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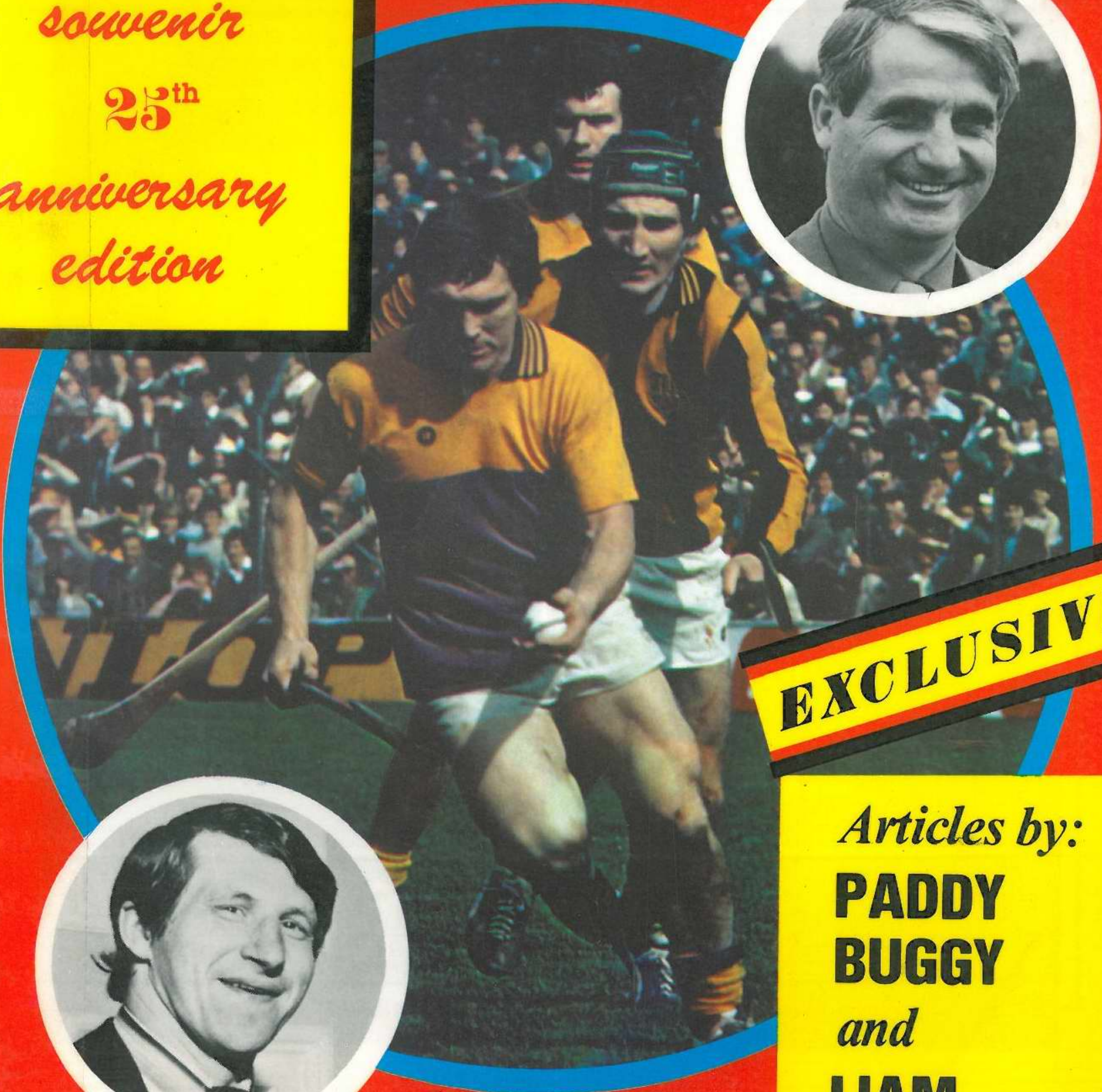
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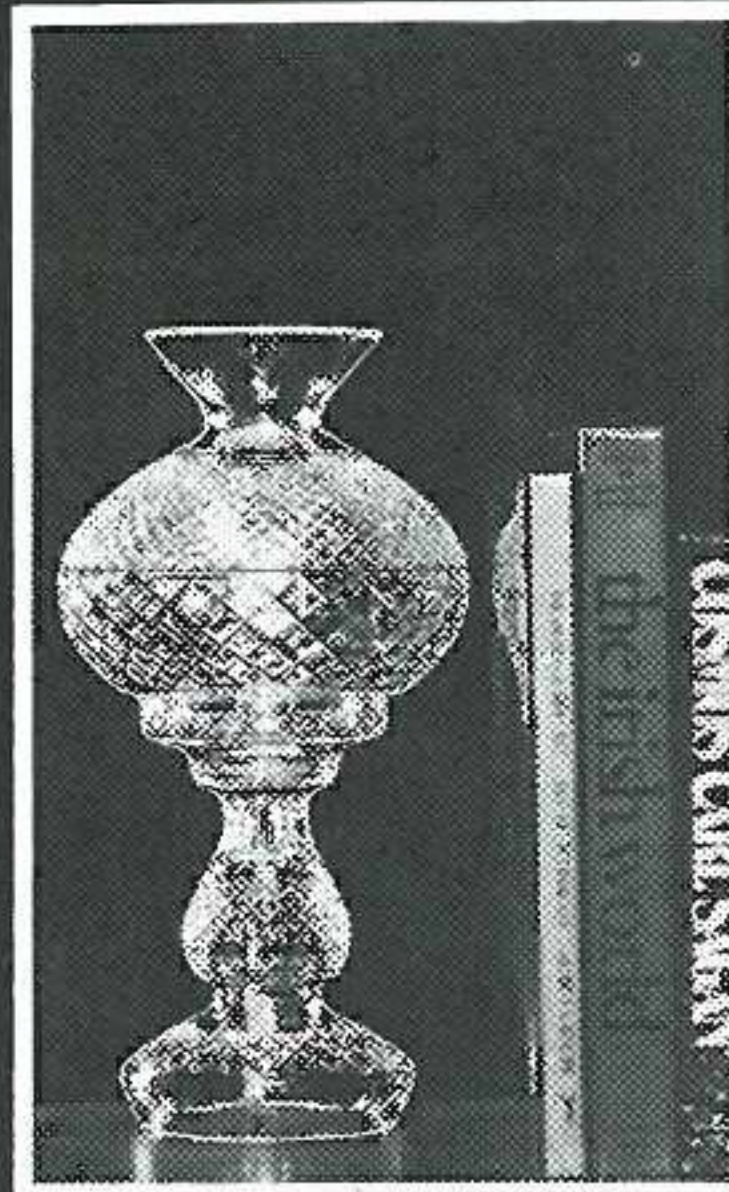
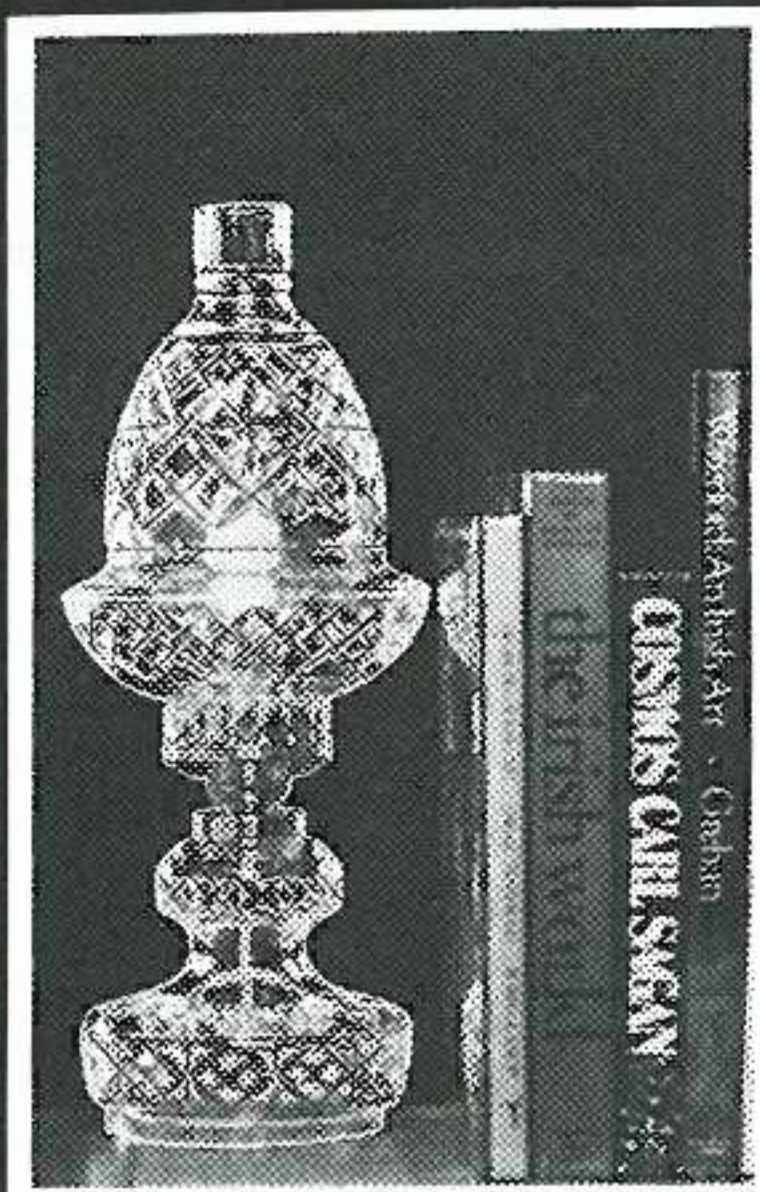
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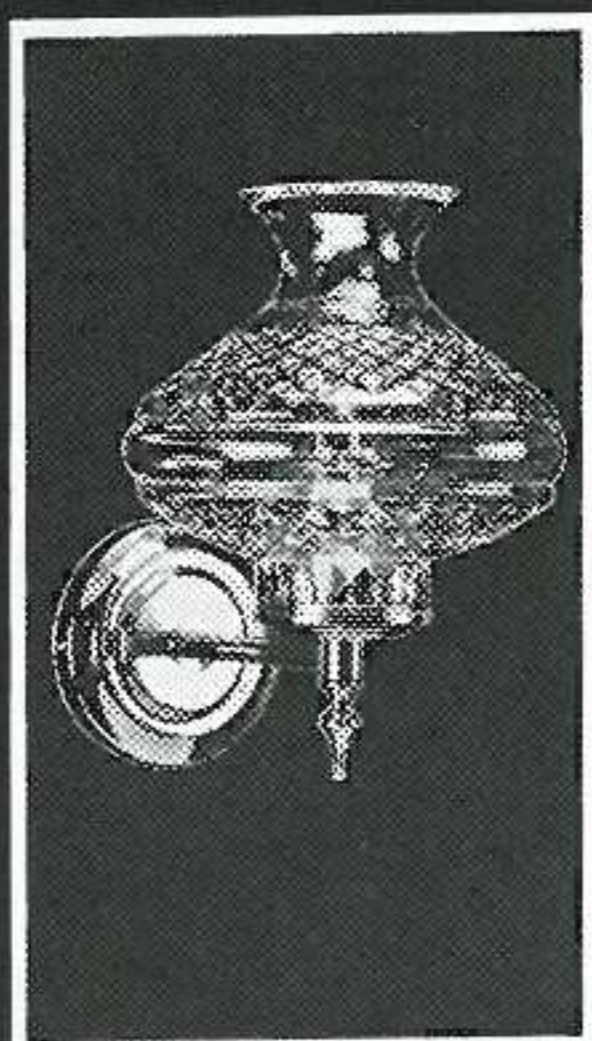
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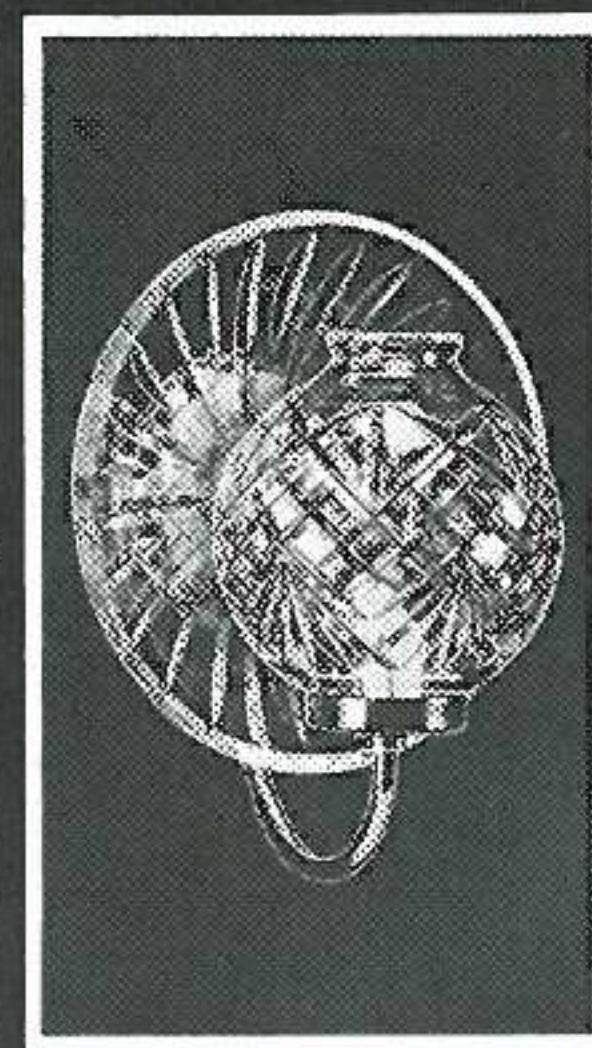
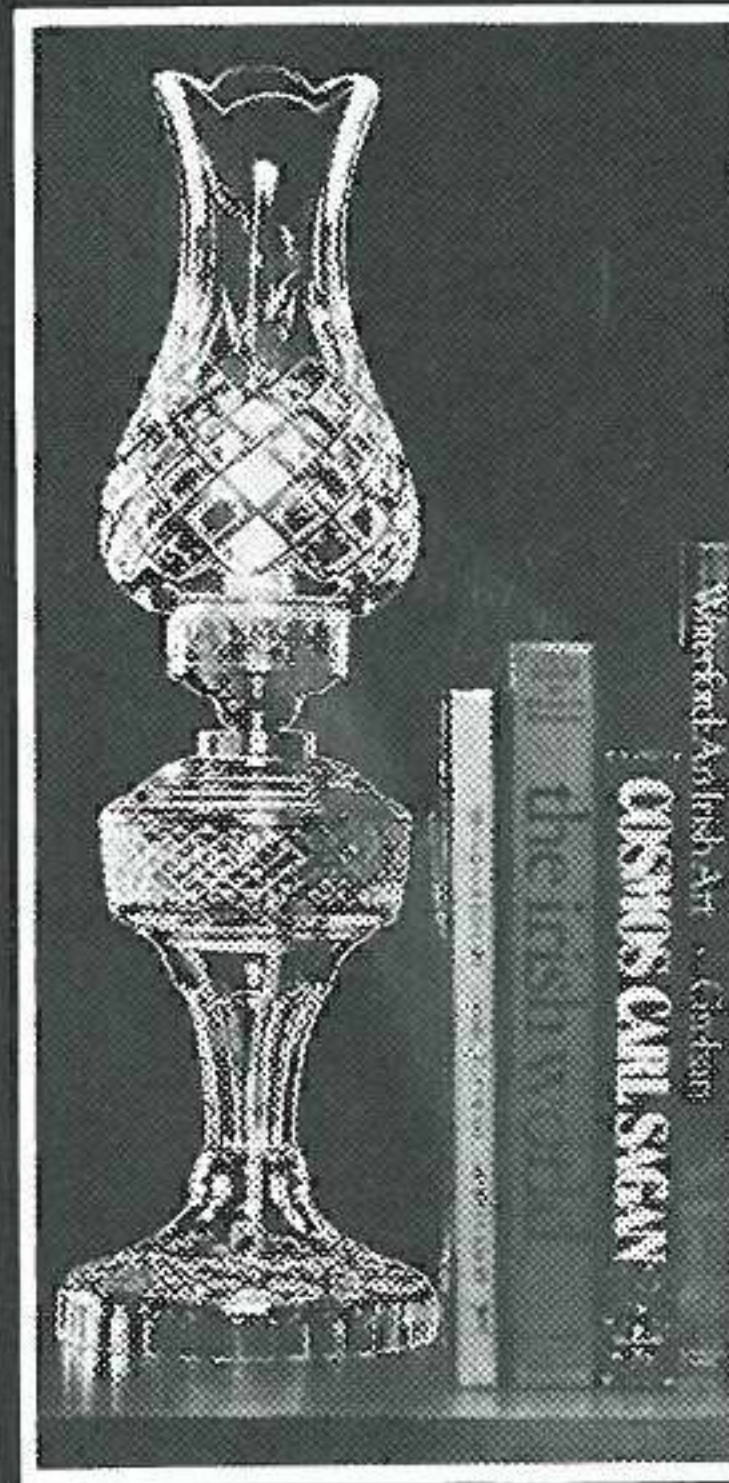
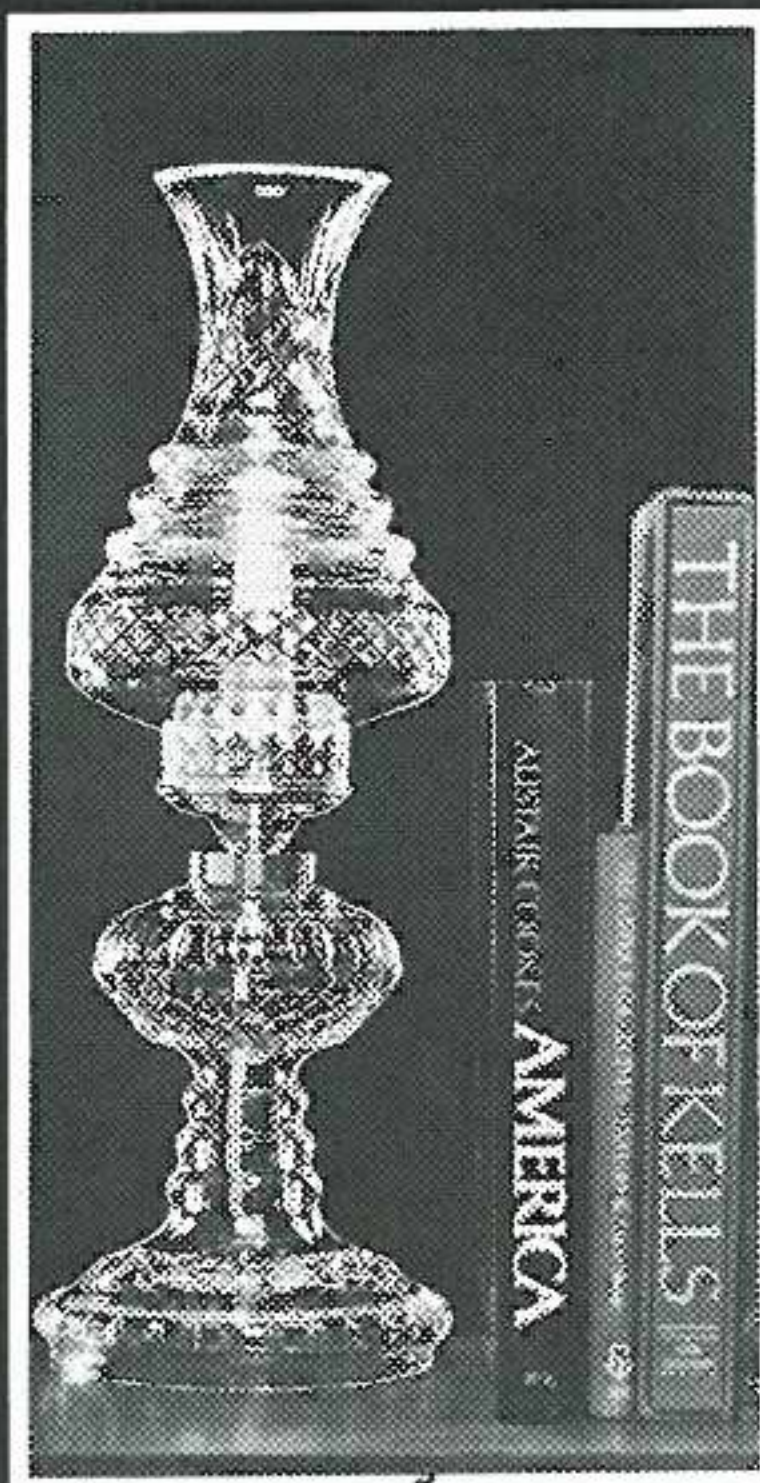
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agus forbairt  
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blianta atá romhain

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# Gaelic Sport

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## EDITORIAL COMMENT

# Our Silver Jubilee

WHEN Gaelic Sport was launched in 1958, the odds against it celebrating a Silver Jubilee would have been astronomical.

Prior to 1958 — and indeed since then — publications solely devoted to Gaelic games have come and gone with alarming rapidity.

Why, then, has Gaelic Sport endured when so many have failed?

There are two answers to this question — both of equal importance. Firstly, you, the reader, by continuing to buy the magazine, down through the years, have contributed to its survival. Secondly, the continued patronage of our advertisers has contributed in like manner.

We, the staff of Gaelic Sport, offer our sincere thanks to you all.

On a unique occasion like this, the writer would like to pay tribute to our contributors and more specifically people like Eamonn Young, Jack Mahon, Agnes Hourigan, Sean Clerkin, Noel Horgan and Seamus Ó Braónain — our "Regulars".

Regrettably, two of our former stalwarts, Padraig Purcell and Dan McAreavy, are no longer with us. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n'anam dilis.

Our litany of guest writers over the years reads like a G.A.A.'s Who's Who. Mick Dunne, Owen McCann, Seán Óg Ó Ceallacháin, Seamus Ó Ceallaigh, Raymond Smith, Eamonn Mongey, Seán Ó Dunagáin, P. D. Mehigan, Bob Hyland are just some of those that come readily to mind. We are indebted to them all.

The writer must mention, too, his predecessors in the Editor's chair. The men, who in the infancy of the magazine's years, piloted it successfully through to adulthood.

Paddy Downey, the doyen of G.A.A. writers, was the first man to edit the magazine and much of the subsequent success of Gaelic Sport must be credited to The Irish Times man.

Following Paddy came Brendan Mac Lua, a terrier to work. Indeed the man who coined the phrase "If you want something done, ask a busy man" must surely have been talking about "Mac", who, incidentally, is now Managing Director of the very successful London paper "The Irish Post".

Mike Burns, currently Assistant Director of News, R.T.E., succeeded Brendan and brought his own unique style and flair to the magazine.

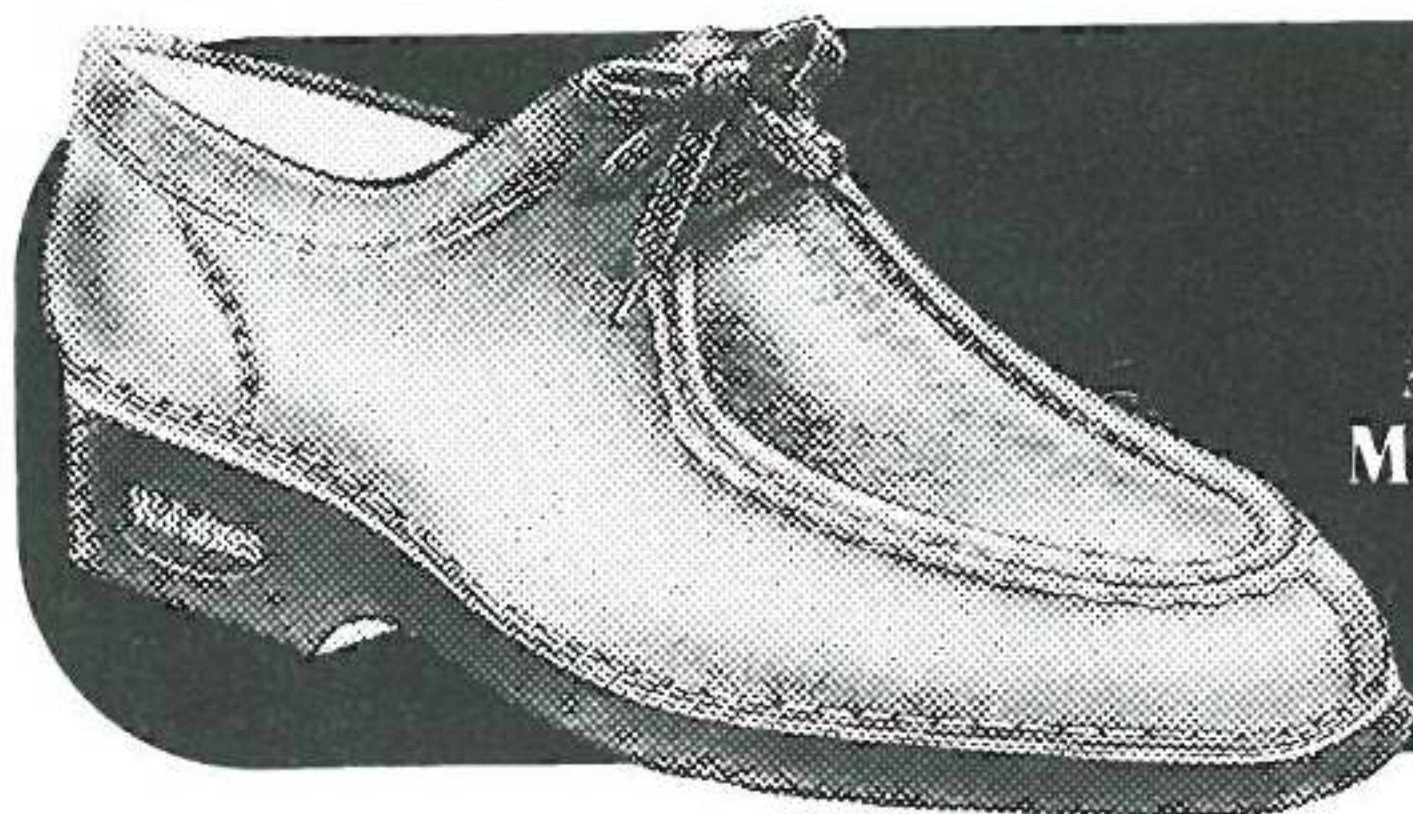
From the example set by these men — and the foundations they laid — it was no great achievement for the writer to maintain their standards. The course had well and truly been charted by this talented trio.

Since 1958 there have been nine men elected President of the G.A.A. We invited the surviving eight holders of the Association's supreme office to contribute articles for our "25th". They all accepted our invitation. We thank them and are honoured by their presence.

Twenty-five years represents, on average, a third of one's life span. If, through the pages of Gaelic Sport, we have contributed to the advancement of the Gaelic Athletic Association — while at the same time providing enjoyable and interesting reading for you, our readers, then in all honesty, we can say it has been twenty-five years well spent.

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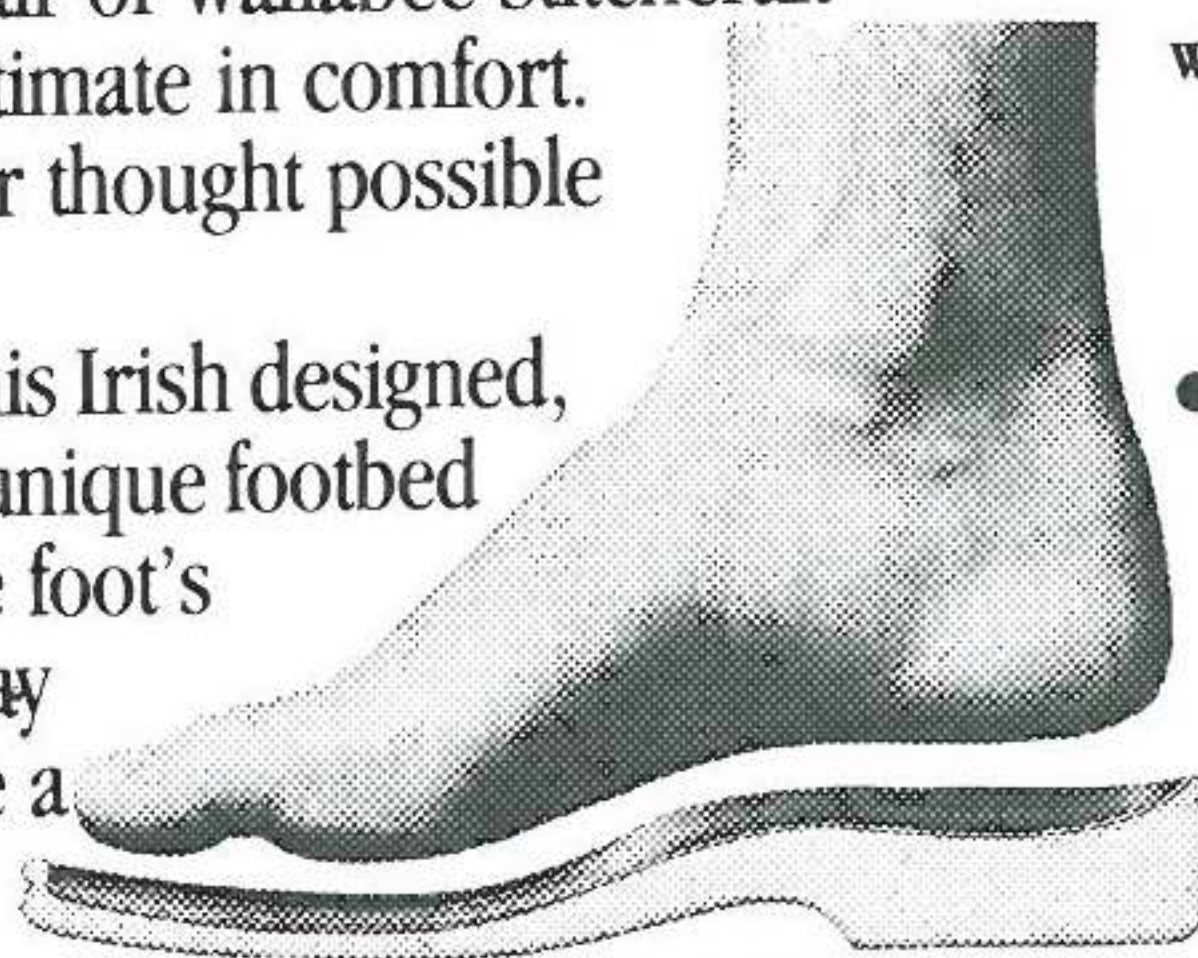
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## WE LINED OUT WITH 16 MEN!

**T**HE following article is written in response to Editor, Tommy McQuaid's request to recall some of the outstanding highlights from my G.A.A. involvement over the past 25 years.

I will begin with my playing career. Of course the winning of an All-Ireland medal is the ultimate achievement for any player and I achieved my ambition in 1957 when after a lapse of ten years Kilkenny regained the McCarthy Cup when we defeated Waterford by 4-10 to 3-12 after a great contest. Indeed with barely ten minutes to go, we were behind by six points. But despite the determined efforts of our gallant opponents, we managed to wipe out the deficit and edge out winners on the day by the minimum of margins.

This 1957 final was unique in so far as Kilkenny lined out with sixteen men. At the time the film "Rooney" was being made and the hero in the story was depicted playing in an All-Ireland hurling final, hence the reason for the sixteen men. The sixteenth man was John Gregson who portrayed the hero in the film.

Other memories from the '57 final was the outstanding display by Ollie Walsh in goal. He was Kilkenny's **REAL LIVE HERO** that day and Mickie Kelly's last minute winning point which he cut over the bar while actually on his knees.

Another outstanding memory for me, during my playing career, was winning Junior and Senior County Championship medals with my club, Slieverue. Situated in the Diocese of Ossory, bordering Waterford City,

Slieverue is a very small parish of less than 1,000 inhabitants, but on the day we won the Co. Senior title I'm sure every man, woman and child from the parish travelled to Kilkenny to cheer us on to victory.

I also enjoyed my term as a Selector, both with Kilkenny and Leinster and derived great satisfaction when the County won out in '67 and '69 beating Tipperary and Cork respectively and for good measure Leinster won five Railway titles during my term as Selector, including a run of four-in-a-row.

There is one incident I will always remember and it happened during the Leinster final of '50 against our great rivals, Wexford. With time running out Kilkenny were in front by a couple of points when the late Nicky Rackard got possession. The Wexford man rounded Diamond Hayden and looked certain to score a goal but Diamond raced after him and out of sheer desperation tripped Rackard. The resultant "21" was saved and Kilkenny were Leinster champions. As the final whistle blew Nicky raced across to Hayden, grasped his hand and warmly

**Youthful picture of Wexford's Nicky Rackard . . . sportsman supreme.**



congratulated him. This, for me, was the greatest act of sportsmanship I ever witnessed.

When my playing career ended I was elected to represent my county on the Leinster Council, eventually succeeding to the office of Chairman. At the Killarney Congress when I was elected President of the Association, I was probably the most surprised man in the hall. After the first ballot I was a long way behind and consequently sat back and relaxed. But when Wexford's Jimmy Roche was eliminated practically all his votes switched to me, which enabled me to lead Mayo's Mick Loftus in the final count.

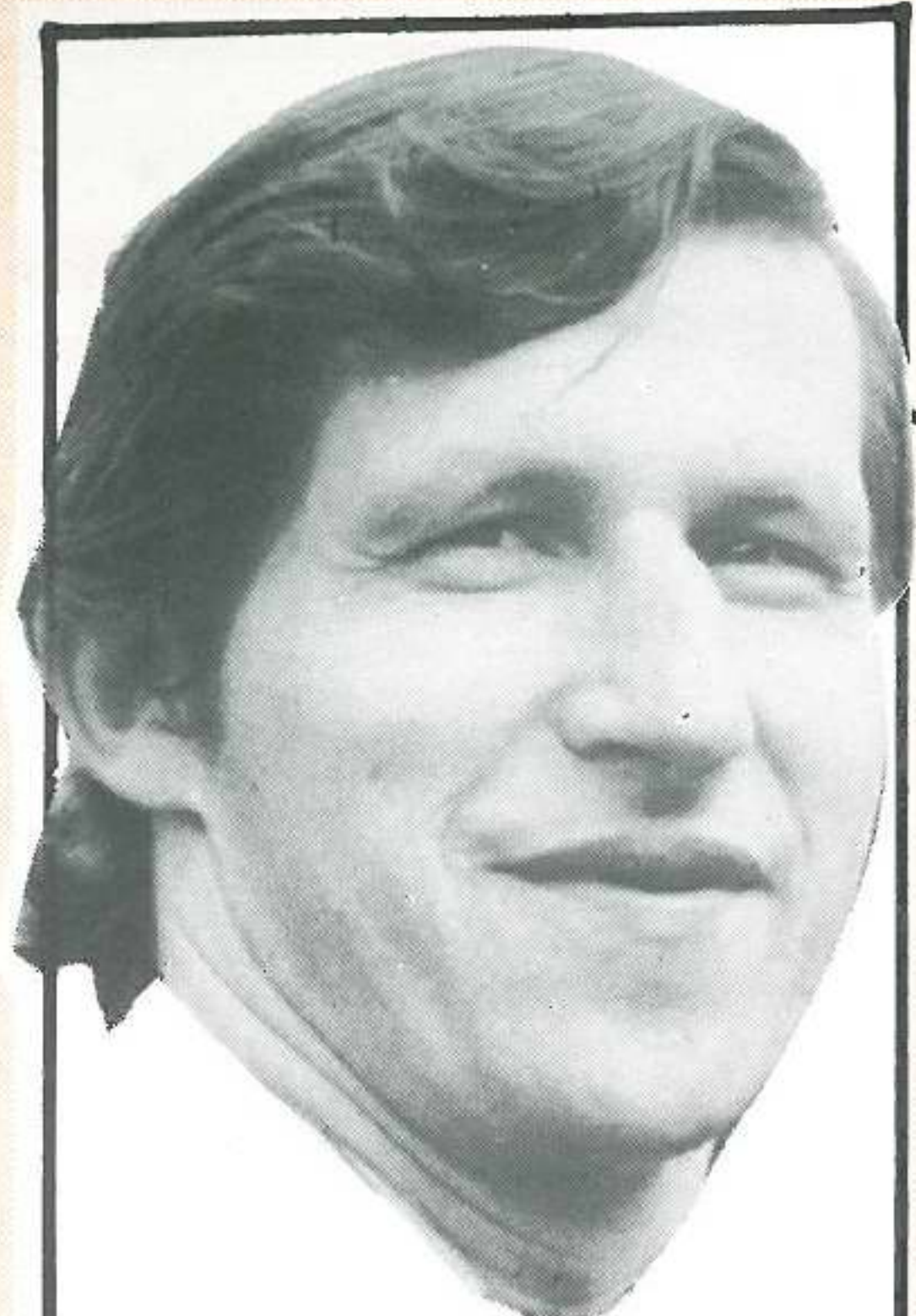
This was one of the proudest moments in my life.

Let me say straight away that being President of the G.A.A. is both difficult and very time consuming. Yes! there is great satisfaction visiting the various clubs and County Boards and seeing progress in action. But few people realise the great strain that goes with this voluntary office. At the end of my first year as President I attended over 250 engagements which entailed 40,000 miles of travelling.

Emerging from the many gatherings I attended was the realisation that many of our units don't reach anything like their full potential and while we have

• TO PAGE 11

*Liam Mulvihill*



Liam Ó Maolmhichíl was appointed Ard Stiúrthóir of Cumann Lúthcleas Gael in 1979, in succession to Seán Ó Síochain.

He won an All-Ireland Colleges' Football medal with St. Mel's, Longford, in 1963 and played Minor Football for the county when he was only 14. He also represented Longford at Under-21 Junior and Senior levels.

Liam served as Vice-Chairman of the Longford County Board in 1969, was Chairman of the Board from 1970 to 1973 and was the county's Central Council delegate from 1974 to 1979.

## SQUARING UP TO SECOND CENTURY

Exclusive

Interview

By

**Tommy  
McQuaid**

characteristics and their suitability to the Irish character. Ed.: No doubt the G.A.A. enjoys the support and goodwill of the majority of our people, but there still remains a considerable section who at the slightest opportunity are prepared to denigrate the efforts of the Association. This seeming hostility for some strange reason appears to manifest itself particularly at media level. A famous and well-worn cliché is the old reliable "What does the G.A.A. do with all its money?" How would you reply to such critics?

L.M.: You have really got two questions here and I will try to deal with each one separately. The first one concerns the tendency of the media to highlight any criticism of the Association. I like to think that this is a tribute to us as an Association and to our popularity. If one of the Churches is criticised it is news and, by the same token, an attack on public people will cause headlines, but no one wants to know about the insignificant event. Our Association is also so open and democratic that it can be significantly affected by a media campaign and there have been obvious examples of this in the past.

Your second question concerns our money and the claim that we don't adequately account for where it goes. The feed-back we have is that this complaint is rarely heard nowadays because the G.A.A. is much more open and forthcoming about its finances than any other sporting organisation that I know. This improvement in public awareness of where our money goes is mainly due to the summaries of our balance sheets, at every level, which are given to the media.

To bring you right up to date we had a total income at Central Council level last year of £873,421 and the bulk of that was in gate receipts (£719,636). We spent £934,178 as follows:

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Teams Expenses/training and meals allowances | 140,831 |
| Rent and Expenses at venues                  | 182,406 |
| Grants                                       | 237,195 |
| Staff salaries & Superannuation              | 164,183 |
| Travelling Expenses                          | 52,733  |
| Postage/Stationery, Literature               | 64,874  |
| Other general expenses                       | 91,956  |
| <b>Total — £934,178</b>                      |         |

**Editor:** Next year the G.A.A. celebrates its Centenary — if you were asked to name your priorities regarding the Association's development in the years ahead, what would these be?

**Liam:** I think our major and most challenging task is to maintain the impetus, the vitality and the pioneering sense which the Association has shown in its first hundred years. It also has shown, in contrast to what a lot of its critics might think, an astute capacity to adapt to change and to alter its policy where this was the need of the particular time. Both of the above will be every bit as important in the future and will, in my opinion, guarantee the continued growth and development of the Association. As far as the games are concerned my wish would be that we would no longer have to appeal to people to play them because they are Irish games or are traditional. I would hope that people would play our games because of their unique and distinctive



**LONGFORD TEAM — LEAGUE WINNERS 1966 — Back Row (left to right): Micky Burns, Terry McGovern, Jim Hannify, Mick Hopkins, John Donlon, Seamus Flynn, Jimmy Flynn, Bobby Burns. Front Row: Seán Donnelly, Seán Murray, Brendan Barden, Larry Gillen, Brendan Gilmore, John Heneghan, Jackie Devine. Armbands were worn because of the death, that morning of the then Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnois, Dr. McNamee.**

Of the grants total of £237,195, £113,820 was spent on the development of club grounds, £77,145 on the subsidisation of juvenile hurleys and £52,150 on the grants for the improvement of County Grounds.

In addition to this we have £613,000 on loan to clubs for purchase of playing fields. According as repayments are made by the clubs the money is given out to other clubs for purchases. As a result of this scheme the Associations clubs have made enormous strides with regard to our aim of each club having its own grounds for 1984. The short answer, therefore to where the Association's money goes is that it is re-cycled for further developments which will improve the facilities for players and spectators.

**Ed.: The G.A.A. are in a proud position of having first class Stadia in every province. Would you envisage future progress should be towards providing even more of these large Stadia, or would you prefer to see the trend now developing towards all major clubs having a complex comparable to Na Fianna's headquarters in Dublin, which would in effect be more of a Cultural and Community centre?**

**L.M.:** I wouldn't agree completely with the first sentence of your question. It is true that the Association has a number of first class stadia scattered all over the country but the situation is not good in Ulster where there is no modern stadium with covered accommodation for spectators. Also, it is unfortunately true that the more one develops the stadia the more they cost to run (painting, rates etc.) and the more it costs to maintain them in a reasonable condition. In view of this, a great deal of our resources will have to be channelled into the major stadia. One must also remember that our supporters are more demanding nowadays with regard to facilities than they were in the past — and rightly so. Our drive at club level from the point of view of facilities, has had the following priorities:

1. Ownership of a playing field.
2. Development of basic facilities on that field (i.e. dressingrooms, showers, toilets).

3. Provision of facilities for the good of the community and to enable the club to fulfil its role as a vibrant force in the local area. This therefore, entails a different emphasis depending upon the circumstances of the club and the social/cultural provision already available in the club area. I don't feel that one or the other has to be our exclusive aim, we must have a balance and a good provision at both levels.

**Ed.:** A.I.B. and Bank of Ireland, to name but two, are making worthwhile contributions to the G.A.A. in the field of sponsorship. Do you think there is now scope for further development in sponsorship, in the Association, or on the contrary, would you rather see the Association steer clear of all forms of sponsorship.

**L.M.:** Sponsorship has only become a major force in sport within the past fifteen years or so and during that period all major sporting organisations have had to come to terms with it. The professional and semi-professional sports had no qualms about becoming involved but amateur organisations were much more careful, because of the dangers to their independence and amateur status which involvement with major companies could bring. The Gaelic Athletic Association decided to accept sponsorship in principle in 1970 and we later had a controversy with regard to the ethics of accepting sponsorship from cigarette companies. In more recent times there has been some muted criticism from the media that the G.A.A. gives too much to its sponsors. There is no evidence whatsoever for this and the reason is mainly that the Association has been very lucky in the major sponsors which it has had. As you mention the Bank of Ireland and Allied Irish Banks it is only fair to say that the impact of their two major award schemes: the "All Stars" and the "Club of the Year" respectively has been enormous and they have introduced a new professionalism with regard to the style, imagination and culture with which the award nights are highlighted.

• TO PAGE 10

● FROM PAGE 9

Coca-Cola Bottlers Ltd., has been involved with Féile na nGael since its inception and has enabled us to make strides in the promotion of Hurling which would never have been possible without it.

In more recent times we have had considerable help from New Ireland Assurance Company for the Ógspórt festival of Football and from Irish Life Assurance Company for the Play Hurling coaching booklets. Award schemes such as the B & I monthly awards and the Irish Nationwide Jubilee award schemes are also very popular.

There is no doubt, therefore, but that we will continue to accept sponsorship but we are at present examining the conditions upon which we accept it and the controls and constraints which we impose upon units accepting sponsorship. It is only fair that I point out that we have had major problems in one area which can be loosely described as sponsorship and that concerns playing gear. The new guidelines which will be introduced will, I hope, help to remove the anomalies, the inconsistencies and the abuses which have existed in the past. This is the one area in which we have come up against the unacceptable face of commercialism and the experience of the authorities in other sports during the past year shows how insidious and underhand some companies can become.

**Ed.:** In your teenage years, who were your idols in Gaelic Games and why?

**L.M.:** A question like this is very difficult as one could list dozens of people. My experience was that your idols changed quite often in the early years depending on the frequency with which you had the opportunity of seeing them play. I will therefore list a number of them: **Fr. Peter Newman** — the best player ever to play for my home club Kenagh — would have been an outstanding county player had he not gone on the Foreign Missions. **Billy Morgan**, a long serving Longford player for his tight defensive play and the wholehearted way in which he always played, **Packie McGarty** of Leitrim who was a one man forward line while at his best. **Seán Purcell** of Galway for his ability to do the unexpected, his great all round skills and his sense of discipline and **Brendan Barden** of Longford who was an inspiring captain and a most skilful and sporting wing half-back.

**Ed.:** You must have many outstanding memories from your years both at club and county administrative level, and also from the field of play. For example, I am sure the great Longford team of 1966 must have given you exceptional pleasure. Could you record some of your own major highlights of the past quarter century?

**L.M.:** In fact one could say that I grew up with Gaelic Sport and the past quarter century contain almost all my major memories of G.A.A. games. I attended my first All-Ireland Final in 1955 and only missed one Football and two Hurling finals since then. On a personal playing level I have very special memories of 1961 when I played in Croke Park for the first time, with Longford Minor Footballers against Meath. We were well beaten that day but my next game in Croke Park was in 1963 and this was a much happier occasion.

St. Mel's beat St. Brendan's, Killarney in the All-Ireland Colleges Final and retained the Hogan Cup. I don't think I was on a winning team in Croke Park after that. I won a Dublin and Longford Under-21 Championship that year (Erins Hope and Kenagh). I won a number of other Longford Championships in subsidiary grades but I remember most my personal achievements off the field. For example I got a very special thrill when my school team, Ballynacargy, won the Westmeath schools championship in 1968. In the following year I was elected as Vice-Chairman of the Longford County Board and I took over as Chairman in 1970. There was a very special satisfaction in working as a County Chairman and I remember with great pleasure the members who served with me on the County Executive. When I moved to Carlow as a Schools Inspector I became Central Council representative and held that position until 1979.

**The Galway maestro,  
Sean Purcell . . . one  
of Liam Mulvihill's  
idols in the 1950s.**



You said that the Longford team of 1966 must have given me exceptional pleasure which they undoubtedly did for every Longford person. I think the reason why Longford people were so proud of them was that they played a very attractive and sporting brand of football which was epitomised in the All-Ireland Semi-Final of 1968 against Kerry. They were unlucky, however not to win an All-Ireland and might have done so had they come through in Leinster a few years before 1968. They were unlucky in 1965 and were shocked in the championship in 1966 and 1967 but their success gave heart to all the so-called 'weak counties' at that time.

**Ed.:** On the eve of the G.A.A. Centenary Year is there any special message that you would like to address to clubs throughout the country as to how they should prepare to mark this great occasion?

**L.M.:** My message to our clubs with regard to the Centenary year is very brief. It is that we should make a special effort in this year to get back to the basics — the playing of our national games — and do everything possible to encourage new people in every club area to take part in our games. This may appear to be a very simple message and a very low-key wish, but in reality, if all our clubs could work to their full capacity and unite in furthering our aims, our Association might come to realise its own innate strength and influence and exercise it regularly and well in the years ahead.

● FROM PAGE 7

guidelines and plans for the promotion of our games at every level, the truth is that in too many cases they are simply just not being implemented.

This must be seen as a weakness in our Association and we must all work towards overcoming what, in many cases, could be seen as apathy or lack of motivation.

As I see it, our great problem, at the present time, is that too many take the success of the G.A.A. for granted and this applies both at club and Co. Board level. There is the tendency to sit back and enjoy a smug attitude that everything in the garden is rosy. This attitude, where it exists, is wrong.

I would like all County Boards to recognise that if our Association is to flourish and prosper, there is a responsibility to be alive and active at all times. This applies particularly at youth level. We have to bring our games to the young people of our country. We have to impress them by the way we present our games, especially at schools and colleges level.

Punctuality in starting games on time. Grounds properly marked out and prepared to top condition. Neat and uniform attire. More respect for referees and umpires.

These are just some of the factors that need to be worked on. Hand-in-hand with these guidelines must be the great need for coaching and here, I feel, there is a great opportunity for retired players to help give something back to the Association. Most, if not all, players who have reached the heights, in playing terms, have been helped or encouraged in their young days by one or more older enthusiasts. I call on them now to help and encourage the youth and by so doing help to ensure a healthy future for our native games through ensuing generations.

Finally, I offer my sincere congratulations to GAELICSPORT on the occasion of its 25th Anniversary. It is a tribute to the excellence of the magazine that it has endured for so long in a market where so many others have failed.

# The AMERICAN Experience

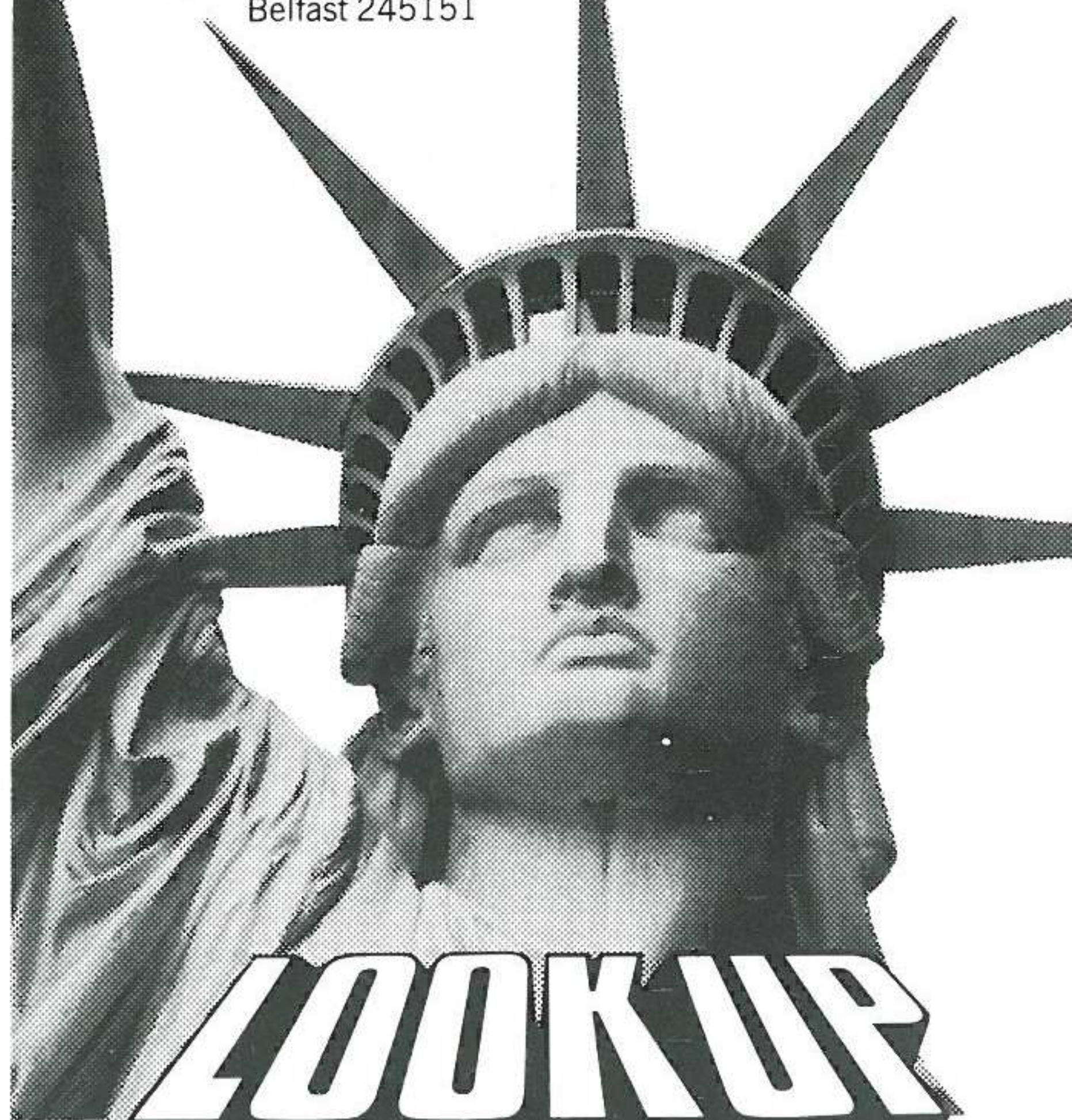
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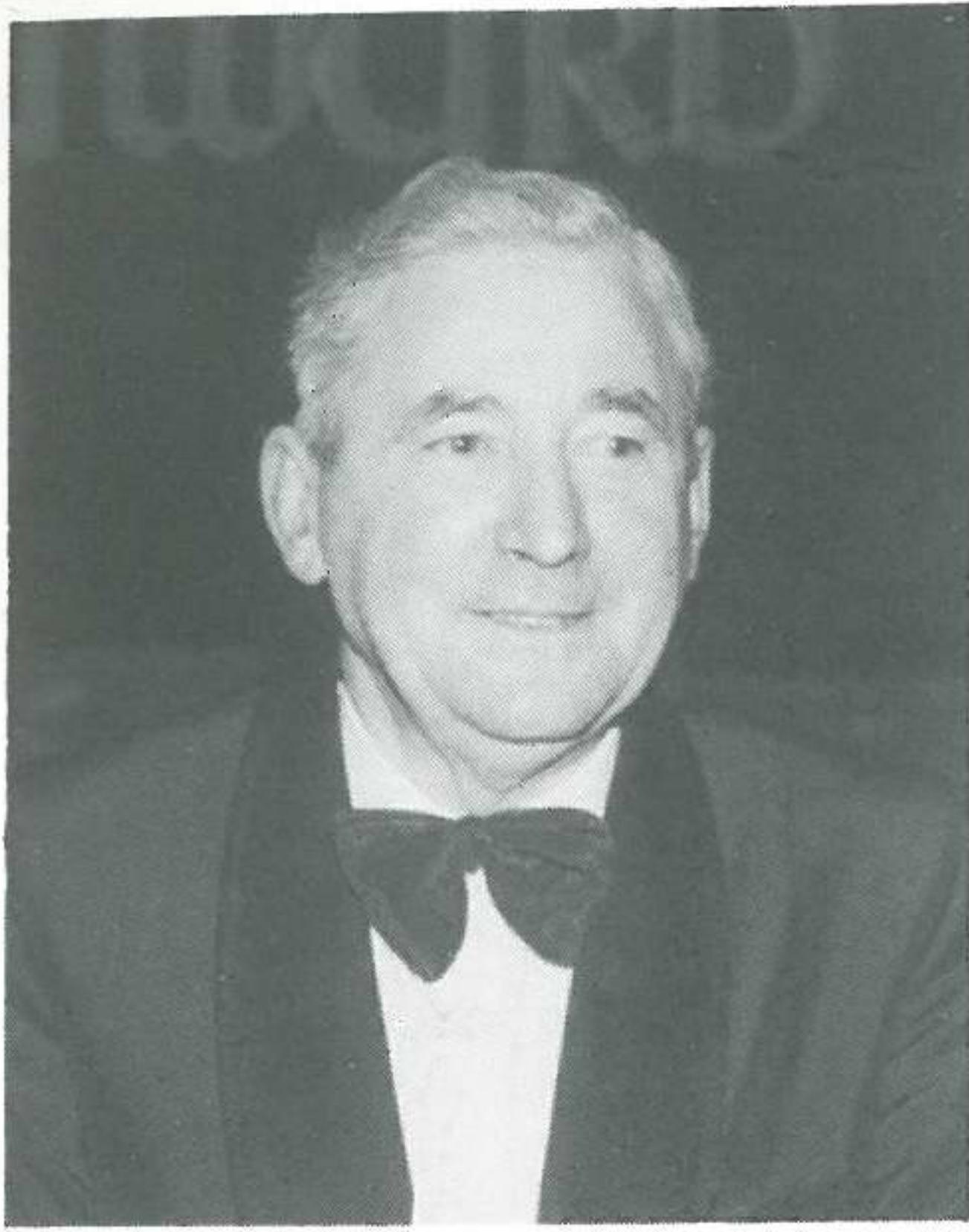
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*St. Bernard*

**DUNNES STORES**



## *Fund of goodwill not always fully appreciated*

By PADDY MacFLYNN, President, 1979-1982

**T**HE twenty-fifth Anniversary of "Gaelic Sport" under the Editorship of Tommy McQuaid is an event worthy of commemoration.

The regular appearance of this colourful and informative magazine has made a significant contribution in the continued progress of the Association.

During these 25 years "GAELIC SPORT" has chronicled the highlights of our games. The major events, of course, are the All-Ireland Finals and to the counties which won titles in these years, the magazine has rendered a special service.

We, in Down, recall with pride the three titles won in the 1960's and which were lauded in word and picture as memorable occasions.

Each issue also includes sound comment, the admirable "Junior Desk" and articles of constructive criticism, all of which make for lively reading.

### **MEMORABLE PERIOD**

But the quarter century has been

a memorable one for me personally, since during it, I was actively involved in the various administration levels in the Association.

At the beginning of the period I was vice-President of the Ulster Council and then President, while at the same time still fulfilling the office of treasurer of the Down County Board. My long membership of Central Council, in which I served under thirteen Presidents, culminated in my election as first ever President-elect in 1978, assuming the Presidency the following year.

### **PRESIDENTIAL OFFICE**

During my term as President I visited units of the Gaelic Athletic Association in every county, as well as Britain and U.S.A. and in the course of these travels I made many friends. One thing that impressed me very much was the high esteem with which the office of President is

regarded and the dignity which attaches to it.

The fund of goodwill which exists for the G.A.A. amongst the Irish people is something which is not always fully appreciated by us in the Association.

Our greatest strength is in the many members who, inspired by the principles and philosophy of the G.A.A., give so much of their time and talents to the work of our Organisation.


The outstanding progress made by clubs in recent years towards providing amenities for the local community is due to the commitment and dedication of these members.

Many challenges to the work of the G.A.A. lie ahead but if our youth can be inspired and encouraged to carry on this tradition of service to our games and to our country, the future for the Gaelic Athletic Association should be one of continued progress.

# All you ever wanted in a Bank

The image shows a hand holding a stack of Allied Irish Banks products. From top to bottom, the items are: a 5000 peseta banknote, a 500 peseta banknote, a 100 peseta banknote, a VISA credit card issued by Allied Irish Banks Limited with card number 754 4660 680 05, an IR£50 charge card issued by Allied Irish Banks, a BANKLINK card issued by Allied Irish Banks, a VISA credit card issued by Allied Irish Bank with card number 4921 0955 900, and a CASHSAVE card issued by Allied Irish Banks. A dark book labeled 'Allied Irish Banks DEPOSIT ACCOUNT' is also visible.

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## Fifteen from twenty-five leaves . . . many critics!

**P**ICK a team for our 25th Anniversary Souvenir Edition comprising the best footballers you have seen." The speaker was Editor Tommy McQuaid and I viewed his request with mixed feelings.

My interest in Gaelic football became seriously developed as a youth in the early 'sixties and I saw my first All-Ireland final in 1963 when Dublin beat Galway. I had narrowly missed out on the great Down team of '60-'61 although players like Paddy Doherty, Sean O'Neill, Dan McCartan and Joe Lennon lingered to backbone another title-winning Down outfit in 1968 but I was, indeed, fortunate to savour the skills of several other top-quality combinations in the ensuing years.

There was the Galway three-in-a-row side of '64-'66, the Offaly outfit of '71 and '72, the colourful Dubs of the mid-seventies and the Kerry combination of the late 'sixties and the recent four-in-a-row squad.

Needless to say, there were countless players of rare ability who became household figures during this 20 year period and it would be extremely difficult not to pick a formidable fifteen from the era. At the same time, one could not avoid excluding a host of other top-class performers.

Throwing caution to the wind, however, I set about the daunting



Mick O'Connell.

Jack O'Shea.

Liam O'Neill.

J. Barry Murphy

task, realising, of course, that I was likely to make more enemies than friends with my selection. I decided to start at midfield as there seemed to be more candidates with credentials for inclusion here than in any other area. Certainly, the following list makes impressive reading.

Dublin's Des Foley and Brian Mullins, Kerry's Mick O'Connell, Jack O'Shea, Din Joe Crowley and Sean Walsh, Down's Colm McAlarney, Cork's Mick Burke, Mayo's P.J. Loftus, Roscommon's Dermot Earley, Meath's Peter Moore, Offaly's Willie Bryan, Galway's Mick Garrett, Mick Reynolds, Pat Donnellan and Jimmy Duggan and Armagh's Colm McKinstry.

All would be worthy of inclusion but after much deliberation I narrowed the field down to O'Connell, O'Shea and Mullins. The former's elegance and skill made him an inspirational figure but he reminded me of a tactical genius who

marshalled his forces from behind the front line.

### BALANCE NEEDED

O'Shea and Mullins preferred to be in the thick of the fray and where their colleagues were in disarray and on the retreat, one confidently expected them to pick up the flag, as it were, and lead the troops in a return charge. They were probably better team players for that but I felt that a balance was needed at midfield so I included O'Connell and preferred O'Shea to Mullins principally because the latter tended to be over-physical at times and was more prone to concede frees.

My short list for the goalkeeping slot included Billy Morgan, Johnny Geraghty, Charlie Nelligan, Johnny Culloty, Paddy Cullen and Martin Furlong and having seen Morgan captain Cork to victory in '73 and,

● TO PAGE 17

# A few encouraging words from Texaco.

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almost singlehandedly hurl defiance at mighty Kerry for the remainder of the decade I gave him the nod.

For the corner back slots players like Meath's Peter Darby, Cavan's Gabriel Kelly, Cork's John O'Mahony, Dublin's Robbie Kelleher and Kerry's Donie O'Sullivan immediately sprang to mind but I eventually decided on Kerry's Paud Lynch and Down's Tom O'Hare to do duty, both being shrewd positional players and good fetchers.

Naturally high fielding was the prime requirement for the full-back post and one had master exponents of this art in Galway's Noel Tierney, Meath's Jack Quinn, Cork's Kevin Kehily and Kerry's John O'Keefe. Kehily and O'Keefe are more mobile than most and the Kerryman just shaded the verdict.

On to the wing-back positions and players with varying styles like Cork's Frank Cogan, Galway's Johnny Hughes, Meath's Red Collier and Pat Reynolds, Dublin's Pat O'Neill and Tommy Drumm, Offaly's Eugene Mulligan and Liam Currans, Kerry's Paud O'Shea and Tom Prendergast and Down's Joe Lennon had strong claims here.

**But for tidiness and tenacity there were none better, in my view, than Martin Newell from the Galway three-in-a-row side and his fellow countyman of a later vintage Liam O'Neill.**

Kevin Moran excelled with the Dubs for a brief period in the



Billy Morgan



Mick O'Dwyer



Mattie McDonagh



John O'Keefe

**BILLY MORGAN**  
(Cork)

**PAUD LYNCH**  
(Kerry)

**JOHN O'KEEFFE**  
(Kerry)

**TOM O'HARE**  
(Down)

**LIAM O'NEILL**  
(Galway)

**RAY CAROLAN**  
(Cavan)

**MARTIN NEWELL**  
(Galway)

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**JACK O'SHEA**  
(Kerry)

**ANTON O'TOOLE**  
(Dublin)

**MATTIE McDONAGH**  
(Galway)

**PAT SPILLANE**  
(Kerry)

**JIMMY BARRY-MURPHY** **EOIN LISTON**  
(Cork) (Kerry)

**MICK O'DWYER**  
(Kerry)

'seventies but his recruitment by Manchester United prevented him from fully developing his potential as a Gaelic centre-back. Nick Clavin, Tim Kennelly, Sean Meade, Tommy Joe Gilmore, the late John Morley, Paddy Holden and Bertie Cunningham were other outstanding pivots but it was the towering Ray Carolan who impressed me most, particularly in '67 when Cavan's bid for All-Ireland glory was stymied at the penultimate hurdle by Cork.

### AUTOMATIC CHOICE

The only player who was an automatic choice in my top team was



Anton O'Toole



Tom O'Hare

Kerry's Pat Spillane at left-wing forward. An unstoppable performer, Pat possesses boundless energy which he always employs to maximum effect, is a fine fetcher and has a rare penchant for kicking long-range scores. It is fair to say that Kerry have not been as forceful since injury prevented Spillane from performing and football purists everywhere are hopeful that the lion-hearted Templenoe man will soon return to continue his already distinguished career.

Ger Power, Cyril Dunne, Seamus Leydon, David Hickey, Tony



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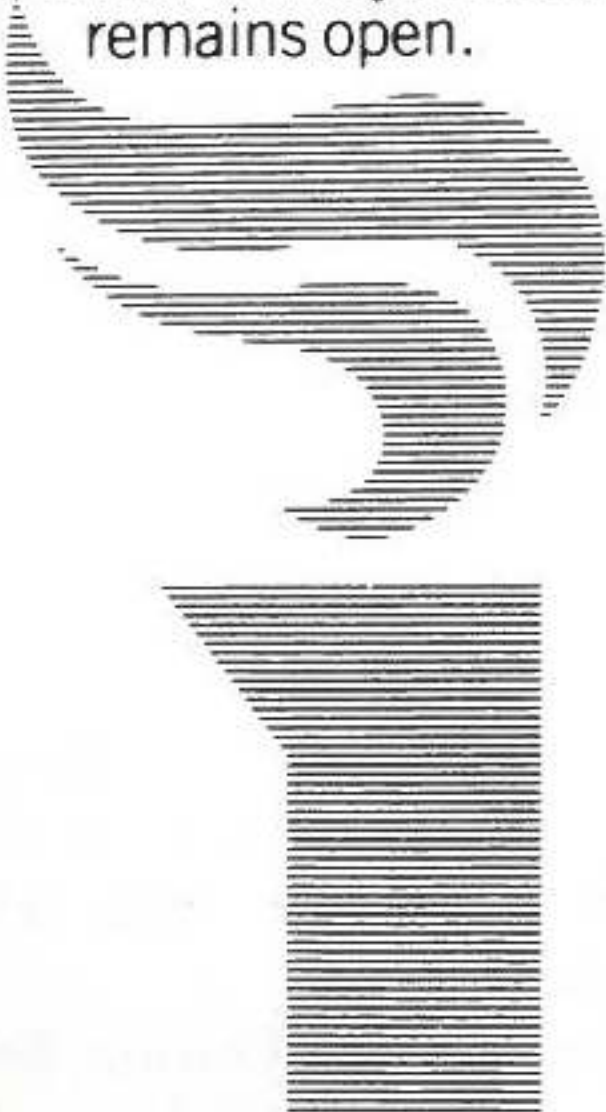
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## ● FROM PAGE 17

McTague, Joe Corcoran and Mickey Kearns have all proved themselves as footballers of the highest calibre but, to fill the right wing forward post I picked another player with an exceptionally high workrate, Dublin's Anton O'Toole.

Jimmy Barry-Murphy's goal-grabbing gift highlighted in Cork's '73 All-Ireland win and in a subsequent Railway Cup decider when he shot a record four goals, earned him the right-corner forward slot over Kerry's Mike Sheehy and Offaly's Matt Connor with Dublin's Bobby Doyle and Offaly's Sean Cooney also considered.

## NO PEERS

Kerry's John Egan and Galway's John Keenan vied with Mick O'Dwyer for the left-corner berth but, for craft and commitment the Waterville legend had no peers in my book and his freetaking ability contributed to his selection here.

Mattie McDonagh played a major role in Galway's golden era of the 'sixties and fittingly, he grabbed the sole goal in the Tribesmen's three final triumphs when he sent home a gem in 1966 against Meath. He gets my vote at centre-forward despite formidable opposition from Paddy Doherty, Declan Barron, Mickey Whelan, Tony Hanahoe, Pat Griffin and Kevin Kilmurray.

Jimmy Keaveney was a free-scoring full-forward with the Dubs. Cork's Ray Cummins and Down's Sean O'Neill were masters at creating openings for their colleagues but for me there is no better example of the complete full-forward than Eoin Liston.

Like Keaveney, Liston is a lethal finisher — remember his three goals in the '78 All-Ireland final? — like Cummins and O'Neill he is an intelligent and accurate distributor, but, in addition, the Kerryman is endowed with tremendous height and strength which he utilises devastatingly plus an amazing turn of foot for a man of his size. He gets the vote at full-forward.

# THE LONGEST SOLO RUN

By PADDY DOWNEY of *The Irish Times*

THE publication of this issue of *Gaelic Sport* is an occasion for nostalgia and celebration. Many events of great moment in Gaelic games have flowed under the bridge in a quarter of a century but *Gaelic Sport* still stands on the parapet, surveying the scene with an independent eye, defying hard times, durable as ever.

This writer was associated with Tommy McQuaid in the launching of the magazine in the far-off, fag-end of the 'fifties and as we produced the early editions in a loft of the Cityview Press, snatching a bite to eat, occasionally, or infrequently, from under mounds of galley proofs and photographs in the long days and nights of bustling work, we could not have foreseen that our venture would one day reach the milestone of a silver jubilee.

In the sentimental words of William Allingham, it was a time to remember for years, to remember, perhaps, with tears.

Christy Ring was still prince of the hurling fields; Eddie Keher was an elegant minor; Mick O'Connell, Sean O'Neill and Jimmy Doyle were just crossing the threshold of the Hall of Fame and, like those of Ring and Purcell, Nicky Rackard, Jim McKeever, Gerry O'Malley, Jimmy Smyth and Packy McGearty were names already etched in immortality.

Gaelic Sport has lived through stirring events, and recorded them faithfully: the rise of the great Down team in the early 'sixties; the resurgence of Galway football in the middle of that decade; the splendour of Tipperary hurling in the same period; Offaly's overdue attainment of football glory; the rebirth of the Dubs and, more recently, the astonishing exploits of Kerry and the All-Ireland successes of the Galway and Offaly hurlers. The passing of the Ban was another momentous landmark; the inauguration of the All-Star awards ushered in the era of

major sponsorship.

The vision and enterprise of one man launched *Gaelic Sport*. That man is Tommy McQuaid. He, alone, ensured its survival for 25 years. Many people helped him along the way, the single most important contribution, in this writer's opinion, coming from Jack Mahon when he introduced Junior Desk, 13 years ago.

The G.A.A. owe Tommy McQuaid a debt which is not yet fully acknowledged. In its early years there was a vague disapproval of the magazine at the highest level of the

association, a remarkable failure to recognise what *Gaelic Sport* was doing to promote the image of Gaelic games.

Goodwill and approval came later but the magazine has survived without financial assistance of any kind from the G.A.A., apart from the occasional advertisement. It would have benefitted from a gesture more tangible than a smile of approval.

When an official publication was being mooted, *Gaelic Sport*, with an established readership, was an obvious vehicle to carry the association's crest; curiously, it was passed over.

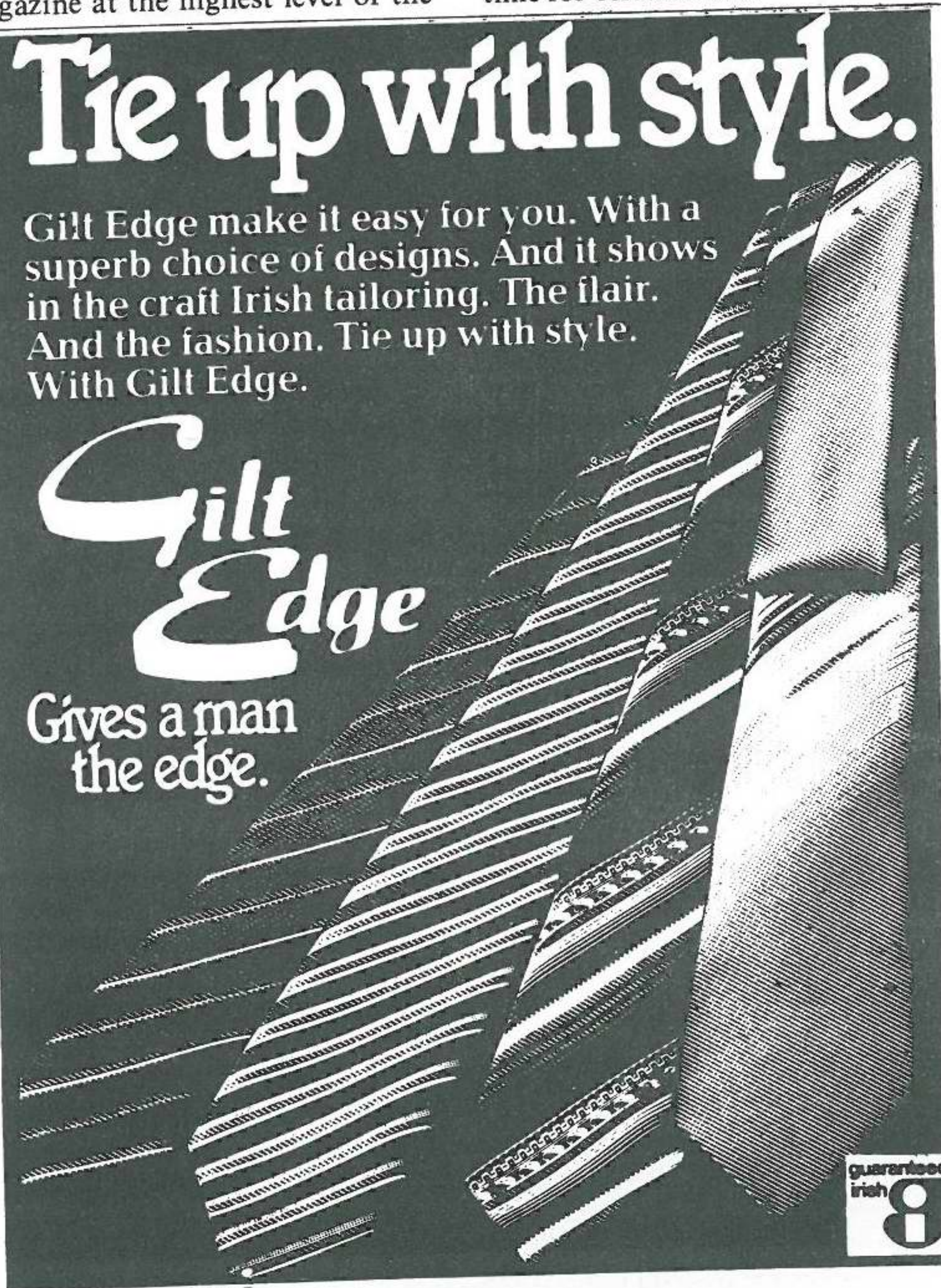
But let us have no regrets nor recriminations. The magazine is now an institution and may be the better for retaining its independence. It's a time for celebrations.

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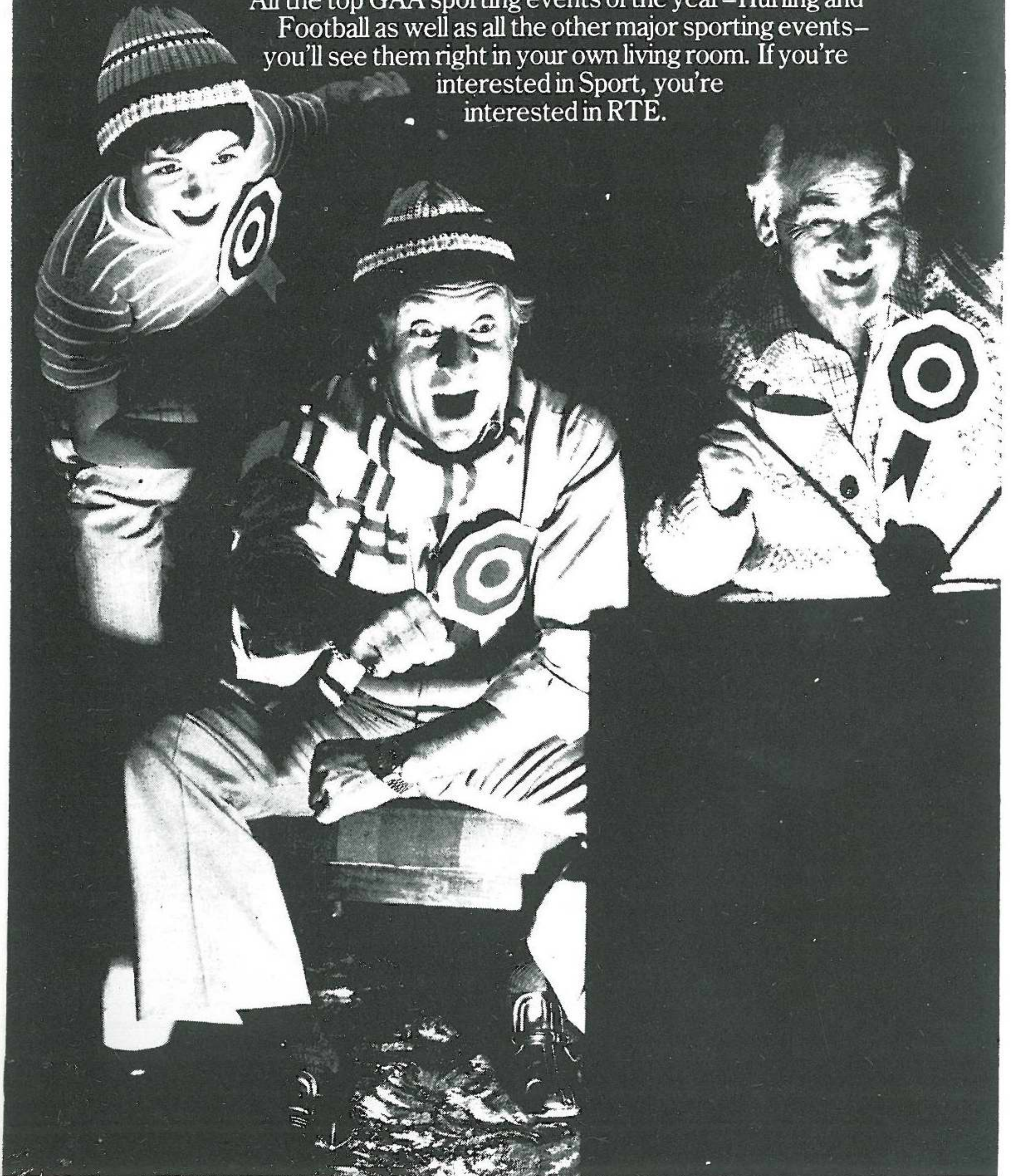
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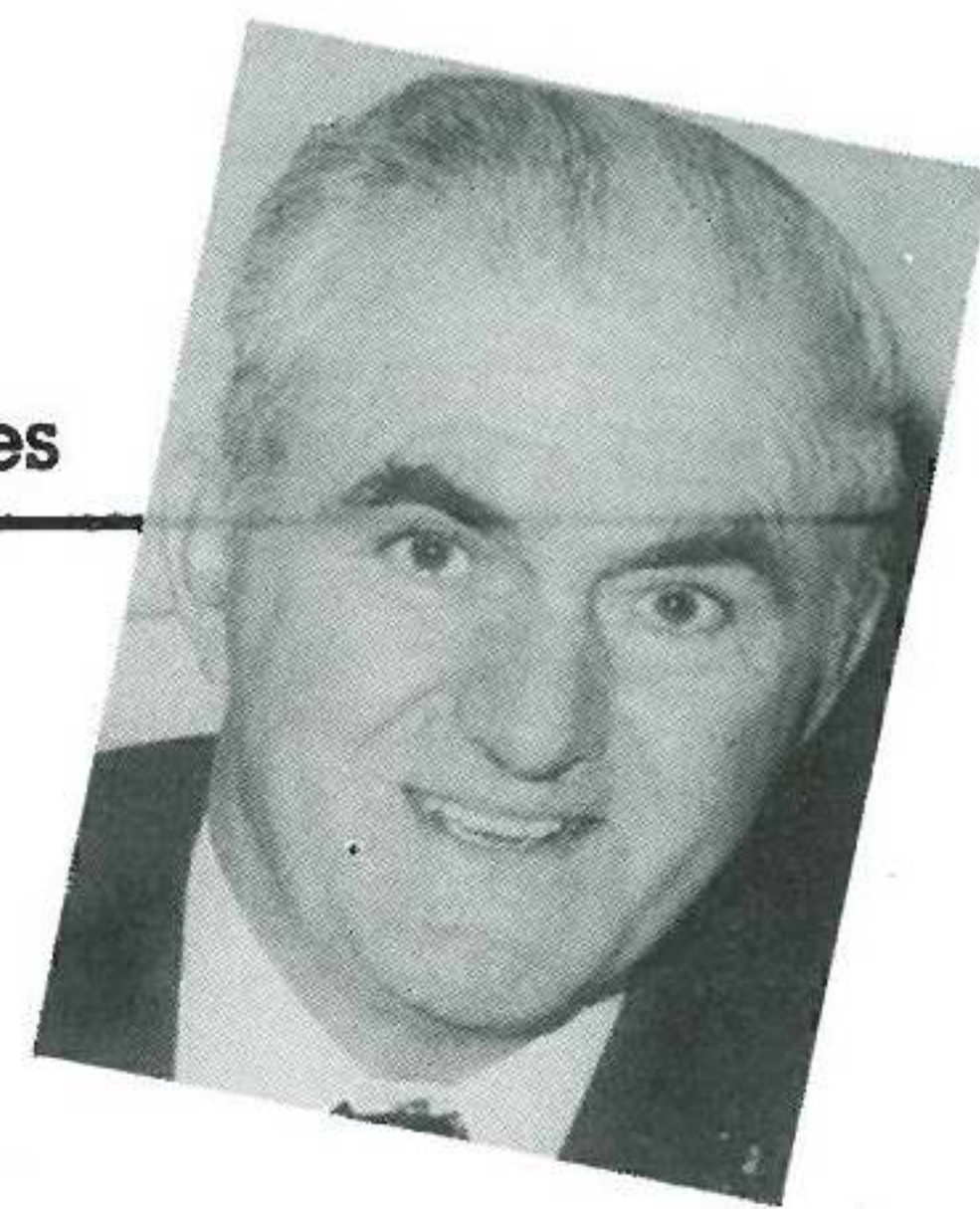


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## FRONTAL TACKLE IN FOOTBALL

**I** have great pleasure in congratulating Gaelic Sport on celebrating their 25th Anniversary in 1983. As a constant reader of the magazine, I had not realised that it had been so long in existence.

It is only fitting that I should thank them for the great work they have done for the Association, not alone in keeping us up-to-date with current events, but also, bringing before us the affairs of the Association in weaker counties and particularly the careers of great players who do not make the headlines, because they do not play in glamour games, such as All-Ireland Finals. Also, they have given due consideration to the youth of the country and given them their rightful voice in expressing their views.

Of course so much has happened in the past 25 years that it is only possible to mention a few events that stand out in my memory during that time.

My election as President in 1973 coincided with the recommendations of the McNamee Commission being placed before Congress and this brought about big changes in the administration of the Association.

**On reflection I believe that Congress was wise in accepting most of the recommendations and it has resulted in streamlining the running of the Association without removing the power that should always remain with Central Council in deciding the general policy and financial structure of the Association, as a whole. Perhaps Congress has lost some of its 'Bite' and I did notice a change this year when**

there were only 49 motions in Galway, whereas at the Bundoran Congress there were 150!

**I envied Paddy Buggy!**

### SAD LOSS

Like all magazines, Gaelic Sport was mainly interested in our games and kept us in close contact with those characters who gave us so much pleasure throughout those 25 years. It is sad to think that during that period, we lost men such as Christy Ring and Micky Mackey, whose deeds were brought vividly to life in the magazine. Thanks to Gaelic Sport their lives and works have been fully documented and will be on record so they can be read by future generations.

Many changes have taken place since 1958 and it is pleasant to record that hurling has become more widespread and Offaly, Galway and Laois have now taken their rightful place among the top counties of the game. I hope the next twenty-five years sees further progress in our greatest game.

**Can we say the same about football?**

I am afraid not and apart from Kerry and Dublin, who gave us such pleasure during the '70s, other counties did not reach their standard apart from Offaly, who gave such a great display in defeating Kerry last September and thereby frustrating the Kingdom's effort to bring off the five-in-a-row.

Greater efforts must be made by all to bring football back to its former standard in all our counties. This will require great dedication and effort by officials, players and above all

referees in the years ahead.

Rule changes have been made which, I believe, improved the game in places like Dublin and Kerry, although I would like to have seen the Hand Pass retained, as practised by these two counties in the '70s. I am in full agreement with Paddy Buggy in his recent instruction to referees, to penalise personal fouls. It is only a matter of time until players realise that 'pulling and dragging' does not pay and we will get the continuity in our game that we desire.

### COMMON SENSE

Referees must play their part in ensuring that only deliberate personal fouls are penalised. Martin O'Neill once said to me "Referees must first have common sense and then learn the rules".

How true that is today in implementing this particular rule.

**One great drawback in our game is the lack of a tackle and shoulder to shoulder is not sufficient. I am convinced that the front tackle should be allowed, i.e. shoulder to chest, with one foot on the ground. This would not be dangerous and would give defenders the opportunity to tackle on-coming players.**

May I respectfully suggest that your magazine play its part in bringing about an improvement in our games in the future. I have no doubt you will do this and I again congratulate you on reaching your 25th Anniversary and I wish you well in the future. I know I will have the same pleasure in reading your articles, as I have had in the past.

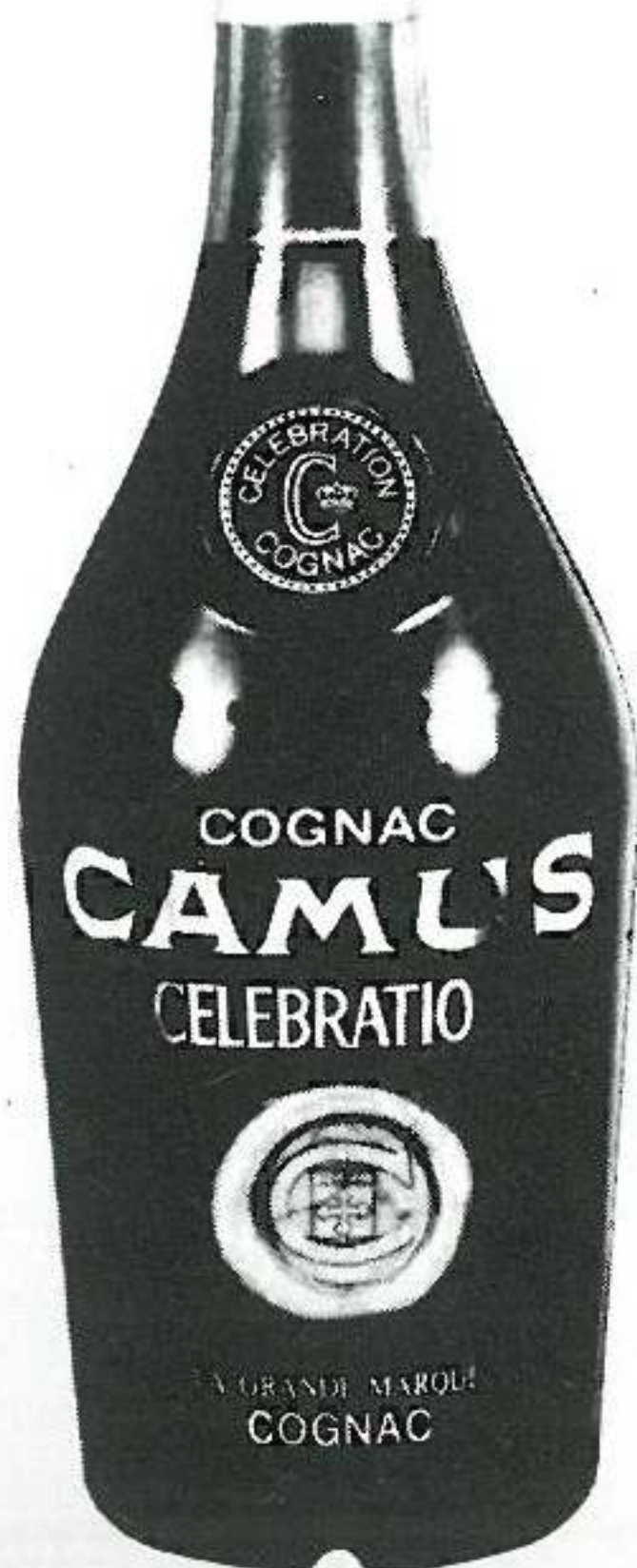
## Hurling Fans!

● A scene of gaiety when a group of local Chinese girls turned out to cheer the hurling match between Tipperary and the Carrolls All-Stars on the occasion of the first major GAA tour to San Francisco in April, 1972.

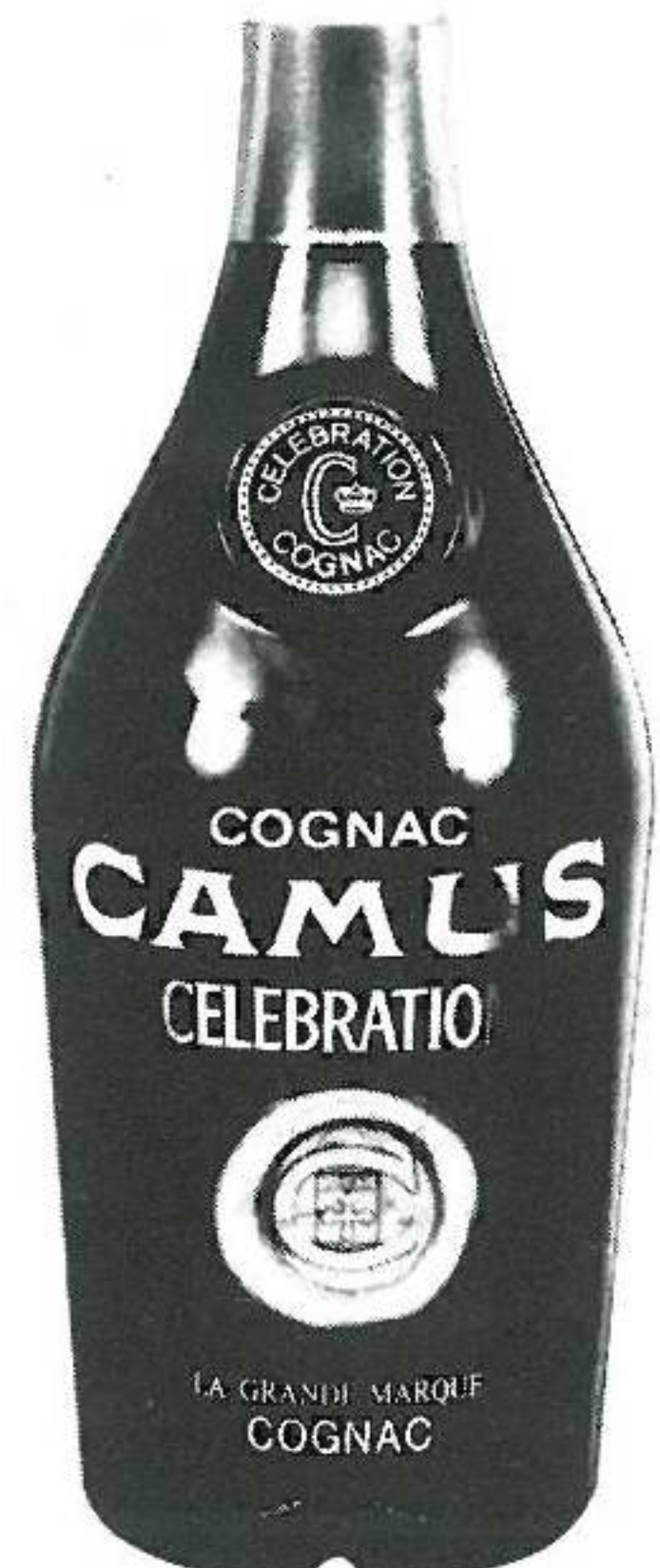


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## PREDECESSORS ROLL BACK THE YEARS

THE invitation to make a brief contribution to this anniversary issue was a harsh reminder that it's twenty years since I was editor of *Gaelic Sport*.

Looking back, it was in many ways an age of innocence: petrol at 25p a gallon, no serious crime in Ireland, and Christy Ring still attracting a crowd of 50,000 to the Railway Cup finals each St. Patrick's Day.

John F. Kennedy was President of the United States: Sean Lemass was Taoiseach, and Garret FitzGerald was a lecturer at UCD.

Still, some things haven't changed. *Gaelic Sport* is still very much there. Of the many publications which over the past century catered for Gaelic Games, none has lasted anything like as long.

The credit belongs entirely to the magazine's founder and present editor, Tom McQuaid. He kept *Gaelic Sport* going in bad times as well as in good and it is a feat most worthy of GAA recognition.

The magazine is unusual too in that it has had the same printer throughout, Cityview Press, which over the years has printed to the same high quality many of the GAA's own publications, including All-Ireland programmes. Indeed, it was Cityview Press which in 1965 printed the first 'modern' GAA programmes in full colour. That year too, and for some years afterwards, it printed the new-look *Our Games Annual*.

So there has been a lot of team effort involving *Gaelic Sport* over the years and quite a few people can take pride in this jubilee issue.

Gach rath ar *Gaelic Sport* agus ar chluichí na nGael.

Brendan Mac Lua,  
Editor,  
The Irish Post,  
London.

IT sounds trite to kick-off by trundling out that old stand-by of boring after-dinner speakers: "It gives me great pleasure . . ." But it does, Tommy McQuaid, it does. Other magazines reflecting the Gaelic world have come and gone over the years, but none has achieved the same high standards of writing, presentation and quality printing of *Gaelic Sport*. On this Silver Jubilee, it is a remarkable publishing venture which has carved its own particular niche in Irish publishing. One man's ideas and dedication have given Gaelic sports a worthy vehicle to reflect the changing styles, hopes and

aspirations.

Of course, former Editors had their own input, and elsewhere my editorial predecessors — Paddy Downey and Brendan McLua — are recalling their own associations with *Gaelic Sport*. But Tommy McQuaid, the man with the vision and courage to launch the magazine 25 years ago, deserves the majority plaudits. He has given thousands of loyal G.A.A. readers a magazine of which they, too, can be proud.

But all this would not have been possible without *Cityview Press*, that North Dublin printing-house where Frank and Jack Burke, and the late Ronan O'Reilly and their colleagues, made the impossible seem routine.

To Tommy McQuaid and all those who made it possible . . . sincerest best wishes on this Silver Jubilee. And may *Gaelic Sport* continue its pioneering role for (at least!) another 25 years.

Mike Burns,  
Assistant Director of News, Radio,  
Radio Telefis Éireann.

CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL

# MEATH

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CONGRATULATE

## GAELIC SPORT

on it's 25th Anniversary  
and wish the magazine  
continued success in the  
years ahead



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WINNERS KEEP UNDER  
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**WHEN ONLY THE BEST WILL DO**



## *Vivid memory of spirit, courage, in Kinvara club*

By HUGH BYRNE, President, 1961-1964

**H**OW often has it been asserted that the Club is the most important unit of the Gaelic Athletic Association.

There is general agreement that this is substantially true. Not alone is it true from the structural point of view but more important, by far, is its importance in fulfilling the main objects for which the Association was founded.

The G.A.A. may be described as an organisation of the people, for the people and democratically controlled by them, with its primary objectives being those which are so clearly set forth in the Charter of the Association. One need not make a very intensive study of the G.A.A. to ascertain that in spite of its many vicissitudes, it has fulfilled, in the main, the objects of its founders.

Ireland, especially rural Ireland, is deeply indebted to the organisation for its uplifting influence on a dispirited and disorganised people, bringing to them a new pride in their national traditions and a self-reliance and faith in themselves, which years of oppression threatened to extinguish.

The Club structure with its roots extending to all parts of the local scene, ensured that this influence reached all sections of the community.

As a Club Secretary, I was aware not alone of the value of the Club but of the difficulties which it encountered and hence, when in my first weeks as President I was honoured with an invitation to open a new club ground in historic Kinvara, I was delighted to accept.

Here on the Western Seaboard, in historic surroundings, I found a wonderful example of what a well organised club was capable of achieving.

This club had to be content with a small practice pitch, which seemed incapable of development owing to the rock foundation of the locality. It seemed a hopeless proposition to try and extend the pitch. Nothing daunted the Club Committee, in consultation with the engineer and contractor, decided to do so. The estimated cost of the development, which amounted to many thousands of pounds, was subscribed within a week, so that without any outside financial assistance, the contract was signed and the work began.

When the rock had been blasted to a suitable depth, a layer of small stones and gravel was laid down. A drainage system was installed before a layer of top-soil was laid down. All was now ready for grass sowing and rolling and the following year the ground was ready for the official opening.

At all stages, the wonderful community spirit of these people was very evident.

In short, here we had in its entirety the fulfilment of the ideals and aims of the Association and indeed it was a heart-warming experience to witness — and be a part of — the enthusiastic and joyous celebrations which marked the formal opening of the ground.

Since that memorable July day I have taken part in many similar functions but this experience remains indelibly imprinted in my memory.



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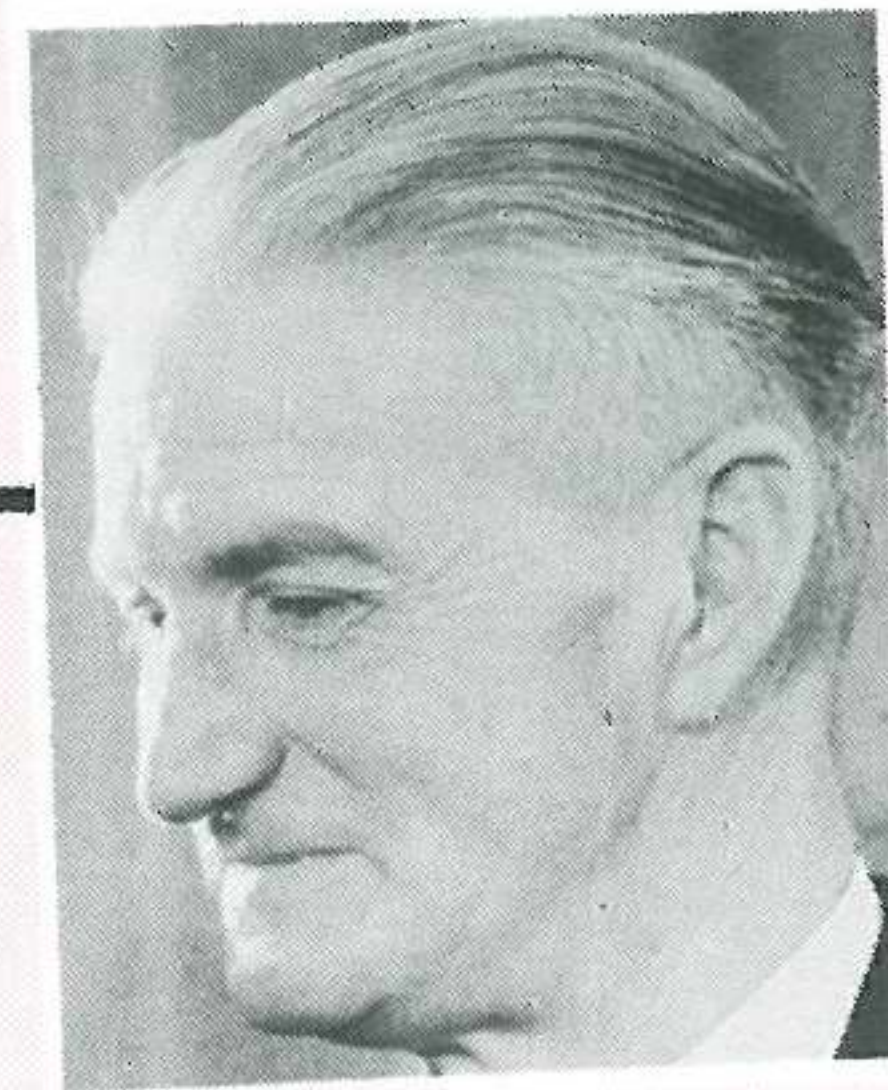


**PMPA**



25

By ALF MURRAY, President, 1964-1967



## PRIORITIES FOR A NEW CENTURY

**I**N MY last address to Congress in 1967, I acknowledged how fortunate our Association had been to have had, for the previous ten years, a monthly magazine devoted entirely to our National games. Now, fifteen years further on, the same Gaelic Sport is filling a greater need and its continuation is now more necessary than ever.

So many other Gaelic games publications that I have known survived only for a time, because of all the difficulties inherent in publishing ventures. We must therefore pay tribute to the enthusiasm and hard work that have enabled Gaelic Sport to remain alive and flourishing for so long.

**May it hold an honoured place in the G.A.A.'s second century.**

These twenty-five years that Gaelic Sport has covered have seen many changes in the Association and many worthwhile efforts for its betterment.

One of particular interest to me was the campaign to again "bring the hurling back". Undoubtedly it did not achieve all its targets but the interest it awakened in the game, the impetus and help it gave to the supply of hurleys, the encouragement it offered to the weaker counties, are reflected in the less critical position of our premier game at present.

Feile na nGael and the wonderful work it has encouraged in every county was a natural outcome of the realisation that hurling was in danger.

One other major change in this last quarter century was the removal of the Ban. Has that brought the success which the sponsors of removal claimed it would?

On the credit side it has put a stop to the continuing criticism to which

the Association was previously subjected. It has given our players a freedom to try other games as they pleased. And, though this seems to have passed unnoticed, it has opened Gaelic games to followers of other codes.

On the other hand very many clubs are now finding that the divided allegiance is presenting problems, if only because players who have had a Saturday game are not as fit for the Sunday one as they used to be.

There has been little or no response from the schools and individuals who were reported to be anxious to participate in Gaelic games if the Ban wasn't there.

**The effect of the Ban removal on the Association itself is also worth considering.**

There is now the danger that our National games may be regarded as just another sport and may no longer be seen as the National Crusade that attracted so many in the past.

That view could affect both players and administrators at all levels.

With players it could lead ultimately to professionalism.

With administrators and helpers it could remove the incentive which has kept so many voluntary workers willing to carry the burdens the G.A.A. imposes.

Gaelic games and the G.A.A. were one of the ways of being national or patriotic. If they should lose that incentive the Association would suffer considerably on both fronts.

It is also a disappointing feature of recent times that the Association has not succeeded as well as it should in promoting our own language. The position seems little improved from what it was twenty-five years ago.

If the language is to survive, the next twenty-five years must bring a tremendous change in its use — not only on playing fields and in meeting rooms — but amongst individual members in everyday life. It may be too late in ten or even in five years' time.

I would like to see the G.A.A. doing its part now, by making the speaking of Irish a top priority in the first five years of its second century.

To bring the language back is even more important nationally than to bring the hurling — or any other game — back.

**Which brings me to the priorities for the new century that the Association faces in 1984.**

**Each one is entitled to have his or her own selection but, for my part, I'd hope that the G.A.A. would remain completely national in its outlook, that it would remain very strictly amateur and that it would strive to retain the undivided allegiance of its players.**

I would also hope that it would do much more to put our own language back on to the lips of our people.

If it remains true to its founders and to those who have laboured so hard for it over the past hundred years, I see no reason why it should not realise these hopes.

May Gaelic Sport be there to help it towards that realisation.



# PROGRESS WILL NO LONGER HAPPEN BY CHANCE

By CON MURPHY, President 1976 — 1979

**T**Á co-gairdeas agus moladh tuilte go rí-mhaith ag “GAELIC SPORT” de bharr an seirbhís a tugadh mar foilseacháin do Chumann Luth Chleas Gael, go háirithe dár gchluichí Náisiúnta le fiche cuig bliain anuas.

Congratulations to GAELIC SPORT on having given twenty-five years of consistent service in the publications field to the Gaelic Athletic Association and particularly to Gaelic games.

There is always a great need for the Gaelic Athletic Association to maintain a high profile and to promote good public relations and communications, both internal and external. GAELICSPORT has, in an objective way, endeavoured to play its part in this.

At a time when the Association is urging each unit to complete a history of its own activities and involvement as a part of a great move to record for the Centenary in 1984 the history of service to communities and the nation and particularly the part our National games have played in the cultural and social life of our people at home and abroad, Gaelic Sport, in its own way, can serve to some extent as a chronicle covering a period of tremendous growth and development in the Association.

Looking back on the history of the Gaelic Athletic Association, its many milestones of progress, the many

challenges which it has met, the many and varied elements of society which have made its membership and leaders, one must agree that the threads which have knitted together succeeding generations of dedicated voluntary workers and supporters with such consistency are extraordinary and, while involving a major and vital element of sporting activity and enjoyment, clearly indicate that the Association is above the realm of sport alone.

These vital threads are the threads of community and national commitment and endeavour, of tradition, heritage and a sense of pride in one's own place, in nationhood and national identity motivated, strengthened and, as it were, bound together by our national games which, by their very nativeness, have a distinctive appeal and sense of value for our people.

The history of the Association is a proud one. We should be aware of it and respect the whole movement for what it stands for and aims to do.

As we stand on the threshold of the Association's Centenary, the aim of all who value its work should be to ensure that it endures.

The fact that Cumann Lúth Chleas Gael has maintained a relatively strong position over the years is a tribute to the many humble people, with leadership qualities and foresight, who made an invaluable

contribution to its growth in a range of practical ways.

We must now, however, realise that we cannot claim, as it were a monopoly.

We are in serious competition with various forms of leisure activities and other counter attractions.

We are also challenged by a great dilution of national ideals and one has to say it, a great lack of pride in ourselves and respect for our country as a nation.

We, as a people, are bedevilled by vandalism and violence and a growing disrespect and disregard for the rule of law in society.

The influence of the media, particularly television, is profound.

It appears we have left the era of simple living, modest tastes, an era of order and discipline and a country where the quality of life was one of its greatest assets, behind us.

While many things, too, have happened for the betterment of our people, and are welcome, we are confronted with a changed society and, as of now, a testing economic situation; but, as always, the Association, if it shows heart and courage, plus a sound approach, can have a decided influence for good.

It is still operating from a position of strength, with a sound structure and we have a hard core of tremendously dedicated and good people, many of them young and

The scene after Dublin's league victory in '78. Included (from left) Jack Lynch talking to Brian Mullins, Tony Hanahoe, Con Murphy and Gay O'Driscoll.



enthusiastic.

Things will no longer happen by chance, however. We cannot survive by dwelling on past glories.

Flag waving and rhetoric will not do.

We must do our homework. We must plan. We must organise afresh and work with great spirit of togetherness, across the whole cultural, social and economic scene.

The local club must be the focal point in the community, guided and directed, as intimately as possible by each county committee under the regional management of Provincial Councils.

Our National games have been and must remain the centrepiece of all activities, the symbol of a continuing dedication to the Nation's heritage and the real foundation for the future.

Within this context, games programmes, ensuring regular games for as many as are available and wish to play our National games, with a particular emphasis on youth and schools, backed up by good presentation and control, adequate playing and social facilities, plus efficient administration, within the reasonable limits to which demands can be made on voluntary workers, must be a priority.

This range of activity must be linked to a well-planned, orderly and stable inter-county programme.

Side by side with this, it is vital at this time to look seriously at our two great field games.

They must retain their character and distinctiveness.

It is my view that the fire and abandon and good, manly, physical contact and combat must be restored.

The use of the hand must be restricted in both codes to preserve basic **SKILLS** and ensure that these **SKILLS** are used.

The thrilling moments in the goalmouth area, which were accepted features and had an attraction for both players and spectators, must be permitted to return by a prudent relaxation of existing rules.

We must remember that the future of our games depends on the players' enjoyment and their appeal to spectators and everything by way of interpretation and implementation of rules, coaching and any other form of consideration must be aimed at supporting and improving the **SKILLS** of our games, without disturbing or limiting their attractive and vital basic characteristics.

We must avoid the trap, too, of reducing the pattern of play to pure mechanical teamwork; to the elimination of the chance for players to develop their own personal flair, which produces personalities which

are a tremendous asset to any game and are much needed by our National games just now.

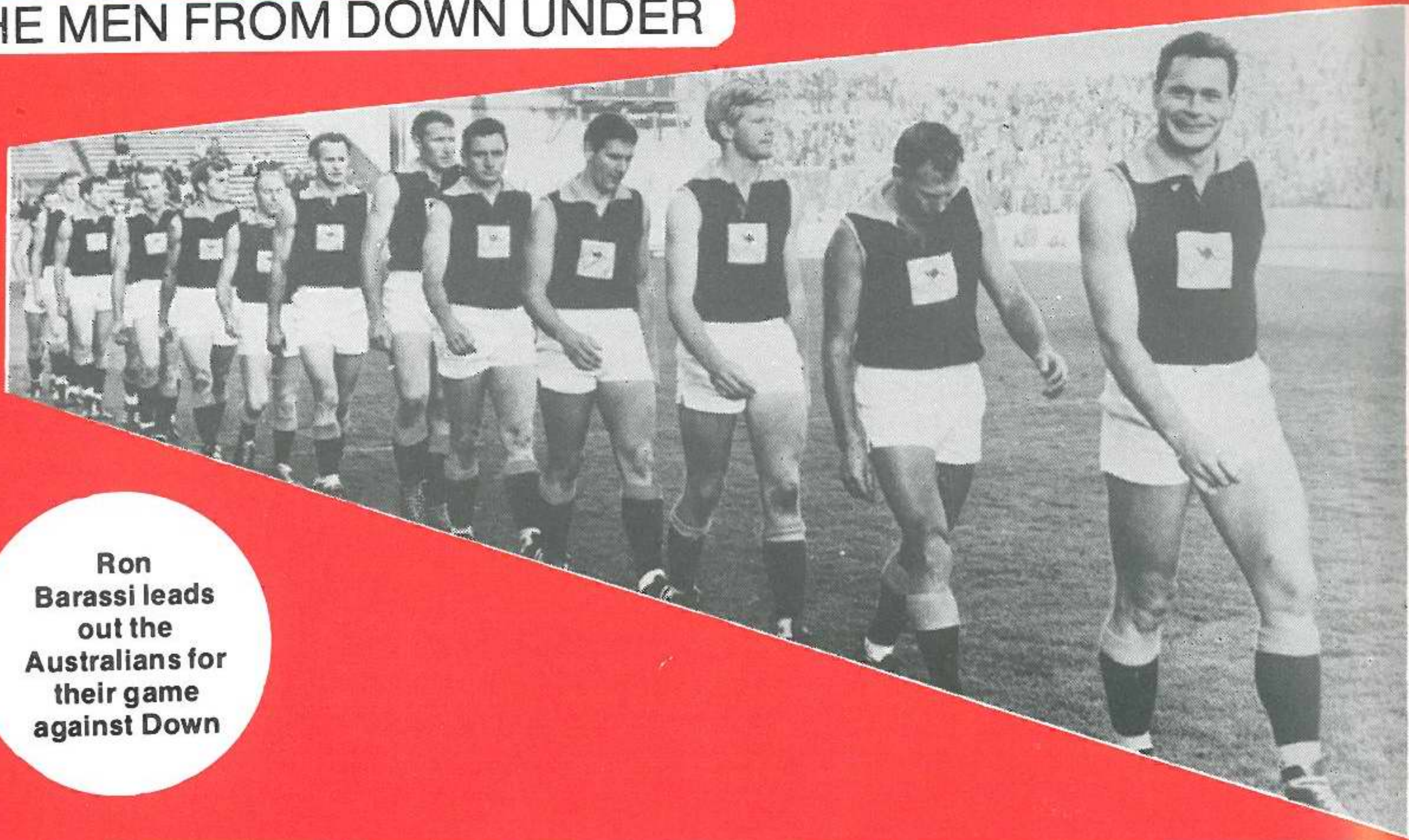
Yes! To have our National games strong and the Association's affairs well managed, is vital. But the Association's comprehensive National role will not be fulfilled if we do not, as a duty of practical patriotism, support home industry and Irish made goods; if we do not positively support our National language and other facets of our cultural heritage; if we do not develop an out-of-schools involvement with young people needing so much caring concern, particularly at a time of high unemployment and the terrible dangers of excessive drinking and drug addiction.

The Association must be involved in the whole concept of community development and be prepared to serve the National interests and encourage its members, generally, to play their part, beyond the organisation itself, in making Ireland a better place to live in.

In other words in sporting terms, to motivate all to become a team of nation-builders with the legitimate aspiration to achieve full Nationhood, for all Ireland, with all our people united in peace and harmony and with our National games brightening their lives as they have striven to do for the past hundred years.

# THE GALAHS OF '68-THEY CAME, THEY SAW

THE MEN FROM DOWN UNDER



Ron Barassi leads out the Australians for their game against Down

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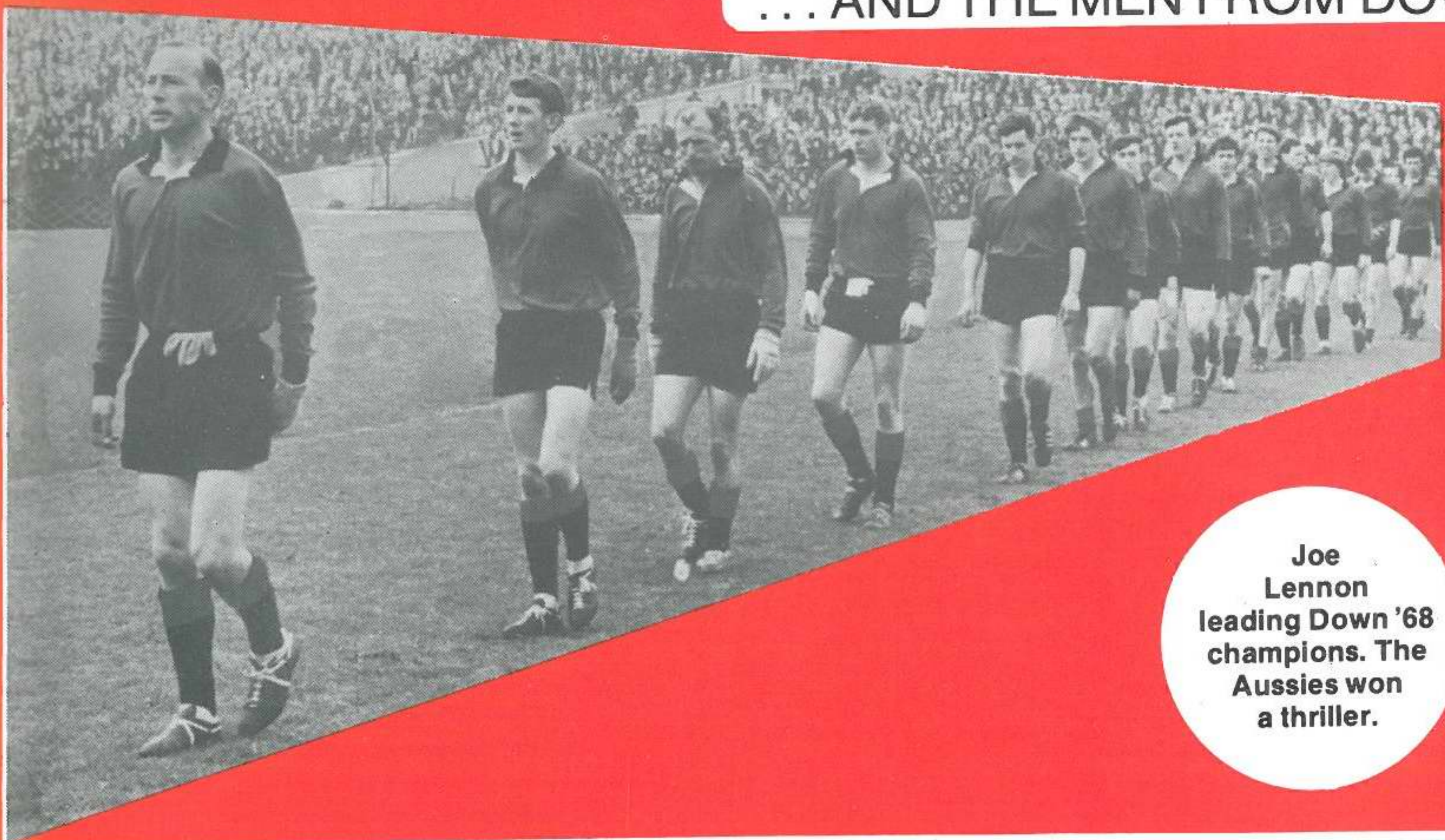
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**... THEY CONQUERED ... OUR HEARTS**

**25**

**... AND THE MEN FROM DOWN**



Joe Lennon leading Down '68 champions. The Aussies won a thriller.

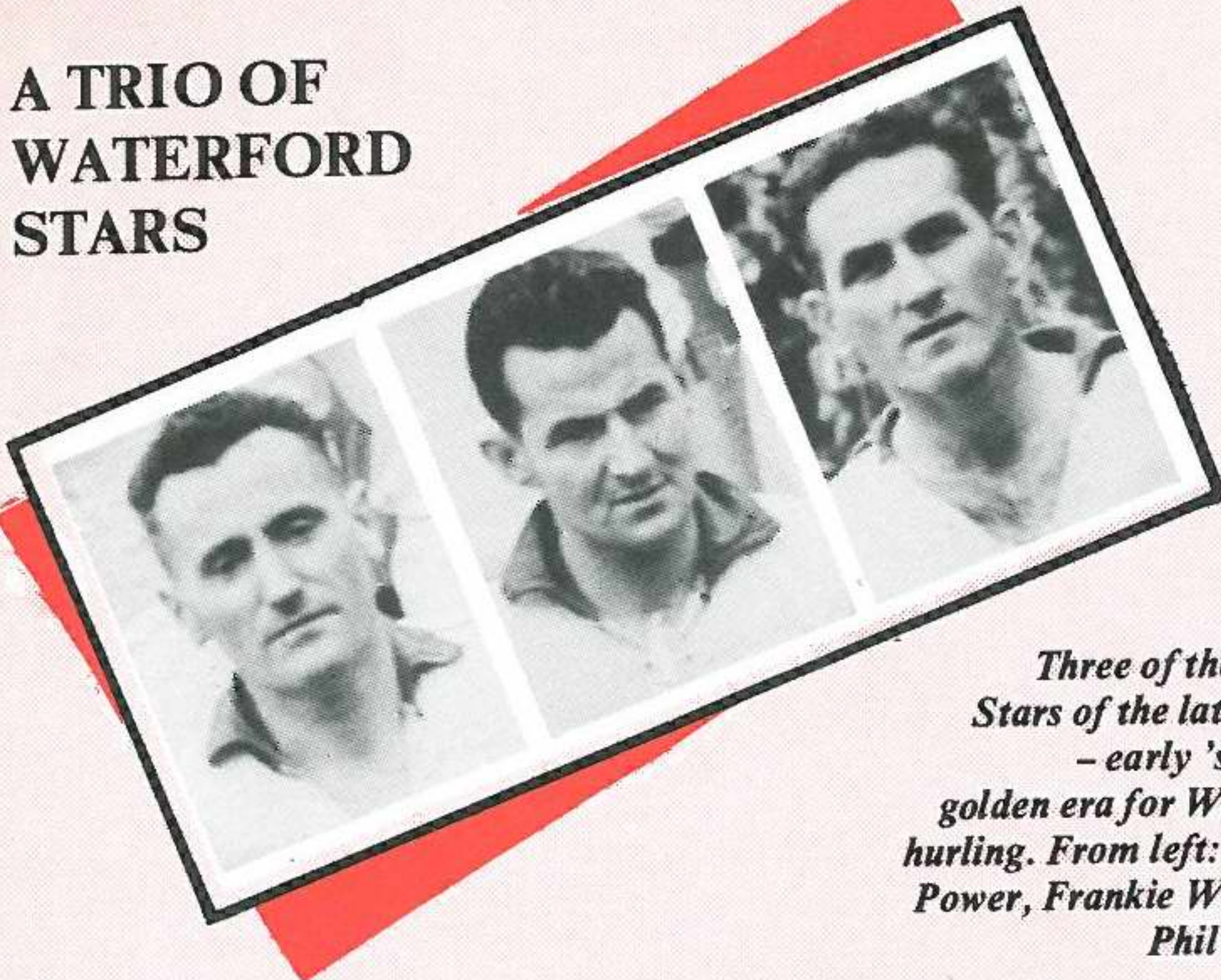
**ON TO ANOTHER**

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things to eat.

## A TRIO OF WATERFORD STARS



*Three of the Decies Stars of the late 'fifties - early 'sixties, a golden era for Waterford hurling. From left: Seamus Power, Frankie Walsh and Phil Grimes.*

**J**OHN Keane, the great centre-back for Waterford, felt the bitterness of defeat in '38 but won his All-Ireland medal ten years later. Trainer of the good young side from na Deise in '57 he didn't think they would go very far but following some flying games, they made Croke Park in September only to lose to Kilkenny by a point after an hour that excited us all. That '57 defeat was the prelude to the '59 campaign and, in the case of true men, defeat is the sharpest spur of all.

In '59, Waterford beat Galway, Tipp and facing Cork in the Munster final, burned up the Thurles ground and sent us Corkmen home lamenting a 3-9 to 2-9 defeat. But one couldn't but admire the searing speed of the Waterford men who faced their old rivals Kilkenny in the final. Each Munster county respects Kilkenny in a different way. Cork, Clare and Limerick, farther away, do not have the same contact as Tipp where men see Kilkenny club games and vice versa. Waterford if anything are nearer to Kilkenny than any, for the port is a natural outlet for the fertile hinterland of the Nore and so many Kilkennymen and women travel down the valley to Urbs Intacta. Not surprising that Waterford's hurling of the late fifties was a mixture of the

hard fast hip-to-hip pulling of Tipp and Cork on which was mounted the flashing swing of the stick for the far-out point that has always been the hallmark of the Kilkenny style.

So when the two teams met before 73,000 in September of '59 we awaited a great game and I hoped those likeable Waterford men would bring home the cup to Munster.

Waterford did all we asked them in the first half and led by five points at half-time. A lead that Tom Cheasty, all power speed and wiggling craft at centre-forward, changed to six after half time, when he slipped through four defenders in a 50 yard solo-run to slip it over the bar. But in the last quarter Kilkenny dominated the score-board that showed us two great goals from Tommy O'Connell and it was anybody's game until na Déise went four points ahead and were on the way home. Then came the disastrous mistake and a long Paddy Kelly ball went all the way to the Waterford net. Phil Grimes made it two up for his side but Dick Carroll seized on a dropping ball to raise another Kilkenny green flag and this time it looked all over for he tacked on two points to leave the Noreside ahead by that dangerous lead of three. One last gasp by Waterford and Seamus Power drove a low ball to

# EAMONN YO SOME GOLD QUARTER-A

the square; somebody got a stick to it and there it was in the back of the net to the dismay of the great Ollie Walsh and two smashing teams that didn't even look tired wound their way to the dressing-rooms and a replay.

The opening quarter of that game in early October showed Kilkenny slipping over the points with stylish precision and Waterford were stuck to the ground and six points down. It was then that slight fair-headed Mick Flannelly on the right wing swept away to connect with a Tom Cheasty ball and whack it to the net. Larry Guinan, Tom Cunningham and John Kiely foraging around the Kilkenny goal, where the Link Walsh stood like a wall in front of Ollie, were like harriers after a hare and it was bound to come. Two Waterford goals by Cunningham and Cheasty set the stands rocking and the men in the white jerseys and blue collars swept through Croke Park that day with a driving power and ferocious spirit that no team could match. It was no fault of the Noreside and their captain Sean Clohessy that Frankie Walsh and his men drove on to an 8-point win (3-12 to 1-10) that day. When the men of Waterford brought home the trophy it was the most popular win until Offaly won the MacCarthy Cup 22 years later.

But the day that amazed us all was that afternoon in the previous July when Johnny Lanigan told us down in the Cork Athletic Grounds that one of these days Tipp would have a full side. He was short three but we all knew the champions of '58 would be too strong.

They threw in the ball and Waterford started like sprinters

# UNG RECALLS EN MEMORIES OF -CENTURY ... AND MORE

coursing and striking the sliotar with a speed that we knew would last ten minutes. It did, and in that ten they got three goals started off by Larry Guinan. Tipp never knew what hit them as ball after ball rained on the Tipp backline and men in white jerseys suddenly appeared everywhere usually not bothering to pick up the ball but hitting it with a ferocity I had never seen before. They seemed to have gone slightly mad as score after score went up on the board and at half time the unbelievable was shown in front of our eyes: Waterford 8-2 Tipp nil.

In the second half Tony Wall, Jimmy Doyle, Theo English, Doney Nealon, Liam Devaney and the rest did what good men could and indeed to win many a game but what was the use. Waterford tacked on a further 1-1 and as a contest the thing was over in the last quarter when we just looked at one another and repeated what every sportsman has learned: when the sliotar is thrown in only the Man above knows what's going to happen. That was the most amazing afternoon I have ever seen. What happened? No one knows. I suppose Waterford went on fire and Tipp thought they were home and dry. The second half of 3-4 to 1-1 was normal hurling but too late for Tipp.

"They're the best team in Ireland and they'll win the championship" said my father who God rest him played All-Ireland football with Cork and followed the game while he lived. About Down he was talking and he had just returned from the '59 Ulster final at Clones where 30,000 saw Down give a 15 point hammering to Cavan. Now they were at Croke

Park to play Galway in the semi-final.

"Dad" I said "they won't do it. No green side wins the All-Ireland the first year in Croke Park."

"Wait and see" he smiled.

They didn't beat Galway that year but looked very well before going under by seven points and to me it was obvious that they would be back. Indeed they were, and in '60 they drew with Offaly in the semi-final and with Peter MacDermott to guide them for the replay they turned in a great hour in Croke Park.

But the big moment of the drawn game came eight minutes from the end where the penalty given to Jim MacCartan became the talking point for many a day. I thought that MacCartan, whose style was



**Christy Ring**

*... an historic save by Wexford's Art Foley robbed the Cork genius of his ninth All-Ireland medal.*

modelled on the tank, was going for the line like a rugby player when half a dozen Offalymen brought him down. Jim himself always maintained that he was pulled right around and was facing outfield when the whistle blew. The penalty was given however and the lethal left boot of that great scorer Paddy Doherty stitched it in the back of the net.

In the replay it was all Offaly in the first half and they led by four points at half time while the full line of John Egan, Paddy MacCormack and Greg Hughes grabbed everything that came to the full back line. In the second half Joe Lennon was very efficient in the midfield and Tony Haddan slipped over the point that Jim MacCartan confirmed with two and then Brian Morgan had the green flag that wrapped it all up and Down were in the All-Ireland against Kerry.

That final with Kerry was a master match where Kerry were down two points at half time but drew level soon after half time. In the last quarter, the never-to-be-forgotten long high ball from Jim MacCartan landed in the Kerry goalmouth and finished up in the net where Paddy Doherty's penalty also ended soon afterwards. It was all over and for the first time Sam Maguire travelled across the Border.

But it is the following year I wish to write about when Down after beating Kerry in the semi final advanced as champions to play Offaly in the final.

Hard to believe it but in seven minutes Offaly scored two goals and a point. Then Down started, and the like of the football I had never seen.

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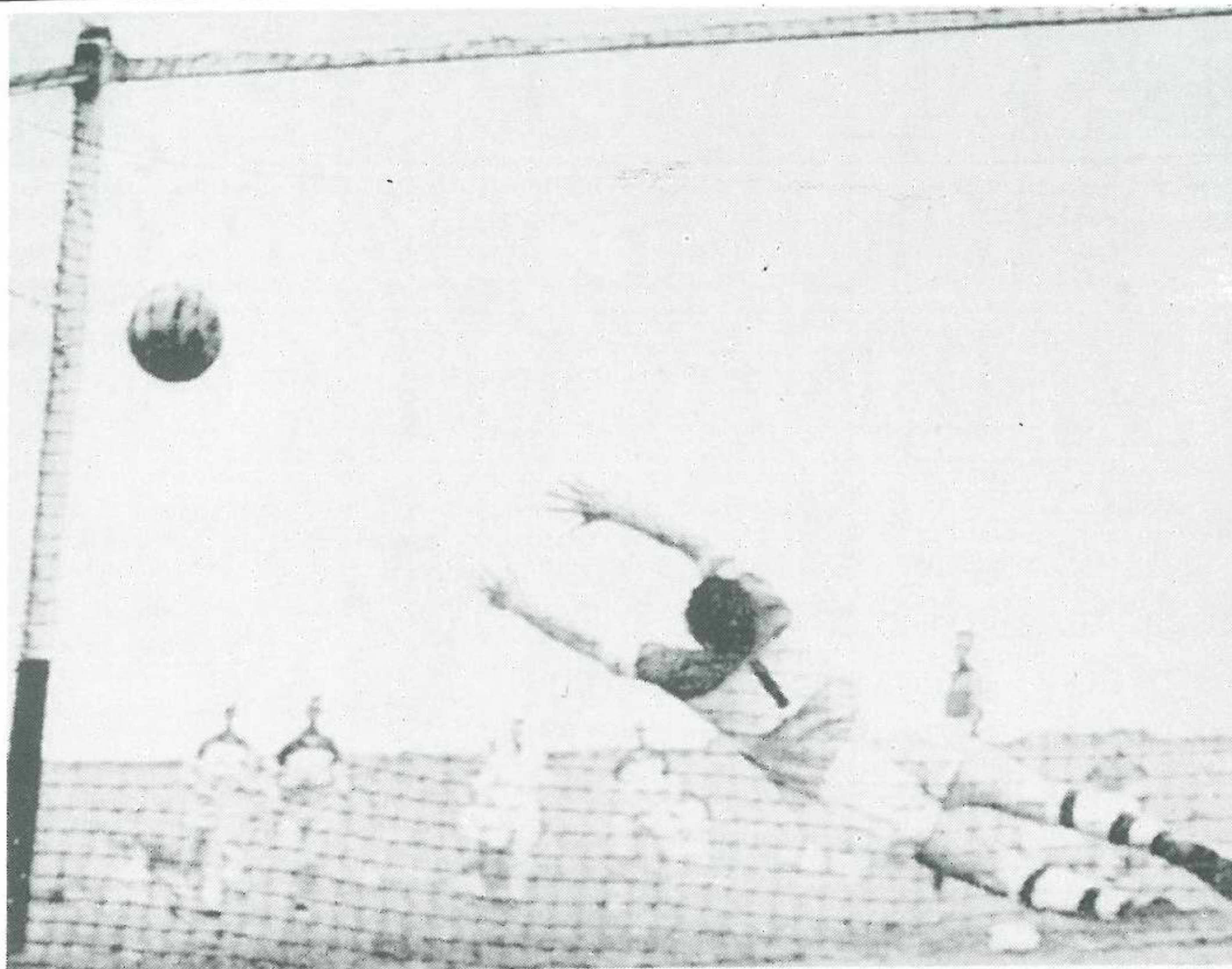
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# A PENALTY THAT'S STILL A TALKING POINT



● **FLASH BACK TO 1960...** Offaly's Willie Nolan makes a despairing effort to stop Paddy Doherty's penalty kick in the All-Ireland Football Semi-Final between Down and Offaly at Croke Park on August 21st, 1960.

## ● FROM PAGE 33

The men in black and red ran, passed, drove and shot like madmen. Jim MacCartan hit a shot that rocketed to the net; a few minutes later Paddy Doherty crossed a ball to Sean O'Neill and he lashed it to the back of the net. Before half time Brian Morgan fastened on another and this time the Offaly goalie never saw it. We couldn't believe it but at half time the side that had given a good side like Offaly seven points up in seven minutes was leading by a goal. They couldn't be caught after that and it finished 3-6 to 2-8 in favour of the North. I don't think I'll ever see again a side that will give first-class opponents seven points up and still have firm feet on the winning trail

before half time.

**But then Down were an extraordinary team.**

But where can a man start and where in the name of goodness can one finish when talking about 25 years of hurling and football?

Every spectator in the country, every player who donned a jersey and every mother who washed one could tell stories that would fill a volume. I can't forget the '56 hurling All-Ireland when my heart filled with pride not because Cork might win but because the way they hurled into that great Wexford team in the first quarter was for me heroic. It remains stronger in my memory than Art Foley's historic save that robbed Christy Ring of his ninth. And what

of the Tipp struggles in '67 when John Doyle was after his historic medal that never came because the Black and Amber said 'No.'

I can't forget that day in '64 when a man who had dropped with a heart attack was taken out below us in the Hogan. We didn't know until after that he had captained Galway footballers in a final and had, several times, suffered at the hands of men who wore the Green and Gold. We didn't know that he had been looking down at his two sons playing a tremendous first quarter and we didn't know that Mick Donnellan had jumped to his feet in the stand

● **TO PAGE 37**

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● FROM PAGE 35

shouting "come on lads we have them at last". God rest him.

I'll never forget the wet day in Killarney when Limerick were going to win it in '71. I was very near the goal sitting on the grass. There was a smart Tipp attack and some hard pulling at left corner just beside me. Babs Keating went down injured and the whistle went. A free to Tipp. Doney Nealon, the coach, ran out on the field and I don't care whether he changed the sliotar or not. I was looking at Keating. The black-haired burly man from Ardfinnan was streaming blood from his left eyebrow that later had seven stitches inserted. Over the ball stood Keating a fierce look on his face that I could see, being so near. Doney rubbed the blood away from the eye with a towel. Firmly Keating pushed him aside and then with the red tide flowing down again raised the sliotar swung the stick well back and stuck it in the back of the net. What a man.

What about the day in Cork when Eamonn Cregan went on fire and scored 3-4 against Tipp in '66? We

knew Cork had a chance then and were reasonably confident that we'd put Clare away and take Limerick now that the big fellas, Tipp, were gone. In Limerick we were being led by a good Clare side and at the end when Cork mounted another attack I was hoping we'd get that goal for Cork were two points down. Then the ref gave Cork a free and I lost my head, for forty yards out as it was on the right, just in front of the stand I knew that a goal was impossible and the clock would beat us. Justin MacCarthy ran over. Carefully he raised it; sadly I watched him. No chance of a goal and the point was useless. He lifted and struck. It wasn't a hard stroke but it went straight. A Clare defender crossed over his own man on the goal-line; the sliotar spun off the stick to the back of the net. Cork beat Limerick in Killarney and against all the odds stopped favourites Kilkenny in the final and Croke Park went delirious. The no-hopers had won!

And Christy Ring had retired from the subs list before the Munster final.

What about the day when Tony

Mac Tague, of the jinking solo-run, faced up to a 50 to the Canal end under the Cusack about five yards from the line. He struck it straight over the bar with his right foot. Five minutes later he took a side-line kick about ten yards from the corner flag at right corner under the Hogan on the other side. This time he hit it with his LEFT foot. He struck the near upright. On the stand we just said nothing. How could one comment on artistic precision?

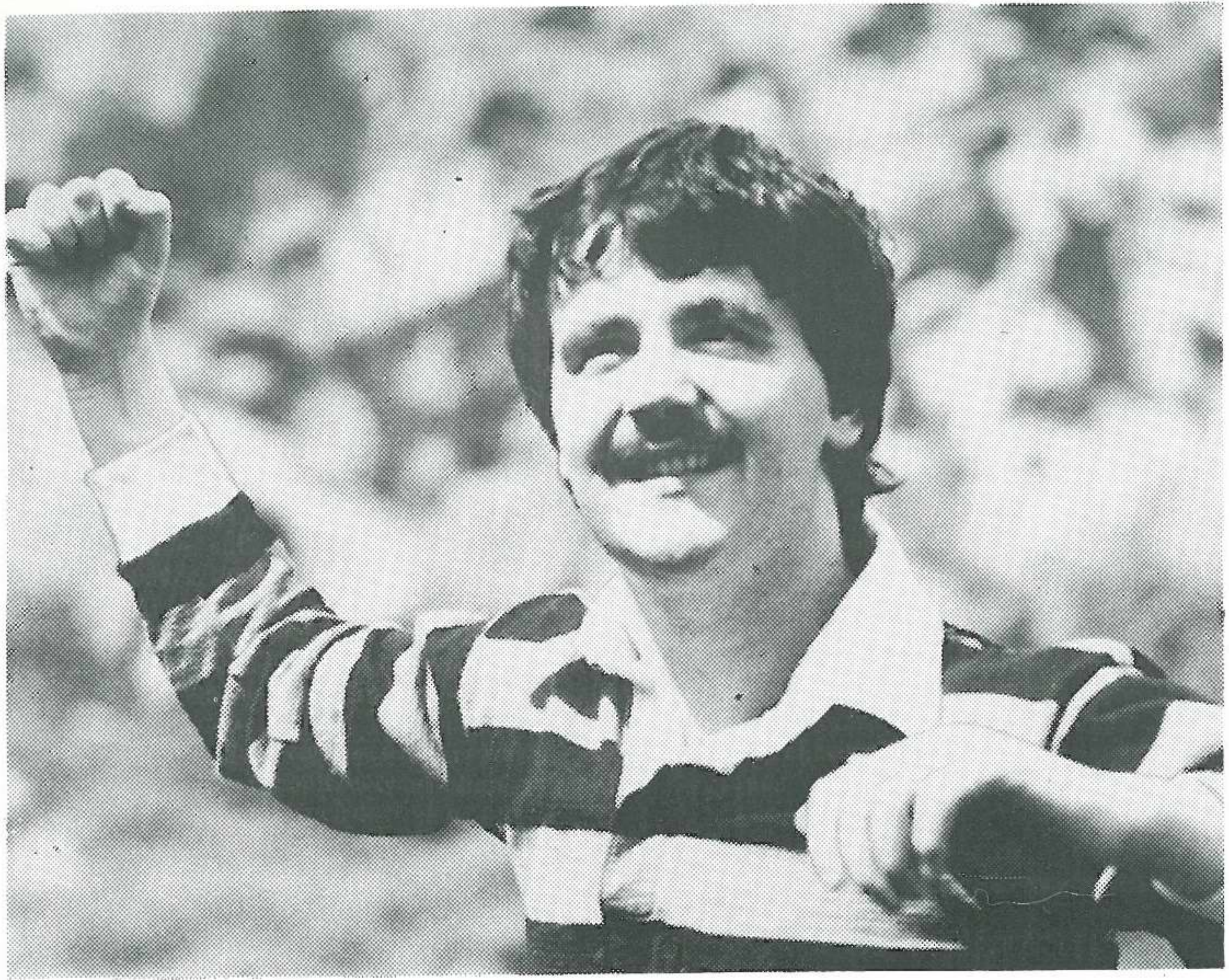
And what about the day when a player from Valentia sat down in the middle of Croke Park in a semi-final and tied the laces of one boot. Then carefully, taking plenty of time he did the same with the other. A good idea one might say; a man should have his boots well tied. But 't isn't everybody can concentrate on that job when the ball is bouncing around him with hardy men trying to get a hold of it. That afternoon we had plenty to say.

So maybe I had better stop now. Don't forget to make notes on the next 25 years for I can't guarantee to be around always to do the work for ye!

## CORK TEAM THAT BROUGHT "SAM" BACK TO THE LEE AFTER 28 YEARS



**CORK, 1973 ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS:** Pictured (from left), Back Row: D. O'Donovan (coach), D. Long, R. Cummins, J.B. Murphy, J. Coleman, D. MacCarthy, D. Barron, N. Kirby, D. Coughlan. Front Row (from left): J. Barrett, C. Hartnett, K.J. O'Sullivan, B. Morgan, F. Cogan, B. Murphy and H. Kelleher.



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# GAME HAS MADE PHENOMENAL PROGRESS IN PAST QUARTER CENTURY

**I**N THE last quarter of a century, handball has made phenomenal progress.

It has transformed itself from the image of the delapidated court with broken wire hanging from the walls to a sophisticated, well organised sport that is the envy of many sporting organisations, today.

Progress may have been slow but it was methodical and in the final analysis it has lasted.

There was no magical formula.

**Dedicated leadership at the highest level, innovation and hard work have provided the game with its modern lofty perch.**

“Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sé” was an adage from which handball administrators never deviated, hence, the introduction of competition at National level for players under 14, 16 and 21 years in the early Sixties was a definite signpost for the sport.

At the same time, the over forty players were drafted back into the competitive bracket and, as a result of these developments, a full competitive structure was now in operation at National level.

The Willwood Sports Foundation was to play a leading role in fanning the flames of youthful endeavour while the Gael-Linn organisation was also prominent in generating enthusiasm amongst the adult players.

The Gael-Linn competition in its old format, is no longer in existence.

But it is interesting to note that, when it was initiated in the 1953/54 season, there was an entry of 160 players, whereas, in the mid-Sixties this had grown to 1,200 participants.

Other factors which contributed to the growth of the game in those earlier years incorporated the introduction of 40 × 20 courts, the National League and inter club championships and grants from the G.A.A. for capital investment.

Another significant feature was the advent of internationalism and the participation of **Joey Maher** and the late **Des Dillon** in the games at the New York Athletic Club in 1964.

Though not successful, the experience acquired by our two players proved to be an invaluable asset for the game at home and the question of fitness, coaching and technique, undertook a new meaning.

## WORLD TITLE

So intent was Maher on becoming an accomplished 40 × 20 player that he emigrated to Toronto in 1965 and achieved a life long ambition when he won the World Title in 1967.

Maher returned to Ireland in 1968 and helped to improve standards by demonstrations and coaching courses in various parts of the country.

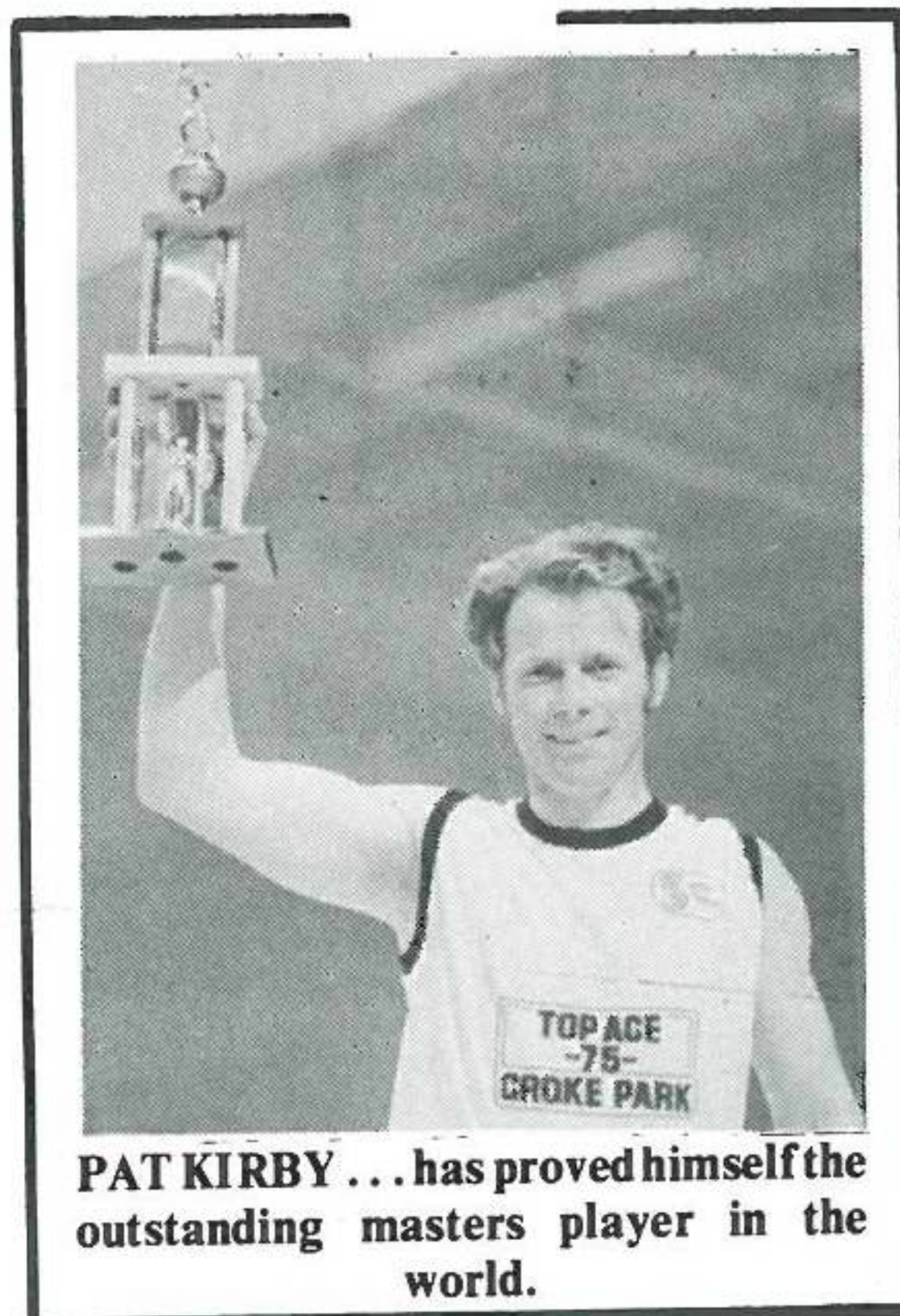
The Seventies, however, must stand out as the most remarkable period of development since the Irish Handball Council was established.

The World Championships in the revolutionary all-glass court at Croke Park gave the game a fantastic boost and re-classified it with a refreshing image.

Other developments added to the new resurgence.

The game was included in the Community Games for the first time in 1971 and this involvement has played a very significant part in the development of Juvenile Handball.

This has now mushroomed to the extent that our young players are participating each year in the USHA Junior Championships and in the younger age groups we have annexed a number of titles.



**PAT KIRBY . . . has proved himself the outstanding masters player in the world.**

● TO PAGE 43

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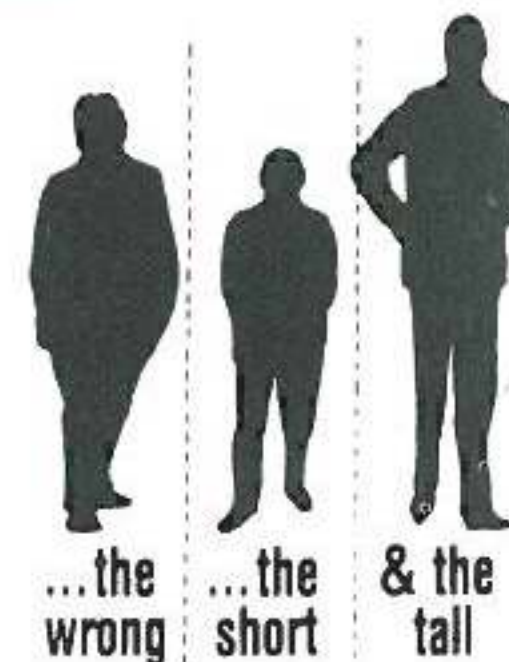
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## IT'S BEEN A THRIVING TWENTY-FIVE YEARS!

**T**HE Camogie Association, happy with its own achievements over the past twenty-five years, is glad to have been associated with GAELIC SPORT who, this month, celebrate their 25th Anniversary.

While congratulating the magazine on its success over the years, camogie followers may well be very grateful for the coverage given to the games and affairs of the Association for many of those twenty-five years in the pages of GAELIC SPORT.

In 1958 there was only one All-Ireland competition which comprised two semi-finals between the winners of the four Provincial Championships and the final. Only three counties had succeeded in winning All-Ireland titles by that year, Dublin 17, Cork 6 and Antrim 4 but many other counties had the satisfaction of being runners-up.

These included Galway, Louth, Down and Derry, all of whom have since attained All-Ireland honours in Junior ranks in that competition, which was inaugurated in 1968. The other counties who reached All-Ireland finals were Waterford (1945) and Tipperary (1949, '53, '58).

The setting up of the Provincial Councils in Colleges competitions was encouraged by Ard-Choiste around this time also and it is the opinion of most that the upsurge of those playing the game has stemmed from the inauguration of Schools' competitions.

The Association celebrated its fiftieth anniversary just four years earlier when to mark the occasion an interprovincial competition was inaugurated. Gael-Linn presented a cup the following year and the

competition has been the source of some fine games in the meantime, with the stars of the four provinces taking part.

Ten years later to mark the sixtieth anniversary year the All-Ireland Club Championship came into being, a very coveted title and it is thus to this day.

Celtic Dublin were the winners in the Jubilee Year while the cup donated the following year has gone to St. Pauls, Kilkenny (5 times), Naomh Padraig, Tipperary (2), Eoghan Ruadh, Dublin (1), Austin Stacks, Dublin (2), Oranmore, Galway (1), Croagh, Kilfinny and Ballyagram, Limerick (1 each), Buffers Alley, Wexford the current holders (3), Killiagh, Cork (1) and Athenry, Galway (1).

The attendances at the finals of this competition has always been good, consequently a moral to an increase

in our All-Ireland finals attendance must be hidden there somewhere.

In 1968, Ard-Choiste set up an All-Ireland Primary Schools Council and immediately All-Ireland Senior and Junior Competitions were inaugurated.

These competitions have gone from strength to strength although I find it hard to accept how a school which attained the highest honour, an All-Ireland title for the school, can allow the game to be lost. Let's hope that those who no longer promote the game will return to the fold.

In these times it takes a lot of hard work and dedication to keep pace with all that is available to the students but the national game of camogie should not be neglected.

In 1972 Ard-Choiste came to the fore once again and initiated the Higher Institutes Council and incorporated into this Council the Ashbourne Intervarsity Competition which was inaugurated fifty-seven years previously (in 1915). This Council now organises five competitions, the Ashbourne Cup (Universities), the Purcell Cup (Colleges), the League (for both universities and colleges) to Freshers Competition (a one day 7-a-side) and a Combined Match (Universities v Colleges). Bridín Uí Mhaolagáin presented a magnificent cup for this annual match while she was President.

In 1974 the Minor All-Ireland Championship was inaugurated and Down became the first winners. Since then this competition has become part of the Willwood Tailteann Festival and each year gold and silver



• JO GOLDEN . . . A trojan worker for camogie over the years.

• TO PAGE 43

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CONTINUED SUCCESS IN  
THE YEARS AHEAD

# CAMOGIE

• FROM PAGE 41

medals bearing the image of Queen Failte are presented to the winners and runners-up.

1975 was the end of an era when Sighle Nic Anultaigh, who had been the Association's Secretary, a position she took on after serving four years as Uachtarán, for twenty-one years, retired. Sighle has seen all this advancement already referred to during her term of office and the Association is much indebted to her for her foresight and dedication.

Coaching became a part of the Association's programme in the 'seventies. The National Coaches, Mary Moran and Anne Carroll, came up with a three year plan.

Coaches are now available to clubs and schools, they have Grade C qualifications, a number of Grade B coaches, who are deemed to have the qualifications to coach intercounty teams, are also available.

Two more top coaches in Grade A, Rosina McManus and Paddy Maher, have come up to help the National Coaches.

Anne Carroll and Mary Moran have published a Coaching Book which has proved most beneficial and Mary has recently published a follow-up, which deals with improving skills.



• MARY MORAN . . . her recent publication deals with improving skills.

The inauguration of the Senior National League in 1977 gave the weaker counties an opportunity to gain experience from their games with top teams.

Tipperary (1), Wexford (1), Dublin (2) and Kilkenny (2), have been victorious in this competition for which A.I.B. presented a silver cup and each year donate beautiful Connemara Marble plaques for the winners.

In 1980 the Junior National League was introduced and this has had a tremendous effect on the promotion of the game in the weaker counties.

The greatest of all advancements for the association was their acceptance by the Department of Education to provide a Development Officer for camogie. In 1980, Seosaimhín Nic Uaildrich, who had been Honorary General Secretary since the retirement of Sighle NicAnultaigh, became the association's first full-time officer and was given an office in Páirc an Chrócaigh by Cumann Lúthcleas Gael.

The effect of this step soon began to show and much progress was made in the following two years.

A development plan drawn up by Miss Golden has been implemented or partly implemented with good results in many counties. The setting up of a headquarters for camogie at Croke Park has proved most beneficial.

This plan is being followed up by Séamus Mac Giolla Fhinnéin since he succeeded Miss Golden as Development Officer when she completed her two years leave of absence from the teaching profession last September.

It's been a triving twenty-five years both for camogie and the magazine and let's hope that GAELIC SPORT will continue to flourish and that camogie will be part of their continuing success story.

# HANDBALL

• FROM PAGE 39

## A MASTER

Internationalism in modern terms reminds us of Pat Kirby, who won that eventful World Championship in 1970, spent a number of years back in Ireland and then returned to Tusan, where he has proved himself the outstanding masters player in the world. In that context also it is important to note that the World Championships Doubles title in the 60 x 30 court is held by Richie Lyng and Seámus Buggy of Wexford.

In 1973, the RTE Top Ace competition was shown for the first time on Irish television and that trend has been continued in the

intervening years.

The year 1974 was a significant one for the Irish Handball Council which celebrated its Golden Jubilee.

There was also the introduction of the National Coaching Courses, the production of coaching charts for schools and the initiation of the 40 x 20 championships in singles and doubles.

Each passing year brings its own innovation into the ever expanding role of handball.

At this point there is great expectancy about another World Championship which will be held in this country next year to celebrate the Centenary Year of the G.A.A. It will have its own speciality in so far as it is likely to embrace a ladies division as well.

The input of the girls into the handball story for the last decade has been considerable and helped in no small way to improve and promote the game.

It is also a compliment to GAELIC SPORT that it has kept abreast of handball activities in that time, and played its own role with suggestions and criticisms that would benefit the game.

Congratulations are in order to everybody who has helped in the resurgence of handball and long may we have a policy of a handball court for every town and village. A handball court as the mecca for the members of a G.A.A. club, and a handball court as the ideal social centre for all sections of a community.

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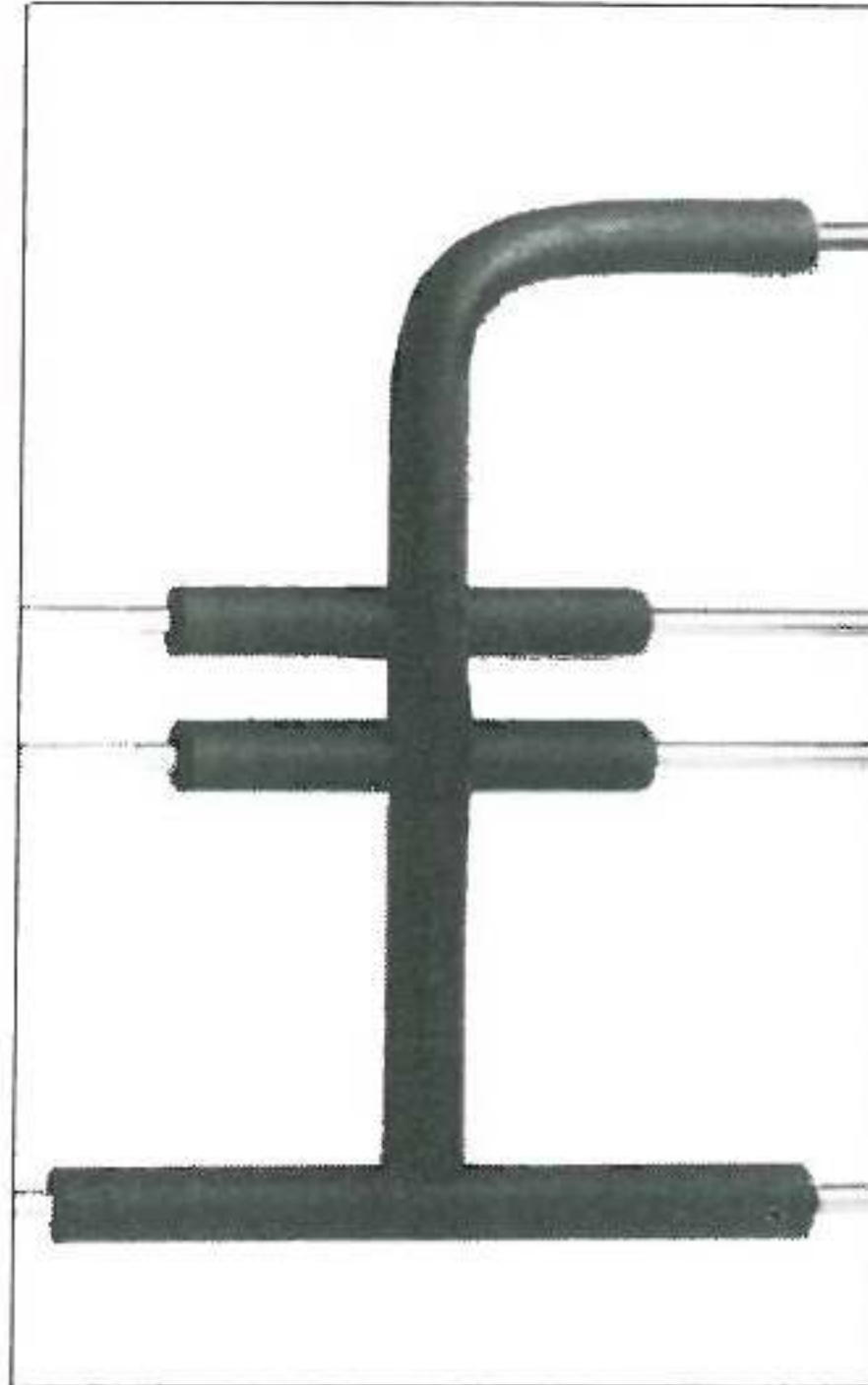
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# QUIZ TIME

# 25

BY FRANK COOGAN

**M**EMORIES . . . memories of great games, great players, outstanding events . . . how they come crowding back down through the years on an occasion such as this, the 25th Anniversary Edition of GAE LIC SPORT.

The magazine has mirrored some of the most momentous days in the history of Gaelic Games and the G.A.A. . . . days that saw Down bring the Sam Maguire Cup across the Border for the first time, the launching of the All-Stars awards, the scrapping of the Ban Rule, the success story that was the Dubs in the 'Seventies, and the hurling breakthroughs by Galway and Offaly in the 'Eighties, as well as the near five-in-a-row record achievement by Kerry that only failed to a last gasp Offaly goal last September.

Yes, much has happened in the past quarter of a century since GAE LIC SPORT first made its appearance. We all have our own special memories, of course, but to mark this special time in the life of the publication, I have come up with a quiz based on happenings in certain years since GAE LIC SPORT arrived to brighten the Gaelic Games scene no end.

The quiz is divided into three separate sections, starting with a ten question parade focusing events in the year GAE LIC SPORT made its debut — 1958. This section will probably tax the memories of most; or perhaps it will not as that was a year of some extra special events that may well loom large in the memories of many observers of the scene.

At any rate, here we get under way with our section headed:

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

1. Dublin won the All-Ireland senior football final in 1958. Who

were runners-up for the championship that year?.....

2. Galway lost the All-Ireland senior hurling decider. What county brought home the Liam McCarthy Cup in triumph?.....

3. What distinction was shared by Kevin Heffernan and Tony Wall in 1958?.....

4. A really difficult one now, and as a result a five points bonus, but only if the question is answered correctly and fully. The Caltex, now Texaco, awards were introduced in 1958. Who were the first winners in hurling and football?.....

5. Mick Cashman (Cork) and Aidan Brady (Roscommon) were goalkeepers in important title winning teams. What were the respective finals in which the players in question won their medals?.....

6. In the summer of 1958 a new name went on the Roll of Honour following one of the provincial senior finals. What county made history with a first senior crown?.....

7. The captain of the All-Ireland minor football title winning team led his county some years later to the Sam Maguire Cup. Name the footballer concerned.....

8. Kerry sustained a sensational defeat in the senior Championship. At what stage of the competition were they knocked out, and who were their conquerors?.....

9. Denis Heaslip was a leading marksman in senior inter-county hurling when GAE LIC SPORT appeared on the newstands for the first time. What was his county team?.....

10. Limerick, captained by Paddy Cobbe, bridged a long gap with a first

All-Ireland title win in this grade in 18 years, beating Galway in the final. In what grade was that success carved out?.....

Ten points for each question answered correctly, plus that five points bonus for No. 4, making a grand total of 105 points. YOUR RETURN .....

Now we move on ten years to:

## FIFTEEN YEARS AGO

1. Ulster football was in the ascendency in 1968, when the province made a clean sweep on all the major national titles, starting with the Railway Cup. Name the winners from the North of the National League and All-Ireland senior titles .....

2. Wexford, too, had much to celebrate following a great All-Ireland senior hurling final win over Tipperary. Who captained the Slaneysiders to that glory day?.....

3. What was unique about the first All-Ireland senior football semi-final of 1968?.....

4. Who won the Connacht senior football title that season?.....



5. Who are the personalities pictured here who were among the stars of the campaign of fifteen years ago?.....

6. Tony Brennan helped himself to many fine scores in senior inter-county football during that particular campaign. What county team did he assist?.....

7. Who was at full forward in the Munster team that won the Railway Cup in hurling — Micahel Keating (Tipperary), Charlie Cullinane (Cork) or Eamonn Cregan (Limerick)?.....

• TO PAGE 47

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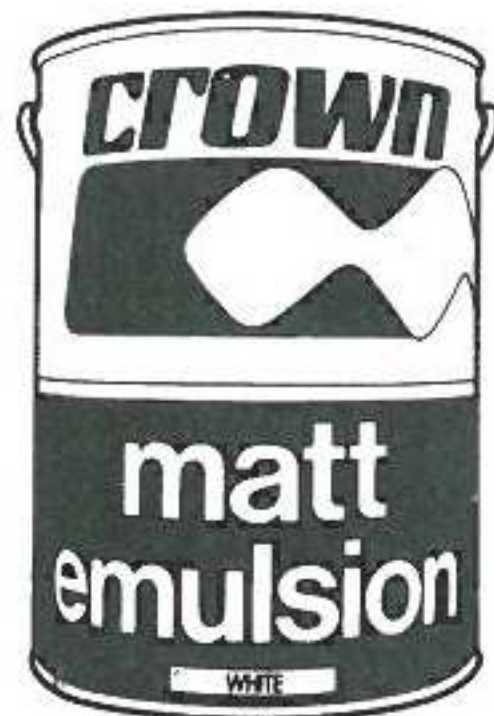
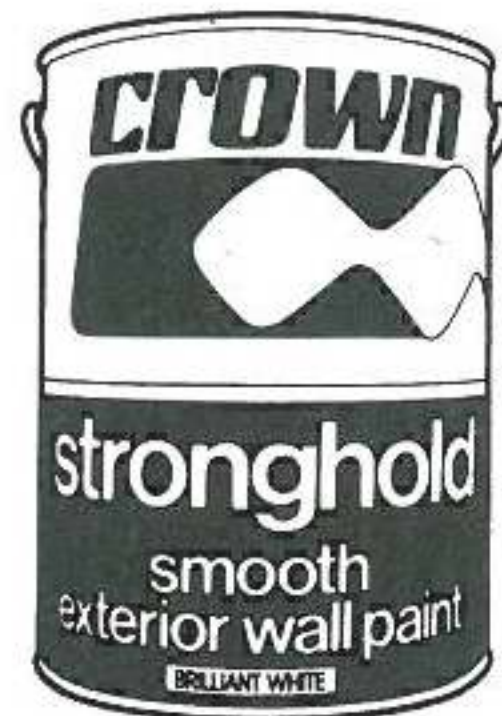
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● FROM PAGE 45

8. Sligo made a rare All-Ireland championship final appearance in 1968, losing to Cork. Was that outing at minor or junior football? .....

9. A new name went on the All-Ireland senior camogie title winners list. The history-makers were Kilkenny, Wexford or Antrim. Your selection? .....

10. Who captained the All-Ireland senior football title winning team? .....

Once again ten points a question, but no bonus question in this section. Thus, the maximum score possible is 100 points. YOUR SCORE .....

Finally, we come to what looks like the least demanding part of the Quiz in that happenings featured took place in a comparatively recent campaign, one coming up to the end of the 'Seventies. This section deals with events just.

**FIVE YEARS AGO**

1. Cork completed a treble of All-Ireland senior hurling title wins in 1978. That was the first such run of three senior titles in succession in hurling by any county since what year? .....

2. Who were the Carrolls All-Stars awards winners in goal in hurling and football? .....

3. Who refereed the 1978 All-Ireland senior hurling final—Jimmy Rankin (Laois), Noel O'Donoghue (Dublin) or Noel Dalton (Waterford)? .....

4. How many goals did Kerry score in their Sam Maguire Cup win over the then defending champions Dublin in the final? .....



5. Who are the players pictured below, and what were their club sides? .....

6. Name the All-Ireland senior title winning team captains of the 1978 campaigns .....

7. Cavan made their last appearance in an Ulster senior final in the year under review — and lost. Who beat the Breffni County? .....

8. A footballer now generally rated as one of the greatest midfielders of any era, went into a Railway Cup final winning team as a substitute for the second successive year. Who is he? .....

9. Only one of this trio won a Railway Cup medal in 1978 — John Nolan (Wexford). Noel Skehan (Kilkenny) or Seamus Durack

(Clare). Once again, we ask, 'Your Choice'? .....

10. Who ended Roscommon's hopes in the senior football title race? .....

To end we mark this section 60 points — that's five points for each question answered correctly, plus a ten points bonus for an all correct card over the ten question section. YOUR FINAL POINTS .....

**HOW DID YOU MEASURE UP?**

Total marks on offer for the quiz: 265. A score of 220-plus is excellent. Take a bow! 180 to 220 shows that you also are very well up on happenings in Gaelic Games over the past quarter of a century. 130 to 180 qualifies for a good rating.

**ANSWERS**

(Printed in reverse to avoid distraction)

1. Down won the National League and also the All-Ireland senior championships, beating Kildare and Kerry respectively. 2. Dan Quigley led Wexford from centre half back. 3. Longford made their debut at that stage of the championship, and put up a great show when losing to Kerry by 2-11 to 2-13. 4. Galway, who had a

**FIFTEEN YEARS AGO**

1. Cork's treble in the 'Seventies was the first — and also the only one by any county — since the Leasiders' took three All-Ireland senior titles in succession in 1952, 1953 and 1954. 2. Seamus Durack (Clare) and Ollie Crinnigan (Kildare). 3. Jimmy Rankin, of Laois. 4. Kerry hit five goals, plus 11 points to Dublin's 0-9. 5. Pat Moylan (Blackrock, Cork), Robbie Kelleher, (Scoil Uí Chonail, Dublin). 6. Charlie McCarthy (Cork) and Denis 'Ogie' Moran (Kerry). 7. Down, who won by 2-19 to 2-12. 8. Jack O'Shea (Kerry). 9. Seamus Durack (Clare). 10. Roscommon lost Ireland semi-final.

**TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO**

**FIVE YEARS AGO**

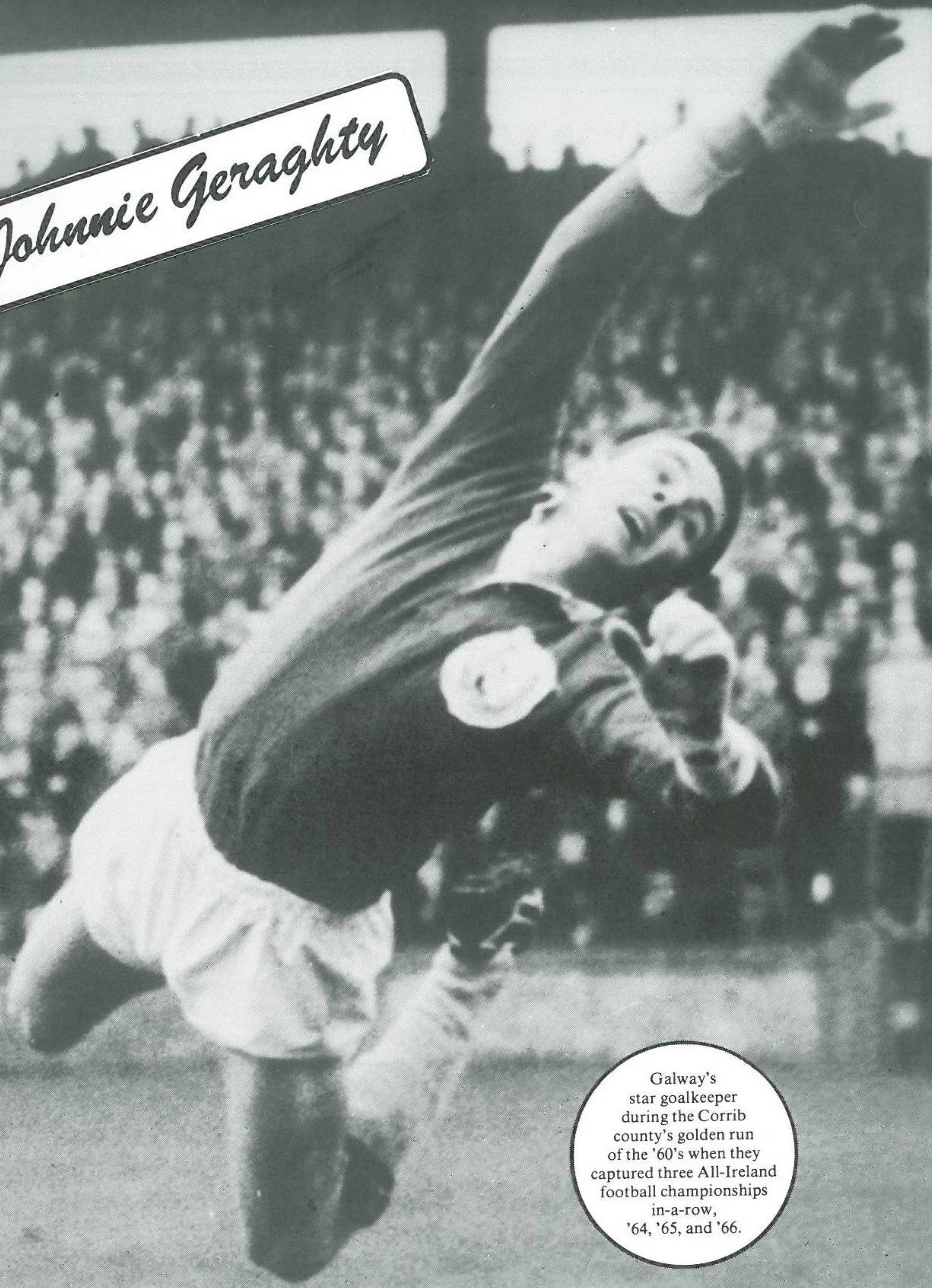
1. Derry, who lost by 1-9 to 2-12. 2. Tipperary, winners by 4-9 to 2-5. 3. Kevin Heffernan and Tony Wall were All-Ireland senior title winning captains. 4. Tony Wall and Jim McKeever (Derry). 5. Cashman and Brady were in the Munster hurling and Connacht football teams respectively that won the Railway Cups. 6. Derry won their first Ulster senior football title, beating Down 1-11 to 2-4. 7. Des Foley (Dublin). 8. Kerry lost to Derry by 2-6 to 2-5 in the All-Ireland semi-final. 9. Kilkenny. 10. All-Ireland minor hurling.



*Paddy  
Doherty*

*The Down team of '60 and '61 was a star laden one. Men like Jim McCartan, Sean O'Neill, Joe Lennon etc. But one man stood out in even such exalted company. The quiet, unassuming genius pictured here.*

*Johnnie Geraghty*



Galway's star goalkeeper during the Corrib county's golden run of the '60's when they captured three All-Ireland football championships in-a-row, '64, '65, and '66.

CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL

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# TRIBUTE TO THE GAELIC SCHOOLS

By PAT FANNING, President, 1970-1973

IT IS an honour to be invited to identify with the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of Gaelic Sport.

Here is a magazine which, over the past twenty five years, has made its own distinctive and valuable contribution to G.A.A. thinking and planning, through a period of challenge, opportunity and development.

My congratulations to Gaelic Sport Editor, Tommy McQuaid, whose constancy has ensured the magazine's deserved survival through difficulties and tribulations that would have daunted a lesser man.

The past twenty five years have been among the most challenging in the history of the Association. However, in the spirit and tradition of a G.A.A. founded to promote the national games, and, through the games, to restore a people's pride in themselves, every challenge was met, every crisis overcome, as the Association worked to serve its ideals and pursue its objectives in constantly changing times.

Indeed, it may be claimed that, never more than in the past twenty five years, has the G.A.A.'s willingness and

capacity to adapt to a changing situation been so convincingly demonstrated. And, adaptation has been achieved without sacrifice of principle.

In what is essentially a message of goodwill and congratulation to the Editor it is not part of my brief to hold forth on the course of our G.A.A. on the eve of the Centenary. A reading of Liam Mulvihill's report to the recent Congress in Galway provides a telling and compelling commentary on the G.A.A., in our time.

I would wish, however, to make brief reference, by way of tribute, to those schools and colleges from Primary to third level, who play Gaelic Games and to the teachers who maintain a proud tradition in difficult and trying times. They are the source of our strength and they will produce the leaders who will fashion our G.A.A. of the twenty first century.

What a pity and shame, though, that in 1983 there are schools that continue to exclude our Games, or at best, "tolerate" Gaelic games and consign them to a secondary role in the school

curriculum.

There was a time when some of these establishments protested that were it not for Rule 27 — the so-called "Ban" rule — they would gladly embrace Gaelic games. They would be delighted to return to the fold!

For those within our Association, who were misled by such protestations, it was a salutary, if bitter, lesson in the harsh reality of life.

All of which serves to emphasise our indebtedness to the Gaelic games playing schools and the teachers who man them. Their loyalty is the sure guarantee for the secure future of our G.A.A.

Gaelic Sport, in its own effective way, has contributed to the strengthening of the G.A.A. tradition and I pay particular tribute to the Jack Mahon column, which pioneered the vital task of giving young readers a forum of expression in G.A.A. affairs as they affected and concerned young people.

Traoslúim arís le "Gaelic Sport" ar an ócáid stáiriúl seo.

# RUGBY SCHOOLS URGED TO PROMOTE HURLING

It is a pleasure to be asked to write some thoughts and reminiscences for 'GAELIC SPORT' as it celebrates twenty-five years of continuous production. G.A.A. periodicals have not been noted for longevity which is not so much a reflection on their quality as the result of apathy on the part of supporters. 'GAELIC SPORT' is unique in having maintained a regular readership over a quarter of a century due to the persistence and commitment of Tommy McQuaid and a small group of contributors. Issue after issue it appears consistently reflecting the mood of the Association in editorial comment and in special articles. Its readers come from all age groups and I have been particularly impressed by the way school-goers are attracted to Jack Mahon's columns and the coloured photographs of prominent players.

In a short article one could not deal with all the trends and changes which have taken place in the Association since the first issue appeared. Some survivals and some new arrivals in the area of policy have tended to strengthen the general body to meet the needs of a new age. On the other hand there have been difficulties and instances of decline as for instance in the falling popularity of the Railway Cup games. It is argued that T.V. coverage has been responsible but there are other factors. When the inter-provincial games were attracting huge attendances crowds were travelling on special excursion trains to celebrate the National Festival in Croke Park. Now-a-days every town has its own spectacular events on St. Patrick's Day. And there is not the same strong feeling of attachment to the province as there is in the case of county loyalty.

Hurling has gained in popularity

over the period although not to the extent hoped for when the Coiste Iomana Scheme was launched during the presidency of Alf Murray. Encouraging advances have been made and continue to be made but like many worthwhile initiatives support has not been consistent throughout the thirty-two counties. In recent years Feile na nGael and the Christy Ring School of Hurling have added to the splendid work carried on in the schools and colleges in promoting hurling. A great disappointment however has been the failure of the large rugby-playing schools to foster our national game apart from some exceptions such as Cistercian College, Roscrea.

The removal of the ban, which was said to have been an obstacle has not brought any change. In particular I had hoped to see Blackrock College making a revival rather than starting out anew because they had fielded great teams in the 1930's. I recall playing challenge matches against them and later being on the losing side to them in the Leinster senior semi-final in 1935, a championship which Blackrock won. One would dearly wish to see those colleges fielding hurling teams in the centenary year and taking part in the celebrations.

When Sean McGettigan of Antrim moved a motion at Congress in 1969 that a commission be set up to examine all aspects of the Association it created no great stir. But the commission which was appointed with Muiris de Prionbhiol as secretary, brought in a comprehensive and detailed report with far-reaching and important recommendations under various headings designed to up-date the organisation and bring it into line with modern needs. About the same time the Club Development Scheme

was launched which led to widespread development in grounds and social centres bringing a new face to the Association's image and emphasizing its role in the community.

Clubs were assisted by low interest loans but the scheme suffered in that the initial drive to secure investments was not maintained and consequently more help could not be given to deserving clubs. However, it can be said that over the past fifteen years remarkable progress has been made and well-appointed club grounds with well-equipped dressing rooms are now the norm. It cannot be said that spectator needs have received the same attention. There is an obvious need for some covered accommodation which could be erected at low cost.

## SUCCESS

Another initiative which came from what is known as 'the grass roots' was the introduction of Scor. Begun in North Cork on a trial basis, under the leadership of Derry Gowen, it was adopted by Congress to be run on a national basis and has proved to be one of the major successes of the Association in the cultural area. It was inevitable that some special arrangement should be made for the younger age group and Scor na nÓg was set up to meet their needs. Where the Scor events are promoted and efficiently organised they give excellent entertainment and bring joy to large numbers of people. It may be said to their credit that they have helped to promote Irish music and dancing and have been largely responsible for reviving an interest in set dances.

One of the most exciting experiences for me during my term as President was meeting and debating with many interesting people at the Leadership courses which were

## By Seamus O Riain President, 1967-1970

started in the mid-sixties and continued into the early seventies. The leading officials were brought into contact with people, most of whom were working at club level and the two-way exchanges were stimulating and mutually beneficial. Young people got an understanding of the thinking of those in official positions who in turn learned about the problems confronting the clubs. It is remarkable how many of those who attended the courses, some of whom came out of mere curiosity, became committed workers in club and county as a result. It appears that meetings organised on the general lines of the Leadership courses could with benefit be revived, perhaps on a modified scale.

The various plans for improving organisation and administration and for encouraging clubs to provide proper amenities are geared to improving the quality of the games and making them more attractive to players and the general public. There is much talk in recent years about the need for a 'closed season,' and problems connected with 'dual players.' If a really logical attitude were brought to bear on these questions hurling would be confined to what might be called the good weather months and football to the winter period which as far as I know is the time when other football codes are played all over the world. But these matters will not be decided logically. There is too much diversity: quite a number of clubs cater for only one game; hurling. Clubs play hurling all year round because there is a demand from the players and in like fashion footballers want to play football; schools and colleges games must be played between October and April whether in hurling or football. Even the short closed season of two months for inter-county matches is not observed by clubs and county committees, but if players are pressing for games that is a healthy



sign and the demand cannot be ignored.

Over twenty-five years there is a lot to remember with pride. When Wexford hurlers returned to prominence in the early fifties they were admired on all sides. Few could have foreseen then that once they had reached the summit they were to remain permanently as one of the leading contenders for the All-Ireland crown and add a new and exciting dimension to the hurling scene. The success of Galway and Offaly in recent years brings to eight the number of counties which have shared the All-Ireland title over the period and at the moment the championship is more open and exciting than it has been for years. Strangely enough only seven counties have shared the football titles over the same quarter of a century. New champions, Down and Offaly, brought freshness and variety to the game and the extra enthusiasm that goes with a first success.

Trips to Britain and the United States are now commonplace and while clubs can find teams to test their mettle in either hurling or football the challenge to representative sides from Ireland has weakened in spite of the splendid efforts made by exiles in

promoting the games.

International competition and tours abroad have done much to popularise and boost other sports and many hold the view that the G.A.A. must follow up energetically the contacts made with the Australian code. When Ron Barassi's Galahs arrived here in 1967 their magnificent displays won the admiration of the thousands who flocked to see them. New vistas were opened and it was said that a new era was dawning. Meath made their historic tour to the Southern Hemisphere to be followed later by Kerry. Problems of time, distance and expense intervened, apart from the difficulty of wedding the two codes. But a fresh start is now being made with much greater prospects of success.

By and large the twenty-five years produced much excitement and some significant developments. 'GAELIC SPORT' was close to the action with report and commentary and its files remain as a valuable record of the Gaelic scene for those years. In offering my congratulations to the Editor on the Silver Anniversary of the magazine I also extend my best wishes for continued success in the new century of the Association.



**Our picture shows former Taoiseach, Jack Lynch demonstrating the skills of hurling to King Baudouin of Belgium, at Arus an Uachtarain, in May, 1968, during the Monarch's visit to Ireland. We wonder did King Baudouin realise that his tuition was been given by the holder of five All-Ireland hurling medals — plus an All-Ireland football medal.**



# THE GREAT RAY

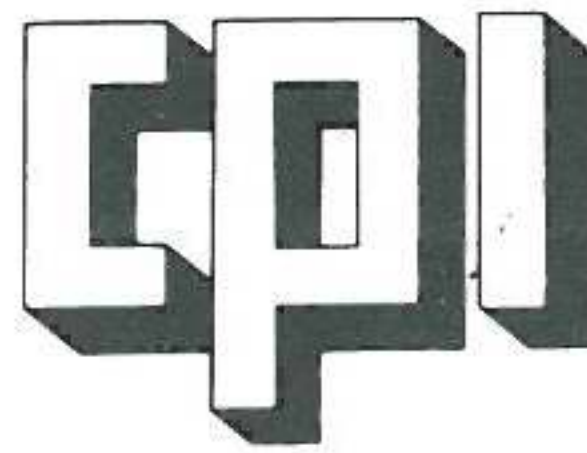
ON a special occasion like this, one tends to look back over the years, trying to recall outstanding games, players, incidents that stir the mind. In twenty-five years such moments have been many. Great names in football like O'Neill, O'Connell, the Quinns, the Donnellans and in hurling one singles out the magic of Ring, the velvet touch of Jimmy Doyle, Clare maestro Jimmy Smith. One could go on. But all these were outstanding at their chosen game. Given to few is the ability to excel at both codes. Such a man was Ray Cummins. That gaunt figure, whose virtuosity could thrill and delight, whose deft distribution could split defences wide open. At Ennis Road, Semple Stadium, Croke Park — no matter the venue, the genius of Cummins always shone through. The big man has called it a day. We shall miss him.



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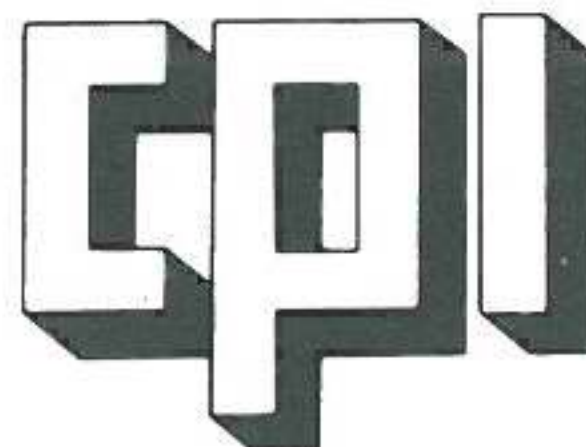
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I láthair na huairé tá sprioc ag na daltaí seo le baint amach. Ach nuair atá na scrúdaithe críochnaithe acu agus iad réidh le aghaidh a thabhairt ar an saol mór, ar bhfiú an staidéar agus an obair ar fad? An mbeidh deis acu an t-eolas agus a gcumas a chur chun tairbhe? Go tráthúil, féadfaidh Údarás na Gaeltachta an deis sin a sholáthair agus imhsaoil a chruthú ina mbeidh siad in ann páirt fhiúntach a ghlacadh i saol tráchtála agus sóisialta na Gaeltachta.

Tri na Gaeltachtaí i nDún na nGall, Maigh Eo, Gaillimh, Clarraí, Corcaigh, Port Láirge agus an Mhí a chur go hionsaitheach i láthair tionscói sa mbaile agus thar lear, tá ag éirí le Údarás na Gaeltachta fostaíocht a chur ar fáil do dhá blianta atá

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Trí na obair bhaile a dhéanamh, d'éirigh leis an Údarás deiseanna a aithint, conarthaí a phié ag na leibhéil ab'airde agus griosaithe fiúntacha a thaincint do na tionscail chearta. An toradh ar sin ná réidh-ghluaiseacht i dtreo sprioc an Údarás - lan-fhostaíocht sna ceantair Chaeiltachta, le fostaíocht lanaimseartha do 4,560 duine bainte amach cheana féin.

Mar sin nuair a chuireann daltaí na Gaeltachta a gcóip-leabhair agus a bpinn i leataobh don oíche, tig leo codladh go sámh - tá daoine eile i mbun a n-obair bhaile.

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# JUNIOR DESK



EDITED  
BY  
JACK  
MAHON

**T**HIS month's Cut-Out is Wexford all-rounder George O'Connor, who created such a good impression of himself in the Superstar Competition on R.T.E. George is a great hurler and we expect big things of himself and Wexford in '83.

## MY CENTENARY CONTRIBUTION

In July I am launching a book myself which will be my own contribution to the G.A.A.'s Centenary. I have not decided on the title at the time of writing but there will be five chapters in the book, many photos of teams and two of the chapters will be concerned with the spirit of St. Jarlath's College, Tuam and "The Connacht Final".

The latter chapter will bring such immortal names as Kenny, Nestor, O'Sullivan, Carney, Purcell, Boland, O'Malley, Morley, McDonagh, Earley, all together in the story of the Connacht Final. I'll mention it again in the next issue. There will be 164 pages in all, no ads, and a host of photos old and new.

## YEARBOOKS

**Down Yearbook '82** (Price £3 incl. postage) is big and bulky. Has 170 pages. I love the information section at the back — records for '82 (at all levels including Scór), the Scoreboard in all championship grades, the S.F.C. tables in all five divisions (every team had a minimum 18 games), Committees go leor.

I often think Down is one of the best organised of all G.A.A.

counties. I liked the Diary section entitled "As the Months Went By", well shown off with many appropriate photos. As usual an excellent production.

**Kilkenny G.A.A. Yearbook '82** is great value for £1 (not incl. postage). I'm grateful to that great and obliging Gael Thomas Ryall for sending it on to me. Their 1982 Scoresheet is also impressive and the full colour photos of Shamrocks (Ballyhab) James Stephens and the Kilkenny senior team.

The "Test Your Knowledge" Quiz is very good and quite difficult. Also Tom Ryall's own contribution on Kilkenny's great hurling families from the Doyles and the Graces down to the Fennellys of today.

## THE MAILBAG

**Aidan Grennan, Ballina, Ballycumber, Co. Offaly**, thinks Galway or Kerry will be Offaly's danger in 1983. "Everyone underestimated Galway in '82".

Aidan is a keen programme collector and wants the 1971 and '72 All-Ireland S.F. Final and the 1969 Leinster S.H. Final programmes. He will pay for said programmes.

● *Let me know how you get on Aidan. I may be able to help you myself if readers can't oblige - J.M.*

**Richard Nolan, Campile Garda Station, New Ross, Co. Wexford**, would like to swap the following issues of **Gaelic Sport** March '73, Jan. '64, Nov. '63 and June '63 for any issues of **Gaelic Sport** of '66, '67 '68 and '69.

● *Over to you readers - J.M.*

**Patrick Lee, 24 Crossclered Row, Keady, Co. Armagh**, wants Our Games Annuals from 1969-'70 inclusive. Also Sligo Co. Final programmes.

● *Patrick like Aidan above, let me know how you get on as I may be able to help you from a collection I received recently - J.M.*

**Tim Murphy, E.S.B., Rathmore, Co. Kerry**, one of our most loyal contributors longs for a return of the old-style football. He asks readers the following two questions:

(1) Who has the greatest number of All Star Awards — Eddie Keher or Pat Hartigan?

(2) A Bishop won an All-Ireland medal at senior level. It was not Bishop Casey! Who was it?

● *Readers are asked to send on their replies to Tim enclosing a stamped return addressed envelope. Tim believes we should have a Quiz in Junior Desk every month.*

**Dermot McCarthy, Carbery, 20 Fairfield Rd., Bath, England, B.A.1 6J.G.**, wants the following G.A.A. programmes. He will of course pay for same.

All-Ireland S.F.C. finals 1945 and '57.

All-Ireland S.H.C. finals 1939, '42, '43, '44, '46, '52 and '54.

All-Ireland S.F.C. semi-finals 1956 Cork v. Kildare; 1957 Cork v. Galway; 1966 Cork v. Galway; 1967 Cork v. Cavan; 1971 Cork v. Offaly; 1974 Cork v. Dublin.

● *It has been my great pleasure to*

● **TO PAGE 59**

CUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL

# COMHAIRLE LAIGHEAN

Congratulate

**GAELIC SPORT**

**on it's 25th Anniversary and wish the  
magazine continued success in the  
years ahead.**

CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL

# COMHAIRLE CONNACHT

1983 SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP — ALL GAMES START AT 3.30 p.m.

## FIXTURES

June 5th at Ruislip: Sligo v London: Ref: S. Mullaney (Roscommon)

June 12th at Castlebar: Mayo v Roscommon: Ref: T. Moran (Leitrim)

June 26th at Carrick-on-Shannon: Leitrim v Galway: Ref: M. Kearins (Sligo)

July 3rd at Sligo: Mayo or Roscommon v London or Sligo: Ref: P. Egan (Leitrim) or P.J. McGrath (Mayo)

July 17th: Senior and Minor Finals.

*Note:* Extra time if necessary in Sligo v London game. In all other ties replays if necessary one week later.

Congratulations to Gaelic Sport and best wishes for  
continued success in the future.

● **FROM PAGE 57**

send on a few of the programmes from the collection given to me last summer - J.M.

Barry Joyce, Ballagh View, The Square, Durrrow, Co. Laois, is a great

|             |                |                |
|-------------|----------------|----------------|
| J. Galvin   | N. Skehan      | J. Cooney      |
| N. Brennan  | L. Enright     | P. Prendergast |
|             | S. Stack       |                |
| J. Callinan | F. Cummins     | T. Crowley     |
| M. Brennan  | B. Fitzpatrick | M. Corrigan    |
|             | P. J. Cuddy    | N. Lane        |

Kilkenny fan. His favourite players are Frank Cummins and Richie Power. His best hurling team since 1977 is shown above.

● *I'm glad you included one Laoisman!* - J.M.

Thomas Moylan, 2 Cuba Ave., Banagher, Co. Offaly, would like to see under-age games played before senior inter-county games. Thomas, who played in the Féile na nGael competitions for the past 3 years, feels Dublin is not the proper venue for same, "There was no excitement by comparison with Galway".

● *Croke Park and Dublin will be noting your comments* - J.M.

Tony Furlong, Bridgetown, Co. Wexford, has all the *Our Games Annuals* from 1958 to '79 save the following - '59, '61, '63, '64 and '67. He will pay for any of them.

Sean Coleman, Longpark, Castlepollard, Co. Westmeath, has great praise for Ger Fennelly, Noel Skehan, Stephen Darby and Liam Currams.

● *Aren't the Fennellys a great family?* - J.M.

Lawrence Edge, 5 Elmgrove Crescent, Portaferry, Co. Down, has 57 G.A.A. magazines for sale - Gaelic Sport, Gaelic World, An Cúl, etc.

● *Swappers and buyers please note* - J.M.

Nuala Redmond, Redcastle, Monrath, Portlaoise, Co. Laois, is a great fan of "The Mailbag". Her favourite teams are Galway (H) and Offaly (F). Nuala, like many another, cannot understand why "neither a Galway footballer or hurler got an All-Star Award". Her favourites are Noel Skehan, Tony Doran, the Connolly Brothers, P. J. Molloy, Iggy Clarke, Matt Connor, Martin Furlong, Padhraig Dunne, Paudie O'Shea and Barry Brennan. Nuala is looking for any 1980 issue of *Gaelic Sport*.

● *Nuala, thanks for your nice letter. We still cannot understand why the Galway players were so victimised by the All-Star selectors. But we are*



**AIDAN FOGARTY (Offaly).**

Kieran Rosney and his son requested that we feature a picture of this outstanding hurler from the Faithful county. What a tremendous feat it would have been if Offaly had completed the double in 1982.

over it now. 1983 is another year - J.M.

**GREAT COVERAGE**

Gerry Pender, Ballymorris Upper, Aughrim, Arklow, Co. Wicklow, must be our most loyal fan over the years. He sent me on copies of the *Wicklow People* and the *Enniscorthy Guardian* where there is great G.A.A. coverage. In his recent letters he pays great tribute to Noel Skehan "the best goalkeeper in the game" and to Padraig Dunne "whose high fielding is excellent".

There is great praise also for the "delightful play of Mick Jacob in the current N.H.L. "especially for his long range scoring of points".

Ger also praised Mick Jacob for his outstanding Co. S.H.F. display for Oulart v. The Ballagh in 1982.

● *Mick Jacob is a super player and sportsman* - J.M.

Another old faithful Kieran Rosney, 181 Grotto View, The Batteries, Athlone, Co. Westmeath, pays me this tribute -

"You are very fair in your comments about all aspects of Gaelic games. I have a couple of harsh things to say about the All-Stars selections. Seamus Darby should have got the Goal of the Year in R.T.E. My son would like a cut-out of Offaly hurler Aidan Fogarty. What a fine hurler.

"We have been to his home to see all his medals and trophies".

Kieran also condemned the attitude of the Offaly supporters who waited outside Tullamore after the N.H.L. game between Galway and Offaly.

● *Tommy what about a photo of Aidan specially for the Rosneys Sen. and Jun.!* - J.M.

Michael Quigley, St. Jarlath's College, Tuam, Co. Galway, is still very fond of *Junior Desk*. He is from Salthill, my own parish, and is a great G.A.A. fan.

● *Your Galway G.A.A. Green Bag should be on the way now* - J.M.

Tom Morrison, Monagurra, Shanagarry, Co. Cork -

Following your piece in Gaelic

● **OVERLEAF**

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● **FROM OVERLEAF**

Sport re programme collecting I decided to write to you. Like yourself I have been an avid collector now for more than 20 years — scrapbooks, magazines, books, programmes, you name it. In fact I have turned my garage into a sort of office-cum-library. I also write a weekly article for the Cork Echo as well as contribute to programmes and mags periodically.

I collect books on boxing, soccer, rugby and G.A.A. and have quite a few going back over the years.

Many people ask me how did I accumulate such a collection? Well to be honest when I was a kid I kept everything on all sports when I'd say 99 out of 100 just didn't bother.

I was lucky on a few occasions to get my hands on a large collection of programmes that were going to be burned or thrown out. The same applied to scrapbooks that people lost interest in but I have also bought

quite an amount of stuff over the years such as International Match programmes from venues around the world.

Well to make a long story short you asked readers to get in touch with you if they had any prior to 1950.

**My collection goes back to 1924 and I have every All-Ireland Hurling and Munster Final programmes going back to 1937. In that period also I am only missing five All-Ireland ones in football.**

The football All-Ireland ones I am looking for are — 1941, 1942, 1946 (replay), 1947 and 1952 (replay). The hurling ones I have to swap are — 1939, 1946, 1949 and 1966.

All my programmes are indexed and are in special plastic covers as many are in mint condition and now very rare. Last year I met Tommy Barrett, Tipperary Co. Board Chairman and he was so impressed with my collection he gave me a few

old ones that I hadn't got.

**He thought it would be a good idea if I opened a Programme Museum.**

Tommy also has quite a collection, especially Tipperary ones.

**Tom Morrison.**

Tom also has 2 Munster S.H.C. programmes of 1939 to swap and would part with them for any All-Ireland S.F.C. semi-final of 1954-'57.

● *This letter of Tom's is one of the most encouraging I have ever received. As the man who proposed the setting up of the Programme Collectors Club in Croke Park after suggestions in this column from Eoghan Corry and Dermot McCarthy it gives me great pleasure. I agree totally with Tommy Barret of Tipperary. Your collection of G.A.A. programmes should be open to the public. Someday Tom I will go to visit them. Certainly the Cork Co. Board's Centenary Committee should be delighted to have you around — J.M.*

That is all for "The Mailbag" this time. With the summer coming and Gaelic Sport appearing more regularly (keep buying it), keep writing to me on any topic.

Next year is G.A.A. Centenary Year. Have you any ideas for Junior Desk? Write to:

Junior Desk,  
Gaelic Sport,  
80 Upper Drumcondra Road,  
Dublin 9.

Jack Mahon, Editor.

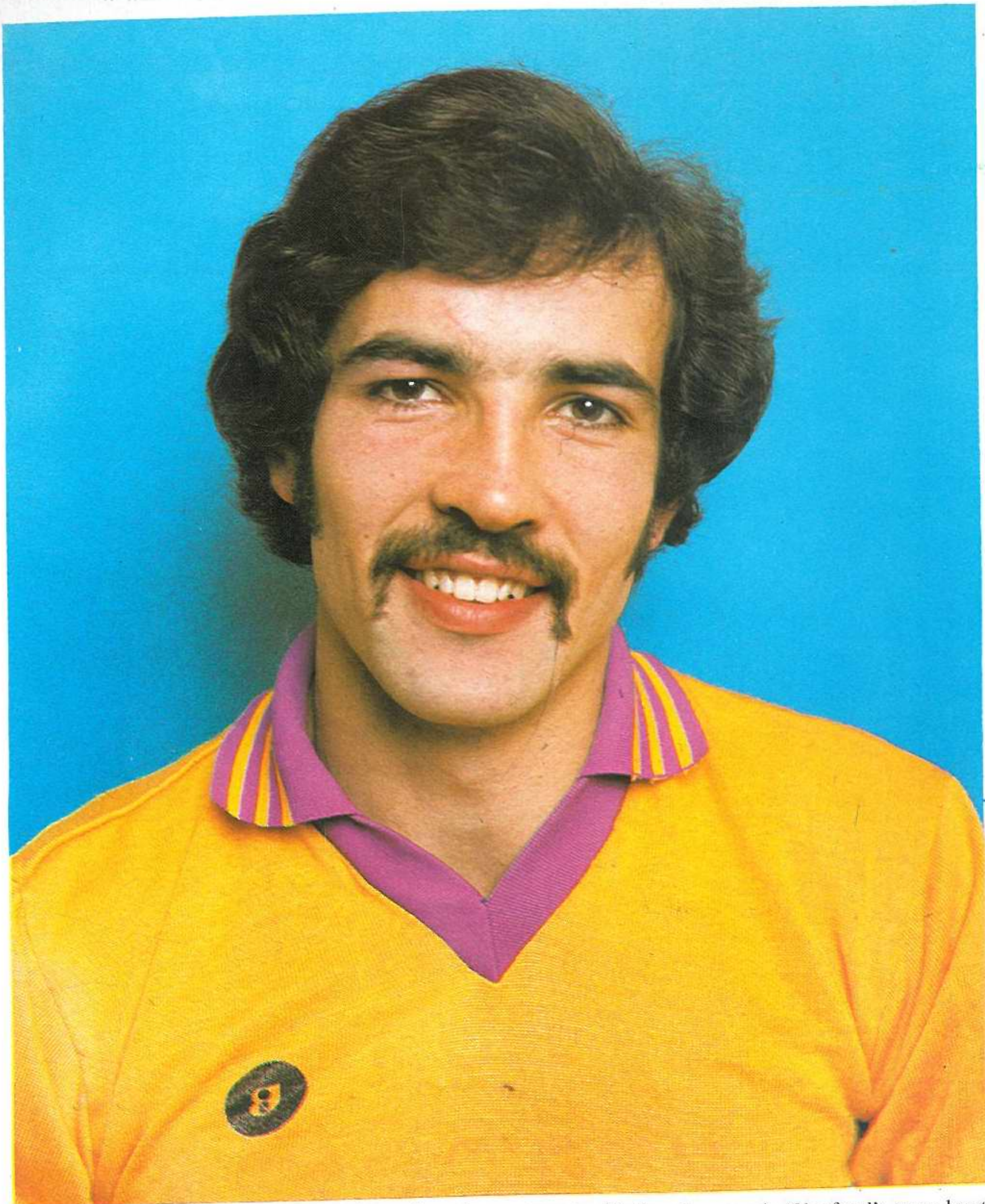
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agus guimíd gach rath  
ar an bhfoilseachán  
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## GEORGE O'CONNOR Wexford

A dual player with the St. Martin's club, and Wexford, 23-year-old George matches his skills in hurling and football with the versatility to successfully fill a number of positions in all departments. He has been playing a midfield role with Wexford in both

codes in the current National Leagues.

George is a graduate of under-age competitions, and he has been in the senior inter-county ranks since 1979. He was at midfield in the hurling team beaten by Offaly in 1981 in his only appearance so far in a Leinster senior final.

The tall dual star has worn the Leinster jersey in hurling, but has still to win a Railway Cup medal and

was in Wexford's team beaten in last season's hurling league final by Kilkenny.

However, O'Connor did get into the major awards in 1981 as centre half forward in the All Stars hurling team — the last award gained by a Wexford man.

Last year George helped St. Martin's, a club more noted in hurling, to win the Wexford county intermediate football title.

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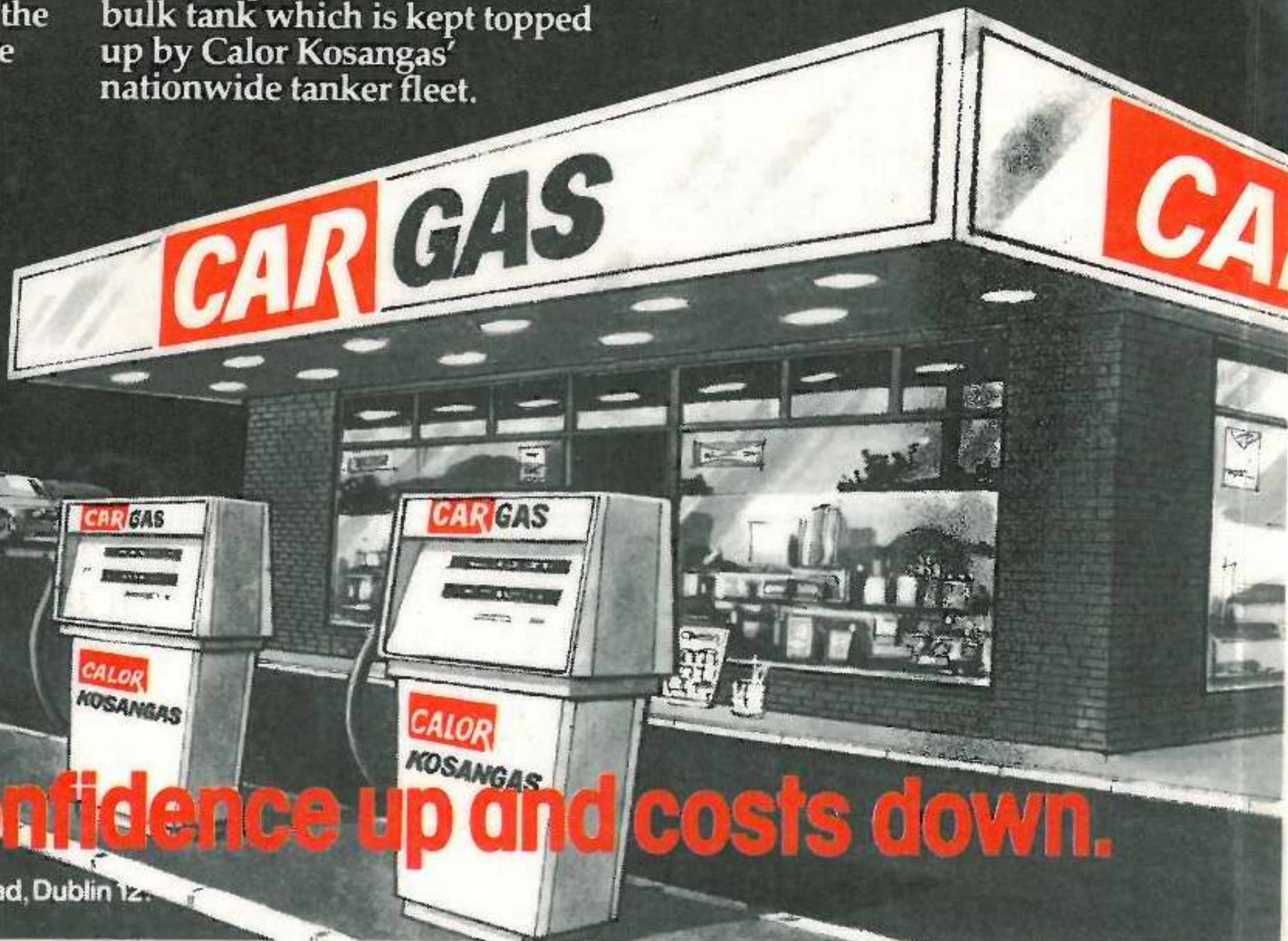
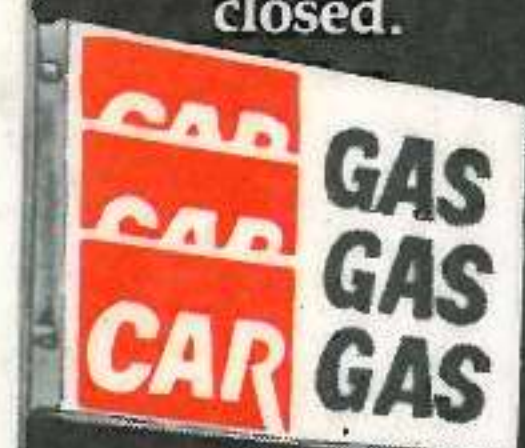
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