to add to that tally, due chiefly to Tipperary's defeat by Cork in the first round of the

MOST RECENT RATINGS

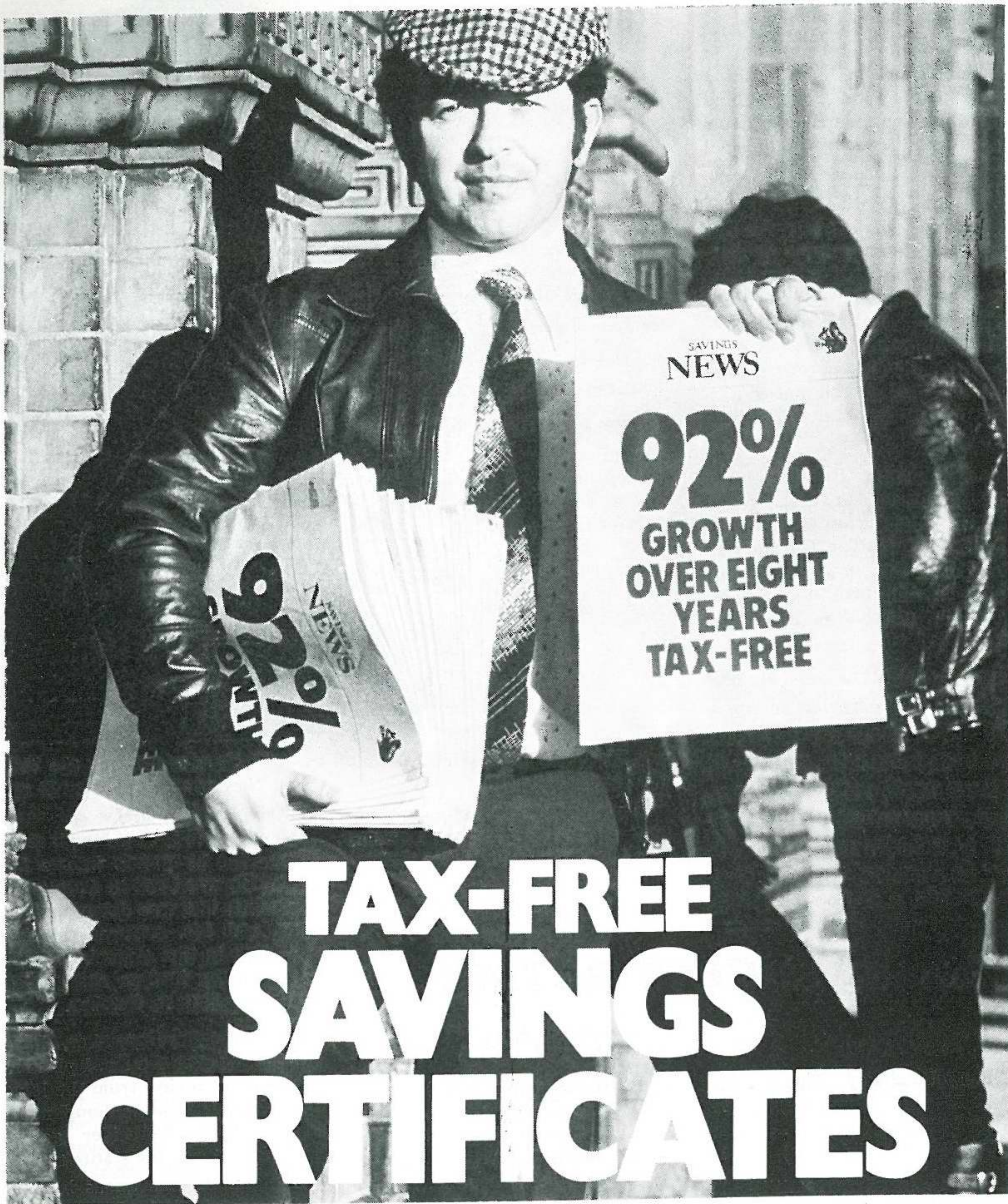
HURLING

42	P. McLoughney (Tipp.) ...	115
40	P. Fitzelle (Tipperary) ...	78
38	E. Coughlan (Offaly)	38
36	R. O'Hara (Kilkenny) ...	36
35	S. Linnane (Galway)	35
34	M. Walsh (Waterford) ...	34
33	P. Carroll (Offaly)	33
30	D. Coughlan (Cork)	93
30	J. Keogh (Tipperary).....	54
28	J. Connolly (Galway) ...	145

FOOTBALL

45	E. Hughes (Monaghan) ...	73
42	J. Kernan (Armagh)	42
40	J. Hughes (Galway)	40
38	M. Sheehy (Kerry).....	120
36	D. Earley (Roscommon)...	145
34	M. Judge (Galway)	34
33	M. Connor (Offaly)	33
32	J. McGrath (Mayo)	65
30	D. Mulligan (Monaghan)	141
30	T. McGovern (Down).....	56

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All about females, blather and the state of the games

ANDY CROAK

*The writer with the
rasping comment*

DEARLY beloved brethren, I have a few important matters to discuss in this article and I exhort you all to pay close attention to what I've got to say.

But before getting on with it I draw your notice to that salutation, "dearly beloved brethren". Most of you who are Catholics will remember how priests used to use those words at the start of their sermons, ruling out, it seemed, all the brethernesses who were listening, too.

Well, as you know times have changed and it's all "brothers and sisters" or "sisters and brothers" in these days of equality.

But Croak is sticking to the old ways, not because he is particularly conservative or traditionalist, but on account of the fact that a few of his best women friends have been telling him that the female section of GAELIC SPORT's readership don't think much of his column, flipping past it with downcast eyes because they think he is too rude, intemperate and, of course, chauvinistic.

Fair enough. I've always thought myself that women had no real knowledge of hurling and football, which are men's games anyway. I've thought also that women should not be allowed to take over official positions in the G.A.A., which quite alarmingly, they have been doing in recent years.

If this trend is not stopped, preferably by a ruling of the annual Congress, the day may come when women are in charge of the whole organisation. And a pretty pass that would be!

They have their own games, so let them stick to the place where they belong. I remember a time when the women screamed a lot because men were involved in the running of camogie. And that, mark you, was a long time before the advent of the "libbers".

Now it's time for the men to scream, and in no uncertain manner tell their dearly beloved sisters to quit and leave Gaelic games in the hands of those who know what they are all about.

It doesn't please me much to be so forthright and frank at the start of a new year, and a new decade. But no real purpose is served by beating around any bush.

And now, dear brethren, I want you to join with me in a few important tasks . . .

Let us, together, tell those who keep on blathering about the "decline" and "death" of hurling to button up, as they've no idea what they're talking about. Let us, with as much vehemence as possible, tell the newspaper scribes to lay off the same subject, as they also are drivelling through their caps. . . .

Let us tell the same people that there's nothing much wrong

with football either. Just because a couple of teams have dominated the championship in recent years doesn't mean that the centres of power will not shift again. The might of Dublin has disintegrated and Kerry cannot stay at the top indefinitely . . . The history of the championship shows that cycles come and go and that the teams who hit peaks just as surely sink into valleys.

Seventeen of the 32 counties have never won the All-Ireland football championship, and a minority of the successful fifteen have taken the lion's share of titles. It's silly to ignore realities.

Let us tell the Central Council and Management Committee that players should have a collective voice when playing rules are being changed. Therefore, a consultative committee of players should be set up and their views on such matters as the handpass and scores made by the handpass recorded and publicised before motions on the rules are taken at Congress

And let us ask the governors of the association to ensure that the views of goalkeepers, especially hurling goalkeepers, are made known before any attempt is made to revoke the rule which forbids the physical charging of these players.

Idir un daw lynn, slawn, as the bi-linguists of R.T.E. used to say long ago.



These distinctive and expressive Bank of Ireland GAA Allstar trophies have been designed by Dublin-born sculptor, Rowan Gillespie.

They are awarded to Ireland's finest hurlers and footballers in recognition of their superb playing abilities and for the manner in which the recipients exemplify a true spirit of competitiveness and sportsmanship.



Munster Coaching

drive got off

to splendid start

BY EAMONN YOUNG

THE Munster Council Chairman, Mick Frawley of Emly, got an idea. It was based on football coaching. For too long he had been forced to see the four weaker football counties in Munster trail behind Cork and Kerry and Mick, who had enjoyed coaching courses in Gormanston, knew that only work, skilled work, would change the pattern. So he enlisted the help of Tralee's Tadhg Crowley of Stacks and Doney Nealon of Tipp, cisteoir and runai respectively of the Council. They called a meeting and a fine crowd of experienced football trainers turned up in Mallow. There the scheme was laid down and met with the enthusiastic approval of the boys generally.

Last Spring there were four schools set up: in Miltown Malbay, Limerick, Clonmel and Dungarvan. At each of those schools forty lads under eighteen were gathered and coached over a four hour period on six successive Saturdays. At the end a test, written and practical, was given and the boys dispersed to bring the message to their own clubs.

In October the training was repeated with again a group of forty (aimed at, but not always reached) in the four schools.

Many of the young men had enjoyed the Spring training and many more were new. Again the training was for four hours and at each venue there were three or four coaches each day.

The next meeting of the coaches under Mick Frawley's chairmanship will be held later this month, and there the final plans for the next phase will be made. This will see coaches from the various clubs gather at the four venues already mentioned. This, of course, is a very important step for no longer will the Munster Council coaches be talking to young men whose main object is to play well. This new audience will also have as its aim the raising of the standard in their own clubs, but they will be interested not so much in their own personal performance as in the manner and technique of instruction shown by the Munster Council coaches.

The names of these instructors who travelled in some cases long distances each Saturday to help the cause of football in the weaker counties reads like a Who's-Who in Gaelic football. There was Doney O'Sullivan, John Cullotty and Weesh Fogarty of Killarney, Jimmy Denihan, Ogie Moran, Ger Power, Kevin Kehilly, Pat Griffin, Mick Kilcoyne, Doney O'Donovan, Gene



MacCarthy, Pat Moroney, Mick Fleming, Brian MacSweeney, Mick Moyna and Mickey O'Sullivan. Mick O'Connell travelled up from Valentia Island to train the boys in Miltown Malbay one day and delighted them with his playful demonstration of his "circle swing and tangent kick" which I'm happy to leave to himself for further elaboration.

We were lucky to have trained Physical Education graduates, who, although they had not become familiar to the thousands as a result of their playing ability, had the precise trained ability of imparting instruction to the students and indeed men like Dave Weldrick, Teddy Owens, Liam Murphy and John Phelan of Clonmel were invaluable.

A vital link in the Munster Council chain was the county organiser, and indeed the whole system was held together by him. In each county his job was to contact the clubs and ensure that on each Saturday morning a car called to pick up a bunch of young men and transport them to the county venue. The target aimed at was forty, and on some days even that was exceeded—at least once in Miltown Malbay.

● OVERLEAF

**Get up
and go,
and say
ah for
*Avonmore***

The men who managed this were Michael Griffin in Clare, Tim Ryan in Limerick, John MacNamara in Clonmel and Joe Conway in Dungarvan. On their enthusiasm and organising ability the whole idea depended and it became increasingly obvious to me that without them we would simply have been swimming against the current and getting nowhere. As long as Cumann Luthchleas Gael has men like these it will never fail, for theirs was the task of ensuring that halls, schools, footballs, food, showers and a dozen other matters were ready. It was John MacNamara who had Brother Perkins, that amiable hurling coach from Thurles, travel to Clonmel where he video-taped the students in action and also showed them films of the games. It was the organisers who coaxed the busy Joe MacGrath of Limerick to take his equipment to Clonmel and Miltown Malbay where the Down-born trainer brought home to all that coaching was moving on in a modern, sophisticated and effective way.

Tadhg Crowley, the Munster cisteoir, brought the Sam Maguire Cup to Clonmel where it was a cynosure for all eyes in the hotel at lunch time, and I know that Joe Conway won't be happy in Dungarvan until the mighty prize had been shown off in Dungarvan by the flying footballer from Templenoe, Pat Spillane.

Well that's it just for the moment. This is only an interim report and I hope that before the end of 1980 I will be able to write again on the progress of this delightful work started by good men like Mick Frawley, who will never be happy until the four weaker football counties in Munster are hammering vigorously at the doors of Cork and Kerry. May the day soon come!

Kerry unfairly treated by 'seeding scheme'

THE new set-up for the 1980 Munster football championship, which automatically places champions Kerry in the provincial decider, has been greeted with some displeasure by various officials within the Kingdom.

The Kerry men feel that the efforts of their charges to capture the Sam Maguire Cup for the third successive season will be hampered if Kerry are plunged immediately into the white heat of a Munster final battle.

To Kerry folk a preliminary championship outing is vital to their preparations, no matter how inferior the opponents. Whatever the merits of that claim, it seems to me that the new arrangement is a little ridiculous.

Presumably, the idea is to give Munster's weaker counties — Clare, Limerick, Tipperary and Waterford — an opportunity to build up confidence and team spirit by competing against each other in the earlier rounds.

It is argued that whichever team emerges from that group will have sampled sufficient success to cause serious problems for the "big guns" Cork, who meet the winners in the only semi-final, and Kerry.

In short, it is hoped that the new arrangement will help to

bridge the glaring gap in standards which currently exists between Cork and Kerry and the remaining counties. Munster Council officials, it seems, are weary of the yearly Cork-Kerry provincial final meeting. But surely if one wishes to balance the scales in Munster, it would be wiser to attempt to improve the game in the weaker counties through organised coaching rather than providing them with more matches.

Is it really fair to deprive Kerry of what they regard as vital match practice simply because they are a class above their opponents? Are Kerry to be punished for their efficiency?

The objective should not be to hinder Kerry and Cork in their preparations so that they will be more vulnerable when confronted with a challenge from one of the

weaker counties. If a balance is to be achieved in Munster, then it should be done by attempting to bring the weaker counties up rather than by pulling Kerry and Cork down.

I have no doubt that the shrewd Kerry men will find some alternative arrangements so that they will be well prepared and organised for this year's Munster final. I will be surprised also if Cork fail to qualify for their annual confrontation with the Kingdom. And I doubt if the weaker counties will derive any great benefit, even in the long term, from the new championship arrangement.

Even with the aid of thorough coaching, it is unlikely if Clare, Limerick, Tipperary or Waterford would quickly make a significant impact on the Munster football scene.

Those counties are all traditional hurling strongholds and traditions die hard within the GAA. No manipulating of the fixture list can alter that fact.

To my mind, therefore, the new formation for Munster football in the 1980s seems rather pointless. Cork and Kerry have contested all but one Munster final in the past 20 years. During that time I have watched many stirring struggles between the counties and, like many others, I have not felt any sense of monotony about those matches.

I will continue to savour the Kerry-Cork clashes until some other county can stake a legitimate claim which will end the annual meeting of those great rivals in the southern province.

Any attempt to effect change just for the sake of change, I cannot condone.

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Cork's Christy Ryan

A Profile by Eamonn Young



*Christy Ryan
(Cork)*

SIX feet and two inches of him stood over me and smiled. A fine young man this Christy Ryan, the 'Barrs and Cork footballer, who has now taken over the captaincy of the side under the guidance of the veteran trainer/coach Billy Morgan.

Fourth in the family of Christopher Ryan of Fair Hill and Norah Kearney of the South side, young Christy's first steps on the playing field were directed by Brother Casma over in Greenmount where they won the under-13 hurling in the city. It was then he went to the 'Barrs where the Under-age Chairman Tony Maher put him at centre-back.

Tony, himself one of the staunchest defenders I have seen, on the club or county field, had a grand tight defensive sense which made it very hard for even the best players to play well on him. The 'Barrs incidentally are noted for the guidance which the inter-county players have always given to the young lads, and Christy Ryan remembers very well — after all it's only a few years ago — how Gerald and Charlie McCarthy gathered the young lads about them out there on the green acres of Neenan Park.

At centre-back in hurling and football for St. Brendan's, the boys' team, he had John Corcoran to manage his affairs and he laughs to remember the patience the adults showed as they cajoled, scolded, praised and blamed all to get the best out of the lads for the sake of the club. On to the Under-16 moved the young man who was already beginning to lengthen in limb and broaden in the shoulder, and they won the city football cup in 1973 where one of his comrades was his pal John Cremin, a very stylish and effective dual player. John, the son of Doney Cremin, himself a fine hurler with the 'Barrs, had a spot of bad luck this year when a broken collar-bone deprived him of playing as captain with the Cork Under-21 football team, and also with his club hurling team in the county hurling final.

Times became busier for Christy Ryan, as they always do for a good player, as he moved from boyhood to man's estate. In 1974 he played minor in

both games with the 'Barrs and it was at this time that the skill tuned up as a child began to show. For Christy, as a small boy, used go out in a small field at the back of his house over in Greenmount to hurl every day with his brothers, Denis, Michael and Gerard. There is no substitute for skill and the only way to improve it is by practice. The boys today play so many games that the time for perfecting skill isn't as easily found as in the old days, but Christy Ryan's earlier practice stood to him as he grew and I hope he'll get time to continue honing the edge.

1975 was a great year for the 'Barrs minors for they beat the Rockies. What was great about that? you'll ask. Well, they hadn't done it for twenty-seven years. Elderly men nearly broke down at the final whistle. The young lads were thrilled and as so many of them were the sons of older players it was a memorable day for the Blues. John Cremin, Jim Goulding, Jimmy Murphy, Mick Condon, Jerry Murphy, Niall Kenefick and the rest raised hopes in the hearts of the older men, hopes that indeed have since been fulfilled so emphatically.

In 1976 Christy Ryan was on the Cork under-21 side that lost to Kerry, but this loss was erased by the great win for the club in the Cork football championship. It was that year that the trainer Pat Loughheed, himself a very smart player, said to Christy: "We want a good centre-back and I want to see if you'll make one. You have a lot of experience playing there at under-age so now we'll see if you'll make it in senior. We'll move you out of the forwards and give you five games in tournament and challenge at centre-back, and we'll tell you after each game how you got on. And you'll listen to us, won't you?"

Christy played and trained and listened. They left him at centre back right through the championship. He stood there in the semi-final against Nemo and in the final against Michaels marking the equally

● TO PAGE 17

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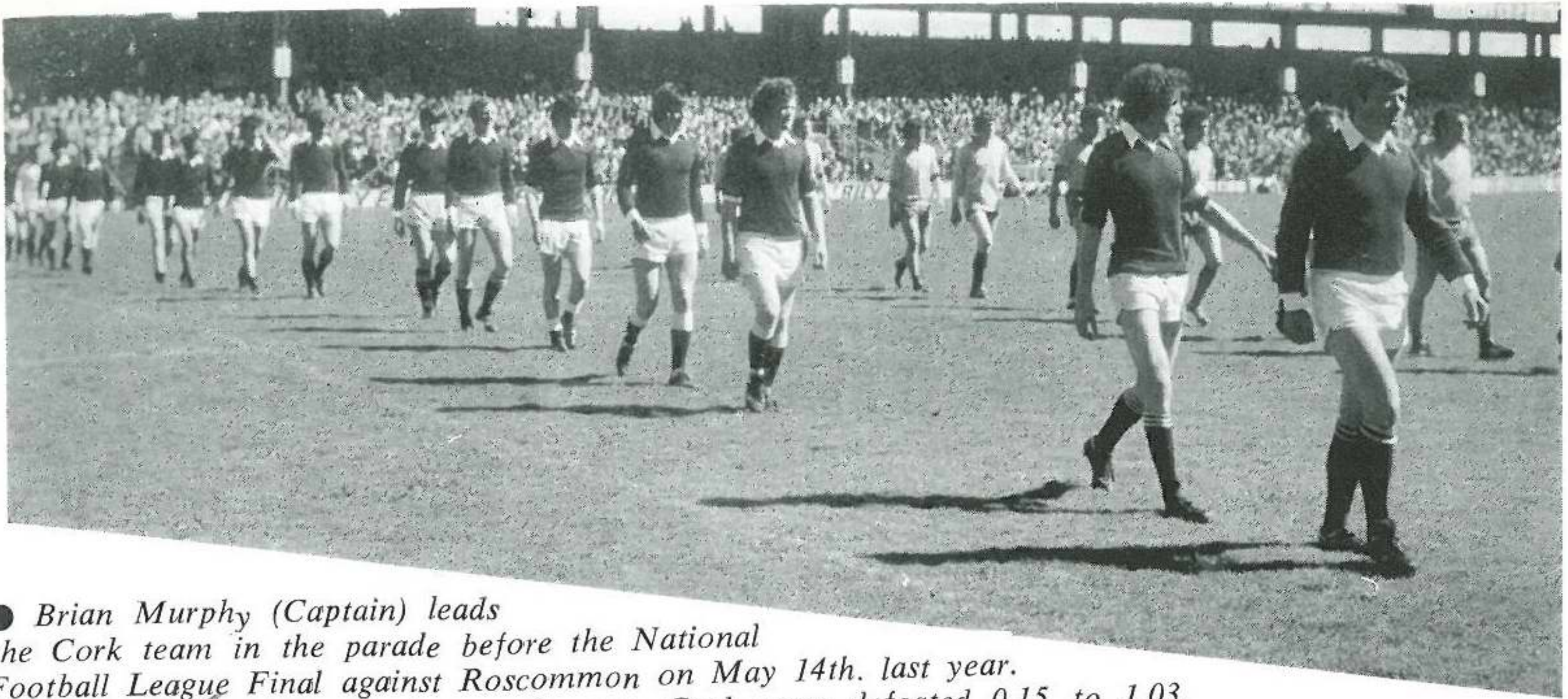
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● *Brian Murphy (Captain) leads the Cork team in the parade before the National Football League Final against Roscommon on May 14th. last year. Although Christy Ryan had a good game, Cork were defeated 0.15 to 1.03.*

● **FROM PAGE 15**

tall and very elusive Eamonn O'Donoghue. He was very excited that day and his parents didn't go at all. Jim Barry-Murphy was captain and Seamus Looney who played for Cork in both games kept an eye on Christy to make sure he didn't wander. Suddenly the game turned when Jim Barry-Murphy sent Jerry MacCarthy away and that solid scorer struck it in the back of the net and the cup soared to the Barrs' clubhouse.

They beat Kilrush by a point in the club championship but a Mike Sheehy penalty knocked them out of the running in Tralee. Nemo and Kerry took Christy out in the Summer of '77; he made the Cork senior football panel in the year of the Three Stripes furore. But more important for the big young player was the fact that at full forward for the Barrs' hurling team in the second half he struck a ground ball towards the Glen goalie. That good player took his eye off the ball for a moment to see what Jim Barry-Murphy was doing, and the sliotar hopped gaily into the net for a Barrs win. So Christy had two county medals already.

In '78 Christy Ryan, still an under-21 player, was proving to all of us that he had truly made it and in the Munster final against Kerry on Sean Walsh he had a good hour. In '79 he stood in his favourite position at centre-back on Tommy Doyle and that brings us up to date in the inter-county field.

'Barrs had a great season in '79 for Christy played hard on a side that gave a very efficient hour in the Cork final and then went on to beat Kilrush in the Munster championship final. In the coming months

they'll be hard to stop in their determined effort to win the All-Ireland club championship.

Christy Ryan says the 'Barrs are lucky to have sensible and experienced men like John O'Brien, Donal Hurley, Pat Loughed, John O'Driscoll, Mick Keating, Andy Sheehy, and the captain Noel Aherne to lead the side. He loves training under bright vivacious Pat Loughed who gets the best out of everybody and at twenty-two surely the sky is the limit. His hardest hours were in trying to keep Tony Hanahoe, Denis Allen and Sean Walsh quiet and he says with the true sportsman's humility "I didn't succeed all the time but boy, I was trying hard".

"I don't drink or smoke" says Christy "I love training and the games fill up my life. I don't have time for anything else and I'm very happy that I'm some good at them".

The last day I saw him was in the club final with Kilrush. He stood at centre-back and tore everything within reach out of the heavens. He leaped, ran, tackled, and drove with a full blooded vigour that was a delight to watch and some of the dead balls he hit went seventy yards up the field. Several times as he dashed in to kick, I'm convinced I heard the ball whining. How good will this young man be and what will his career be like? Much will depend on the Cork football selectors and trainer, for if the side can get past Kerry in the Munster final all Ireland will know Christy Ryan and, mark my words, anyone who admires a full blooded man will have a soft spot for the big man from Greenmount the Blues' centre-back, Christy Ryan.



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||| CAN CORK HALT KERRY'S MARCH? |||

By Noel Horgan

WHEN the Cork footballers regained the Sam Maguire Cup in 1973 after a twenty eight year lapse, the victory seemed merely the beginning of an unprecedented run of success in football for the Rebel county.

The team was reasonably young and the exciting form produced when crushing Kerry, Tyrone and Galway on the road to championship glory suggested that the Corkmen were likely to remain at or near the top for a number of years. Certainly, they looked good enough to dominate in Munster as they had been producing far more talented under-age teams in the preceding decade than Kerry, who were realistically their only rivals in the southern province.

Things did not quite materialise along those lines, however. For a start Dublin emerged from a football wilderness to shock Cork in the '74 semi-final and they went on to beat Galway in the All-Ireland decider. Many Corkmen, super-optimists that they are, regarded that year's defeat by Dublin as a merely temporary lapse.

They argued with some justification that Cork had completely misjudged the strength of the Dubs and that overconfidence had been principally responsible for the Leesiders' downfall. Everything, it was felt, would be put right the following year.

As if by waving a magic wand, however, Kerry produced a talented youthful side in 1975 who crushed Cork in the Munster final and swept all before them on the way to All-Ireland victory. And

Cork have failed to stop the Kingdom in the championship since then.

Judging by their indifferent form in the current league and their poor showing against Down in last year's under-21 final, it would appear that Cork are unlikely to dethrone the Kerry men in the 1980 championship.

What has gone wrong with Cork football since their memorable success in '73 and why does Cork football appear to be in such a poor state at the moment? To my mind it is futile to attempt to answer those questions — simply because there are no answers to them.

Nothing has gone wrong with Cork football since 1973 and there is nothing poor about the current Cork senior team. Nothing, that is, beyond the fact that Cork are unfortunate to be sited in the same province as football kings, the mighty men of Kerry.

We should have known that Kerry would not take lightly the '73 and '74 championship defeats by Cork, no matter how great the Cork team may have appeared. The Kingdom have never lost three-in-a-row to Cork and they weren't prepared to do so in 1975.

It is not so much a case of Cork's form deteriorating in the past six years as a tremendous resurgence of Kerry dominance based on studied adaptation to the 'modern' game. It is the brilliance of the current team that makes Cork's football future almost as bleak as that of the other 30 counties at present.

The Leesiders know only too well what it's like to be overshadowed by their illustrious neighbours. But be under no illusions about the current Cork team which is a very useful combination and could be the one that will eventually stop the Kingdom's march.

In Kevin Kehilly, Billy Morgan, Jimmy Barry-Murphy, Dinny Allen, Seamus O'Sullivan and Vince Coakley, Cork have players of the highest calibre capable of forming the nucleus of a team which would challenge strongly for championship honours.

The Corkmen displayed definite potential when giving Kerry their toughest game in last year's championship though the Kingdom won comfortably enough in the end.

Undoubtedly, the shrewd Kerry mentors will regard Cork as one of the major obstacles in their bid to achieve three All-Irelands in a row this year, especially as Cork, assuming they qualify, are due to meet the champions at Páirc Uí Chaoimh.

Kerry will be warm favourites but if the Leaside mentors can build up team spirit between now and then and if Cork hit peak form on the day, there could be an upset. And once out of Munster Cork can again display their talents to the Croke Park crowds.

But then any team that can conquer Kerry in the 1980 championship will be entitled to face all subsequent opponents with confidence, always mindful of what happened to a somewhat over-confident Cork side when they met the Dubs at the start of their emergence six years ago.

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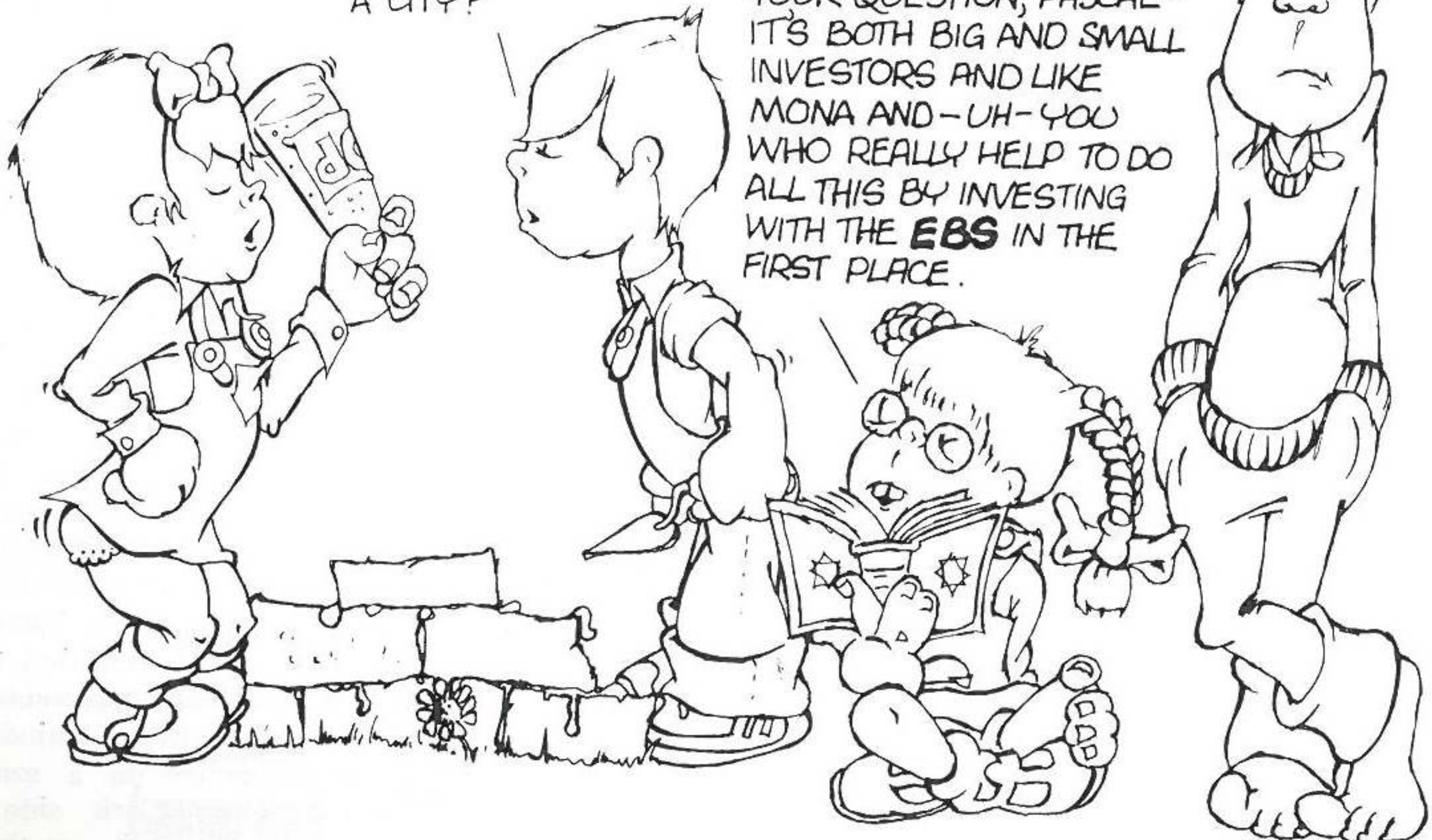
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Kennys.

WHAT IS IN STORE FOR GALWAY?

IN hurling chatter these last few days of 1979 and early ones of 1980 the question of Galway's present hurling status and where the county is headed keeps cropping up. Most hurling enthusiasts have a soft spot for Galway and it is not unnatural, therefore, that there should be concern for them when they appear to be in difficulties or in decline.

And yet it is true that Galway were the National League finalists last year and that they also reached the All-Ireland final in September. In what way could one possibly be worried about the hurling health of a county with a record of that kind?

It stems, I suppose, from the unimpressive record the team has had since the end of the All-Ireland run. Down and further down went the results; but so did the team resolve and morale, not to mention its fitness.

There is action and reaction in all things, even in hurling, and

it is surely part of the explanation why Galway have been less than impressive since October. They had a long year and they challenged strongly to the bitter end for the two major National Trophies. It must be accepted that flesh and blood cannot sustain full-scale effort all the time.

The only problem is that instead of relaxing their grip a little and hitching a tow while keeping in close touch with everything, Galway have occasionally given the impression of having loosened their grip altogether.

By holding on however casually top teams keep in touch, at least, and do not lose their feeling for the standards at the top. But, by loosening one's grip entirely, a team may drift and drop and never notice the gap which has opened unknown to it.

Yet, it is surely an alarmist attitude to suggest that the drift in form they have shown recently means that Galway have fallen away so much that they will not

be the power they were. Why should this be so? I cannot see the evidence for it. After all it seems perfectly acceptable for Cork or Kilkenny to take it fairly easy in the League season in order to recharge their batteries for the next championship.

Of course, the point is then made that it is all very well for the established winners of hurling to take a rest or even court relegation (or even suffer it) since they are honed in the ways of the hurling world and know the success road and what it takes to travel it. Galways and Clares and Offalys of the hurling world do not have that tradition of being winners—therefore they have to take every opportunity of sticking the pace with the top teams all the time in order to get themselves tanned into the atmosphere of it all.

But that was what Clare did surely, in a succession of great League seasons, and they have little in the way of championship success to show for it.

With Galway as with Clare it is a question of resolution. Both surely have the talent, if they have the heart and sheer guts to keep on coming again and again and showing a hopeful face no matter how many times they have had it bloodied by ruthless opponents.

Galway have another advantage that is even denied to Clare: they have a stream of fine young talent whose full potential has not yet been tapped. Surely there are enough men with the courage and the hope to try again . . . and again . . . and again, if necessary. All those before them who succeeded had to suffer disappointments. They were not born for joy only.



Dermot Earley
(Roscommon)

Salute to Derm

IT is remarkable how some of the counties that do not appear regularly, if indeed ever, among the list of winners of major titles, manage for all that to give to hurling and football some of the most exciting personality-plus players of all time.

One thinks, for instance, of such past stars as Jimmy Smyth, of Clare, Seanie Duggan (Galway), who illuminated so many hurling games, and Jim McKeever (Derry), Gerry O'Malley (Roscommon) and Packie McGarty (Leitrim), all famed in football. They proved themselves among the outstanding players of their day, men who could walk tall with the giants of any era, yet not one of them gained an All-Ireland senior medal.

Similarly with the men who have emerged as the **GAELIC SPORT TYLER TOP TEN** award winners of 1979, Dermot Earley and John Connolly. They have been without question two of the leading players in the games for years, but for all their brilliance, class, and the inspiring leadership they have also given to their county teams, both are now in the autumns of their careers still chasing the elusive All-Ireland senior medal.

It is a measure of the high esteem that they hold among the rank and file supporters that so many fervently hope that Earley and John Connolly will not eventually bow out of the inter-county scene without the top souvenir.

An indication of this was the delight, nation-wide, that greeted Roscommon's win over Cork back in May for a first National Football League title. That was due not so much to the fact that Roscommon had made an important break-through, but rather because the success gave the popular Dermot Earley his first national senior inter-county medal after so many years in the big-time.

It was much the same story

after Galway's shock but merited win over Cork last August in the senior hurling championship semi-final. After that memorable triumph, the entire nation, outside of Kilkenny, of course, willed the Connacht county to victory in the showpiece tie.

Again, there was more than just the desire to see Galway reap tangible reward for their years of endeavour. But over and above that was the earnest hope of so many that John Connolly

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Dermot and John



John Connolly
(Galway)

would finally get among the All-Ireland senior medallists.

It was not to be, but that still cannot take from the fact that Connolly's place in hurling as a supreme artist is assured. The same holds true as far as Earley's ranking in football is concerned.

Many now hold that the Roscommon man has lost his big chance as a result of the Connacht champions' one point semi-final defeat by Dublin last August.

But at 31, the versatile Dermot Earley still could make it. Defeats by the county in the pre-Christmas games in the League may not be very encouraging for 1980, but Roscommon have now a rich panel of experienced and talented footballers, and they must have a fine chance of a good run in the Championship, irrespective of what happens in the League in the coming months.

Earley, who was born in

County Mayo, but moved to Roscommon when a young boy, had not long to wait for his call up to the Roscommon senior inter-county team. He played minor and senior in the same year with the county, in fact, in 1966, and unlike so many others who earned quick promotion, he not only quickly found his feet in the higher grade, but maintained a consistently high standard of play over his entire senior career.

The Army officer must now rank as one of the greatest midfielders in the annals of football. Time and again he has coloured the sport with his exhibitions in the centre.

He has proven a versatile footballer as well, and has made his mark with Roscommon both in attack and in defence.

The Connacht man has had important successes, too. He was in the team that brought the All-Ireland under-21 title West of the Shannon for the first time in 1966, and helped Connacht to their last two Railway Cup wins in 1967 and 1969.

In addition, he was honoured by the Carrolls All-Stars selectors in 1974, and found favour with the Bank of Ireland All-Stars mentors last autumn.

Dermot played most of his club football with Michael Glavey's in Roscommon, but he is now assisting Sarsfields in Kildare. Unquestionably, the Western county's best-known footballer, he was in the success-

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● FROM PAGE 23

ful Connacht championship final teams of 1972, 1977, 1978 and 1979.

Versatility is also a feature of John Connolly's make-up — not only as far as hurling is con-

cerned, but on the sporting scene generally. He has represented Galway in all grades of hurling and football, and also won a provincial amateur boxing title.

Nevertheless, it is true to say that it is as a hurler that John

Connolly is best known. And, like Dermot Earley in the Roscommon jersey, he has adorned the scene with his high quality play and his sportsmanship.

He has stamped his class as well all over the field in hurling, from the half back line to mid-field, to the attack. Like Earley as well, it can be said of him that he is his county's most famed son in his particular sport.

Although Galway have not won an All-Ireland senior hurling title in the lifetime of so many of their followers, John Connolly has still collected many top awards since he joined the county senior team in a game against Clare in 1968.

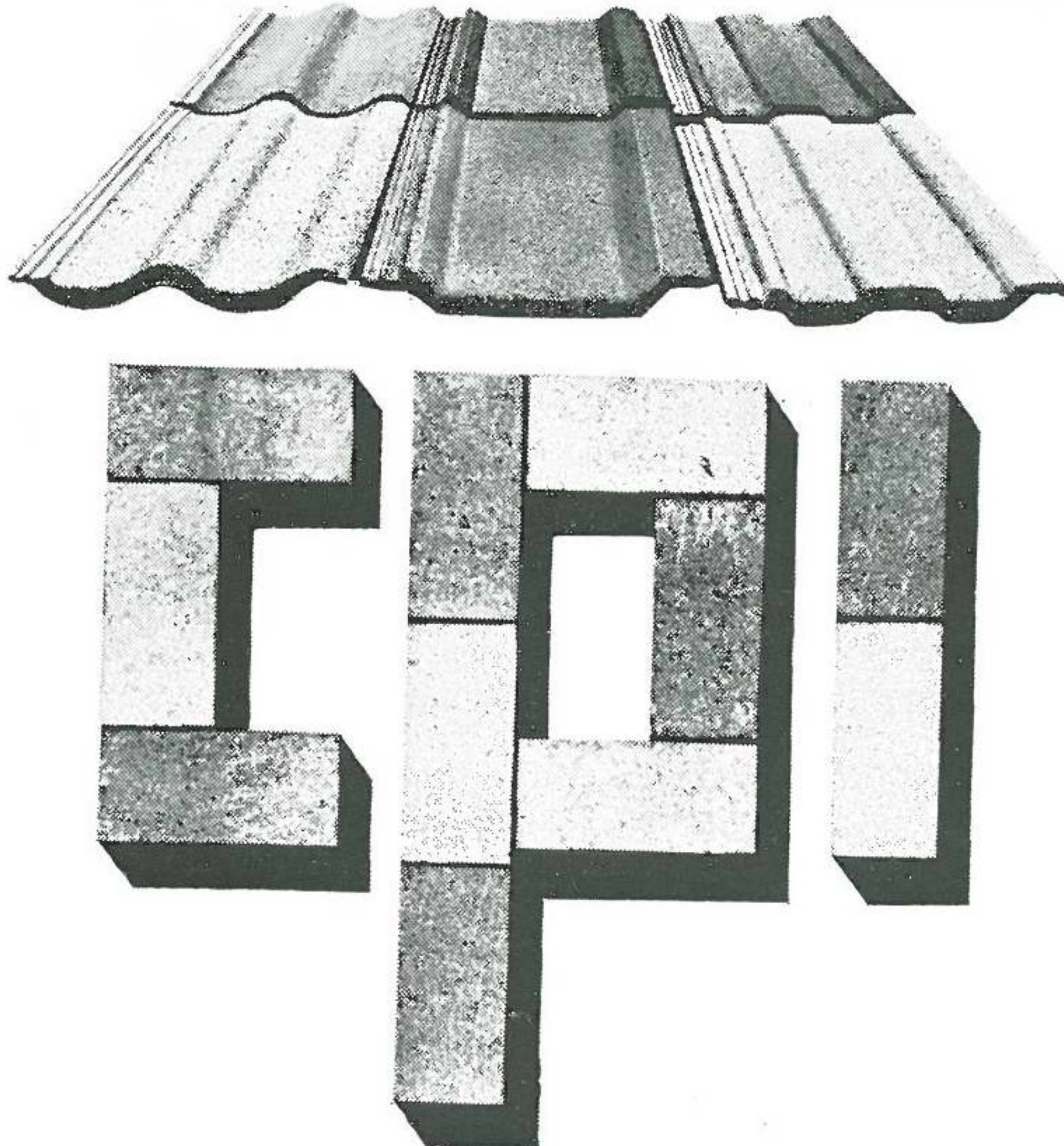
He was honoured at midfield in the very first Carrolls All-Star side in 1971, and it is remarkable to think that the initial Bank of Ireland selection last year again saw Connolly as one of the centre-field men. In between he did not win a single All-Star trophy.

But this elegant hurler with the flair to pull his weight in handsome fashion in any position, had a rare glory day in 1975 when he led Galway to their first National League title in 24 years. He captained the county in their unsuccessful All-Ireland final outing against Kilkenny in 1975.

Now 31, John Connolly graduated, like Earley, from the minor ranks. He has won county medals at minor, under-21 and senior, and has appeared with Ireland against Scotland in the hurling-shinty internationals.

As is the case with Roscommon, the pre-Christmas games in the League did not prove very exciting for Galway. But remember, some of their key players, including John Connolly, were not in action in most of the games, so it might be unwise to use those games as a barometer

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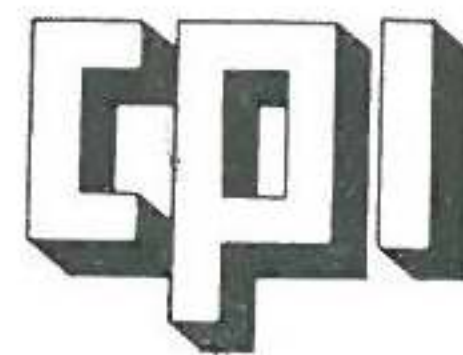


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== HANDBALL FORGES AHEAD ==

BY SEAN CLERKIN

HANDBALL made fantastic progress in the seventies. It was seen as a highly skilled game, well organised and with a great potential. My hope for the eighties which have been introduced to us quite recently is that the aforementioned potential will be developed and exploited.

It can be stated without fear of contradiction that much of the resurgence of handball in the last decade could be attributed to the World Handball Championships which were held in the new glass court at Croke Park in 1970.

I have no hesitation in suggesting that my priority for the eighties would be the revival of these World Championships.

They could well open up a completely new vista for the game. Not only on an internal basis within our own country but, in the context of internationalism and ultimately with the entry of the code into the Olympic games.

The pundit might indicate that such a hope is far-fetched, but facts prove that the handball seed could be germinated in many countries.

Like England, perhaps, where the game of fives, which has a close affinity with handball, thanks to the initiative of the Belfast Handball Association, is played extensively.

During 1979, members of the Belfast Group played in the "Fives" Championships, while two "Fives" players have competed in Irish Competitions. There was unanimity on all sides that the two games had many similar features.

And it might also be possible to unearth the ashes of the game in Wales where it was played in

the mining village of Nelson, which is north of Cardiff.

It was introduced there by Irish emigrants who went to work in the mines and steel industries during the Famine and such names as Richard Andrews, Lem Phillips and Jim Coleman are recorded as having excelled at handball.

Spain might also be a good marketing place for the handball code in view of the fact that pelota is a popular game in that country. Pelota also has a common bond with handball to such a degree that Irishmen and Spaniards have on occasions met in competition.

Mythology, must for a definite reason record the facts of handballers in France and Greece, while the Irish College in Rome is a definite promotional base for the game. Handball also enjoyed quite a degree of popularity in South Africa over the years. It was brought there by Irish emigrants and in many instances it still survives.

Allow for the fact that handball is already an established sport in our own country, the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Philippines and Australia and one can readily appreciate why every effort should be made to submerge it on a widespread basis in the cauldron of internationalism.

The revival of the World Championships would be a start and then a concerted promotional drive should see it emerge as a world-wide sport.

It would be remiss in the context of this discussion not to pay tribute to RTE Sport who have taken the initiative, this month, of inviting four super-

stars of American Handball to this country.

Fred Lewis, Terry Muck, Gordy Pfeiffer and Vernon Roberts Junior will participate in an inaugural 40x20 Top Ace Tournament to be transmitted by RTE 1 Television in conjunction with Top Ace '80, the eighth annual competition for 60x30 courts.

These four players have been consistently amongst the top money-makers on the U.S. Professional handball circuit, which began in 1973.

At the end of last season, Lewis, Muck and Pfeiffer occupied second, third and fourth places, respectively, on the money-making winner's list while Roberts was in sixth place.

The quality of their play surpasses by far, anything shown by any previous handball visitors to Ireland and they should leave a trail of ambitious young players behind them, anxious to emulate their feats.

On that happy note, handball literally takes off into the eighties. My hope is that it will ride in a wide arc to encompass athletes in many countries of the world.

Internationalism must be the keyword in handball for the next ten years. We have the right product—a highly skilled game comparable with the best in the world.

The players are there too, to demonstrate its techniques and thereby attract new aspirants in their thousands. A structure must be formed to bring the plan to fruition and then, ten years, hence, our sport may well be labelled — HANDBALL — the World Game.

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PAT McLOUGHNEY

HE WALKS IN THE WAKE OF GIANTS

By JAY DRENNAN



OF course there is a special obligation attached to the position of goalkeeper on Tipperary hurling teams. It is not as in other counties where men are tried and more often than not found wanting or only adequate as a kind of filler until something better is found. In Tipperary it requires a great deal more than a "hopeful" to be allowed to tread the goalmouths that were trodden by Tony Reddan, Jimmy Maher, Skinny O'Meara, John O'Grady, John O'Donoghue and others too who were no ordinary keepers.

But if there is a special obligation and an onerous duty laid on those who are handed the goal-keeping jersey in a Tipperary team, there is also a corresponding special grace and inspiration which goes with the task of walking in the shadow of all those greats.

I do not suppose there are any statistics on that kind of thing and it would be a tremendous task to compile them demanding time and facilities I do not have just now, but I would hazard a guess that Tipperary has a lower rate of goalkeepers per year or per All-Ireland, or whatever correlative you wish to use, than any other county.

Somehow there always seems to be an established man standing under the crossbar for Tipp., as though there was never a process of trial and hope, but rather as if keepers came fully grown and ready to requirement, as and when required. You might believe, if you were pushed, the story of a friend of mine of long standing and in whom many years of absence has not dimmed

the Tipperary loyalty. He says that every time Tipperary feel that they need a goalie — which is easily known for the incumbent will usually sense that his gifts are diminishing and express a wish for retirement to home paddocks — they blow a whistle with a few shrill blasts, and one comes running already geared for the fray.

But whether you believe that story or not, you will appreciate that there is a special feeling about goalkeepers in Tipp. They understand them better; they do not treat them as stalking-horses nor as gods-in-a-bottle to conjure some miracle and be done with it.

Doubtless, it means that Tipperary selectors are shrewd and have a deep feeling in the choice of goalkeepers. For they must pay a great deal of attention to the up and coming prospects, singling out the one who will come to the top and keeping him under constant supervision, and continually encouraging him and indicating to him his destiny.

If that is not done overtly then it is understood on all sides: and a nod is as good as a wink. So, it follows that Tipperary provides an already expectant player who has learned to control his nerves in the knowledge that he will for certain play for Tipperary soon unless he makes a complete horse's collar of himself.

Another thing that is noticeable is that many Tipperary goalkeepers do not come from the fashionable clubs or even from the hotbeds of the game at that particular time. The last few generations of minor goalkeepers, for instance, have come from Clonmel where it is seldom that

hurling makes a deep mark.

Few hurling followers in other counties were familiar with the name "Lorrhá" when Tony Reddan came on the scene. It became a household word afterwards. And Shannon Rangers has taken a step or two up the list of well known clubs since Pat McLoughney came into the Tipperary gap.

Pat's progress into the realms of stardom has been steady and unspectacular to begin with, then following with a burst of electric performances to copper-fasten the image that had been slowly emerging of an "arrival" in the lists of Tipp. goalies.

It is quite unusual for a keeper with a county which has had a rough time of it for a while back to push through the ranks of all those who have had exposure on the glamour occasions. In some ways it was the fact that Tipperary won the League and played a near-thing with Cork in last year's first round that rushed McLoughney out of the pack and up among the front runners.

But his soundness had already been remarked on. The bigger games gave more of us an opportunity to watch his quickness in judgement, his coolness under pressure, his good clearing and his steady nerve.

Recognition was quick. And that recognition gave the lad the confidence he might have had to collect jot by weary jot if left in unattractive Div. 1 B.

The result is that he is now capable of producing the scintillating showing he has turned on in current League games — he has no uneasiness in going for the jam now that the bread-and-butter is secure.

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	Fridays	9.30 am - 4.15 pm
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	Fridays	10.00 - 12.30 pm

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BRIGHT, READABLE ANNUALS

By FRANK COOGAN

DUBLIN and Cork may have suffered major set-backs in the All-Ireland senior championships in the past year, but supporters in both counties had still plenty to cheer about, and many of the highlights are recalled in word and picture in exciting fashion in the official yearbooks of both County Boards.

These publications, DUBLIN '80 and CORK '80, are colourful productions running to 116 pages each, set-off by four colour covers, and up to the high standard of presentation that one has come to associate nowadays with the publishing firm — GAELIC SPORT PUBLICATIONS.

Jimmy Gray, Dublin County Board Chairman, says in his foreword to DUBLIN '80 that the "G.A.A. in Dublin is at its highest level of popularity ever".

One can appreciate this on reading through the comprehensive and informative reviews on local regions that make up much of the annual. These cover juvenile, minor, junior and senior affairs, as well as camogie and handball.

Then, Donal Hickey, Development Officer of the County Board, makes the point that the Dubs have "given our youth a new appreciation of our National Game, and a new pride in their county".

But DUBLIN '80 has a great deal as well to interest the non-native of the Liffeside. Editor Tommy McQuaid has wide ranging interviews with Jimmy Keaveney and Tony Hanahoe.

Keaveney reveals that John O'Keeffe was the one man he found especially difficult to play against. One of the questions put

by Editor McQuaid to Hanahoe was:

When things are not going right for you on the field as a player, in your dual role as a selector, has it ever occurred to you to "take yourself off"?

I will leave you to find out for yourself what Hanahoe's answer was to that.

Liz Howard writes about her role in the R.T.E. "Sunday Game", and the rich heritage of her G.A.A. background, while Proinsias De Burca, a famed dual player of the past, who was a member of the Dublin team that played Tipperary on "Bloody Sunday" recalls the events in an interview with Fr. Dermot Peakin, S.J.

Understandably, Dublin's memorable win in the All-Ireland minor football final is prominently featured. There is a striking colour photograph of the team on the cover, and the success story is put into focus in the annual.

Damien McElroy, Donal Carroll, Michael O'Hehir, Sean O Ceallachain and Micheal O Muircheartaigh are among the other contributors to the Yearbook, which also includes a quiz and crossword.

A valuable feature of the publication is a record of all of Dublin's All-Ireland senior championship winning teams in football and hurling.

The publication is superbly illustrated throughout, and all in all, adds up to a "give away" at only £1.

DUBLIN '80. Official publication of the G.A.A. Dublin County Board. Production by Gaelic Sport Publications, 80, Upper

Drumcondra Road, Dublin 9, Price £1.

The Cork publication concentrates in the main on local events, although here, too, there is much to excite those of us who do not hail from the Banks of the Lee.

Take an interesting contribution from Jim O'Sullivan, of the "Cork Examiner", which starts off thus:

"A strong case could be made for ranking Cork as the second best team in the country, in spite of the fact that in the county's first appearance in a League final since 1956 they were beaten by Roscommon by nine points."

That opening paragraph will surely make many sit up and take notice.

Then, Fr. Michael O'Brien writes on the All-Ireland minor hurling title winning team, and Eamonn Young looks at the prospects of the senior hurlers' climbing back to the top in the championship this year after the shock crash to Galway last August.

CORK '80 would not, of course, have been complete without paying tribute to the legendary Christy Ring, who died during the past year.

There is an excellent tribute in verse by Tommy Mintern, while Eamonn Young recalls memories of "Ringey, Man and Player."

Tom Morrison in separate articles, salutes the late Mattie Fouhy, a star of the 1952-56 era, and the late Jack Barrett, an All-Ireland senior medalist in 1941, and another who gave great ser-

● TO PAGE 38

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Coca-Cola Doubles	S. Buggy and R. Lyng (Wexford)
S.H.S.	P. McGarry (Limerick)
S.H.D.	P. McGarry and J. Bennis (Limerick)
J.S.S.	T. Ryan (Tipperary)
J.S.D.	J. Molloy and F. Carroll (Meath)
J.H.S.	T. Ryan (Tipperary)
J.H.D.	T. and N. Ryan (Tipperary)
M.S.S.	W. Burke (Kilkenny)
M.S.D.	W. Burke and M. Cantwell (Kilkenny)
M.H.S.	W. O'Donnell (Tipperary)
M.H.D.	M. McGovern and J. Smith (Meath)
Novice S.	R. McCarthy (Westmeath)
Novice D.	E. Maher and V. O'Shea (Tipperary)
Masters S.	W. Kerins (Kerry)
Masters D.	J. Burke and C. Young (Kilkenny)
Under 21 S.	E. Downey (Kilkenny)
Under 21 D.	F. McCann and M. Porter (Sligo)

40 x 20 Champions

J.S.	P. Kirby (Clare)
J.D.	P. Kirby and M. Kirby (Clare)
S.S.	T. Ryan (Tipperary)
S.D.	E. Rabbitte and J. Callanan (Galway)
M.S.	W. O'Donnell (Tipperary)
M.D.	W. Burke and M. Cantwell (Kilkenny)
Novice S.	M. Hennigan (Mayo)
Novice D.	M. Hennigan and M. McDonald (Mayo)
Under 21 S.	T. Ryan (Tipperary)
Under 21 D.	J. Downey and E. Downey (Kilkenny)
Masters S.	W. Kerins (Kerry)
Masters D.	W. Kerins and T. Kerins (Kerry)
Over 50 D.	M. Walsh (Mayo)
Over 50 S.	M. Walsh and G. Daly (Mayo)

Recipe for fitness (4)

FOR the fourth in our series of health giving recipes we feature.

FISH CAKES

The gradings are as follows:—

(1) Cholesterol content nil to very low, this recipe may be used as often as liked.

(2) Cholesterol content low to medium, this recipe should be used in moderation.

(3) Cholesterol content medium, if you are advised to keep to a very low cholesterol diet, these recipes should only be used occasionally.

8 oz. (250g), white fish, poached, boned and flaked.

12 oz. (300g), potatoes, cooked and mashed with 1 oz. (25g) Flora.

1-2 tablespoons (1-2 x 15 ml spoons) chopped parsley.

Salt and pepper.

Skimmed milk, to bind.

1 egg, standard, beaten.

4 ozs (100g) white bread-crumbs.

3 oz (75g) Flora, for frying.

Mix the fish with potatoes, parsley and seasoning, adding a little skimmed milk to bind if necessary. On a floured surface, form the mixture into a roll and cut into eight slices. Shape each slice into a cake, coat with egg and bread crumbs and shallow fry in Flora until crisp and golden. Drain well, serve hot.

Suggested accompaniments:

Grilled tomatoes and peas.

Makes 8 fish cakes 210 (185)

(Grade 2)

GAELIC SPORT THE MAGAZINE THE PLAYERS READ —

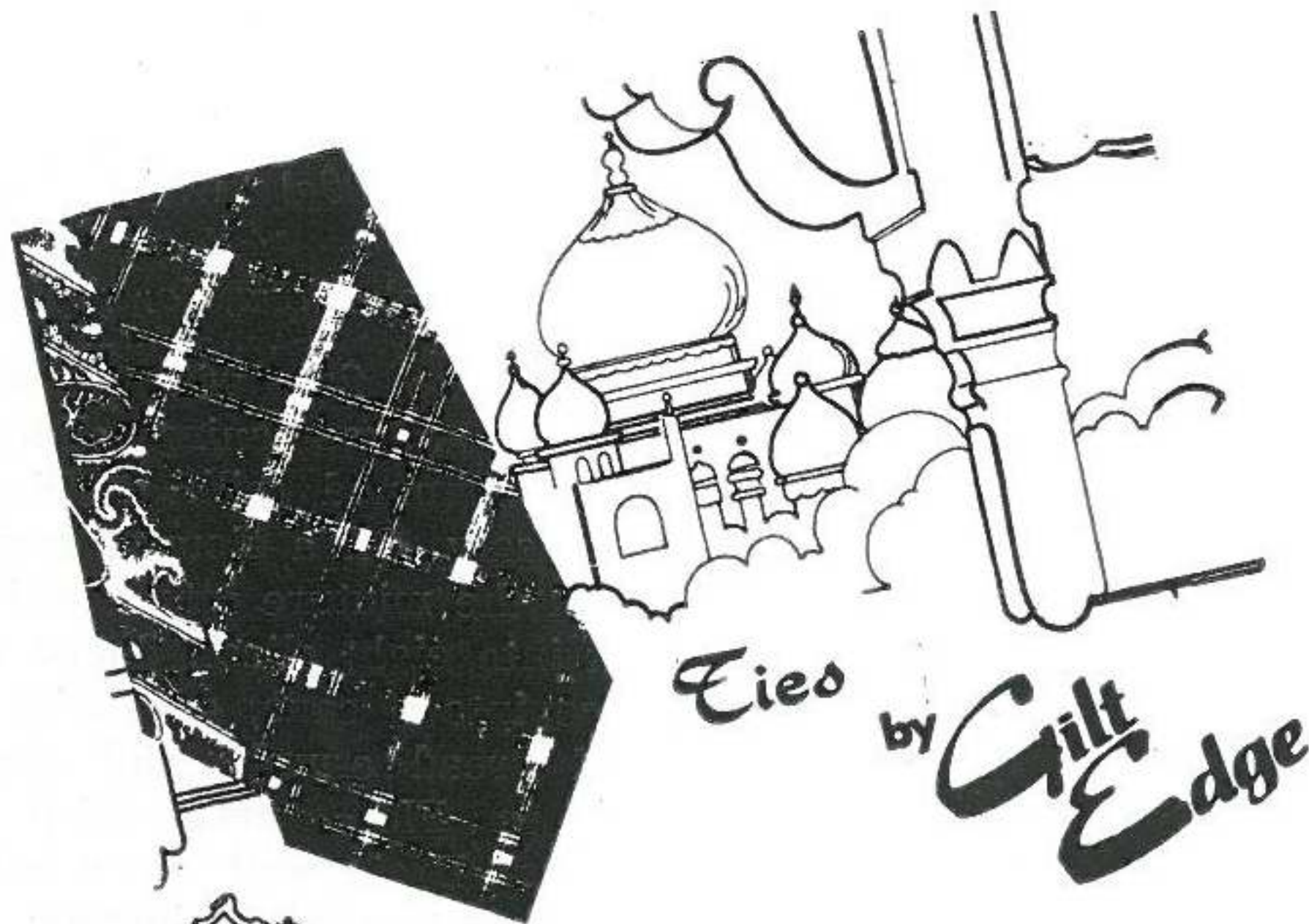
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Savings in the Eighties

By LOUIS HERON
Sect. National Savings Committee

AS we embark on a new decade it is fair to say that saving is as important as ever. Indeed it could be argued that saving will be vital in 1980. It is unlikely that there will be much money available to borrow from banks due to the continuing credit squeeze.

POST OFFICE SAVING BANK:

One of the most popular ways of saving for all ages in Ireland, is through the Post Office. There are over 1,400 Post Office Savings Banks around the country. Accounts may be opened with as little as 50p. The saver receives a deposit book in which he or she can keep track as their savings mount up. No charge is made for handling accounts and the Post Office pays interest on all deposits.

For very young savers, savings stamps are available in Post Offices at 5p and 10p each. Special free booklets and cards are supplied in which to place the stamps.

TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANKS:

Another increasingly popular way of saving is through

a Trustee Savings Bank. There are Trustee Savings Banks in counties Cork, Dublin, Galway, Limerick, Louth, Meath, Monaghan and Waterford. Addresses may be obtained from the National Savings Committee. Investment or Deposit Accounts may be opened. In addition, the TSB's offer a full range of banking services including cheque book accounts.

GROUP SAVINGS:

This is one of the easiest ways to save. Group savings schemes are organised in schools and at work. For further information on group savings schemes, contact the National Savings Committee, 72 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2.

SAVINGS CERTIFICATES:

Any number of Savings Certificates may be bought from £1 up to £7,500. Interest is tax free. They may be bought through Post Offices, banks or stock brokers.

INDEX-LINKED SCHEMES:

There are two schemes available in Ireland which link

savings to inflation as measured by the Consumer Price Index.

Firstly, *Index-Linked National Instalment-Saving* which may be joined by anyone aged 16 or over. An agreed amount (between £1 and £50) is saved each month and then left on deposit for at least two years. Whatever happens to inflation, savers are guaranteed minimum tax free returns. Further information is available from Post Offices or Trustee Savings Banks.

The second index-linked scheme is for those aged 65 or over. *Index-Linked Savings Bonds* cost £10 each and may be left on deposit for one year or longer.

FREE BOOKLET:

For a complete guide to State savings schemes, you should write to the National Savings Committee, 72, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2 for the free booklet called "Secure Ways to Save". No stamp is required when you write to the NSC.

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Results Summary

CEANNARUS TOURNAMENT

Senior Football: Semi-Finals: November 4: Croke Park: Monaghan 0-10; Dublin 1-5. Roscommon 2-16; Kerry 2-12. **FINAL:** November 18: Croke Park. Monaghan 1-12; Roscommon 1-7.

NATIONAL LEAGUES

HURLING

November 4: Cork: Cork 3-15; Clare 3-7. Birr: Offaly 1-7; Tipperary 0-10. Galway: Galway 0-9; Kilkenny 0-7. Ardfert: Wexford 2-7; Kerry 0-2. Dungarvan: Laois 1-12; Waterford 0-10. Belfast: Antrim 4-10; Kildare 3-6. Trim: Westmeath 2-9; Meath 1-3. Athleague: Roscommon 1-9; Wicklow 2-6. Carlow: Carlow 3-18; Down 1-3.

● TO PAGE 40

New Homes for Old

IT'S home decorating time again and a visit to your local paint and wallpaper shop should prove most worthwhile. The experienced advice that they can offer can save the once a year do-it-yourself man time, trouble and, above all, money.

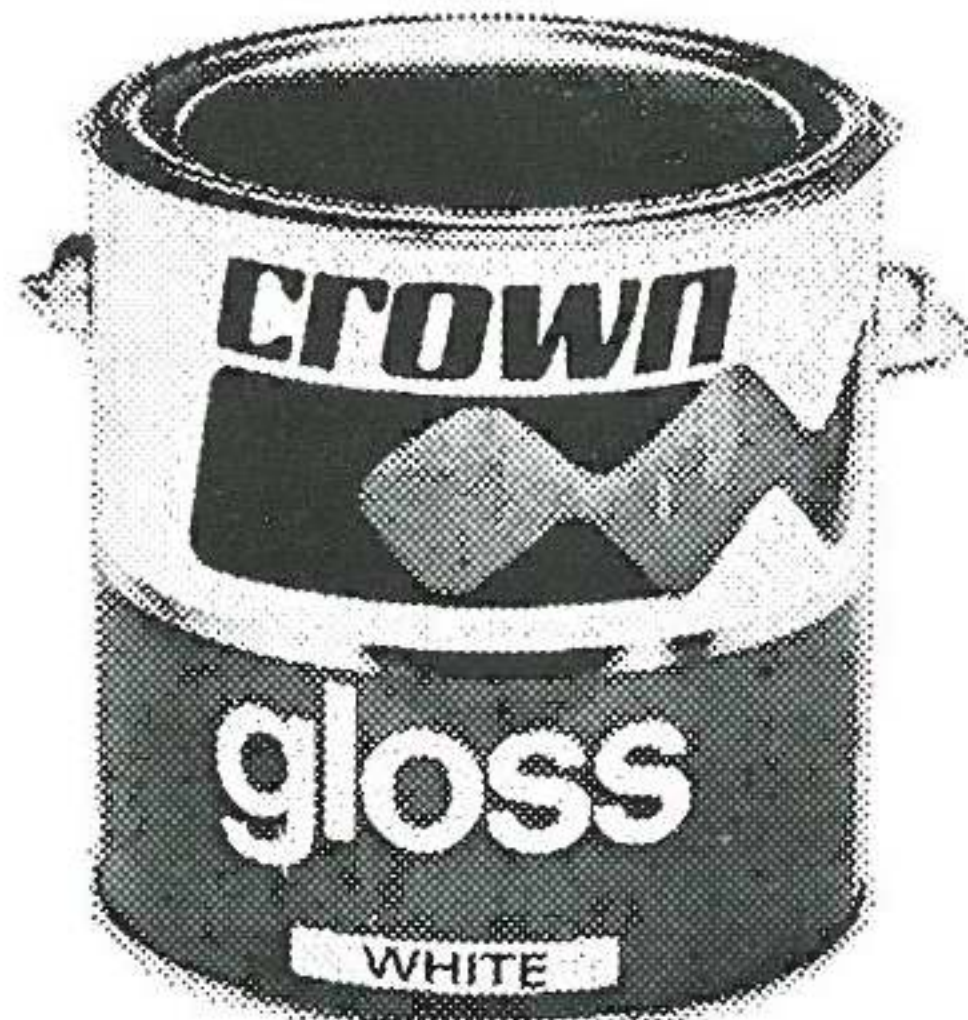
Ask them to show you their range of Walpamur products. Walpamur who manufacture Crown paints in Ireland have a paint for every eventuality and include such familiar top selling lines as Crown Plus Two Polyurethane Gloss, Crown Plus Two Vinyl Emulsion — Matt and Silk Finish, Crown Gloss, and more recently Crown Stronghold for Exterior Surfaces.

Crown Stronghold is a durable weather and mould resistant paint reinforced with particles of pulverised rock aggregate to fortify walls against elements, and can be applied by brush, roller or suitable sprayer and may be thinned with water as required. It is touch dry in one or two hours.

The range covered by Kildare Wallpapers is as varied as the countries it exports to and covers Washable wallpapers, Embossed Duplex (two sheets laminated), Vinyl wallcovering, and the latest addition to the range is Flexographically printed wallpaper. The new range is now available from leading retailers throughout the country.

A customer advisory service has been introduced by the Kildare Co. in the recent past to assist customers in selecting a wallcovering to suit their needs. Details of this service can be obtained at your local wallpaper shop or by writing directly to the manufacturers.

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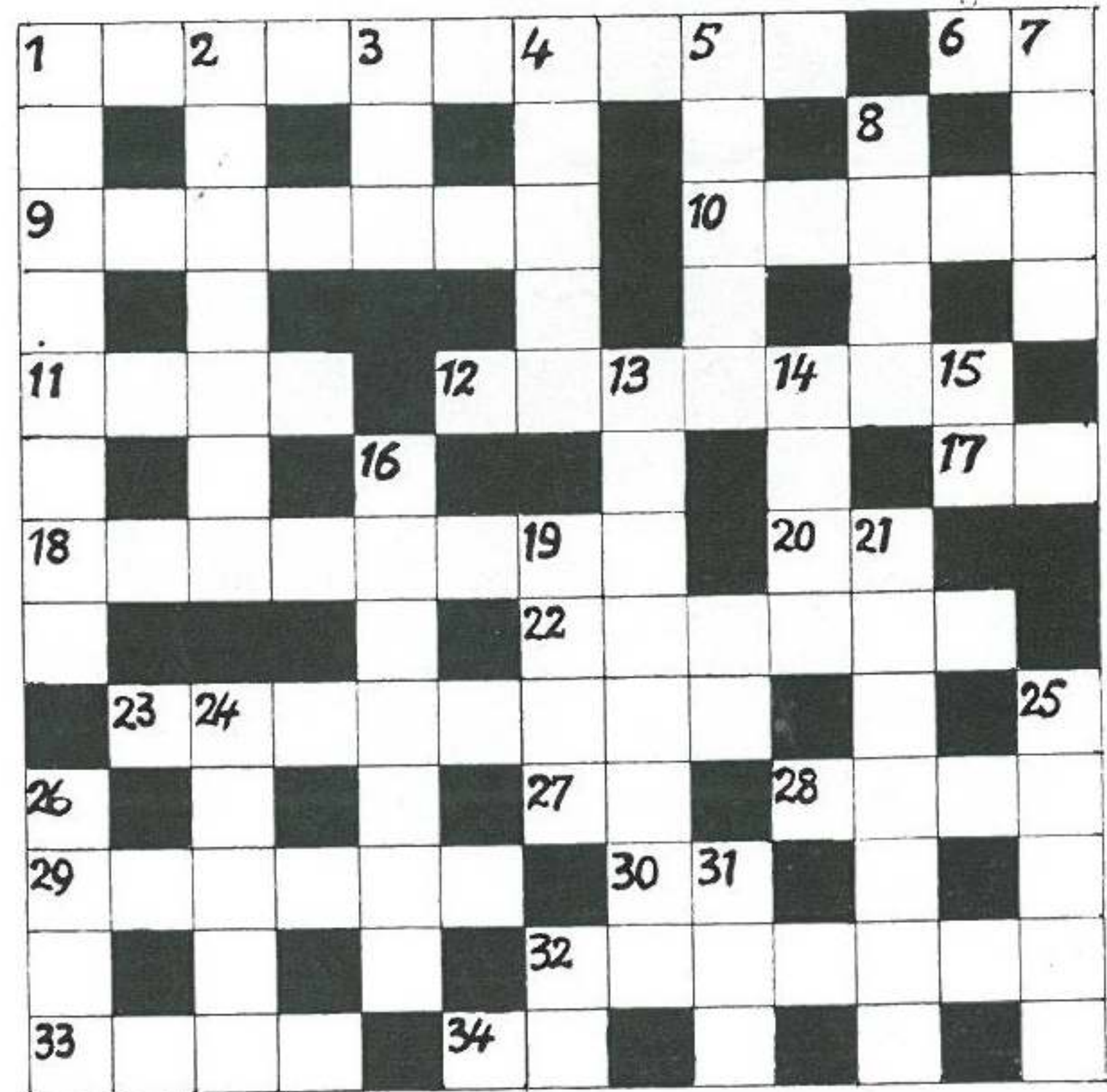
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CLUES ACROSS

- 1—Controversial footballer previously involved in two sports. (5, 5)
 6—A quick goal. (2)
 9—What Eddie Keher was to recent Kilkenny teams, Jimmy was to those of earlier decades. (7)
 10—Came from Galway to Clare and gave great service before dropping out of the county side a couple of years ago. (5)
 11—Scores equal; no advantage in the game to either side. (4)
 12—Several of this name play for Laois. (7)
 17—Irish drink reminds one initially of Cavan midfielder or full-forward. (1, 1)
 18—Kind of football league for all counties? (8)
 20—Offaly star half-back of the early 70s still playing well. Initials. (1, 1)
 22—(and 25 Down) The monthly magazine of GAA affairs. (6, 5)
 23—See 2 Down.
 27—Association President 1943-46. Initials. (1, 1)
 28—Many players practise children's game to improve their footwork and agility. (4)
 29—A great football name for several generations in Ardee and Louth. (6)
 30—Kerry goalie, 1972. Initials. (1, 1)
 32—In SCOR such a non-player could win an All-Ireland—in a set, perhaps. (1, 6)
 33—Urban club area. (4)
 34—A quick point. (2)

CLUES DOWN

- 1—For whom Bobby Hinks played All-Irelands. (8)
 2—(and 23 Across) One of a pair of Down footballing brothers. (7, 8)
 3—Essential equipment for the goalposts in championship games. (3)
 4—Rewon trophy seems to make us its permanent possessor. (5)



- 5—Cork football forward from Nemo Rangers. (5)
 7—See 14 Down.
 8—Kerry half-back Paudie as he is usually called in the Kingdom. (4)
 13—Made bigger, like the "square" or area for penalties. (8)
 14—(and 7 Down) Hurls at wing or corner forward for Galway. (4, 4)
 15—Negative. (2)
 16—Refereed the Munster hurling final in 1978. (7)
 19—Sage becomes an important consideration for players in juvenile and minor competitions. (4)
 21—Failure to propel the ball with the foot as intended. (7)
 24—Veteran chief scorer for Kildare. (5)
 25—See 22 Across.
 26—Drop from the team. (4)
 31—Way to cool an ardent supporter. (3)
 32—Where a great Cavan wing-forward of the 1940s is located, initially. (1, 1)

● SOLUTION PAGE 39

TEAM OF THE PAST — CORK 1941-44



● Specially for Tony Maher of Tullow, Co. Carlow (see Junior Desk Page 41) we include the Cork four-in-a-row men of 1941-44.

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GREAT HOPE FOR FUTURE OF GAME

CAMOGIE
NOTES
BY
AGNES
HOURIGAN

LOOKING forward to the 1980's must give great hope to all those interested in the Camogie Association, be they young or old.

For the first time in its seventy-five years of existence, a full-time officer will take over the development of the game. To those of its members, who often wished they could follow up promotional work more quickly this must be most encouraging.

To those, who often wished to start the game in their schools, in their parishes or in any other sphere, this new situation must fill a vital need.

To my dear friend, Sean O'Duffy, who was 94 years on January 1, this step forward must give the most satisfaction. For the past seventy-four years Seán has been and happily still is Camogie's greatest enthusiast.

The programme for the coming year has in some respects begun to take shape. In order to facilitate the fixtures Committee the draws have been made for the Senior All-Ireland Championship which is still run on the open-draw system. The pairings are:—

PRELIMINARY ROUND

- A. Wexford v Kilkenny
- B. Limerick v Down
- C. Dublin v Clare
- D. Cork v Antrim

QUARTER FINALS

- E. Galway v A.
- F. B. v Derry
- G. Tipperary v C.
- D. a Bye.

SEMI-FINALS

- E. v F.; D. v G.

Eleven counties have chosen to take part in the Senior National League. As was expected the three county zones were no longer acceptable so the counties are divided into three Zones as follows:—

Zone A: Antrim, Derry Dublin.

Zone B: Clare, Down, Wexford, Tipperary.

Zone C: Cork, Galway, Kilkenny, Limerick.

The Junior League, which came into existence at Congress last March, has made steady progress although it was not possible to start it until late September. It is hoped to complete it in early spring in order to get the 1980 competition started.

The dates for two National Coaching Courses are already set. The Schools Course will be held from June 27-29 and the General Course will take place from July 25-27. It is hoped that both courses will, as usual, be held at Gormanston College.

The Coaching Committee, last year, completed their plan to qualify top coaches over three

grades. Grade C coaches of whom there are now over one hundred are qualified to coach club and schools teams.

A Grade B qualification gives coaches the expertise to train county teams. In this classification there are now over twenty coaches. Last summer two students graduated as top coaches. The Committee hopes that many more will persevere and complete the full course.

Another new competition inaugurated as a celebration to mark the 75th Anniversary is expected to become an Annual Competition—the Colleges Inter-provincial which was an outstanding success last season, where many up and coming players were on view.

Munster, who won out the Jubilee Year Competition, had some fine players on their side. They included Liz Condrón (Clare), now starring on University College Galway's team, Helen Mulcair (Limerick) who has already made her name on her county and her provincial team as well as being named Camogie's Levi Award nominee. In the Leinster side Margaret Farrell of Thomastown Kilkenny and Anne Holden of Ballyhale, her near neighbour, are very

● TO PAGE 39

GAELIC SPORT—THE MAGAZINE THE PLAYERS READ

BRIGHT, READABLE ANNUALS

● FROM PAGE 29

vice to Cork as a hurler and legislator.

Peter Dennehy reveals that, while handball has made tremendous progress in Cork, there is much to be done to put the sport back in its rightful place

as one of the leading national games.

Mary Moran presents some interesting background features to the camogie season in Cork. For example, Ger McCarthy scored a wonderful 12-8 when leading Cork to their fourth All-Ireland minor

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Matador — 24" self propelled cylinder mower for cutting up to $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre per hour.

Mastiff — 36" self propelled cylinder mower for cutting up to $\frac{3}{4}$ an acre per hour.

Hydraulic 5/7 — 11 or 15 ft. cylinder mower attached to an agricultural tractor. Units are hydraulically driven and can be raised or lowered by finger tip control. Fast, accurate cutting up to 7 acres per hour.

Commercial 60 — 60" self propelled ride-on rotary mower for large areas of rougher cutting.

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title win.

CORK '80 also has a quiz and a crossword to add to your enjoyment as you browse by the fire-side, and scores heavily in the pictorial department.

This publication also costs only £1, and like the Dublin counterpart, is superb value for the money.

CORK '80. Official Publication of Cork G.A.A. County Board. Produced by GAELIC SPORT PUBLICATIONS, 80, Upper Drumcondra Road, Dublin, 9.

TOP MEN

● FROM PAGE 24

to Galway's hopes for 1980.

At any rate, the mature and skilled John Connolly, one of a number of brothers who have worn the county jersey in hurling, has given wonderful service to the game.

Dermot Earley and John Connolly now take their places among a growing band of talented performers who have won the **GAELIC SPORT TYLER TOP TEN** awards.

Pat O'Neill (Dublin) and Ger Loughnane (Clare) set a high standard in the initial year of the promotion. It was superbly maintained last season by Seamus Durack (Clare) and Colm McAlarney (Down).

Earley and Connolly are in the mould of that quartet—men who are wonderful ambassadors for the games and the G.A.A. Our appreciation of their high standard play and sportsmanship will be echoed by our readers, and they, too, will join in congratulating the winners.

These are sentiments that are fully endorsed as well by John Tyler and Sons, our sponsors.

Results Summary

● FROM PAGE 34

NATIONAL LEAGUES HURLING

November 18: Limerick: Limerick 6-8; Galway 0-5. Kilkenny: Offaly 2-9; Kilkenny 3-4. Thurles: Tipperary 1-10; Cork 1-6. Croke Park: Dublin 1-11; Antrim 1-7. Naas: Waterford 0-15; Kildare 2-7. Rathdowney: Laois 4-5; Kerry 2-4. Castletowngeoghegan: Westmeath 1-9; Roscommon 2-6.

December 2: Cork: Cork 1-5; Kilkenny 0-4. Tulla: Tipperary 1-9; Clare 1-8. Birr: Offaly 2-7; Limerick 0-10. Wexford: Wexford 2-7; Laois 2-4. Dungarvan: Waterford 2-11; Dublin 0-7.

December 9: Carlow: Carlow 4-14; Meath 1-8.

December 16: Tulla: Clare 1-11; Offaly 2-7. Thurles: Tipperary 2-9; Galway 0-13. Kilkenny 3-16; Limerick 1-12. New Ross: Wexford 1-8; Waterford 2-5. Rathdowney: Laois 2-15; Antrim 0-7.

FOOTBALL

November 11: Roscommon: Roscommon 3-13; Tyrone 1-9. Armagh: Armagh 1-11; Mayo 2-4. Newry: Down 1-13; Cavan 1-9. Tullamore: Kildare 2-9; Offaly 1-10. Galway: Galway 1-7; Kerry 1-7. Croke Park: Dublin 3-4; Cork 2-7. Clones: Monaghan 0-5; Derry 0-5. Ballymote: Sligo 1-4; Donegal 0-7. Carrick-on-Shannon: Longford 1-6; Leitrim 0-7. Clonmel: Clare 3-11; Tipperary 3-4. Limerick: Meath 3-12; Limerick 0-4. Aughrim: Carlow 1-10; Wicklow 1-8.

November 18: Cork: Cork 2-11; Offaly 1-5.

November 25: Coalisland: Mayo 2-7; Tyrone 0-8. Cavan: Armagh 2-7; Cavan 0-12. Roscommon: Down 2-8; Roscommon 1-9. Newbridge: Kildare 3-9; Kerry 1-14. Cork: Galway 0-5; Cork 0-4.

Tullamore: Offaly 0-12; Dublin 1-4. Ballinascreen: Antrim 1-8; Derry 1-7. Droghda: Monaghan 2-7; Louth 1-6. Longford: Longford 2-4; Fermanagh 1-4. Letterkenny: Donegal 0-5; Leitrim 0-5. Navan: Meath 1-11; Laois 2-5. Carlow: Wexford 1-11; Carlow 1-10. Kilkenny: Wicklow 0-8; Kilkenny 1-3.

December 2: Castletowngeoghegan: Louth 2-13; Westmeath 2-8. Kells. Meath 4-7; Tipperary 3-2.

December 9: Charlestown: Mayo 2-6; Cavan 0-6. Armagh: Armagh 1-11; Roscommon 0-10. Pomeroy: Tryone 0-11; Down 0-9. Killarney: Kerry 0-12; Cork 0-10. Ballinasloe: Galway 1-8; Offaly 0-10. Athy: Dublin 2-7; Kildare 0-12. Carrickmacross: Monaghan 2-8; Westmeath 1-6. Belfast: Antrim 5-7; Louth 2-9. Carrick-on-Shannon: Leitrim 1-8; Sligo 1-7. Lisnaskea: Fermanagh 0-6; Donegal 0-6. Askeaton: Tipperary 2-6; Limerick 0-5. Portlaoise: Clare 2-3; Laois 1-5. Aughrim: Wicklow 2-14; Waterford 2-6. Enniscorthy: Wexford 3-7; Kilkenny 2-4.

December 16: Crossmolina: Down 2-6; Mayo 0-6. Belfast: Antrim 1-14; Westmeath 0-5. Ballinascreen: Derry 2-8; Monaghan 1-4. Longford: Longford 0-8; Donegal 0-6.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS CONNACHT

Hurling: November 11. Ballyhaunis: Tremane, Roscommon, 2-14; Toonreen, Mayo, 1-3. November 25: Athleague: Tremane, Roscommon, 9-17; Craobh Rua, Sligo, 1-3.

Football: November 18: Sligo: St. Mary's, Sligo, 0-7; Clan na Gael, Roscommon, 1-3. Ballinamore: Ballinasloe, Galway, 1-12; Ballinamore, Leitrim, 2-5. **Final:** December 2: Sligo: St. Mary's, Sligo, 0-4; Ballinasloe, Galway, 0-4.

LEINSTER

Football: November 4: Carlow: Young Irelands, Dundalk, 2-6;

Tinryland, Carlow, 0-7. Newbridge: Baltinglass, Wicklow, 1-10; Raheens, Kildare, 1-9. Navan: Portlaoise, 1-11; Navan O'Mahony's, Meath, 1-10. Tullamore: Walsh Island, Offaly, 0-10; Athlone, Westmeath, 1-2. November 18: Portlaoise: Portlaoise,

● TO PAGE 44

AN GUM

AN GAISCIÓCH BEAG

Is é atá déanta ag Dara ó Conaola sa leabhar seo ná cruth nua a chur ar shean-scéal béaloidis. Éiríonn leis **An Gaiscíoch Beag** a chur inár láthair go beo beathach, an laoch leisciúil a fuair an bua ar na fathaigh le barr glicis. Maisithe go hálainn ag Henry J. Sharpe.

Praghas 80p

RÍ NA CATÓIRE

Bhuaigh úrscéal seo Jan Terlouw scata duaiseanna agus tuigfidh gach déagóir cén fáth. Leabhar eachtraíochta agus fantasaíochta is ea é atá chomh fíor sin ar a shon sin. Oiriúnach do dhéagóirí.

Praghas £1.30p

DÚLRA AGUS DÚCHAS

Mícháel Mac Ginnea a scríobh agus Mairéad Ní Nuadháin a léirigh. Leabhar dátheangach a léiríonn dúile beo na timpeallachta ina ngnáthóga féin. Luaitear cuid den seanchas agus den bhéaloideas a bhaineann leis na plandaí agus leis na hainmhithe éagsúla. Oiriúnach do dhaoine óga idir naoi mbliana agus ceithre bliana déag d'aois.

Praghas £4.00

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OIFIG DHÍOLTA

FOILSEACHÁN RIALTAIS

An Stuara, Ard-Oifig an Phoist
Baile Átha Cliath 1
nó ó dhíoltóirí leabhar

JUNIOR DESK



By
**JACK
MAHON**

AND so we are into the 80's and coming close to centenary year. What is in store for the G.A.A. in the 80's? Personally I hope to see new teams do well. Teams like Fermanagh and Leitrim and Wicklow in football. Or an overdue All-Ireland success in hurling for Clare or Galway or Offaly. I want many other things, too. But as long as we have major surprises like Kinnity swamping Ballyhale Shamrocks and Kilrush Shamrocks beating Austin Stacks in Tralee and Tuam C.B.S. beating St. Jarlath's College, Tuam, for the first time in 45 years then the G.A.A. is safe.

CUT OUT

Our Cut-out this month is delightful Kilkenny hurler Joe Hennessy who literally broke Galway's hurling heart in the 1979 All-Ireland S.H. final. He is a great sticksman and a thorough sportsman. Joe is a welcome addition to our Cut-out series. May he continue to adorn the game of hurling in the 80's.

Mailbag

Patrick Murray, Currahy, Ballingeary, Macroom, Co. Cork, is the youngest in his family. His favourite sport is football. He pays great tribute to Kevin Kehilly for his Munster final display and his up and coming players are Diarmuid McCarthy and Vincent Coakley. Patrick wants a Cut-out of Billy Morgan, "a fantastic goalkeeper".

● *Billy is a great goalkeeper. He seems to get better with the years. You win a copy of Cork '80. (J.M.).*

Tony Maher, 20 Pairc Mhuire, Tullow, Co. Carlow, wants to know if any reader has a copy of **Decades of Glory 1966** or **The Clash of The Ash 1972** and would swop Book of Hurling No. 6 for either. Tony would like to see the original All-Stars play the rest. "If a man is selected as an All-Star he should play as an All-Star." Tony suggests some team photos from the past in a "Do You Remember The Team" series or "Where are they now?"

● *Nice idea Tony. (J.M.).*

Eileen Murphy, Railway View, Rathmore, Co. Kerry, feels Charlie Nelligan, John Egan and Eoin Liston deserved All-Star Awards. She is glad that her favourite hurlers Dermot McCurtain, Iggy Clarke, John Connolly and Joe Hennessy received Awards. Eileen's favourite footballer is Pat Spillane with Tim Kennelly, Ger Power and John O'Keeffe not far behind.

● *I was at the Bank of Ireland All-Star Banquet and it was a marvellous occasion. I met a number of the stars you mentioned including your favourites. You win a copy of Dublin '80. (J.M.).*

Pat Twomey, Currahy, Ballingeary, Co. Cork, is glad to see Ger Power back for Kerry. "Ger was the Austin Stacks captain when they beat Castleisland in the Co. S.F. final. Our P.E. teacher Paddy Herlihy trained Castleisland. My top three in both codes in 1979 are: Hurling—(1) Martin Doherty (Cork); (2)

Mick Brennan (Kilkenny); (3) Iggy Clarke (Galway). Football: (1) Mike Sheehy (Kerry); (2) Ger Power (Kerry); (3) Pat Spillane (Kerry)." Pat wants a tape of the 1973 All-Ireland S.F. final.

● *You win a 1980 G.A.A. Diary Pat. (J.M.).*

Edmond Casey, Ruan, Ennis, Co. Clare, is sorry to hear there will be no Our Games Annual this year. "I loved your Quiz in it last year." Edmond is now a student in St. Flannan's College, Ennis, and is very proud of his school. He is on the panel for the U-14 hurlers.

● *Edmond, keep up your interest. Give our best to Fr. S. Gardiner. I note you come from Ruan, home of Jimmy Smyth, Clares' greatest hurler who has many unique records. You win a G.A.A. Diary. (J.M.).*

Fergus O'Donovan, 1 St. Mary's Villas, Ballineen, Co. Cork, is looking for a copy of Joe Lennon's "Coaching Gaelic Football for Champions", Dr. Eamonn O'Sullivan's "The Art and Science of Gaelic Football" and Dick Fitzgerald's "How to Play Football".

● *You may be lucky but these are prize possessions now. (J.M.).*

Philip Cashin, Brittas, Kilmanshagh, Co. Kilkenny, is full of praise for Sam Melbourne's Collection of G.A.A. souvenirs which he visited the night before the All-Ireland S.H. final.

● *I visited Sam Melbourne's shop in Thurles on Munster S.H. final Day in 1956 the day Christy Ring scored 3-2 in a fantastic display towards the end of the game v Limerick. (J.M.).*

● **OVERLEAF**

JUNIOR DESK :: JUNIOR DESK :: JUNIOR DESK

FROM OVERLEAF

Denis Kirby, Brickfield, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick, feels the G.A.A. playing season needs an urgent review. "The Leagues should be run off during Summer. Players need a break. I suggest a close season from November to February."

● *Hurling in December and January is not right. But I wonder about the Leagues in the Summer. Teams going well in the championship would have little interest in the Leagues.* (J.M.)

Tommy Murphy, Lismatigue, Knocktopher, Co. Kilkenny, is 12 years old and supports the Carrickshock team which won the Kilkenny Co. Final this year. His favourite player is Dick O'Hara. Tommy, as you would guess, is very keen on hurling and hopes to wear the Black and Amber some day.

● *I hope you do too. Which Kilkenny final did Carrickshock win? Write and tell me about it Tommy. You win a Kilkenny Bob Cap.* (J.M.)

Philip Maher, Clashagad, Dunkerrin, Birr, Co. Offaly, tells me how he got second in the Padhraic Pearse Essay Competition run by the N. Tipperary G.A.A. Board. He received his prize in the C.B.S. Hall in Nenagh when Fr. Michael Cleary was the special guest. "I got his autograph. On National Handball Day I went over to the Moneygall G.A.A. Centre to play handball. The President of the G.A.A., Mr. Paddy McFlynn, was there and I got his autograph. At school we had two hurling leagues. The four captains were Liam Brereton, John Sullivan, P. J. Delaney and my brother, Martin. I played on Liam's team and we won it out. My small brother, Kevin, captained the junior hurling league winning team. We are starting football after Christmas."

● *Philip, as always you're so committed to the G.A.A. in all its aspects. You win copies of Dublin '80 and Cork '80.* (J.M.)

W. F. Carberry, 54 Poleberry, Waterford. Would all you Junior Desk fans who keep on enquiring about tapes on cassettes of All-Ireland finals (H. and F.) **please note** the above address and write to it with any of your enquiries.

T. Murphy, Ballydaly Lower, Rathmore, Co. Kerry, thinks we should have some G.A.A. questions each month with prizes.

● *I'll have a special quiz on the late Christy Ring in the next issue.* (J.M.)

John Browne, Clonmult, Duncourney, Co. Cork thinks **Gaelic Sport** is very interesting but finds it hard to get it. John felt the best games in '79 were the Cork v. Tipperary S.H.C. and the Dublin v. Offaly S.F.C. ones. He does not agree with the hand-passing in football as it is too much like throwing.

● *John, many readers will agree with you regarding the handpassing. But we may see some changes soon if one can judge from the motions at Co. Conventions.* (J.M.)

If you are finding difficulty in obtaining regular copies of **Gaelic Sport** from your local newsagent don't forget you can order it directly from the address at the end of the column for 42p (incl. postage) or if you have a few bob to spare after Christmas, a year's subscription costs £5. Tell your Mammy, Daddy and favourite Aunt and Uncle about that!

Keep writing to Junior Desk in 1980 on any topic, it gives me great pleasure to read your views. Junior Desk will soon be ten years old. How will we celebrate it? Any ideas?

Our final letter this month is from **Martin Carley** (aged 13), **1 Glenview, Castlepollard, Co. Westmeath**, who is delighted that Joe McKenna, Ned Buggy and Pat McLoughney got All-Star Awards. Martin loves **GAELIC SPORT** and has 134 copies of this magazine. "Westmeath or Monaghan never got a Cut-out yet. I want a Monaghan or Gal-

● **TO PAGE 44**

PUBLICATIONS

A regular feature of Junior Desk for many years now has been our reviews of Yearbooks, Annuals or any kind of G.A.A. book. We always include the price and address of the publishing editor to enable readers to enlarge on their G.A.A. library. So here goes this month.

Dialann na h-Eireann 1980 agus Clar na gCluichi (G.A.A. Diary 1980) — Price 80p — Every G.A.A. follower should have a copy of this nice pocket diary. It is compact and includes the complete programme of games for 1980, N.L. regulations for '79-80 and other useful calendar and Diary data. Published by **C.L.C.G. Paire an Chrocaigh, Ath Cliath 3.**

Monaghan G.A.A. Yearbook 1980 (Price £1). Fantastic cover. A massive 148 page production reflecting G.A.A. life in Monaghan's most successful G.A.A. year ever in all its facets. This is home-produced and Editor Paraic Duffy's hand can be seen in almost every page. Proofing excellent and great variety in printing techniques. This book is an absolute credit to the County Monaghan. Sean Kilfeather (Irish Times) makes a good case for a different kind of All-Star Tour. Martin Smyth, Sports Editor of the Northern Standard, in the *piece de resistance* of the book helps club P.R.O.'s in a very encouraging and truly educational article to appreciate his difficulties and to see things from the other side. Martin spells out what he wants if he is to deliver the goods as he wants to. Photography is excellent, layout is good. My one crib is with the section of pages of ads. that happen throughout the book. This may have been caused by some printing demands but I feel the ads. could have been spread better. Congratulations to Paraic Duffy and his enterprising Committee which includes "Orielman", alias Seamus McCluskey of the Northern Standard on a magnificent production — it may

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The first in a short series of articles in which All-Ireland medalist, Jack Mahon, creator and editor of Junior Desk, takes a look at what the G.A.A. means to him today.

THIS IS THE GAA (1)

KERRY is a place apart. Kerry's interest in Gaelic Football is AKIN to rugby interest in Wales. And they are so used to success that they certainly don't make gods of their football stars. One of the best stories I know concerning a former star Kerry goalkeeper, Johnny Riordan, who happened to let in two goals in a Co. Final and wasn't let in home that night by his proud father, Padno.

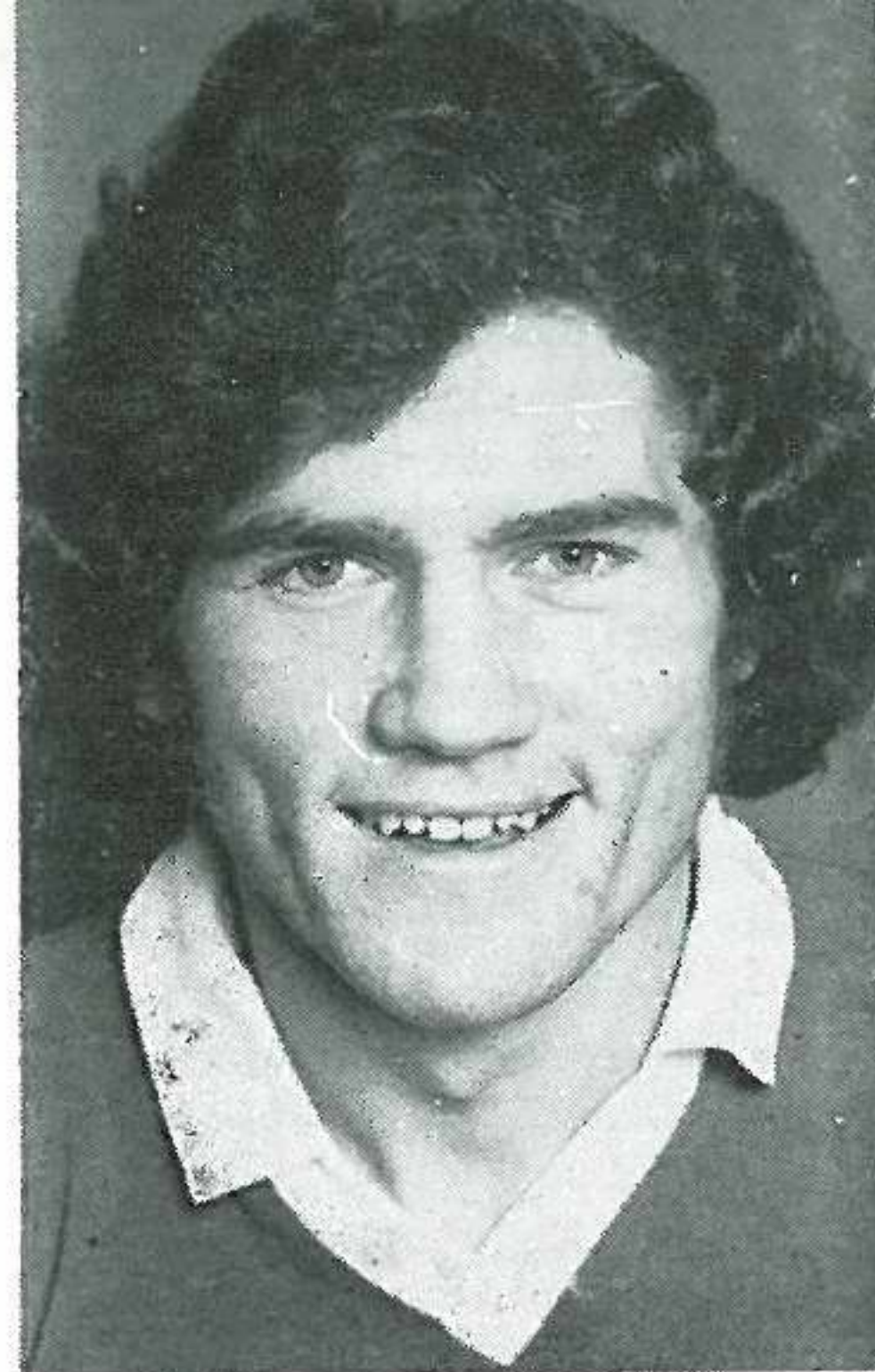
Years ago when Kerry played in All-Ireland finals they usually ambled on to the field before the game seemingly disinterested almost half reluctant to get on with the show. Strangers were usually fooled by this display of modesty or shyness or in modern terms you might call it gamesmanship. Latterly Kerry have become much more sophisticated

in their pre-game entry. Now they prance on to the field, dart up and down, play their goalkeeper, practise some frees and are no different from any other team. But they are still basically very honest about football and seldom if ever make mountains out of mole hills or over-elaborate on their achievements.

One of their present superstars (a word they use very little in Kerry) Mikey Sheehy is a case in point. After scoring a brilliant goal in the first half of the 1979 All-Ireland final which totally ruined the game as a contest, he was a much sought after personality after the game for quotations in the media.

"How did you score such a brilliant goal?" etc.

To which Mikey in typical honest droll Kerry fashion re-



Ger Power, one of the most outstanding players on the Kerry team of the seventies.

plied: "I shot for the other corner and thought I had it missed." Some people may regard this as over simplification, others as lulling the opposition or future opponents into a false sense of security. I prefer to regard it as the honesty and humility of a football genius.

THIS IS THE G.A.A.

THIS IS THE GAA (2)

LITTLE did Derry Gowan think when he started G.A.A. talent competitions in his native Cork about ten years ago and then proposed his idea as a motion to G.A.A. Congress of the social revolution he would cause in the ranks of that body. Now Scor na n-Og (a later development) and Scor Sinnsear keeps the G.A.A. active during the dormant winter months. First it's the club event, then divisional level and through the Co. Finals to Provincial and All-Ireland Finals. All the while as competitors pro-

gress in any one of the eight categories that embrace song, dance, question time and recitation in the true Irish tradition, interest is generated, practice is intensified and the whole social benefits involving thousands of people is immeasurable.

Now the situation has been reached that no Hall in Ireland save the **National Stadium** in Dublin is big enough to house the people who come in thousands for a real *creme de la creme*

● **OVERLEAF**



● *Derry Gowan who introduced the idea of Scor to the G.A.A. Wintertime in the G.A.A. has never been the same since.*

● FROM PAGE 42

not be as professional or sophisticated a job as the highly polished Dublin counterpart but there must be some marks in the McNamee Award Stakes for home production. The Yearbook which beats either mentioned will be a winner — published by the Monaghan Co. Board and printed by R. & S. Printers, The Diamond, Monaghan.

An Reiteoir — Annual Yearbook of the Association of National G.A.A. Referees Social Committee (Price 50p). Glossy, fine colour cover, very well laid out and liberally sprinkled with good photos (I counted nine photos illustrating one article alone). That indefatigable man of many parts from Ballinamore, well known referee Tommy Moran's hand edits this. This is good contribution — edited by **Tommy Moran, Stadermot, Ballinamore, Co. Leitrim.** Every referee on the ditch as well as budding referees should get a copy.

THIS IS THE G.A.A. (2)

Oiche Gaelach. Scor final night is a marvellous occasion. A bringing together of all of our various traditions with camp followers from every corner in Ireland. The Croke Park atmosphere is transferred to an indoor setting. Flags are waved as in the Hogan Stand. Now it is the county's honour that is at stake.

I will never forget the Slieve gCua Set Dancers of Waterford or their counterparts from Quilty, Co. Clare, who were unlucky to lose one year. The old Irish set really brings down the roof. As the dancers bring sparks almost off the floor the Irish in all of us responds to this uniquely Irish dancing custom. There is the odd spontaneous yahoo. There is a smile always on the faces of the participants as they react to the crowds cheering. And you're glad you are Irish and you hope you never lose what is uniquely yours.

THIS IS THE G.A.A.

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way Cut-out. "Gaelic Stadium" on Saturday should be brought back."

● *Martin, you win the top prize of the month and your loyalty to Gaelic Sport earns you copies of Cork '80, Dublin '80 and Dialann C.L.C.G. '80. Yes, "Gaelic Stadium" should be on*

every Saturday. Editor please note Martin's comments regarding the Cut-outs. (J.M.).

Finally, keep writing on any topic dealing with the G.A.A. as usual. There will be prizes every month. Write to:

**Junior Desk,
Gaelic Sport,
80 Upper Drumcondra Rd.,
Dublin 9.**

Results Summary

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1-12; Longford Slashers, 0-5.
Causeway, Kerry, 1-4.

Hurling: November 11: Portlaoise: Camross, Laois, 6-12; Castletowngeoghegan, Westmeath, 3-9. Trim: Crumlin, Dublin, 2-7; Kilyon, Meath, 2-2. Birr: Kinnity, Offaly, 2-14; Ardclough, Kildare, 3-5.

November 25: Birr: Kinnity, 3-16; Shamrocks, Kilkenny, 0-6. Aughrim: Rathnure, Wexford, 4-11; Carnew, Wicklow, 1-6.

MUNSTER

Football: November 4: Caherconlish: Loughmore, Tipperary, 2-8; Oola, Limerick, 1-6. November 11: Tralee: Kilrush, Clare, 1-10; Austin Stacks, Tralee, 0-9. November 19: Templemore: St. Finbarr's, Cork, 1-9; Loughmore, Tipperary, 0-6. Kilrush: Kilrush, 5-5; Ballinacourty, Waterford, 1-7. **Final:** December 1: Cork: St. Finbarr's, 0-10; Kilrush, Clare, 0-4.

Hurling: November 12: Cloughjordan: Blackrock, Cork, 4-6; Kilruane, Tipperary, 2-8. Causeway: Dunhill, Waterford, 3-8; Causeway, Kerry, 1-4. **Final:** December 9: Cork: Blackrock, Cork, 1-13; Dunhill, Waterford, 1-8.

ULSTER

Football: November 4: Castlewellan. Castlewellan, Down, 2-6; Carrickcruppen, Armagh, 2-6. November 18: Carrickcruppen, 1-7; Castlewellan, 0-8. **Replay.** Semi-Final: December 2: Belfast: Carrickcruppen, Armagh, 2-8; St. Theresa's, Antrim, 1-7.

CAMOGIE

National League: November 4: Semi-Final: Russell Park, Dublin: Dublin, 5-5; Cork, 3-4. **Replay.** **Final:** November 18: Russell Park, Dublin: Dublin, 0-6; Limerick, 0-0. All-Ireland Club Championship: **Final:** December 2: Athenry: Buffer's Alley, Wexford, 2-6; Athenry, Galway, 1-2.

HANDBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE

November 4: Arklow: Tipperary bt. Wicklow, 129-125. Talbot's Inch: Kilkenny bt. Limerick, 145-83.

November 11: Cappagh: Clare bt. Limerick, 112-102. Clonmel: Kilkenny bt. Tipperary, 124-98.

November 18: Talbot's Inch: Wicklow bt. Tipperary, 111-110. Semi-Final: Arklow: Kilkenny bt. Dublin, 124-117.

November 27: Clonmel: Wicklow bt. Clare, 109 to 78.

December 1: Croke Park: Semi-Final: Wicklow bt. Meath, 118-82.

December 8: Croke Park: Final: Kilkenny bt. Wicklow, 121-105.

DIVISION II

December 2: Mullingar: **Final:** Carlow bt. Mayo, 128-112.

TOP ACE 60 x 30

Qualifying Competition

December 16: Clonmel: Qualifiers: T. Morrissey (Tipperary), P. Ryan (Dublin), O. Harold (Kilkenny), P. Reilly (Kilkenny), Dan Kirby, John Kirby (Clare), N. O'Brien (Tipperary), Noel Ryan (Tipperary).



Joe Hennessy (Kilkenny)

Age: 23
Height: 5ft. 8½ ins.
Weight: 11 st. 7 lb.
Position: Right half back
Club: James' Stephens
Senior Inter-County Debut: 1976

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Although best known in inter-county competitions as a defender or midfielder, the stylish and tireless Joe was a forward when his club brought the All-Ireland title to Leinster for the only time in hurling in 1976.

A product of Kilkenny C.B.S., he won All-Ireland medals at minor and under-21.

Joe was right half back in the Leinster team that regained the Railway Cup in '79 and shone at midfield for Kilkenny in their All-Ireland senior title success. He was honoured at midfield by the Bank of Ireland selectors as well, having won his first All Star award in 1978 at right half back.

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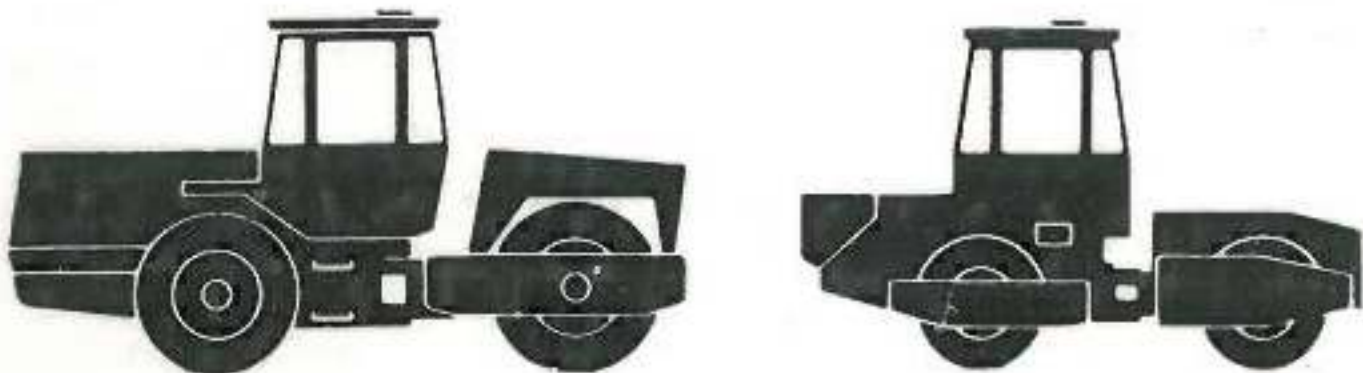


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