

JANUARY, 1981

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INSIDE

179 GAA

# GAELIC SPORT

IRELAND'S LEADING GAELIC GAMES MAGAZINE PUBLISHED MONTHLY

seán silke  
Galway



matt connor  
Offaly



Tyler Top Ten  
Stars of 1980



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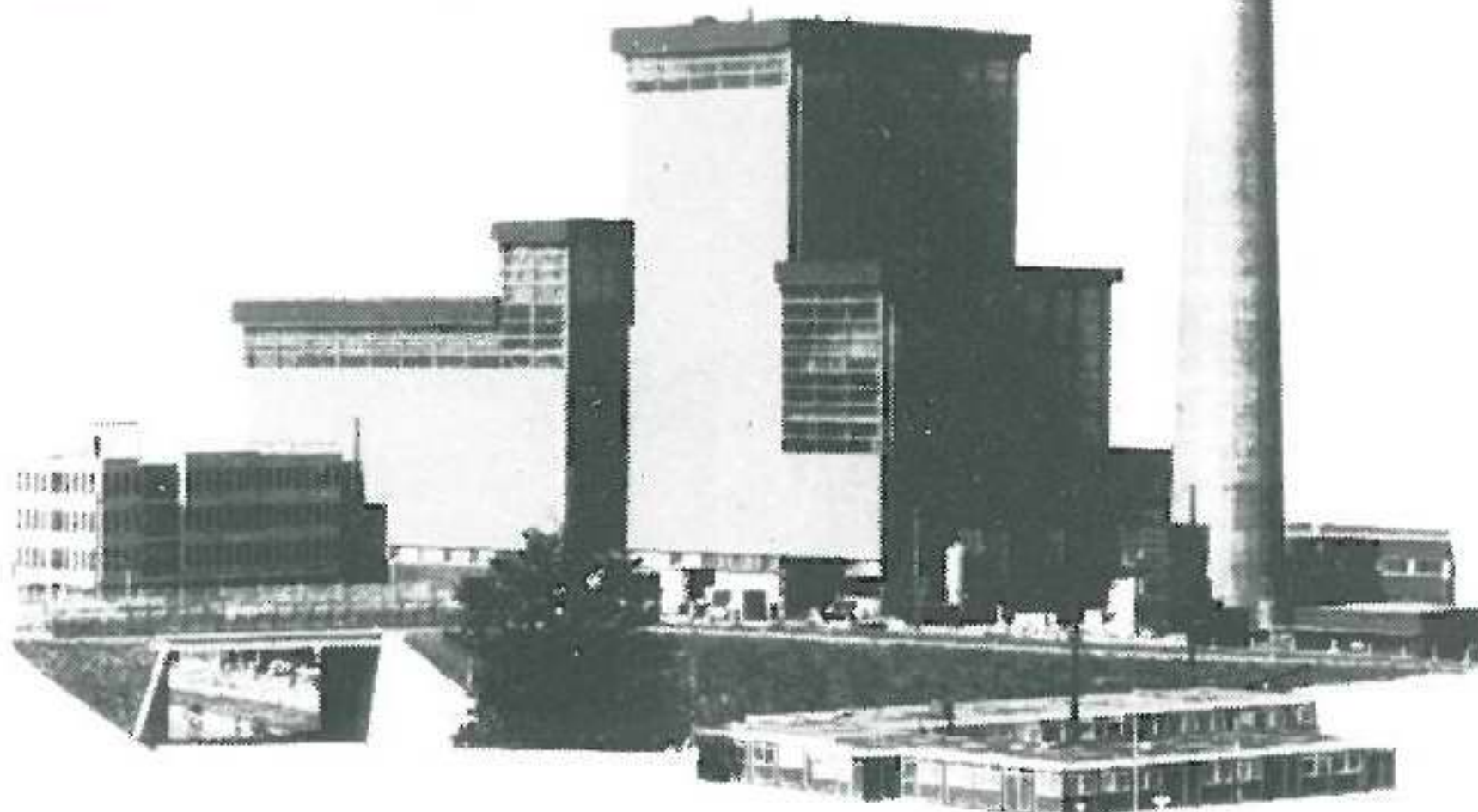
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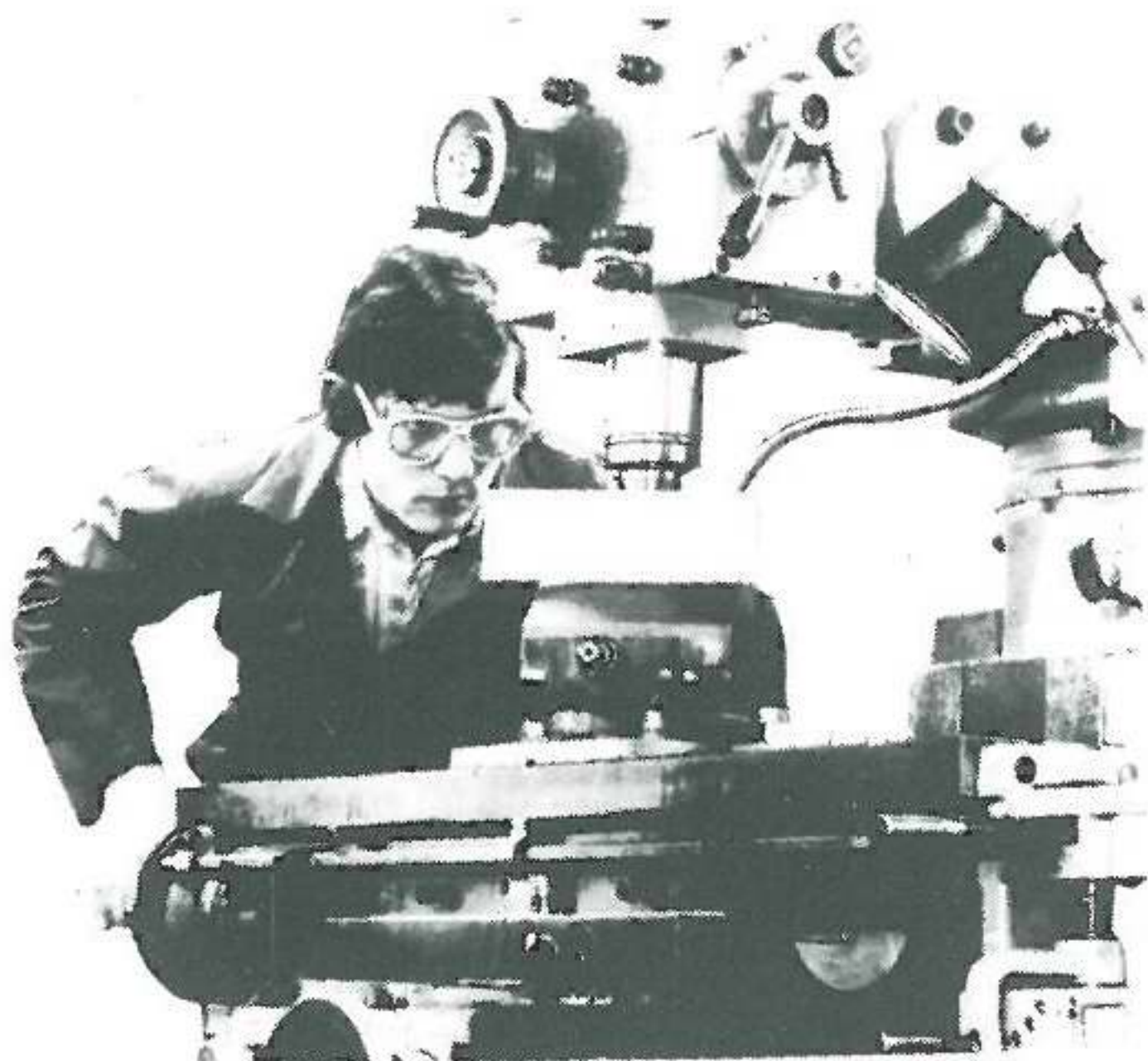
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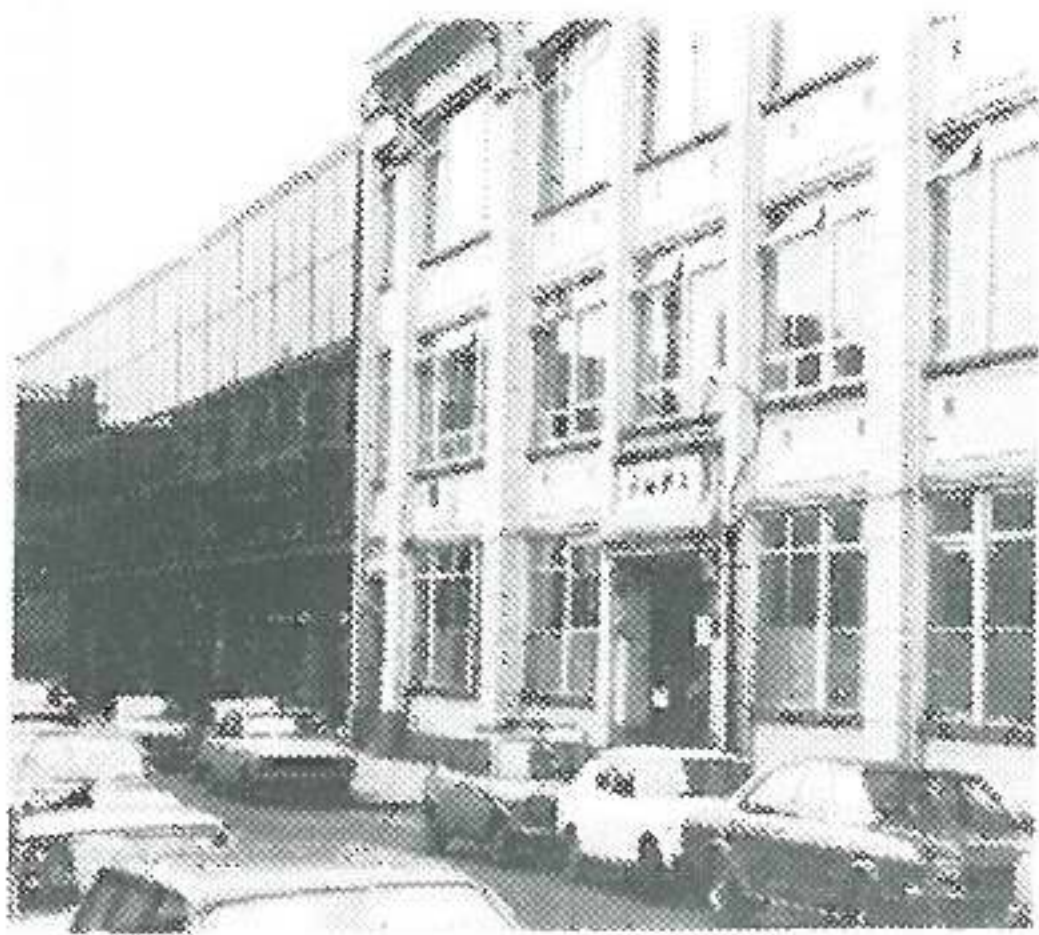
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# TOP CLASS PLAYERS

**V**ICTORY alone is concrete in any sport. It is important and proper to strive for the ultimate success in any test — that is what competing is all about.

But there is more to any game or series than winning. The general approach of the players, their sense of sportsmanship, their dedicated approach, and the standard of play are other vital factors in contributing to the healthy advancement of sport in general.

Hurling and football continue to be especially well served in this regard. Granted, the past year was not a memorable one for football, with sub standard matches hammering home the need for a revision of the playing rules to ensure that the game realises its full potential as a spectacular and exhilarating sport.

But, for all that, there was much to enthuse over in football as well as in hurling. There were some memorable matches in the two codes, while the achievements of Galway and Offaly brought a new dimension to hurling, and the consistently high standards displayed by footballers and hurlers in general were among the other bright features of the past year.

This magazine, then, is again privileged to have an opportunity of showing in a tangible way our appreciation of the endeavours of the players over the 1980 programme by combining with Messrs John Tyler and Sons in the GAELIC SPORT-TYLER TOP TEN awards.

The cornerstone of these awards is consistency over a playing campaign as a whole, and not merely brilliance in one or two games of the season, with particular emphasis on the All-Ireland tests.

Our latest winners, Sean Silke and Matt Connor, have proven this point. Regularly throughout the past year they were in there displaying their skills to telling effect and to a high standard as well. That has proven the key to their successes as far as our promotion is concerned.

The hurling centre half back from Galway, and the brilliant football finisher from Offaly are superbly following in the footsteps of their predecessors in the GAELIC SPORT-TYLER TOP TEN gallery of winners.

The last campaign was especially rich for Silke. By helping Connacht to the Railway Cup title, and Galway to the All-Ireland crown, he has now gained every major honour in hurling.

Connor has still to win his first national medal on the playing field. But time is very much on the side of this young footballer, who emerged in 1980 as one of the most exciting prospects to arrive on the football scene in years.

We congratulate Sean Silke and Matt Connor on winning our awards. We pay tribute as well to the many other footballers and hurlers up and down the country whose performances in the past year provided the framework on which the promotion was again fashioned.

All, whether or not they have made our final Top Ten rankings for 1980, played their parts superbly in ensuring that hurling and football maintain their dominance over their rivals.



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# Tyler

## SILKE AND CONNOR

### TAKE TITLES

# Top Ten

**S** EAN Silke keeps the hurling award in Galway for another year, and Matt Connor strides impressively to a famous first for Offaly in football, and in the process accumulates the greatest tally of points so far in either code. These are the chief features of the 1980 GAELIC SPORT-TYLER TOP TEN awards, the fourth in the history of this now prestigious annual promotion.

Silke finished well down the field in the latest monthly chart, but his bag of 23 points for a position at No. 9 still sends him zooming clear of the rest of the field in hurling. He winds up the campaign with 179 points, which is the best yet by a hurler, and also earns him the cushion of 47 points over his closest rival, Liam O'Donoghue, who this month has more or less pipped his Limerick team-mate Eamonn Cregan, on the post for the runners-up position.

Matt Connor set a blistering pace in football in the latter part of the

year. He had a comfortable enough lead of 26 points as a result of last month's chart, and that has now dropped to 20 points as a result of his eighth spot in the latest review with 30 points.

The Offaly forward's total is no fewer than 24 points more than the previous highest tally gained in any year so far. That was set by Colm McAlarney (Down) at 157 in 1978.

Back to Sean Silke, and he was early in the running with 36 points in the February-March issue. His latest entry in the monthly run-down is his

sixth time to appear in such rankings and that is the best record in this regard by any hurler during the year.

This achievement by Silke also reflects the hallmark of the GAELIC SPORT-TYLER TOP TEN awards, as consistency over the year as a whole is the keynote to success.

Silke's best month was October. The performance that made him a mighty bulwark of the Galway defence in the memorable All-Ireland final win over Limerick earned him 42 points and a placing at No. 4 in that month's Top Ten table.

He clinched the annual award comfortably with a good display when Galway went under to Wexford in their final game of 1980 at Wexford Park.

The Galway pivot did not gain a top of the chart rating in any month, and his highest placing was second in February-March. He gained that slot for his work in Connacht's Railway Cup semi-final win over Leinster, and an earlier outing against Offaly in the League.

The first chart-topper in hurling of 1980 was Iggy Clarke, and he set the trend up to and including June. In July, Denis Coughlan took over, and the Cork man was still well ahead of the field with 24 points in hand in September.

The All-Ireland final, however, brought some important changes.

● OVERLEAF

## THE YEAR'S RANKINGS

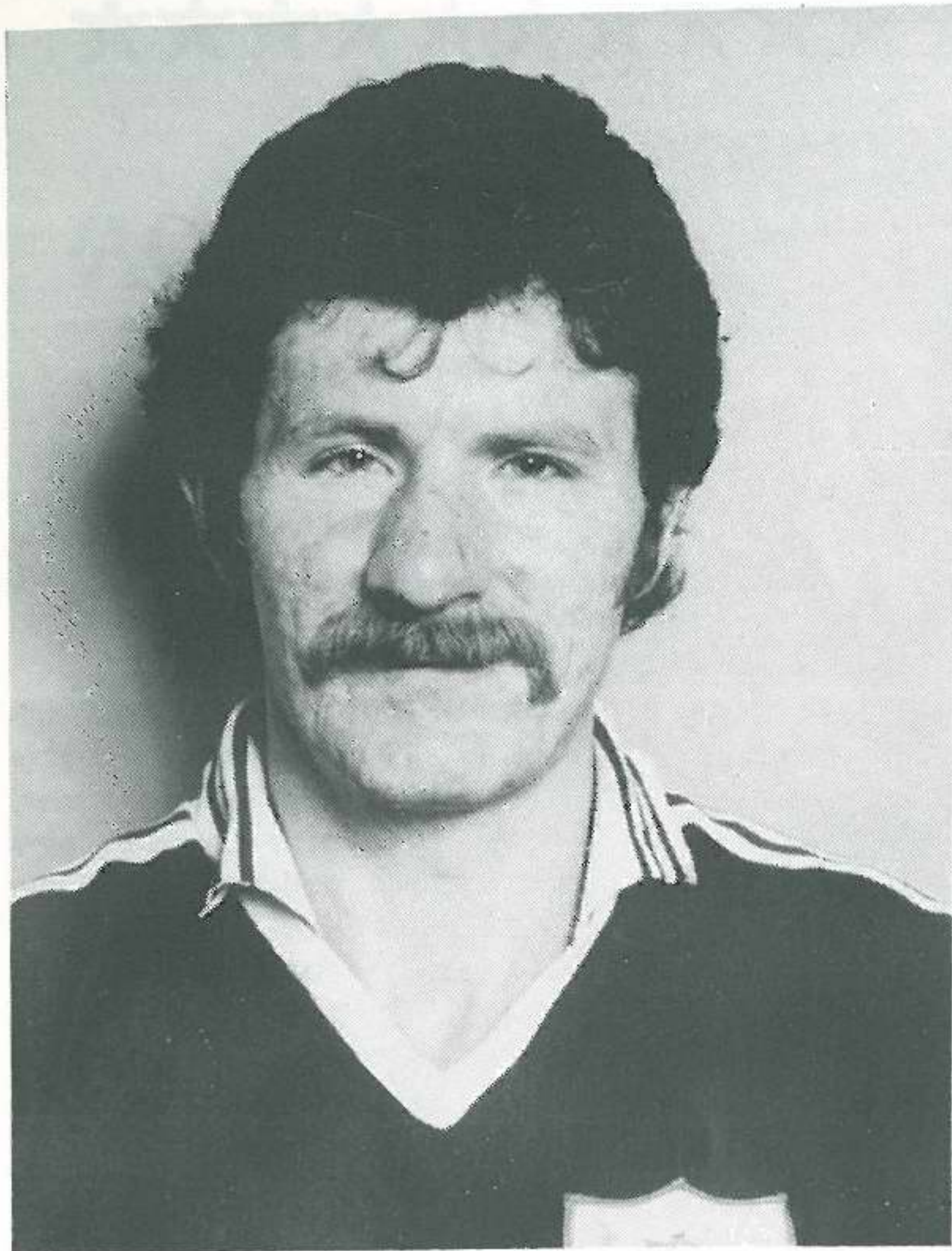
### HURLING

### FOOTBALL

- 179 Sean Silke (Galway)
- 132 Liam O'Donoghue (Limerick)
- 126 Eamonn Cregan (Limerick)
- 124 Denis Coughlan (Cork)
- 115 Tom Cashman (Cork)
- 114 Joe Connolly (Galway)
- 100 Ollie O'Connor (Limerick)
- Noel Lane (Galway)
- 96 Iggy Clarke (Galway)
- 88 Pat Delaney (Offaly)
- Padraig Horan (Offaly)

- 181 Matt Connor (Offaly)
- 161 Pat Spillane (Kerry)
- 116 John Egan (Kerry)
- 105 Denis Allen (Cork)
- 102 Jack O'Shea (Kerry)
- 100 Tony McManus (Roscommon)
- 92 Paddy Moriarty (Armagh)
- 80 Eoin Liston (Kerry)
- Kevin Kehily (Cork)
- 68 Peter McGinnity (Fermanagh)





★  
 ● *Sean Silke of Galway, the runaway winner of the 1980 Tyler Top Ten hurling title with 179 points.*  
 ★

● **FROM OVERLEAF**

Eamonn Cregan collected 32 points for his contribution to that game, and that tally sent the Limerick man to the top of the accumulative chart with 126 points — two points clear of Coughlan.

Interestingly enough Liam O'Donoghue earned third place overall following the Liam McCarthy Cup tie on 107 points.

Cregan failed to improve on his figures in the remaining weeks of the year, but O'Donoghue came with a decisive late burst to take over the runners-up position.

He had a particularly good game in Limerick's failure to Cork in a thrilling League tie at Pairc Ui Chaoimh in early December, and adds on 25 points to his record. This brings his bag to 132 in all.

The Mungret club man made his debut in June on 34 points for fourth place. He was in second position on 35 points in September, his highest chart placing, and after that appearance in October comes his

latest listing.

The highest tally of points collected by any hurler over the year was 48. That standard was achieved by Bernie Forde, whose cleverly kicked goal after only three minutes gave Galway such a dream start to the All-Ireland senior final. He won the chart-topping position in October as a result, with two points lead over another of Galway's heroes in that famous victory — Michael Conneely.

Other chart-toppers throughout the year were Eamonn Cregan (April-May), Denis Coughlan (June), John Fenton (July), Billy Fitzpatrick (August), Johnny Flaherty, of Offaly, (September), Wexford's Colm Doran (November) and bright young goalkeeping prospect from Cork, Ger Cunningham (December).

The list is completed this month by Joachim Kelly, who had a wonderful game in midfield as Offaly kept their hurling ambitions

flying high with a splendid win over Tipperary in the League at Thurles early last month.

In all 60 hurlers were listed throughout the year. Cork set the standard with 11 representatives, and they are followed by Galway and Limerick with nine hurlers from each county featured.

It is worth-while mentioning, too, that Ulster had a brief glimpse of glory during the review, with Brian Gilmore finding favour last month on 33 points following some spectacular sharpshooting displays in Down's very encouraging unbeaten run in Division II of the National League.

Over now to football, and Matt Connor took the first major step on the road to the top during April-May. He made his debut in the review on 27 points and in sixth position. He was fourth in July with 26 points, and then made it a "double top" in August.

The gifted Walsh Island forward headed the monthly review — his only time to take the premier slot — with 36 points, also his best tally of the year. That haul sent Connor to the leading role in the cumulative stakes, and as things turned out he was not caught after that.

A tally of 34 points in September, and a further return of 28 in October ensured that although he did not win a place in either the November or December charts, he still has a good lead of 26 points at a vital stage in the campaign.

Connor caught the eye when Offaly lost to Roscommon late in November, and was again prominent in the win over Kildare in mid-December in the League... two matches that have brought him a further 30 points and a clear lead on top of the table.

Pat Spillane, who was second starting the final weeks, also improved his position. He gains 36 points from his good play in the wins over Dublin and Down to finish with 161, which means he made inroads of five points on Connor's lead starting the final review.



Spillane proved a late comer in that he did not make his first appearance in a month's returns until August. He was fourth that month on 28 points.

He took the runners-up spot in October to John Egan with 30 points, his highest placing in a table, but not, of course, his best points haul.

Spillane was in sixth place on 35 points in November, and in eighth spot on 32 points last month. Now he finishes off in style with his heaviest bag at 36 points for a fourth place in the January review.

Incidentally, Connor's six appearances in separate charts over the year is the best by any footballer.

John Egan must get special mention for a place apart in both codes. He is the only man to head two reviews in the past year, leading the way in April-May, and again in October.

The other chart-toppers over the series were Peter McGinnity, who gave Fermanagh a bright look in for February-March, Denis Allen, Cork's solitary leader in any month (June), Dublin's Tommy Drumm (July), Matt Connor, with that August placing, Joey Donnelly (Armagh) in September, Tim Kennelly (November) and Jim Loughran (Armagh) in December.

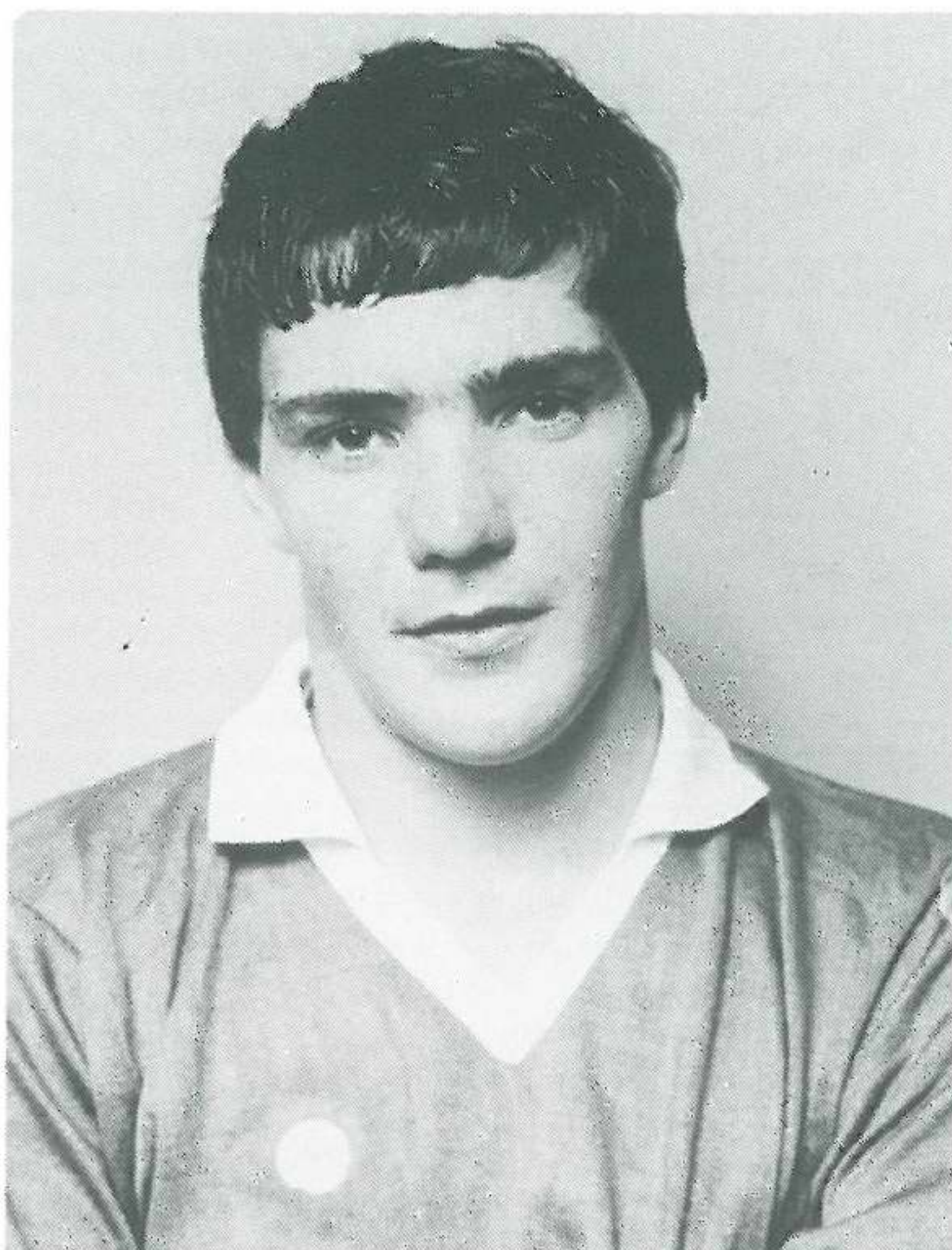
Completing this particular review is Jack O'Shea, who had a fine game when Kerry beat Dublin at Killarney in late November, and shone in the later win over Down at Killorglin. He gains 44 points to get into three figures on 102 points.

Tim Kennelly's high powered football in Kerry's defence in the All-Ireland final win over Roscommon did more than earn him that top of the chart placing for November. He collected at 48 points the best tally by any footballer until then.

Jim Loughran, who had a magnificent game as Armagh chalked up a famous victory over the All-Ireland champions in the National League at Lurgan in November, topped last month's table on 48 points.



● *Offaly sharp-shooter Matt Connor who won the 1980 Tyler Top Ten football title.*



## THIS MONTH'S CHARTS

### HURLING

40	J. Kelly (Offaly)	65
38	B. Murphy (Cork)	66
36	M. Corrigan (Offaly)	36
33	G. Loughnane (Clare)	33
30	J. Bunyan (Kerry)	30
29	G. O'Connor (Wexford)	29
27	T. Cashman (Cork)	115
25	L. O'Donoghue (Limerick)	132
23	S. Silke (Galway)	179
20	W. Shanley (Westmeath)	20

### FOOTBALL

44	J. O'Shea (Kerry)	102
40	Jimmy McManus (Roscommon)	40
38	F. McMahon (Armagh)	38
36	P. Spillane (Kerry)	161
36	P. McGinnity (Fermanagh)	68
34	J. O'Leary (Dublin)	34
32	B. Talty (Galway)	32
30	M. Connor (Offaly)	181
30	P. Moriarty (Armagh)	92
30	F. O'Mahoney (Cork)	30

## PREVIOUS WINNERS

### FOOTBALL

*1978:	39 points	P. O'Neill (Dublin)
1979:	157 points	C. McAlarney (Down)
1980:	145 points	D. Earley (Roscommon)

### HURLING

*1978:	38 points	G. Loughnane (Clare)
1979:	114 points	S. Durack (Clare)
1980:	145 points	John Connolly (Galway)

\*That year the points markings were on a scale of from one to ten only.



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# OUR TOP MEN OF THE YEAR

By Terry McGrath

THERE is a sharp and interesting contrast in the careers of the men who have emerged to share the spotlight as the Gaelic Sport Tyler Top Ten award winners of 1980 — Sean Silke and Matt Connor.

One has been in the big time for some years, and has had major disappointments at the highest level along the road before winning the game's most coveted award. The other is a comparative newcomer to the top grade, but for all that, he is already firmly established as one of the most commanding figures in his field.

It is probably true to say that Silke first made followers outside of Galway sit up and take notice of his skills as his team powered to the National League title in the mid-'Seventies.

Granted, keen students of the game would have noted earlier the promise displayed in his hurling with Maynooth, especially, as he collected Fitzgibbon Cup medals for the Universities' Championship in 1973 and 1974.

But it was the Meelick-Eyrecourt club man's association with Joe McDonagh and Iggy Clarke in a superb half back line that really captured the headlines in a big way. That half back line of hurling brilliance and dependability proved a key factor in earning Galway their first national senior title in 24 years with a win over Tipperary at Limerick in 1975 for the National League title.

There can be little doubt that the



● *Sean Silke (Galway) Gaelic Sport's Hurler of the Year in action during the NHL quarter final match against Waterford early in 1980.*



half back line, with Silke marshalling his skills in cool, purposeful fashion, was at the same time one of the best in the country. It was a division that many looked to as the springboard for a long-awaited All-Ireland senior final when the newly crowned League champions faced up to Kilkenny for the 1975 Liam McCarthy Cup clash.

Although the half backs, and indeed, all the Galway men played well in the decider, the craft and polish of the Noresiders ensured that the Westerners went home yet again without the coveted Cup.

It took Galway four more years to get back to the All-Ireland final, and when they failed yet again to Kilkenny in that summit, there must have been many in the West — and further afield — who despaired of ever seeing the Connacht county take the game's Blue Riband.

How all that changed in 1980! The glory road that started on a dismal

St. Patrick's Day at Croke Park was not a one-man success story, but Sean Silke, who was pivot yet again in the 1980 All-Ireland title bid, can take plenty of satisfaction from his own contribution.

He was prominent in dethroning the defending champions Leinster at Ballinasloe in the semi-final, and it was a goal from a "70" scored by Silke in the first half against Munster in the final that proved a vital plank in the build-up for a first Railway Cup final win in 33 years.

Silke, with that long clearance, and reliability, proved a major stumbling block to the Limerick attack in the All-Ireland senior final. His part in ensuring the victory effort was immense, and so at 29, he completed in the best way possible the medals shamrock.

The man who has carved out such a deserved reputation for himself as a senior centre half back won medals

● OVERLEAF





● FROM OVERLEAF

with Garbally College in senior hurling in 1967. Later on he got among the junior and intermediate county awards with Mellick-Eyrecourt.

Despite Galway's defeat in the

1975 All-Ireland final, Silke found favour with the All Stars selectors for the first time that year in the pivotal role. There could have been few surprised when he was awarded his second All Star trophy in the 1980 Bank of Ireland selection.

★ ★ ★

Matt Connor's football has now such a stamp of the mature player that it is hard to appreciate he is only 21. The All-Ireland semi-final against Kerry saw him win many new admirers, thanks to the television cameras, as he dazzled with his one-man tour-de-force that yielded a superb personal tally of 2-9 as the Leinster champions went down to the Kingdom.

That was finishing in real championship class and showed that a bright new scoring giant had undoubtedly arrived on the scene.

Matt Connor collected Leinster under-21 medals in 1977 and 1979 before helping Offaly to spike Dublin's hopes of a record-making seventh Leinster senior final win on the trot. It was Connor's sharp finishing that proved a key factor in the final win over Dublin — he tucked away 1-7.

This young Garda has also had some memorable days in club competitions. He was in the Walsh Island team that took the Leinster club championships in 1978 and 1980, but they lost the All-Ireland semi-finals each year.

He has found favour as well with the Leinster Railway Cup selectors, and last year made an early entry into the ranks of the All Stars as right full forward in the Bank of Ireland team.

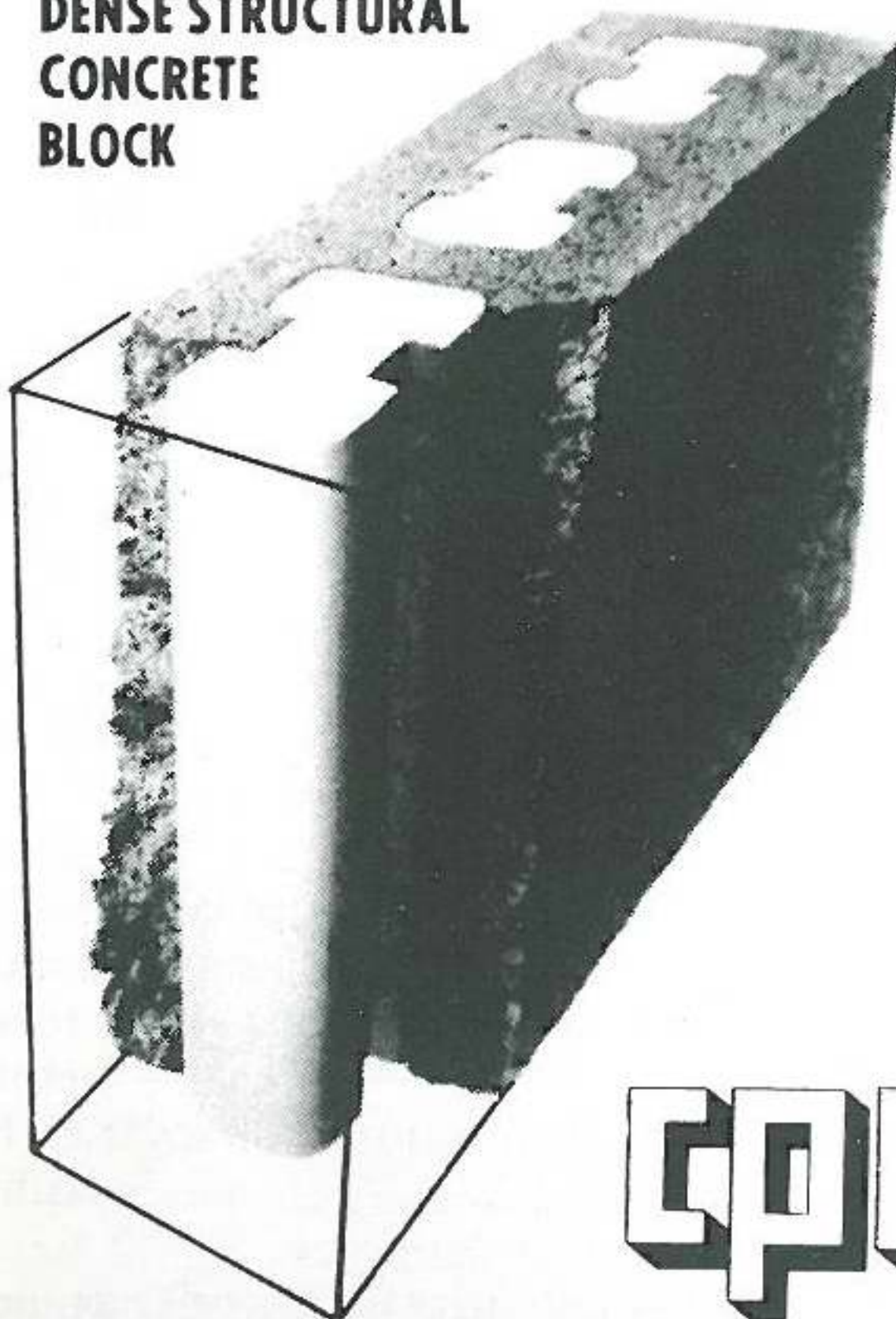
The mastery he has shown in the past year of the difficult art of consistently outgunning goal-keepers suggests that he is destined to go on in the future to scale some superb heights in the scoring line.

Add to that his skills in general play and non-stop work, and it is a safe bet that, as has been the case with Sean Silke, Matt Connor will provide many golden moments in senior competitions as the 'Eighties advance.

Sean Silke and Matt Connor are indeed proudly maintaining the tradition for excellence, sportsmanship and consistent performance that have been the hallmarks of the Gaelic Sport-Tyler Top Ten awards.

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# New talent on League trial

**C**HAMPIONS Cork are motoring along nicely in the current National Football League and must be fancied to qualify for the knock-out stages of the competition again this year.

The Leesiders have introduced several youthful newcomers to their ranks but one wonders how many of the first-season men will be inter-county regulars at this time next year.

Invariably, it has been Cork's policy in recent years to introduce new talent in the league in order to mould a team together for the inevitable championship clash with Kerry in the summer. But far too many of the Cork lads have been prematurely discarded when they failed to shine against the mighty Kingdom in the Munster final.

Players like Mitchelstown's Mick Mullins and Millstreet's Brian McSweeney sampled Munster final action during the late 'seventies while still in their teens. But both were denied the opportunity of benefitting from their experience and neither has played in a second decider.

Denis Linehan and Denis O'Driscoll of Nemo Rangers, Gene Desmond of St. Finbarr's and Sean O'Shea from Adrigole, to mention but a few, were others who received a quick taste of championship football and were subsequently dismissed.

It is to be hoped that the current crop of Cork debutants will not be indiscriminately axed should the Leesiders fail to conquer Kerry

again this year. Patience and persistence on the part of the Cork mentors may be the better policy in the long term.

One of the brightest prospects among Cork's current hopefuls is lively forward Finny O'Mahony from St. Finbarr's. He never played minor with Cork but attracted

★  
*Dave Barry,  
St. Finbarr's  
and Cork.*



★  
*Finny  
O'Mahony  
St. Finbarr's  
and Cork.*

attention instead when playing a prominent part in the 'Barrs county title success in 1979.

Finny was even more effective as the 'Barrs gained All-Ireland club honours and retained their county crown last year. Indeed, he was rated by many as the most consistent 'Barrs man during both of those campaigns.

A tireless forager and a clever distributor, Finny O'Mahony played a major role in Cork's All-Ireland under-21 win last year. And he has been chalking up the scores in

commendable fashion with the county seniors since making his league debut against Kerry in October.

Dave Barry, also from St. Finbarrs, is another footballer with enormous potential. Aged nineteen Dave was a surprise selection for last year's Munster senior decider, having created an impression when regularly introduced as a substitute during the 'Barrs' All-Ireland club campaign.

Voted "man of the match" in the 1980 county final, the tall, blond wing-forward is maturing rapidly and seems likely to fulfil the promise he displayed as a minor. Like Finny O'Mahony, Dave Barry was a member of Cork's victorious under-21 team last year.

Macroom's Mick Maloney was unfortunate to incur a knee injury recently and that threatens to keep him out of football for several months. The sturdy defender seemed set to stake a strong claim for permanent inclusion with Cork following a string of impressive displays in the present league campaign.

Denis O'Mahony of Rockchapel, Mark Healy and Damian Philpott of St. Finbarr's, Iveleary's Dom Creedon and Bishopstown's Tadhg O'Reilly are other youthful players hoping to be involved in Cork's bid to topple Kerry this year.

The Corkmen will face a daunting task against a seasoned and settled Kerry team who are unlikely to introduce new faces, although youngsters like Ambrose O'Donovan, Tom Spillane and Mick MacAuliffe — All-Ireland minors last year — are likely to be pressing for inclusion in the near future.


Kerry will be hot favourites to retain their Munster crown this year but the Cork mentors would be unwise to rush rashly back to the drawing board if their charges should slump in Killarney. Success is seldom attained instantly in any sporting code.



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# It was a good year for hurling

By Noel Horgan

**T**HE month of January is traditionally a time for reflection and hope and in this article I intend to indulge in a little bit of both. In retrospect 1980 must be regarded as a good year on the G.A.A. playing fields, particularly in hurling which produced many splendid games.

The early part of the year was dominated by Cork. They defeated Kerry in an exciting National Football League final at Pairc Uí Chaoimh in April to take their first title since 1956. Within a week of that victory, they seemed all set to gain further glory, this time in hurling, when they led Limerick by a goal with less than a minute remaining in the league decider.

Ollie O'Connor popped up to score an opportunist equaliser, however, and Cork's celebrations were delayed. It was to prove but a temporary lapse for the Corkmen and the disappointed Leaside fans had good reason afterwards to regard the draw with Limerick as a blessing in disguise.

The replay, also staged at Pairc Uí Chaoimh, was a classic, a contest which illustrated clearly why hurling is regularly rated as the greatest field game in the world.

Inspired by a masterly midfield display from John Fenton, the Corkmen deservedly took the honours, grabbing a flurry of scores in the closing stages to give them a flattering three-goal success.

Thus, Cork achieved an unprecedented National League double and ace forward Jimmy

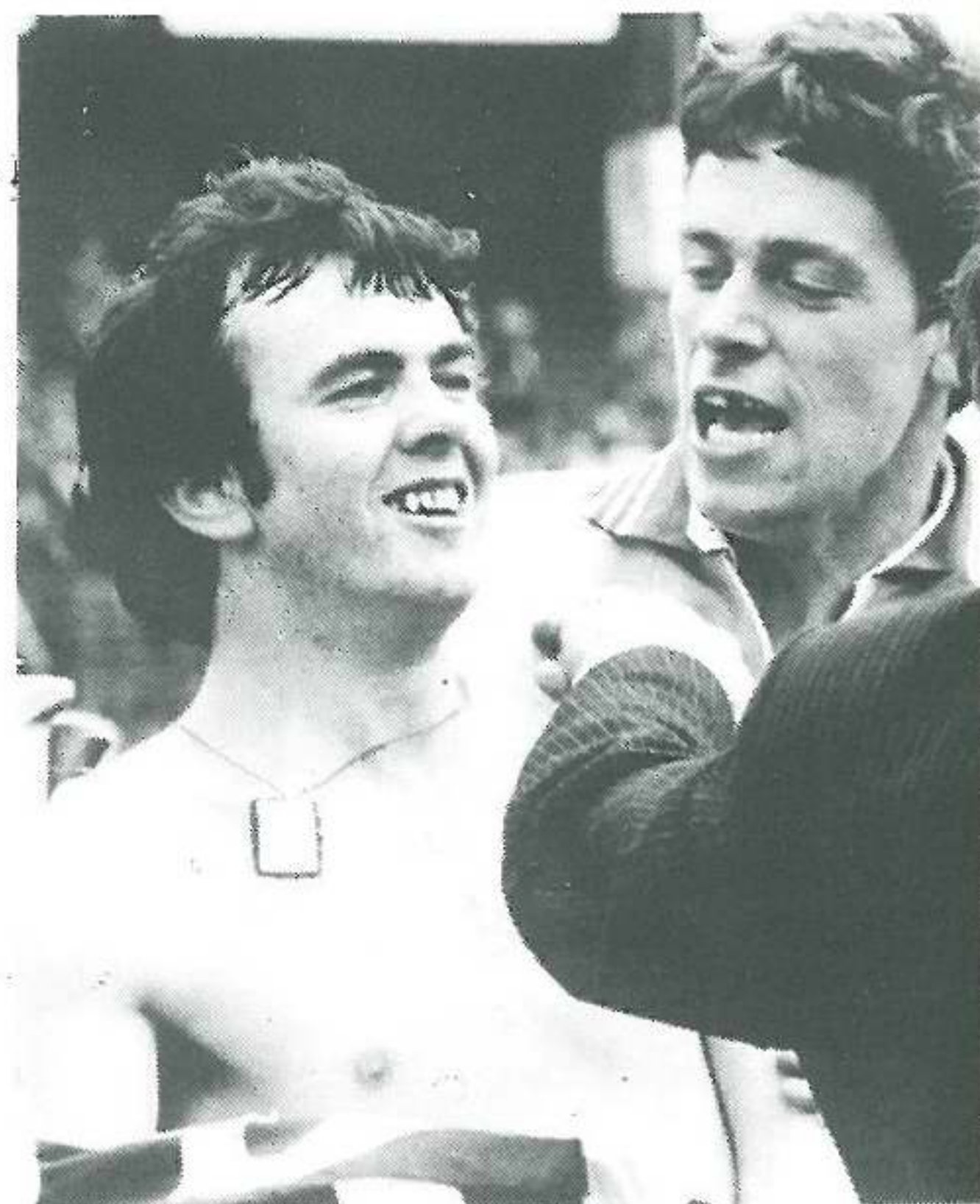
Barry-Murphy became the only performer to play on league winning sides in both codes the same year.

Predictably, perhaps, Kerry emerged as the top team in the football championship while Galway's hurlers came in from the cold to capture their first All-Ireland title since 1923.

The Kerry men trounced Cork in a disappointing Munster Final and subsequently conquered Offaly and Roscommon on the way to the three-in-a-row of All-Ireland crowns. It was a tremendous achievement by the Kingdom although they had their critics afterwards, principally because of the moderate fare served up in that dour All-Ireland decider with Roscommon, a game played in very poor conditions.

Additionally, many traditionalists sought to undermine Kerry's feats because of their liberal use of the hand-pass. Personally, I am not entirely convinced that the complete abolition of the hand-pass would improve Gaelic football.

The game is much faster now than in the days of the catch-and-kick technique, players require greater fitness and possession is nearly always used intelligently. And who can say that there is less action in the



● *A flashback to the scenes of jubilation following Offaly's defeat of Kilkenny in the 1980 Leinster Hurling Final.*

modern game? To support my point let us compare Kerry's three-in-a-row win with the previous treble achieved by the '64-'66 Galway team under the old rules.

Galway, a fine team, defeated Kerry in two dull goal-less finals in that era and completed the three-in-a-row with a similarly drab victory over Meath, a game which was highlighted by a great goal from Mattie McDonagh, the sole major score registered in Galway's finals.

By contrast, Kerry have scored freely on their path to glory, providing many magical moments and entertaining even in games when their superiority was glaringly obvious from an early stage.

Galway's success in hurling capped a great year for the game and the All-Ireland final itself against Limerick was a highly entertaining match. The Corribmen produced a strong team performance that day, augmented by particularly outstanding individual displays by Michael Conneely, Sean Silke, and Bernie Forde. Their long-awaited breakthrough was warmly received by hurling fans everywhere.

Other memorable hurling games in 1980 included the historic Offaly-

● **OVERLEAF**



# AN GÚM

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nach iad le ceannach díreach ó  
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An Stuara, Ard-Oifig an Phoist,  
Baile Átha Cliath, 1.  
nó ó dhíoltóirí leabhar.*

## ● FROM OVERLEAF

Kilkenny Leinster final, the Limerick-Cork decider and the cliff-hanging Galway-Offaly All-Ireland semi-final. In keeping with the emergence of new names in the limelight Kerry's hurlers earned a draw with Kilkenny in the league late in the year.

A reasonably good year on the playing fields, therefore, but sadly certain officials did not cover themselves in glory in 1980. My main complaint was the fact that the G.A.A. again showed scant regard for the authority of the referee during the year.

The much publicised approach made to Waterford's J. J. Landers at half-time in the Munster hurling final was nothing short of intimidation. Yet the culprits received no punishment for their action other than an unconvincing reprimand. It simply was not good enough.

G.A.A. referees are a dedicated breed who unselfishly donate their services purely for the love of the games. They have an unenviable task at the best of times and their efforts deserve appreciation from officials, players and spectators alike. Any interference in the performance of their duties should always be firmly discouraged.

It is my hope that in the future the G.A.A. will follow the admirable example of other sporting organisations in according referees the type of respect which their responsible position so richly merits.

Other hopes of mine for 1981 would be that the recent trend towards improving G.A.A. stadia should continue apace, that the hooligan element seeping into G.A.A. crowds and apparent at both league finals last year should fade and that a high standard of fitness and skill will be maintained in both codes.

As a Corkman, however, my main hope is that the Rebel county might go one better than the league double this year and succeed in achieving an All-Ireland senior double! Don't be surprised if they do.





## KERRY'S 1970 WORLD TOUR

Donie O'Sullivan of Kerry (left) and a flying Australian. Action from the Melbourne game won by Kerry.

# *To tour or not to tour?*

Asks —  
JIM BENNETT

**F**OR as long as I can recall — almost — there seems to have been a running dispute of some kind or other about tours. Should we have them, or should we not? Do they favour the stars to too great an extent as against the ordinary player who keeps things going when the bright boys are away? Are they costing too much? Do they take all the good out of teams who go on tour so that they lose their crowns as soon as they return?

Some of the arguments there — or, to be more accurate, one side of some of the debates. For there were also, on the other side, questions of whether the tours could possibly be done without because of the obligation which the thousands upon thousands of loyal exiles who live still for football and hurling place firmly on the shoulders of the G.A.A.? How can they be ignored? Is the Association to proclaim itself an organisation of this island only? And is it about to say to its players that they will not be able to partake in future of the brimming hospitality of exiles who would wish to treat them royally to a holiday in

recompense for the honour and joy they have brought those followers?

There is a long history of All-Ireland Champions taking a tour to the U.S., whether as a competitive trip or as a holiday organised between the home Board and the friends abroad. There was a special thrill about those tours, for there was no other way a hurler or footballer or any their equals was ever likely to get such a trip or see such far distant places.

They were slower days, and if the trip on board one of the liners that steamed across the Atlantic took a longer time it was all the better for the leisure, and the pace of things at home did not demand that they be home again to play by such-and-such a date. Players then were not hell bent on self-destruction by playing day and night, Sunday and week-day, hurling and football, soccer and rugby, squash and badminton . . .

In those days and for long afterwards there was opposition in the States which could put it up to any team that travelled, even All-Ireland champions. This may or

may not have been a thing to give pleasure, for it showed the numbers of the best of the young men who had to leave their birthplace and go West to seek their fortunes.

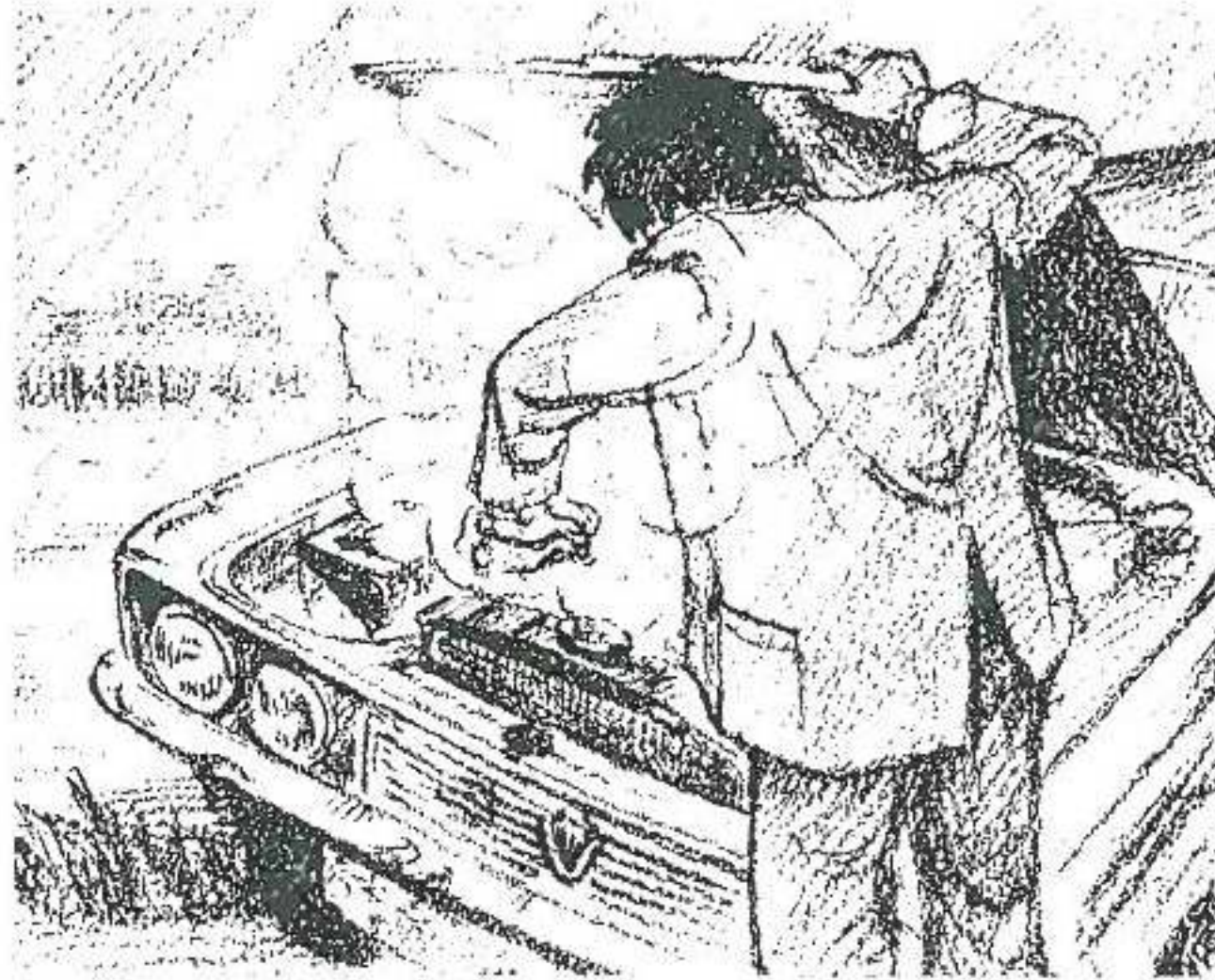
Carried to a logical extreme that was the cause which brought the All-Ireland final of 1947 to the New York Polo Grounds, too. And, with the rapid development of the U.S. after the Second World War there came the concept of regular interchange on a competitive basis which joined New York, at least, to the Association in the closest manner ever. The New York participation in the National Leagues or the St. Brendan Cup competition became part of the year and not just an optional extra.

The various immigration regulations of 20 years ago were a crucial influence, of course. Not immediately visible while the players who were still in their prime held the fort, it was inevitable that the cut-off of Irish immigration to a trickle would leave the U.S. without the strength to challenge the best home teams.

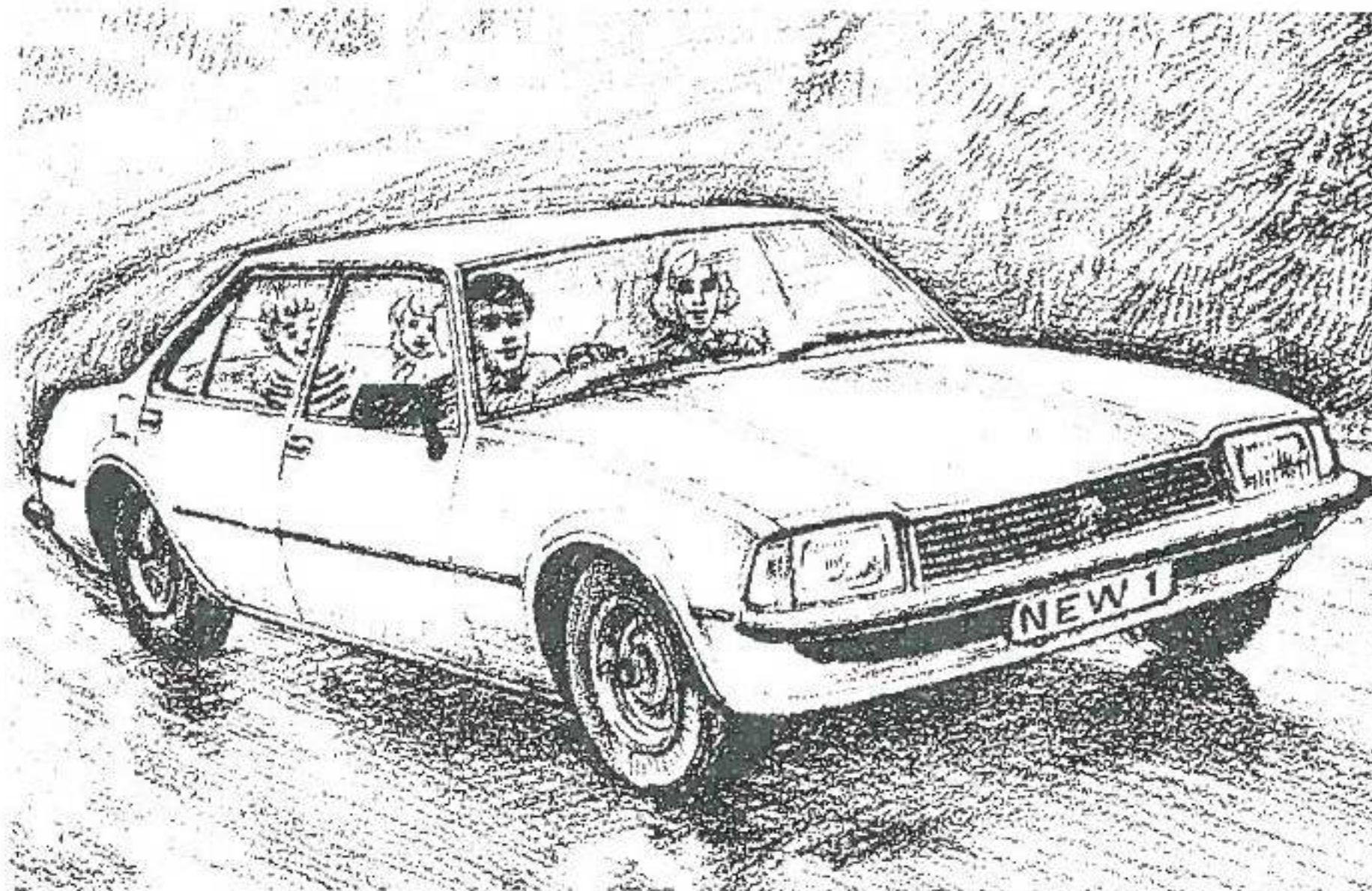
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# Frustration



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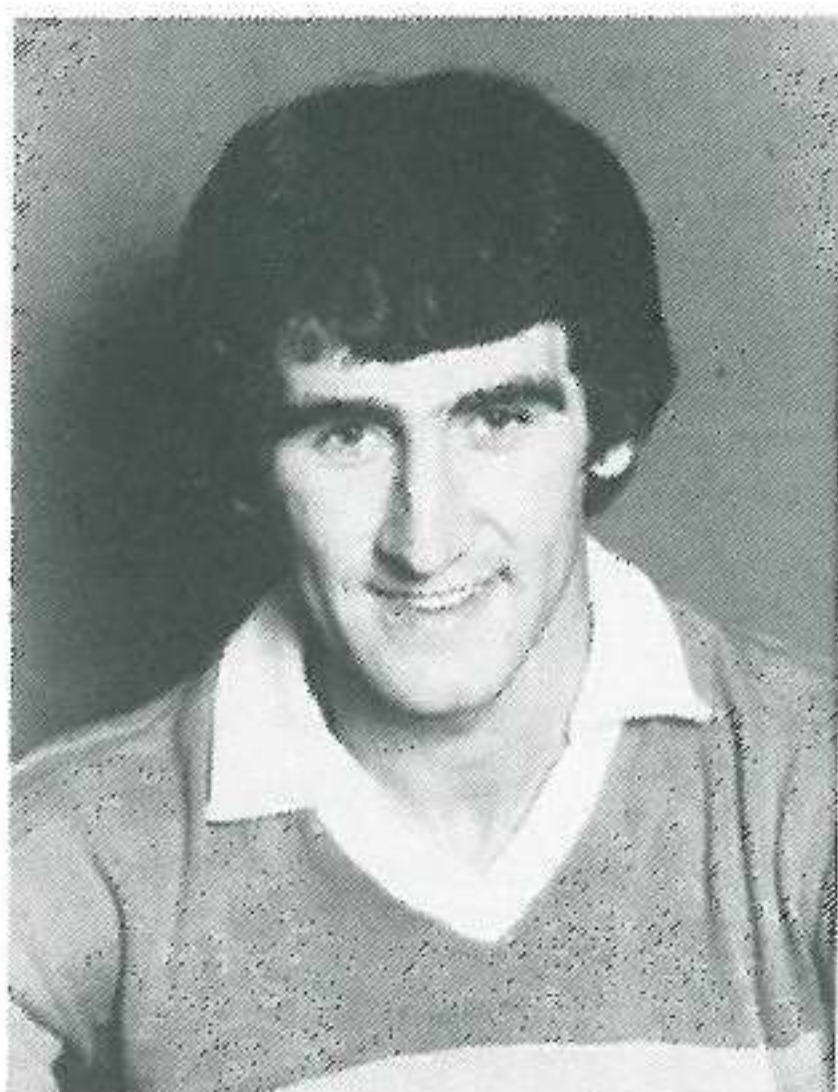
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**give hope**  
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● *Tipperary goalie Pat McLoughney a 1980 Bank of Ireland All Star.*

**L**AST summer season there was great excitement and interest in the victory of Cork in the thrilling League final, of Limerick later in the Munster championship, of Galway most of all in their great All-Ireland triumph after all the years of cruel disappointment. So much were we absorbed in those momentous happenings that it took time before it sank into our consciousness that, with all those more lionised achievements, it was only Tipperary which pulled off an All-Ireland double — winning the under-21 and minor with earnest and willing teams of promising players.

If you wanted a promise for the future you could hardly request a more obvious one than the winning of both minor and under-21 All-Irelands in the same year. It must surely demonstrate that there is strength in depth and in width among the coming generations of Tipperary hurlers.

Outside the Premier county itself little enough has been made of this notable achievement which one would only expect of such as Cork in one of their vintage years. Why this was so may best be explained by the manner in which the present Tipperary senior side disappointed, for it was a team built from the successful and nearly successful under-21 and minor teams of the last four or five years.

There was no doubt of the fact that the Tipperary team that played in the 1979 Munster championship against Cork at Pairc Ui Chaoimh was an unlucky one not to get a better result in that game. Yet, it would be untrue to say that it was a team of quality, dash, elan, imagination, power . . . as successful Tipperary teams have been — besides being eager, strong, durable, serious with intent and proud of the county they represented . . . all characteristics of the present-day teams.

In 1980 the outing against Cork at the renewed Semple Stadium was a disaster and a bad blow to Tipperary morale. Too much had been read into the League win and the narrow defeat of the previous year and not enough into the moderate — not to say disappointing — form shown in the 1980 League and in the preparations for the championship. In any case, the defeat was a heavy one.

The quick successes at minor and under-21 will have assuaged much of the grief and will have renewed the hopes of Tipperary. But, it would be premature to make any positive judgements, I think. Both minor and under-21 winning sides in 1980 had plenty of eager players, well trained and hard-trying, undaunted by hard opposition. Yet, they mainly won their games through the earnestness and quantity of their efforts rather than by their much superior hurling skills.

It is just that fact which seems to be the nub of the Tipperary problem for some years and continues to be so. There has been a plentiful supply of good, hard triers willing to hurl away for sixty minutes without slackening; but there is a marked lack of hurlers of class — players who stand out by their quality and can take hold of a game with a number of flourishes that transform it.

There is no need, in to-day's game, to have a team of all the talents to succeed in winning things. But, to challenge for the honours you have to have at least a handful of class players who get their results from something of a rarer quality than mere effort. Inspiration in the necessary amounts must be added to perspiration.

Tipperary have shown that they have plentiful supplies of earnest youngsters; but they have not convinced careful watchers of the scene that the successors to Jimmy Doyle, Donie Nealon, Liam Devaney, Michael Keating, Francis Loughnane, Mick Roche . . . have yet been found. Perhaps they will develop from the present clutch of players as they improve and gain experience. But that is something we shall have to wait for in order to see.



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# Dublin and Cork '81

REVIEWED BY FRANK COOGAN

**I** REMEMBER watching that decider in Loews Paradise Theatre in New York . . . buying my programme outside the cinema . . . the electric atmosphere inside" . . . Pat Spillane.

"I often get the impression that the powers-that-be in the G.A.A. would not be over-worried if the game of Gaelic football was to be no more" . . . David Hickey.

"I am convinced that in some instances fouls are being incorrectly 'called' and referees are inclined to 'whistle' for trivial fouls which do not affect the trend of play" . . . Frank Murphy.

These are just some revealing quotes from a series of thought provoking and very readable features that go to make up two of the most interesting and best produced Yearbooks of this winter — DUBLIN '81 and CORK '81.

Both are from the GAELIC SPORT stable, and this is reflected in the high standard of workmanship and general presentation that has gone into the books, which are the best yet in a now annual and well established series by the country's leading Gaelic Games magazine.

Jimmy Gray, bowing out as Dublin County Board Chairman, says in DUBLIN '81 that the main thing in reflection on the past and in particular the huge success of the senior footballers is "to understand not so much the joy we all experienced but the real value they have been in the promotion of Gaelic Games."

The senior footballers form the basis of Pat Spillane's splendid "Tribute To The Dubs," from which that opening quotation above is taken.

The brilliant Kerry forward tells us that he remembers watching the Dubs in 1974 with more than a little

smile on his face as they beat Wexford in a first round Leinster senior championship tie, and thinking that they would surely be hammered later by Offaly.

He records his experience of watching the 1974 final in a New York cinema, and gives a run-down of his views on the Dublin players. Here are a few quotes:

Brian Mullins: "I think Brian was the man who made the Dubs tick".

Pat O'Neill: "In my opinion never got the recognition due to him".

Tony Hanahoe: "It was he who created the space which the Dublin forward line thrived on".

David Hickey has a wide ranging interview with Tommy McQuaid, Editor of the Yearbook, and tells the background of his involvement with the Dubs, has a brief comment on the rules, some words to say about what he terms the G.A.A. Press, and finishes off with advice to youngsters.

DUBLIN '81 features many of the country's leading writers. Mick Dunne, of R.T.E. Sport, spotlights the young men who carry the banner; Sean Og O Ceallachain of the *'Evening Press'* reports on an old era and a new one, Donal Carroll, of the *"Irish Independent"*, says that come the knock-out series the sturdy talent will be champing at the bit to serve in Dublin's Blue, and Owen McCann spotlights a lesson from the past for the under-21 football side.

Liz Howard records her impressions of Gaelic Games in 1980, Mitchel Cogley picks his best team of the 'Seventies, and includes eight Dubs, and the hurling scene is fully covered.

Una Bean Ui Phuirseil writes an appreciation of Dr. J. J. Stuart, a former President of the G.A.A., who died during the past year, and in another contribution she reports on

a good year for camogie in the county, where about twenty competitions are run off each year.

For the Dublin-based enthusiast, one of the best features of the Yearbook is the comprehensive coverage of activities in the various regions, plus the Primary Schools.

Weigh in a Dublin crossword, and a handball review, excellent photographs, and a thoroughly professional production, and DUBLIN '81 emerges as splendid value at only £1.

**DUBLIN '81. Official publication of the G.A.A. Dublin County Board. Production by Gaelic Sport Publications, 80, Upper Drumcondra Road, Dublin 9. Editor and Cover Design: Tommy McQuaid. Price £1.**

That 1980 was a very successful year for Cork, despite the absence of All-Ireland titles at senior level, is immediately obvious from the cover of CORK '81. This striking all colour presentation pictures the county's champion selections at National Hurling and Football Leagues, and under-21 football, plus photographs of team captains Christy Ryan (League football) and Dermot McCurtain (League hurling).

In his review of 1980, Jim O'Sullivan, of the *Cork Examiner*, says it could be argued that the two Cork senior teams are at the crossroads, each for a different reason.

Eamonn Young asked Billy Morgan what he felt about the present Cork football scene, and the Cork goalkeeper's answer includes the comment: "We have some good men among the regulars, and altogether with a bit of luck we could have a bright future".

Michael Ellard, of the *Cork Examiner*, reveals that the euphoria which swept Cork after the completion of the unique and historic National Hurling and Football League double "still lingers despite the subsequent failure of the victorious sides in their quest for championship honours."

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## WE'VE BUILT A CITY

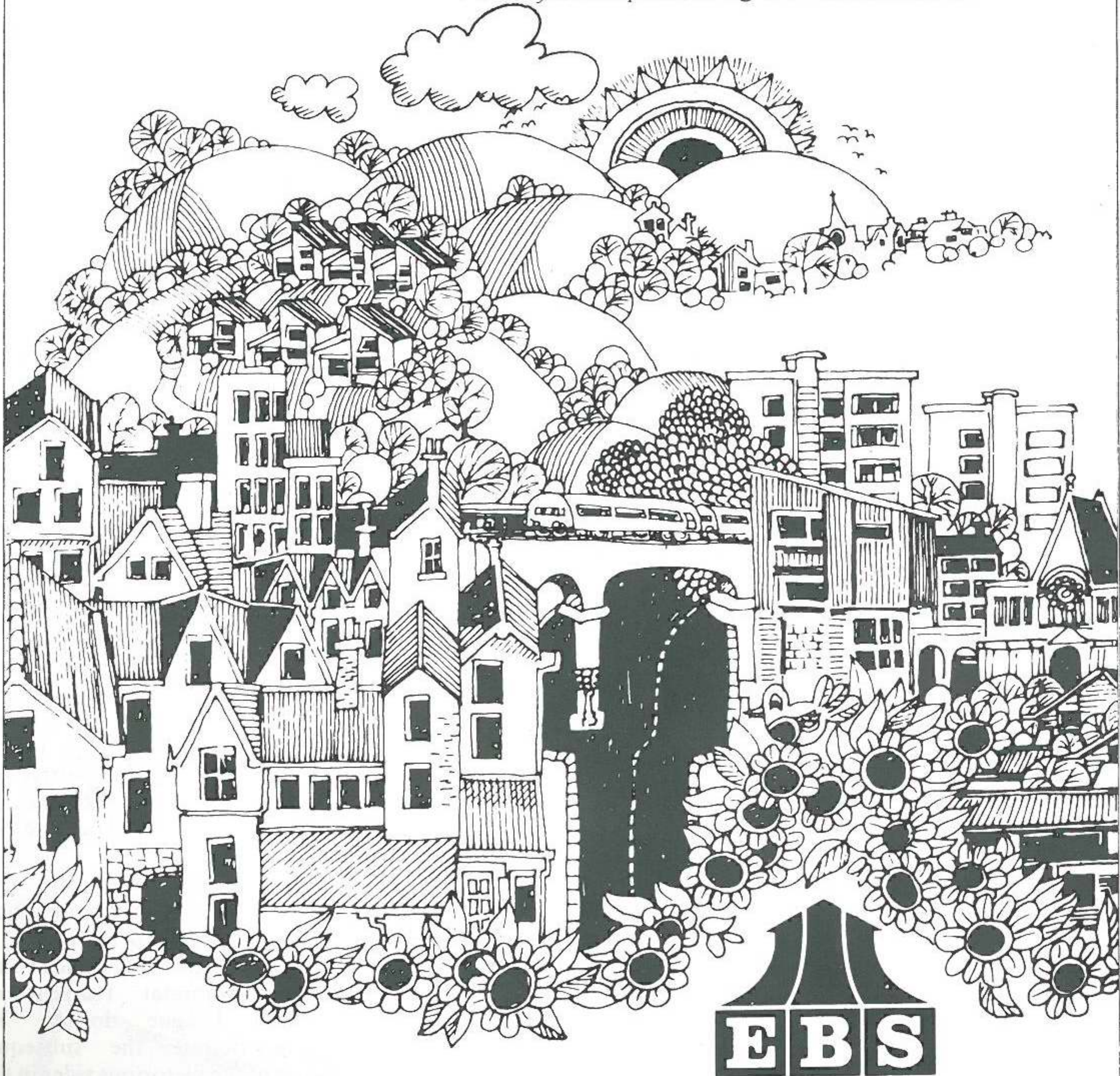
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# 1980 HANDBALL TITLES

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Coca Cola Doubles	Winners P. Reilly and O. Harold (Kilkenny) R-up T. O'Rourke and C. Winders (Kildare)
Senior Hardball Singles	Winner P. McGarry (Limerick) R-up C. Winders (Kildare)
Senior Hardball Doubles	Winners P. McGarry and J. Bennis (Limerick) R-up C. and P. Winders (Kildare)
Under-21 Softball Singles	Winner T. Ryan (Tipperary) R-up F. McCann (Sligo)
Under-21 Softball Doubles	Winners P. Cleary and J. Fleming (Wexford) R-up T. Ryan and W. O'Donnell (Tipperary)
Junior Softball Singles	Winner T. Quish (Limerick) R-up T. Derrig (Mayo)
Junior Softball Doubles	Winners T. and J. Quish (Limerick) R-up F. McCann and M. Porter (Sligo)
Junior Hardball Singles	Winner N. Quigley (Wexford) R-up T. Quish (Limerick)
Junior Hardball Doubles	Winners T. and J. Quish (Limerick) R-up R. Walsh and E. Lee (Dublin)
Minor Softball Singles	Winner W. Bourke (Kilkenny) R-up S. Lyons (Waterford)
Minor Softball Doubles	Winners W. Bourke and M. Lawlor (Kilkenny) R-up J. Kelly and M. Spillane (Cork)
Minor Hardball Singles	Winner W. Bourke (Kilkenny) R-up P. Russell (Limerick)
Minor Hardball Doubles	Winners W. Bourke and M. Lawlor (Kilkenny) R-up J. Scanlon and M. Flynn (Tipperary)
Novice Singles	Winner M. Hennigan (Mayo) R-up J. J. Wright (Waterford)
Novice Doubles	Winners E. Conneely and J. Flaherty (Galway) R-up M. Lyng and T. Kerins (Kerry)
Master Singles	Winner W. Kerins (Kerry) R-up C. Young (Kilkenny)
Masters Doubles	Winners J. Bourke and C. Young (Kilkenny) R-up W. and T. Kerins (Kerry)
Senior Singles	Winner P. Kirby (Clare) R-up M. Brady (Dublin)
Senior Doubles	Winners P. McGee and P. McCormack (Mayo) R-up M. Aherne and T. Fitzgerald (Kerry)
Junior Singles	Winner G. O'Callaghan (Cork) R-up M. Hennigan (Mayo)
Junior Doubles	Winners M. Hennigan and M. Sweeney (Mayo) R-up E. Kennedy and B. O'Brien (Cork)
Minor Singles	Winner W. Bourke (Kilkenny) R-up G. Coughlan (Clare)
Minor Doubles	Winners W. Bourke and M. Lawlor (Kilkenny) R-up G. Coughlan and M. O'Flaherty (Galway)
Novice Singles	Winner J. Rossiter (Carlow) R-up S. Prenter (Antrim)

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● FROM PAGE 19

Frank Murphy, Secretary of the Cork County Board, in that article already mentioned briefly at the outset, has a first-rate review in his contribution on how referees themselves can improve the image of the football game.

I find this comment of particular relevance and interest:

"Another commonsense principle must be that if a player is fouled and the referee does not award a free, but applies 'Advantage Rule', the referee must give the 'fouled' player the opportunity of playing the ball even though as a consequence of the foul made on him, he may technically overhold the ball, or take more than the permissible number of steps while carrying the ball".

Feile na nGael is the most important event of the year in C.L.C.G. I wonder how many would agree with that statement? Well, that is how Tomas de Nuadt opens his contribution on the Meaning of 'Feile'. It is a first-rate piece, too.

Mary Moran reports on a Grand Slam for Cork in camogie, and Tadhg Nyhan has an informative and intriguing quiz, TOP SCORE, which is bound to test the knowledge of even the most knowledgeable Cork enthusiasts on events in the past year.

The local scene is fully covered. Noel Horgan has separate articles on the double triumph of St. Finbarr's in the county senior football and hurling championships, and Tom O'Sullivan focuses on "The Year of the Mon", the story of another All-Ireland Colleges' senior hurling crown for North Monastery.

Perhaps a little strange, but nonetheless topical to see the celebrated folk singer, Joan Baez, in picture in CORK '81, but there is a very good reason for that as you will soon find out from the contribution by Tomas O Murchu.

CORK '81, which runs to 120 pages is set off superbly by many first rate photographs, and over-all is a splendid monument to a

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● *The Munster team that won the Railway Cup in 1931. Back row (from left): J. Barry (trainer), E. Coughlan (Cork), L. Blake (Clare), T. O'Meara (Tipperary), J. Ware (Waterford), P. Delea (Cork), J. Leahy (Tipperary), Second row (from left): J. O'Loughlin (Tipperary), M. Aherne (Cork), J. Gleeson (Tipperary), P. Cahill (Tipperary), T. Considine (Clare), P. Collins (Cork), M. Cross (Limerick), P. McGrath, Secretary - Munster Council. Third row (from left): J. McCarthy, Chairman - Munster Council, G. Howard (Tipperary), C. Ware (Waterford), T. Treacy (Tipperary), M. Kennedy (Captain - Tipperary), P. Purcell (Tipperary), J. Hurley (Cork), John Joe Doyle of Clare (holding in his hand the well known goggles). In front (from left): T. Leahy (Tipperary) and D. B. Murphy (Cork).*

"Jimbo" Higgins of Newmarket-on-Fergus was possibly the greatest tackler of all time, using his well knit frame and great strength to the utmost advantage.

I remember one day in Limerick he pegged down two of Cork's greatest ever forwards, leaving them utterly impotent, nor can I forget his performance at Thurles in 1932, also against Cork, when two Rebel County forwards were poised on the verge of the square in front of Clare's open goal and ready to shoot, when, as if from nowhere "Jimbo" charged and swept the ball off their hurleys

and well down the field to safety. The memory of that great feat will remain with me forever. "Carberry" said of him that evening: "This Higgins is a marvellous man, a super man, maybe the greatest back I have seen".

Others I remember from those early days — I have avoided more recent times, include:

#### CLARE SPECIAL

Jim Houlihan, who spurned golden opportunities elsewhere to serve his native county. The winner of championship medals in four different counties — Limerick,

Westmeath, Dublin and Mayo — he was mainly responsible for the three championships won by Army Metro, and is reputed to have scored the greatest point ever witnessed in Croke Park — a ninety yard drive to draw level with Young Irelands in the 1933 Final, winning the replay the following Sunday, and later that evening figuring in a great Munster Championship foray with Limerick, then blossoming to become the outstanding team of the 'thirties. He had the distinction of travelling that day from Dublin to

● TO PAGE 25



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● FROM PAGE 23

Thurles in a special train all to himself — one engine and a carriage, chartered by Clare G.A.A., tribute enough to the great value they placed on his services.

Larry Blake — the Ennis Dalcassian Club man was rated amongst the best halfbacks seen in Munster hurling. The fact that the Southern selectors picked him more than any other Clare man — he was on Munster Railway Cup teams without a break from 1933 to 1938 must be sufficient proof of his worth.

Tom Burnell was at his best from 1923 to 1933. His quick thinking, fast side stepping and his clever anticipation, together with his scientific pulling on the ball made him the idol of the crowds.

He could play with distinction in any position from goalie to full forward, but the berth he liked best was “top of the left” in attack, where he was the terror of defenders and net minders alike.

Mick Hennessy of Clooney, with his lovely ground hurling and beautiful overhead stick work, combined with speed and accuracy, made him a striking force in attacking play.

Gentle as a child but fearless in the fray, he received many a hard knock but took them all in the grand sporting spirit for which he was noted.

He was a prolific scorer, as a few of his performances will testify — 7-4 in the final of the Munster Secondary League in 1934; 5-1 in his first Inter-provincial game against Connacht in 1935; out of a total of 6-2 in a Munster Championship replay against Cork in 1936 he had four goals in fifteen minutes, and in the only championship that his club, Clooney, won, he scored 4-4 out of a total of 5-5.

Jimmy Smyth of Ruan was endowed with hurling qualities in generous measure — speed, ball control, unselfishness and a body swerve which usually shook off the most tenacious tackler.

It seems unbelievable, but the

Ruan lad achieved the remarkable feat of playing with no less than fifteen different teams in one hectic season — 1948. Let me enumerate:

Four teams from St. Flannans College — Seniors and Junior in both Hurling and Football; next the Munster College Inter Provincial sides in both codes; with his own club, Ruan, he found a place on a quartette of their hurling teams — Minor, Junior, Intermediate and Senior, and then for the county he togged out in five separate competitions — Minor, Junior and Senior Hurling, Minor and Junior Football.

In addition, that same season, he won the Senior Long Jump and the Senior Hop, Step and Jump Colleges Championships of Munster, having captured the previous year the 100 yards Munster Colleges Intermediate Championships.

Jimmy first donned county colours at thirteen, and he had the unique honour of playing for five years on Clare Minor Hurling teams and for three seasons in the Football fifteen. Some record, and it is only part of the story.

### GREATEST HURLER

I have covered a lot of ground, maybe too much, as far as the patience of my readers is concerned, and still I have not named the man who made the most impression on me during the period under review.

He was John Joe Doyle, a famed member of the Newmarket “Blues,”

whom I rate one of hurling's greatest stylists.

One can never forget John Joe — “the man with the goggles” — his speed, his courage, his certainty of striking, his generalship, — characteristics that combined to make one of the finest figures to emerge from any county during his time.

Honoured by being called upon to play for Clare, for Munster and for Ireland, his beautiful style never failed to win admiration. As a wing back he had few, if any, equals. Always perfectly fit, his long drives from the halfback line were always placed to the best advantage of his forwards. He was what one may call the intelligent hurler, weight and brawn were only secondary in his set up. His brain did the real work and was active from the throw-in to the final whistle.

Hurling almost lost him in his very early days, as he decided to give up the game when he found he could not play unless he wore glasses. However, he was persuaded to turn out in a game for the Junior County title, in which the opposition was provided by a team from the same parish, — Ballycar.

Rivalry was naturally very keen, and John Joe did not like to let down his club. Accordingly he conceived the idea of a protective covering for his glasses, and when he failed to procure anything suitable from the sports stores he set about making

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## CLARE'S GREATEST DEFENDER

By Tony Keegan

**J**OHN Joe Doyle was one of the greatest defenders from Clare in hurling in any era. He led the county to their last All-Ireland senior final appearance in 1932, when Clare lost by a goal to Kilkenny. Doyle, whose only Munster senior medal win was in that 1932 campaign, was known as “Goggles” Doyle because he wore a special pair of goggles while playing hurling.

He assisted Newmarket-on-Fergus in club competitions, and made his senior debut with Clare at 20. He played in three winning Railway Cup finals with Munster — 1929, 1930 and 1931.

The polished Clare defender was also honoured by Ireland in the Tailteann Games. Those matches were played at Croke Park every four years over three series of games between 1924 and 1932. Doyle turned out for the Ireland team against America in the 1932 hurling test, the last of the competition.



● FROM PAGE 25  
them himself. And that was the origin of the famous goggles.

At seventeen he won that Final, and gained immediate promotion to senior ranks, in which he helped Newmarket to county success on six occasions.

His was a real glamour story. Picked soon after his first senior club match to play for Clare, John Joe's first opponent in Inter-County ranks was none other than the great Matty Power of Kilkenny and

Dublin fame. But Doyle didn't know until half time who he was playing on, and didn't care afterwards, as he covered himself with glory in that encounter. And, in his second game he faced none other than Galway's famous score getter, Mick King, and again "J.J." came through with flying colours.

I remember asking John Joe on one occasion how he managed to be always so fit. Actually, training was his strong point. He believed in

being fit, and was lucky in the fact that hurling enthusiasm was strong in Newmarket at the time and all through the season they had four games a week there between their own players.

"J.J." played midfield in these encounters. This made him very fit, and he always maintained that given this home training there was no need whatsoever for specialised preparation. After the game he usually put on a pair of running shoes and covered the round of the pitch, his aim to cover the 440 yards in one minute. No wonder Doyle could say truthfully that he did not know what it was to get tired in a match.

Another little trick of John Joe's was to put a dozen small pebbles into his pocket, and with his eyes closed throw them up one by one and meet them on the drop with his hurley. He timed his swing that way and rarely failed to connect with at least ten and send them many long yards.

Doyle always maintained that Inter-County hurling was a battle of wits. He was a master of the split second start and he had complete confidence that he would not be beaten if he got in front at all. His tactics then were to bring the ball out from the danger zone along the ground and hit at the first opportunity "and save yourself a lot of trouble" as he often said.

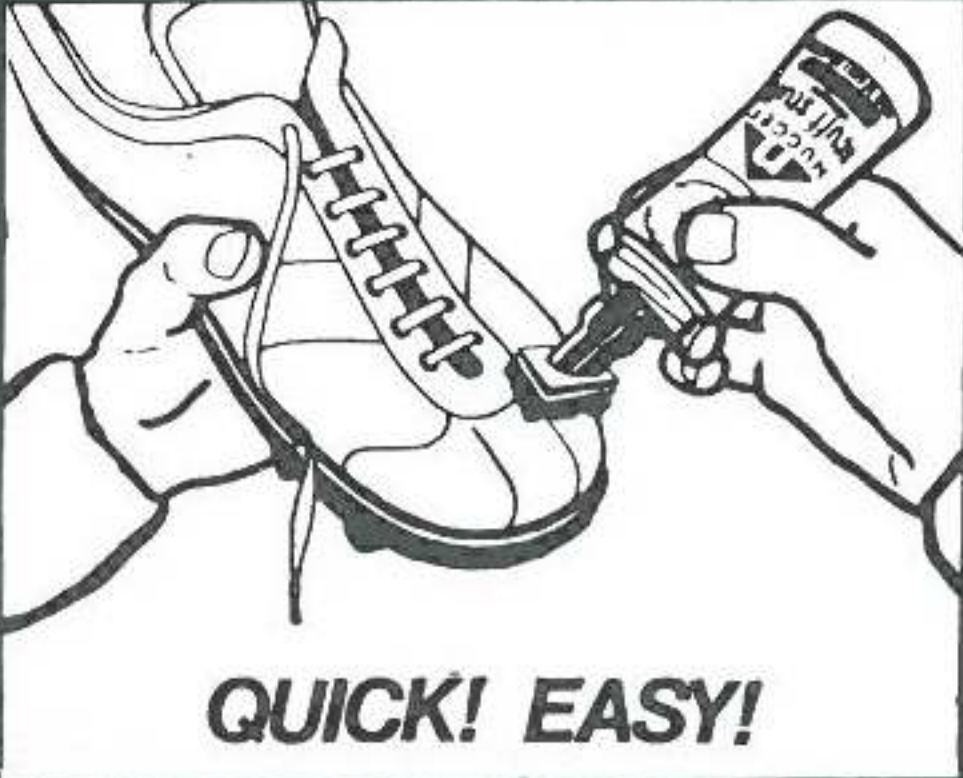
"Never lose your head" was his motto. Hurling required sixty minutes absolute concentration and that means never letting your eye off the ball, and no conversation with an opponent. He believed in drawing out his men if he could. "Never keep still" was his golden rule, "and never watch the forward but try and make him watch you".

I hope I have given sufficient reasons for my assertion that John Joe Doyle was Clare's greatest hurler, and after his playing days were over he continued to give outstanding service to Gaeldom both as a county selector and as Secretary of the Dr. Daly Memorial Park in his adopted Tulla.


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# Limerick will be a force in 1981

By EAMONN YOUNG

"LIMERICK had three good days against Cork and that was the finish of them". You can imagine the emphasis and complete conviction of the Cork man who said that to me. There's nobody, just nobody, like the Gaelic follower to make a flat statement about the games or the men who play them. Haven't we all done it? In thirty years of writing about the games I, myself, haven't learned yet the virtue of literary temperance, so I let my friend have his head.

He pointed out that in the drawn League final against Cork in Páirc Uí Chaoimh last May that Limerick led by six points at half time: that in the second half Cork came at them and had them staggering around the field in the last minute a goal down; that Ollie O'Connor dragged in the last gasp and sank the shot leaving the sides 2-10 each.

Limerick went on to the replay a fortnight later on a fast sunlit pitch. At half time they led by a point but half way through the second half Cork simply took the wheel and won well by 4-15 to 4-6. Two months later in Semple Stadium again on a sunny day with the pitch fast and dry Limerick, flying into everything, and hitting hard, were four points ahead at half time and this time to the delight of all neutrals forged ahead to win by four points at 2-14 to 2-10.

On that day my friend pointed out Cork were very bad with Ray Cummins back after a working stint in the States, so much below his form that the selectors took him off. With Cummins' departure my

friend averred that Cork's last chance was gone. So he concluded Limerick had everything going for them and could only scrape home over a bad Cork team that was bad on the day. Subsequently they failed against Galway whose All-Ireland win everybody outside Limerick hailed with delight. But Galway haven't proved themselves champions since. So he concluded with a question; where does all that leave Limerick?

After seeing them play Cork in Páirc Uí Chaoimh in the December League game I roused myself to voice an opinion. The pitch was frost-covered, for the high-flying concrete buttresses turned away the struggling rays of a bright winter sun. The hurling was quite spirited — in fact I was perturbed that the ref allowed one burst of wild pulling. No player likes to back down, but in my old age I'm sensitive to players' injuries. I admire very much about ninety per cent of our players and I hate to see broken fingers and split heads.

Anyway I thought Limerick well up with this new Cork side which has beaten Wexford, Waterford and Galway in that order. The Corkmen generally are fighting for their places and the injection of youth has stimulated the whole fifteen. The fact that John Crowley, Ray Cummins, Seanie Leary, and Dermot MacCurtain are likely to be on the panel for the Offaly game in the spring was an extra incentive to each Corkman to hurl well. Also the new men were playing in front of their own critical following for the



Eamonn Cregan (Limerick)

first time in an important competitive game and all this added up to an hour of stimulated endeavour by the Cork side which had to be contained by Limerick. It wasn't contained fully but the four point beating was nothing to be ashamed of.


Now to Limerick. There may be a few changes in the next six months but essentially the side is the same as hurled rather well this year. Tommy Quaid would stop a lot in the goal if he were not set down at half forward and Seamus O'Sullivan his present replacement is sound enough. Donal Murray and Dom Punch are available for corner back and at full back is the very reliable Leo Enright, who in the December game stayed close to the wily, quick-thinking, swerving Jim Barry Murphy. In the half-back line there's the resolute striker Liam O'Donoghue as good a wing half as you'll find, with strong Sean Foley in any half back position. Mossie Carroll is taking a rest at the moment, I hear, but he should be better next season when he has steadied down a bit. Con Keating is another reliable defender. In the middle of the field Jimmy Carroll and David Punch, who worked very hard in the successful Munster final retain the selectors' confidence and John Flanagan is back at centre forward. I, personally, attach great importance to this man. He's steel-strong and full of heart. He seems to be short in hurling but having come from junior club hurling to All-Ireland standard in eighteen months one can expect short-comings in

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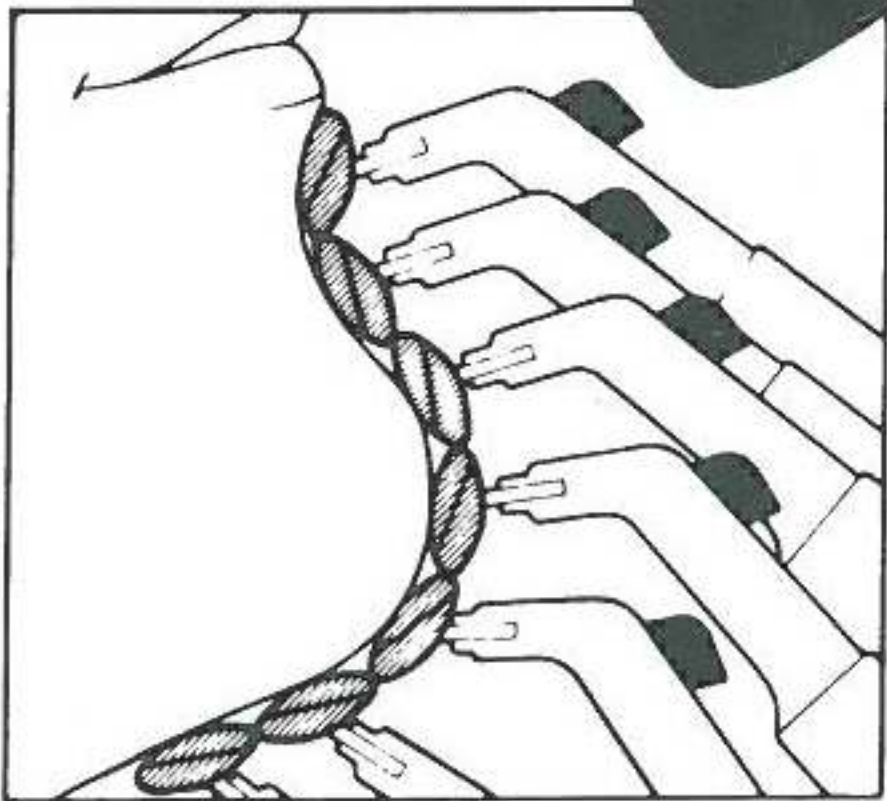


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● FROM PAGE 27

skill. However he obviously has the hurling character to work at his game and ball-control can certainly be greatly improved in any game by regular practice. Flanagan has the power that Limerick need, for this isn't a big team and that good full forward line needs to get the ball.

Paudie and Willie Fitzmaurice, Matt Rea and Tommy Quaid are all in there looking for half forward places while inside is the lethal Eamonn Cregan, the big man with the fast turn and the sure stroke, Joe McKenna, each watched by the alert little Ollie O'Connor who, while he can't hit as well as he can run, is harder to mind than fleas at a crossroads. Brian Carroll can be added to the list that is good enough to shake any of them next summer.

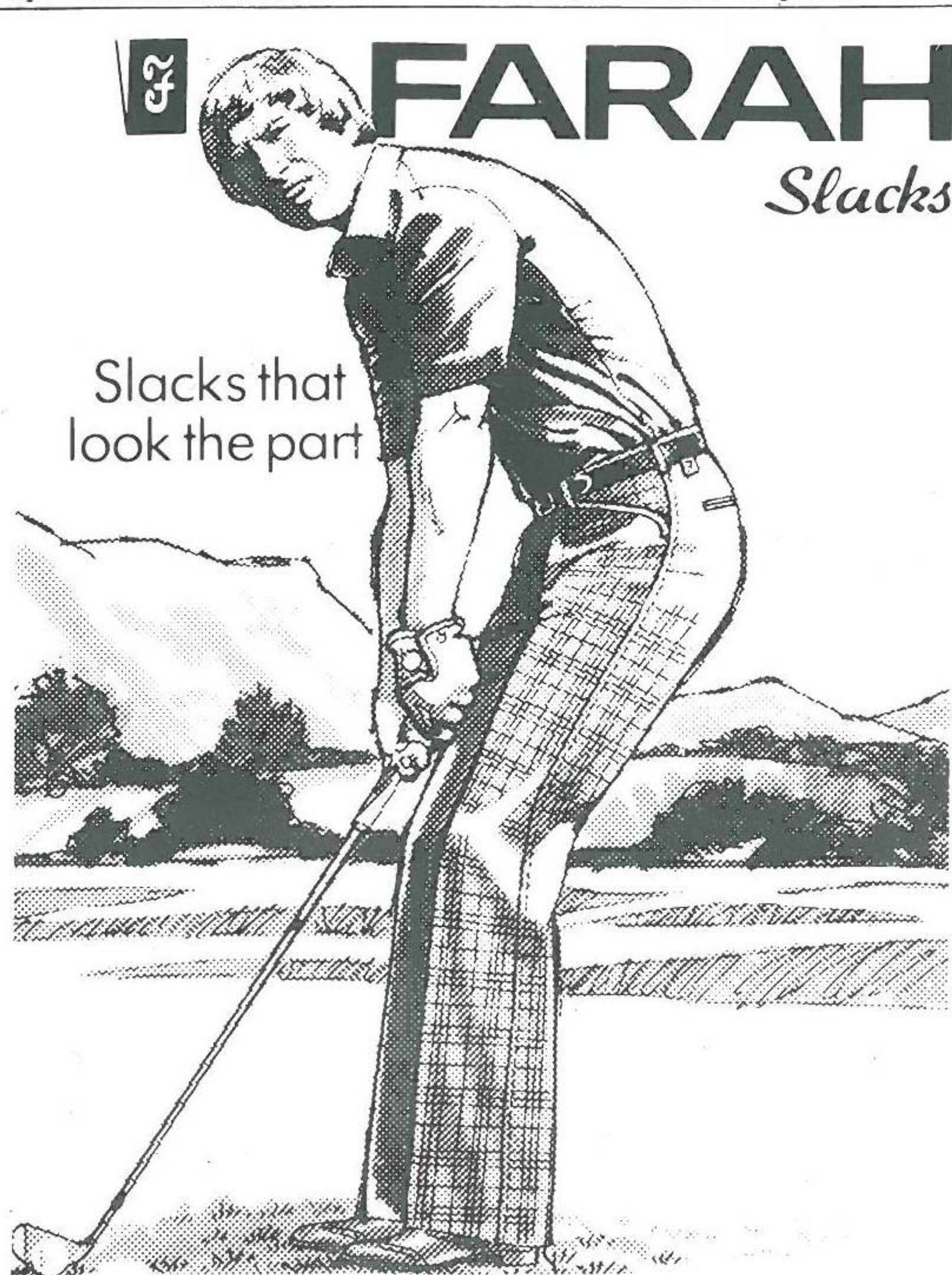
Then why have Limerick not won games in recent times. I'm convinced that the team just now is tired. They have been playing hard for two and a half years trying to get back into the big time. They have succeeded but have paid the price. They have trained hard under Noel Drumgoole and Tim Crowe; they have turned out night after night in tense urgent training; they have met Sunday after Sunday to hear sincere and effective exhortations before tense hours of competition. This all takes a heavy toll on the strongest and just now, I feel, that this Limerick side is simply played out.

But we all know how flexible and irrepressible is the human spirit particularly the fire that burns in that hard man we call a player. All he needs is a month's rest from competition, then another month's relaxed training, gradually building up and away goes the engine whirring as merrily as ever. That's what I think will happen in Limerick's case especially if the men behind the side have confidence in their own ability to manage and motivate at the right time. This I'm sure they have.

I asked Eamonn Cregan his opinion. "Yes, we've had a busy time and I am sure that the players are glad of this winter rest. We have lost three matches now but it's not all over until the spring when we meet

Wexford, Waterford, and Galway. I expect we'll be a lot fresher then and we could still qualify for the quarter finals. We will be fighting relegation then as well as getting ready for the championship so the atmosphere will be completely changed. Limerick will be hard to beat in the spring. We have problems and we know what they are. That's the first step to solving them. We are re-assessing ourselves and we know enough about hurling to come up with the right solutions. I'm optimistic about 1981."

So there let's leave it. Limerick gave us plenty of excitement in 1980 and with the same men all very keen, all a year older, a year wiser and perhaps not slower — for only Sean Foley, Leo Enright, Joe McKenna and Eamonn Cregan are thirty or over, and they're the best of them — it would be silly to agree with the opening statement of my good friend who will probably rebuke me when we meet again. Candidly I'm sure he's wrong and I hope so, for we do want the green shirts of Garryowen back for good.



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By  
**LOUIS  
HERON**

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group savings schemes in about 3,000 schools around Ireland.

To help get you into the savings mood the NSC produce a number of booklets on money topics. These may be obtained free of charge by writing to the National Savings Committee at 72, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2. Titles include "Secure Ways to Save", "Spending Wisely", "Family Budgeting", "Moneycraft", and "The Challenge of Retirement".

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added to the savings of all the other personal savers in the country. This money is then lent to the Government, industry and agriculture to invest in new factories, hospitals, schools, modern equipment, etc. All this helps the economy to grow and helps to create jobs.

Like other world economies, Ireland is presently feeling the effects of a depression. This has unfortunately resulted in unemployment. There are signs that international trade may improve in 1981. Once this happens, saving will be very important in order to finance new job creating projects.

So remember, when you save you not only help yourself. You also help to increase the country's standard of living in the future. There is every reason therefore to start saving now.

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# Home Decorating Time

By Joe Grace

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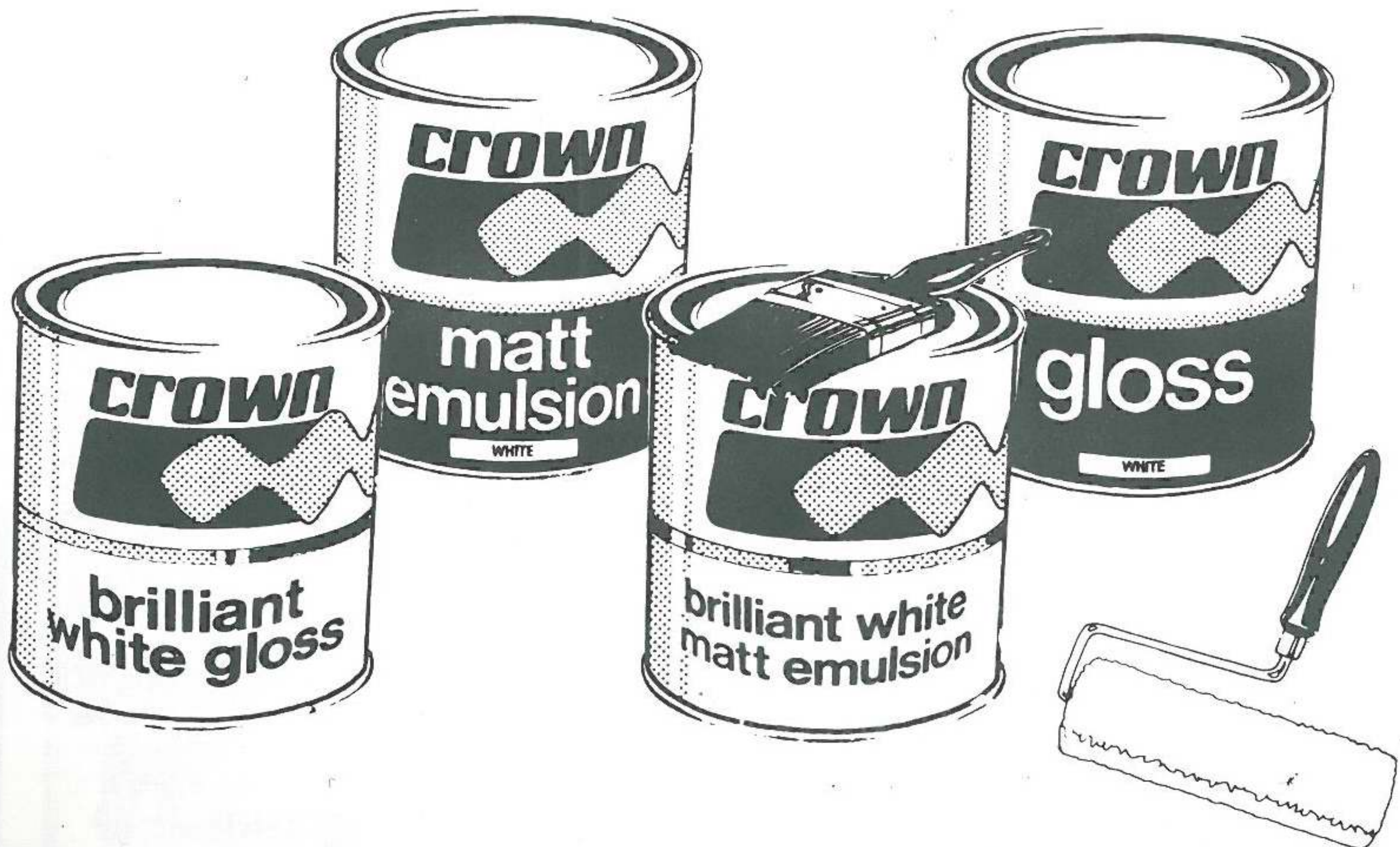
reinforced with particles of pulverised rock aggregate to fortify walls against elements, and can be applied by brush, roller or suitable sprayer and may be thinned with water as required. It is touch dry in one or two hours.

The preparation of a good surface is all important when it comes to achieving a good final result. This is often the difference between the professional approach and once-a-year amateur. Another tip is to use good brushes and always make sure that your brushes are clean. You can clean them in white spirit or just by running them under the tap, depending on the paint previously used. Here again, your local paint shop can provide the necessary advice.

## SEASONAL TIP

**N**OW is the time to prepare for the new Season. Make sure that your jersey, knicks and socks are thoroughly cleaned and that replacements are bought where necessary.

Take out your boots, clean them and replace any worn studs, stuff old newspaper into them — so that they keep their shape. When they are clean, use quality polish such as Nugget's Scuff Stuff to put a protective coating on them. As the name suggests this cares for those scuff marks that are unavoidable with football boots. For long lasting boots and good play Nugget have the answer.



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## CORK'S ACHIEVEMENTS THE HIGHLIGHT

LOOKING back over 1980, Cork takes pride of place for honours achieved on the field.

All three National Championships organised by Ard Choiste at County level have found their homes by the Lee and in doing so Cork set up a new Camogie record by winning the senior, junior and minor All-Ireland titles in the same year.

Cork's run of victories started away back in April when North Presentation Convent won the All-Ireland Senior Post Primary Schools Cup, Corn Sceilg for the first time. It also started a most rewarding year for their goalie Claire McCarthy who went on to add the minor, junior medals with Cork, as goalie and got a senior medal as the sub-goalie.

And the Leesiders also had the last word when their County Champions, Killeagh, took the first All-Ireland Club title to Leaside last November.

Cork players were well represented in the Gael-Linn Cup (Seniors) and Shield (Juniors) which were won by Munster. The Senior Gael-Linn had not been won by Munster since 1966 so it was a very welcome victory.

You might well ask how did Cork manage to field top teams in every grade. In my opinion, no county has as many schools playing camogie, with plenty of opportunities for all ages in the Cork's Schools programme and in the Munster Councils competitions.

The first Junior National League

title was won by Armagh, who took home their first National title and the Bourke Cup.

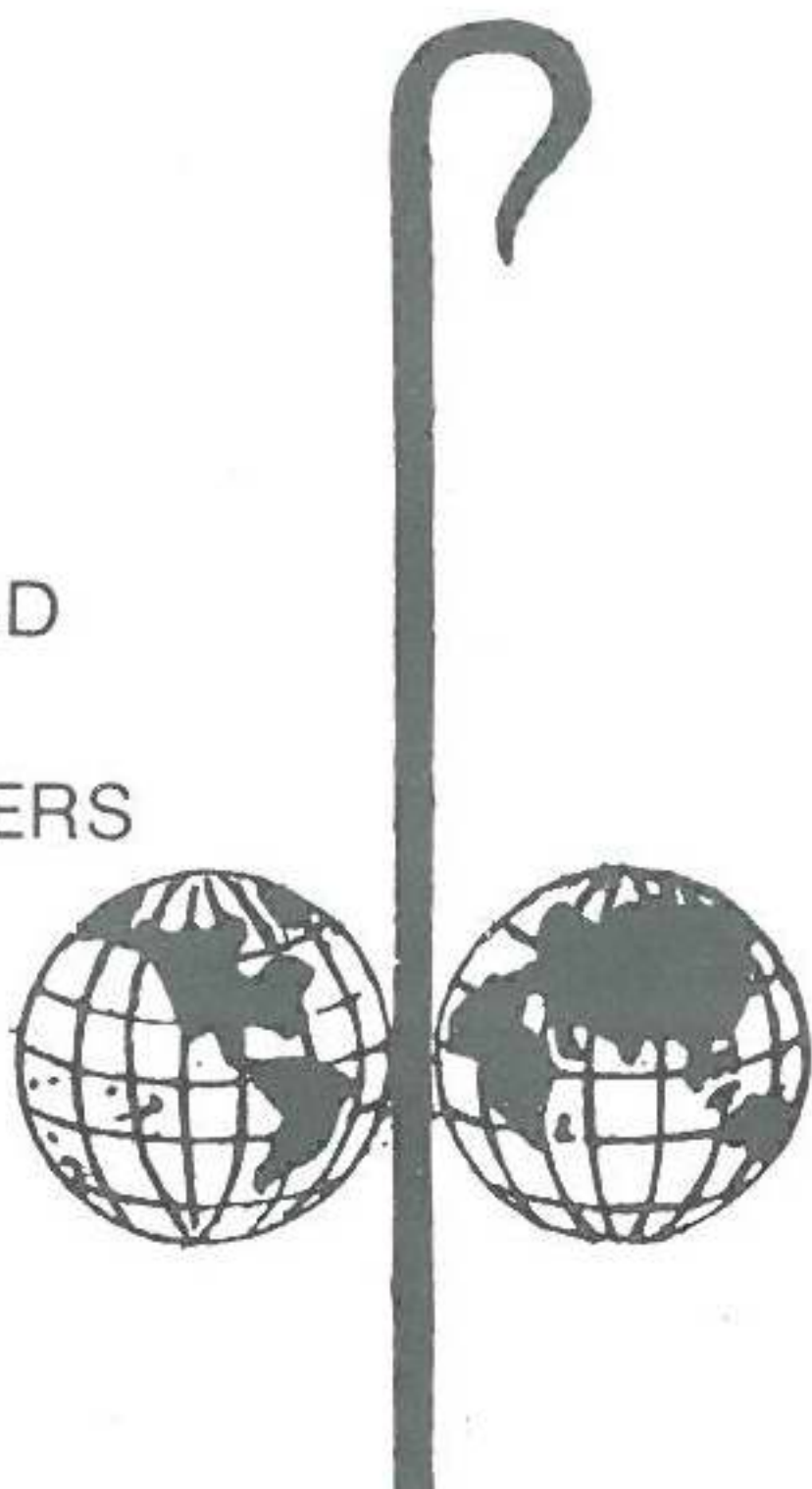
The Senior National League A.I.B. Cup was won by Kilkenny who had a brilliant run of victories in the competition and started the Championship as hot favourites but failed to Limerick who went very close to taking their first senior title. They played a draw with Cork but lost the replay by a single score.

In the Third Level field University College Dublin regained the Ashbourne Cup after a ten year lapse. Northern Ireland Polytechnic retained the Purcell Cup and St. Pats Drumcondra won the C.C.I.A. League.

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# Another Boom Year for Handball

By Seán Clerkin

THERE is no reason why 1981 should not be another boom year for handball.

I am optimistic for the year that yawns ahead despite the fact that the game is now missing its pivot since the departure of Pat Kirby for permanent residence in Arizona some few weeks ago.

Since 1970 when he first stamped his superiority on the game in this country by winning the World Championship. Kirby has established himself as the Golden Boy of Irish Handball. They called on him from all parts of the country to play in tournaments and partake in official opening ceremonies, the Handball Council appointed him as the Director of Coaching and then as an aside he had the unenviable task of establishing himself as the top player in the country.

That he did in full measure by winning the Coca Cola Softball Singles Championship on four successive occasions apart altogether from the fact that he has remained unbeaten in the 40 x 20 Senior Singles event, since it was initiated.

Then the crowning glory of a wonderful career was established in Tucson, Arizona, last June, when Kirby proudly won the U.S.H.A. Masters Singles Championship for Ireland.

Amidst the euphoria that attached itself to this great win, there emerged a whisper via the grapevine that he was considering a return to the U.S.A.

You may recollect that I made a plea through Gaelic Sport for a real effort to be made in trying to keep him in Ireland. Obviously, it was abortive and the Great Bird of Irish Handball has flown.

Thank you Pat for the contribution you have made to the game in this country since the early seventies and may success attend to your efforts in the future.

With that episode as a backdrop, handballers, whether they be administrators or players, must now brace themselves and be determined to compensate for the void created by Kirby's departure and attempt to hoist the game into the major category of Irish Sport.

There is nothing to suggest that

the upsurge in court construction which has mushroomed in the last decade will not continue.

Nowadays, the emphasis is on the 40 x 20 type structure with the old traditional 60 x 30 court finding few aspirants. The inclusion of handball facilities in community centres is a positive pointer for the game and particular recognition must be taken of the fact that handball courts are now included in a number of leisure centres in Belfast.

It is at this juncture that the G.A.A. clubs through the country must again perform an in depth analysis of themselves in relation to handball. With plans well advanced in many instances for the centenary celebrations in 1984 it might be no harm to emphasise that in terms of athletics the only games stipulated in the Official Guide are hurling, football and handball.

And so into the ballcourts of 1981 and the skilful exploits of Billy Bourke (Kilkenny), Tony Ryan (Tipperary), Francis McCann (Sligo), Pat Cleary and John Fleming (Wexford), the Quish Brothers, Tom and John (Limerick), Ger O'Gallagher (Cork), Martin Hennigan and Murt Sweeney (Mayo), Ger Coughlan (Clare), and Paddy Delaney (Offaly) should give us many outstanding games.

The Springtime will also see the election of a new President and my immediate information is that a number of well-known and competent exponents will be in the field.

It is appropriate then, that my finale this month should be complimentary to Tom Walsh of Donegal, who has held the position for the past three years. His work-rate has been top-rate and his disposition, even in his most pressurised moments, extremely courteous.

## 1980 HANDBALL TITLES

● FROM PAGE 21

Novice Doubles	Winners A. and S. Ryan (Carlow)
	R-up M. Gleeson and G. McKeogh (Tipperary)
Under-21 Singles	Winner T. Ryan (Tipperary)
	R-up J. Fleming (Wexford)
Under-21 Doubles	Winners J. Fleming and P. Cleary (Wexford)
	R-up T. Ryan and W. O'Donnell (Tipperary)
Master Singles	Winner P. O'Keefe (Kilkenny)
	R-up W. Kerins (Kerry)
Masters Doubles	Winners W. and T. Kerins (Kerry)
	R-up M. Lally and S. Reid (Galway)
Golden Masters Singles	Winner M. Walsh (Mayo)
	R-up J. Walsh (Tipperary)
Golden Masters Doubles	Winners J. Walsh and D. Wall (Tipperary)
	R-up M. Walsh and G. Daly (Mayo)



# MONEY MATTERS

By Tony Keegan

AS we start a New Year it is fair to say that saving is as important as ever. Saving and investment are two sides of the same coin. The money we save is put to good use by the institutions involved and provides employment which is particularly worthwhile now. It also provides an income for the saver. Different amounts left varying lengths of time in different institutions provide varying incomes. We list hereunder some of the options open to the discerning saver.

At the U.D.T. Bank I spoke to Michael Casey their Deposits Manager. Michael plays hurling with Fontenoys and with Pat Henchy, the former Clare hurler also on the headquarters staff, readers of "Gaelic Sport" can be assured of a special welcome at U.D.T.

A Savings Account can be started with amounts of £1 and over with interest payable twice yearly (March and September) at 10 per cent. When you reach £100 you switch to a Deposit Account, where for amounts up to £5,000 the interest rate at present varies between 12 per cent and 13 per cent depending on whether you want your money on demand or are prepared to leave it for a week, a month, three months, six months or a year. Michael told me that where circumstances allow, U.D.T. adopt a flexible approach in the strict application of the period of notice.

For sums between £5,000 and £25,000 you can either deposit these at fixed rates over a period of time or rates which fluctuate with the market for a set period. Once again, flexibility is the keynote and U.D.T. will be glad to tailor their options to meet your special circumstances.

The U.D.T. monthly Income Deposit Plan is one of their most popular forms of investment. It is simplicity itself. All you have to do is to place £1,000 or more on deposit for one year and each month you will receive a monthly cheque. If you put in your money before the 20th of any month, you will receive your first cheque at the end of the same month. The current rate is 13½ per cent. An investment of £1,000 yields £11.25 monthly; £2,500 yields £28.13; £5,000 yields £56.25; whereas £10,000 yields £112.50 monthly.

The monthly Income Plan has

proved very popular with those who receive "Golden Handshakes" on retirement or redundancy payments, where it is important to maximise the income potential of the capital sum.

The U.D.T. Bank, which is 25 per cent owned by Irish Life has branches in Dublin, Athlone, Carlow, Cork, Dundalk, Galway, Kilkenny, Waterford and will be glad to give you full details of the Deposit facilities on application.

A special feature for the regular saver on offer with U.D.T. is that if you contract to save a set sum of money every month for a year and succeed in doing so, in addition to the usual interest rate, U.D.T. will also pay you a bonus. It could be large or small depending on the movement of money market rates but there is always a bonus.

Something to bear in mind is that



● Erin's Isle Chariman Eddie Toman in jubilant mood after receiving the Allied Irish Banks Club of the Year Award. Also in the picture (left to right) Joe McGlenn (Group Managing Director, AIB), Jim Tunney T.D., Minister of State who presented the Award and Padraig Mac Floinn Uachtaran C.L.G.



if in the future you should need a loan for some purpose, U.D.T. Bank gives its depositors priority service.

The Irish Civil Service Building Society was founded in 1864 and with Assets of over £50m. is one of Ireland's 'Top Five' Building Societies. Up to the mid 'Seventies' the Society was largely confined to the Dublin and Cork areas but since then a policy of continuing expansion has seen the establishment of District Offices throughout the country. At present there are fifty branch and district offices serving the Westmoreland Street, Dublin, headquarters and planned expansion will mean that the I.C.S. Building Society's motto "there's a branch near you" will become self evident.

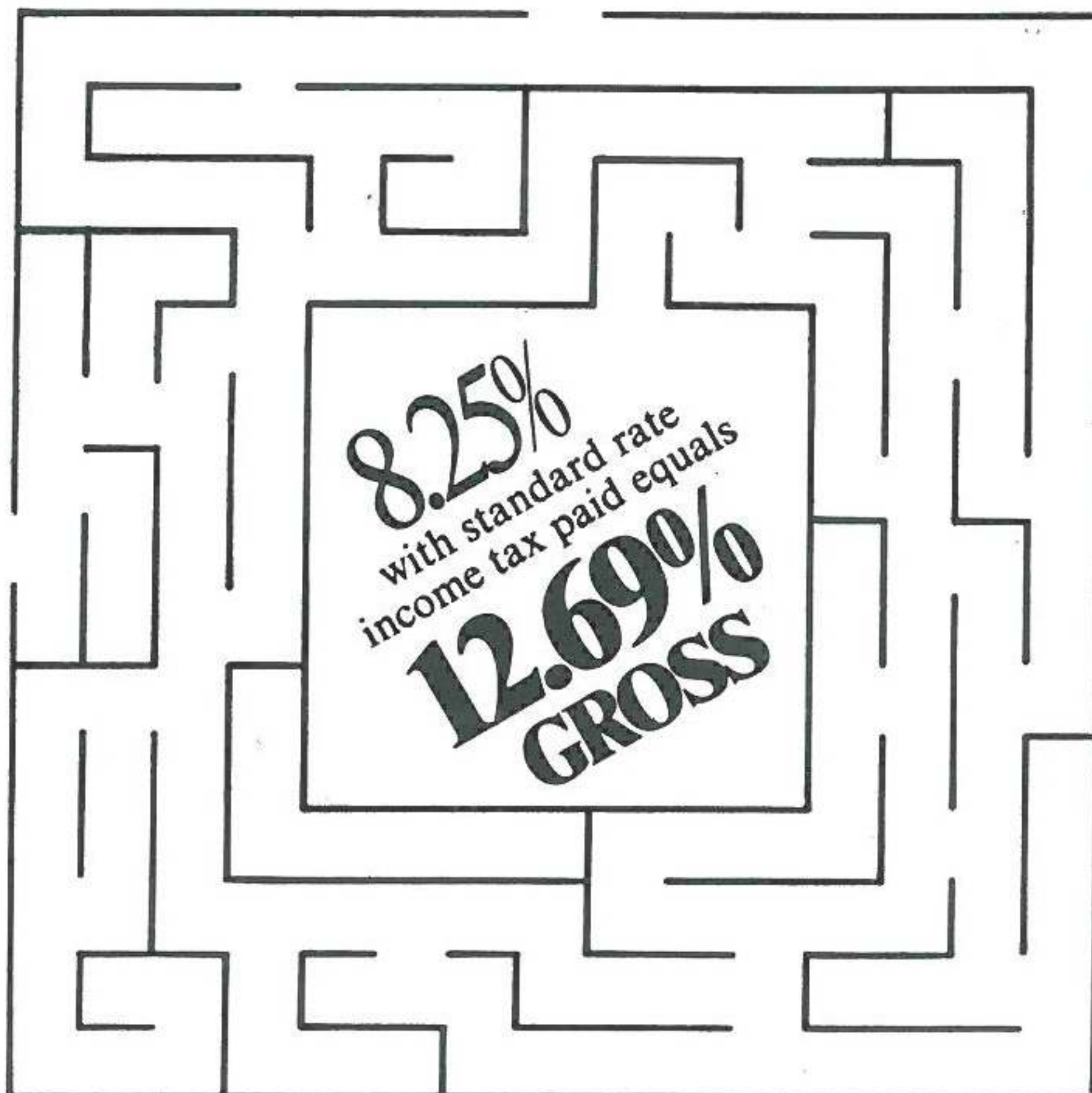
Savings with the Irish Civil Service are straightforward. A Savings Share Account can be started with amounts from £1 upwards and has an attractive rate of 8.25 per cent nett of tax (equals 12.69 per cent gross). Withdrawals of up to £1,000 are paid on demand; amounts exceeding this figure are paid on one month's notice. Interest is payable twice yearly (on June 1st and December 1st) and can be sent either directly to the depositor or his bank, or can be added onto the capital sum in the account where it, in turn, generates interest.

The Irish Civil Service Building Society is unique among the Irish Building Societies in that its Investment Shares are quoted on the Dublin Stock Exchange. Quotations are published in the national papers each day.

If you want the security and convenience of a monthly income, then the Irish Civil Service's Monthly Interest Account is the savings scheme for you. What you do is to lodge anything over £3,000 with the I.C.S. and agree to give a two months notice of withdrawal. The Society, in return, will pay you interest each month at the rate of 8.25 per cent tax paid (equals 12.69

● TO PAGE 44

# Find a top rate of interest



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• FROM PAGE 15

Wranglings were more prominent than constructive discussion as to how this downhill situation might be dealt with. No plan emerged. Whatever happened afterwards was not part of the original touring pattern, but rather a series of 'ad hoc' reasons thought up to make a respectable reason for a "trip for the boys."

New York (and some other places in a small way) have made efforts to do what was not done in the days of playing wealth. They tried to develop native players through the minor and under-age grades. It is a courageous effort and demands support in any way possible. But it is an undertaking begun at the worst time, fighting against the tide of the times. So far it has produced creditable returns, as anyone who saw the New York boys competing in the All-Ireland minor championship will know. But what is highly praiseworthy in an infant native growth in football is still miles away from the standards which would put

them back on an even keel with the best of the home teams.

So began the modern idea of All Stars and All-Ireland champions, for it was now necessary to bring a team and opposition. New York would not agree they could not muster a good test to any team that came, but the tour was given a broader dimension, moving to other Irish strongholds and out to the West Coast.

Exhibition play is never what stirs the blood; no matter how heatedly the two visiting teams set about one another it means nothing much to the local. Fine and delightful and wonderful to snatch a whiff of home and the old half-forgotten days, but not a reality in which to get involved and excited with something like the old pride once felt for the parish team.

So it is that these tours of recent times have never really meant anything special to anyone, outside the players involved, those involved closely in the organisation and carrying through of the trips and a

fringe of enthusiasts of doubtful numbers. Granted that position it was inevitable that there would be questions sooner or later about the viability of the operation.

If it be reduced to a question of providing some kind of real reward for the year's most successful players — a proposition that would not gain full support among the other players of the games — then let it be given some sort of acceptable basis to rest on. Why not let the All Stars or champions, or both, travel and stay in whatever community of Irish abroad would invite and entertain them, while the players in turn gave a good portion of their time teaching and grooming and polishing the local youngsters at the game, while demonstrating in match-play of eight or ten-a-side.

If there is not some objective which furthers the games in places abroad (wherever those places are) it seems to me that organising tours there has nothing to do with the G.A.A. and is nothing more than a rip off.

# Team spirit<sup>o</sup>

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**N**INETEEN eighty one will probably be no different to 1980 when it comes to the subject of the influence diet has on our general health — discussion, debate and argument will undoubtedly continue, especially in relation to how diet affects the health of our hearts.

Sometimes there seem to be experts everywhere with varying opinions. The many voices do tend to create a certain amount of confusion. What is one supposed to believe?

How about ignoring the endless discussion and instead turn to independent authorities in these matters — the Irish Heart Foundation, for example, or the World Health Organisation. You discover that while there does not seem to be any absolute proof about what does what to your heart, there certainly is world medical consensus on the heart disease problem.

Twenty reports compiled over the last number of years by independent expert committees from countries all around the world make very definite recommendations about our eating habits.\*

All say that we should reduce our fat intake and a majority (18 out of 20) tell us that we should increase the amount of polyunsaturates — vegetable-based fats, like sunflower oil — in our diet.

A new research study from South Africa, whose white population has the world's highest rates of heart

disease, has provided some of the best evidence yet that we should watch our intake of saturated fats as opposed to foods which contain more polyunsaturated fats such as wholegrain bread, fish and soft margarines which are high in polyunsaturates.

The study published in the South African Journal of Science took the form of a dietary experiment which was carried out using monkeys —

ordinary monkey diet. But the arteries in the high cholesterol group which had been fed the extra saturated fats were in much worse shape than those of the sunflower diet group: so much so that the 'clogging' of the saturated fats group's arteries was visible to the naked eye.

Obviously monkeys are not men. Nevertheless this study sheds further light on the remarkable reduced

## *“A consensus of medical opinion”*

which have a metabolism very like our own. Three groups of monkeys were fed for two years on diets containing the same amount of calories. Two of the groups were on a 'high cholesterol' diet — in effect a typical Western diet — whilst the third group was fed an ordinary monkey diet of fruit, vegetables and a little animal protein. But one of the 'high cholesterol' groups was also fed extra saturated fats whilst the other high cholesterol group received sunflower oil, which is high in polyunsaturated fat.

When the experiment was finished, the arteries of the hearts of all three monkeys were examined. Both the high cholesterol groups showed more evidence of 'clogged up' arteries than the group on the

rates from heart attacks in countries like America and Finland, where for the past ten years there has been a pronounced switch away from 'saturated' fats to 'polyunsaturated' fats.

This has not happened in Ireland. Heart attack rates here are higher than in America. Some estimates put the mortality rate from heart disease at 30 a day — a veritable epidemic. 1981 would be as good a year as any to start watching out for your heart.

\*“Dietary Fats and Oils in Human Nutrition” — report of an expert consultation jointly organised by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations and the World Health Organisation, 1977.



## A Special Choice

Vincent considered many different career options before he discovered that Christ had something special in mind for him. Today he is a member of the Augustinians Order and is training in Rome for the Priesthood.

As a religious and a priest his calling will inspire others to live human, christian and spiritual lives.

**Enquiries to:**  
**Fr. Michael O'Regan, OSA,**  
**Augustinian Community,**  
**Ballyboden,**  
**Dublin 16.**  
**Phone 908943**



# Results Summary

## NATIONAL LEAGUES

### FOOTBALL

November 23: Knockbridge: Fermanagh 0-8; Louth 0-7.

November 30: Killarney: Kerry 2-11; Dublin 2-7. Newbridge: Cork 2-12; Kildare 1-9. Tullamore: Roscommon 2-9; Offaly 1-9. Portlaoise: Galway 2-8; Laois 0-8. Ballybay: Monaghan 0-7; Meath 0-5. Ballina: Mayo 2-4; Tyrone 2-4.

Drogheda: Louth 2-10; Wexford 0-6. Kilsheelin: Tipperary 2-5; Clare 0-6. Cavan; Cavan 1-8; Donegal 1-7. Irvinestown: Fermanagh 2-12; Sligo 0-7. Stradbally: Waterford 3-5; Kilkenny 0-4. Aughrim: Wicklow 0-10; Leitrim 0-7. Longford: Longford 2-8; Limerick 0-6. Carlow: Westmeath 1-11; Carlow 2-6.

December 7: Tuam: Galway 3-7; Mayo 2-10.

December 14: Croke Park: Dublin 1-11; Cork 1-9. Armagh: Armagh 0-6; Roscommon 0-5. Newbridge: Offaly 2-6; Kildare 0-7. Killorglin: Kerry 2-9; Down 0-5. Casement Park: Antrim 0-7; Monaghan 0-5. Galway: Galway 1-10; Derry 1-2. Portlaoise: Mayo 2-8; Laois 2-4.

Bansha: Cavan 1-13; Tipperary 0-2. Wexford: Wexford 2-4; Clare 0-5. Aughrim: Wicklow 2-13; Longford 2-5. Kilkenny: Leitrim 5-14; Kilkenny 1-4. Moate: Westmeath 1-5; Limerick 1-3. Stradbally: Waterford 3-6; Carlow 2-2.

### HURLING

November 23: Dungarvan: Waterford 1-8; Wexford 1-6. Ballinasloe: Cork 3-10; Galway 0-14. Limerick: Tipperary 1-13; Limerick 2-6. Loughgiel: Westmeath 1-10; Antrim 1-8. Croke

-Park: Clare 0-19; Dublin 2-7. Rathdowney: Laois 1-15; Kerry 4-3. Aughrim: Wicklow 2-8; Armagh 2-4. Ballycran: Down 2-14; Roscommon 4-5. Carlow: Carlow 1-14; Meath 3-7.

December 7: Thurles; Offaly 0-13; Tipperary 1-7. Pairc Ui Chaoimh: Cork 0-14; Limerick 0-10. Wexford: Wexford 2-10; Galway 1-11. Tralee: Kerry 0-11; Kilkenny 0-11. Portlaoise: Clare 3-14; Laois 2-7. Castletowngeoghegan: Westmeath 0-8; Dublin 1-5.

## CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

### LEINSTER

**FOOTBALL:** November 23: Navan: Walterstown, Meath, 3-9; Civil Service, Dublin, 0-6. **Replay.** Portlaoise: The Downs, Westmeath, 1-7; O'Dempsey's, Laois, 1-4.

December 7: Semi-Finals: Newbridge: Eire Og, Carlow, 2-6; The Downs, 0-7. Baltinglass, Wicklow, 2-9; Walterstown, 2-9. **Draw.**

**HURLING:** November 23: Semi-Final: Portlaoise, Coolderry, Offaly, 2-5; Ardclough, Kildare, 1-7. November 30: Semi-Final: Athy: Shamrocks, Kilkenny, 2-10; Rathnure, Wexford, 1-10. **Replay.**

December 14: **Final:** Athy: Shamrocks, Kilkenny, 3-10; Coolderry, Offaly, 1-8.

### MUNSTER

**HURLING:** November 30: **Final:** Fermoy: St. Finbarr's, Cork, 2-12; Roscrea, Tipperary, 1-14.

**FOOTBALL:** December 7: Stradbally: Stradbally, Waterford, 4-9; Galtee Rovers, Tipperary, 1-13. Refixed tie.

### ULSTER

**FOOTBALL:** November 23:

**Final:** Armagh: Scotstown, Monaghan, 1-4; St. John's, Belfast, 1-3.

### HANDBALL

## NATIONAL LEAGUES

November 23: Division I: Tinahely: Clare bt. Wicklow. Cappagh: Tipperary bt. Limerick. Wexford: Wexford bt. Dublin.

November 30: Division I: Croke Park: Tipperary bt. Dublin. Talbot's Inch: Wexford bt. Kilkenny.

December 6: Division I **Final:** Talbot's Inch: Wexford bt. Tipperary 113 to 92.

November 23: Division II Semi-Finals: Croke Park: Meath bt. Carlow. Rathmore: Dublin bt. Mayo.

December 7: Baltinglass: Division II Final: Meath bt. Dublin 116 to 80.

## TOP ACE QUALIFYING COMPETITIONS

### 60 X 30

December 14: Croke Park: Ollie Harrold (Kilkenny), Pat McGarry (Limerick), Tony Ryan (Tipperary), John Kirby (Clare), Tom Morrissey (Tipperary), Francis McCann (Sligo), Richie Lynge (Wexford), Tom Quish (Limerick) all qualified for the competition proper.

### 40 X 20

December 14: Croke Park: Mick Walsh (Roscommon), Michael Ahern (Kerry), Pat Delaney (Kilkenny), Pat Morris all qualified for the competition proper.



# JUNIOR DESK: DEVISED AND EDITED BY JACK MAHON



First of all I'm going to review some G.A.A. County Yearbooks etc.

**Cork '81 (Official Publication of Cork County Board)** is a 124 page publication produced by Gaelic Sport Publications and, like its Dublin counterpart, is exceedingly well produced. It covers the Cork G.A.A. scene well. The *piece de resistance* of the book is Frank Murphy's centrepiece entitled "Fewer / Frees Please". His refereeing has always been full of commonsense. So is his article. Another very readable contribution is from Bath-based Dermot McCarthy on Clonakilty's great football record.

Price £1 is great value from Gaelic Sport Publications, 80, Upper Drumcondra Rd., Dublin 9.

**Kerry G.A.A. Yearbook 1981** (Kerry's Official Publication) commemorates the three-in-a-row All-Ireland achievement as one would expect both in prose (John Barry, Eamonn Horan) and in coloured photos (all three winning teams). Like in the Cork book, John Joe Brosnan writes about the age of the video tape. This is Kerry's best produced Yearbook to date. Plenty of interesting "fillers" are used to fill any empty spaces; proofing is good and production — so much improved. Joe Keohane and Jim O'Sullivan call for a Special Congress on Rule Changes now rather than in 1985. Pat "Aeroplane" O'Shea in a long article writes of the famous Croke Memorial Games of 1913. Since writing the article the former midfielder has passed on. As always Owen McCrohan's pen adorns the pages. Raymond Smith's piece about "The Bawn" and Tony

Hanahoe is good but how could the former Tipperary Star reporter confuse Down's great wing forward Paddy Doherty with his namesake Sean of Dublin? That's unlike you Raymond!

Price £1.80 — the book is larger in format than the Cork one and its 112 pages constitute a great souvenir of Kerry's three-in-a-row triumphs — from Editor Michael Lyne, B.A., Valentia, Co. Kerry.

**The G.A.A. in Co. Wexford — A Report on Organisational Structure.** This was commissioned by the Co. Wexford G.A.A., written by Patricia O'Hara and Carmel Kelleher of An Foras Talúntais and aided financially by A.I.B. Ltd. Every Co. Board in Ireland should have copies of this. What I like best in this book is that it spells out the functions of Co. Board Committees and officers such as for instance the P.R.O. We have so many Co. Board P.R.O.s who do not know what their function is.

The Wexford Co. Board deserve credit for commissioning this booklet.

From An Foras Talúntais, Hume House, Pembroke Road, Dublin 4.

**Galway G.A.A. Annual — 1980** — is the best produced of all the annuals I have seen to-date. Its cover is superb, its Galway team photo centrepiece in full colour, magnificent. I love its contents page. The best articles are those from Bosco McDermott who asks "What's Wrong with Galway Football?", Iggy Clarke's feelings on what it was like not to be able to play in the Final and two other very readable pieces

from Joe Connolly and Sean Silke. This is Galway's best annual to-date but it could have included a section carrying the lists of champions for 1980 plus all Co. Final results. There are plenty of photos to enliven the text and far less ads than a year ago.

Price £1.50 from Galway Co. Board Offices, Dominick St., Galway.

**Dublin '81** — almost identical in format to Cork '81. Very good value for £1. Pat Spillane gives his rating on all the Dubs. Tommy McQuaid's interview with Brian Mullins is very interesting. Except you'd think Brian was an angel on the field of play himself! I hope Brian makes a complete recovery from his injury and that he recovers too from his "chip on the shoulder" attitude to Pressmen, a remark that applies equally to David Hickey, who in another interview reflects a victimisation complex peculiar to many of the same Dubs and so unlike Jimmy Keaveney and Paddy Cullen who always seemed to be able to handle all kinds of people including Pressmen.

Liz Howard's impressions of Gaelic Games in 1980 is superb. But then I have a soft spot for Liz! I've said it before and I'll say it again. There should be a special McNamee Award for the best Yearbook article every year. I'd rate Liz's contribution very high. Pauline Heuston writes of the Dublin Supporters Club and their annual night out last February. I was there that night Pauline and how you failed to mention Paddy Cullen's singing of "Dublin in the Rare Old

● OVERLEAF



### ● FROM OVERLEAF

Times" just beats me. It was a performance to cherish.

Price £1 — same address as Cork '81.

**Co. Tipperary G.A.A. Yearbook** — has its All-Ireland U-21 and minor champions in full colour. Galway and other Yearbooks could learn from its Results pages 65 and 66. In my youth one of the great hurling goalkeepers was Jimmy Maher of Tubberadora. I never read much of him. But he gets due praise on pages 31 and 32. John O'Grady — the Yearbook's Editor — is a man whose writing has always appealed to me. As "Camán" in the **Tipperary Star**, his column is known far and wide.

Price £1 from Editor John O'Grady, Cloongour, Thurles, Co. Tipperary.

**Donegal G.A.A. Yearbook 1980** — I've left the best wine till last. It may lack some of the colour of other Yearbooks though it has a colour cover of the Kilcar champion team. Editor Fr. Sean Gallagher deserves congratulations for a great job. It has so many good things like the Editorial page including contents, the detailed analysis of the Donegal senior football team, results, number of appearances per player, scores, etc., two pages of honours lists 1980 with a complete run-down on the winners campaign (**Other Yearbooks please note**), Donegal's contribution to Ciste Gael, Scór, Óg sport Gael, Féile na nGael etc. and quite a number of articles tré Gaeilge. But the real gem is Fr. Gallagher's own "Diary of a Ref for the year 1980". This is great stuff, new and so interesting. So many Yearbooks tend to have the same approach year in year out. It is so refreshing to read something quite new. Might I press the Communications Committee for the Special McNamee Award for such an article. Keep it up Father and I wish you well in the McNamee Award Stakes.

Price £1.20 from Fr. Seán Ó Gallchóir, Coláiste na Croise Naofa,

Falcarragh, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

**Finally Score**—Issue No. 15 of the Official Magazine of Down G.A.A. is a 50 page production selling for 30p. Down have been keeping this going for a few years now and deserve credit. Their review of the year with large tables, results of all competitions, including Scór and the listing of all Down G.A.A. Committees are worthwhile pointers for all G.A.A. Boards in their annual reviews.

Price 30p from Paddy McEvoy, 8, Clinton's Park, Downpatrick, Co. Down.

### CUT-OUT

Our Cut-Out this month is the popular and burly Clare forward Noel Casey, the man who scored so many great goals when Clare won the N.H.L.'s and came so near to Munster Final success. Noel has a very special place in Clare hearts. We congratulate Noel on becoming one of our Cut-Outs and wish him and Clare well for 1981.

## Mailbag

On with our usual **Mailbag**. Always the best part of Junior Desk.

**Sheila Helen Hartnett, Kilconlea Upper, Abbeyfeale, Co. Limerick** — "I now have almost 100 issues of **Gaelic Sport** in my collection. Even at Limerick's expense it was great to see Galway hurlers win after the long wait of 57 years. Joe Connolly's speech was surely the best ever made on All-Ireland Final Day. It came straight from the heart and caused many people to shed tears. The present G.A.A. rules are not being implemented properly. For example the rule says the man in possession can take 4 steps only. Often players take 6 or 8 steps without being pulled up. Each referee should have a permanent team of linesmen and

umpires. This should help".

● *Keep buying Gaelic Sport. Yes Joe Connolly's speech was ar fheabhas. You win a Cork G.A.A. Yearbook. (J.M.)*

**Eileen Murphy, Railway View, Rathmore, Co. Kerry**, in a long letter looks at the state of Gaelic football and feels the solo run as perfected by people like Pat Spillane is a great skill but is overdone, leads to frees and should be limited to two solos and one hop. Regarding the handpass she wants the palmed goal abolished as it gives the goalkeeper no chance. She feels too the players should have a say in formulating rules. (*They always have Eileen through their club. (J.M.)*). Finally she feels we shouldn't have to wait until 1985 to debate the rules again and suggests Centenary year 1984 will be over by then "How about Killarney this year?"

● *I feel we may have a special Congress this year to debate the state of Gaelic football. You win a Dublin G.A.A. Yearbook Eileen (J.M.)*

**Brid Devereux (Aged 10), 12, Hawthorn Court, Kennedy Park, Limerick** — "I am a great Limerick hurling fan and go to all their matches home and away. My favourite player is "Bomber" Carroll. He was great when he came on in the Final. Weren't Limerick great losers? I hope they win it in '81.

● *Great letter Brid. Yes they were great losers as we in Galway know so well. And it is so easy to be good winners. You win a Limerick G.A.A. scarf. (J.M.)*

**Anne Walsh, 6 St. Stephen's Road, Castleisland, Co. Kerry**, is another great fan of the Limerick hurlers and her special favourite is Tommy Quaid. She hopes, too, for success in 1981.

● *My No. 1 Limerick Star of 1980 was Liam O'Donoghue — a mighty hurler. (J.M.)*

**John McInerney, Clarehill, Clarecastle, Co. Clare**. — "I love Gaelic Sport and Junior Desk. The latter gives young people a chance to



express views and speak of favourite players. During 1980 I saw some great hurling matches — the All-Ireland S.H., N.H.L. Finals, Munster S.H. (county and club), Cork and Clare Co. S.H. Finals. What a game Gerry Glynn had for Castlegar v. Blackrock. And of course the All-Ireland S.H. final had such atmosphere. All credit to Limerick and their fans for their sportsmanship in defeat. My G.A.A. Man of the Year is Brendan Vaughan, Chairman of the Clare Co. Board. His work for Cusack Park in Ennis will always be remembered. He would be an ideal President of the G.A.A. for 1984”

● *Great letter John. You win copies of the Cork and Dublin Yearbooks. Yes Brendan Vaughan is a great G.A.A. man. (J.M.)*

Gerard Hanrahan, Gortavoher, Tubber, Co. Galway, writes for the first time and says his favourites are Noel Lane and Finbarr Gantley. “I want an action photo of either Finbarr or Noel. Thanks for your coverage of Galway’s All-Ireland win in the November issue. I was at the final and went onto the pitch and also into the dug-out. *I’m sure you mean dressing room J.M.* Please print this letter.

● *Gerard you win a Galway G.A.A. scarf which I hope you’ll be flaunting again in 1981. If you got into the dressing-rooms then that must be a great memory indeed. (J.M.)*

Fintan Diviney, Foxfield Hill, Tubber, Co. Galway, is so proud of his club Beagh who have now qualified for senior club status in Galway hurling. “Up until now Beagh trained on a bumpy pitch which was rented. Now we plan to develop our own field complete with clubhouse and dressing-rooms. Our club is one of the oldest clubs in the G.A.A.”

● *Fintan you win a Galway G.A.A. Bob-cap. (J.M.)*

Denis Sweeney, Meenaguish, Letterbarrow P.O., Co. Donegal, still hasn’t got a reply from Brendan Furlong C/o Enniscorthy Echo, Co.

Wexford after writing to him quite a few times re some G.A.A. Book. Denis wants copies of “**With the Gaels of Wexford**”, “**Loch Garman Abú**” and “**Wexford G.A.A. Yearbooks**” of any year and he will buy them if any reader has one or all to spare.

Philip Maher, Clashagad, Dunkerrin, Birr, Co. Offaly, tells me that his club Moneygall won the North Tipp. Intermediate F. Final and that his brother Michael played. “We have both hurling and football leagues in the school but with the weather so bad most games had to be called off”.

● *The weather has been dreadful but it should be picking-up now. (J.M.)*

Tim Murphy, Shamrock Bridge, Rathmore, Co. Kerry, is not happy with Dave Thornton’s answers re the two youngest players to win All-Ireland medals but it was a good try. “Miko Doyle was a great player. So was Johnny Cullotty. Try again Dave. Finally Jack we all know that Jack Kissane — a Kerryman — played alongside you to win an All-Ireland medal in 1956. Can you tell me who was the Galwayman who played for Kerry?”

● *Over to you readers. Tim please send on your answers to the youngest players Quiz. (J.M.)*

Seamus O’Doherty, Corville Road, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary, sent me a copy of the commemorative programme produced by the Roscrea H. club for the official opening of their new club pavilion in 1980. Copies are available costing £1 from the above. “Our club regained the Tipperary Co. S.H. title this year (1980) for the first time since 1973. So it was a great year for us. Congrats on Galway’s great win. It must be great to be a Galwayman now”.

● *So it is Seamus. The programme or 116 page book is a great club history and I heartily recommend it to anyone interested in compiling a club*

*history or producing a commemorative souvenir programme. Since I asked for such commemorative programmes I have received quite a few. This one is the best I have seen since Bernie O’Hara produced such a fine one for a similar occasion in Swinford, Co. Mayo. (J.M.)*

Declan Ryan, 13, Toberaheena, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary, plays hurling and football with St. Marys and has four county medals and four South Tipp. medals. “My favourite player is Pat McLoughney—a great goalie. Could I have a Cut-Out of him? I am great friends with Mossy and Brian Carroll because they work and live in Clonmel”. Declan doesn’t like the refereeing standards of today and thought the All-Ireland S.F. Final in no way memorable.

● *Declan you win a Tipperary Bob-cap. We had Pat McLoughney as a Cut-Out in our December 1980 issue. If you send 50p (including postage) to the address at the end of Junior Desk you can obtain a copy. (J.M.)*

My thanks for Christmas wishes to the Maher family (Clashagad), Pat Treacy (Ballybunion), Liam Jones (Co. Clare), Norman Rochford (Gort), Dermot McCarthy (Bath), W. F. Carberry (Waterford) and Sam Melbourne (Museum).

It is always nice to be remembered. Just a few final thoughts as we enter 1981. Here in Galway we have many calendars etc. commemorating Galway’s great hurling victory. But pride of place among these must go to Clada Mineral Waters, Ballinfoile, Headford Rd., Galway who have commemorated the event in a special way using well produced photos of Galway teams of ’23, ’47, ’51, ’58, ’75 and ’80 (the latter two in colour). If you write and mention me perhaps you’ll be lucky enough to get a copy of a rare collector’s item. Anyhow that’s it for 1980. A Happy New Year to you all and keep writing on any G.A.A. Topic to:

Junior Desk,  
GAELIC SPORT,  
80 Upper Drumcondra Road,  
Dublin 9.



## \* MONEY MATTERS \*

### ● FROM PAGE 37

per cent gross). If you lodge at the beginning of a calendar month you get your first cheque at the end of the same month. Full details of all Irish Civil Service savings facilities are available on request.

This Society has a policy of lending back to areas from which the money is invested. This should encourage local investment through the branch and district offices and is to be commended. And don't forget if it is your intention to apply for a loan in the future, it is a wise thing to save now with the Irish Civil Service Building Society.

Did you ever wonder where your favourite G.A.A. Star was employed. Well Jimmy Barry-Murphy who seems to be everyone's favourite dual player works in the Cork office of Lombard & Ulster Banking.

Lombard and Ulster Banking Ireland Ltd. is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Ulster Bank and has branches in Athlone, Cavan, Cork, Dundalk, Galway, Letterkenny, Limerick, Portlaoise, Sligo, Tralee, Waterford, and Wexford. Details of all Lombard & Ulster Bank savings and loan facilities can, of course, be obtained also from your local Ulster Bank branch. At Lombard & Ulster there is a range of Deposit schemes suitable for every saver — large and small.

If you have £100 or over that you want to save, you can place it on deposit with Lombard & Ulster and the rate of interest you receive will vary with how long you agree to leave it with them. At the present time you can receive 10½ per cent for seven days notice; 11½ per cent for one month; 12 per cent for three months and 12½ per cent for six months notice. Although these rates

will vary from time to time with money market trends, it is the policy of Lombard & Ulster to keep the variation to the minimum. An added feature of this scheme is that you can withdraw up to £500 from your account during any one calendar year without losing the benefits outlined above. Your interest is paid twice yearly — in March and September.

Another deposit facility available from Lombard & Ulster is the Monthly Income Deposit. With this scheme you deposit £1,000 plus for a fixed time of one year or more and the rates of interest will vary according to the number of years. At present, the rates are: 13¼ per cent for one year, 12 per cent for two years, 11½ per cent for three years and you have your cheque sent to your home or bank account each month. These rates are agreed at the beginning of your monthly income deposit plan and they remain fixed for the agreed deposit period.

For people with over £5,000 to invest — there is Fixed Deposit — whereby you can negotiate rates depending on how long you wish to leave your money on deposit. You may consider that this is unlikely to concern the ordinary depositor, but if you were to sell your house or farm and had a large sum of money available for a short period of time, this is the place to put it.

All interest is paid gross, i.e. without deduction of tax and interest earned in all banks, over £70 per annum, is by Law, notified to the Revenue Commissioners.

It is in your interest to make the best use of your money so why not make a resolution to contact Lombard & Ulster today for full details of their deposit facilities.

### ● FROM PAGE 21

successful year in Cork, and also an excellent record of the events and personalities who went to make up the season by the Leaside. It is a book that must undoubtedly be highly recommended.

**CORK '81.** Official publication of the G.A.A. Cork County Board. Produced by Gaelic Sport Publications, 80, Upper Drumcondra Road, Dublin, 9. Editor Tommy McQuaid, who also designed the cover. Price £1.

## CAMOGIE

### ● FROM PAGE 33

Maryfield College, Dublin brought the first Post Primary School All-Ireland title to Dublin when they took junior honours.

★ ★ ★

A tremendous step forward was taken for the promotion of the game throughout the country with the appointment of the full-time Development Officer.

Miss Jo Golden, a graduate of University College, Dublin, an intercounty player with her native Kilkenny, victorious captain of the Leinster Gael-Linn team, was at the time of her appointment Ard Runáí and now combines that position with her new appointment.

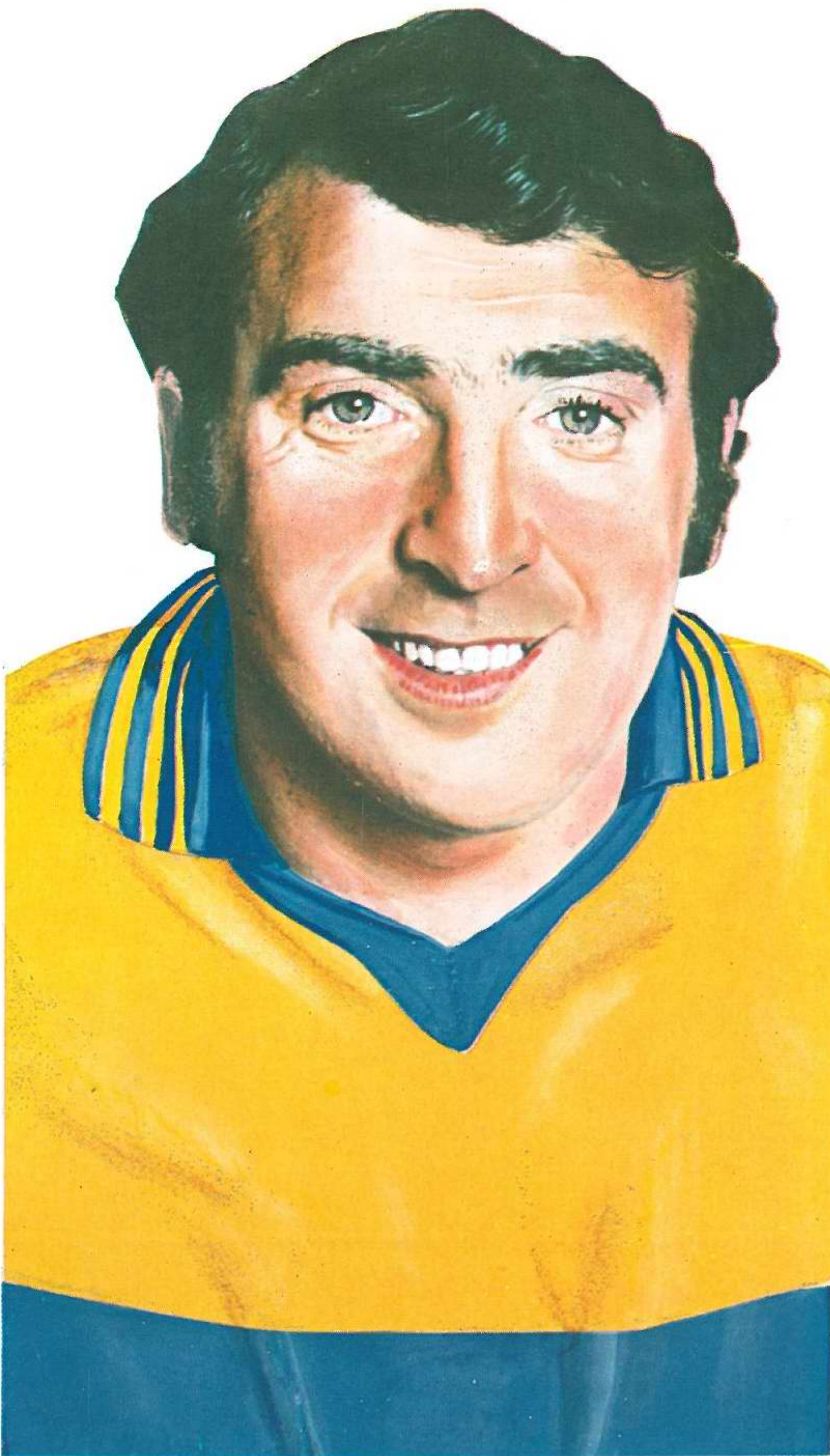
Miss Golden has now put her proposals for the promotion and development to some of the County Boards.

A major Fund Raising Drive is also organised by the Finance Committee of the Association. As well as the usual Prizes those who become involved will qualify for the Ceannarus Draws in January, April and August.

Another achievement for the Association in 1980 has been the publication of a New Rule Book printed in both Irish and English.

The presence of An t-Uachtarán Dr. Patrick Hillery at the All-Ireland Camogie final was greatly appreciated by both the Officers, players and members of the Association. Dr. Hillery was the first President to attend a Camogie Final.





## Noel Casey (Clare)

Age: 33  
Height: 5ft. 11 ins.  
Weight: 14 stone  
Club: Sixmilebridge  
Position: Full  
Forward  
Senior Inter-County  
Debut: 1968

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Noel was one of a talented company who gave hurling a welcome injection by winning the National League title in 1977 and 1978.

He helped his club to their first Clare senior crown in 1977, won a second county medal two years later, and collected his only Railway Cup souvenir when Munster beat Leinster at Pairc Ui Chaoimh for the 1978 title.

Noel, who has appeared in a number of positions in attack, was honoured by the All Stars for the only time in the 1978 Carrolls team. He appeared in three losing Munster final teams — 1972, 1977 and 1978.



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