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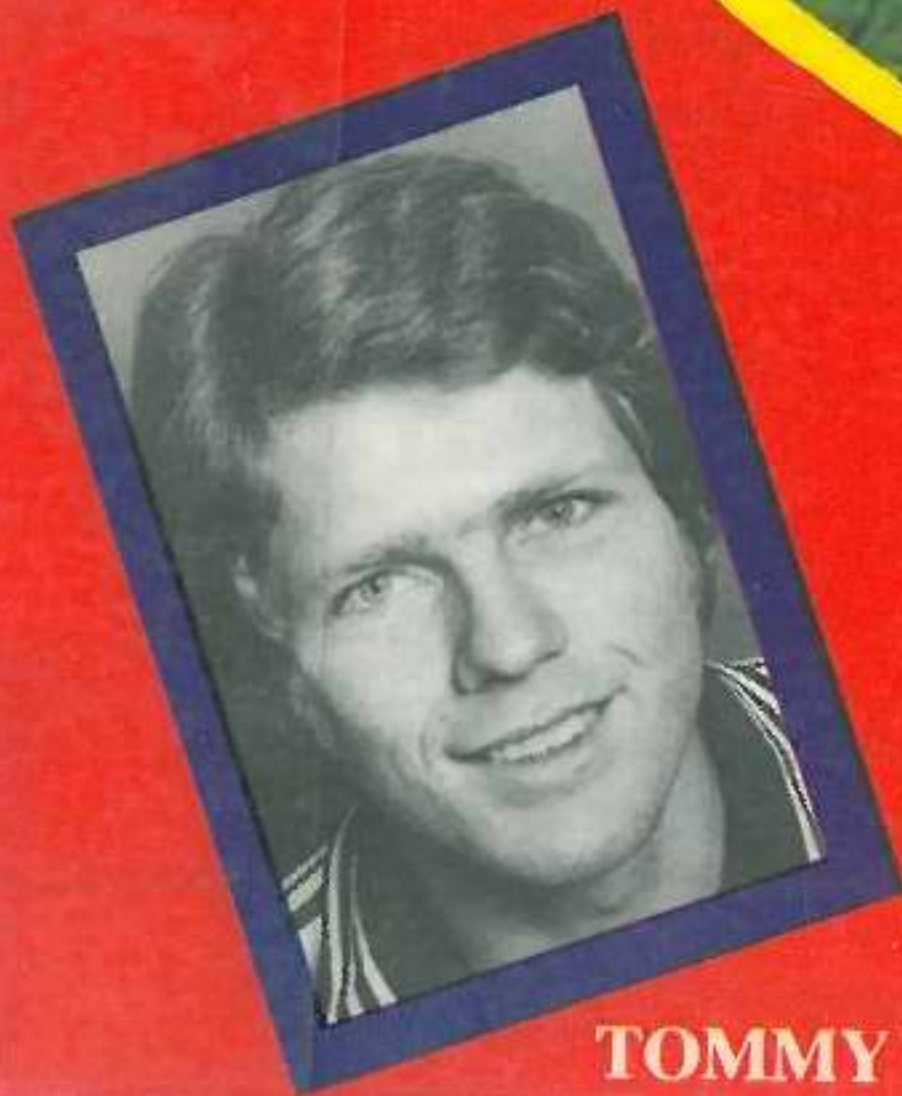
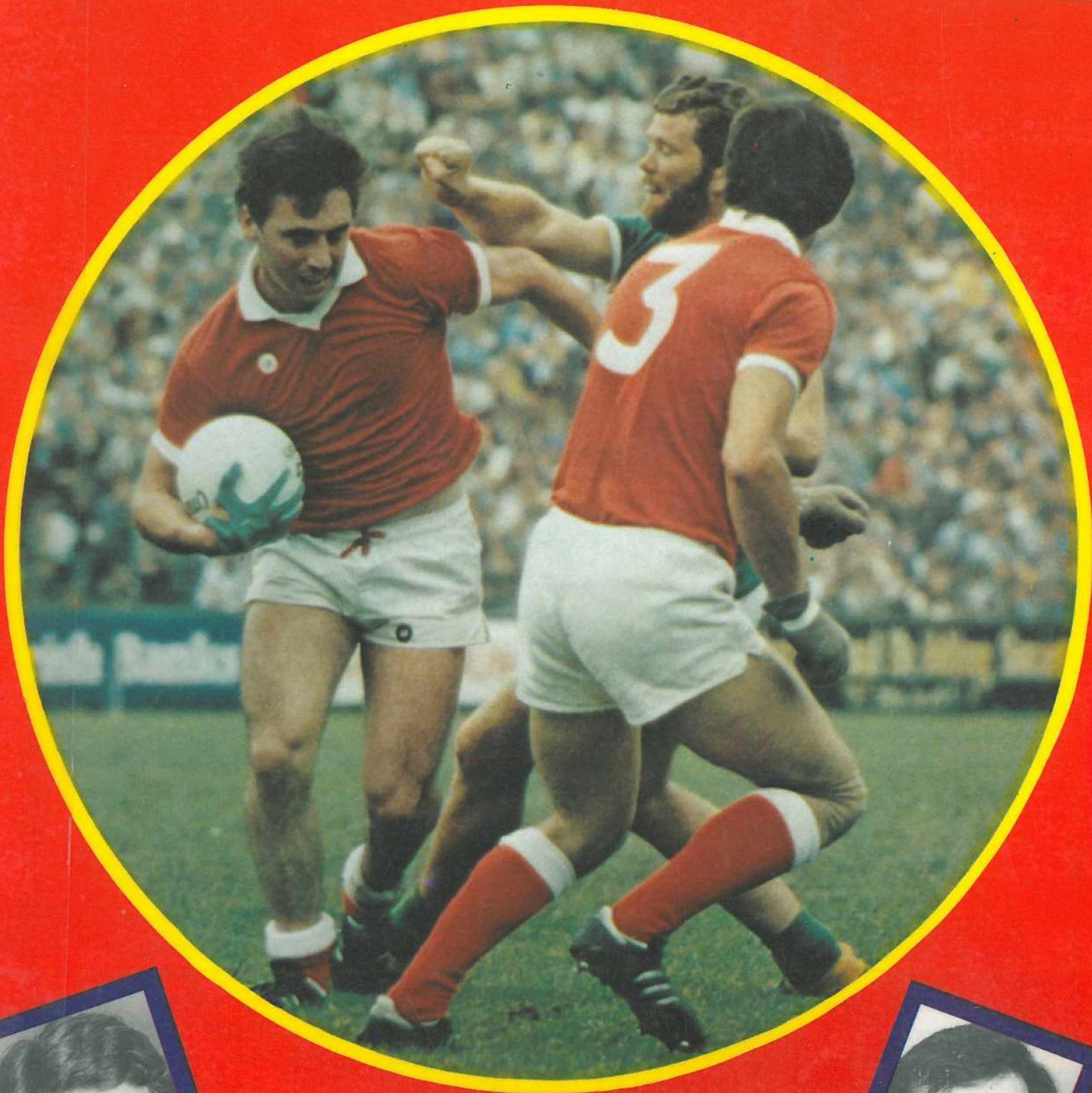
# GAEELIC SPORT

IRELAND'S LEADING GAEELIC GAMES MAGAZINE SINCE 1958

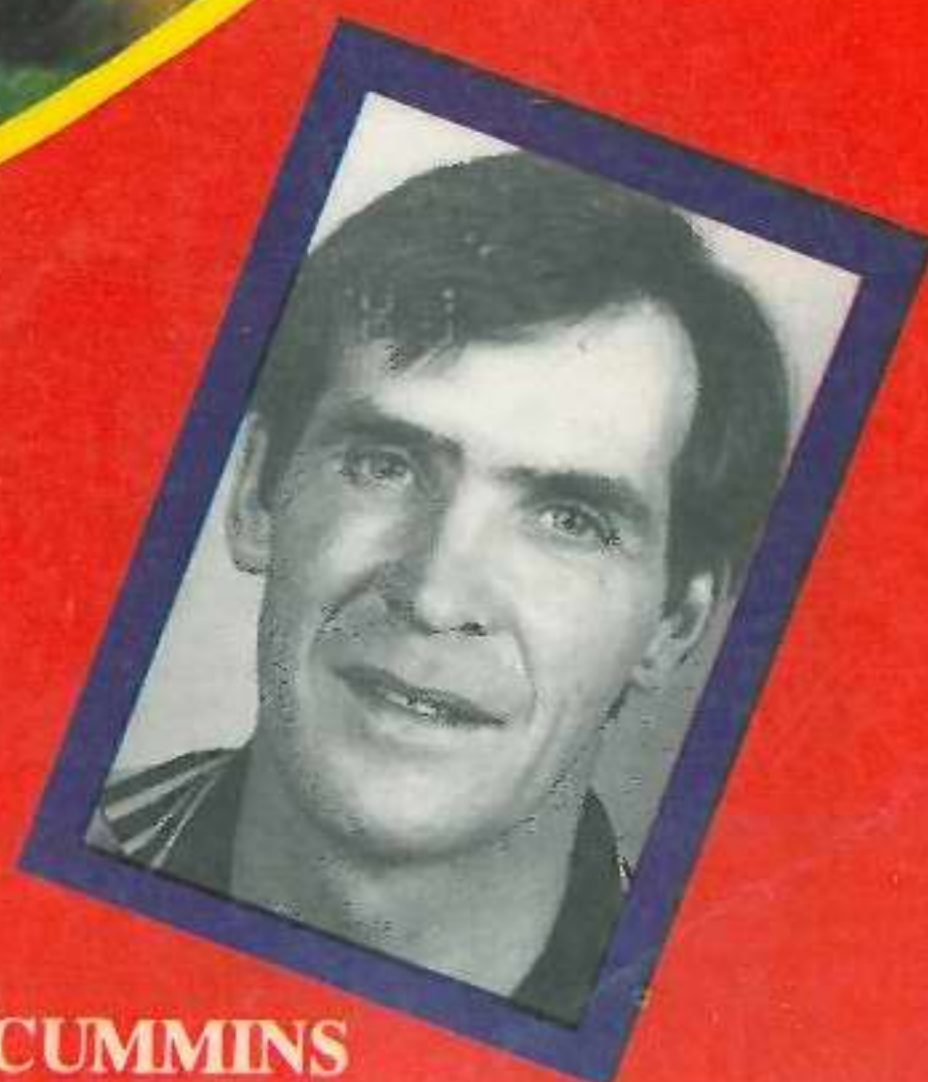
SIXTY PENCE (TAX INCLUDED)

SPRING EDITION, 1984

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TOMMY DRUMM



FRANK CUMMINS

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## COVER PHOTO

**O**UR front cover features action from the '83 Munster Football Final when Cork defeated Kerry by a last second goal. Picture shows John Evans (Cork) in possession while his county colleague, Kevin Kehily holds off Kerry's Eoin Liston.

# GAELIC SPORT

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# PROVIDING FOR OUR HEIRS

**A**LTHOUGH it is early days yet, the indications already are that the Centenary Year will be particularly noteworthy for some excellent club histories. Enthusiasts in all parts of the country have been labouring diligently in recent years in preparing these works.

Some publications have already come to hand and these reflect highly on the painstaking efforts of the compilers and also on the craftsmanship of Irish printers and bookbinders. No doubt the early high standard will be maintained so that by the end of the Centenary Year celebrations we will have an excellent cross-section of club histories which will prove invaluable in ensuring a permanent record of the birth and progress of the G.A.A., countrywide, embracing its first century.

In this context too the Centenary Year is helping greatly to boost employment at a time when this is so badly needed by ensuring additional work opportunities for those engaged in the printing and allied trades.

It is particularly pleasing to find the G.A.A., in general, so active in this vital field of communications. For far too long this was an area virtually ignored by the organisation . . . a fact that resulted in many difficulties for those who set out to chronicle the progress of their clubs over the years.

We in GAELIC SPORT take modest pride from the fact that the magazine proved a trend-setter in the communications field. We entered the field at a time when many publications had been tried and failed and there were many prophets of doom who predicted a short life for our magazine.

But we at GAELIC SPORT refused to become discouraged or disillusioned by the many pessimists, back in 1958 as the first issue rolled off the press. We have succeeded, where all others failed, by maintaining publication over the past 26 years, and in that time have set many headlines for other publications and club magazines that have followed.

In the early years of GAELIC SPORT, Yearbooks were unheard of — one could even say undreamed of

— in Gaelic Games. Today such publications are widespread throughout the country.

Again this magazine helped to set the fashion, in style, layout and content with some of our earliest publications, one of those being "Offaly the Heroes", to mark Offaly's historic first Sam Maguire Cup win in 1971.

The situation has improved dramatically over the past quarter century, the majority of the current yearbooks are particularly impressive. Indeed, a number of them reached a peak of professionalism, in terms of content and production, far above many cross-channel publications of a similar nature.

We hope now that the enthusiasm and the hard-work that has brought about this happy state of affairs will not wane as the Centenary Year passes into history. There is always a danger that many will sit back and say "enough is enough" once 1984 has ended.

That would be a pity, as there will doubtless still be much work to accomplish even after the Centenary Year. The G.A.A. needs for example, a comprehensive record of title winners in all competitions, of all grades, in hurling and football. It is a time that we had a reference book in this regard.

Some independent writers and enthusiasts have attempted to fill the void, and they deserve the thanks of all interested in the games, but ultimately, it is the responsibility of the Association to see that all facts and figures relating to the G.A.A., since its foundation, are documented and updated each succeeding year, so that future generations can have easy reference to such material. Not alone would such documentation be both educational and instructional to our heirs, but it could also serve to imbibe in them a fitting pride in the Association which they have inherited.

Meantime, we at GAELIC SPORT will continue to endeavour to fill the role we have carried out over the past quarter of a century-plus. We know that we can confidently count on the support of both our readers and officials of the G.A.A. as we carry on our task.

*Tommy McQuaid*

EDITOR



•TOMMY McQUAID

## '83 FOOTBALL FINAL:

*“Not alone was the Asso  
reputations and characters  
torn to shreds by the sc*

**Editor:** For a Public Relations Officer to carry out his duties it is essential that he enjoys, and retains, a friendly rapport with the media men. Apart from the designated G.A.A. correspondents, the 'fringe' sports-writers, those who cover all sports, seem to thrive on the controversial. It must be difficult to maintain cordial relations with this sort of journalist. Do you find it so?

**Pat Quigley:** Relationships, like communications, are a two-way process and cannot be built up through a few telephone calls or over a short period of time. I have over the past six or seven years, built up a gook working relationship with the G.A.A. correspondents at provincial and National level. Of course, there are times when they are not completely happy with my performance and vice versa. Any relationship must be built on trust and respect and I have never known a G.A.A. correspondent to throw that trust and respect out in the interest of a quick, top of the head story.

As a former newspaper man I appreciate the problems and needs of the journalists and do my best to facilitate them. The G.A.A. correspondents know and appreciate

**I**N this exclusive interview Editor, Tommy McQuaid, speaks to the G.A.A.'s Public Relations Officer, Pat Quigley, a man who in recent times has had to "suffer the stings and arrows of outrageous fortune", more particularly in the aftermath of the '83 All-Ireland Football Final. A Wexford man, Pat was educated at St. Peter's College and prior to his present office, worked with the Irish Press, "This Week" magazine and the Sunday World.

that there are occasions, on which information they seek cannot be forthcoming because of the structure of the Association. They know about the Association, they know the workings and structures, they know the games (most of them have played the games) and they know the players and officials. They write, on most occasions, with honesty, integrity and objectivity. Of course, they criticise the Association on occasions and, on most occasions, they criticise constructively and from knowledge and not ignorance.

There used to be a saying in journalism that no longer seems to apply — "when in doubt, leave it

out" — particularly among what you call 'fringe' sportswriters and some newsroom reporters. Not for them the maxim "facts are sacred, comment is free"; the motto now appears to be "never spoil a good story with facts". I have no doubt that I will be criticised among newspaper people for these views but let me give you an example.

As you'll recall the replay of the Dublin v Cork All-Ireland Senior Football semi-final was fixed for Páirc Uí Chaoimh at a meeting of the Games Administration committee on the Monday night following the drawn game. Within the next few days we witnessed some very inaccurate, misleading, unfair and objectionable pieces of journalism which did nothing for the journalists concerned; the headline seemed to have been written in advance of the reporter being asked to write a story to suit it.

I was asked for comment by some reporters on different aspects of the decision to play the game in Páirc Uí Chaoimh and the arrangements being made to cater for the game. On a few occasions my comments were omitted from the stories because they didn't suit; news reporters were ringing with queries on aspects that

*Association maligned but the  
of players and officials were  
avenging journalists''*

had already been covered factually and accurately by the G.A.A. correspondents.

It is difficult and trying to maintain cordial relations with this sort of journalist but I have never refused to speak to or co-operate with any journalist. To do so would be of no value to the image of the Association and would provide these journalists with more 'chips' put on their shoulders.

**Editor:** Is the Association happy that it gets coverage in keeping with its role in the Irish sporting life and is it conscious of the needs and demands of today's media?

**Pat Quigley:** Gaelic games, because of their following and the place they hold in Irish sporting life, are entitled to coverage in keeping with their status. However, because of pressure on space and competition for the space available, the G.A.A. must ensure it will get the required coverage. Of course the major games and major events will always get coverage but there are other games and other events which not only deserve publicity but need it. That's where the G.A.A. can help the journalist by giving him the information.

The appointment of a Public Relations Officer has been required by rule for the past few years and if counties have not experienced an improvement in publicity then the fault is theirs and not the journalists. There is little point in electing a P.R.O. if the news of his appointment is not circulated to the media giving the individual's name, address and telephone number. It is important that journalists know where to look or who to contact for news. The more successful counties will get coverage for their games — that's the nature of things — but if the less successful counties wonder why, for example, Westmeath get wide publicity for their inter-county games, it's because they have, in Paddy Flanagan, an efficient and dependable P.R.O.

Paddy has built up a two-way relationship with the National media by providing *all* the G.A.A. correspondents with a weekly letter giving them the team selection for the following Sunday's game, team changes from the last game, the score in the last game between the counties and any other little snippet of a human interest nature. He ensures that his weekly bulletin is with the journalists on Tuesday



●PAT QUIGLEY

mornings and knows, from experience, that if the journalists fail to get team selections or team news or other stories, that Westmeath will get a couple of paragraphs of publicity. Of course, it won't happen every week but perseverance and dependability scores.

**Editor:** Surely the needs of the provincial newspapers are different. Has the appointment of County P.R.O.s helped to get better coverage at local level?

**Pat Quigley:** Because they operate nationally, the G.A.A. correspondents in the daily newspapers and RTE are rarely short of stories but the same cannot be said for the correspondents in our provincial newspapers. Theirs is an unenviable job, especially during the National League season. How can they preview a National League game when a county team is selected after they have written their preview? One of the first tasks a county P.R.O. should undertake is a visit to the local newspaper(s) office and a meeting with the Sports Editor(s) and/or G.A.A. correspondent(s), to inquire how he can best serve them

●TO PAGE 7

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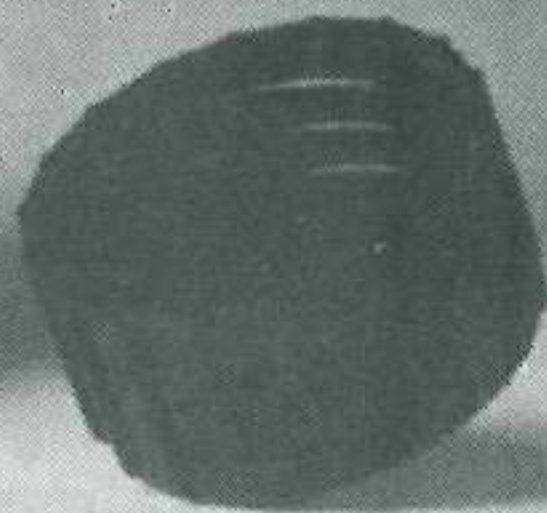
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## PAT QUIGLEY INTERVIEW ●FROM PAGE 5

in their coverage of G.A.A. games and activities.

We cannot afford to sit back and expect coverage if we don't provide information on a regular basis. The local paper is anxious to provide a good coverage and we must be prepared to help them. Do we know the deadlines for our newspapers? Do we know if they would like to cover more games? Do we insist on having copy presented properly? Do we select our teams in sufficient time to allow the paper preview the games properly? Do we provide photographs if they are required? We cannot demand an improved coverage if we don't play our part.

**Editor:** Do you see your function as projecting a good image for the Association?

**Pat Quigley:** Projecting a good image of the Association is not something a P.R.O. can do on his own. While it is possible to make a poor performance appear good, the task of projecting a good image is the responsibility of all members. In his Presidential Address at last year's Congress in Galway, Pádraig Ó Bogaigh asked a few pertinent questions relating to the projection of a good image and discipline. That part of his text received very little coverage in the media reports and here is an extract from his speech:

*"Lack of discipline is a problem of modern society. Discipline means training that produces order, obedience and self control, thereby ensuring that membership adopts a proper code of behaviour and conduct."*

*"One cannot overstress the importance of Club Administrators everywhere, and particularly those involved with youth, adopting a very positive attitude to general discipline and an insistence on first loyalty to the club and Gaelic Games and the ideals of the Association by all our members."*

*The club should agree on a code of conduct in relation to such things as sportsmanship, tactics of team mentors, observance of age regulations, guidelines to teenage drinking etc."*

*"The practice of filling Cups should be stamped out, as it associates the winning of competition and the resultant celebrating, with drink and is a bad example for our young members."*

*"How we introduce our youth to the G.A.A. decides the future well-being of our Association. Do we break down the authority of our referees by questioning his decisions and that of his linesmen and umpires? While it would be too much to expect that games should be played only for recreation and pleasure, there is, at the same time, far too much emphasis on win-at-all-costs approach at under age level. Playing to win is a legitimate objective which can be achieved well within the bounds of good sportsmanship and discipline."*

*"Are we as conscious of the image we create as we should be? Are our pitches properly prepared and marked for all games? Games at juvenile level are as important as county finals or inter-county games. Do we ensure that time keeping is a top priority in relation to games and meetings? Do we insist that our teams are uniformly and neatly attired for our games? Do we, as an Association, support Irish industry and goods of Irish manufacture as per the Charter of our Association? This is a vital area in relation to the problems of today's Ireland, with our high unemployment rates. Those of us with the responsibility of imposing discipline should remember that there is no point in setting guidelines at Central, County Board or Club level, if we ourselves are not subject to discipline and prepared to give leadership and good example."*

**Editor:** As P.R.O. for the Association, one would assume that the '83

Football Final must have been a nightmare experience for you. As Michael O' Hehir is quoted as saying "All the bandwagoners seemed to crawl out of the woodwork" in their efforts to out do each other in maligning the Association. Was it a very trying time for you?

**Pat Quigley:** No, I didn't find it a nightmare experience. By and large the G.A.A. correspondents treated the aftermath fairly but the same cannot be said for other media people. Not alone was the Association maligned but the reputations and characters of players and officials were torn to shreds by the scavenging journalists. The Association has always been a target for the 'liberal' press, who neither know nor wish to know its workings and activities. It is a sign of its strength and position in Irish life that it has been a target for a segment of these journalists who write out of ignorance and never show sensitivity or charity.

Some journalists lashed out at everybody in sight — they didn't respect facts and presented subjective opinions as fact. The process which has served the Association well down the years, with regard to discipline in our games, was questioned by people who weren't aware of the process. Writers wanted to be judge, jury and executioner. Allegations were made which had no basis in fact, but on they went. There were some who appeared to be deliberately besmirching the characters of certain players; they cared nothing for the players' reputations, for their families and friends. When the investigation was completed they still sought to justify their opinions and inaccuracies. And yet these same journalists show a very sensitive skin when they are corrected on points of fact. History has shown that the Association has survived controversy and emerged stronger. Long after some of their fiction and flights of fancy have been forgotten, the Association will still be going about its work.

**FORTY YEARS AGO EAMONN YOUNG WAS FLYING HIGH AS ONE OF THE LEADING EXPONENTS OF GAELIC FOOTBALL. ALL THE HULLABALOO OVER THE '83 FOOTBALL FINAL PROMPTED OUR EDITOR TO ASK THE FORMER BRILLIANT CORK STAR...**

# HOW HAS GAELIC FOOTBALL CHANGED?

**T**HE people have changed since I was young. To-day, we have not the same respect for law and order; we question every value and we have little patience with some of the ideas once held strongly. Since a great percentage of our people have progressed to the Leaving Certificate since free education came, our nation has learned more, though learning and education are not always synonymous.

There is far more leisure than forty years ago, when in some lives Saturday was the busiest day of the week. International travel, now so common, has sent us rubbing shoulders with other societies taking from them both the good and the bad.

It stands to reason we are vastly changed. Our games, which reflect ourselves, are, in turn, changed

inevitably.

**How has Gaelic Football changed since I was young?**

To answer in detail first, it is clear that in defence the attitude has altered immensely. Once the goalie never, never passed the ball but got it away fast and the longer the kick the better. Likewise in the full back line, one relieved the pressure with a fifty five yards kick, the greatest error being to put it over the sideline. In the half back line there was almost no hand passing either and perhaps a little solo running by the wing halves.

I remember in a Railway Cup final one raw March day a lad named Paddy O'Reilly from Cavan took the ball from me at left wing under the Cusack Stand and burst clear. Seeing the field empty before him he, like a good player, changed his mind and carried it. Backs stuck to their men and Paddy, seeing his chance, ran further and then smartly kicked it away for the posts forty-five yards distant. To my chagrin he raised a white flag.

**The point of the story is to show that the game hasn't changed completely. I'm sure they did the same forty years before. But generally the habit of combined play and solo-running wasn't recommended in the back line and there's the big difference today.**

Iggy Jones, Frank Cogan and many others in the last twenty years have soloed regularly out of half back and goalies, especially since we wrapped them in cotton wool quite rightly hand-pass the ball. Robbie Kelleher's All-Ireland point from left full back for Dublin opened a new chapter in fluid defensive play.

One effect of the present defensive attitude is a reduction in personal

responsibility. Once a back was completely responsible for his man. He didn't always mark him but at half time he was told about it publicly, or privately in terms harsh or polite. Today the standard of marking is not as tight and it is obvious that selectors do not remind players with the same emphasis, of their duty in stopping the forward.

One effect of this is more fluid play, or loose play, which the non-expert spectator likes and another is the reduction in man-to-man tenacity which should lead to less competitive urgency or ferocity if you prefer the stronger word. The expert spectator generally doesn't like loose play and sees in it a failure of opponents to do their duty.

## IN THE AIR

To such a man much of the present-day football is untidy and unproductive of scores. There is nothing essentially wrong with backs combining or moving forward so long as they do not make defensive errors but our irritation must be forgiven when we see a back who could have driven away, present a waiting opponent with an easy point. The solution, as in most things, is a judicious combination of direct clearances and poised combination. That's the test of the good player and indeed the good coach.

Fetching today often brings gasps of delight from us on the line but, sad to say, not often enough. The only real display of team fetching I have seen in the last ten years was by an Australian side playing Kerry in Cork when they simply destroyed the Kingdom in the air.

The Aussie strode into the high ball like a high-jumper at a sports, and gathering the body, soared up, often having his knees at the shoulder of opponents.

But fetching is a very important part of their game. "If you can't get up there and bring it down" one smiling, tanned athlete told me, "You're not in football."

Our Gaelic football fetching has gone back and to me the reason has always been clear. Once there was one ball between twenty players and there was far more practice for there were less games. So you stood in the goalmouth or out sixty yards and waited. The snag is that about eight more waited along with you.

So you got your behind up off the ground or else you eventually got pneumonia. With two footballs it was a little better but not that much. Fetching was, as in Australia, simply part of your game.

## TWO FIFTIES

I have seen some great kicking of the dead ball over the decades (and over the bar). A memory that stays with me is a day in Kennedy Park, New Ross 45 years ago when in a club minor game, Tom O'Donoghue of Clonegal kicked two fifties for points. It was an unusual feat but he was a big lad and a good kicker.

In the senior game that followed Joe Donoghue of Starlights playing against Volunteers of Wexford town kicked two more fifties over the bar. To add the icing, he drove the last fifty all the way to the net. It was a remarkable day.

I saw Mick Magee of Cavan screw them over from acute angles in the thirties; Paul Doyle, then a sergeant in the Curragh used to take four footballs down to the vicinity of MacDonagh pitch and spend an hour kicking dead-balls to strike the basket-ball boards. I'll never forget the day Tony MacTague kicked a fifty placed near the sideline at the Cusack Stand side. Over the bar it went at the Canal end.

Three minutes later he faced up to a ball placed near the corner flag on the Hogan Stand side. For the Canal goal he drove it; he struck the near

upright. No harm to add that he used a different foot for each kick.

Still, today I think the ground kicking is generally better. I don't expect to see the O'Donoghue or the MacTague feat again very often but this modern football is a grand object to play around with and in spite of the general lack of practice the boys of today generally kick it well.

They go for the score off the fifty too often I think and as a result make the opposing goalie famous by dropping the ball into him — don't forget he clears unhindered. But the crowd shouts for the score and coaches generally have not worked out the scoring percentages from the fifty yards kick.

The short game of today, fortunately not quite as popular as it was five years ago, is often efficient in that it retains possession until a score is made.

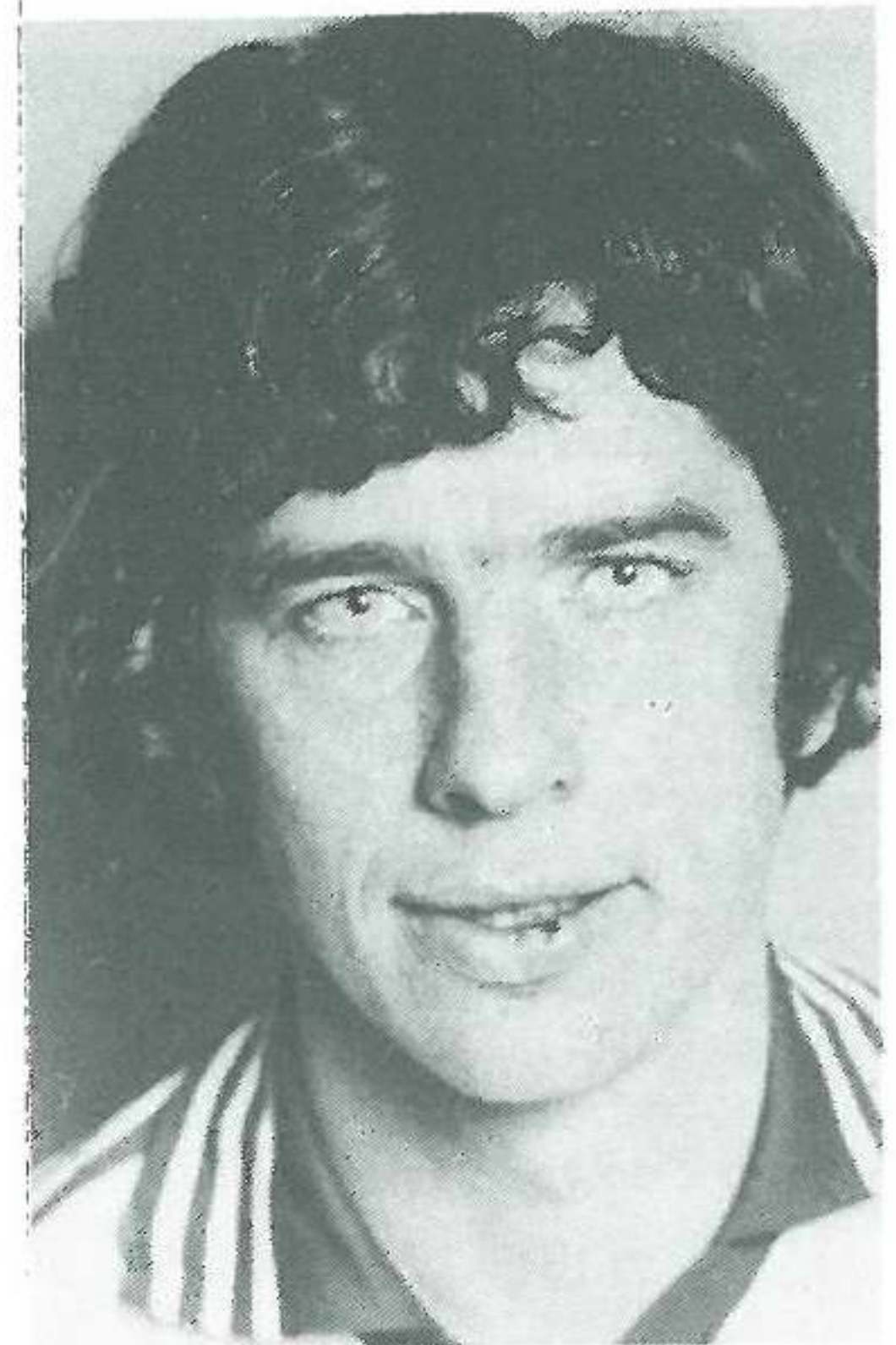
Too often however it leads to a depressing series of diagonal movements that make one wonder if the boys think the goalposts have deserted their usual positions for the stand sidelines. The possession game came from soccer, where it is generally correct (though I've read many experts who deplore its over use). But the reason it is generally efficient in soccer is because **THERE IS ONLY ONE SCORE.**

You simply can't get a score in soccer from forty yards unless the goalie is stone blind. In our game one can win a match from fifty-five. So there's an obvious difference.

In all sports the predictable is boring and the unexpected exciting. When the unexpected is, in addition, getting us scores then we're in business. The short game is very important and only a dull man will belt the ball away when his pal is lying loose fifteen yards away in a better position, but let's try to marry the two styles, not in Croke Park but in every club pitch through the country. Again a job for coaches.

## LEISURE TIME

Matches are very important but today we have generally too many of them, for the elite anyhow. From the



● **ROBBIE KELLEHER.**

*Opened a new chapter  
in defensive play.*

age of ten we are driving the young lads and for twenty years we give them little peace, begrudging them a fortnight at Christmas. Competition is good; matches are great entertainment for player and spectator and what better way to spend increased leisure time?

But competition tears a man's guts out, and by stretching his nerves too far and too often leaves them jangling. Practice however, that delightful activity where boys and girls of all ages have great fun kicking or pucking a ball, relaxing, enjoying life, increasing skill — practice — that's what we're missing.

**In practice we'll have time to improve the many skills that are now going back, like the pick-up and the block-down, the shoulder-charge (the refs have nearly killed that one anyhow).**

But how can we practice when there are so many matches to play? The result is our elite play too much while our mediocre (but important) men are underexercised.

I have always believed in coaching. Just as a teacher cut short our

● **OVERLEAF**

# Eamon Young

## ●FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

youthful efforts to write or learn the alphabet so my father long ago, himself a player, stood us in a big circle and made us kick the ball, smart and low, to each other with the weak foot. We preferred just to play a game but he was the boss. Never made us run, incidentally, keeping that activity for the school sports training. But we worked on the skills and in those days we called the solo "The Paul Doyle" though Major John P. Murphy of Cavan told me he started it down in Tralee in '24.

## CENTRAL VENUE

A few years back, under the guidance of Mick Frawley and Tadgh Crowley, I organised some very pleasant coaching in the counties of Munster. There were excellent men who brought in forty lads to a central venue in each county every Saturday and to each venue came grand footballers from Cork and Kerry, men who had learned a lot, much of it the hard way, and were so happy to pass on the knowledge.

Apart from articulation and sincerity their outstanding characteristic was humility. I think they did great good and am sorry the scheme wasn't extended and indeed instituted permanently.

The players demonstrated the various skills: they showed them in detail outlining the common faults; they practiced their groups in the skill; they invited many questions and they answered them. Indoors they analysed matches, detailed functional play which is simply an outline of how to play a particular position and emphasised that, while physical fitness is a pre-requisite, the other rungs in the ladder are skill training, functional play, match analysis and at the top of the pyramid, emotional stability on the day of the game.

I like to think that the intelligent young men who listened, will not forget. Our association has advanced a lot in coaching but there's a lot more

to be done. Let me say to those who present an unreasoning hostility to coaching that no real coach impedes any player's natural flair. A fetch with one hand is still a fetch and a goal scored by the centre-back is still worth three points. Today there is enough written about the games and enough expert opinion to implement it, to ensure that coaching should be well advanced in all clubs.

Training is good for a man emotionally as we all know. How contented even we restless ones were after a hard spot of running. Each club should have a good man, respected and well-read, who can take the boys out. Training must start gradually and be continued in very frequent periods. Each man is so different, physically and in emotion, that a close eye must be kept on each person's weight, his general appearance and attitude, his type of work and it's no harm to know something of his social and domestic background.

Nothing is worse than over-exercise without time to recover. Because of it I once went into a game with an inferiority complex. On the day there was no complex, I was just downright inferior. I see many young men training on the Thursday, the Friday and even the Saturday before a game and am very doubtful of the value of such. It may suit a small number but sure as there's a dog in Dublin, it's bad for many more.

## IN CHARGE

Some say that the game to-day has become too competitive. I don't agree. Man probably hasn't changed a lot in five thousand years and there's nothing more natural than competition.

What matters is the control exerted by those in charge, by the selectors, managers and referee. It is clear that if teams are over-motivated and not trained in the self-discipline, which is part of all games, there will be unruly carry-on and if we see more of that to-day than yesterday then it's because, as stated at the beginning of the column, our people have changed.

How is that one body of men will be firm, efficient and courteous while another will be unruly and even

violent? How is it that classes of similar age in the same school will differ immensely in their attitude to law and order? It's because in both cases the leadership is either good or faulty.

**Our young men of to-day are as good in every way as the young men of my generation (which wasn't made up of angels anyhow) and if there is unruly conduct, perhaps, we may examine the supervision by older men.**

When your child breaks the neighbour's window you don't give him a bar of chocolate. I'm all for fair competition; it's very good for us all. The responsibility for keeping it fair, rests with the organisers and the men in the street like myself, who can play a big part also by frowning both in public and in private on a violation of the honour code.

That leads us on to the cult of the manager. Many think it is now overdone. They say that the manager gets so much publicity that it goes to his head, that the poor head swells and he comes back to earth only in rare moments of extreme weakness. They say that this egotism affects the players and the whole group is transformed into some kind of errant band of warriors sojourning here for a time on their way back to Valhalla.

No doubt some managers get swelled heads. Didn't we all at some stage? No doubt, the players are influenced wrongly by such egotism but again that's just human nature. A manager, especially if he has great responsibility, particularly on the day of the match, has to be a very sound man.

How many of us are? In the glare of pre-match publicity one manager gives us a diarrhoea of words based on a constipation of ideas while another goes to the opposite and equally culpable extreme of scowling at everybody and encouraging his players to imitate him.

The golden mean as always is best. Give the people the little bit of information they like and let's keep our heads, storing away the mental agility and coolness for the critical moment when the tide is running strong against us on the day.

Besides this cult of the manager is by no means modern. Paddy Leahy of Tipperary, his brother Johnny, Eamon O'Sullivan and John Joe Sheehy of Kerry and the one and only Jim 'Tough' Barry of Cork were men whose personality shone in the van of many a team effort. Having known four of them reasonably well I recall their work with admiration.

The fifth, Jim Barry was simply great. He was stern, kind, lovable, simple, a good singer, a great talker and looked on players as his children, of which incidentally he, himself, had none. No, I'm not against managers I'm against the men who pick the wrong ones.

## THE CHANGES

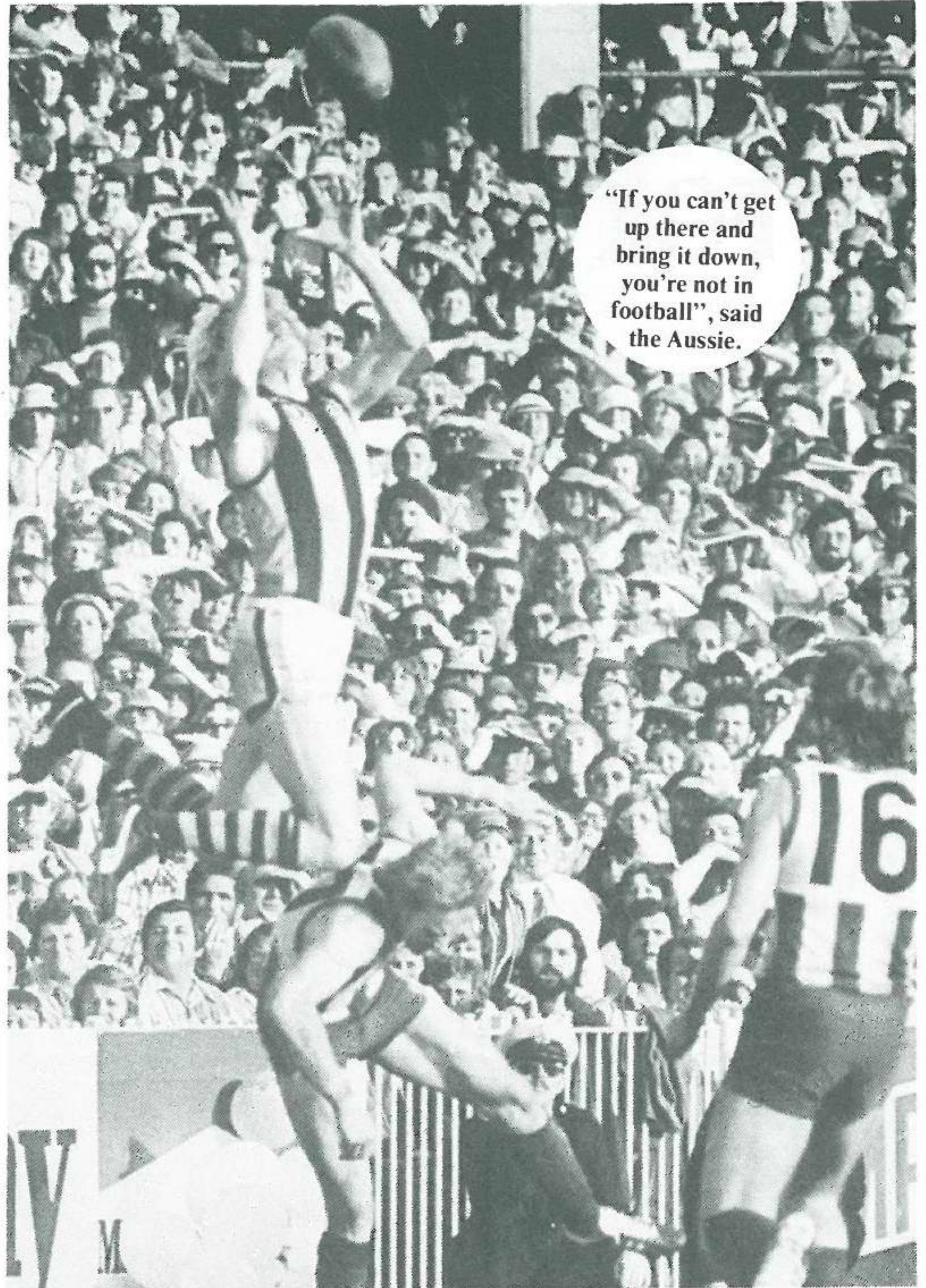
Jim Barry never interfered with the selectors but was always talking to them. He made the changes on the field but only on orders. Sean Óg Murphy was a pretty shrewd character as befitting a man who had played in many an All-Ireland at full back, and then spent twenty five years in close touch with selection. One day in Dublin before an All-Ireland he was very worried.

A certain good player was in wretched form. Would we lose the game over him? Séan must really have been worried for he confided in me a process which normally would not appeal to this close-mouthed elder. He was just finished baring his hurling soul and scratched his head in perplexity.

Out in the hotel foyer Jim Barry was shaking hands with men from other counties and telling yarns. A stranger passed our table, said "Hello Seán," and then gazing admiringly at 'Tough' about to reach the punch-line of his yarn slapped Seán heartily on the back and said, "Aren't ye lucky men in Cork to have the likes of Jim Barry?" I pulled out so fast I didn't hear the reply.

**Is the game rougher to-day? Not at all.**

In fact if some referees had their way half the old ladies of the country could take it up. We have destroyed the goalmouth excitement because refs wouldn't implement the rules



which already gave the goalie adequate protection and we have also disallowed some splendid goals scored by the courageous fist of the leaping corner forward because, after timing his arrival like a true player he is condemned for being inside the square. You have to be very careful how you use your shoulder; if you don't knock him it may be all right but if he goes down you could be hunted out of the game.

It's just twelve months since we were putting men off in Croke Park for looking crooked at an opponent. Rougher to-day? All many men want

to-day is the player who can run into the open space, the man who can run off the ball. Someday we'll get back to the man who likes playing ON the ball, the fellow who contests the fifty-fifty ball like a real man and gets the crowd up off their seats in a way the swivel-assed runner of the "fluid" era can never do.

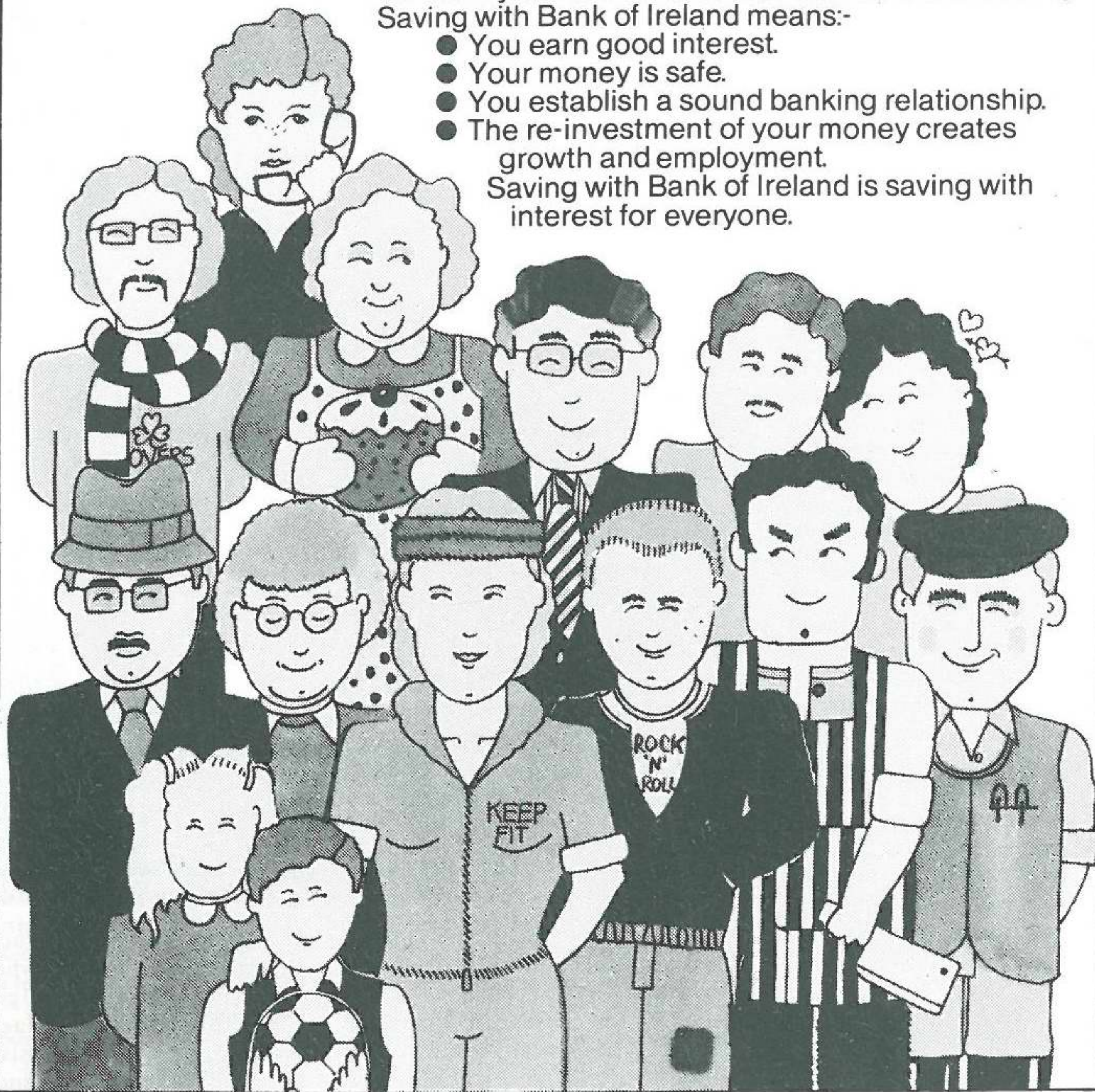
Gaelic football was always a man's game where fair shoulders were given and taken. I hope for the sake of our youth and virility of our nation it is not emasculated any further or we'll have to go over to rugby for a bit of excitement.

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# AGNES HOURIGAN

## devoted her life to promoting camogie.

### MARY MORAN PAYS TRIBUTE TO A DEAR AND GENTLE LADY



AGNES HOURIGAN

**G**AELIC SPORT celebrated its Silver Jubilee last year. The Editor paid tribute in the souvenir anniversary issue to a handful of regular contributors who had faithfully served the publication over the twenty-five year span. Among them was camogie correspondent, Agnes Hourigan.

This example of unfailing service is typical of her dedication to the game she loved.

In November, she departed from this world to be re-united with her husband, Pádraig Purcell in Heaven. Go raibh suaimhneas síorraí ag an mbean usail.

A native of Ballingarry, County Limerick, Agnes first played camogie at the age of twelve. Three years later, although the youngest player of the side, she was named as captain of the Limerick team. In 1937, she enrolled at U.C.D. and, while there, she won four Ashbourne Cups, two Dublin Senior League and championship medals.

She fielded at right wing where her speed was seen to good effect. In the following year, she won an All-Ireland medal when Dublin defeated Cork at the Cork Athletic Grounds.

The split in the Association interrupted her inter-county

career. While a student at U.C.D., she met Pádraig Purcell from Mooncoin and they were married in 1943.

### GOOD IMAGE

Agnes was most concerned that the space afforded to camogie was wisely used. She was very conscious of creating a good image of the Association. In dealing with players, she boosted the morale and was much too gentle a soul to hurt by criticism even when a player's performance left a lot to be desired.

In the early fifties, she revived her links with U.C.D., this time in an administrative role. Gradually, she became more deeply involved in the affairs of the Camogie Association. She was elected Secretary of Leinster Council, a post which she held for ten years.

During her term of office as Secretary, the Leinster Colleges competitions were initiated in 1960. These she watched grow and develop slowly but surely over the years. As president of the Leinster Council, she worked incessantly for the promotion of camogie in all the colleges of the province.

When the All-Ireland Colleges Council was set up in 1969, it was no surprise that Agnes was elected Vice-President, a post which she filled over the years.

Her long association with U.C.D. gave her a special interest in the Ashbourne Cup. For many years, the three National Universities and Queens played for this historic trophy. Agnes was instrumental in enticing Trinity, Maynooth and N.U.C. to participate. The C.C.I.A., which was set up to cater for the game in the universities and colleges of higher education, choose Agnes for their first President.

### NEW DIMENSION

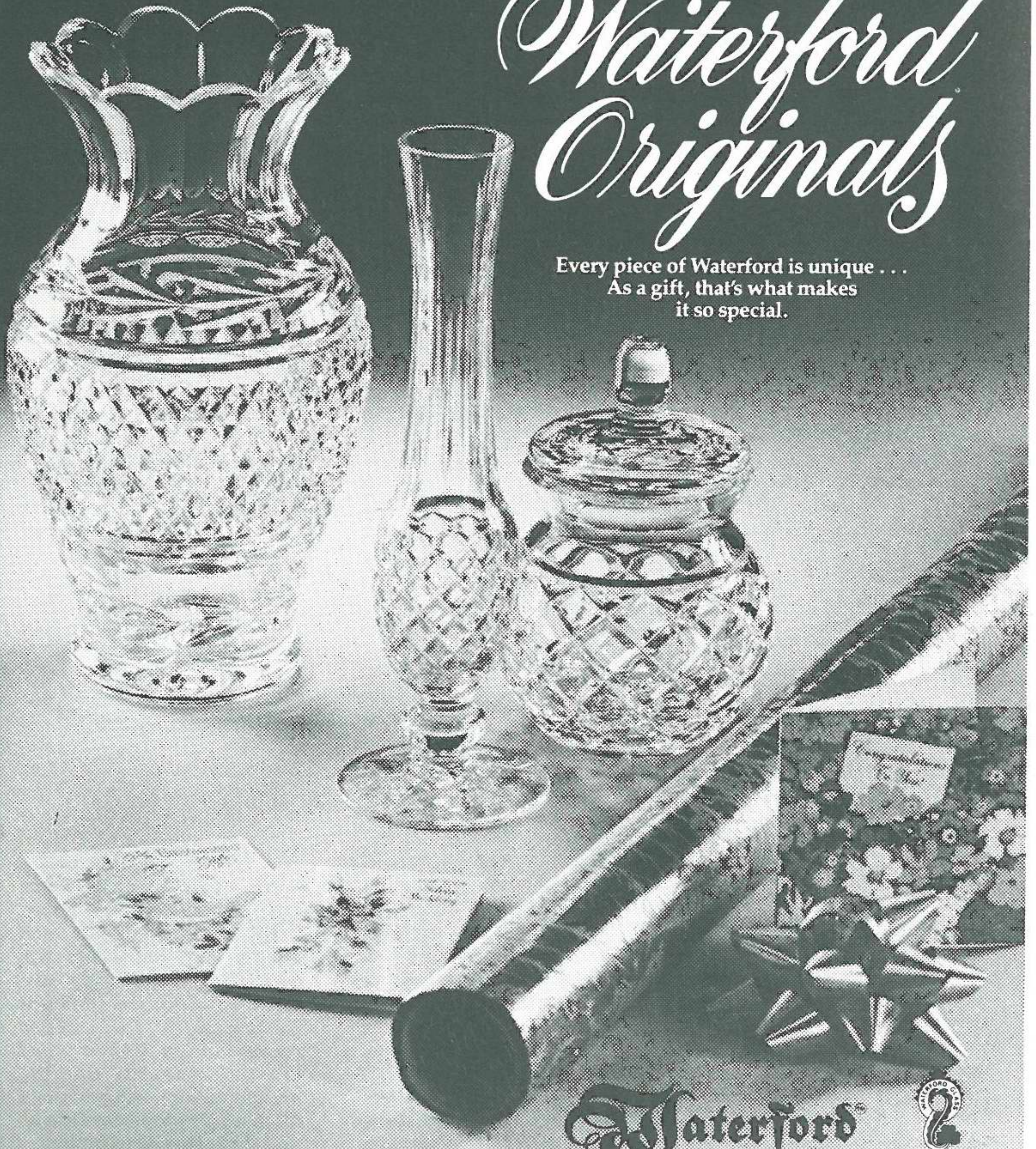
In 1976, the Association paid tribute to her by electing her as National President. She brought a new dimension to the job. She travelled to matches and meetings in every county, sparing no effort to promote the game. One of her happiest moments in office was presenting an All-Ireland trophy to her native Limerick.

When her term of office was over, she was not allowed to rest. The post of treasurer had become vacant and she was persuaded to don that hat. Enthusiastically, she set about building up the funds of the Association so that it could shortly embark on the momentous step of appointing a full-time Development Officer. This she saw come to fruition.

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THE LIAM McCARTHY TROPHY IN THIS  
CENTENARY YEAR - BUT I FANCY A THIRD  
FINAL BETWEEN PERENNIAL RIVALS...

## CORK and KILKENNY

By NOEL HORGAN

**I**T'S 1984, the Centenary Year, and if it be possible the desire for All-Ireland honours among the leading hurling counties is more intense than ever.

For holders, Kilkenny, there are added incentives in that success would give the Noresiders the three-in-a-row for the first time since the 1911-1913 era and bring them level, on 24 titles, with Cork at the head of the roll of honour.

There can be no disputing that Kilkenny have been the top team in the land for the last two years, winning a double-double of league and Championship in this period. Yet some observers are reluctant to regard them as a truly great squad, suggesting that it is commitment rather than class, balance rather than brilliance and durability rather than dash that have enabled this Noreside combination to garner so much glory.

Were the Kilkenny men to achieve the three-in-a-row, however, any doubts about their greatness would

surely be dispelled. It is a formidable task, the completion of which has eluded many outstanding outfits in the past. Kilkenny have been the most consistently successful hurling county in the last decade or so, capturing no fewer than six All-Ireland crowns since 1972. In essence their success has been achieved through the moulding of two outstanding combinations, the present one and the star-studded side of the early seventies.

Many rate the latter, powered by such attacking aces as Eddie Keher, Mick Brennan, Pat Delaney and Mick Crotty as the finest team to emerge from the Marble County. Yet that Noreside squad failed to capture the three-in-a-row and had to be content with three out of four between '72 and '75, having succumbed to an exuberant Limerick side in '73.

Likewise, the Tipperary team of the early sixties, in my view, the most accomplished combination of the last two decades, failed to gain three on the trot, winning in '61, '62, '64

and '65 but losing the '63 Munster final to a Waterford side that was later shocked by Kilkenny in the All-Ireland decider.

It is obvious, therefore, that to maintain peak form over three successive seasons in the highly competitive hurling world is extremely difficult.

### ITS TOLL

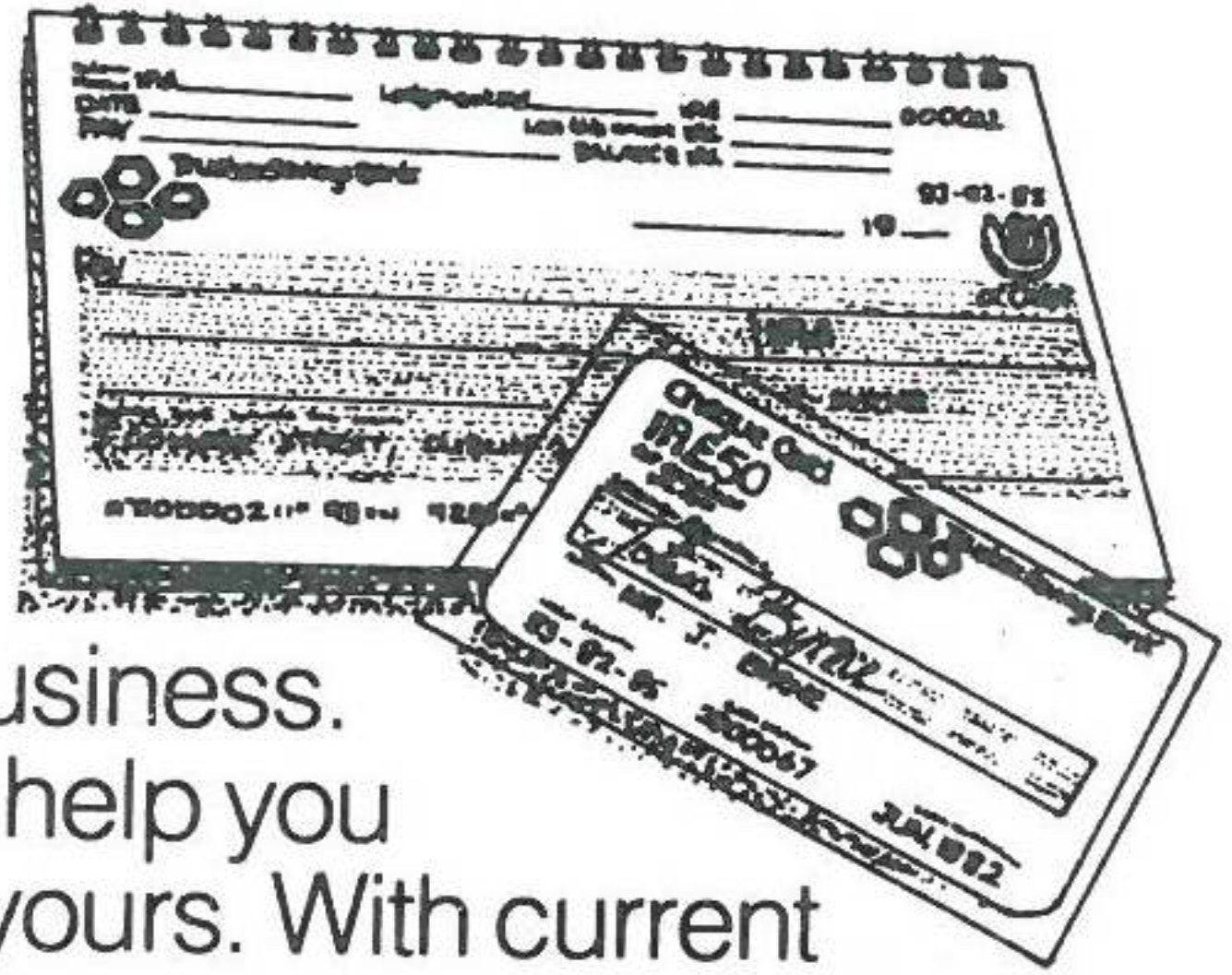
The '76-'78 Cork combination was the last to achieve this prestigious feat but it was noticeable that the Leesiders paid scant regard to their fortunes in the league during that period and, in fact, were relegated before completing the three-in-a-row.

The current Kilkenny squad, however, have been at full throttle in all competitions over the past two years and some suggest that this demanding schedule will take its toll this year. The fact that Kilkenny were stretched on several occasions on the road to last year's championship win is one of the prime reasons why their greatness remains in question.

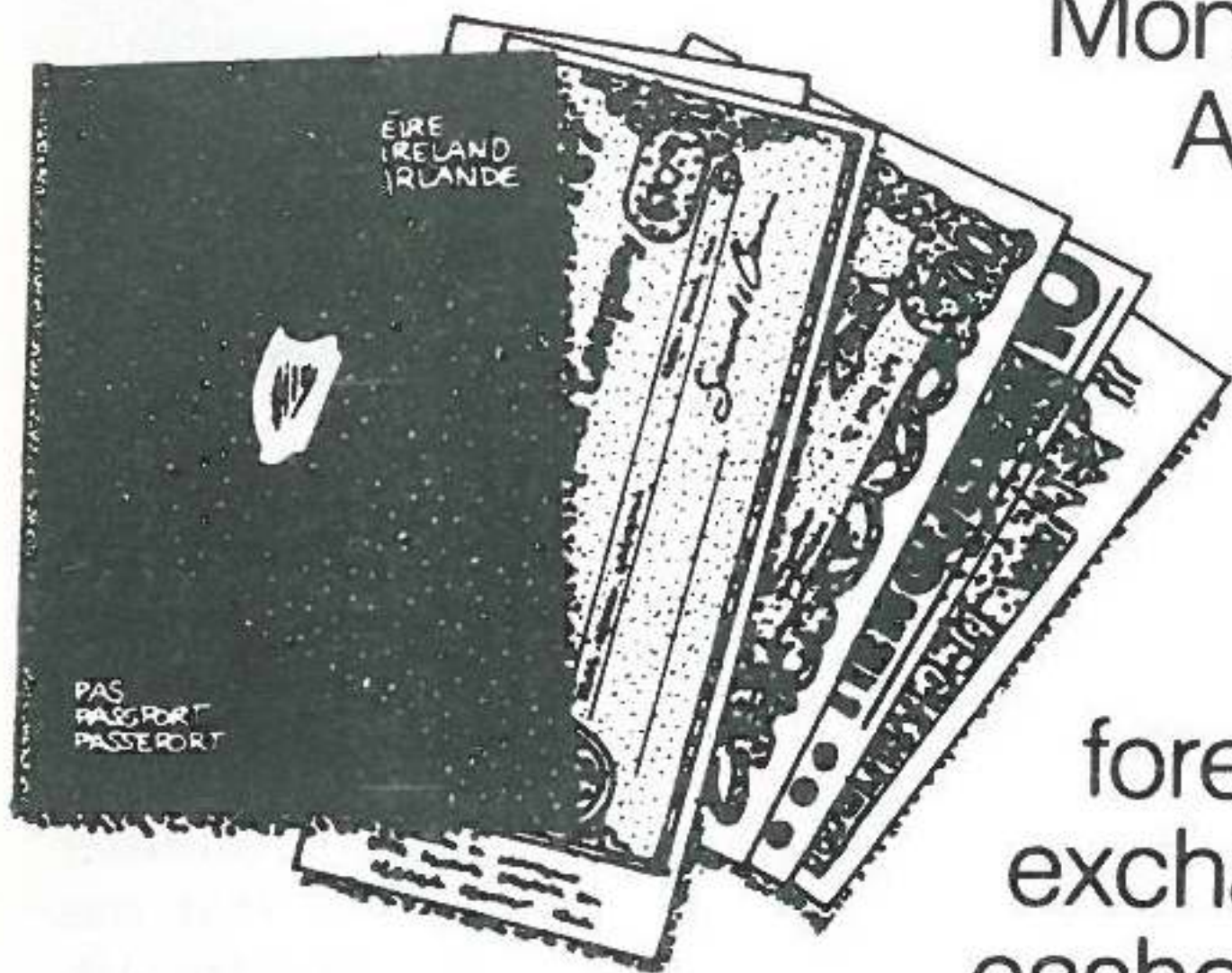
• TO PAGE 17

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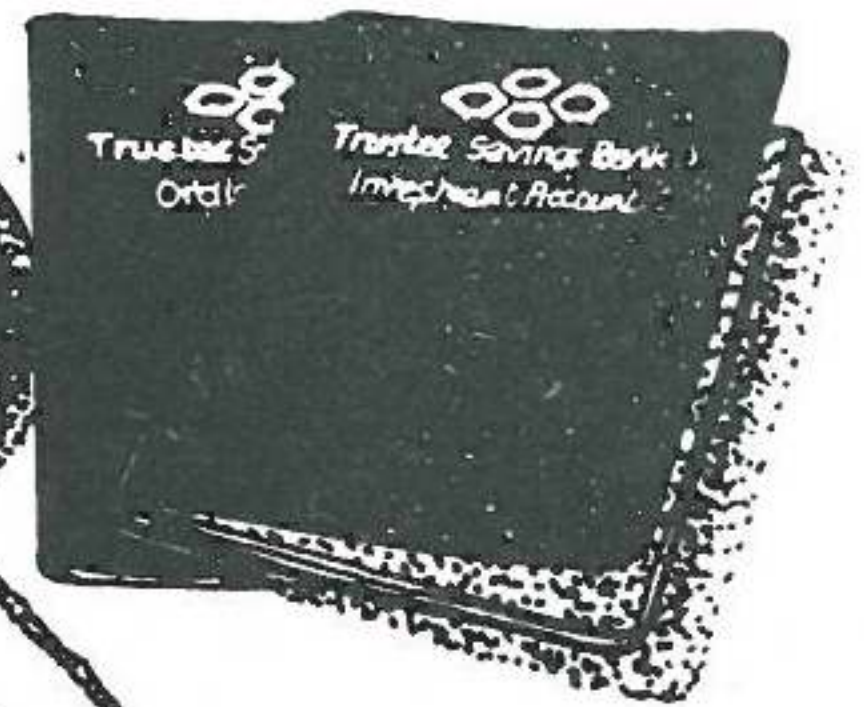
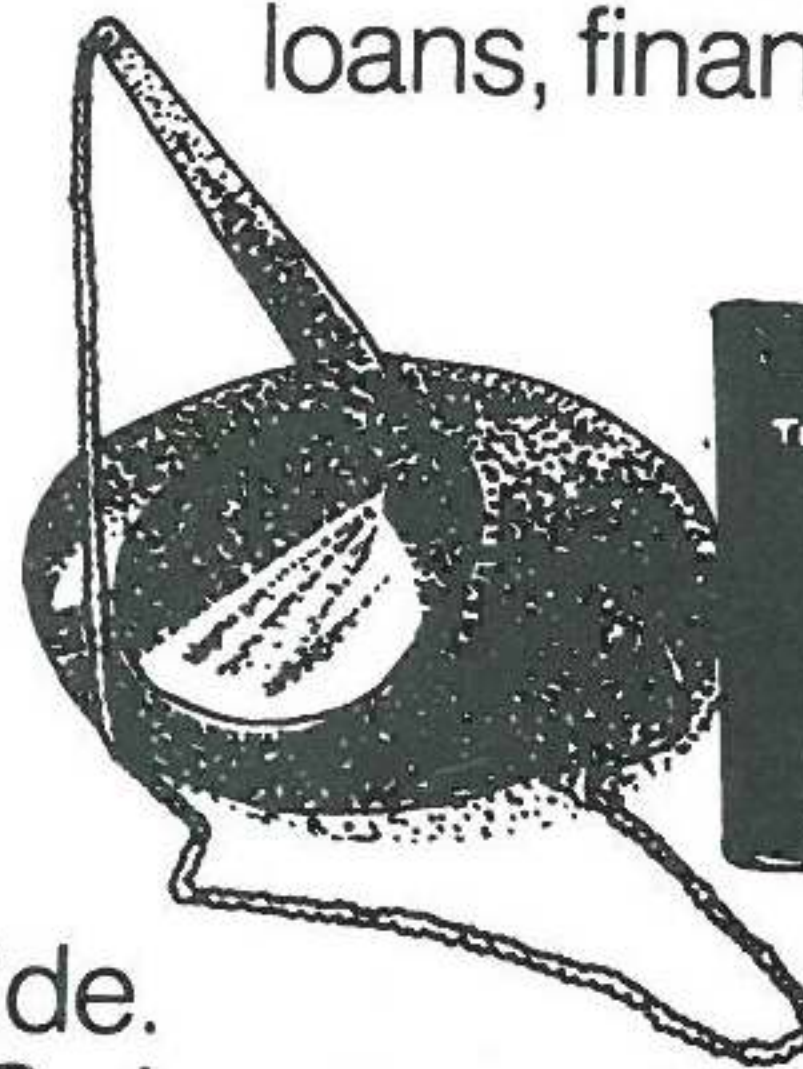


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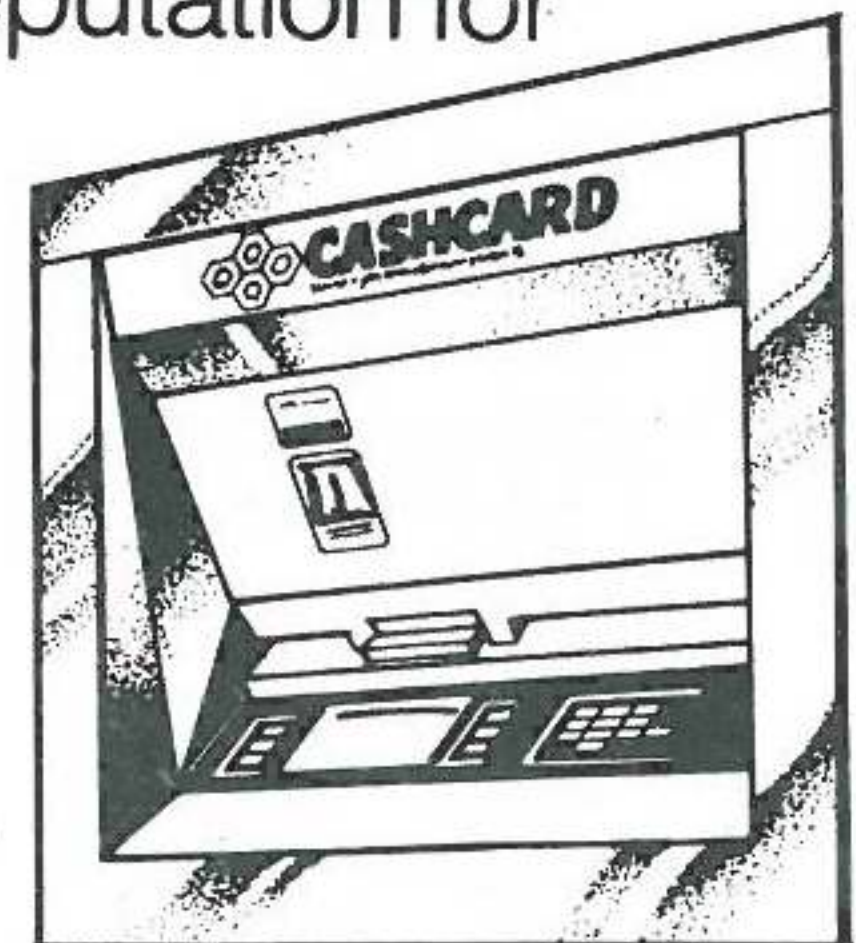


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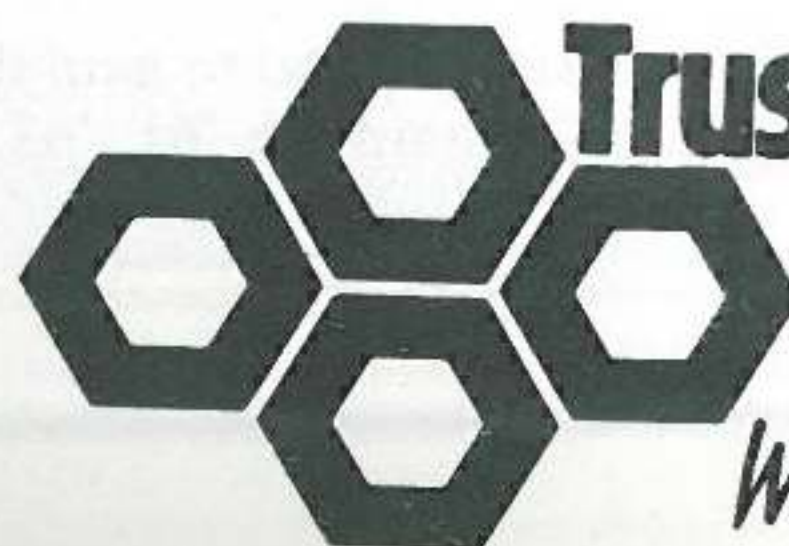
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● FROM PAGE 15

The cynics contend that the Kilkenny men have been living far too dangerously and that their 'luck' will not hold forever.

I feel, however that Kilkenny's stern tests last year will stand them in good stead when they embark on the journey towards championship glory again this season.

Tipp, in the early 'sixties, and Kilkenny, in the early 'seventies were seldom threatened during their glory years and dismissed most opposition with ease. Consequently, when a team did manage to raise its game against them, they were unaccustomed to the pressure and psychologically unequipped to cope. It will be recalled that Tipp's reign came to an end early in the '66 Munster championship when they were thrashed by an unrated Limerick squad at the old Cork Athletic Grounds while Wexford terminated Kilkenny's dominance with a similarly comprehensive victory in the '76 Leinster final.

### THIRD TRIUMPH

Steeled by last year's experience and unaffected by complacency the current Kilkenny king-pins are unlikely to abdicate so easily. They have proved that they relish a challenge and will respond admirably when the going gets tough. The road to a third All-Ireland triumph is laden with pit-falls but one suspects they would prefer it no other way.

Laois appear to pose merely a mild threat in the first round and it is Wexford, Offaly and Galway who promise to provide the severe obstacles to Kilkenny's qualification for the '84 final.

The Slaneysiders invariably scale the heights at the mere sight of the Black and Amber. Last year Wexford led comfortably in the provincial semi-final and Kilkenny were compelled to employ every ounce of their resilience and courage to save the day.

Still, Wexford have not emerged from Leinster since 1977, their main problem being an inability to infuse fresh talent into the side.

Last year, for instance, it was the



● Who will be holding aloft the Liam McCarthy Trophy in Thurles?

recalled John Quigley who inspired the Wexford challenge and it is almost two decades now since John first exploded on the national scene when he guided Wexford to victory in the '66 minor final over a Cork team which included future senior stars in Ray Cummins, Pat Moylan, John Horgan and Willie Walsh.

Galway and Offaly suffer from a similar if less severe malaise, depending, in the main, on the men who brought All-Ireland honours in '80 and '81 respectively for further success.

Kilkenny's superior balance and strength-in-depth should carry them to this year's final, therefore, where they will meet the Munster champions.

### THE TORCH

Before last year's campaign it was contended that the victors of the Cork-Limerick clash would win out in Munster and when Cork emerged victorious after two epic struggles, the Leesiders duly took the provincial crown with a decisive win over Waterford.

This season Cork and Limerick clash again and it will be a surprise if the winners are prevented from carrying Munster's torch in the All-Ireland series. Cork, fielding without such retired stalwarts as Ray

Cummins and Martin Doherty, did well to conquer Limerick last year after a disastrous All-Ireland defeat in '82 and an indifferent league campaign.

More settled this year they should succeed again against a Limerick squad which is also afflicted by the veteran syndrome, depending largely on such seasoned campaigners as Joe McKenna, Leo Enright and Liam O'Donoghue for inspiration.

By contrast Tipperary are sadly lacking in experienced performers and this handicap cost them victory against Waterford last year. The Decies' dismal display against Cork hardly enhanced Tipp's reputation subsequently.

The Premier County could qualify for this year's Munster final at the expense of either lowly-rated Clare or Waterford but one doubts if the youthful Tipp representatives are ready to make a major break-through.

Their hopes would be strengthened were Noel O'Dwyer — superb with Borrisoleigh in the recent Munster club championship — to receive a recall and Tipp's challenge cannot be completely dismissed, especially as they will be spurred on by the fact that the All-Ireland will be staged at Thurles this year.

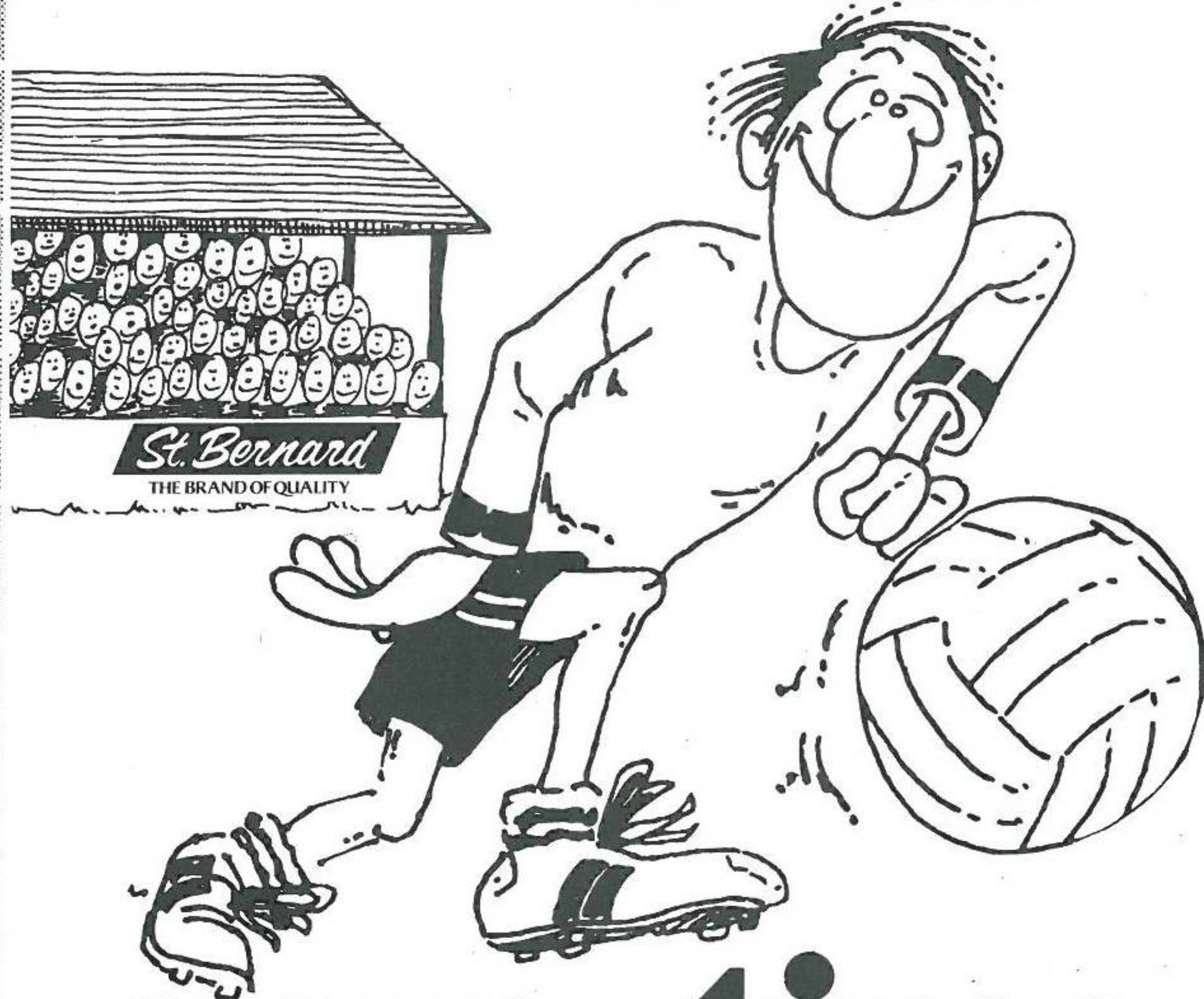
### THE SEAL

If fancy Kilkenny and Cork to make the decider, however, and perhaps an 'old firm' final would be most appropriate in this Centenary Year.

Cork folk argue that — due to the gale-force wind — the outcome of last year's final was always in the lap of the gods and Kilkenny succeeded simply because Dame Fortune was more generous to the champions on the day. And the more partisan Leeside fan still regards the demolition of his favourites in the '82 final as a freak result!

Kilkenny would dearly love to silence the audacious Corkmen once and for all this year and another Noreside victory would stamp the names of the current crop of Kilkenny heroes indelibly on the hurling history books. It would also set the seal, indisputedly, on their greatness.

# Everybody scores & wins



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with

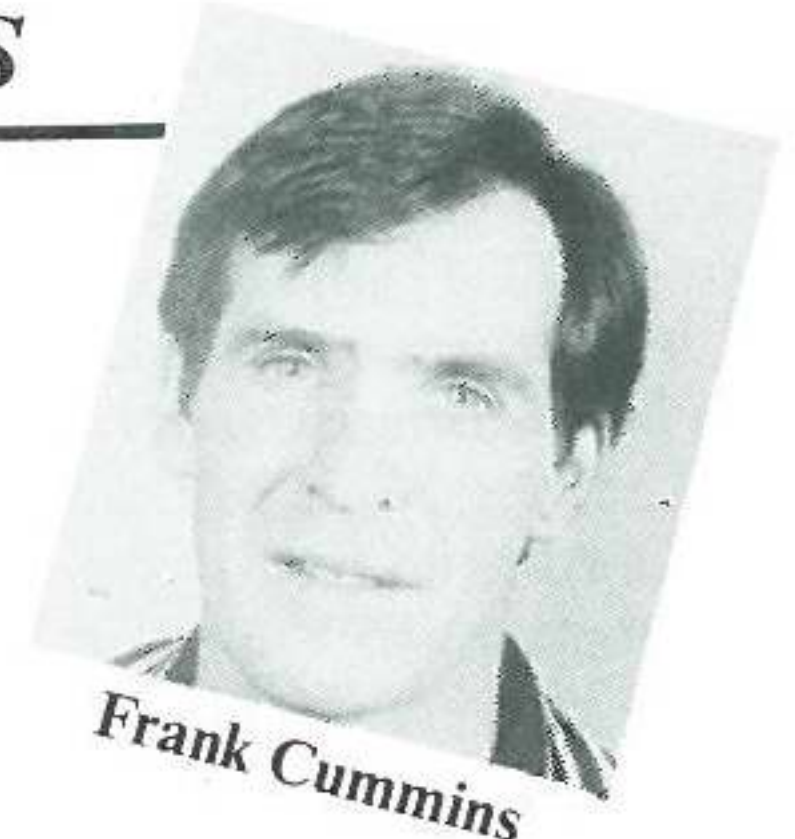
*St. Bernard*

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Tommy Drumm



Frank Cummins

# Tommy and Frank worthy winners

BY SHANE NEVILLE

**F**EW could really have been surprised by the selections of Frank Cummins and Tommy Drumm as the representatives from hurling and football among the Texaco Award winners of 1983. Each was not only a leading campaigner in his own sport over the past season, but also played a major part in his own team's All-Ireland senior title win.

But what is pretty remarkable in the case of Cummins is that his award comes at a time in his life when most others of his age have put away their sporting gear, at least as far as major competitions are concerned. The

Kilkenny hurler was a mere two months short of his 36th birthday when he took his place against Cork in the All-Ireland senior final last September.

There was nothing jaded, or tired about his performance, however. He put in a tremendous amount of useful work in midfield, and generally gave the lie with his showing to the assertion that sport is a young man's game. Cummins, in fact, was one of the brightest stars of the Kilkenny win.

That in itself was a wonderful achievement by Cummins, who first

stepped into the senior inter-county ranks as far back as 1966. His debut in the big time came ten years before Drumm took his place in the same ranks with the Dublin footballers, yet here they both are colleagues in a panel of top class performers for the year of 1983.

However, if Drumm does not match Cummins in terms of long-service, he at least can be said to stand shoulder to shoulder with the Kilkenny hurler in another vital feature in the make-up of the really class player — consistency in performance. Since winning his place in the Dublin senior side in 1976, the brilliant half-back has been consistency itself, and he really reached a peak in this regard in 1983 with his dependability in game after game as he led Dublin back from the shadows to a place in the sun once more.

Still, when it comes to consistency, Frank Cummins is out on his own in Gaelic sport, and probably also as far as the other Texaco award winners of the past year are concerned. In game after game, year after year, he has maintained a level of performance that has been almost unbelievable.

Even more remarkable is the fact that he has set this standard virtually in the same position over the years — the demanding centre of the park.

Cummins joined a select company of hurlers when he played in his seventh All-Ireland senior final winning side last September.

He has had a great innings as well with Leinster and helped the province to six titles between 1971 and 1977, one of the best records of medal wins by a Leinster hurler.

The Kilkenny midfielder also

• TO PAGE 21

## COMHAIRLE NA MUMHAN C.L.G.

### MUNSTER SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS 1984

#### IOMÁINT

- First Round: Clár v. Portlairge.  
Semi-Finals: Tiobraid Árann v. Clár nó Portlairge  
Corcaigh v. Luimneach  
15th July: Cluiche Ceannais — Sinsir agus Mionúir

#### PEIL

- First Round: Tiobraid Árann v. Portlairge  
Clár v. Luimneach  
Joe McGrath  
Cup Final: Tiobraid Árann nó Portlairge v.  
Clár nó Luimneach  
Semi-Finals: Ciarraí v. Tiobraid Árann nó Portlairge  
Corcaigh v. Clár nó Luimneach  
1st July: Cluiche Ceannais — Sinsir agus Mionúir

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● FROM PAGE 19

helped to usher in a new era in Gaelic games when he was chosen in the first Carrolls All Stars team in 1971. He retained his place in 1972, and then ten years later won his third trophy in the Bank of Ireland selection . . . another tribute to the consistency of performance that is the hallmark of Frank Cummins' hurling.

Cummins has been playing club hurling for some years with Blackrock, in Cork and there, too, his years in the game have been crowned with successes, including three All-Ireland club medals.

**BIG IMPACT**

Tommy Drumm cannot match the Kilkenny hurler's record of service, as I have said, or his All-Ireland senior medal wins, but even so, he,

too, has created a big impact in his years in football, and enjoyed more success than most.

It can safely be said of Drumm that he is the complete footballer — a man who combines individual brilliance, work-rate and drive with the ability to team-up at all times with his colleagues for the common good.

In view of this, it was not in the least surprising that Tommy, on taking over the role of captain for the first time last season, made an excellent job of the role. He had an excellent campaign, working tirelessly and unobtrusively all through that campaign that was climaxed with the win over Galway in the controversial final.

Drumm shone as Dublin won the All-Ireland senior titles of 1976 and 1977, and although the county failed to win the top award after that until last September, he continued to deliver the goods. So much so, in fact, that he added All Stars awards to his first of 1977 by making it three trophies in succession in 1979.

Drumm has also proven an outstanding link between the heady days of the 'Seventies, and the return to the top that was the 1983 campaign for Dublin. And, as the county gets down to serious preparation for their bid to retain the Sam Maguire Cup in this most important of years for the G.A.A., it is very encouraging for supporters that they have such a valuable unit as the Whitehall man.

Similarly, with Kilkenny. There has, happily, been no news of any of Kilkenny's long serving campaigners like Frank Cummins hanging up their hurleys, so that we can look forward to seeing more of the traditional consistent and high quality play from the wily midfielder.

Gaelic Games has always been proudly represented by their winners in the Texaco awards. Frank Cummins and Tommy Drumm are not only maintaining that tradition, but proudly blazing their own individual trails in terms of excellence, commitment, consistency and high standard of play.

**CUMANN LUTH-CHLEAS  
GAEL—COMHAIRLE  
ULADH**

Gaelic Athletic Association  
— Ulster Council

**FIXTURES  
1984**

SENIOR AND MINOR  
FOOTBALL  
CHAMPIONSHIPS

- May 20th: Down v Fermanagh (Newry)
  - May 27th: Cavan v Derry (Cavan)  
Antrim v Monaghan (Belfast)
  - June 3rd: Armagh v Donegal (Armagh)
  - June 10th: Tyrone v Cavan or Derry (Omagh or Ballinascreen)
  - June 17th: First semi - final, Armagh or Donegal v Monaghan or Antrim
  - June 24th: Second semi-final, Cavan or Derry or Tyrone v Down or Fermanagh.
- Final on July 15th.**

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• PADDY DOHERTY

**W**HAT was the greatest football team in inter-county games over the past 30 odd years? That is a question, one of the many, that I have heard asked as the Centenary Year has prompted many to hark back more than usual to the “good old days” as they ponder on the development of the G.A.A. up to this 100th birthday that the organisation is now celebrating.

I have been watching football matches regularly now for more years than I care to remember, and for a variety of reasons I find it difficult to put one team ahead of another. I just missed the great Mayo team that won the 1950 and 1951 All-Ireland senior titles, and when I started going regularly to games, Cavan were having their last great fling on the way to their last Sam Maguire Cup win in 1952.

I think the first of the great sides I saw was the Galway team that won the 1956 final, beating Cork for the Sam Maguire Cup. That side had a superb attacking axis in the “Terrible Twins”, Sean Purcell and Frankie Stockwell, who built up a wonderful understanding as they prompted the forward division with flair and class.

That 1956 team, however, had more than the twin attacking skills of Purcell and Stockwell. At the back, Jack Mahon, now our popular Junior Desk columnist, Jack

Mangan, who captained the side from goal, and Tom ‘Pook’ Dillon spearheaded a division that was solid, while Frank Evers and Mattie McDonagh formed a powerful midfield.

Yes, an outstanding team, but then four years later Down brought the Sam Maguire Cup across the Border for the first time. I was “in” on the birth of that Down team, in that I saw the side lose the 1958 Ulster senior final to Derry, but even in that defeat there were unmistakable signs of things to come.

Down won the 1959 Ulster title, lost heavily to Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final, but started the climb-back to the top by beating Cavan in 1960 in the first all-Ulster National League final.

Down completed the big double by beating Offaly in a replay, and Kerry in the final for the county’s first All-Ireland senior title. Then, for good measure, the Mourne men retained the Sam Maguire Cup in 1961.

That Down team was as near to the perfect machine as made no difference. There was ability in every department, skilled players who went about their game with an exactness and determination that proved the key to success. And now when football is suffering so badly from a shortage of personalities, Down had stars all over the field —

# FOR CENTENARY YEAR TOM REY YEARS OF SPECTATING AND TELL TOP OF HI

# THE MEN FROM

## NOT SATISFIED TO CHOOSE HIS TOP TEAM TOM GO

men like Leo Murphy and Pat Rice, full backs of the highest standard, Joe Lennon, a deep thinking half back, Jarlath Carey, dependable at midfield, and in the attack the silken skills of Paddy Doherty, a man who seldom missed a shot at goal, Sean O’Neill, Brian Morgan and the bustling and match-winning James McCartan.

Outstanding footballers all, in a team of rare quality and power.

**The rest of the ‘sixties for my money belonged to Galway. After losing out to Dublin in the ‘63 final, the Westerners bounced back to complete the only treble of Sam Maguire Cup wins by a Western team — 1964-1966 inclusive.**

Some are inclined to make light of that Galway treble because the side managed to score only one goal in the three winning finals. A mealy-mouthed attitude, that, concerning a team that beat Kerry in two deciders, and finished the run with a deserved win over a really good Meath team.

Look, too, at some of the giants of that team — Johnny Geraghty, a powerful candidate for ranking as the greatest goal-keeper of them all, Noel Tierney, a mighty full back, Martin Newell, stylish and so competent in the half back line, Cyril Dunne, one of the true scoring giants of any era, and a man who shared the spotlight



**NOLDS RECALLS OVER THIRTY  
S US WHY HE CHOOSES TO PUT  
S LIST...**

# THE MOURNES

**ES ON TO PICK HIS BEST FIFTEEN OF THAT ERA**

with Paddy Doherty (and that says a lot) in the best manner possible, the Donnellans, Pat and John, darting Seamus Leydon, and Sean Cleary, a wily forward.

So far I have not mentioned Kerry teams at all. Rather strange, you may say, in view of the Kingdom's proud place in football. I don't think so.

But I would suggest that when it comes to talking about *great* Kerry teams of the period, one must wait until the 'seventies. And, before that we had the arrival of Offaly, with their first Sam Maguire Cup win ever in 1971, and the successful defence of the trophy the following year in a final replay with Kerry.

The fact that they became one of the few counties to beat the Kingdom in a replay entitles the Offaly side of the early 'seventies to command a proud place among the top combinations.

A sunny springtime dawned for Dublin in 1974, when they beat Galway for a first All-Ireland title in 11 years. Then, after losing to Kerry surprisingly in the final the following September, Dublin flowered magnificently when proving too good for all comers in 1976 and 1977.

The Metropolitans produced some of the best football we have seen during that golden era. Their movements were fluent, well thought out and put together with a dash and

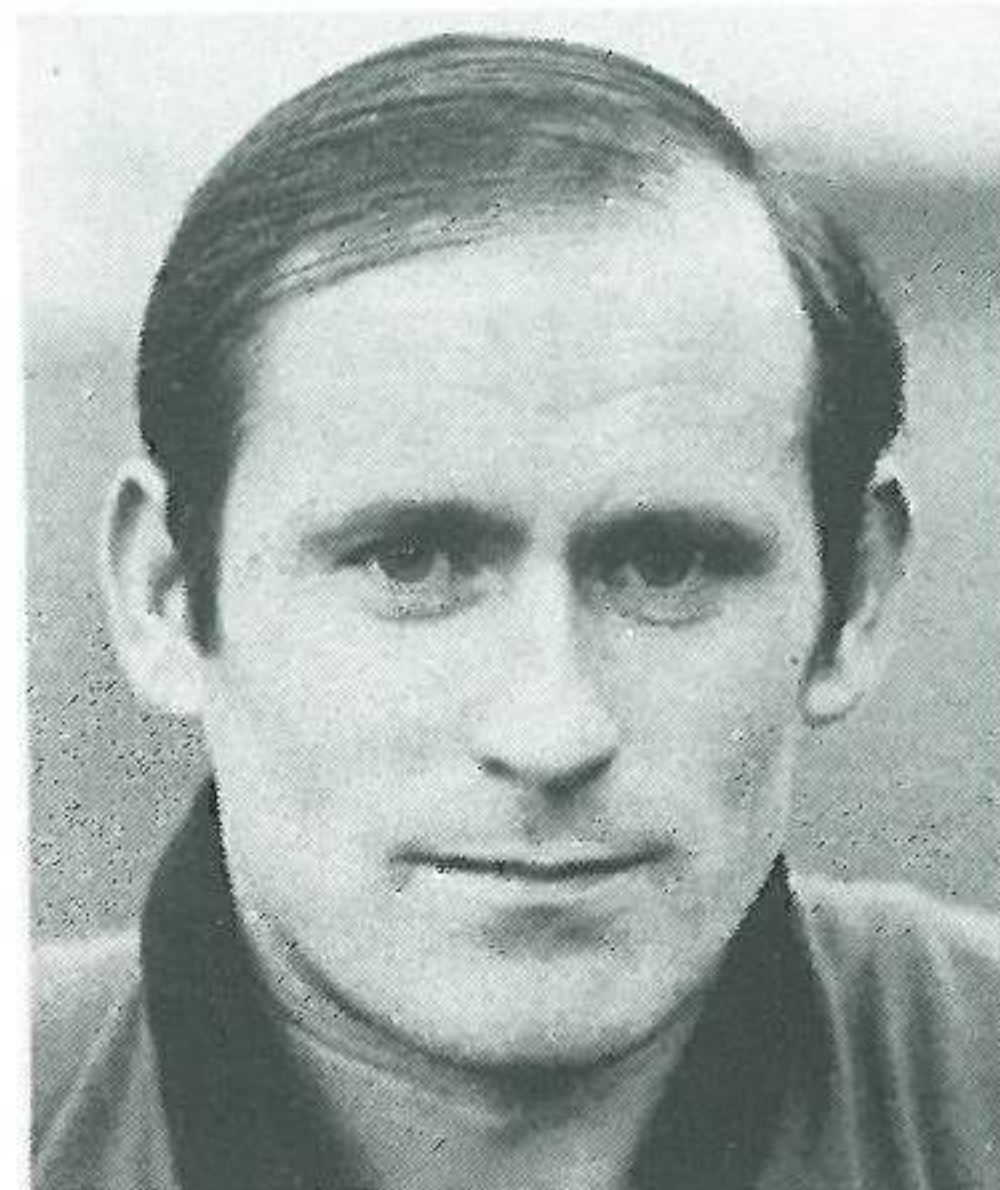
authority that had many of us gasping in awe as the Dubs turned on the style that packed the grounds, delighted the fans, from whatever county, and won new respect, and not to mention, further honours, for the county.

Whatever the future may hold for Dublin football, the exploits of top scoring Jimmy Keaveney, one of the best of the marksmen, shrewd leader Tony Hanahoe, tireless Bobby Doyle, magnificent Brian Mullins in midfield and Kevin Moran and Robbie Kelleher will live for ever.

**Dublin brought a new dimension to the game with that team, a type of "professionalism" if one may use the word that enhanced the prestige and the status of Gaelic football, and boosted the sport no end as a crowd-packer.**

Then, there was the Kerry team of the late 'seventies and the early 'eighties. What a wonderful run that Kingdom side had, a run that was only ended on the edge of a record fifth All-Ireland senior title in succession by Seamus Darby's late, late goal in the 1982 final.

A team has to be good to win an All-Ireland title. It takes something special to retain the Sam Maguire Cup, but skills have to be honed to as near perfection as makes no difference, and commitment has to be almost monk-like for a side to



• SEAN O'NEILL

remain on top for virtually five years.

Offaly folk will not agree, but looking back now, I say that it is a pity that Kerry did not set the seal on that era by becoming the first county to win five All-Ireland senior football titles in succession.

That would have been a just reward for the efforts that many put in to keep Kerry on top for so long. But if the record eluded the Kingdom, all of us who watched the Kerry performances were lucky enough to have enjoyed the sheer magic and uncanny football ability of Michael Sheehy, in my view the greatest sharpshooter the South has produced, Pat Spillane, a footballer of exceptional ability, Ger Power, who shone both as a back and a forward, Jack O'Shea, a midfield general if ever there was one, Paudie O'Shea, so tireless and so great-hearted in defence, John O'Keeffe, giant of a full back, and Charlie Nelligan, the man who kept such an excellent goal all through.

So, where do we go from there? Was that Kerry team the greatest of them all since the early 'fifties, simply because the team won more All-Ireland titles in a row than any other? Or was the Down team that took the title North in 1960 better because that side had to break through a psychological barrier in that until

• TO PAGE 25

# A few encouraging words from Texaco.

## “TEXACO SPORTS STAR AWARDS”

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And that's encouraging for us too.



Putting our energy into Ireland's future.



● Pat Spillane, left, with Cork's Kevin Kehily in foreground. Pat must surely rate as one of the all-time greats of Gaelic football.

● FROM PAGE 23

then there was no tradition of wins for teams from the "Wee Six"?

Then, what of that powerful squad of the 'sixties that did so much to boost Connacht's standards to the greatest heights ever? Or the crowd-packing Dublin glamour crew of the 'seventies?

A strong case can be made for each selection. But the more I look back on past events, and consider all the angles, the more I am inclined to the view that the top spot must go to Down of the 'sixties.

**I give the vote to the Northerners on the basis of the following points:**

1. While all the selections had skilled players in all sectors, and were well schooled in their own special brand of top-class and efficient play, only Down defied tradition in climbing to greatness.

Remember, no Down team, let alone a team from the North, other than Cavan, had won the Sam Maguire Cup prior to 1960. Down had to break that barrier; had to put aside that old morale deflating "We

have not a chance" attitude. They rose to that challenge magnificently.

2. Down had also to mount their climb to the top from the ashes of a disappointing defeat from Galway in the 1959 All-Ireland semi-final, a defeat that convinced many at the time that it would take years for a team from the Six Counties to win the title.

3. On their final debut Down were presented with probably the most difficult task of all for newcomers to the showpiece game — a show-down with Kerry. They also rose to that challenge in great style.

4. Down consolidated their position in 1961. They showed that their performances the previous year were not mere "flashes in the pan" by retaining the Sam Maguire Cup in the most convincing way possible. There was another win over Kerry, that one in the semi-final, and then Offaly, rated unlucky by many to have lost to Down in a semi-final replay in 1960, were beaten in the biggest crowd-pulling final in history.

**Those, then, are my main reasons for putting Down ahead of the field.**

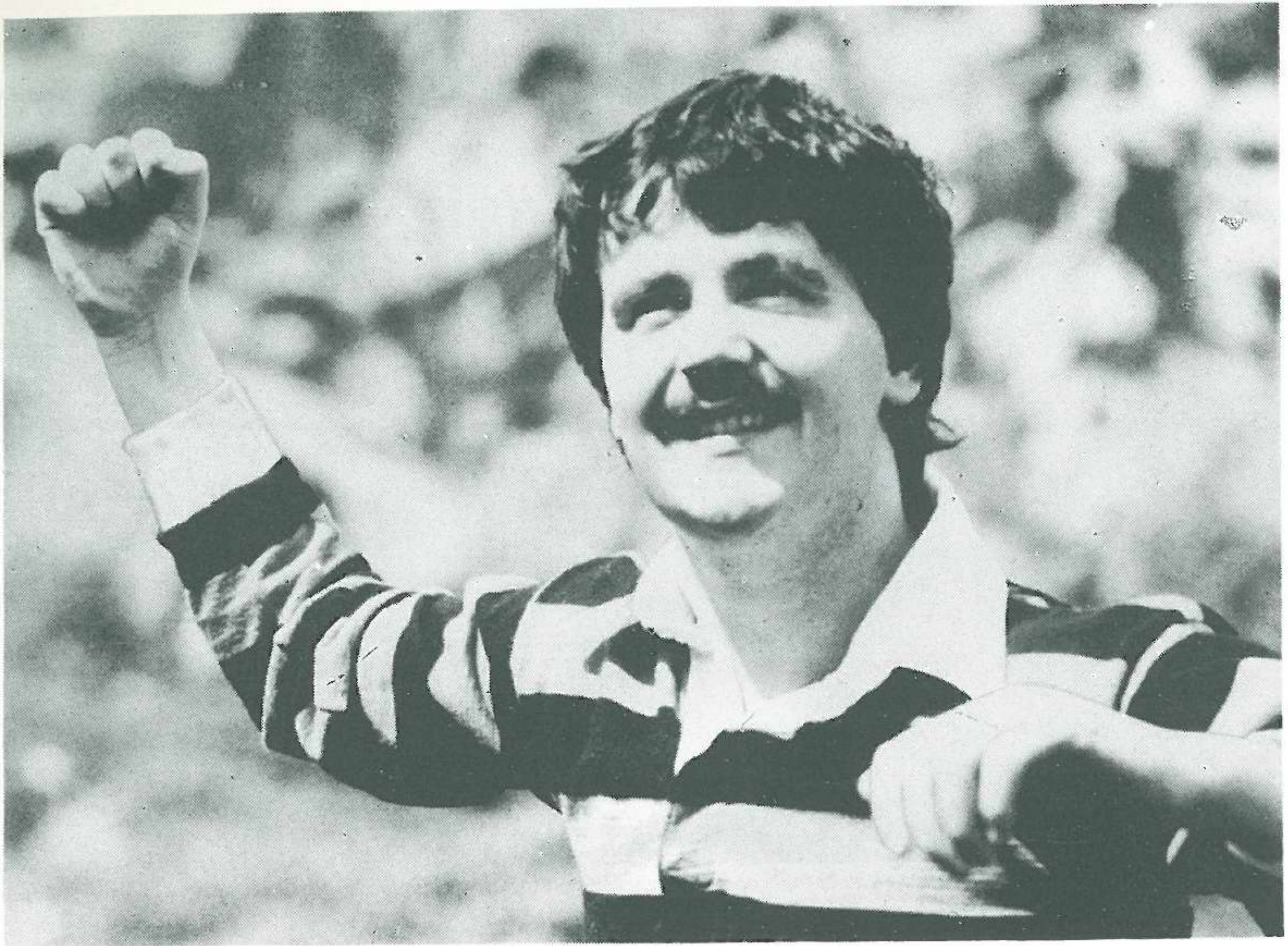
To finish, I am going to take my courage in my hands, and select my team of teams, composed of players I have watched in football over the years.

Naturally enough, the great selections I have been writing about dominate the selection. Indeed, I can manage, after much thought, to accommodate only one player from the other All-Ireland title winning teams of the period — Pat Reynolds (Meath).

So, here goes:

**Johnny Geraghty (Galway); Enda Colleran (Galway), John O'Keeffe (Kerry), Robbie Kelleher (Dublin); Paudie O'Shea (Kerry); Dan McCartan (Down); Pat Reynolds (Meath); Jack O'Shea (Kerry); Brian Mullins (Dublin); Sean O'Neill (Down); James McCartan (Down); Paddy Doherty (Down); Michael Sheehy (Kerry); Jimmy Keaveney (Dublin); Pat Spillane (Kerry).**

What do you think of that squad?



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**HOLY MACKEREL!**



*Prudence debarsus from using stronger expletives at our utter amazement at the omission of John O'Leary (in foreground) from the 1984 Bank of Ireland All-Star Award Winners. We won't labour the point that without John's consistently outstanding displays during '83, Dublin would not now be All-Ireland Champions. But we would refer to R.T.E.'s '83 save-of-the-year competition. In the six clips shown three feature John O'Leary. Two of the other three clips featured COLLEGES games. 'Nuff said.*



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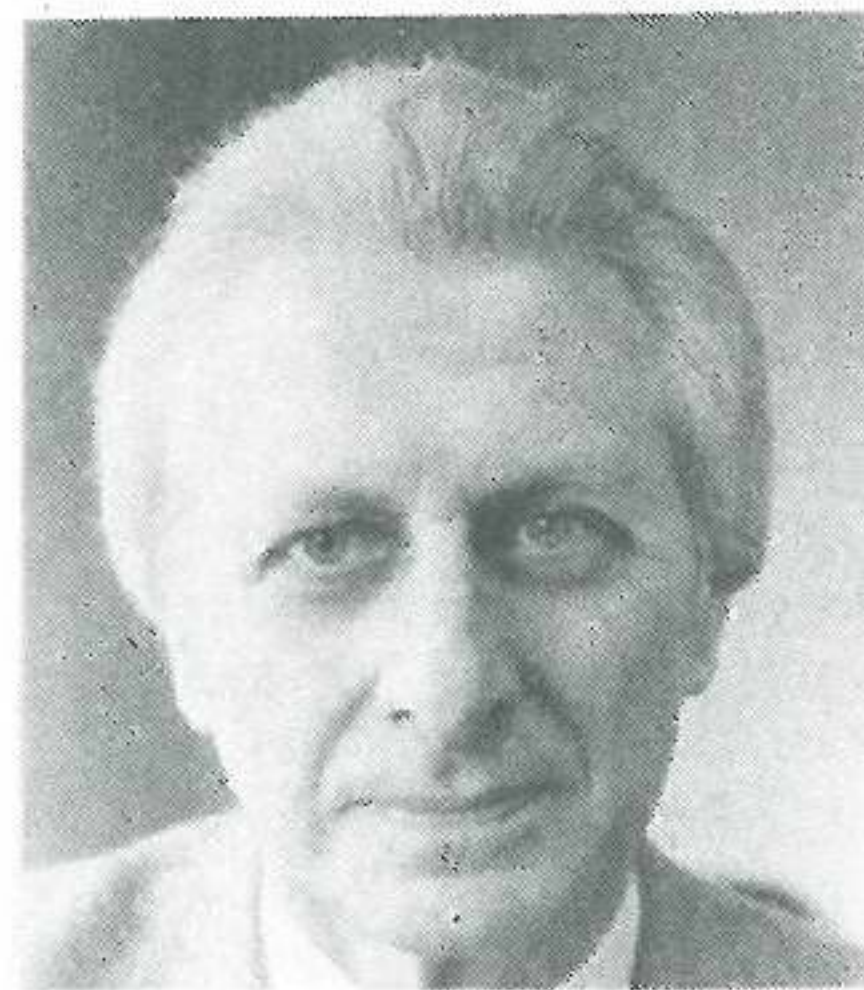
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## GAA Reporting by Paddy Downey



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His reports and comments, his criticism when that is necessary, are always balanced and fair. But then, you'd expect no less from a writer who has won the Gallaher and Benson & Hedges awards as Sports Journalist of the Year four times in all in the past fourteen years.

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Read *The Irish Times* and judge for yourself. Of course it's not a one-man team. You'll enjoy reading the rest of them, too.

# THE IRISH TIMES

## RAILWAY CUP COMMENT

# If only the other provinces displayed Ulster's positive attitude

BY JOHN NOONAN

**H**ATS off to Ulster! In an era when it is fashionable to decry the Railway Cup, and the value of the competition in the modern fixtures schedule, the Northern province continues to set the best possible headline in advertising the prestige of the interprovincial tests.

Ulster regained the football title last year at Cavan, and the North began preparations for the defence of the trophy with warm-up matches in January. Once more, Brian McEniff, the man who masterminded last year's Cup win, and also Donegal's climb to the top in the Ulster senior championship last summer, is again team manager.

The North's steady build-up for the Railway Cup is the type of progressive preparation that the competition needs in all provinces if the interprovincial tests are to regain some of the glamour of old.

It would be idle to expect the competitions to return to the old position when the games were among the greatest crowd-packers of the

year. But I am still convinced they can prove strong attractions, and worthwhile vehicles in advancing the cause of football and hurling—in the strong as well as the weaker counties.

Talking of the weaker counties, and it was good to see Antrim midfielder Dermot Graham, from Ahoghill, figuring in McEniff's plans for the Railway Cup. He was included in the panel of players for the warm-up ties.

Antrim has, for far too long now, been out of the top honours, and no footballer from the county has won a Railway Cup medal in years.

Still on the weaker counties — and Tommy O'Riordan, the Leitrim county secretary, had some pertinent remarks to make concerning the publicity given by the national papers to the top teams and to others, like Leitrim, when he presented his report to the county convention.

O'Riordan referred to an imbalance between the publicity given to the top teams and the not so

strong ones, and he had a good point. At the same time, it must be stressed that the main interest among followers in general, centres around the exploits of teams like Kerry, Dublin, Offaly, in football, and Kilkenny, Cork and Wexford in hurling.

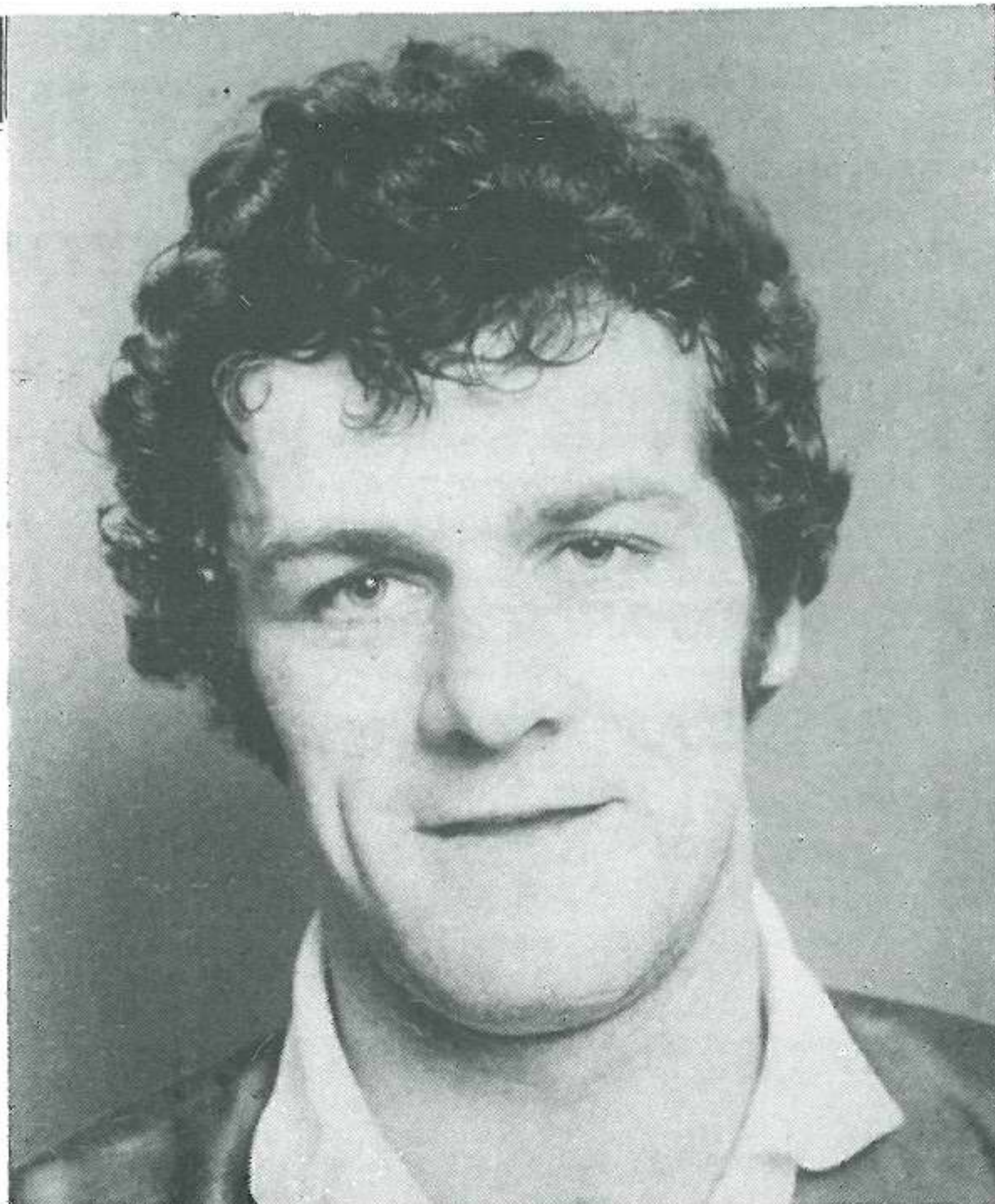
If Leitrim, and others, could make a worth-while break-through into the big time, then they would be assured of plenty of publicity. That's a fact of life. Still, it is fair enough to say that teams in the lower divisions of the National League are deserving of more publicity nationally.

### UP CORK

You have got to hand it to Cork teams in the All-Ireland club hurling championship. The Leaside combinations have dominated the championship since the series was inaugurated.

Which brings me to Midleton. The Cork club did really well to regain the county senior championship in hurling after an interval of 67 years —

• TO PAGE 31



*Jack O'Shea . . . Kerry's star midfielder coached Walters-town of Meath, to victory in the Leinster Senior Club Championship.*

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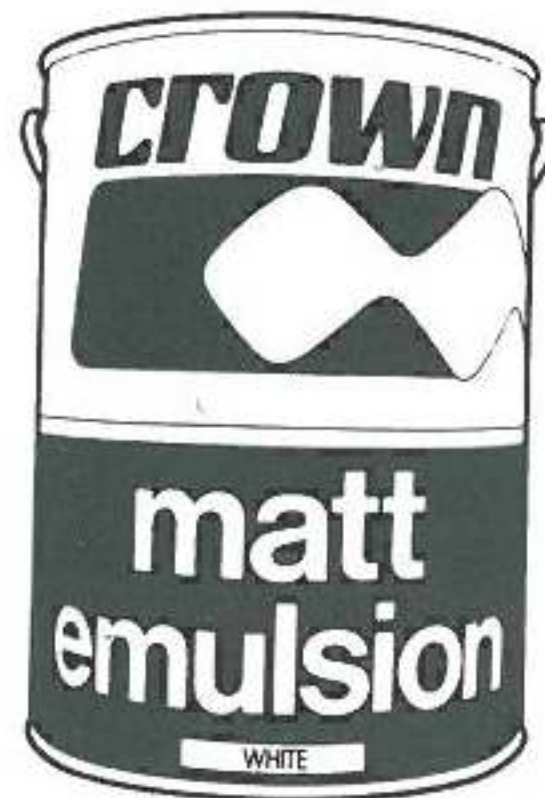
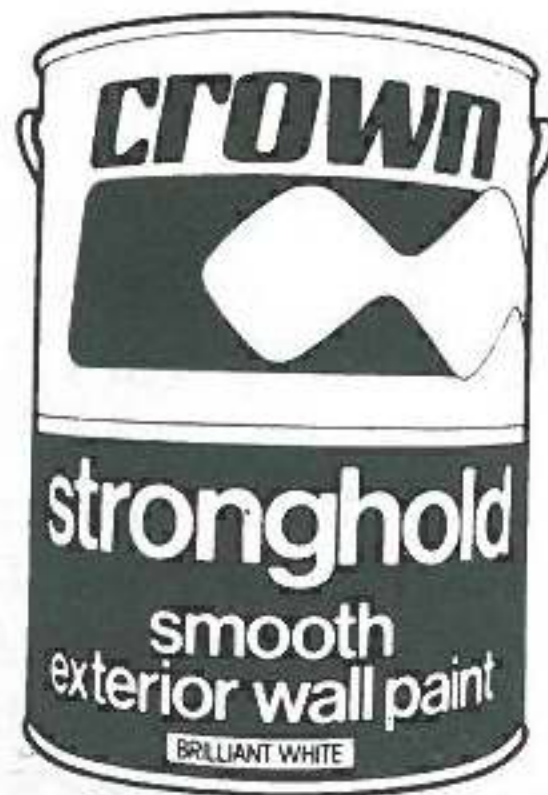
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● FROM PAGE 29

the first non-city team to take the crown since 1966.

John Fenton was an inspiring captain, and scored nine of his team's points. The Cork captain and Midleton captain was also the man who ensured that his team had a winning run all the way in their debut year in the Munster senior championship.

Fenton scored a goal three minutes from time to clinch a three points win over Borrisoleigh, of Tipperary, in the final replay at Kilmallock to make 1983 a truly golden year for the club.

Another of the golden heroes of 1983, whose exploits have brought added awards in this Centenary Year is Tommy Drumm. His excellent and consistent play last year with Dublin earned him not only the Texaco award in football (his achievements are dealt with more fully in this issue) but a special place as a unanimous choice — the only one — for a 1984 Bank of Ireland All Star.

No mean achievement that. But then, Drumm, from the Whitehall Colmcille club on the city's North side, has been one of the true artists in football in modern times, and had one of his best years ever in 1983.

But, will Dublin retain the Sam Maguire Cup this season? A difficult question that to attempt to answer, but despite the county's in and out form since the win over Galway in that controversial All-Ireland final, it would be foolish to lightly dismiss their hopes of another great run.

There is plenty of talent in the county, and once the big build-up moves into gear in the coming months, I am prepared to see Dublin in there challenging strongly for another crown.

However, the team I think that has the strongest chance of all of retaining a provincial title this year is Galway. They have come back well from the debacle that was their loss to Dublin last September, and won Division II of the National League and top Divisional status for next season.

Footballers like Seamus McHugh, Brian Talty, Stephen Joyce and Gay McManus can do much to ensure that Galway prove the team they all have to beat in the West.

### KERRY BACK

What price a come-back by Kerry? Well, Kerry must always command respect, and they will be keener than ever to return to the top, not only because of the year that is in it, but because of their heart-breaking defeats by Offaly in the 1982 All-Ireland final, and Cork in the Munster decider.

Kerry could hardly have greeted the New Year in a better position than found them League leaders in Division I with seven points from five games. That's the type of foundation

from which Kerry are capable of springing forward to greatness this year.

Then, if Jack O'Shea lost out on the medals front in 1983, he had the satisfaction of being "in" on another provincial title win as coach of the Walterstown team that won the Leinster senior club championship.

Finally, while it is early days yet, I am prepared to stick out my neck and nominate these teams as my forecasts for provincial crowns in football this summer: Donegal, Dublin, Galway and Kerry.

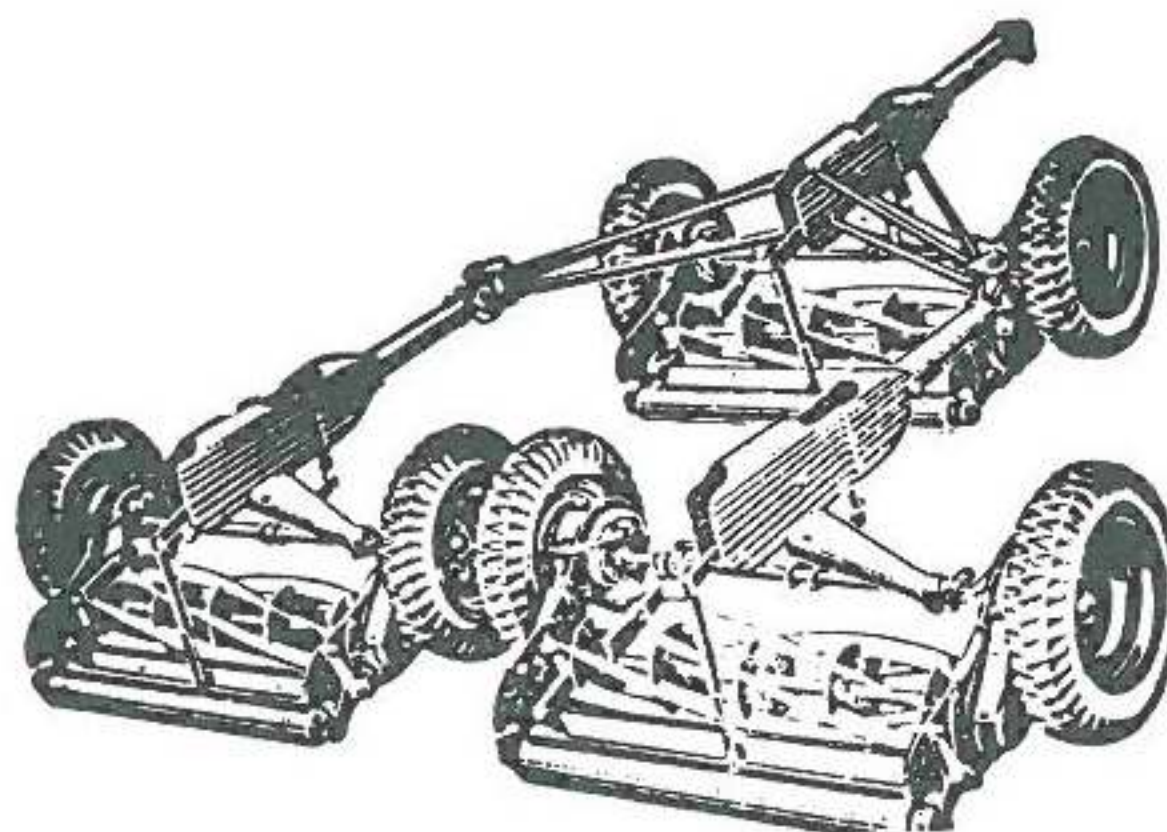
And the last, last word. I will go further in hurling and say that Kilkenny WILL retain the All-Ireland senior hurling crown.

We will just have to wait and see how these forecasts come out.

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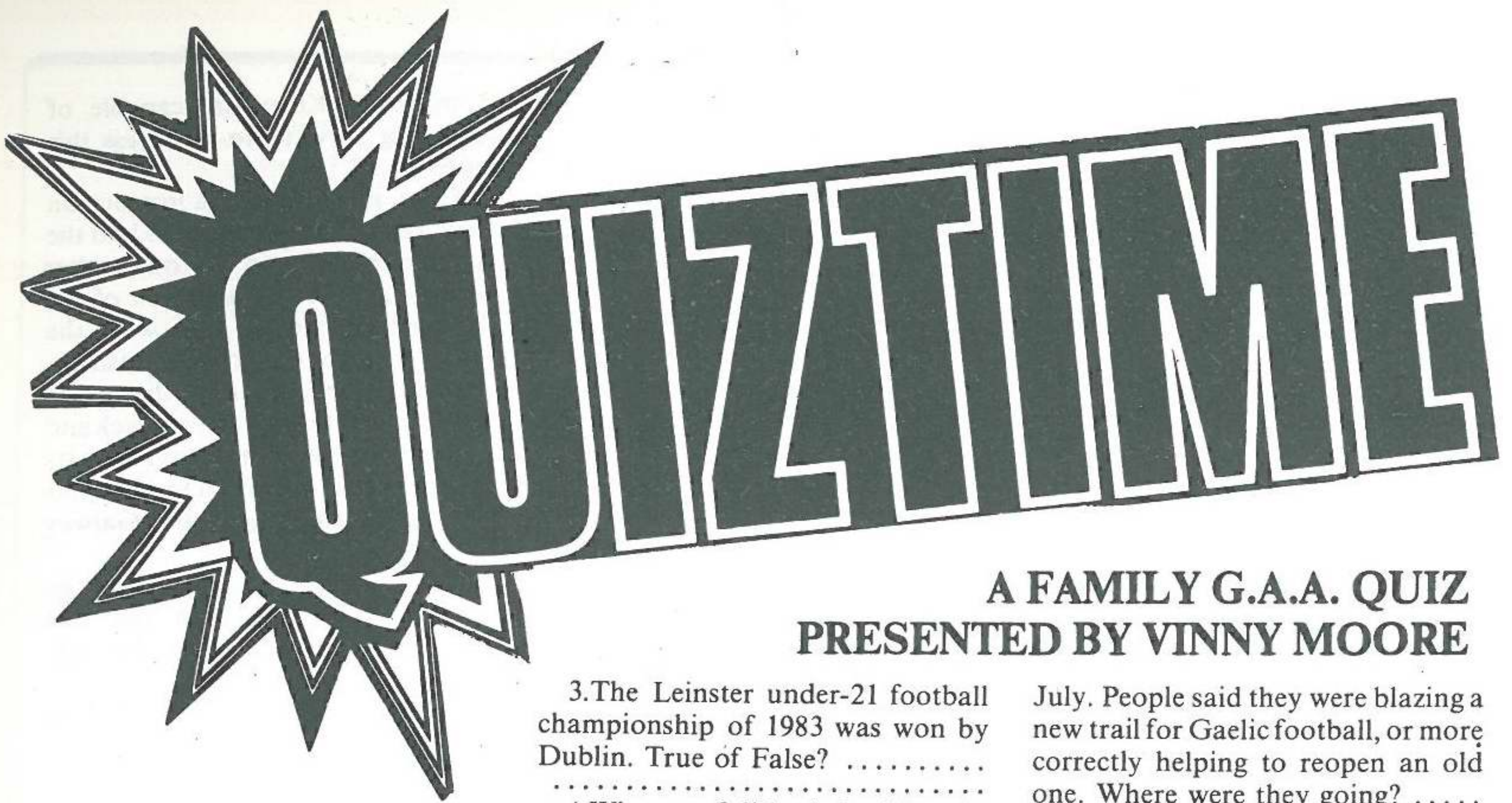


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# QUIZTIME

## A FAMILY G.A.A. QUIZ PRESENTED BY VINNY MOORE

**A** SOMEWHAT new approach to our popular family quiz in this issue. The "exercise course" is given under the heading for each section in the quiz, so I will confine myself here to as few points as possible.

Our questions cover a broad range of subjects and over a number of years. We also touch on all aspects of Gaelic Games, hurling, football, handball and camogie and over the various grades as well.

As usual, our points system is incorporated. This is designed merely to give added edge to the Quiz. If YOU return a good points total, then well-done. Should you finish well down the field, do not be too downhearted... you may well be in good company!

So, good luck, and let's get under way.

### WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

Test your knowledge over a broad spectrum of recent Gaelic Games activity in this wide-ranging series of twelve questions.

1. What school won the All-Ireland Colleges' senior hurling championship in 1983? .....

2. Who was in goal for Ulster when they won the Railway Cup football title last March in Cavan? .....

3. The Leinster under-21 football championship of 1983 was won by Dublin. True or False? .....

4. Who was full back for Mayo in their unsuccessful Connacht senior football bid against Galway in July last? .....

5. This handballer completed a rare double by winning the All-Ireland Coco-Cola open senior singles championship in September for the first time. Earlier in the year he had won the 40 x 20 senior national title. Who is he? .....

6. What county finished runners-up for the Munster minor football title of 1983? .....

7. The All-Ireland senior hurling final will be played in Thurles in September. What was the last major championship game, naturally enough a Munster tie, played at the Tipperary venue? .....

8. Claire Cronin was chosen the B+I Camogie Player of the Year just before Christmas. Name her county team? .....

9. Dublin contested five All-Ireland team finals in Gaelic Games in 1983. Can you name three of the deciders in question? .....

10. A group of young Dublin schoolboys left Dublin Airport last

July. People said they were blazing a new trail for Gaelic football, or more correctly helping to reopen an old one. Where were they going? .....

11. Why had Dublin followers, especially those on the North side of the city, more than the usual interest in the Connacht senior football final last summer? .....

12. Juggling with names and counties, a la magical Paul Daniels style, and can you link the players and the counties? Here is our list of players: John McCormack, Edel Murphy, Ollie Harold, Mickey Quinn, Aine Ní Shithigh and Frank McCann. And the counties: Leitrim, Meath, Dublin, Longford, Kilkenny and Dublin. ....

Marks on offer: Five for each question other than No. 12, which is worth 15. Over-all total possible 60.  
YOUR RECORD .....

### THE TITLE TESTERS

Know the winners of the principle titles in recent times? Well here is your chance to prove just how expert you are.

1. Name the All-Ireland minor hurling and football champions of 1980 .....

2. Queen's University, Belfast, won the Sigerson Cup, the



Universities' championship in football, in 1982. True or false? ..  
 .....  
 3. What College took the Fitzgibbon Cup, the Universities' hurling championship in 1983. Name the Colleges concerned ..  
 .....  
 6. Roscommon's Clan na Gael were runners-up for the All-Ireland club senior football title in the spring of 1983. Can you remember who conquered the Westerners? ..  
 .....  
 7. What county won the IRISH PRESS Cup in 1982? ..  
 .....  
 8. One now for the real expert: Name the county senior football champions of 1983 in Galway, Down, Louth and Kerry? ..  
 .....  
 9. If you know the championship that has the Bob O'Keeffe Cup as the prize for the winners, this question

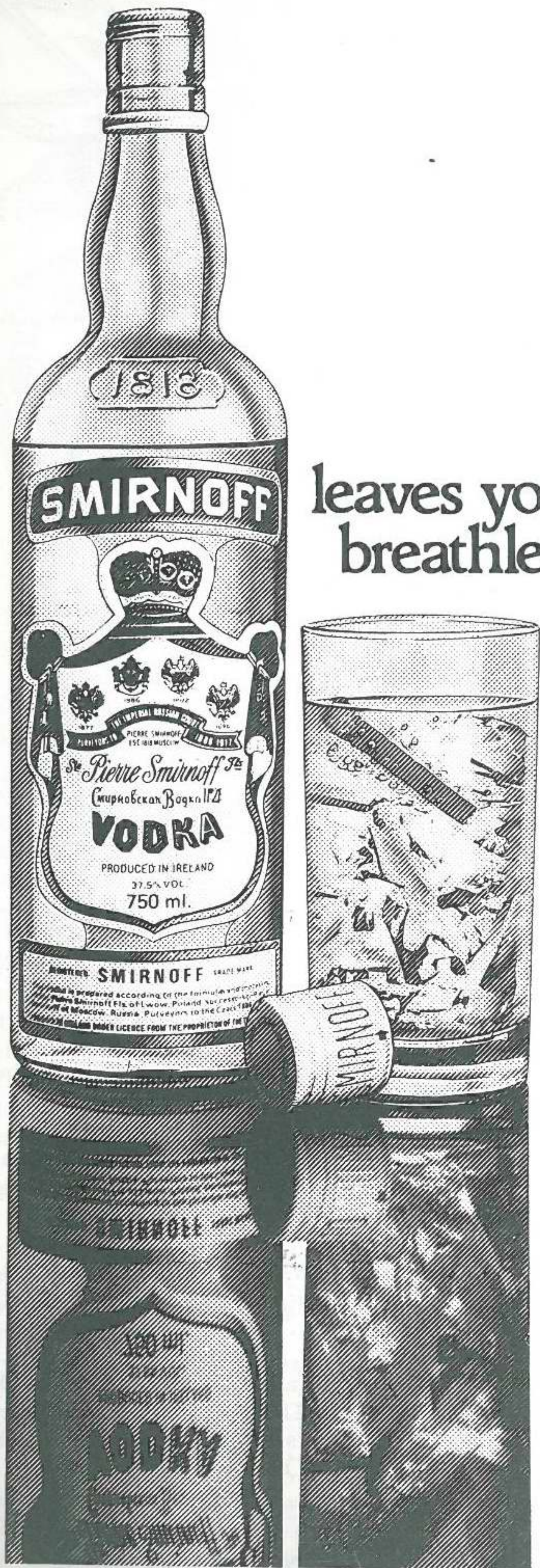
will not present too big a problem. If not, have a guess: Where is the Bob O'Keeffe Cup held in triumph at present? ..  
 .....  
 10. Who won the All-Ireland under-21 crowns in 1983? ..  
 .....  
 A difficult enough section, so a few extra points. Five points for each question except No. 8. One point for each county champion named, and ten points in all if all four named correctly. So, No. 8 could earn you ten points. And, help yourself to a bonus of ten points if you "go through the card" correctly.  
 Thus, 65 points may be gained from this section. How did you fare?  
 .....  
 .....

**IN THE PICTURE**

Our photograph is of a leading team side of the not so distant past. See what you know of the team

and its achievements.  
 1. This selection won the All-Ireland senior football title in what year? ..  
 .....  
 2. Who was captain in that title triumph? ..  
 .....  
 3. Who is the player on the extreme left in the back row? ....  
 .....  
 4. What position in the final winning team was filled by the player on extreme right in the front row?  
 .....  
 5. What county finished runners-up to our IN THE PICTURE squad?  
 .....  
 Five points for each correct answer, and a bonus of five for a full house. This section, then, could net 30 points and end the quiz on a high note. YOUR RETURN .....

●ANSWERS — PAGE 37



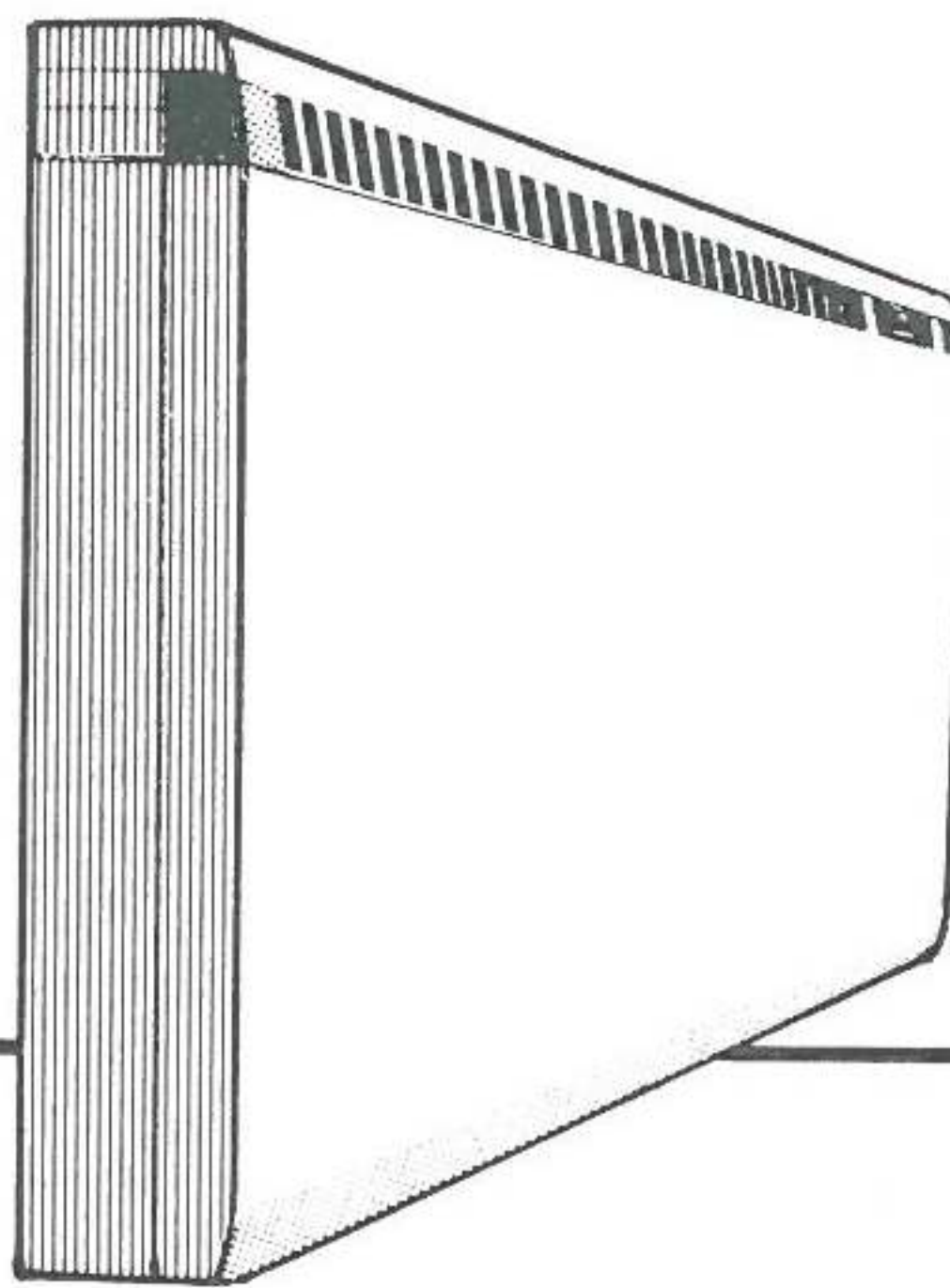
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# COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR CENTENARY YEAR

By Sean Clerkin

**S**INCE handball is recognised for its super efficient code of administration at Central level it is only in the natural order of things to expect a comprehensive range of activities for the centenary year.

The highlight of the year will, undoubtedly, be the World Handball Championships which will be officially opened at Croke Park on May 5th and for the following eight days will incorporate a festival of handball, involving the top players in the world.

This will be a twin series in that it will include both 60x30 and 40x20 events. One cannot really visualise the impact these championships will have on the game itself and the GAA centenary celebrations in general if the 1970 World Series is to be used as a yardstick.

On that occasion, the Championships, which were confined solely to the 60 x 30 court were hailed as a monumental success.

Indeed, it is generally conceded that the 1970 World Series was the impetus that sent the game on a progressive spiral that is quickly bringing it into the major sports arena.

**With the inclusion of the 40 x 20 code in the forthcoming tests, it is logical to suggest that the aftermath will yield an even more spectacular era of progress.**

The parent body will also be a direct beneficiary in that it will be reflected in a real international sense.

## GOOD RESPONSE

The indications are that there will

be a very good response from the overseas players.

The USA, Mexico, Canada, Britain and Australia have already given positive responses while enquiries have been received from Tokyo, Saudi Arabia and some European countries.

An interesting facet pertaining to the World Championships is that the Masters Sections in Singles and Doubles will commence at courts in County Clare on Sunday April 22nd and will be concluded up to the Final stages.

**The finalists will then travel to Dublin, where their games will be incorporated in the official programme.**

## ADDED BONUS

An added bonus to the World Series is the International Top Ace Television competition in the 60 x 30 and 40 x 20 courts.

This is normally screened early in the year and is a tremendous attraction in its own right.

And if all that was not sufficient to occupy the attention of legislators the opening months of this year have seen the introduction of the Special Centenary Championships.

These are also being played in both 60 x 30 and 40 x 20 courts and cover the full strata of playing.

**The significance attached to them can be gleaned from the fact that the Senior winners will represent Ireland in the World Championships and in the**

**USHA National Championship in Baltimore, USA.**

The Novice, Junior and Masters winners will travel to London for the Special Centenary Championships for players in Britain.

The Finals of the Centenary Competitions will be played at Clare venues with the 60 x 30 final scheduled for Tuamgraney on March 16 and the 40 x 20 final for Clarecastle on March 17th.

## END OF TERM

This St. Patrick's weekend will also mark the Congress of the Irish Handball Council and the departure from office of Clareman Caimin Jones, who has completed his three year term of office.

**He can reflect on a Presidency of progress, to which he made many valuable personal contributions. His forte was in the area of development and many clubs, not alone in his native Clare but throughout the country can point to his help and initiative in the construction of courts.**

His deep involvement with various units of the GAA was a factor in promoting handball as a useful adjunct of the parent body. He deserves the thanks of all handballers for the solidity of his contribution during the past three years.

The successor to the position vacated by Jones will be Leinster Secretary, and representative on many GAA Committees, Tommy O'Brien. He is taking over at an exciting time in the history of the Handball Council and our best wishes go with him.

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Clinic Times**

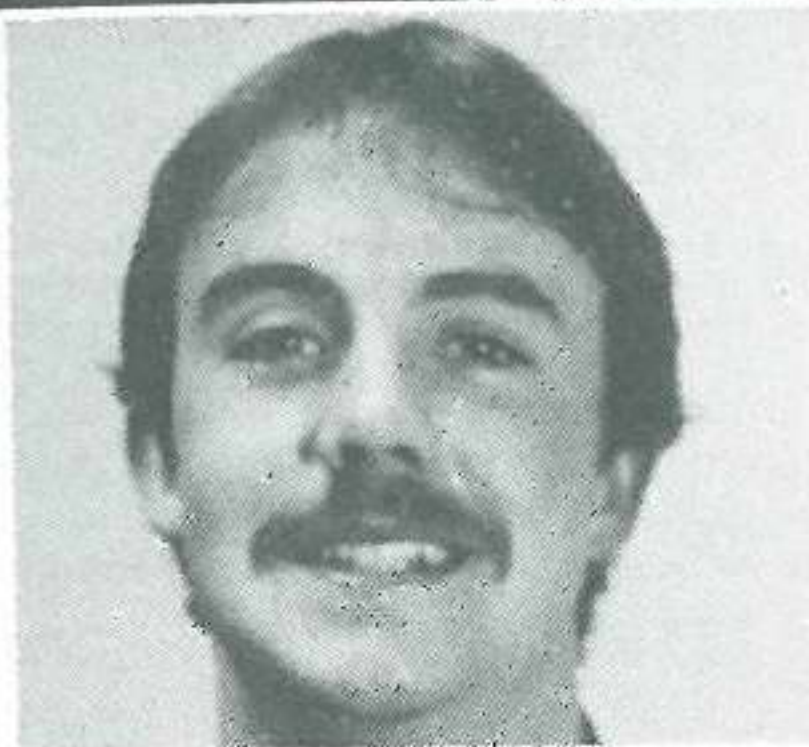
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• **FRANK McQUAID**

**W**E, in *Gaelic Sport*, are pleased to announce the appointment of two new men into our company — **Frank McQuaid** (21) and **Paul Gibson** (23) who come to us with strong business and sporting credentials.

Frank McQuaid was educated at

St. Pauls College, Sybil Hill and on obtaining an honours laden Leaving Certificate, he joined the Insurance Corporation of Ireland, working in their Accident Liability Department. A keen Gael, Frank is also a marathon runner of repute. Among his achievements in this sphere is a finishing time of 3 hours 10 minutes in the '83 R.T.E. Marathon last October. Frank has also won awards in many other long distance events.

**Paul Gibson** received his education at Árd Scoil Rís with whom he won an All-Ireland Colleges medal in 1979. Apart from his footballing ability, Paul is also a keen athlete and long distance runner. A man of



• **PAUL GIBSON**

many talents, Paul had a brilliant scholastic career, graduating with honours in Irish, Maths, English and Economics.

We wish both men a hearty welcome and are confident that the future of *Gaelic Sport* is further assured by the appointment of these two fine young men.

## ANSWERS TO QUIZ

• FROM  
PAGE 33

### WHAT DO YOU KNOW?

1. St. Flannan's, Ennis. 2. Brian McAlinden (Armagh). 3. False. Kildare won the 1983 Leinster under-21 football crown. 4. Anthony Egan. 5. Tony Ryan (Tipperary). 6. Tipperary, who were beaten by Cork at Pairc Ui Chaoimh. 7. The Munster senior final of 1982, in which Cork trounced Waterford before an attendance of 38,558. 8. Claire Cronin plays camogie with Cork. 10. Dublin contested three All-Ireland camogie finals (senior, junior and minor), the senior football and minor hurling. The county also appeared in the Junior "Home" final in football, but that was not the final proper. 10. Australia, where the Dublin Colleges' selection played a number of games. 11. Brian Talty, who was at midfield for Galway and was a member of the Parnells club in

Dublin. 12. John McCormack: LONGFORD. Edel Murphy: DUBLIN. Ollie Harold: KILKENNY. Mickey Quinn: LEITRIM. Aine Uí Shithigh: DUBLIN. Frank McCann: MEATH.

Edel Murphy is a Dublin camogie player; Aine Ní Shithigh became camogie's new Development Officer; McCann has been a top scoring forward with Meath in hurling, and Harold is one of the country's top handballers.

### THE TITLE TESTERS

1. Tipperary in hurling and Kerry. 2. True. Queen's beat U.C.G. in extra time in the final. 3. U.C.C., who beat Galway in the final. 4. The All-Ireland minor football championship. 5. Galway, who won the All-Ireland minor hurling title last September for the first time. 6. Portlaoise. 7. Tipperary. The IRISH PRESS Cup is awarded to the

winners of the All-Ireland minor hurling championship. 8. Galway: Dunmore McHales. Down: Burren. Louth: St. Fechin's, Termonfeckin. Kerry: Feale Rangers. 9. Kilkenny. The trophy is awarded to the winners of the Leinster senior hurling championship. 10. Mayo in football, and Galway in hurling.

### IN THE PICTURE

1. The team is the Dublin side that won the 1974 All-Ireland senior football championship. 2. Sean Doherty. 3. Steve Rooney, of Balbriggan. 4. Right full-back (Gay O'Driscoll is the player in the picture). 5. Galway.

### TELL-TALE POINTS TABLE

Total points on offer: 165. An excellent rating is awarded for 140 points-plus. Very good for 100 to 140, and good for 80 to 100.

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1983 McNamee Award winners pictured here are: Back row (from left): Ray McManus (Best action picture), P.J. McGee, Down (Best yearbook), Fr. Peter Kerr, Carrickmore, Co. Tyrone (Best club history), Patrick Brennan, Eire Óg, Ennis (Best club publication), Eamonn Costelloe, Kilcock, Co. Kildare (Best secretary's report), Front row (from left): Tom Mooney, Meath Chronicle (Best County Final coverage), Sean O Laoire, Cumarsáid agus Riaracháin na gCluichí, Páirc an Chrócaigh, Tommy McQuaid, Editor, Gaelic Sport (Hall of Fame Award), Paddy Buggy, Uachtarán, C.L.G., and Liam Uas Ó Craobháin, Meath Co. Secretary (Best County Final programme).

ON October 26th last, at Dublin's Gresham Hotel, the Gaelic Athletic Association entertained the 1983 winners of the McNamee Awards to dinner. The occasion turned out to be a most relaxed and enjoyable affair.

Although guests at the function hailed from all parts of the country, within no time at all, we were on first name terms, laughing, joking and thoroughly enjoying ourselves.

Credit for the very relaxed atmosphere prevailing must go to Paddy Buggy. The President's complete lack of formality and his genuine friendly personality is infectious.

Paddy is that rare character who bears high office with dignity and commands respect, while at the same time putting one completely at ease in his company.

And he's quite a raconteur is our President.

I sat next to him at dinner and we

talked of hurling and hurlers and the very affable Kilkenny man told me tales that were both hilarious and heartwarming.

Alas, the evening raced into night — and the hotel staff had homes and beds to go to — otherwise I could have sat listening still.

“..imagine..”

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\*Over 99% of American homes have it as well

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# JUNIOR DESK



By  
**JACK  
MAHON**

*This is the forum for all young G.A.A. fans!*

**T**HE Mailbag is becoming a Programme Collector's Swapping Forum. Now that is O.K. and I'd like to continue this service but I wouldn't want it to dominate the Junior Desk scene. This is the G.A.A. forum for all young G.A.A. fans. In it you can air your views on any topic. So keep that end of it up. All of us are not programme collectors.

**Richard Nolan, Campile, New Ross, Co. Wexford** is a keen programme collector. He wants All-Ireland Football Final Programmes as follows — 1950, '51, '52, '53, '54, '56 and '57 and Hurling All-Ireland Finals as follows — 1951-1958 inclusive, '61, '63-'65 inclusive. He will pay for same. He wants also the *Our Games* of '61 and '65. "Rathnure G.A.A. club have a souvenir book for £3 plus postage for the opening of Nicky Rackard Park last year. It is very good and can be got from Jim Higgins, Ballykelly, New Ross, Co. Wexford."

*(Sorry I have no copies of "Three In A Row" available. Famous Tullaroan reviewed elsewhere. J.M.)*

**Tom Ryall, Michaelschurch, Ballycallan, Kilkenny** — "My own history of the G.A.A. in Kilkenny will be out at Easter."

*(Looking forward to it Tom. J.M.)*

**Tim Murphy**, our old friend from Rathmore tells me he cannot get *Gaelic Sport* now in Rathmore. He would like to see a quiz every month in *Junior Desk*.

*(Ask your local newsagent to keep it for you on order Tim. J.M.)*

**Declan Cronin, Chapel Road, Durrus, Bantry, Co. Cork** — pays tribute to the marvellous atmosphere in Cork at the replay of the All-Ireland semi-final between Cork and Dublin. "The All-Ireland Football Final was a total disgrace. Mullins and Duff deserved to be sent off but Hazley and Tierney didn't deserve to be punished so severely. My Cork footballers of '83 were Jimmy Kerrigan and John Cleary but Barney Rock was my footballer of the year. My Cork hurler of '83 was Tom Cashman with Billy Fitzpatrick as the hurler of '83."

*Hope you're enjoying your secondary school days Declan. J.M.)*

**Martin Maher, Clashagad, Dunkerrin, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary** — "The All-Ireland Football Final was a disgrace. When you see a team like Dublin reaching, let alone winning, an All-Ireland the standard is really bad. The present Dublin team isn't a patch on the team of the 70's. Galway have only themselves to blame for losing. I hope Donegal go one step further in 1984. Kerry's appetite is gone but Jack O'Shea is still Ireland's best player. Hurling is in a rut mainly because of Kilkenny's dominance. I'd like to see Laois or Offaly win the '84 title to bring some life back to the game."

*(And what about Tipperary in '84? J.M.)*

**William Cotter, 12 Upper Blackwater Drive, Mallow, Co. Cork** — is a collector of programmes. "I

am reading 'Action Replay' at the moment."

*(Hope you enjoyed it. J.M.)*

**Gerry Pender**, our oldest friend of all from Aughrim, Co. Wicklow sent me on the G.A.A. pages from the *Wicklow People* involving the main club games of the year in that county.

*(Thanks Gerry. J.M.)*

**Aidan Grennan, Killina, Rahan, Co. Offaly** tells me he has got an extra 40 programmes since writing to *Junior Desk*. He still wants the following S.F. Final programmes (1975, '71 and '72 replay) and the Connacht S.F. Final of '81.

**John Martin O'Sullivan, Middle Barrow, Ardfert, Tralee, Co. Kerry** — wants the following programmes — Connacht S.F. Finals '71, '73, '74, '75 (replay), '76 (draw and replay) and '81 All-Ireland Final (F). 1969-'73 incl. except '72 draw and any from 1967 back. "I have joined the Programme Collectors Club."

*(We take pride that the idea for the club came from this column. J.M.)*

**Gerry Pender** of Wicklow, mentioned earlier, sent on a long letter on the All-Ireland and over the year paid tribute to the following footballers for great 1983 displays — Colm O'Rourke, Dinny Allen, Martin McHugh, Jimmy Kerrigan, Kevin McStay, Derek McDonnell, Tommy Conroy, Joe McNally and Val Daly.

*(Good choice Gerry. J.M.)*

**Thomas White, Ardcahan, Co. Cork** wants a G.A.A. rule book after that All-Ireland Football Final. "I think Brian Mullins should have been put off a way earlier in the championship. I hope we will have a good Final in 1984."

*(I hope so too Thomas. J.M.).*

**James Daly, Annagh, Castlemaine, Co Kerry** — wants the address of the Programme Collectors' Club. He wants programmes from Kerry's great 4-in-a-row days. "Congrats to Tommy McQuaid in getting the Pádraig Puirseál Award. Your column is my favourite."

*(Now what can I say after that nice compliment! J.M.).*

**Paddy McEvoy, 8 Clinton's Park, Donwpatrick, Co. Down** — lists the following swaps and wants.

**SWAPS**

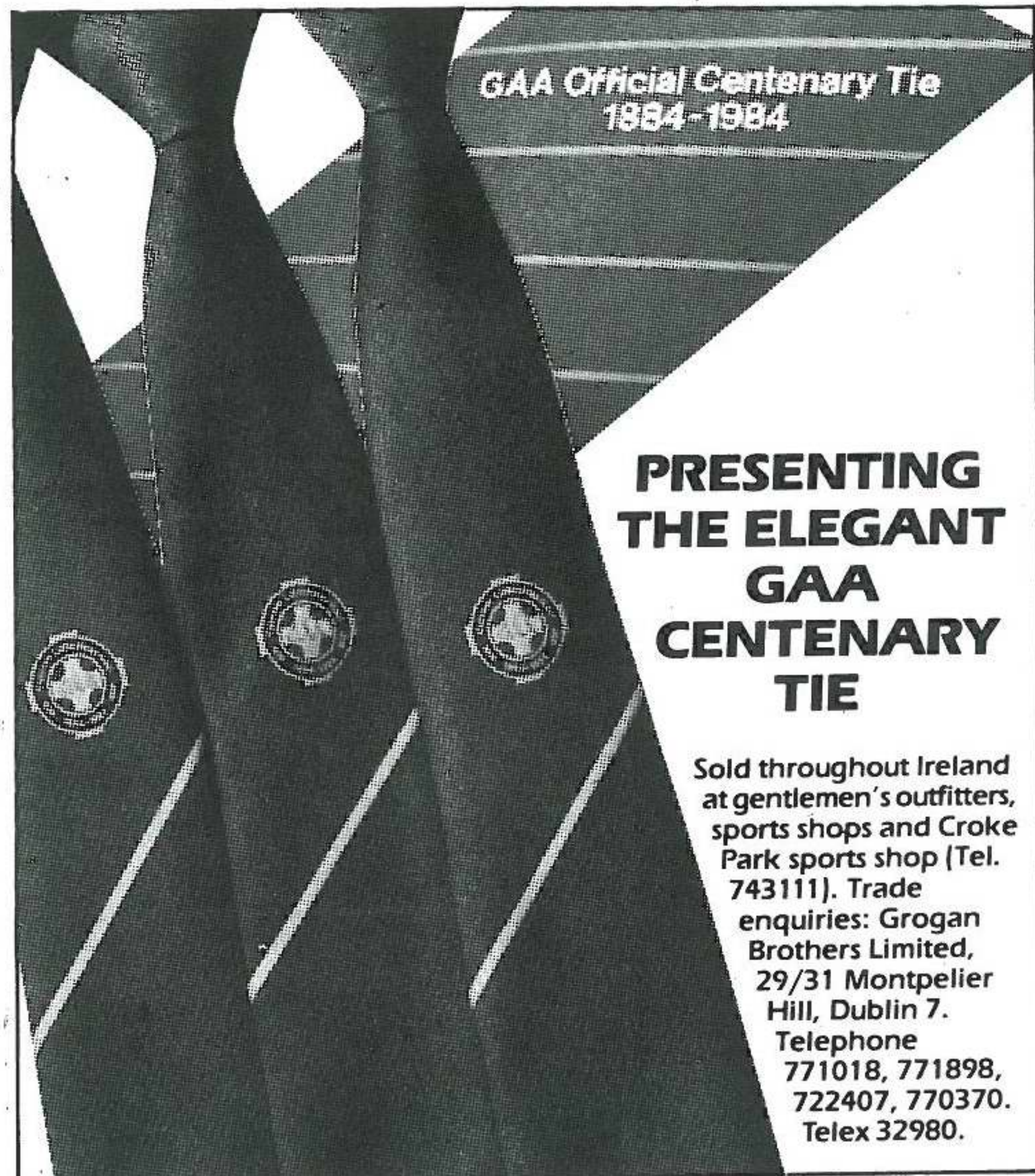
All-Ireland Football Finals 1982, '83. All-Ireland Football Semi-Finals 1982 Kerry v Armagh. 1982 Offaly v Galway. 1983 Galway v Donegal. All-Ireland Hurling Final 1981, 1980. N.F.L. Final 1983. N.F.L. Semi-Finals 1983. N.F.L. 1983 Down v Dublin — Down v Offaly and Down v Kildare. N.F.L. 1982 Down v Cork. N.H.L. 1982 Semi-Finals Waterford v Kilkenny and Cork v Wexford. Ulster Finals 1974, 1978, 1980, 1982, 1983. Ulster Semi-Final 1983 Cavan v Fermanagh. Connacht Finals 1972, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1982. Leinster Football Final 1981. Munster Football Finals 1976, 1977. Munster Hurling Final 1976. Co. Down S.F.C. Finals 1982, 1983. Co. Down S.H.C. Final 1983. Co. Finals 1981 Galway F. Limerick H. 1982 Galway F. 1983 Laois, Tyrone, Armagh, Roscommon, Donegal, Galway, Kildare and Limerick. Sigerson Cup 1982. Yearbooks 1981 Down; Dublin. 1982 Down. Opening of Grounds Killashandra, Co. Cavan. Frenchpark, Co. Roscommon. Drumreilly, Co. Leitrim. Ulster Club Final 1983. All-Star Posters 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982.

**WANTS**

All-Ireland F.& H. Finals, before 1975. All-Ireland F.&H. Semi-finals, before 1978. N.F.L. and N.H.L. Finals and Semi-Finals before 1983. Ulster Finals before 1974. Connacht Finals 1970, 1971, 1973, 1974, 1976, 1983. Leinster Football Finals 1970-1977, 1982. Leinster Hurling Finals 1970-1977, 1979.

Munster Football Finals 1970-1975, 1978, 1982. Munster Hurling Finals 1970-1973, 1975, 1978, 1979. County Finals, before 1983. Railway Cup — any year, except 1974, 1979, 1983. All-Ireland Club — any year. County Yearbooks. Opening of grounds, particularly before 1983. Club Histories. Any other interesting programmes.

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● FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Tony Maher, 20 Pairc Mhuire, Tullow, Co. Carlow — “I have the following for swaps: 1962 Hurling Final Wexford v Tipperary. 1963 Football Final Galway v Dublin. In exchange I want the 1960 and 1961 Hurling Final Programmes. Book of Hurling (Raymond Smith) to 1976 in exchange I would like *Decades of Glory* 1966. Our Games Annuals 1968, 1978, 1979 in exchange I would like any of the following years — 1961, '63, '64, '65, '66, '67, '69. Maybe some of your readers might be able to help out especially in connection with the '60 and '61 programmes.”

*(I gave your regards to Br. Robert. He is still a great G.A.A. man. J.M.)*

Sean O'Driscoll, 40 Highfield Grove, Clonmel brings me up to date on his great autograph collection which continues to grow. He is also into G.A.A. scrapbooks and collecting G.A.A. books and souvenirs.

*(Another Sam Melbourne in the making. J.M.)*

Tim Murphy, Tureen, Knocknagree, Mallow, Co. Cork — “My favourite footballers are Jack O'Shea, John Caffrey, Dom Creedon and Mick

Lyons. The favourite hurlers of mine are Ger Cunningham, Dermot McCurtain, Jimmy Barry Murphy and Frank Cummins. Jimmy Barry Murphy's goal v Galway was the goal of the year. Barney Rock's goal v Galway was the football goal of the year.

*(Welcome to Junior Desk. J.M.)*

Our final letter this month is from Pádraig J. Duke, Caldra, Elphin, Co. Roscommon who was sorry to read in the Galway G.A.A. Yearbook of Jim Carney's departure from the *Sunday Game* in 1984. “He will be a big loss. I hope the panelists are brought back especially Enda Colleran and Liz Howard. I am looking for the following programmes — All-Ireland Hurling Finals — 1961, '65, '68. All-Ireland Football Finals 1959, '61, '67.”

*(Sorry to see Jim go. He would be an awful loss as he is a natural. J.M.)*

CUT-OUT

Our Cut-Out this month is Mount Sion's Jim Greene. The first time I saw him play was in a N.H.L. game v Galway way back in the early '70's at Athenry. I admired his play

immensely. So often since he has inspired Waterford. Wouldn't it be great to see Waterford back in an All-Ireland Final? If they could only get over Cork!

G.A.A. BOOK REVIEWS

*Gaelsport Annual 1984* — £3.95 from the shops or from G.A.A. Shop, Croke Park, Dublin 3.

Very colourful as usual with some very nice layout work. There is the odd mistake like the mistaken photo of Donegal's Paul McGettigan. What I liked best of all apart from all the colourful action photos, is the centenary special centrepiece supplement of over 20 pages. This is great stuff. This annual deserves to succeed for it more than competes with the many glossy imported annuals. It shows we can do it better ourselves if we put our mind down to it.

*Cork G.A.A. Yearbook '84* — Without doubt, still the most professional of all the Yearbooks. The layout of Cork '84, indeed every aspect of it, is just about as near perfection as one could get. The point that continues to puzzle me is why, oh why, the Cork Yearbook, now in its twelfth year, has never won the McNamee Award? Priced at £1.50, this book is fantastic value. Eamon Young's very moving tribute to the late Tom Creedon is sufficient reason alone for buying Cork '84. Eamon also contributes an article on the late great Leesider John Quirke, Cork Co. Board Secretary, Frank Murphy and former G.A.A. President, Con Murphy, in their respective articles, deal with challenges facing the Association, as we enter our second century and should be compulsive reading for all who have the interests of the G.A.A. at heart. Other outstanding items include a 2 page quiz, a special Rebel County crossword plus analytical summaries by Jim O'Sullivan and Michael Ellard about Cork's hurlers and footballers who came so tantalisingly near to bringing off the Championship double in '83.

“..imagine..”

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Edited by Tommy McQuaid, Cork '84 is available from the Cork Co. Board office, Páirc Ui Chaoimh, Cork. (Postage 75p extra).

**Kilkenny G.A.A. Yearbook '83** issue No. 12 of this Yearbook is great value for £1 (without postage) from John Knox, c/o Kilkenny People, High Street, Kilkenny (£2 includes postage). There are some great colour spreads including a 2 page centrepiece of the '83 All-Ireland S.H. Champions. The results section is outstanding as usual. Tom Ryall's trip "Down Memory Lane" is the book's tribute to centenary year. I look forward to Tom's own history of the G.A.A. in Kilkenny to be published this year. Tom is one of the finest G.A.A. men I know. I first met him in the days of the old "*Gaelic Weekly*" the little weekly we couldn't afford to lose. You should get this annual. Among its contributors are the Bishop of Ossory Dr. Forristal and Paddy Buggy who writes of the famous Doyles of Mooncoin. There is a fine photo of this family on page 35.

**Down G.A.A. Yearbook '83** — Massive as usual. Cost £2.50 (£3 incl. postage from Martin Monaghan, 4 School Road, Laurencetown, Craigavon, Co. Down). The impressive features in this huge almost 200 page annual are (a) The contents page (b) The year's activities so well illustrated in the section entitled "As the Months Went By" so well chronicled by Paddy McEvoy (c) Down's N.F.L. success by old friend Matt Fitz (d) The County History by Sighle Nic An Ultaigh who is to be Down's "Tom Ryall." Sighle tells the story of how she has set about writing the Down G.A.A. History. It makes great reading. Sighle like Tom Ryall is one of the finest G.A.A. people I know. She has given a lifetime of service to Gaelic games. (e) Owen McCann's Top Ten Downmen. (f) Michael Anderson's wonderful article on programme collecting. This is a gem. I have to read this again. (g) The Committee

section at the end, the statistics and the Junior Scene section are all impressive. This should do well in the McNamee Stakes again.

**Dunmore MacHales — A History of Football in Dunmore Parish** by Michael Leydon is the football history of my own club. I have always loved the MacHales and when I transferred to Salthill in the '70's was made an honorary life member of this hallowed club. I am now its President, I haven't read better. Price £5 (without postage) from Michael Leydon, Abbeylands, Dunmore, Co. Galway.

**Kerry G.A.A. Centenary Yearbook 1884-1984**—Price £2.20 excl. postage from Michael Lyne, B.A., Valentia, Co. Kerry.

\* As is usual with Kerry Yearbooks this is good too. Michael Lyne usually goes outside Kerry for some contributors and does so again — Eamonn Young, Eugene McGee, Paddy Downey, Jim O'Sullivan, Sean Kilfeather, Con Houlihan and even myself. I loved the tribute to Tom Spillane by Mick Granville. There is always a gem of an article in every Yearbook. This was the one. Of course I always enjoy Owen McCrohan, Michael ÓRuairc, Eamon Fitzgerald, John B. Keane, Eamonn Horan and John Barry. This is another good one.

**Famous Tullaroan — 1884-1984** — the club history of the famed Kilkenny club. Costs £6 without postage from Jerry Doheny, Upper Tullaroan, Co. Kilkenny. Their most famous player Lory Meagher is on the cover. This club history is not written in the same style as the Dunmore MacHales book reviewed earlier. Editor Anton Ó Dúill deserves great credit and his work makes a very interesting and varied reading exercise. The book is very well produced with plenty of verse to break up the prose. Tullaroan abounds in hurling heroes from the Graces and the Dohenys to the Meaghers to the Waltons, the Clohoseys and the Nolans. By all

accounts Tullaroan is like Dunmore, a small rural place. The club has won 19 county senior titles. The last senior title was in 1958. But the hurling flame is still lighting with the club winning the 1983 Kilkenny Junior and U-16 hurling titles. The spirit of Tullaroan leaps out of this book. It is superbly edited, liberally sprinkled with great photos. All clubs should get copies of this and the Dunmore one. Get them now.

**Galway G.A.A. Yearbook 1983** — smaller than usual but with little or no ads. Nice to see former Galway football star Martin Newell among the contributors. All the G.A.A. successes of '83 in Galway are covered with the notable exception of the Sigerson Cup win in Dublin (Why does Sigerson tend to get so little publicity nowadays? God be with the days of Pádhraic Puirseál and John D. Hickey). Jim Carney's revelation that he will not be in charge of "*The Sunday Game*" in '84 is one I hope he will be prevailed on to change. Price £2 incl. postage from Galway G.A.A. Office, Dominick Street, Galway.

**Roscommon G.A.A. Annual** — Price £1.50 (excl. postage) from Tommie Kenoy, Kilmore, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Roscommon.

What I liked best in this annual are the Directory of County Officials, the Football Championship Report, the article dealing with Centenary plans, memories of '43 by Jimmie Murray and the results page at the end. Not of the quality of Down or Cork but a good presentation of G.A.A. affairs in Co. Roscommon.

That's enough of reviews. Please keep writing on any topic. We must keep the ball rolling here in Junior Desk in Centenary Year. I'd welcome any new G.A.A. publications for review.

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## Waterford could cause a few tremors down South in '84

SAYS DECLAN PLUNKETT

**W**ILL the Centenary Year prove a case of third time lucky for Waterford in the Munster senior hurling championship? That is one of the key questions just now as the build-up has already commenced for what promises to be a particularly keen Southern campaign in the summer.

Many will argue that the Decies men have it all to do if they are to make any impression this year in the light of their experiences of 1982 and last year. It will be remembered that in 1982 Waterford, with probably their best team in years, and plenty of confidence behind them, not only lost the Munster final to Cork, but were trounced by a whopping 31 points.

Last year Waterford came back well from that morale-deflating setback to beat a fancied Tipperary side by four points in the Munster semi-final, but hopes of a bright future were again thwarted by Cork. The defending champions did not have as big a win as in 1982, but a 19 point win by the Corkmen was still clear-cut in the extreme and suggested that the outlook was, indeed, very dim for the hurlers from the Decies.

However, one of the best features of sport is the glorious uncertainty. Favourites do not always come out on top, and Waterford are sure to come out battling strongly when their turn comes for a crack at the Centenary championship.

Moreover, there were some encouraging pointers for the side as the 1983 half of the National Hurling League faded into history.

One had to admire Waterford's great heart and drive in the league win over Cork. They faced up admirably to strong Cork pressure in the closing stages, as the Munster champions strove might and main to save the day.

The Decies still have some problems to iron out. But they do look to be on the right track, and with dedication, and wholehearted effort from all quarters — qualities that are not in short supply in Waterford — the county could have a surprise or two in store for the more fancied sides come next summer.

Waterford have a tough enough draw in Munster. They will meet Clare in a preliminary round tie on May 27, and the winners will earn a semi-final ticket against Tipperary.

With men of the calibre of Eddie Rockett, Jim Hennebry, Shane Aherne, Stephen Breen, Pat Curran and Pat Ryan in their line-up Waterford can face up to 1984 with a great deal of confidence.



## JIM GREENE

### Waterford

Jim made a successful comeback to inter-county hurling early in 1981 after a spell in retirement, and later that year he helped his club, Mount

Sion, to bring the Munster club senior title to Waterford for the only time so far.

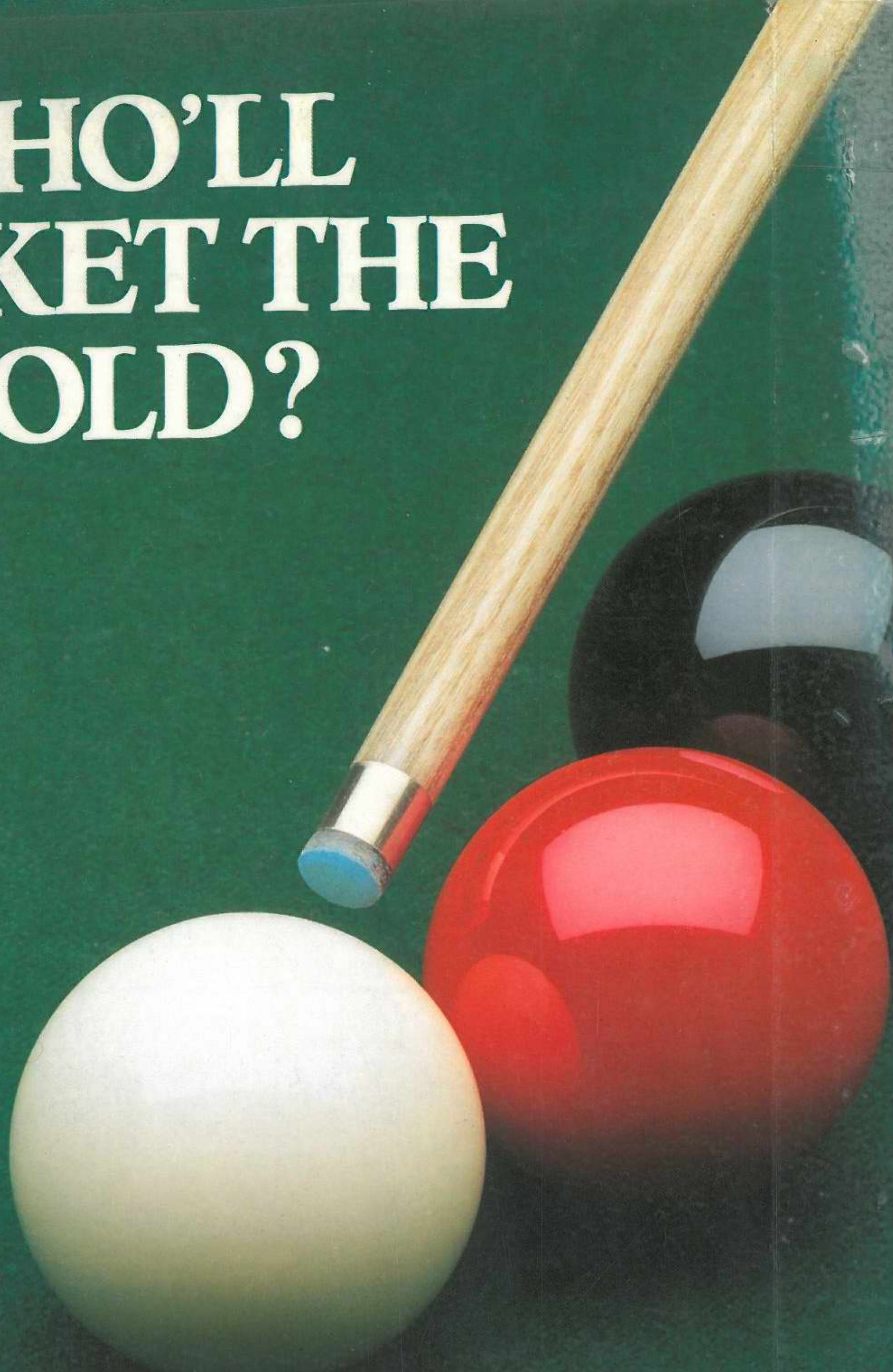
One of the outstanding goal-getters of the modern game, Greene stepped into the senior inter-county ranks in 1968. Although best known in latter times as a forward, he also made a big reputation for himself at centre-half back.

The Waterford man, who stands

5ft. 8ins., won county senior medals over three decades, collected his only All-Star award as left full-forward in the 1982 Bank of Ireland side, and is a former county senior captain.

Jim, who is now chairman of the county senior selectors, is maintaining a family tradition. His brother, Stephen, and his father, Paddy, both wore the county senior jersey.

WHO'LL  
POCKET THE  
GOLD?



***BENSON*** *and* ***HEDGES***  
***IRISH MASTERS***

*Goffs, Co. Kildare, 27th. March - 1st. April.*