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GAA

GAELIC SPORT

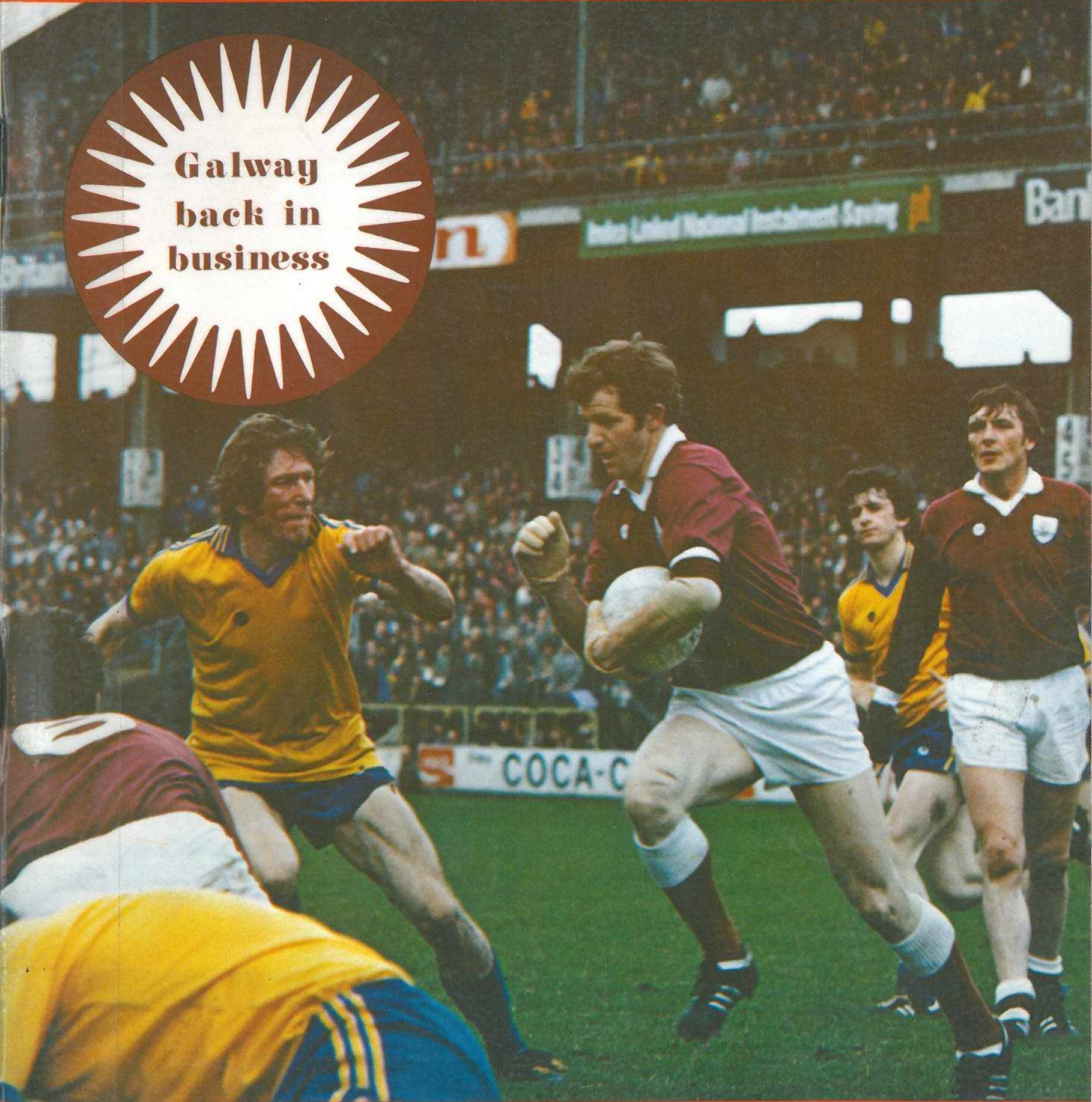
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Gaelic Sport

Vol. 24 Nos. 6 & 7 June/July, 1981

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THE UNSUNG HEROES

WE know that we are voicing the feelings of many in extending sincere sympathy to the relatives of Mr. Denis O'Mahony and Mr. Denis O'Hare, who were electrocuted in an accident while moving steel goalposts on their club's grounds at Ballinora, on the outskirts of Cork City recently.

Their tragic and untimely deaths as they went about the business of keeping their club ticking over provides a stark if unwelcome reminder of the deep debt of gratitude the G.A.A. owes to so many enthusiasts up and down the country who are working so tirelessly behind the scenes in the interest of the organisation.

These are the men, and in many cases women, who are the unsung heroes who make the G.A.A. great. Their enthusiasm, dedication and above all consistently hard-work provides the real key to the success the Association has forged out and maintained over the years.

These are the people who are to be found giving of their time unselfishly in running clubs, in looking after teams from juvenile up to senior ranks, and in ensuring that pitches are ready and properly prepared for matches.

More than that, many are weekly putting their hands into their own pockets to subsidise their clubs by providing their cars as free transport for juvenile teams. That is a by no means inconsiderable sacrifice on its own in these days of high and ever rising fuel costs.

Without this type of wholehearted voluntary effort the G.A.A. would not, indeed, could not, provide such excellent work today in ensuring healthy and appealing recreation for the youth of the country.

Here, too, lies the only tangible reward or satisfaction for those toiling behind the scenes.

The players capture the bulk of the headlines with their performances at club and county level. They have the added enjoyment from playing matches, the opportunities to gain top awards and national fame, and on occasions trips abroad.

Others in the organisation can come to the forefront on the administrative side, as they work for the Association at official level both on the county and national front.

The players and the officials are vital to the well-being of the G.A.A. Without them the Association would wither away.

But at times it does appear as if the emphasis is too strongly on the players and their needs, and also on the role of officials at top level, and not enough on the men and women behind the scenes among the clubs scattered far and wide throughout the land.

In short, we are talking about the grassroots of the G.A.A. The people, old and young, who motivate the clubs away from the limelight, and whose main aims are the furthering of hurling, football, handball, camogie and the native culture.

Few will ever capture the national limelight. But they are the G.A.A., the unsung heroes. It is well that we should acknowledge this from time to time and say "Thanks" for the efforts that are basic to the foundations of the G.A.A.

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Top Ten

**CORK TRIO
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IN HURLING**

THE National League title wins of Cork in hurling and Galway in football were the outstanding features of the programme covered by the latest TYLER TOP TEN review from April 12 to May 24 inclusive.

Cork had many stars in their semi-final win over Waterford, among them Brian Murphy, John Horgan and Pat Horgan. Then, in the final win over Offaly, the goal scoring of Jimmy Barry-Murphy, the equally lively play in attack of Tim Crowley, the goalkeeping of Ger Cunningham and the reliability of Brian Murphy at right full were among the key factors of the success.

As for Galway, Brian Talty, Johnny Hughes and Barry Brennan caught the eye prominently in the exciting win over Kerry. The final against Roscommon also saw many Galway footballers to the fore, among them Stephen Kineavy, Talty again, Billy Joyce and Peter Lee.

Weigh in displays of such as the quality hurling of Sean Stack at centre half back in Clare's Munster championship win over Waterford, the promptings of Tony Doran for

Wexford against Dublin, and Eamonn Whelan's two-goal barrage for Laois footballers as they ousted Louth from the Leinster championship at Croke Park, and it all made for extra keen competition for places in the current charts.

All the more credit, then, to Brian Murphy and Stephen Kineavy in finally proving the ones to edge to the top of the ratings.

Murphy, at full back, was a splendid general for Cork against Waterford. He was again very efficient against Offaly, and comes into the review for the second time this year on 40 points. He made his entry in February-March, and now moves up to 66 points in all.

HORGAN LEADS

Murphy has a two points advantage in the current table over his county-mate John Horgan, who makes this third successive appearance in the charts. He also comfortably moves ahead of the field with a total of 94 points.

What of Stephen Kineavy? He had a fine game against Kerry, but really excelled in the National League final. His performance in that game was as good a full back display as seen at Croke Park in a long time, and clinched the leading spot for Kineavy just ahead of Brian Talty.

The full back gains 44 points, his first entry this year, and Talty 42 points.

But Talty surges ahead in the general rankings. He made his debut this year in the last issue on 32 points, and now has 74.

The top three in each code up to and including the current edition are:

Hurling: 94 points: J. Horgan (Cork). 66: B. Murphy (Cork). 65: P. Delaney (Offaly).

Football: 74 points: B. Talty (Galway). 62: D. Earley (Roscommon). 51: E. Liston (Kerry).

The latest charts are:

HURLING

40	B. Murphy (Cork)	66
38	J. Horgan (Cork)	94
36	Pat Horgan (Cork)	36
33	P. Delaney (Offaly)	65
30	G. Coughlan (Offaly)	52
30	S. Stack (Clare)	30
30	T. Doran (Wexford)	30
28	Joe Connolly (Galway)	28
28	M. Quigley (Wexford)	28
26	J. Greene (Waterford)	26

FOOTBALL

44	S. Kineavy (Galway)	44
42	B. Talty (Galway)	74
42	P. Lee (Galway)	42
38	E. Whelan (Laois)	38
34	D. Earley (Roscommon)	62
30	K. Gough (Antrim)	30
28	G. McGarville (Monaghan)	28
26	W. Brennan (Laois)	26
26	S. McAleer (Monaghan)	26
26	P. Baker (Wicklow)	26



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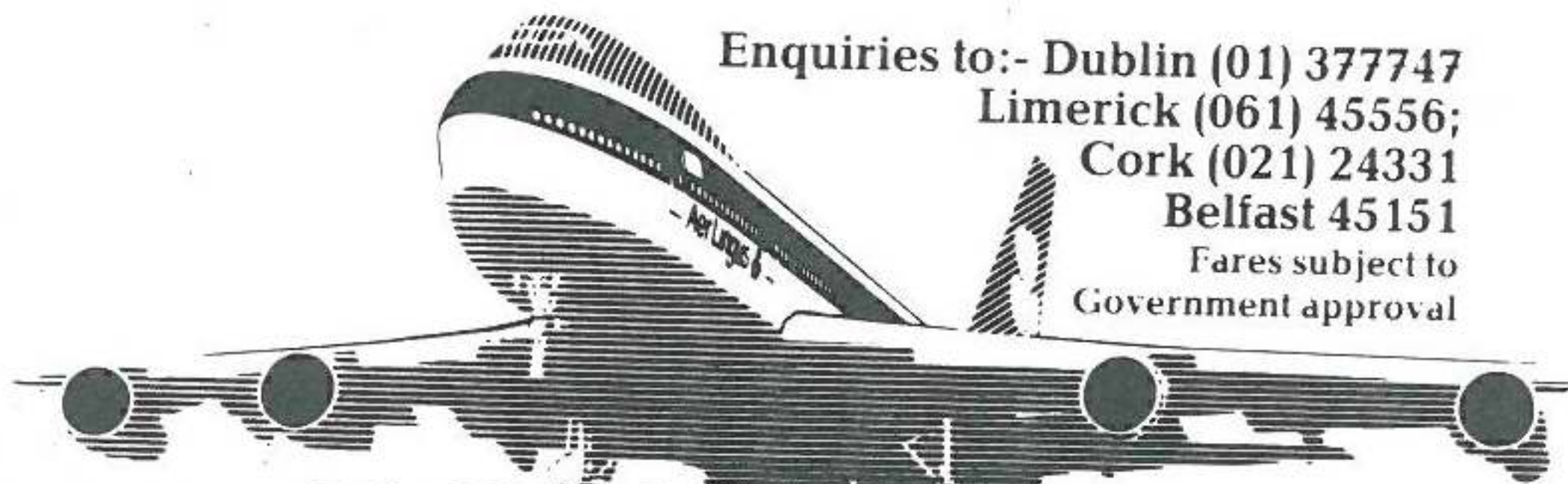
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ON THE SPOT . . .

BY TOMMY McQUAID

THE Gaelic Games year, like the calendar year, seems to pass more quickly these days! The leagues which have provided such interesting fare in recent weeks, have come and gone for another season, but although they only reached their climax in early May, here already we are all well into the campaign for the Championships.

Fortunately, we have still much to look forward to in the race for the principle knock-out tests. So, let's try and mirror the mood and the anticipation of keen games ahead, by looking back in this latest ON THE SPOT . . . quiz to Championship happenings of only last year at provincial level.

Is your memory as sharp as you believe? Well, here is your chance to find out in a quiz covering all grades of football and hurling, and some of the footballers and hurlers who hit the headlines last season.

A word of warning, however. If you do not keep a passing glance at events in camogie and handball, as well as football and hurling, you could lose some valuable points. Our questions on camogie and handball, however, deal only with senior events, so perhaps that may help to smooth the path for many.

Let's see as we start with:

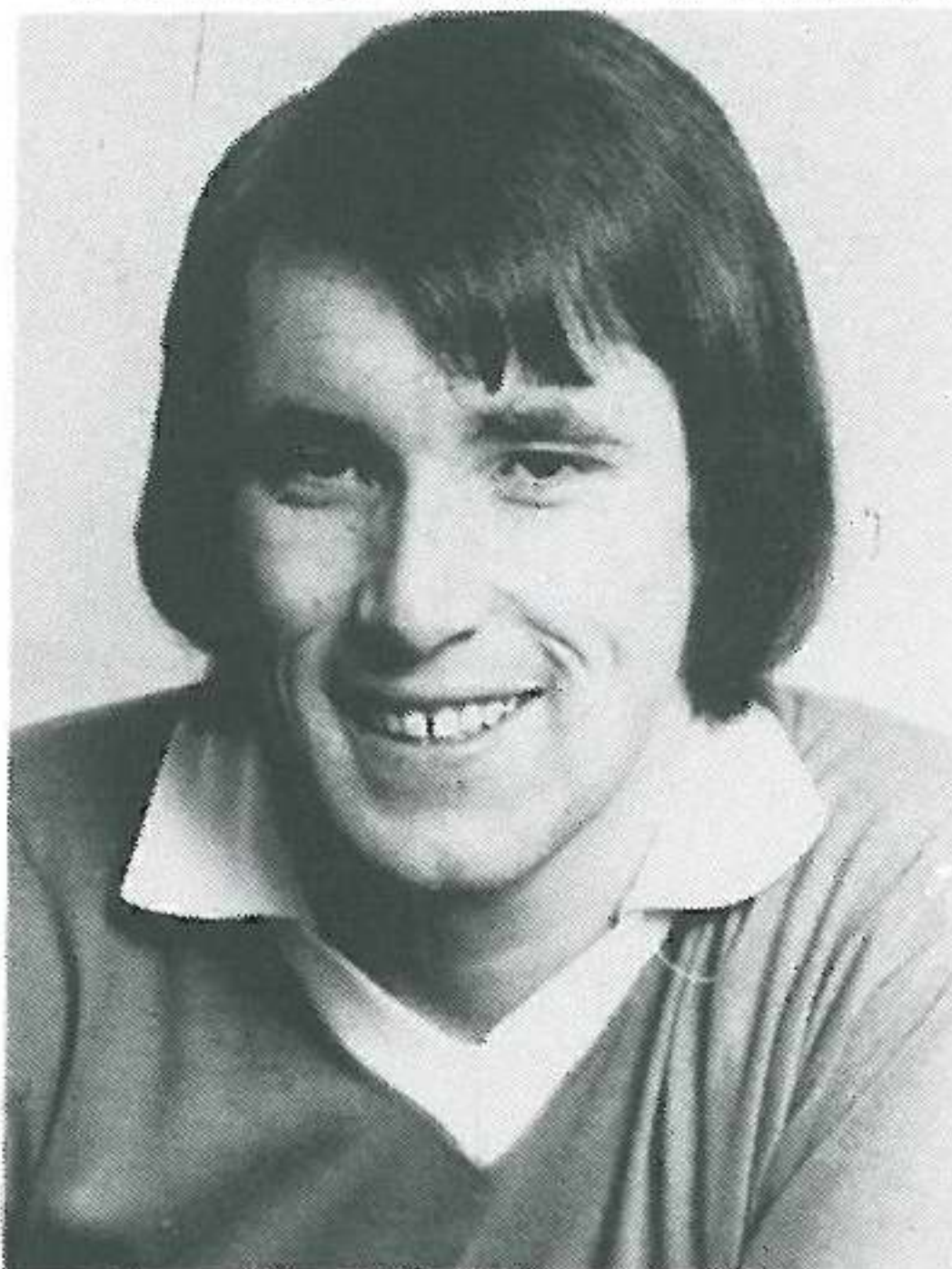
PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1. Who won the Leinster minor football championship last July?
2. What county came out on top in the Munster minor hurling series?

3. Who captained Offaly to their historic Leinster senior hurling final win over Kilkenny?

4. Damien O'Hagan scored 2-1 in Tyrone's unsuccessful Ulster senior football final loss to Armagh at Clones last July. But what position did he fill in that game?

5. The player pictured below won a provincial senior medal last year. Who is he?



6. You will no doubt remember that Dublin's long run in the Leinster senior football championship was ended in the final by Offaly. But how many titles in succession were Dublin bidding for in that game?

7. The provincial senior championships in camogie are run off independent to the All-Ireland open-draw series. Was the Leinster

title won by Dublin or Kilkenny?

8. Our first bonus question. An extra five points for naming the man who had charge of the Offaly-Dublin Leinster senior football final last July?

9. Three goals were scored in the Roscommon-Mayo clash for the Connacht senior football title at Roscommon. How many of those goals were scored by Mayo?

10. One county took a provincial senior title last year by playing just one game. Name the county concerned?

Five points for each question, other than No. 8. That five points bonus makes this ten question section worth 55 points. YOUR SCORE

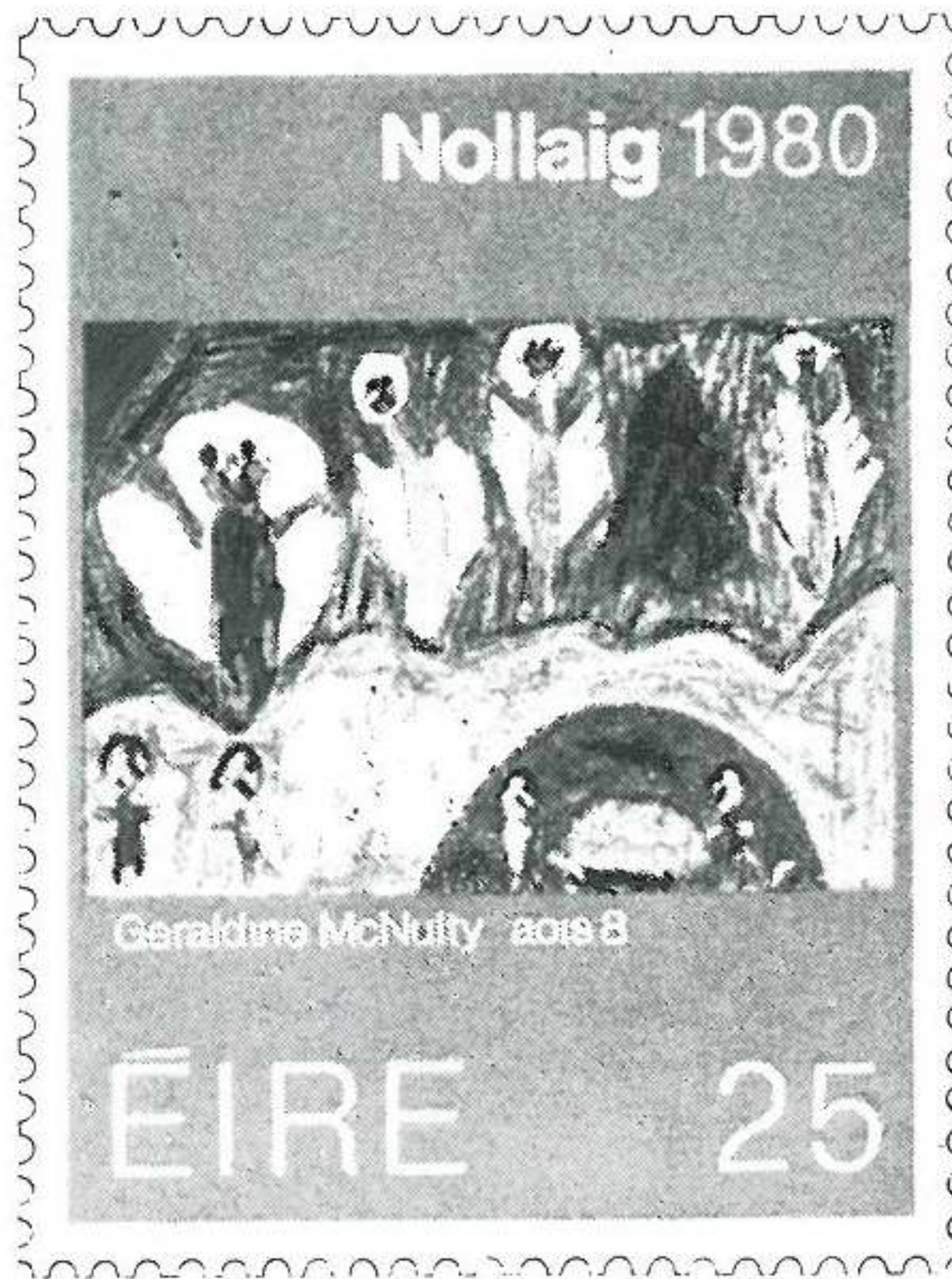
Over now to some of the personalities who were to the fore in the Championships scene last year, particularly at provincial level.

PERSONALITY PARADE

1. Who was in goal for Cork in their unseccessful Munster senior hurling final bid against Limerick last July?

2. One of the following players scored three goals in the Leinster final — Johnny Flaherty (Offaly), Matt Ruth (Kilkenny) or Mick Crotty (Kilkenny). Your choice from that trio?

● TO PAGE 9



How many artists have had their work exhibited internationally by the age of eight?

On the 4th December 1980 the Irish Post Office issued a series of Christmas stamps incorporating a painting of the Nativity by Geraldine McNulty. It was the fourth time that an Irish stamp featured a winner from the Texaco National

Children's Art Competition and served once again to symbolise the part that Texaco plays in the community. We are proud to continue our involvement in the encouragement of young people to excel in their chosen field.



● FROM PAGE 7

3. The man who captained Tyrone in their unsuccessful Ulster football final bid against Armagh later became his county's first All-Star. Who is he?
4. A former Donegal footballer who appeared in a provincial senior final in July last as a forward?
5. One of the following handballers won the Leinster senior softball singles title last year — Paddy Reilly (Kilkenny), Pakie Ryan (Dublin) or Dick Lyng (Wexford). Your choice?
6. A bonus question of ten points if answered correctly in its entirety. Name the captains of the Kilkenny hurling and Mayo football teams beaten in provincial finals?
7. Liam O'Donoghue lined out at

- right half forward in the Munster hurling final, but was later moved to a different position, and proved a Limerick star. Can you name the position he was switched to?
8. A former prominent inter-county footballer, with one of the best scoring records by any forward in the history of the game, refereed the Connacht senior final. Who is he?
 9. Another bonus question, with ten extra marks. The winners of the Leinster senior hurling final receive the Bob O'Keefe Cup. Who was Bob O'Keefe, commemorated by this trophy?
 10. Paddy Reilly and Ollie Harold (Kilkenny) won the Leinster senior softball doubles title in handball last season. True or false?

Five points for each question, other than No. 6 and No. 9. The bonus points for those two questions help to bring the possible points tally here up to 60 points. YOUR SCORE

HOW DID YOU MEASURE UP?

Total marks possible: 115 points. 90 points-plus earns an Excellent Rating. 70 to 90 points: Very Good. 50 to 70 points: Good.

ANSWERS

(Answers printed in reverse to avoid distraction)

1. Tim Murphy; 2. Matt Ruth; 3. Kevin McCabe, right half back; 4. Martin Carney, who lined out with Mayo in the Connacht final; 5. Paddy Reilly (Kilkenny); 6. Richie Reid (Kilkenny) and Henry Gavin (Mayo); 7. Right half back; 8. Michael Kearns (Sligo); 9. Bob O'Keefe was born in Mooncoin, and was G.A.A. President from 1935 to 1938, but as a County Laois administrator; 10. True.

PERSONALITY PARADE

1. Meath, who beat Kildare by 1-12 to 1-9; 2. Tipperary, who beat Limerick by 1-17 to 1-4; 3. Padraig Horan, who lined out at full forward; 4. Left half forward; 5. Sean Foley (Limerick); 6. Dublin were bidding for their seventh title in a row in Leinster; 7. Kilkenny, who beat Dublin by 5-6 to 4-3; 8. Paddy Kavanagh (Meath); 9. Mayo did not score a goal in the Connacht final; 10. Kerry had a bye to the Munster senior final last year under the new arrangement, and beat Cork at Pairc Uí Chaomh.

PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



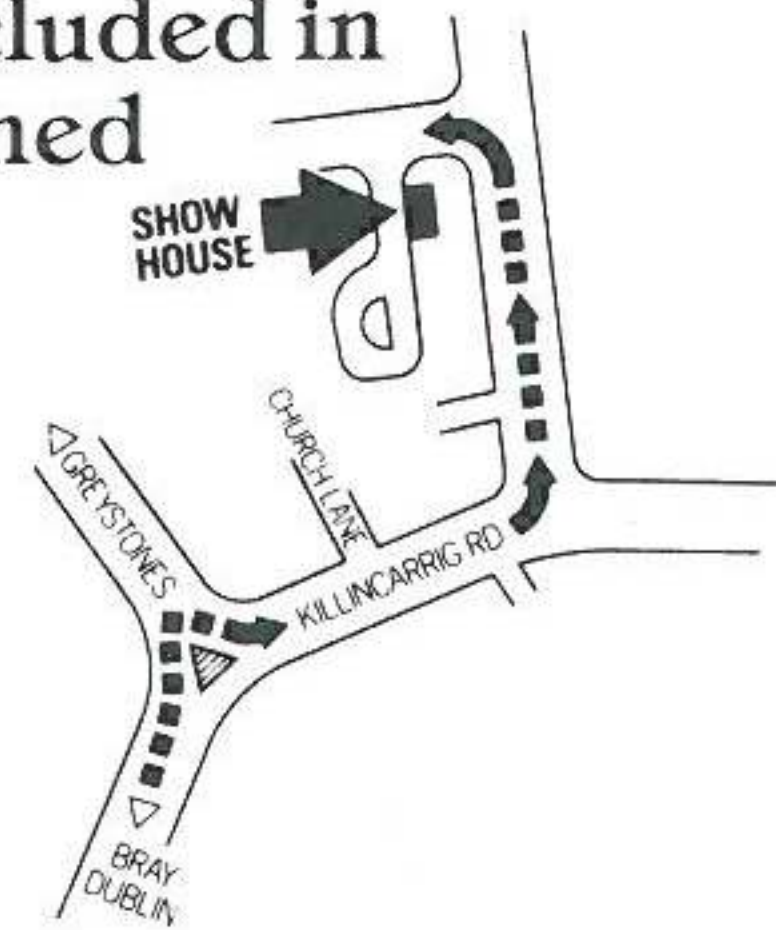
● IGGY CLARKE, a key figure in Galway's bid to retain their All Ireland Hurling title.

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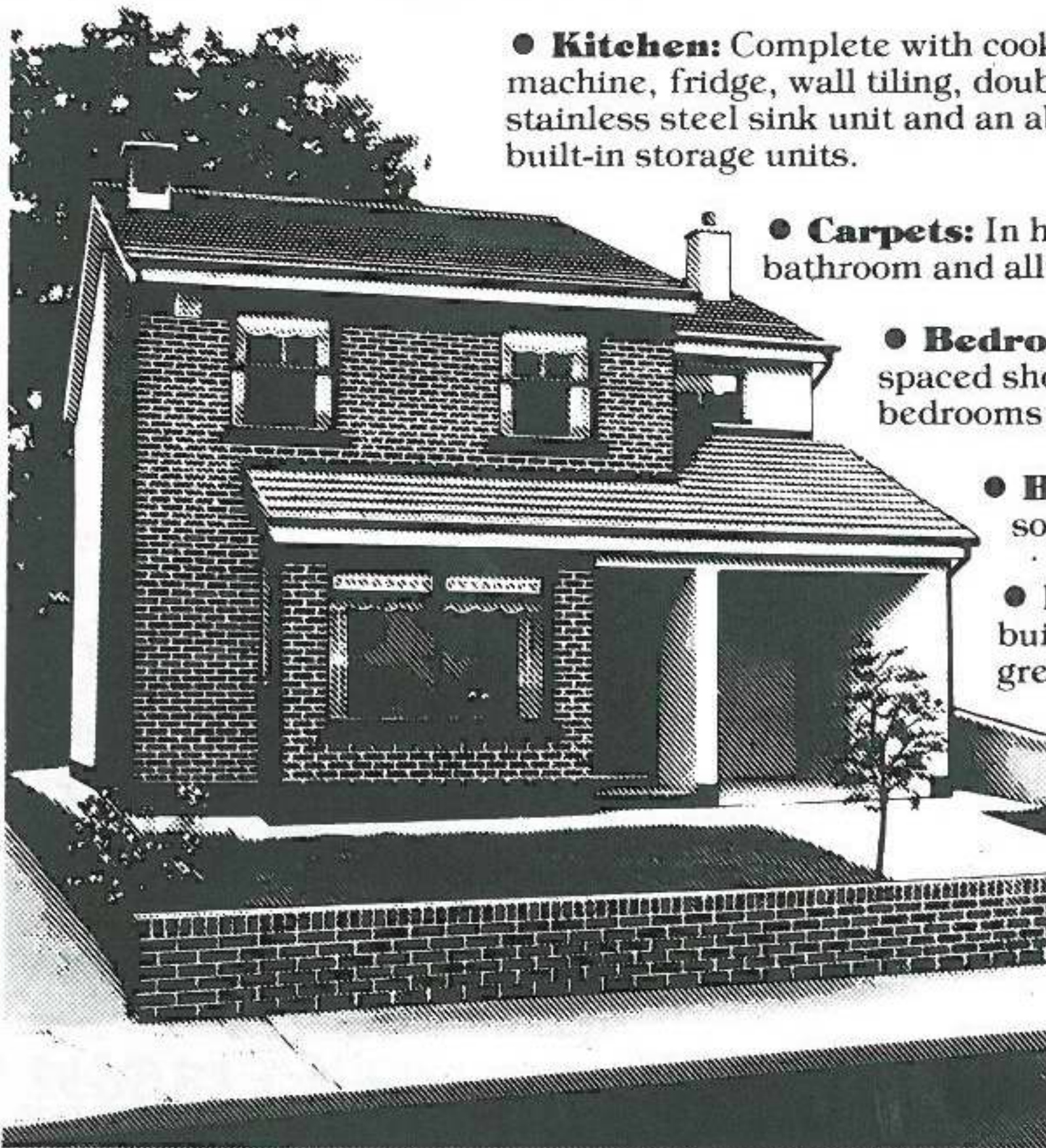
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ULSTER SPOTLIGHT

CAVAN STAR IN LIMELIGHT

BY TERRY McGRATH

ULSTER followers have not had a great deal to cheer about on the Gaelic Games scene this year, but Donal Donohoe, that stylish and exciting young chance-snapper from Cavan, did give standards in the province a boost recently with his selection as the Gaelic football award winner in the Bank of Ireland USI News Student Sports Awards.

These awards are for students in third level Colleges' throughout the country. There are eight fixed awards, chosen by a panel of judges, and a further award, where the

students themselves vote for the choice of sports personality of the year through a readers' poll in USI News.

Donohoe's selection in Gaelic

football is a well deserved tribute to a bright young talent. At a time when the once mighty king-pins of the Northern arena have been going through a long lean spell, the Stradone man has been slotting home the goals and points with a consistency unmatched by any Cavan footballer in years, and has been equally progressive with his general play.

His qualities as a sharpshooter supreme were emphasised to a particularly impressive degree when Cavan went under to Antrim in the opening round of the Ulster senior championship at Casement Park towards the end of May. Donohoe scored two grand goals, and also popped over five fine points from either side for as good a showing of accurate finishing as seen in the North in a long time.

The Cavan star is a student at St. Patrick's Teacher Training College in Drumcondra in Dublin. He was in the student teacher team, Erin's Hope, that lost the 1980 county senior football final to Civil Service at Croke Park.

A stylish and clever footballer, he has been one of Cavan's leading forwards over the past four seasons. Donal plays with greatest effect in the right corner of the attack, but when necessary he can also make his mark on the wing.

An extremely accurate place-kicker, he has been the Breffni County's leading scorer in recent seasons, and also maintains a good scoring rate in his games for College, club and in representative matches.

Donal played in the minor and

● TO PAGE 13



● Donal Donohoe (right) receives his USI News Award for Gaelic Football from Minister for State, Jim Tunney, T.D.



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● FROM PAGE 11

under-21 grades with Cavan, and he also collected a county senior championship souvenir with Laragh United in 1979.

Donal has also appeared with the Advanced Colleges, and put up a splendid 3-3 in their win over the Army at Croke Park earlier this year.

MONAGHAN SCORING ACE

Mention of Erin's Hope and scoring exploits by Donohoe brings to mind the fact that another member of the student teacher's Dublin county final XV of last season, Eamonn McEneaney, has been showing a nice line in the goals and points review in senior championship play this season.

This young Castleblayney man was a real hero for Monaghan as they outscored Tyrone in the opening tie of the Ulster senior football championship. McEneaney finished up with 1-7 on his home ground.

But that he is hitting scores so well as a senior will not come as a surprise to shrewd and close followers of the game in the North. In the Ulster minor football final of 1978 McEneaney gave as good a display as seen in the grade when helping Monaghan to mark their first Ulster final appearance in years with a gallant bid against Tyrone.

He proved a commanding figure at midfield with his excellent play, and brilliant kicking. Spot on from long and short range, he hit nine points for Monaghan and it was certainly a stellar show from the tall Castleblayney youth.

McEneaney has been appearing with Monaghan in the senior grade for some time, and helped the county as well to bring the Ceannarus Tournament football title to the North for the only time in 1979.

His power-packed shooting in this season's senior championship indicates that this intelligent and hard-working footballer is living up superbly to his potential as a minor.

So, with Donohoe and

McEneaney scaling such impressive heights at this early juncture in their careers, it may well be that the days of a famine of exciting chance-snappers in the North, a famine which has plagued the province's hopes of getting among the major national titles, are at last ending.

Let's hope so, because it is long past time that football up North produced chance-snappers to rival men like Paddy Doherty and Sean O'Neill, of Down, Charlie Gallagher, of Cavan, and Frankie Donnelly, of Tyrone, who kept the scoring flag flying so proudly in Ulster in days gone by.

CAVAN'S DECLINE

So, the Cavan period in the senior championship wilderness continues. The recent and latest set-back against Antrim in the first round at Belfast make it very difficult to appreciate that there was once a time that Cavan were not only odds-on favourites year after year to march comfortably through to the Ulster final, but to take the title.

Yet, not since 1969, when they beat Down, the then defending provincial and national champions, at Casement Park have the Breffni county won out in the North. They lost the All-Ireland semi final that season after a replay to Offaly.

Not many could then have envisaged that time would pass by until the 1981 championship had come and gone as far as Cavan were concerned without a single title for the Blue-jersied brigade.

It is difficult to pinpoint the real reason why Cavan have slipped back so badly. But even those who once wearied of the way the county won the Ulster crown almost monotonously — they took the Ulster title an amazing 47 times between 1887 and 1969 — now hope that a climb back to the top will not be much longer delayed.

A SHARP CONTRAST

A sharp contrast to the Cavan story is the modern-day success by Derry in the All-Ireland Vocational

Schools' championship, and by Damien Barton, in particular.

Barton was, amazingly, in his fifth season in the team when he helped Derry to take the title for the third year in succession by beating Cork County by 1-12 to 2-6 at Croke Park recently!

He won his third medal in a row, of course, in that game. Barton's teammates included Martin O'Brien, Oliver McKee and Brian McErlean, who also played in the two earlier championship winning side.

One of the most amazing features of the Derry success story is that the county had not won a provincial title at this level until as recently as 1979.

But the framework for the breakthrough was laid in 1978 when St. Pius X High School, Magherafelt, won the All-Ireland individual vocational schools' under-16 championship and came out on top again in 1979 at under-19.

A number of the latest county vocational schools successful XV were in the Derry side that lost to Kerry rather badly in last year's All-Ireland minor final.

And goalkeeper Liam Peoples, centre half Francis Burke, midfielder Brian McNabb, and left full forward John A. Mullan, of the 1981 All-Ireland championship winning side, are all eligible for the Derry minor team this season.

A LONG WAIT

Scotstown, of Monaghan, scored exactly the same tally when losing to St. Finbarr's, of Cork, in the recent All-Ireland club senior football semi-final as in the 1980 meeting of the sides at the same stage — 0-4. So, the North's long spell out of the honours list in this championship continues.

Amazingly enough, Ulster began well with Bryansford losing the first final in 1971 to East Kerry, and Bellaghy, of Derry, beating U.C.C. Cork in the next final a year later.

But no Ulster team has managed to win the national title in the meantime.

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STRONG IRISH BID IN U.S. HANDBALL

By Sean Clerkin

WHEN the U.S.H.A. Championships commence at the Charlie Club, Palatine which is situated near the O'Hare Airport in Chicago on Saturday June 20th we will have three representatives involved in the male competitions and probably a similar number in contention in the female events.

As we go to Press, the Ladies Handball Council have not yet completed their trials and only one definite candidate is known.

She is Sue Carey from the Na Fianna Club in Mobhi Road, Dublin, who has been to the forefront of girls handball for many years and is especially remembered for her title winning forays in minor ranks.

One is compelled, indeed to chide the Ladies Handball Council for leaving the trials so late, a factor that is hardly fair to the players who eventually win the trip.

The men's team is comprised of Michael Ahern (Kerry) who will play in the open competition, Tony Ryan (Tipp.) who will carry our flag in the under 23 event and the evergreen Mayo veteran Micky Walsh who will line out in the Golden Masters Championship.

Walsh, in fact is not a member of the official team in so far as his sponsorship is being provided by the Connaught Council, with a little help from the Central Body.

It was a magnanimous gesture by the Connaught Council to send Walsh to the games and it provides a

headline that could well be copied by the other Provincial Councils and County Boards.

A KING-PIN

Not that it is fully deserved for Walsh has been one of the king pins of Western handball for many years, bringing numerous prestigious titles across the Shannon to his native Mayo.

His conquests must be related to the fact that he spent the best twenty years of his playing life out of this country and when he arrived back in the early sixties he was at an age when most players would have called it a day as far as tough grinding competition was concerned.



● Pakie Ryan (Dublin), who defends his All Ireland singles title this year.

Undaunted, he took to the playing courts again and the record books tell the rest of the story.

All-Ireland Junior and senior victories with Peadar McGee distinction in the Gael-Linn Competition and a long line of victories in the over age competitions in recent years bear testimony to the playing qualities of a maestro.

A SURPRISE

Michael Ahern from the Fitzgerald Jones Club in Tralee is a surprise representative, nonetheless has achieved the distinction on merit alone.

He deservedly won out in the Atlas sponsored trials and included amongst his victims such well known stars as Noel Ryan (Tipperary) Tom O'Rourke (Kildare), Micky Walshe (Roscommon) and Clem Quinn (Mayo).

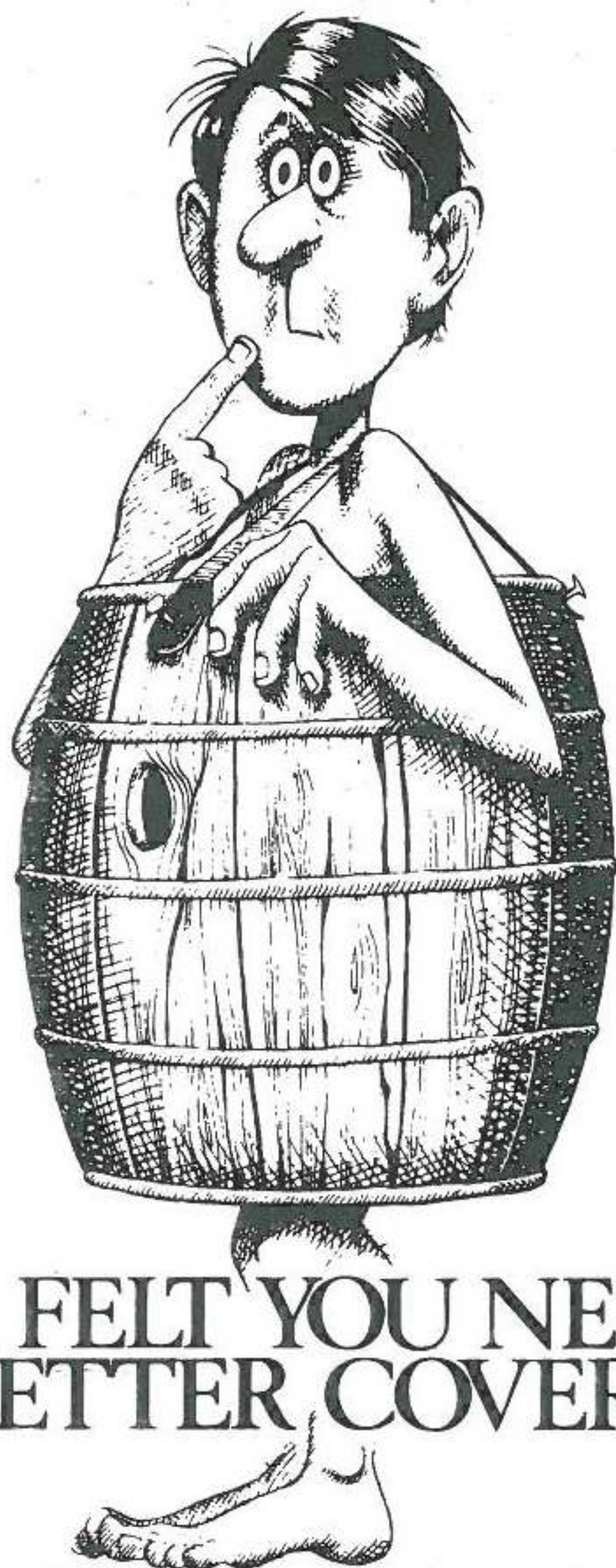
While Ahern cannot, as yet, claim any significant victories at senior level he has featured in the senior doubles finals of the 40 x 20 code in successive years in addition to a previous victory in the junior grade.

It should also go on record that he has made a valuable contribution to the game at administrative level having served successive terms as both chairman and Secretary of the Kerry County Board.

THIRD TRIP

Tony Ryan from the Ballypatrick Club in County Tipperary is a seasoned campaigner as far as the

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● FROM PAGE 15

international circuit is concerned.

This is his third trip and he is our main hope to lift a title.

Last year, at Tucson he went to the fifth round of the consolation tournament, in the course of which he dismissed a number of well-known players.

Title-wise, his credentials are fool proof, for he has again landed a number of titles in this year's All-Ireland 40 × 20 Championship campaign.

It is unfortunate that we will not have the benefit of Pat Kirby's expertise in these USHA championships. Last year, he did us proud by winning the Masters Championship.

He equalled a feat achieved once previously by Joey Maher. Shortly after arriving back from Tucson, the news filtered through that Kirby intended going back there to reside and this became a reality at the end of last year.

His absence from our handball scene provides a void that just cannot be filled and this is evident from the fact that we have no representative in action in the Masters Competition.

LAST YEAR

Kirby, no doubt, will be there and while he will not be sporting the Irish colours, it is our earnest wish that he will be successful in retaining the title, he won with such distinction last year.

The team, under the managership of Joe Lynch, the Director of the Irish Handball Council will leave Dublin on June 9th and prior to the USHA Championships will play games in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Cleveland.

In conjunction with the Girls Team, which will probably leave at a later date, this group of handballers, will, as usual, do us proud, not alone in the context of handball participation, but on a more general basis as ambassadors of Irish Sport.

We wish them a safe journey and success in the games.

BY SEAMUS O'CEALLAIGH

LIMERICK HURLING HAS PROUD TRADITION

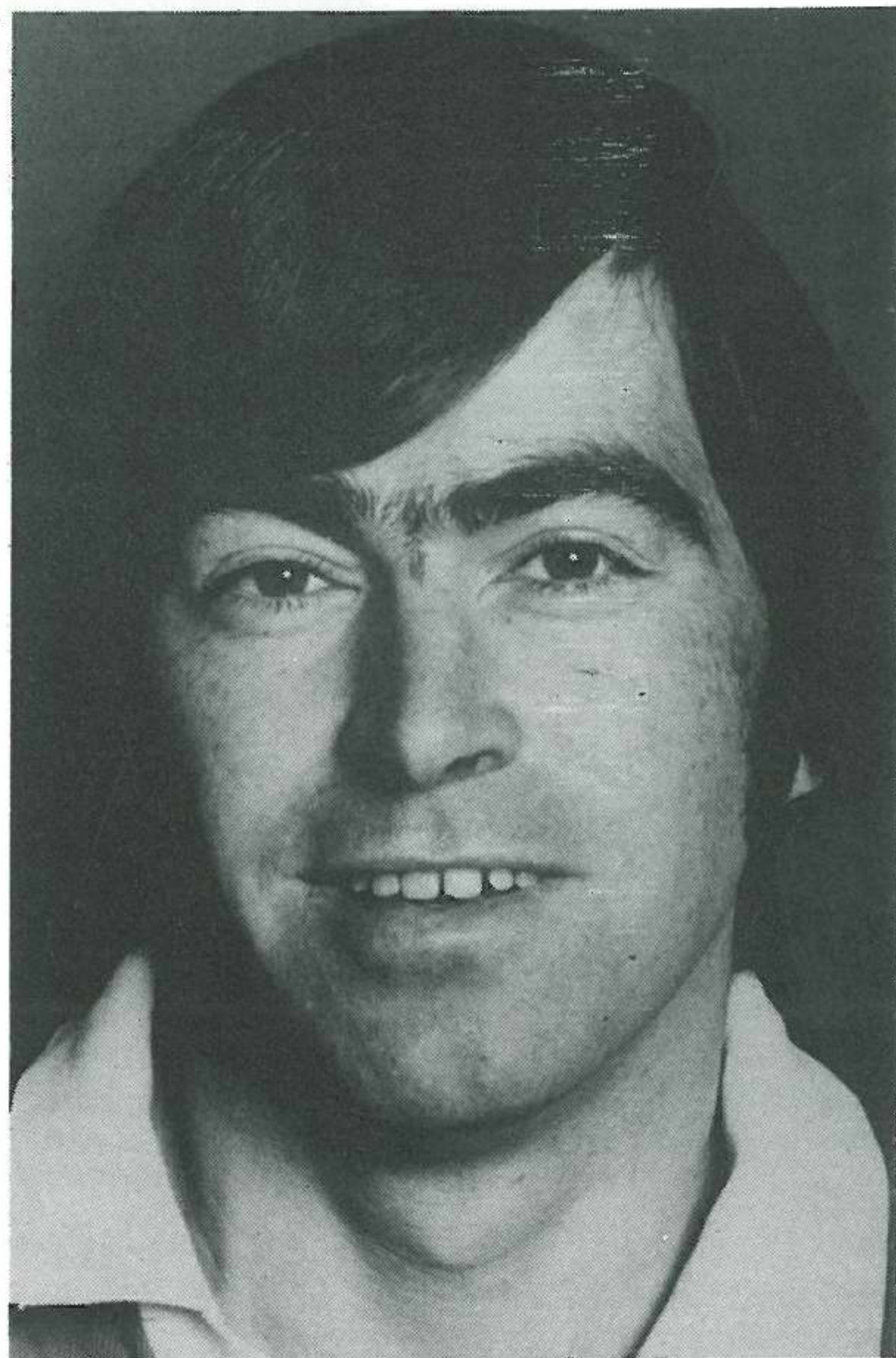
LIMERICK had a disasterous campaign in the 1979-80 National Hurling League proper but came back from the brink of despair to reach the final of that competition and force Cork to a replay before conceding defeat, and following a pair of games that were generally rated ones of great hurling power and intensity.

Then followed a Championship series of great merit as far as the Shannonsiders were concerned, culminating in the recovery of the Southern crown after a six year lapse — and even more glamorous still — a Munster Final triumph over Cork, something not achieved for forty years.

The subsequent All Ireland final between Galway and Limerick recalled memories for the old timers extending back fifty-seven years — the only previous occasion the pair met in a national decider of senior status.

And history repeated itself when Galway matched their success of 1923, to take their second All Ireland Senior Hurling title after an unforgettable game, followed by possibly the greatest scenes of enthusiasm ever witnessed in the National Stadium, as the pent up feeling of all Galway well wishers was released in a veritable tornado

Joe McKenna who led Munster to their 1981 Railway Cup win.



that must have surely swept away all the many frustrations of well over half a century.

The hurling future that memorable evening at Croke Park indeed looked bright for both Corrib and Shannon.

That Limerick League campaign entailed a grand total of eleven games and they had three championship engagements. In all these they scored **29 goals 140 points** and had **22 goals 147 points** registered against them, which worked out in their favour on average, 2.10 to 1.11.

Eamonn Cregan, with eight games in the League and all three in the Championships was top scorer of the year with **12 goals 40 points**, with Joe McKenna, who played in all fourteen games, next best with **9 goals 23 points**.

Five other players figured in all

fourteen matches — Tommy Quaid, Liam O'Donoghue, Ollie O'Connor, Mossie and Jimmie Carroll.

A massive 215,083 people who paid £482,938.65p saw Limerick play in their six big games of the year, and this, I think, set a record that may stand for many a day.

After all this fine performance the 1980-81 National League series came as an anti-climax. Limerick played six games, with results as under:

9th November

Offaly 2.14 Limerick 4.6

23 November

Tipperary 1.13 Limerick 2.6

7th December

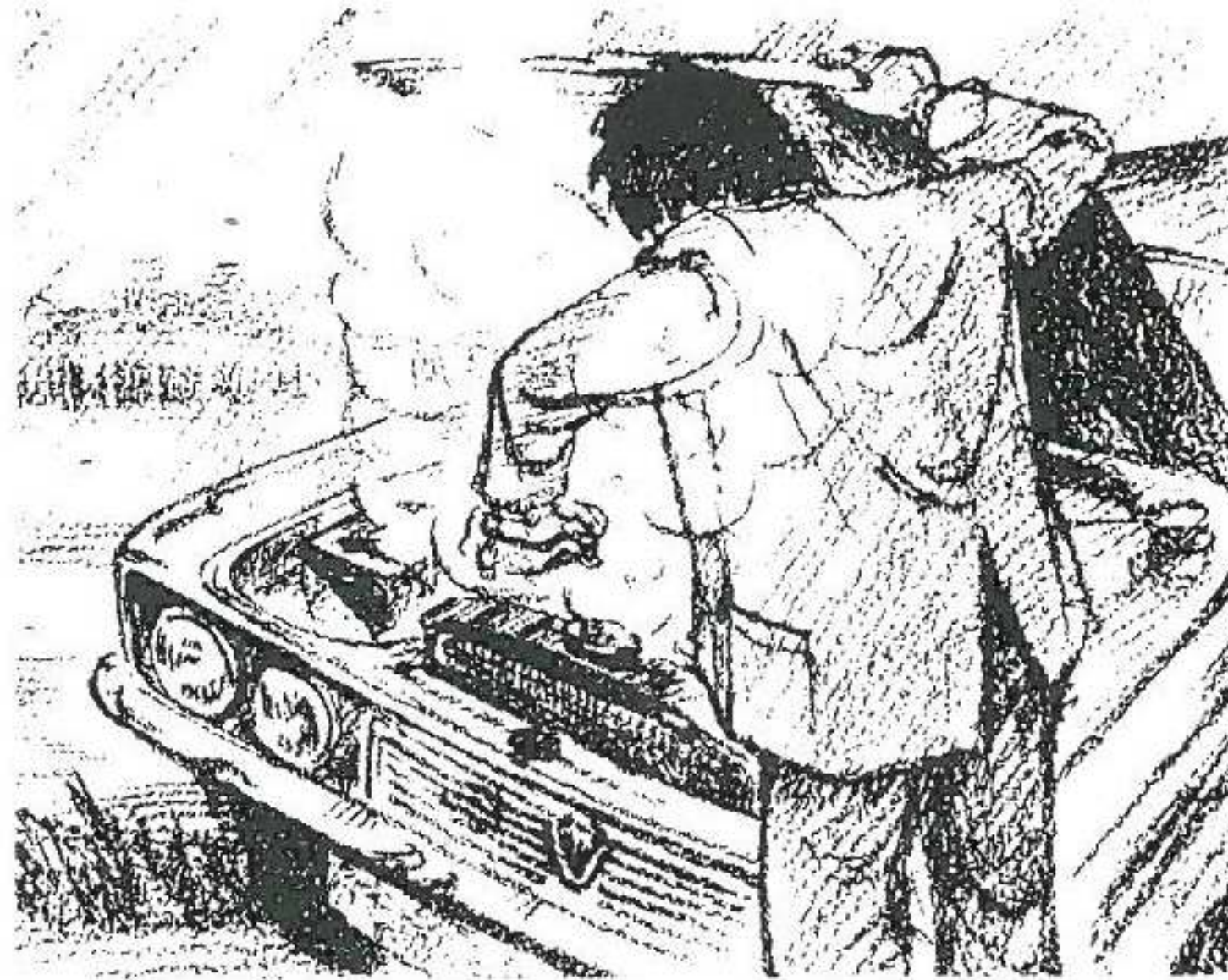
Cork 0.14 Limerick 0.10

22nd February

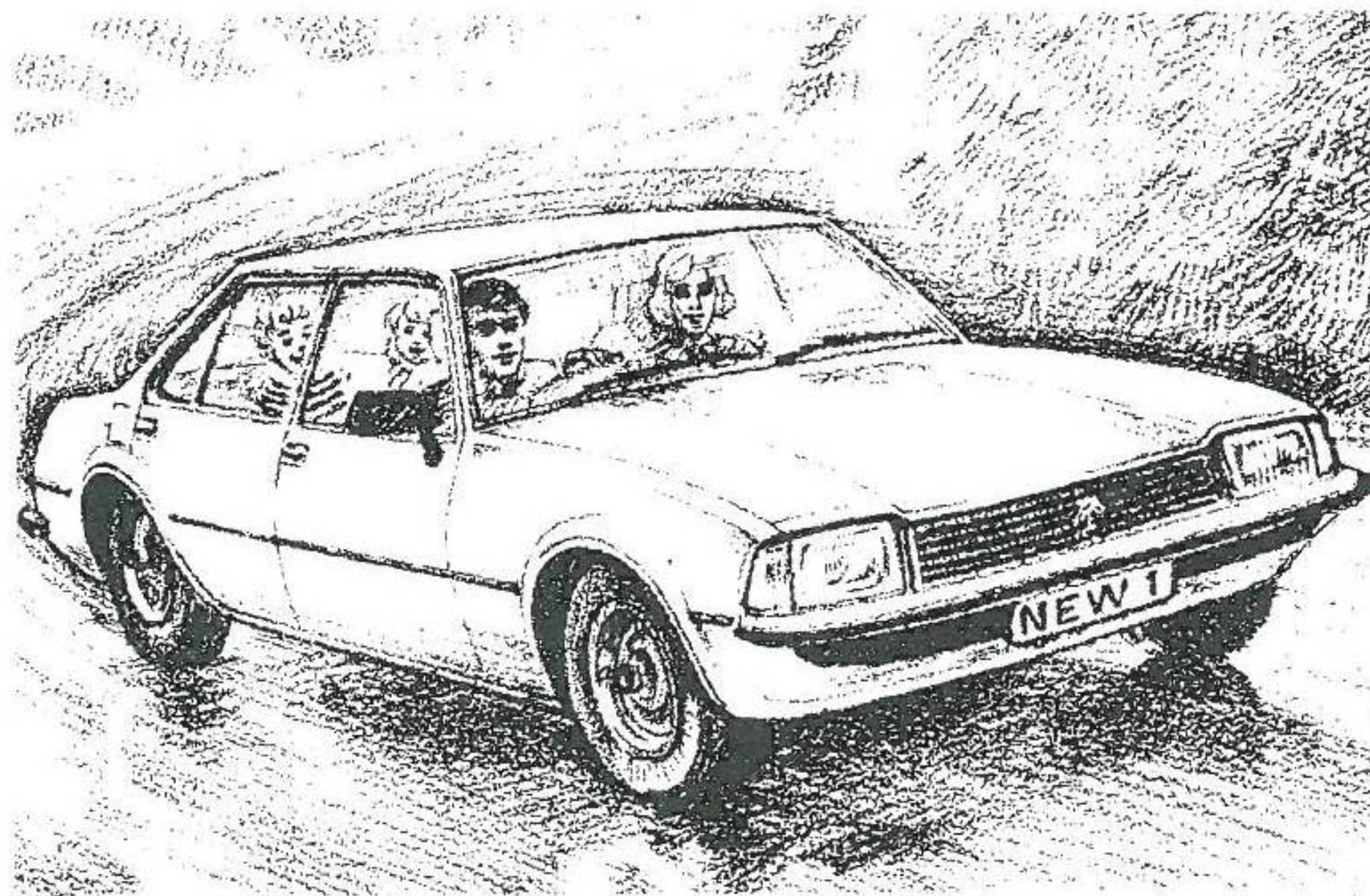
Waterford 4.13 Limerick 5.6

● TO PAGE 19

Frustration



Elation



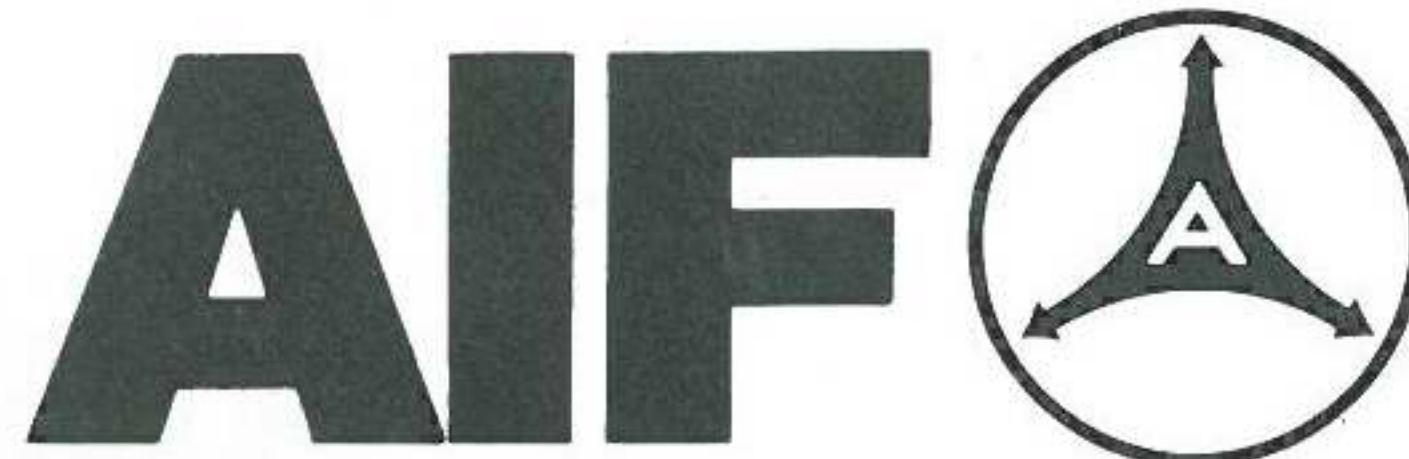
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● The Limerick Team that contested last years All-Ireland Senior Hurling Final, losing gallantly to Galway on a score of 2-15 to 3-9.

● FROM PAGE 17

8th March

Galway 0.12 Limerick 2.5

15th March

Wexford 2.12 Limerick 3.9

So the trend of the previous year was reversed, with Limerick losing five games and drawing the last of them, to end at the bottom of the table, and suffer the indignity of relegation to the lower division.

The score registered against them in this series was 9 goals 78 points and they scored 16 goals 42 points — on average, 1.14 against to 2.9 for, per game.

Fourteen points conceded per match does not speak a lot for the prowess of the defence, whilst the contribution of the Limerick half forward line hardly exceeded three points a game, which could not be rated a super performance.

Thus the present weaknesses are pinpointed, so the mentors face a

man sized job reconstructing the side in order that hopes of a climb back to the All-Ireland winners standard may be quickly realised. Limerick have a rich pool of Under-21 talent. Indeed they held Tipperary to level scoring in the Munster semi-final.

Limerick played three games in this grade and Tony McGrath was their top scorer with 4.3, with Tim Bourke contributing 0.13, and M. J. Coffey registering 1.6. Others to give much satisfaction in that campaign were Tom Normoyle, Michael O'Connor, Mike Moloney, Joe Mann and Eamonn Mescall, whilst Noel Leonard has been putting in some fine performances in University competition over recent months.

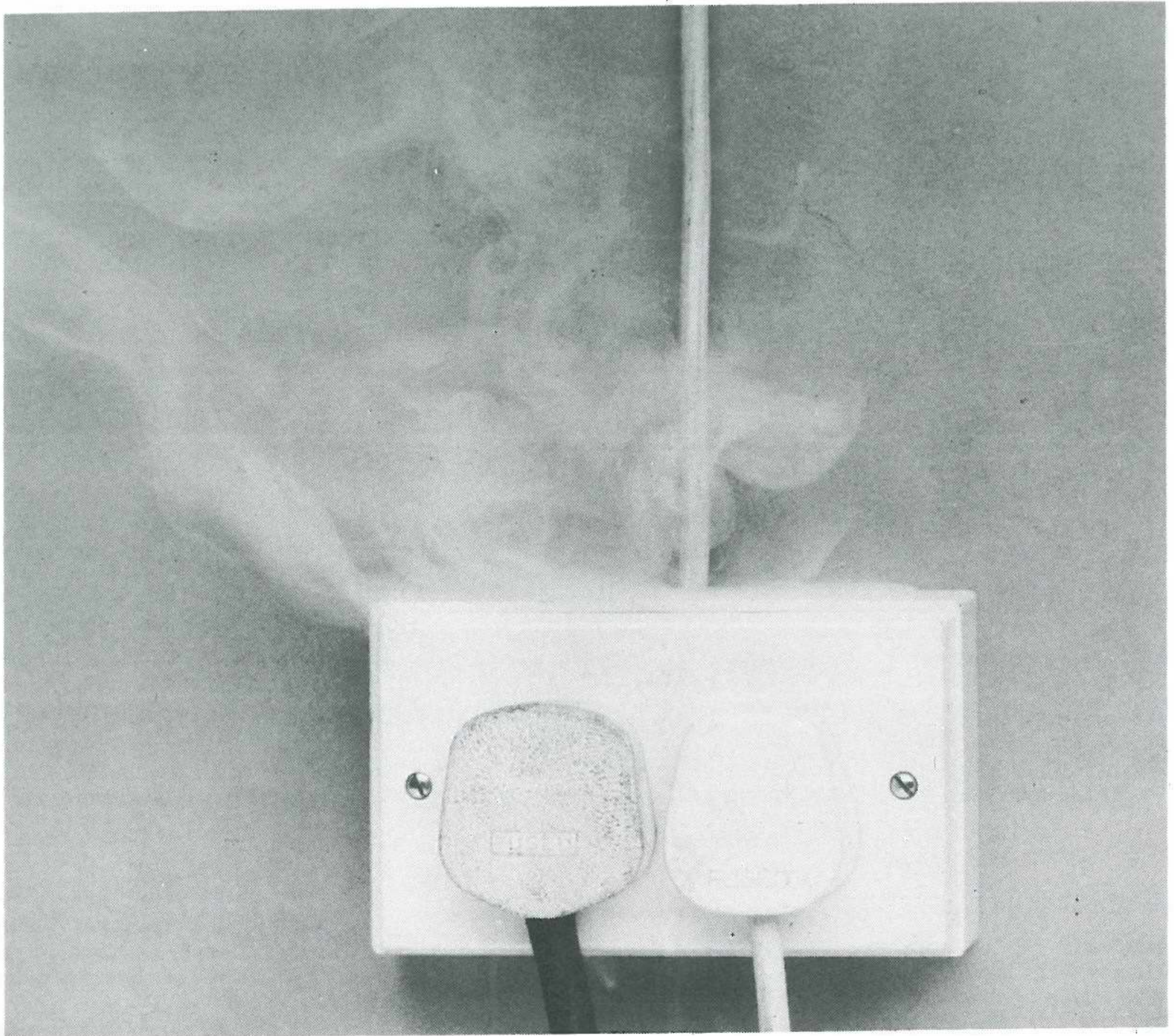
The Limerick preparation for the bid for Under 21 renown in 1981 has proceeded on an extensive scale for

several weeks now, and some promising material has been unearthed, some of which might prove worthy of promotion to Senior ranks.

It is not all gloom in Limerick G.A.A. circles, the reverse could be said to be the order, for a massive 357 teams have entered for the 1981 Championships — and that's not counting anything under minor grade. They are divided as under —

Senior Hurling	26
Under 21 Hurling	48
Junior Hurling	53
Minor Hurling	47
Senior Football	20
Under 21 Football	48
Junior Football	64
Minor Football	51

Very few counties can bank on a greater pool of material, and with the intensive efforts now underway, mainly at minor and under 21 level, further successes in the inter-county arena cannot be too long delayed.



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JUNIOR LEAGUE HELPS IMPROVE STANDARDS

THE inauguration last year of the Junior League has raised the standards of play in the weaker junior counties and with the necessity to have better organisation at club and county level the administration of many of the counties has improved.

In addition, the fifteen counties participating, are well prepared for their respective provincial championships. As a result of a motion passed at Congress, there will be changes in the Competition for the next season.

Up to the present only counties, who did not compete in the Senior National League, were eligible to participate. The competition will be open to any county wishing to take part in the next season.

The Senior National League also produced exciting fare and is doing much to advance the game.

The Senior Open Draw championship is under way. Judging from the Senior League form to date it looks as if Cork the champions, Limerick, the runners-up, Dublin, Kilkenny and Galway are the most likely contenders for the title.

The Feile na n Gael is organised for Galway again this year. The Camogie Committee have got twenty under 14 teams at home so twenty visiting counties will be invited to participate.

The participation of this age group in an All-Ireland Festival of Camogie has aroused great interest inside the counties and the finals of the feile for the past five or six years have shown how the skills of the

game can be acquired by this young age group.

The counties, which have hosted the Feile, are the areas which have shown the most improvement and have been successful at inter-county level.

Limerick, Cork, Kilkenny and now Galway, are amongst the most successful counties both at Inter-county and Schools level.

Dublin are expected to be hosting the Féile in the next two years and with so many underage teams it

should be possible to have a record number of clubs participating. St. John of God Convent won out the All-Ireland Schools Junior Championship when they defeated St. Patrick's Cork who had won the senior title shortly before.

The Higher Institutes Council completed their programme for 1980-81. University College added the League title to their Ashbourne Cup victory and the Combined Universities won Corn Uí Mhaolagáin for the fourth year in a row.



● The Bank of Ireland-USI News Sport Award for Camogie shown here being presented to Edel Murphy by the Minister for State, Jim Tunney, T.D.



CORRIBMEN'S LEAGUE SUCCESS A VICTORY

Galway back in k

Mattie McDonagh, trainer of the successful Galway team.

GALWAY did more than regain the National Football League title after an interval of 16 years when they beat Roscommon convincingly at Croke Park early in May. They brought a refreshing wind of change to the football world.

After a long period in which the handpass has dominated the game to such an effect that many have been calling for a ban on this gambit, Galway showed us the excellence of what might well be termed the "old fashioned" game.

They kept the handpass to the minimum as they went about forging out victory through superb fielding, long-kicking, intelligent passing and clever positional play. It all added up to an exhilarating experience, and, although the issue was really never seriously in doubt long before the final whistle, few in the 22,000-plus attendance could have left Croke Park early so enjoyable and so exhilarating was the match-winning brand of play from the talented company of Tribesmen.

This was also a win that confirmed that Galway, who provided so many exciting headlines in the 'Sixties with that memorable run of three All-Ireland senior titles on the trot, are back in the big time again after a spell in the doldrums. There was plenty of evidence of the come-back in the quarter final win over fancied Armagh, but still few outside of the county, perhaps, could really have expected the win over Kerry at Ennis that earned the Connacht men their final outing.

That was a well merited win over the All-Ireland champions, one that swept away any lingering doubts there may have been that Galway were at last on the right track. The

cool, competent way that they followed up that break-through by outgunning Roscommon only served to emphasise the fact further. Quietly and almost without notice, Galway have built up a combination that has many strong points.

The defence is a splendid unit. Johnny Hughes, one of the longer serving members of the team, continues to prove an outstanding asset with his quality play at right full back.

Stephen Kineavy's football in the League final was outstanding. He was cool, authoritative, never put a foot wrong, and did much not only to mould the defence into a

disciplined division, but also helped to initiate attacks with his well-directed clearances.

Indeed, it was a clearance by this accomplished Clonbur club man that started Galway on the road to their only goal early in the second half, and the score that really clinched the title.

Peter Lee at centre half was another to play a big part in ensuring a rocky road to goal for the

Roscommon forwards. With the other members of the back division also pulling their weight in fine style, Galway have much to recommend them here.

The same can be said at midfield. Brian Talty, who won an All-Ireland club senior football medal with Thomond College, Limerick, in 1978 in a team captained by Pat Spillane, has been scaling great heights. A superb fielder, and intelligent worker, he has been getting through an amazing amount of efficient work in each game of late.

POSE PROBLEMS

Billy Joyce, another long serving campaigner, has also been proving an excellent cog in the wheel of success. Like Talty, he is a footballer who has the ability to pose plenty of problems for any midfielder.

Galway have not been hitting scores as spectacularly as some of their great teams of the past.

BY FRANK MILLS

Nevertheless, there is plenty of potential in the attack, and as confidence increases with success at the top level this is likely to be exploited to a degree that we have not yet seen.

Tommy Joe Gilmore, a brilliant centre half back when Galway contested All-Ireland senior finals in the 'Seventies, has settled in well in the contrasting role of full forward. The Cortoon club man is proving an

business

alert and eager raider, a forward who must be closely and constantly watched.

Barry Brennan and Stephen Joyce are wing forwards who showed a nice enough line in points scoring, and Gay McManus also proved very adept in the finishing line. One had to admire the way he took his goal, beating two Roscommon defenders on the run in before unleashing an unstoppable shot to the roof of the net.

The Miltown club man also helped himself to four splendid points, and over-all that is the type of tally that marks out McManus as a finisher who could take a decisive grip on any game and steer a winning course.

Galway's performance in taking the League title must rank as one of the best success stories in modern-day football . . . one on a par with Meath's record in 1975. They started that campaign as a Division II team, but went all the way to the League crown.

Galway, of course, were also in Division II at the start of the 1980-81 League, and they had some problems of their own as well at the start of the competition. But, happily, those were ironed out, and it was virtually success all the way, as the Tribesmen build up strength, confidence and teamwork in chalking up the wins that opened the door to such a wonderful dividend.

The latest triumph earned the Western county their fourth National Football League title over-all. The first was back in 1939, the second in



● Barry Brennan speaks to the Croke Park enthusiasts after leading Galway to their recent National Football League victory.

1957, and the third in the 'Sixties. That one in 1965 came during the country's most glorious era ever of three All-Ireland senior championships in a row.

A year later Galway clinched the three-in-a-row against Meath, but rather surprisingly has failed to take the Sam Maguire Cup in the meantime. Indeed, it is not too unkind to say that they have earned something of a reputation as champion runners-up, having failed to Offaly in 1971, Cork in 1973 and the then emerging Dubs in 1974 in the county's last appearances in All-Ireland senior finals.

So, the win over Roscommon in the first-ever all-Connacht League final has brought a welcome change of fortune for Galway. Their climb back has increased, if ever so slightly, the small group of elite teams in football.

STEPPING STONE

It has been said, and with more than a grain of truth, that even in these days when the League is such a highly competitive test, that there is a world of difference between the winter competition and the All-

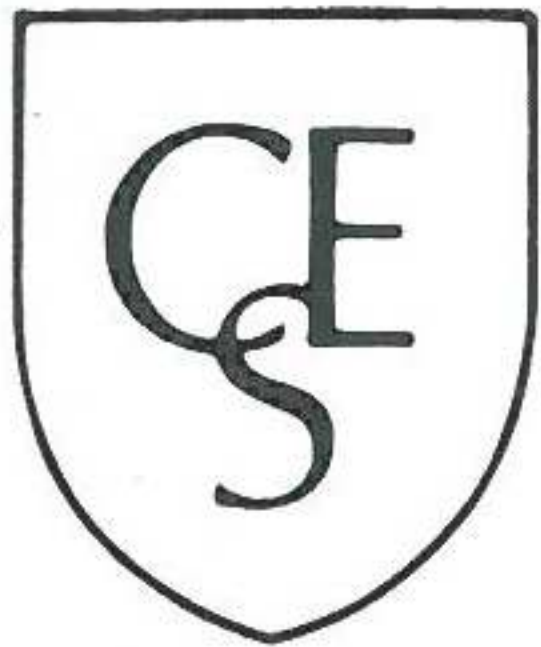
Ireland Championship. Certainly, experience has shown that success in the League is not always the stepping stone to glory in the Championship.

One has only to recall last year's happenings to appreciate this fact. Cork beat their old rivals Kerry in the National League final at Pairc Uí Chaoimh in May, but when the teams met again with the Munster title at stake, plus the All-Ireland crown, the Leesiders, although favoured once more with home venue, had their ambitions thwarted by the crafty men from the Kingdom.

There is a lesson not to be overlooked there. And, Kerry, despite that set-back from Galway at Ennis, must be among the more fancied contenders for the title, especially as they are planning a trip to Australia in October. Travelling there as All-Ireland champions for the fourth year in a row would be especially pleasing to the Kerry men.

Roscommon cannot be easily overlooked in the West, either, despite their heavy loss to the Galway men at Croke Park.

● TO PAGE 28



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NOEL HORGAN'S FOCUS ON OFFALY STAR

PADRAIG HORAN JOINS ELITE GROUP

WHAT have Padraig Horan, Jimmy Smith, Micky Kearins, Joe Salmon and Michael "Babs" Keating got in common.

It is true that they were all great sportsmen who served club, county and the G.A.A. with the utmost dedication during their playing days but their main connection for me is that each of them reached the peak of his powers when his county languished in the lower reaches of the sporting world.

Such were the gigantic efforts of each player in his era to improve the standing of his team that his name became almost synonymous with his own county at the time. Mention Clare, for instance, to informed hurling enthusiasts of the 'fifties and early 'sixties and the name of Jimmy Smith would automatically spring to mind.

Jimmy was generally acknowledged as a class performer and was a free scoring forward for years, gaining regular representative honours with Munster and the Rest of Ireland. Unfortunately for him, Clare were not a major power and

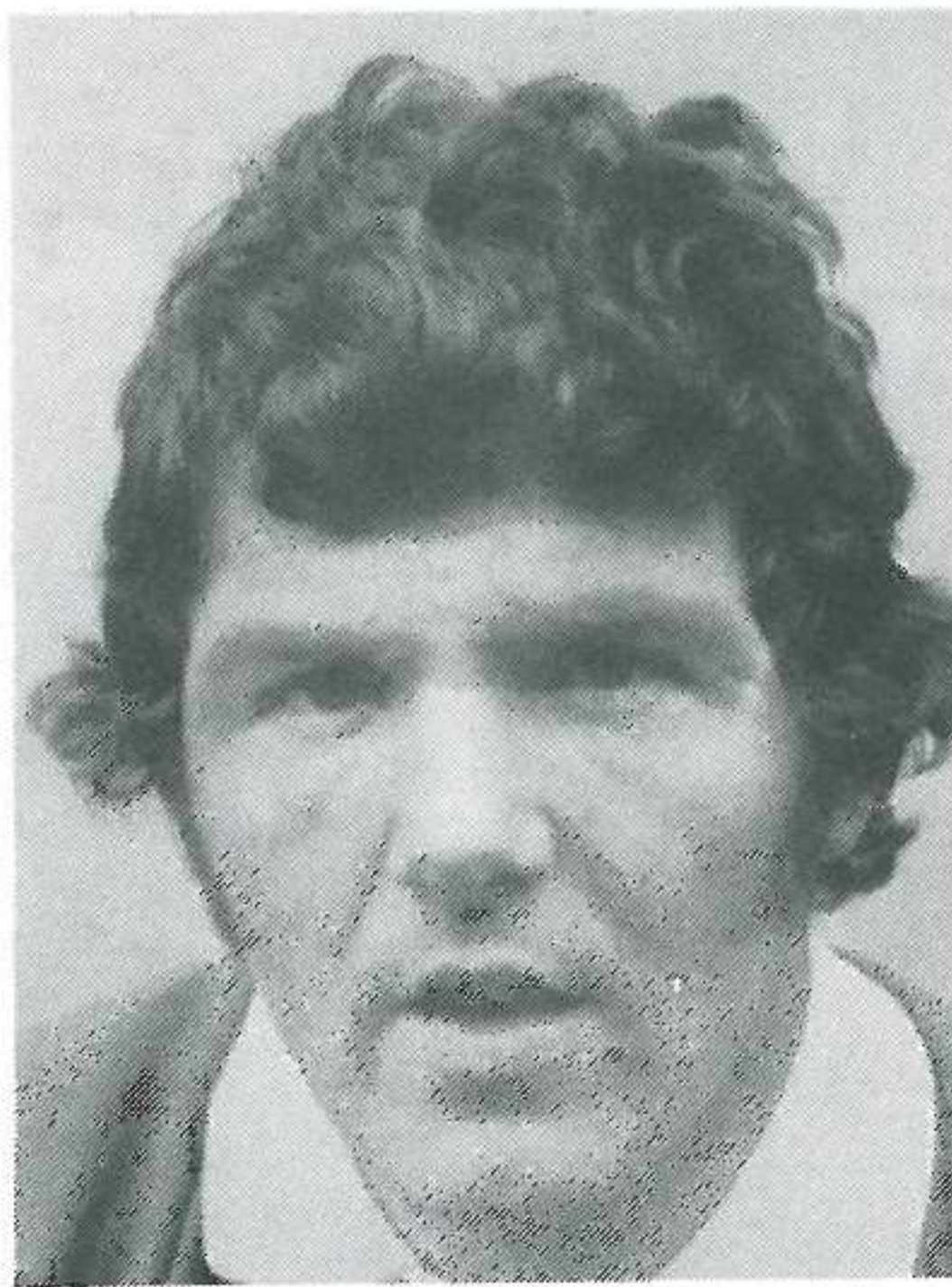
Jimmy never gained the success at inter-county level which his vast talents so richly merited.

The scoring feats of Mickey Kearins for Sligo are almost legend and the ace forward appeared to be shouldering his team's hopes alone during the 'sixties and 'seventies. Mickey gained All-Star recognition for his great efforts but it was extremely unfortunate that he never achieved major football success when in his prime.

Indeed, it was particularly sad in Mickey's case that when Sligo did make a breakthrough in Connacht in 1975, he was well past his peak and was exposed in a somewhat poor light on his solitary championship appearance at Croke Park when Kerry's John O'Keeffe held him at bay.

FAMOUS CLUB

Joe Salmon was a brilliant hurling midfielder with Galway during the 'fifties and early 'sixties but he similarly lacked support and had to



● PADRAIG HORAN

settle for his main glory at club level when he moved to Cork and joined the famous Glen Rovers.

Multi-talented Michael Keating was a leading light with Tipperary hurlers for over a decade and won all major honours in that code. But "Babs" was equally adept at the big ball game and worked diligently during his career to put the premier county on the football map. Tipperary were sadly lacking in quality players, however, and Mick's efforts were in vain though his regular selection for Munster may have compensated him to some degree.

For years, it seemed, as if Padraig Horan would also be remembered as a quality player on a poor team. I can recall when he won the first of his three Railway Cup medals as a full back with Leinster in the early 'seventies and remember watching with admiration as he hurled stylishly at centre-back with Offaly for most of the decade.

His natural skills shone like a beacon in an Offaly squad which always performed with determination but generally looked an unorthodox and ungainly bunch. However, Padraig Horan was fortunate that, like John Connolly with Galway and Dermot Earley with Roscommon, his inspirational efforts gradually influenced the younger players in the county and a good team developed around him.

HISTORIC WIN

Offaly's historic success in the Leinster championship last year made it abundantly clear that they are no longer one of the poor relations in the hurling world. Needless to say, Padraig Horan's contribution as a crafty goalscoring

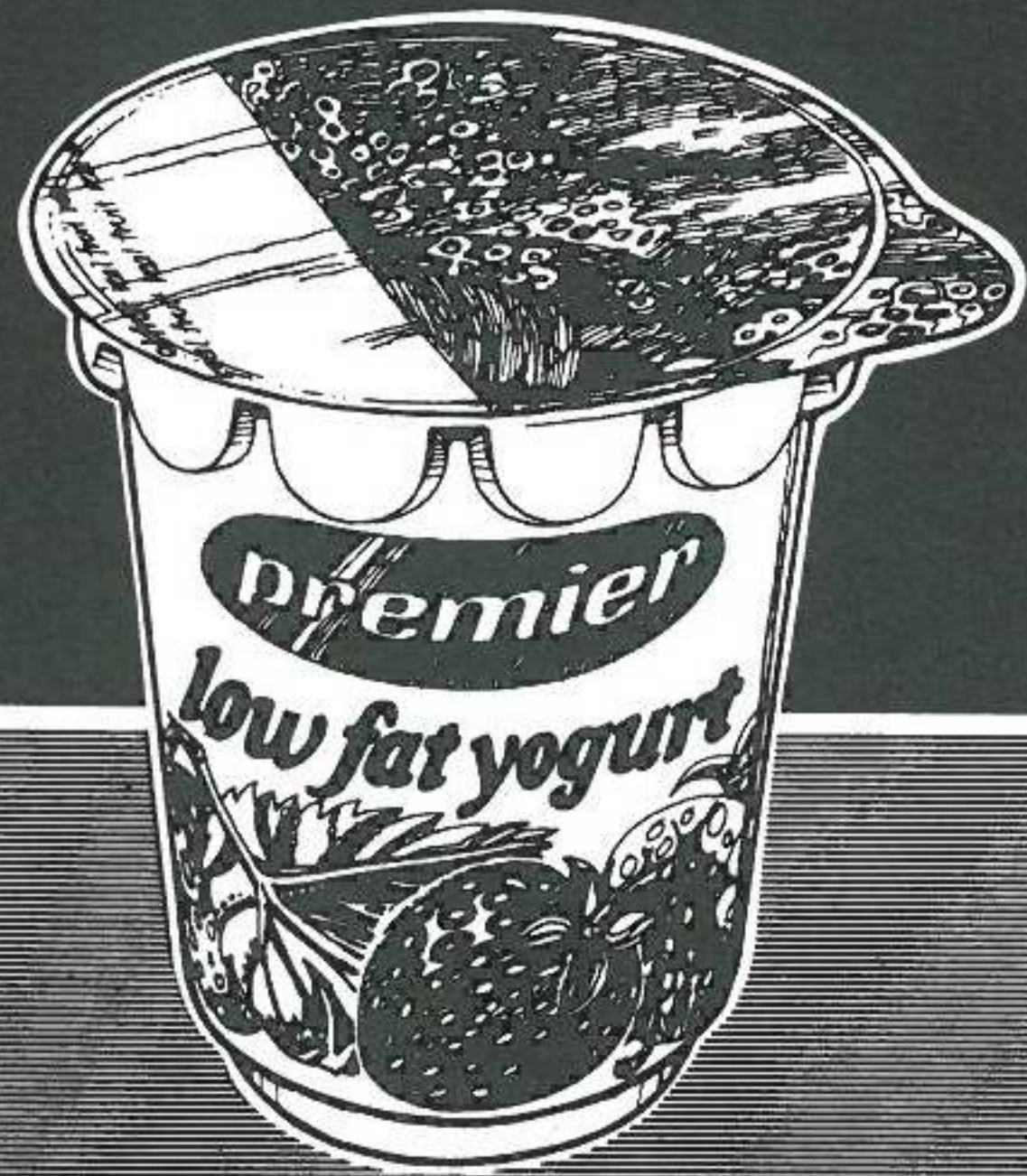
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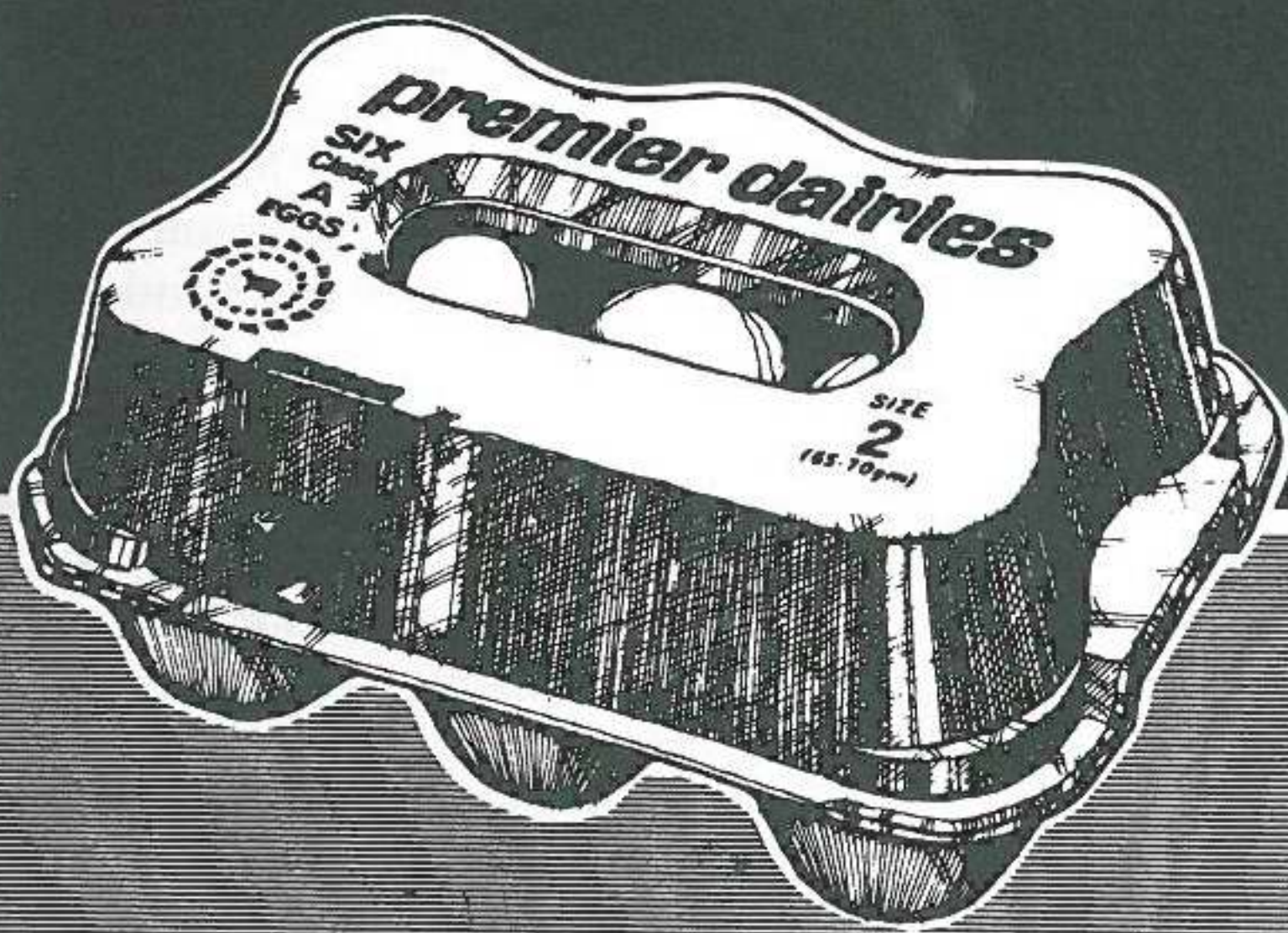
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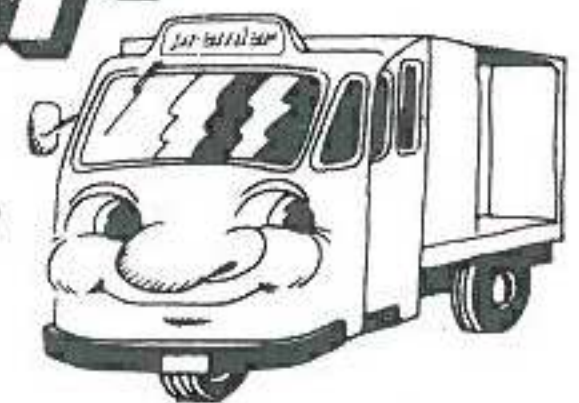
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Milk is complete food

BY LARRY BYRNE

YOU may not realise it, but being Irish you drink more milk and eat more dairy produce than most people in the world. On average, you drink a pint of milk a day in cups of tea or coffee or just on its own.

You also eat more butter, which has the cream from eighteen pints of milk in every pound, than people in other countries.

Milk and dairy products, then, are health-giving. Here in Ireland we are also fortunate that milk, butter, cream and the like may be delivered fresh and promptly every morning at one's doorstep. Premier Dairies provide such a daily service.

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Milk contains the essential nutrients we need for good health — fat to keep the body warm, carbohydrate for energy, protein for growth, and minerals

and vitamins to build strong bodies so that they can fight off disease.

So, milk as a drink, or as butter, cheese, yogurt or cream is food for your growing body. Why not order an extra pint, then, and start the day refreshed and full of life-giving goodness of Irish milk?

Did you know, by the way, that milk was one of the first foods discovered? That was as early as the year 5000 B.C., when the early Egyptians had domesticated the cow.

Nevertheless, it took man nearly seven thousand years to think of storing milk in bottles. Bottled milk was only sold for the first time in the 1880's.

The Hennessy Connection

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Chance has been kind to the Charente countryside, combining a mild, balanced climate, warm enough for the vine to flourish, with a rough chalky soil, a stern taskmaster for the men who work it but a generous mother to the vine it bears.

It was in this remarkable region that Richard Hennessy, Irishman, Officer of the Irish Brigade

in the service of the King of France, chose to settle in 1750.

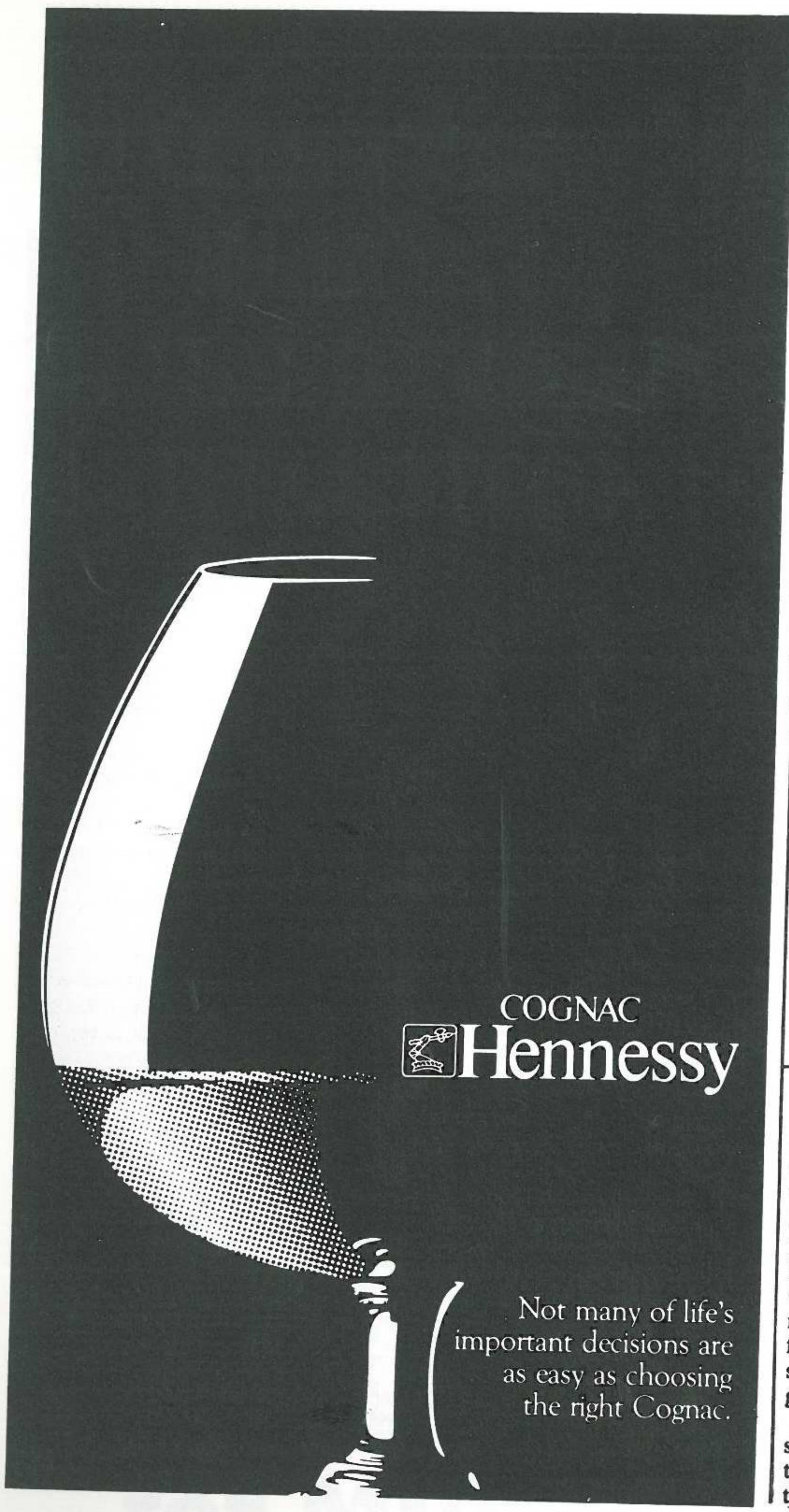
In 1765 he founded the Hennessy Company, which still bears his name.

Only the white wine from certain authorised grape varieties can be made into Cognac, and the vineyards are classified into six "crus" or growths, each with its own peculiarities of soil and climate.

The most highly prized are the Cognacs from the first four "crus": Grande Champagne, Petite Champagne, Borderies and Fins Bois. There are the Cognacs which the House of Hennessy buys annually and which have been precious stored in the Hennessy cellars from century to century.

A double distillation process gently extracts the essential aroma and quality from the white

● OVERLEAF



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Not many of life's
important decisions are
as easy as choosing
the right Cognac.

● FROM PAGE 27

vines produced. The quality of the oak casks is very important. It is the wood which throughout the years allows the Cognac to acquire its warm amber colour, develop its bouquet and lose its excess of alcohol. Only the finest oak is used.

In the dim coolness of the cellars, each barrel begins its long sleep, until it is judged worthy to bear the Hennessy label.

The marriages which make up the blends and which account for the unique Hennessy quality are possible thanks to the vast reserves where certain Cognacs are nearly 200 years old.

The secret of a great Cognac lies in the skilful, delicate blending of different growths and years. Each Cognac brings the particular nuances of its own age and region, which contributes to the "body", "bouquet" finess and lightness of the blend.

The fashion today is to drink Hennessy Cognac with a mixer. But connoisseurs the world over often still seem to prefer Cognac as a liqueur, so that they can better appreciate its rare qualities.

Whatever the climate, whatever the occasion, Hennessy Cognac remains true to its great tradition — an experience to be savoured.

● FROM PAGE 23

But, while taking full recognition of all these factors, the fact still remains that Galway have shown with their performances in the League that they are again a powerful force to be reckoned with. Moreover, with every member of the Galway side having gained a national inter-county medal for the first time as a result of the recent success, confidence is sure to be greatly boosted as a result.

Yes, Galway are a team that should repay watching not only in the months ahead, but for some time to come.

HORGAN IS A WORTHY HURLING ALL-STAR

BY NOEL HORGAN



● CORK'S PAT HORGAN

PAT Horgan's impressive form in this season's National League has added considerable weight to the opinion, firmly held by knowledgeable hurling enthusiasts for some years now, that the tall Glen Rovers clubman is destined to become a major star of the 'eighties.

Horgan played a key role throughout Cork's league campaign producing a particularly praiseworthy performance in the semi-final against Waterford on April 19. The resurgent Decies came to Thurles in a determined mood that day and were quietly confident of toppling the reigning champions.

The cultured and cocky Leesiders refused to be ruffled, however, and having absorbed the spirited Waterford challenge for three quarters of the match, they slipped smoothly into top gear in the closing stages to cruise to a thoroughly efficient victory.

All critics agreed that day that the leading light in Cork's ultra competent display and chief architect of the Decies downfall was the elegant Pat Horgan.

In a lively game highlighted by lengthy accurate striking from players on both sides Pat Horgan stood out, shooting six splendid

points from play, the margin which by coincidence separated the sides at the finish.

ENTHRALLED CROWD

The skill, poise and deceptive ease with which Pat performed his formidable feats enthralled the crowd and the fact that he was pitted against Pat McGrath, a fine hurler whose strong pivotal play has inspired Waterford so often in the past, made his contribution to Cork's victory even more significant.

It was a quality display from the talented Glenman which must have impressed even those critics who persistently claimed that Pat Horgan had not the makings of a top-class centre-forward. It had been suggested, for instance, that Pat lacked power and pace — prominent features in the play of the more distinguished attacking leaders of recent years, such as Kilkenny's Pat Delaney, Wexford's Martin Quigley

and Pat's fellow Corkmen Willie Walsh and Gerald McCarthy.

The more cynical hinted that it was a dearth of top-quality centre-forwards which allowed the Corkman to gain an All-Star award last year. Harsh comments these on a player who contributed significantly to Cork's league triumph in 1980.

But an aspect of Pat Horgan's play which genuinely troubled the more informed Cork follower was the Glenman's over-casual, almost arrogant approach which prevented him from stamping his complete authority on a match.

Pat's nonchalance suggested that he was totally convinced that skill, no matter how sparingly applied, would always carry the day. Consequently, he tended to drift out of the action for lengthy spells and he seemed largely unperturbed when the tide did not flow smoothly.

ACCURATE SHOOTING

It was a failing on which pessimists thrived despite the various attributes which Pat Horgan so proficiently displayed. His clever

● OVERLEAF

● FROM PAGE 29

distribution, accurate shooting and deft overhead stickwork were invaluable to Cork last year.

On reflection, it was easy to

understand Pat's apparent arrogance in his first season as a regular with Cork. After all, the lad was practically reared on success.

Born with immense natural ability in a top hurling county and schooled

by Glen Rovers, that illustrious Blackpool academy, Pat was earmarked for stardom at an early age. As he progressed through the juvenile, minor and under-21 ranks, parading his talents effortlessly and gaining regular glory with both club and county, Pat could be forgiven for feeling that his personal success was part of the natural order of things.

When he became a regular with a strong Cork team last year, he may have subconsciously assumed that an All-Ireland victory would follow almost as surely as night follows day. But Cork's failure to Limerick in the Munster final shattered Pat Horgan's illusions.

It opened his eyes to the fact that skill alone does not guarantee success and that extra drive and commitment are required for survival in the top flight. His dashing display against Waterford suggests that he has learned that lesson well and he seems set now to realise his full potential with Cork.

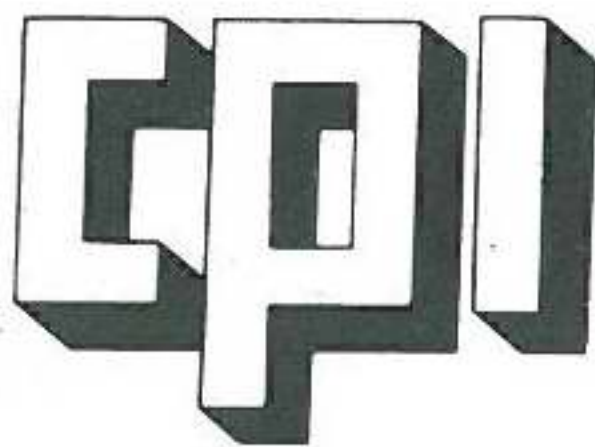
His newly acquired maturity tends also to disprove the various theories regarding Pat's deficiencies as a centre-forward. Lack of experience was solely responsible for his spasmodic spells of indifference last season.

NATURAL FLAIR

Not surprisingly, Pat Horgan's ability was never questioned at any stage. He is undoubtedly a gifted performer and his stylish play has already posed problems for some of the game's prime pivots.

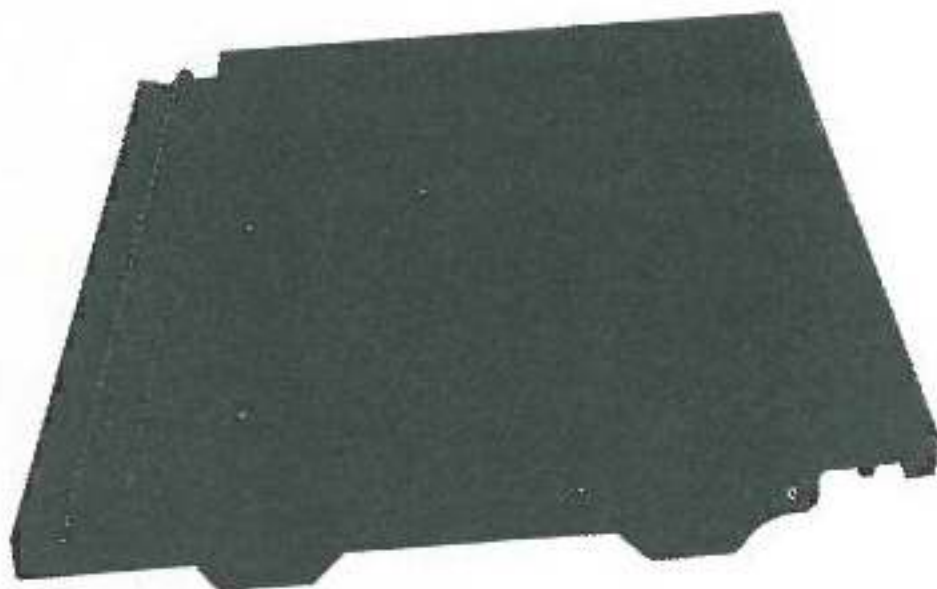
Such is Pat's natural flair that he is equally at home in defence and he starred at centre-half back with his club in last year's championship. Indeed, it was as a defender that he first caught my attention when he shone, at 16, in a first round minor championship game against Waterford in 1974.

Pat spent three seasons with the



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county minors, winning one All-Ireland medal and subsequently he captured one national trophy during his five year stint with Cork in the under-21 grade.

Pat maintains, however, that his greatest thrill to date occurred in 1976 when, as a wing forward, he shared in a county senior success with Glen Rovers. Surprisingly, perhaps, he states that his main ambition is to win another county medal with the Glen although to play with a successful Cork team on All-Ireland final day must also rank highly on his list of priorities.

Certainly, 23-year-old Horgan, who made his debut with Cork's premier team in a challenge game against Limerick in 1977 and was rated as a tremendous prospect by the late Christy Ring, will play a major role in the Rebels' bid to regain the McCarthy Cup this year.

For the record Pat Horgan also excels at badminton and is the current Munster singles champion in that code.

PADRAIG JOINS ELITE GROUP

● FROM PAGE 25

full-forward and accurate free-taker was invaluable in the midlanders' triumph over Kilkenny.

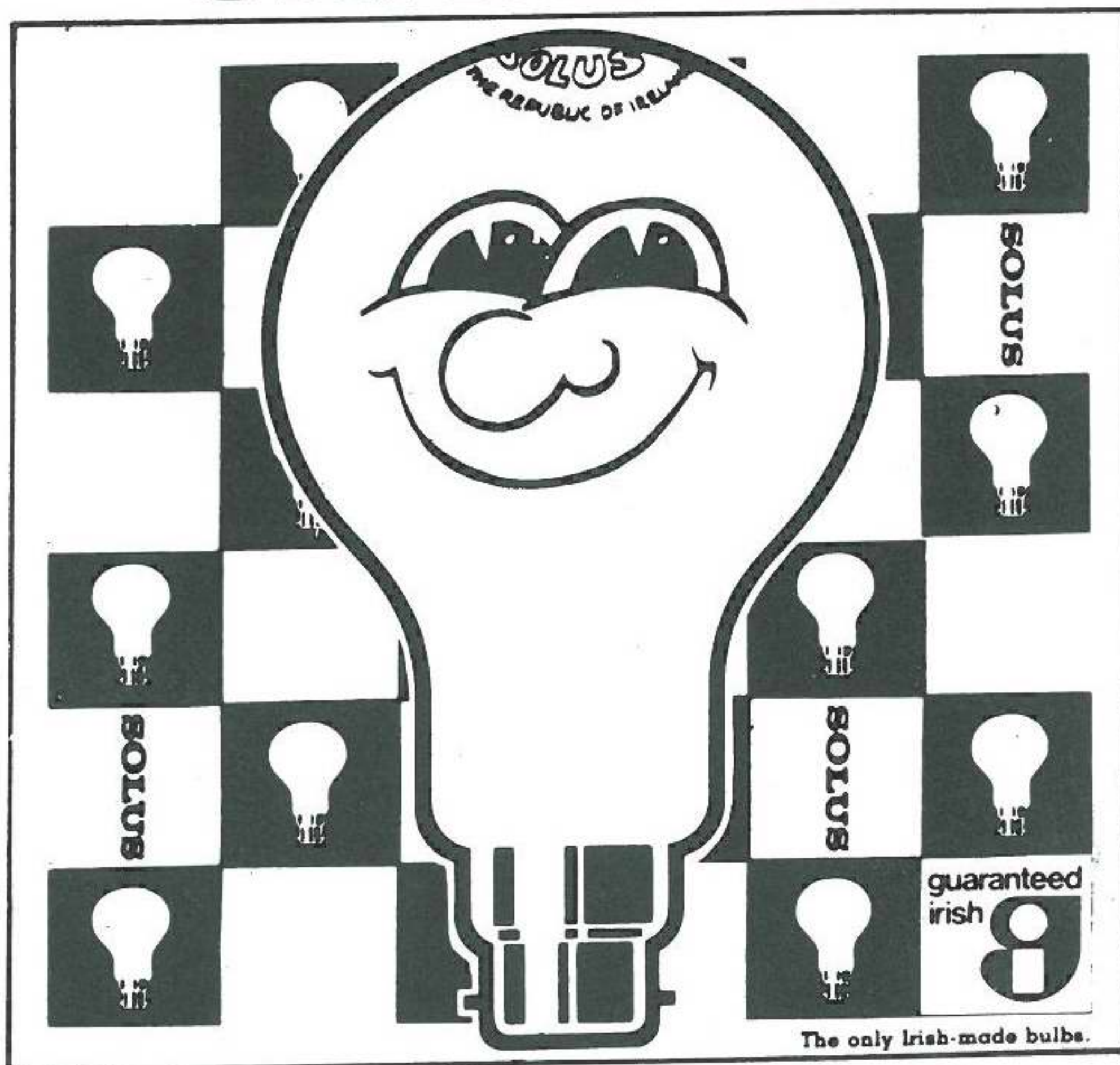
But Offaly's progression to hurling's elite produced several other stars and the talented St. Rynaghs clubman no longer stood alone on a pedestal in Offaly hurling circles. Pat Fleury, Joachim Kelly, Pat Carroll, Pat Delaney, Mark Corrigan and the rest are equally revered in the Faithful County nowadays.

It is a spotlight which Padraig

Horan is more than willing to share especially as Offaly's fresh influx of top-class talent makes All-Ireland success a distinct possibility this year. And 30-year-old Padraig can

still take satisfaction from the fact that his guidance, encouragement and experience were instrumental in moulding the current crop of Offaly hurlers into such a formidable force.

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Bronntar iad ar scoth iománaithe agus peileadóirí na hÉireann mar aitheantas ar a n-ardchumas imeartha agus ar an mbealach ina léiríonn siad fíor-spiorad na hiomaíochta agus na spórtúlachta.



RESULTS SUMMARY

NATIONAL HURLING LEAGUE

SEMI-FINALS: April 19.
Thurles: Cork 1-19; Waterford 2-10. Offaly 2-13; Laois 4-6.

Final: May 3. Thurles: Cork 3-11; Offaly 2-8. Cork captain: D. O'Grady.

Relegation Play-Off. May 3. Thurles. Galway 1-13; Wexford 1-10.

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Semi-Finals: April 26. Ennis, Galway 0-10; Kerry 0-8. Roscommon. Roscommon 1-11; Mayo 1-6.

Final: May 10, Croke Park: Galway 1-11; Roscommon 1-2.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS CONNACHT FINALS

Football: April 12. Sligo: St. Mary's, Sligo, 3-6; St. Grellan's, Ballinasloe, Galway, 3-3.

Hurling: April 12. Athleague: Sarsfields, Galway, 4-12; Tremane, Roscommon, 0-5.

MUNSTER FINAL

Football: April 12. Stradbally. St. Finbarr's, Cork, 3-12; Stradbally, Waterford, 1-8.

ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIPS Quarter-Finals

Hurling: April 12. Ballycastle, Antrim, 1-14; Brian Boro's, London, 2-4.

Football: April 19. Monaghan: Scotstown, Monaghan, 1-8; Tara, London, 2-4.

SEMI-FINALS

Hurling: April 26. Páirc Uí Chaoimh. St. Finbarr's, Cork, 2-11; Sarsfields, Galway, 1-3. Ballycastle. Shamrocks, Kilkenny, 2-11; Ballycastle, Antrim, 0-12.

Football: May 3. Navan: Walters-town, Meath, 2-12; St. Mary's, Sligo, 1-5. May 24. Cork: St. Finbarr's, Cork, 0-8; Scotstown, Monaghan, 0-4.

FINALS

Hurling: May 17. Thurles: Shamrocks, Kilkenny, 1-15; St. Finbarr's, Cork, 1-11.

O'BYRNE CUP

Football: April 12. Drogheda. Dublin 1-8; Louth 0-10. Tullamore. Offaly 2-7; Wicklow 1-6. Kilkenny. Wexford 3-15; Kilkenny 0-1.

Semi-Finals: April 26. Parnell Park, Dublin. Dublin 3-12; Wexford 1-5. Tullamore. Offaly 2-11; Laois 0-10.

Final: May 10. Parnell Park, Dublin. Offaly 1-12; Dublin 0-11.

DR. McKENNA CUP

Football: April 19. Coalisland. Antrim 4-3; Tyrone 0-8. April 26. Castleblaney. Armagh 3-5; Monaghan 2-7.

COLLEGES' CHAMPIONSHIPS

ALL-IRELAND SEMI-FINALS

Hurling. April 12. Thurles: North Monastery, Cork, 1-9; Our Lady's, Gort, 0-4.

"B" CHAMPIONSHIP

Hurling. April 12: Knockbridge: St. Vincent's, Dublin, 4-8; St. Mary's, Belfast, 2-7. April 15. Kinvara, Galway: St. Joseph's, Tulla, 4-11; Presentation College, Athenry, 1-6.

ALL-IRELAND FINALS

Football: May 3. Roscommon. Carmelite College, Moate 2-2; St. Colman's, Claremorris, 1-4.

Hurling: May 10: Walsh Park, Waterford: Kilkenny C.B.S. 3-5; North Monastery, Cork, 1-8.

PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

LEINSTER

Senior Football: May 10: Longford: Westmeath 3-10; Longford 1-10. Athy: Wicklow 3-11; Carlow 1-8. Kilkenny: Wexford 2-11; Kilkenny 2-4.

May 17. Croke Park: Laois 5-8; Louth 3-8.

Under-21 Football: April 19. Wexford: Wexford 1-9; Carlow 1-5. Aughrim: Kildare 3-9; Wicklow 2-10. Nowlan Park: Longford 1-10; Kilkenny 3-3.

April 29: Portlaoise: Dublin 2-9; Laois 0-9. May 2. Longford: Longford 2-6; Westmeath 1-5. May 3. Wexford: Louth 1-8; Wexford 1-4.

May 6. Newbridge: Kildare 2-8; Offaly 1-2.

Under-21 Hurling Special: April 12. Carlow: Carlow 2-5; Wicklow 0-8. April 26. Carlow: Carlow 4-8; Westmeath 4-6.

Minor Football: May 10. Athy: Wicklow 1-9; Carlow 1-4. Longford: Westmeath 2-6; Longford 2-3. Kilkenny: Wexford 3-19; Kilkenny 0-1.

May 17. Croke Park: Laois 1-7; Louth 0-8.

Senior Hurling: May 24. Wexford: Wexford 2-20; Dublin 0-8.

Minor Hurling: May 16. Croke Park: Kilkenny 5-15; Down 0-6. Offaly 4-15; Antrim 4-5. Mullingar: Dublin 3-16; Westmeath 0-6.

May 23. Athy: Wexford 2-11; Laois 2-5.

MUNSTER

Under-21 Hurling: April 22. Thurles: Tipperary 5-17; Kerry 1-1. Bruff: Cork 0-15; Clare 1-12. Draw. May 6. Bruff: Cork 3-8; Clare 3-6. Replay.

● TO PAGE 38

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Feile na nGael

BY DERMOT O'LEARY

The President, Dr. Patrick Hillery, will be guest of honour at the 11th National Finals of Feile na nGael which takes place for the second successive year in Galway from 26-28 June.

President Hillery will take the salute as some 2,000 young hurlers, handballers and camogie players, with their club officials, march through Salthill on their way to Pearse Stadium for the great climax of the Feile.

With him on the special review platform will be Cabinet Ministers, local civic leaders and members of the Executive of the Gaelic Athletic Association including the President, Paddy McFlynn and the Director General, Liam Mulvihill.

The parade, rich in colour, spectacle and music will begin the countdown to the end of Galway's two year reign as host county for the National Finals — two years which have added distinction to Feile na nGael. The Feile has been sponsored, since its inception, by the Irish Bottlers of Coca-Cola.

Feile na nGael is the National Festival of Youth focused on the game of hurling. It is acknowledged

as the most important concept of sport, youth and community to have been introduced by the GAA.



● TOM CASHMAN former Feile star.

HURLING PROMOTION

Feile na nGael was launched in 1971 in Thurles as a promotion for hurling among the vital juvenile age group and has been expanded since

to celebrate the traditions and heritage enshrined by the GAA.

The Feile includes games, recreational and educational projects and is structured on the basis of club and county competition. The winner from each county qualifies for the National Finals and is hosted in the homes of the Galway clubs chosen to compete in the finals against them.

To date some 300,000 boys and girls have taken part in Feile's preliminary county competitions. Close on 30,000 have reached the National Finals.

Every county in Ireland will be represented by teams in Galway and, while the centrepiece of the National Finals will be the 64 team tournament for boys under 14, which begins on Friday 26 June, a full Festival is again being built around Feile na nGael from 21 to 28 June.

Special Feile events will be held in Loughrea, Castlegar and Kinvara through the week and Ballinasloe and Galway will again stage the important opening and closing ceremonies of the National Finals.

J. P. Cusack, now secretary of the Galway organising committee, predicted a year ago a "great revival" in hurling there with the arrival of the Feile. Since then the county has won the All-Ireland hurling championship. With villages and towns en fete for Feile na nGael, the young stars of the future will receive an unforgettable welcome in Galway.

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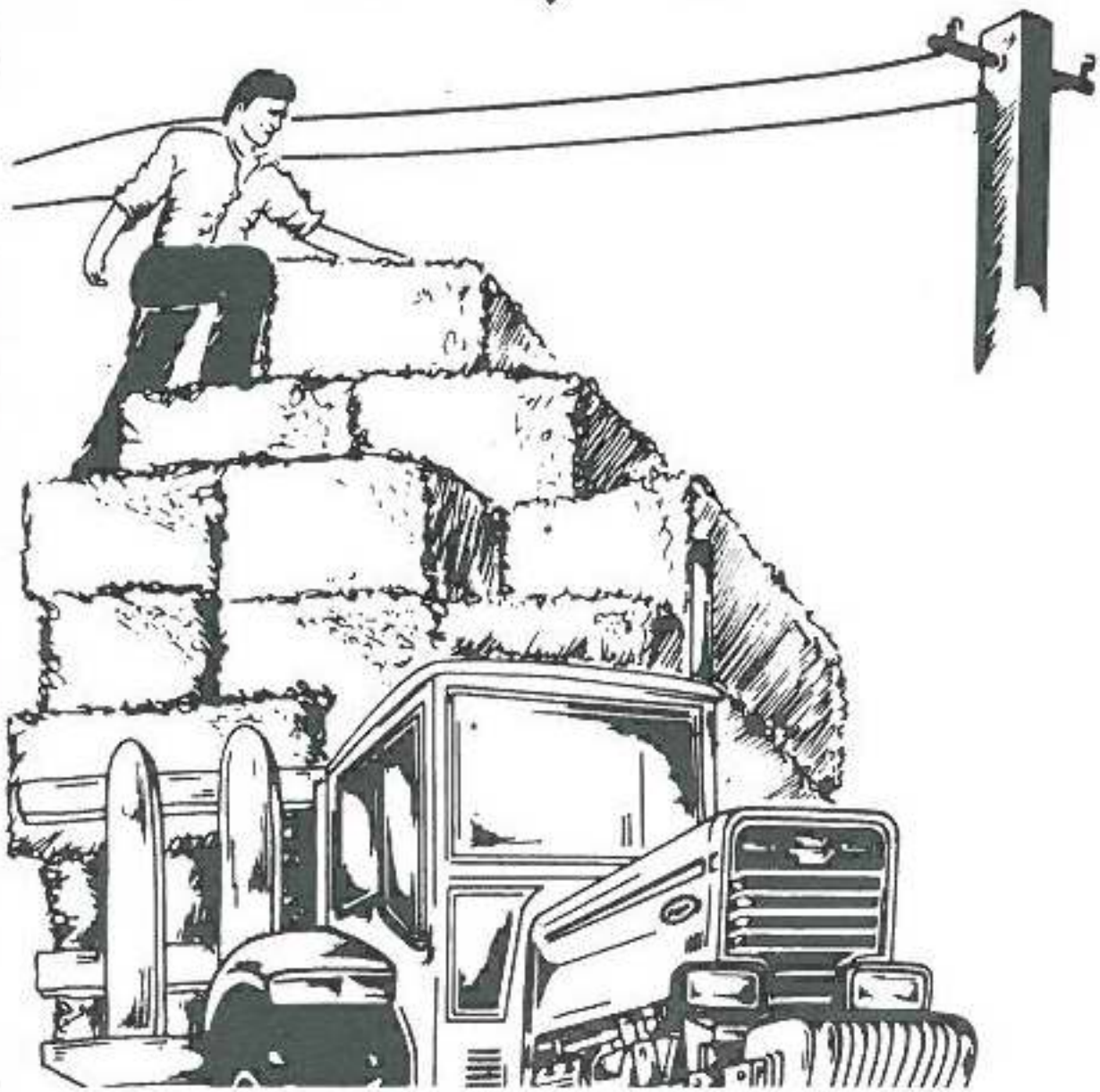


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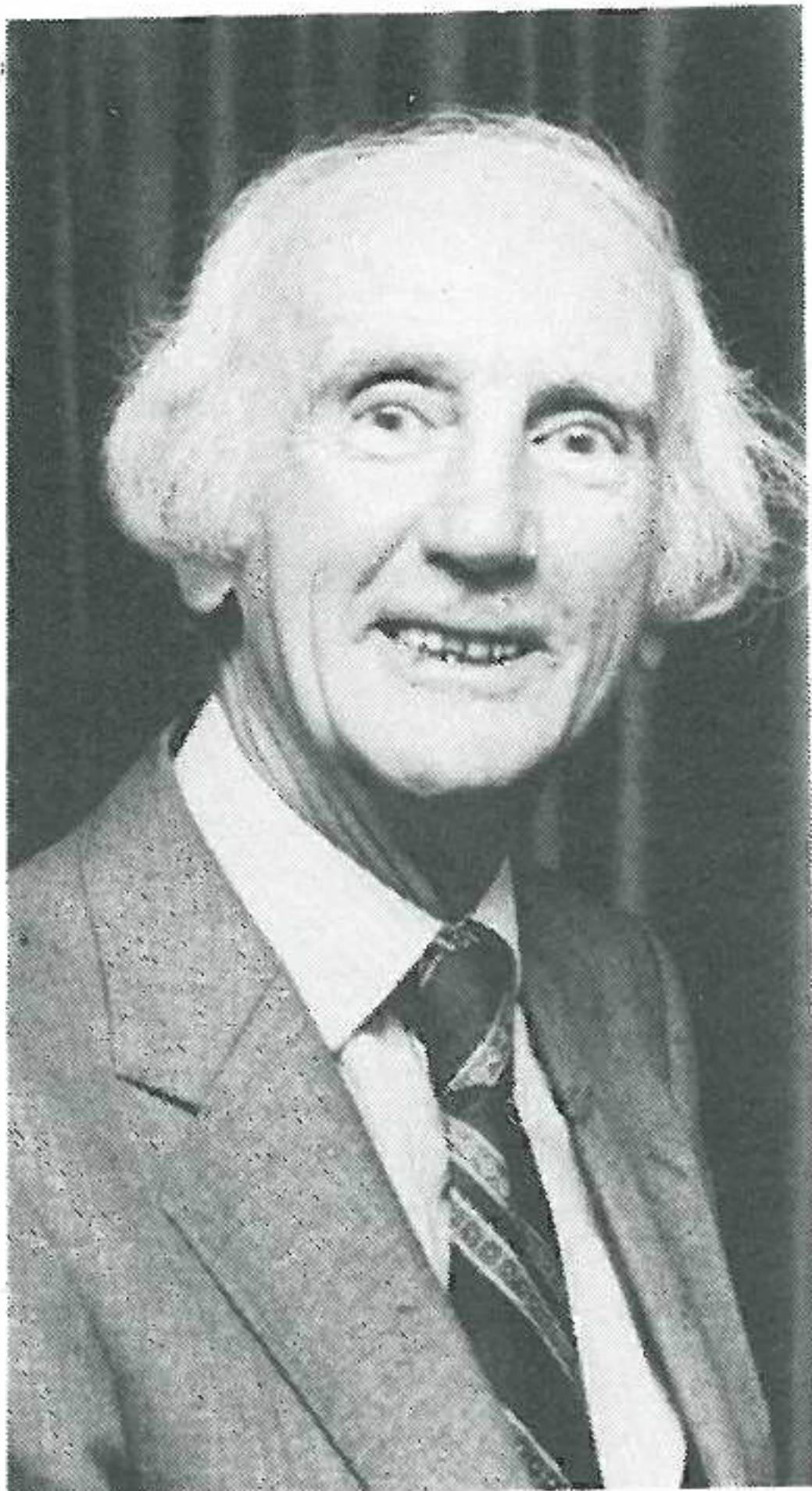
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	Thursdays	9.30 am - 4.15 pm
	Fridays	9.30 am - 4.15 pm
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Major classes of business underwritten include Industrial Fire, Consequential Loss, Motor, Liability and Personal Insurance, and an increasing volume of Burglary, Marine and Engineering insurance, including the specialist field of computers.

The Company is adequately financed to support its present business. Issued Share Capital is IR£2m., and Shareholders' Equity exceeds IR£16.2m.

Hibernian Insurance provides direct employment in this country for 625 people, and operates through a Head Office structure controlling four main branches which are responsible in turn for 24 local offices located throughout Ireland.

There is a significant amount of decentralisation of authority which provides for local on-the-spot decision making. That, in turn ensures speedy and efficient service for clients of Hibernian Insurance.

The variety of skills required to manage successfully a modern insurance company equals that of any other complex business. Staff throughout the organisation require detailed knowledge and experience in many of the technologies and developments in industry, commerce and agriculture.

Their training and business education includes risk assessment, claims estimating and personnel management; they range in skills from accountancy to corporate planning, from underwriting to industrial needs of clients.

Motor insurance is Hibernian Insurance's largest individual class of business. Marine Cargo Insurance and engineering insurance and inspection business have been successful developments as well.

Hibernian have also continued to expand profitably in the important domestic fire and accident class of insurance.

There is still a considerable amount of under-insurance affecting private property and Hibernian continue to advise policy-holders to examine the adequacy of their insurance cover.

As a leading insurer Hibernian Insurance make a major commitment to the improvement of safety standards in the home, at work, on the roads. Company surveyors provide free advice and safety programmes to all clients, especially in Fire, Commercial Motor, Liability and Burglary Classes.

Hibernian Insurance, and the insurance market, support financially and otherwise the work of the Fire Prevention Council in helping to improve public awareness of fire safety standards.

It is an indication of the steady advancement of Hibernian Insurance that new premises have been acquired at Haddington Road, Dublin, for a new administrative Head Office. The premises will, it is expected, be occupied by Hibernian Insurance during this year.

It is also been agreed to acquire a modern computer to handle the large increase in business and provide for future data processing needs.

All in all, then, Hibernian Insurance Company Limited has come a long way over the past 73 years, and the company is also poised for even more dramatic progress in the future.

● FROM PAGE 33

May 13. Semi-Final: Thurles: Tipperary 6-14; Waterford 1-3.

Minor Hurling: April 25. Bansha: Clare 4-7; Waterford 1-6. April 29. Tralee: Tipperary 10-17; Kerry 0-2.

May 17. Semi-Final: Bruff: Clare 2-6; Cork 0-6.

Minor Football: May 8: Cork: 7-22; Waterford 1-2, Fingoe: Kerry 1-9; Clare 0-3.

Senior Hurling: May 24. Thurles: Clare 3-14; Waterford 2-14.

ULSTER

Senior Football: May 17. Castleblayney: Monaghan 2-9; Tyrone 0-6. May 24. Belfast: Antrim 2-13; Cavan 2-12.

Under-21 Football: April 19. Belfast: Tyrone 2-11; Antrim 1-6. Ballyshannon: Donegal 1-8; Cavan 0-8. Irvinestown: Down 1-9; Fermanagh 1-5. May 3. Dun-

gannon: Tyrone 3-8; Armagh 0-7.

May 17. Semi-Final: Newry. Donegal 1-5; Down 0-6.

Minor Football: May 17. Castleblayney: Tyrone 4-4; Monaghan 3-6. May 24. Belfast: Cavan 1-8; Antrim 0-6.

"B" HURLING CHAMPIONSHIP

NOTE: Down beat Meath by 5-6 to 1-4 in the opening round, but that game was refixed because of a time-keeping error. That tie was played on May 10 at Ballycran.

May 17. Ballycran: Down 5-11; Meath 0-3. Keady: Antrim 4-18; Armagh 0-8. Aughrim: Carlow 2-16; Wicklow 3-11. Athleague: Kerry 3-14; Roscommon 3-8.

May 24: Ballycran: Kildare 0-17; Down 1-10.

CAMOGIE NATIONAL SENIOR LEAGUE

April 12: Cushendall: Dublin 6-4; Antrim 0-4. Ballycran: Down 7-2; Derry 2-6. April 26: Ballinlough, Cork: 2-8; Wexford 1-5. Limerick: Limerick 3-6; Galway 3-4. Roscrea: Tipperary 2-4; Clare 3-1. Draw.

May 10: Moneygall: Tipperary 1-1; Limerick 0-3. Shannon: Clare 2-4; Galway 1-6. Monamolin: Kilkenny 1-11; Wexford 0-2.

May 17. Mullinavat: Cork 2-6; Kilkenny 2-4.

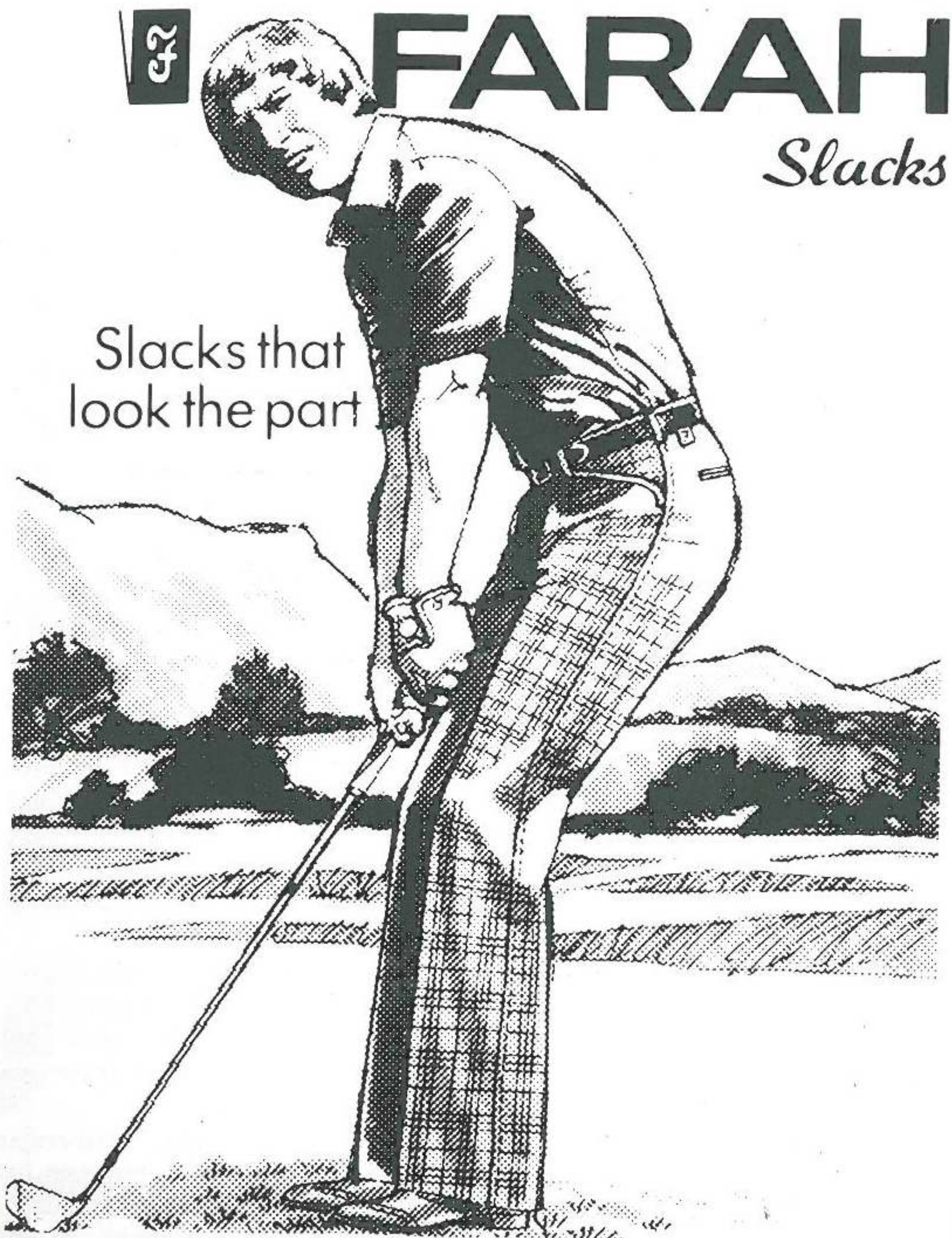
HANDBALL INTERNATIONAL TRIALS

Senior April 19: Ballymacelligot. Final: M. Aherne (Kerry) bt. C. Quinn (Mayo) 21-13, 21-13.

ALL-IRELAND 40 x 20 FINALS

Senior Singles: May 10: Mallow: T. Ryan (Tipperary) bt. P. Delaney (Offaly) 21-16, 21-16.

Senior Doubles: May 2. Ennis: P. Delaney and W. Mullins (Offaly) bt. M. Aherne and T. Fitzgerald (Kerry) 21-18, 21-12.



Available from all leading outfitters.

Under-21 Singles: May 1. Temple-derry: T. Ryan (Tipperary) bt. W. Bourke (Kilkenny) 21-14, 8-21; 21-13.

Under-21 Doubles: May 8. Ballinacargy: T. Ryan and W. O'Donnell (Tipperary) bt. W. Bourke and E. Downey (Kilkenny) 21-18, 21-18.

Junior Doubles: May 2. Ennis: J. Fleming and P. Cleary (Wexford) bt B. O'Brien and N. Mulhall (Cork) 21-14, 21-16.

Junior Singles: May 2. Ennis: J. Fleming (Wexford) bt. P. J. Moran (Roscommon) 14-21, 21-6, 21-8.

Minor Singles: May 10. Mallow. W. Bourke (Kilkenny) bt. G. Coughlan (Clare) 21-10, 17-21, 21-18.

Minor Doubles: May 2. Ennis. W. Bourke and M. Lawlor (Kilkenny) bt. C. Spillane and J. Kelly (Cork) 21-11, 7-21, 21-18.

Novice Singles: May 10. Mallow: J. Flaherty (Galway) bt. J. Warren (Dublin) 21-17, 21-16.

Novice Doubles: May 2. Ennis: J. Flaherty and M. Conneely (Galway) bt. T. Kirwan and E. Kelly (Wexford) 21-19, 21-15.



● Brian Talty, foreground, and John O'Connor, in a race for possession in the recent League Final.

AN GÚM

GEARRFHOCLÓIR GAEILGE-BÉARLA

Is é seo leagan gearr den Fhoclóir Gaeilge-Béarla a chuir foireann foclóireachta sa Roinn Oideachais le chéile agus a foilsíodh i 1978. Eagarthóir Niall Ó Dónaill, eagarthóir comhairleach Tomás de Bhaldraithe.

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Scéal fantaiseach suite sna meánaoiseanna ó Lemniscaat, Rotterdam. Siobhán Denman a rinne an leagan Gaeilge do pháistí 7-11.

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G.A.A. CLUB OF THE YEAR AWARD GOES TO NORESIDERS

REPORT BY JOE CULLEN

THE Allied Irish Banks G.A.A. Club of the Year awards project is only two years old, but is already firmly based, a highlight of the Gaelic Games calendar, and also a key factor in giving the clubs a well deserved prominent place in the sun.

That was brought home strongly from the excellent support for the 1980 promotion, both in the numbers of entries and in the quality and the range of activity reported from clubs throughout the land. Awards and development grants totalling £13,000 were presented to twenty nine G.A.A. clubs, drawn from all provinces.

With such a strong across the board national support, and backed up by a good all round standard, competition was inevitably razorsharp for the top awards. The effort put into both the Entry Forms and the presentations for the various awards was excellent.

All the more credit, then, to O'Loughlin Gaels club in Kilkenny for striking a major blow for the county by capturing the major award.

The Noreside club emerged with the award as the Premier Club of the Year — a wonderful bonus that for the many keen and dedicated enthusiasts who worked so hard to bring O'Loughlin's to this major milestone. The club also collected a Development Grant of £2,500.

Close on 850 clubs have entered the AIB Club of the Year awards since their introduction, representing in numbers, over half the G.A.A. Clubs in the country. And, that further underlines the achievement of O'Loughlins in taking the Premier Award.

Other clubs, too, had cause for celebration, with Na Fianna striking

the "jackpot" for the second year in succession. They won the AIB trophy and a Development Grant of £1,200 for the section for large urban

clubs, the Gl̄asnevin, Dublin, club's second successive year to take this award.

Leinster, in fact, swept the boards here, in that Longford Slashers finished in second position, and gained a grant of £600.

The club of the Year in the medium-sized category is St. Malachy's, Castlewellan, Co. Down.

Patrickswell, Co. Limerick, won the rural clubs category, and ahead of the field in the section for smaller clubs was Lios Poil, Kerry.

The Club of the Year award is a joint venture between the G.A.A.

● OVERLEAF



● Pictured at the A.I.B. Club of the Year Award Presentation. From left: Jerry McAuliffe, Chief General Manager, A.I.B., Pdraig Ó Feinneadha, Na Fianna, Dublin, Paddy McFlynn, G.A.A. President and Jim Tunney, Minister of State.

● FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

and Allied Irish Banks. Speaking at the presentations at a dinner at Bankcentre in Dublin, Padraig MacFloinn, President of the G.A.A., said:

"It is incumbent on the G.A.A. officials in the counties to make the awards scheme even better known, and to encourage clubs to take part in it.

EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS

"I understand that there are some exciting developments to the scheme envisaged for the 1981 awards, which should prove even more attractive to all clubs, especially the smaller ones. I hope that the Club of the Year awards for 1981 will show by a large entry, an awareness of the importance and potential of this imaginative scheme."

There were four special categories in the 1980 scheme, covering the promotion of hurling, handball, the Irish language, and for the best project by a club ladies committee.

Overall, Munster came out on top with ten awards. Ulster took eight, and they were followed by Leinster with seven, with Connacht collecting four honours.

The members of the Board of Assessors included former Presidents of the G.A.A., Con Murphy (Cork), Chairman, Hugh Byrne (Wicklow), Dr. Donal Keenan (Roscommon), Pat Fanning (Waterford), Alf Murray (Armagh) and Seamus O Riain (Tipperary), together with Tom Moriarty and Eddie Keher, of Allied Irish Banks.

The standard of presentations submitted with entry forms and of presentation generally, was examined in great detail. Many were of a high standard and others could have been improved with a little effort. Marks were based on overall appearance, range of material submitted, ease of reference, visual material including photographs, standard of printed material submitted and presentation generally.

There can be little doubt now that

A.I.B. Award Winners

PREMIER CLUB OF THE YEAR

O'Loughlin Gaels G.A.A. Club, Kilkenny. AIB Trophy and Development Grant £2,500.

LARGE URBAN CLUBS

Na Fianna, Dublin. Development Grant £1,200. Runners-up: Longford Slashers, Longford. Development Grant £600.

MEDIUM SIZE CLUBS

St. Malachy's Castlewellan, Co. Down. Development Grant £1,000. Runners-up: Claremorris, Co. Mayo. Development Grant £500.

RURAL CLUBS

Patrickswell, Co. Limerick. Development Grant £800. Runners-up: Kiltimagh, Co. Mayo. Development Grant £400.

SMALL CLUBS

Lios Poil, Co. Kerry. Development Grant £600. Runners-up: Ballinamere, Co. Offaly. Development Grant £300.

SPECIAL CATEGORY AWARDS

Promotion of Handball:	Falcarragh, Co. Donegal. Development Grant £300.
Promotion of Hurling:	St. Tegan's, Kiltegan, Co. Wicklow. Development Grant £300.
Promotion of Irish:	Na Piarsaigh, Limerick. Development Grant £200.
Club Ladies Committee Project:	Abbeyside, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford. Development Grant £200.

the AIB Club of the Year Awards scheme is of great importance to the development of the Association. The promotion, so generously sponsored by Allied Irish Banks, gives tangible recognition to the voluntary effort at club level, and by highlighting achievements, encour-

ages clubs to improve.

The high rate of development and expansion noted in the 1980 promotion as against the initial venture is clear indication of the tremendous value of the AIB Club of the Year awards in the general scheme of affairs in Gaelic Games.

JUNIOR DESK



By
**JACK
MAHON**

THE G.A.A. season is really getting busy. And I'm sure you are all looking forward to the Provincial Finals and the big games ahead. Down here in Galway we are thrilled with Galway's football success and hope it leads to more. Proud too that the team is producing football like it used to be played with many of the old skills re-appearing.

It's nice too to see Laois and Waterford return to the hurling limelight and to see Offaly hurlers maintain their high standard. And what can one say of Cork who always keep the G.A.A. flag flying at all levels.

Our Cut-Out this month is Tyrone's Kevin McCabe and we heartily congratulate him on bringing the only All-Star Trophy to the land of the O'Neills. Although Tyrone are out of the '81 Senior Championship they have plenty of promising talent on the way up.

Norman Rochford, The Square, Gort, Co. Galway. "I am in Gort's Minor Panel and we have played one match already v Castlegar which we lost by seven points. We still have 50 members in Ciste Gael. I am over-age for the Féile na nGael this year and I am sorry.

Galway footballers had a super win over Kerry. The Gort G.A.A. calendar is selling well. Gort senior hurlers are on the way up. They have a great trainer in Michael Cahill."

• *Great letter as usual Norman. J.M.*

Philip Maher, Clashagad, Dunkerrin, Birr, Co. Offaly. "I am on the U-14 hurling team. We played some practice matches lately. Our last one was v Glen Rovers of Cork, which

we lost. Glen also beat our Senior team.

"A few weeks ago Moneygall went to Cork and beat "The Glen". I played in a handball league lately here. I played doubles with Raymond Brereton. We lost our final game."

• *Another great letter. J.M.*

Eileen Murphy, Railway View, Rathmore, Co. Kerry. "I am doing the Inter in June. My provincial championship winners will be: **Connacht (F) — Roscommon: Ulster (F) — Armagh: Leinster (F) — Offaly: Leinster (H) — Offaly: Munster (F) — Kerry: Munster (H) — Limerick: Suggested All-Ireland winners (F) — Kerry: (H) Galway.**

I hope the handpassed scores will be abolished at the Special Congress. That gives goalkeepers no chance.

• *Well all forms of handpassed scores are gone at last. It's a pity the handpass stayed. I'd have got rid of that too. J.M.*

Billy Smiddy, Lr. Ballycrenane, Ballymacada, Co. Cork. "My two favourite players are Denis Allen and Pat Horgan."

• *How about photos of both men for Billy? J.M.*

• *Pat Horgan is the subject of a splendid profile by Noel Horgan in this issue. — Editor.*

Tim Murphy, Shamrock Bridge, Rathmore, Co. Kerry. "The standard of football has gone down. The old honest to goodness shoulder is gone. They don't kick enough now too. I want to see football not basketball."

• *And so say all of us Tim. J.M.*

I have received the following two questions from an anonymous reader:

"Please ask readers to name (a) the tallest; (b) the smallest players to win Senior Football All-Ireland medals.

• *How about Pat McAndrew from Mayo and Bob Stack from Kerry for starters? J.M.*

Paul Maher, Salesian College, Ballinakill, Co. Laois. "Tadhg O'Connor captained the Tipperary team to win the Liam McCarthy in 1970. Now 10 years later he is captain again. So can he do it again? If Tipperary beat Limerick I think they will win out in Munster.

"I think it is unfair to exclude subs and selectors from pre-match team photos. Tipp's best players are Pat McLoughney, Tadhg O'Connor and Mossy Carroll.

"I think too there should be a close season in hurling and football from December 1st to the middle of February. College competitions should not begin until April."

• *You win a Tipperary G.A.A. scarf. J.M.*

Martin Carley, 1, Glenview, Castlepollard, Co. Westmeath. "It was great for hurling to see Waterford and Laois do so well in the N.H.L. My forecasts for '81 are:

Munster (H): Tipperary; (F) Kerry. Leinster (H): Wexford; (F) Dublin. Connacht (F): Roscommon. Ulster (F): Armagh.

I want a Westmeath or Offaly cut-out".

• **OVERLEAF**

● FROM PAGE 43

● *It's a Waterford man this time and they deserve it. J.M.*

Dermot McCarthy, 20, Fairfield Road, Bath, England. Is happy that the first senior provincial game Mayo v London takes place at last in London. He is still asking about my Quizbook No. 3.

● *Well Dermot I intend to get at it*

during the Summer and hope to publish it for Christmas 1981. J.M.

It's a short Mailbag this time but keep writing. The G.A.A. season is hotting up so there will be plenty to write about. Write to:

Jack Mahon,
Gaelic Sport,
80, Upper Drumcondra Road,
Dublin 9.

THE SEVEN FENNELLY BROTHERS

THE All-Ireland club senior hurling championship is beginning to acquire something of a tradition for the family dimension on final day.

Last year it was Castlegar, powered by the Connolly brothers, who brought the title to Connacht for the first time with a win over Ballycastle, of Antrim. This year it was the turn of the Fennelly brothers as Ballyhale Shamrocks put their name on the trophy for the first time.

Six Fennelly brothers lined out for the Kilkenny county senior champions against St. Finbarr's, Cork, at Thurles in May. Kevin was in goal, Sean at midfield, Michael at right half forward, Ger at left half forward, Brendan at right full and Liam at full forward.

And, during the match another brother, Dermot, went in as a substitute.

All of the Fennelly brothers played their parts. Indeed, every member of the Ballyhale side left a major imprint, but at the same time special tribute must be paid to Brendan Fennelly, who capped a first-rate performance by scoring 1-11. That was all but four of the Noresiders' entire tally.

The Fennelly brothers dominated the scoring returns, in fact. Ger hit three points and Liam a point.

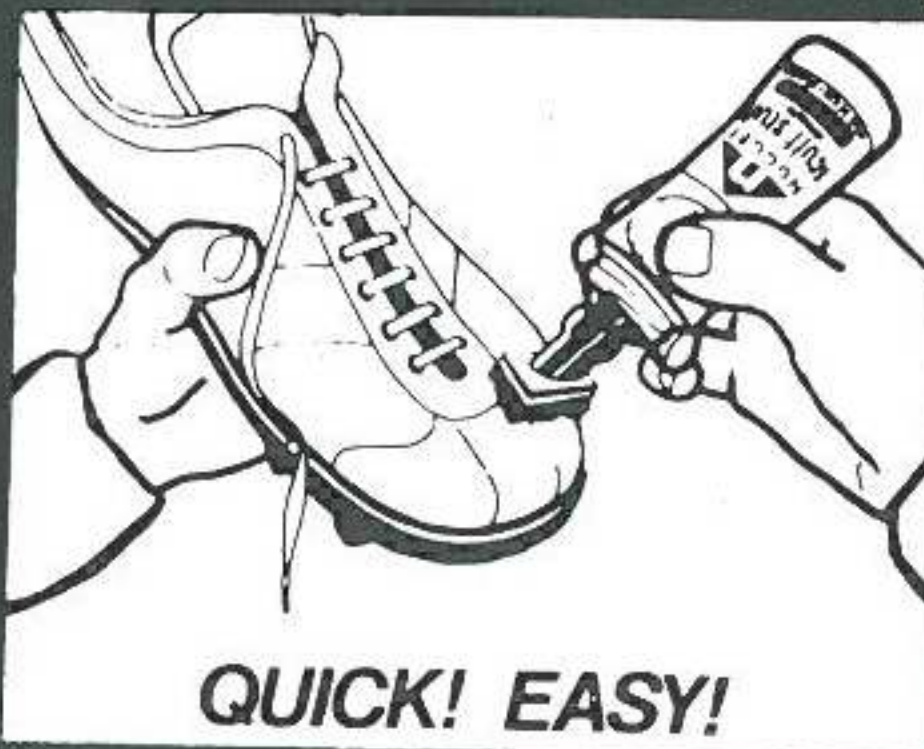
All in all, then, a great day for the Fennellys' as Shamrocks won 1-15 to 1-11 to become only the second Leinster club to win this title.

The trail was blazed for the East by another Kilkenny club, James Stephens, in 1976. They beat Blackrock, of Cork in that game.

Good players take
care of their boots.

scuff stuff

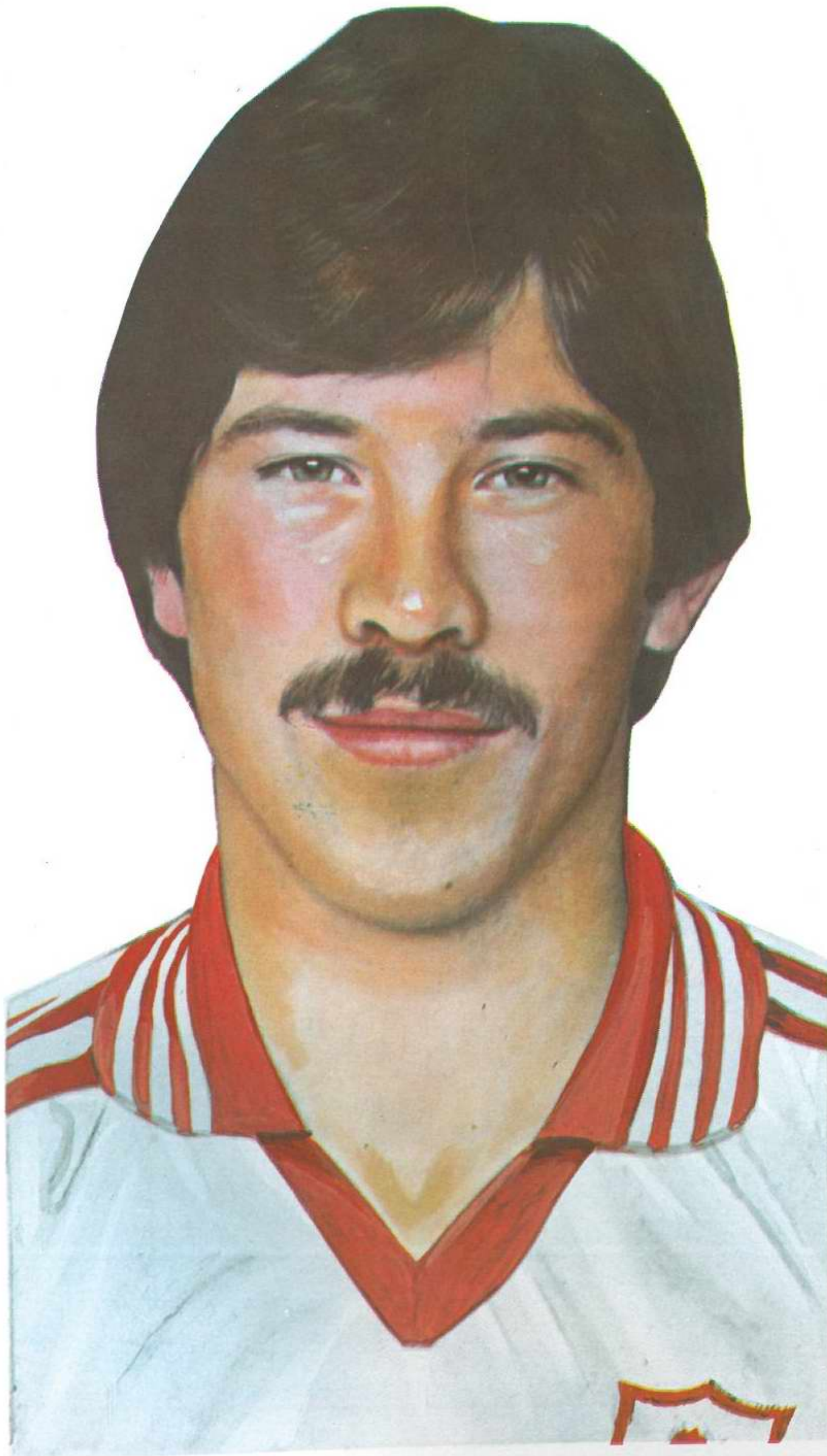
WAX SCUFF MARKS AWAY,
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Kevin McCabe (Tyrone)

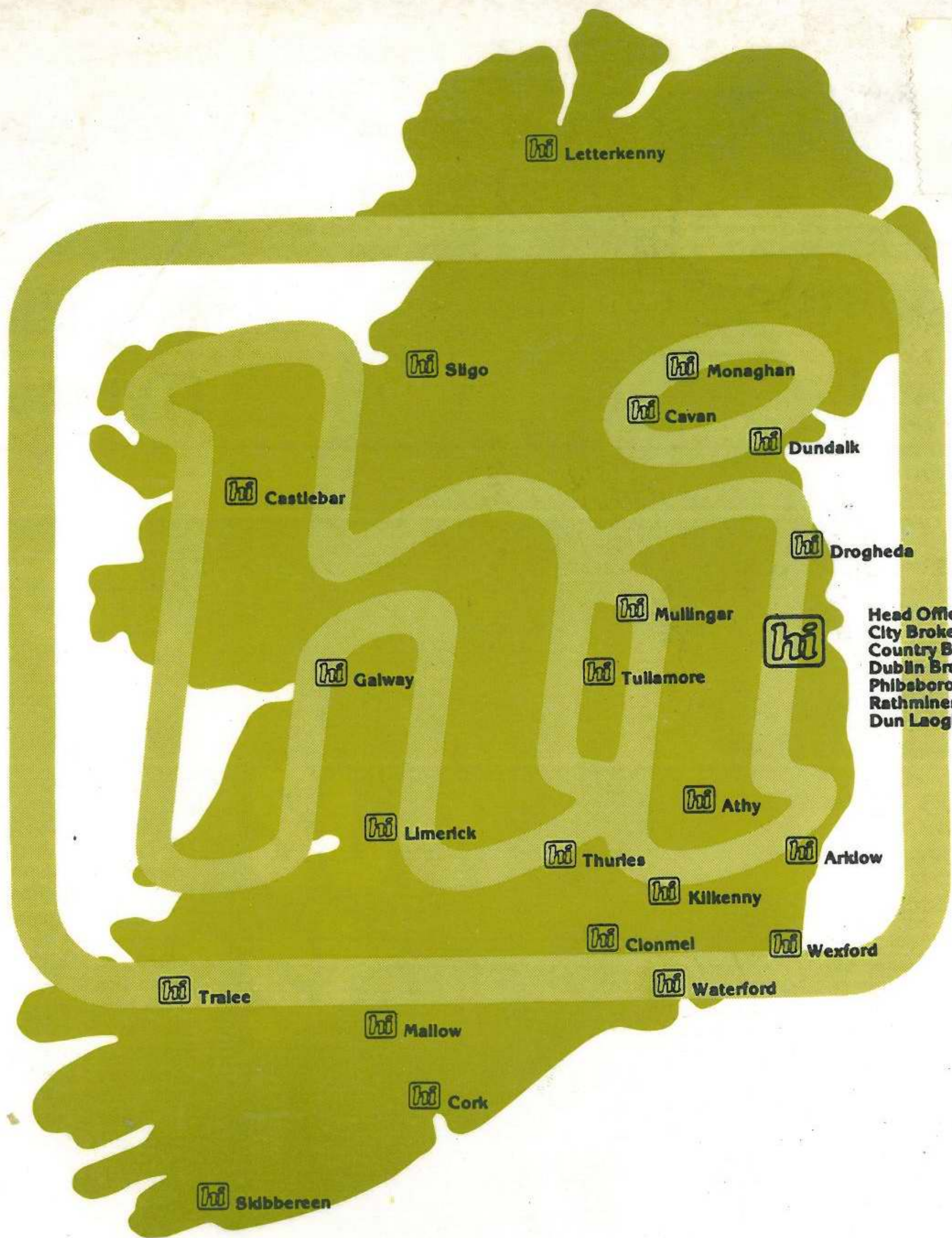
Age: 23
Height: 6ft.
Weight: 12st. 7lb.
Club: Skyrne, Meath
Position: Centre
half-back
Senior Inter-County
Debut: 1976

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Kevin was playing with Clonoe O'Rahilly's when he led Tyrone in their unsuccessful Ulster senior football final bid against Armagh last July, and he joined the Meath club at the end of last year.

He brought the only All Star award to Tyrone so far after his selection as right half back in the 1980 team, and he filled that position in Ulster's Railway Cup final wins of 1979 and 1980.

Kevin, who won an Ulster minor medal in 1975, stepped into the senior ranks against Derry in the 1976 championship. He is a versatile footballer, who has appeared in a number of positions in defence, at midfield, and also played in attack.



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