

City Senior Football Championship:

Depleted N.C.P.E. overcome Claughaun

BY SEAN MURPHY

N.C.P.E. 1-9;

CLAUGHAUN 0-8

NCPE (Plassy), although minus the services of eleven of the side that won the Higher Education League earlier this year, repeated the achievement of their hurlers last week by making a winning debut in the City Senior Football Championship at the Gaelic Grounds on Sunday. In a lack-lustre robust contest, ruined by continuous fouling, the students toppled Claughaun, conquerors of reigning championships, Treaty-Sarsfield, by a four-point margin, 1-9 to 0-8.

N.C.P.E. deserved their success as they displayed skill and flair coupled with an amazing degree of coolness and discipline no matter what the situation. Claughaun matched their renowned opponents in many facets of the game but paid the penalty for the misuse of possession and by conceding unnecessary frees.

Claughaun dominated the opening 20 minutes but had little to show for their superiority when N.C.P.E. rocked them to their heels five minutes before half time with a superb goal. It came from Westmeath's Mick Browne from a well-placed pass by Eddie Mahon. So after playing against a strong wind in the first half N.C.P.E. led at the interval 1-4 to 0-6.

AUTHORITATIVE

Inspired by the authoritative play and magnificent fielding of Kerry's Pat Spillane and Jim Deenihan, N.C.P.E. withstood a barrage of Claughaun pressure and then with clinical precision picked off the vital scores to ensure their ticket to the next round.

N.C.P.E., when they turned on the style, looked a very talented side despite their absences. They had outstanding players in Jim Deenihan, Brian Linn, Mick Spillane, Hugo Clerkin, Eddie Mahon, Pat Spillane and Mick Browne, while Paddy O'Dwyer, Peter O'Dwyer, Tony Wallace, John Hehir, Eamonn Cregan and Tony Kennedy impressed most for Claughaun.

SCORERS

N.C.P.E.—M. Browne 1-1, P. Spillane 0-2, A. Shortt 0-2, G. Dillon 0-2, M. Spillane 0-1, E. Mahon 0-1.

Claughaun — T. (Cha) Kennedy 0-7, E. Cregan 0-1.

TEAMS

N.C.P.E.—T. Owens (Cork); S. O'Shea (Kerry), J. Deenihan (Kerry), T. Daly (Kerry), J. O'Connell (Kerry), B. Lillis (Monaghan), M. Spillane

(Kerry), T. Harkin (Donegal), H. Clerkin (Monaghan), E. Mahon (Meath), P. Spillane (Kerry), C. O'Malley (Galway), M. Browne (Westmeath), A. Shortt (Laois), G. Dillon (Kerry).

Claughaun — D. Keehan, J. O'Dwyer, P. O'Dwyer, M. Cregan, M. Graham, P. O'Dwyer, T. Wallace, J. Hehir, C. Cregan, T. Kennedy, E. Cregan, T. Kennedy, P. Naughton, M. Tynan, D. Sheahan.

Referee — G. Ryan (Lattin, Tipperary).

N.C.P.E. win, now lose 1975

N.C.P.E. 1-7
Sligo Regional Tech. Col. 1-4
Centre forward Conor O'Malley was the star for N.C.P.E. in their Higher Education football league (Div. 2) game at Newport, Co. Tipperary, on Saturday. He scored a goal and two of their points and the winners other scorers were, Brian Murtagh 0-2, Pat Kerlihy 0-2, and A. Twomey 0-1.

Sligo scorers were: Sean Joyce 1-2, K. O'Connor and S. Crossan 0-1 each.

N.C.P.E. 0-3
U.C.G. 2-6

U.C.G. proved much too strong for N.C.P.E. in their Freshers Higher Education football league game at Newport on Saturday and were on top throughout.

M.I.C.E. lost

M.I.C.E. 2-6
Waterford R.T.C. 3-8

Waterford R.T.C. deserved their five points winning margin from this Higher Education division 3 hurling league game at Monaleen on Saturday but the issue would have been close had the Limerick side availed of some of the good scoring chances which came their way.

31-575

First for NCPE—

NCPE won the City senior football championship for the first time, when they coasted to a facile, 2-21 to 0-4 win over Patrickswell at Kildimo.

The college side were practically at full strength and won as they pleased. Richie Bennis, Leonard

Enright and Sean Foley tried hard to contain NCPE but Pat Spillane, Jimmy Deenihan, Jimmy Dunne and company could not be stopped and they went on to inscribe their name on the Limerick roll of honour for the first time.

Jim Deenihan inspires NCPE to victory

N.C.P.E. 0-11
Ahane 1-4

N.C.P.E., with only a shadow of the team which won the city senior football championship advanced to the semi final of the county championship, when they defeated Ahane at Murroe, by a four point margin.

Because of inter-county commitments the college side lined out without such notable players as Johnny Tobin (Galway) Richie Bell (Mayo), Brian Mullins, Frank Ryder (Dublin) and Pat Spillane, Gerry Dillon, Ogie Moran (Kerry). Indeed they failed to take the field at the appointed time and when it did commence twenty five minutes late, they started without their left full back.

Brian Talty opened the scoring in the third minute with a point for N.C.P.E. and during the next ten minutes, they shot no fewer than six wides. The game's second score came in the fourteenth minute, per Martin Rainsford, the equaliser for Ahane. In the second quarter Ahane matched their more fancied opponents and the football played by John Byrnes, Sean Kelly, Bernard Berkery and Martin Rainsford at least equalled the best the opposition could offer. Only a point separated the sides at the interval with N.C.P.E. leading 0-3 to 0-2.

Jimmy Hassett levelled matters early in the second half, but it was N.C.P.E. who were in command for the greater half of this moiety and they slowly but surely built up a five point lead. Ahane reduced the deficit with an M. J. Aherne goal, but try as they might they could never pull back the remaining two points and late scores by Jimmy Deenihan and Declan Smyth ensure the college of a place in the next round.

N.C.P.E. scorers — B. Talty 0-4, J. Deenihan 0-3, C. Honan, J. Quane, D. Smyth and A. Shortall 0-1 each.

Ahane scorers—M. J. Aherne (1-1), M. Rainsford (0-2), J. Hassett (0-1).

N.C.P.E.—E. Jordan (Dublin), D. Dundon (Laois), L. Fardy

LATECOMERS NCPE FAIL TO IMPRESS^{23 8 75} IN QUARTER~FINAL

AT MURROE on Sunday, N.C.P.E. advanced to the semi-final of the county senior football championship, when they accounted for Ahane, in a very poor game.

Minus the services of such well known players as Brian Mullins, Frank Ryder, Johnny Tobin, Pat Spillane and Richie Bell, they had some difficulty in fielding a team and when they eventually did, it was a full twenty-five minutes after the appointed time.

by
MacLear

Ahane matched their opponents for long periods and a win for the Eastern club side was well within the realms of possibility at the interval when they trailed by a single point.

Although the college side did go into a five point lead in the second half, they could never consolidate their

position and with six minutes of play remaining, that lead was whittled down to two points. Late points by Jimmy Deenihan and Declan Smith killed any hopes of a late Ahane rally. The final score read 0-11 to 1-4.

Jimmy Deenihan, Aidan Greene, Declan Smith, John Quane, Brian Talty and Colm Honan were the best for the winners.

John Byrnes, Sean Kelly, T. Lalor, Bernard Berkery, Pat Aherne, Martin Rainsford and Murty Joe Aherne, starred for the losers.

N.C.P.E.:

E. Riordan (Dublin), D. Dundon (Laois), L. Fordy

(Wexford), J. Heaney (Mayo), D. Weldrick (Dublin), J. Denihan (Kerry), A. Greene (Clare), A. Shortall (Laois), D. Smyth, (Galway), J. Quane (Limerick), M. Kilcoyne (Westmeath), M. Johnson (Clare), A. Kavanagh (Cork), B. Talty (Galway), D. Barry (Clare). Sub: C. Honan (Clare) for Barry.

Ahane: M. Byrnes, M. Fitzgibbon, J. Byrnes, F. Berkery, S. Kelly, T. Ryan, T. Lalor, P. Byrnes, P. Aherne, B. Berkery, P. Meskell, K. Herbert, M. Aherne, J. Hassett, M. Rainsford.

Referee: P. O'Dwyer (Claughton).

last week.

Liam Lenihan, Dermot Flanagan, Pat O'Neill, Brian Tobin, and Liam Lawlor, were most in the picture for St. Patrick's.

Scorers: NCPE—J. O'Halloran, 2-1; R. Kilsella, 1-3; C. Honan, 0-5; P. Ryan, L. Tardy, 1-0 each. St. Patrick's: P. Hartigan, T. Cross, V. Cobbe, 1-0 each; P. O'Neill, 0-3; N. Kirwan, 0-2.

TEAMS

NCPE: T. Murphy, P. Aherne, D. Barry, T. Owens, J. Henry, L. Heffernan, J. Greenwood, T. Donnellan, C. Honan, R. Kinsella, J. O'Halloran, M. Burke, P. Ryan, L. Tardy, D. Walsh. Subs.: L. Murphy for Walshe; G. Kennedy for Murphy.

St. Patrick's: M. Foley, P. Hogan, V. Phelan, P. Duffy, L. Lenihan, D. Flanagan, C. Ball, P. O'Neill, P. Hartigan, N. Kirwan, B. Tobin, L. Lawlor, V. Cobbe, T. Cross, P. O'Brien. Sub.: J. Frost for C. Ball.

Referee: S. O'Connor (Claughton).

NCPE HURLERS OUST ST. PATRICK'S

St. Patrick's bid adieu to their hurling championship hopes at Claughton Field, when they suffered defeat at the hands of NCPE for the second time in the competition.

This game never rose above the mediocre class, with the supreme fitness of the students a telling factor. St. Patrick's were completely on top in the first half, and led 3-2 to 2-4 at the interval.

"Saints" were forcing the pace on resuming, but a good goal by Rory Kinsella after 12 minutes of the second half gave NCPE the lead, and they never relinquished it. Two goals by Liam Fardy and John O'Halloran further stretched NCPE's lead, and they finished deserving winners of a dull and uninteresting game. Joe Henry, Colm Honan, John O'Halloran, Liam Fardy, Liam Heffernan and Ted Owens, were best for NCPE, who never revealed the form shown against the "Well"

H.E. HURLING FINAL:

N.C.P.E. fail to better-balanced U.C.D.

BY SEAN MURPHY

U.C.D. 3-12

N.C.P.E. (Limerick) 1-12

THE NATIONAL College of Physical Education, Plassey, Limerick, in their first year in the top bracket of the competition, failed at the last hurdle to win Division One of the Higher Education Council Hurling League when losing to a powerful U.C.D. side 3-12 to 1-12 in an exciting final at Moneygall on Saturday.

N.C.P.E., who had beaten U.C.D. by a point earlier in the competition, had an unbeaten record entering the decider, but failed to overcome the greater all-round strength of the Dublin combination on this occasion.

The game, originally scheduled for Nenagh was switched to the compact venue at Moneygall, home club of Seamus O'Rian, former president of the G.A.A., whose two sons, Jack and Seamus, helped U.C.D. to victory, with the latter captaining the team.

The match was fast, determined and always interesting, with U.C.D. forging to the front when it really mattered.

Although N.C.P.E. opened the scoring in the first minute with a point from Clare star, Colm Honan (Clonlara), who was to notch 1-9 of his side's total, it was U.C.D. who dominated the opening 20 minutes when they led 1-5 to 0-3.

N.C.P.E. rallied strongly before the interval with the accuracy of Honan reducing the deficit to a single point, 1-6 to 0-8 at half-time.

FLOURISH

U.C.D. again opened with a flourish on resuming, and former Limerick forward, Matt Ruth, crashed home a superb goal after 10 minutes to leave the Dublin side leading 2-10 to 0-10.

In a ding-dong pulsating patch N.C.P.E. pegged back the opposition, and with 12 minutes remaining were back in contention when Colm Honan goaled a penalty free to leave his side trailing by only three points.

Six minutes from time N.C.P.E. had a great chance of equalising, but Honan's attempt to goal a penalty free failed, his shot being saved and cleared by Tipperary goalie, Jimmy Duggan,

guarding the U.C.D. net.

The title was wrapped up for U.C.D. 3 minutes from the final whistle when Offaly man, Hugh Dolan, lashed home a goal.

In the closing stages N.C.P.E. were awarded a 21 yards free, but again the reliable Honan failed to raise a flag.

Best for U.C.D. were Denis Burns (Cork) at centre-back, who pointed two 70s; Jimmy Duggan, John Kileen, John Callinan, Jack Ryan, Matt Ruth and Patrick White, while Colm Honan, Rory Kinsella, Liam Heffernan, Pat O'Donoghue, Paddy Kelly, Mick Bourke and Mick Kilcoyne were most prominent for N.C.P.E.

Scorers: U.C.D. — M. Ruth, 1-4, P. White, 1-3; P. Dolan, 1-0; D. Burns, 0-2; M. Troy, J. Ryan, J. Callinan, 0-1 each. N.C.P.E.: C. Honan, 1-9; M. Kilcoyne, P. Kelly and R. Kinsella, 0-1 each.

TEAMS

U.C.D. — J. Duggan (Tipperary), M. Quirke, do.; T. Cleary, do.; P. Flynn (Clare), J. Kileen (Laois), D. Burns (Cork), E. Ryan, do.; J. Callinan (Clare), J. Ryan (Tipperary), M. Ruth (Kilkenny and Limerick), S. Ryan (Tipperary), P. White (Kildare), M. Barrett (Galway), H. Dolan (Offaly), M. Troy (Tipperary).

N.C.P.E. — T. Murphy (Cork); P. Aherne ((Tipperary), P. O'Donoghue (Galway), T. Owens (Cork), J. Grueward (Tipperary), L. Heffernan, do.; C. O'Malley (Galway), C. Honan (Clare), M. Burke, do.; M. Kilcoyne (Westmeath), R. Kinsella (Wexford), P. Kelly (Limerick), J. Quane (Clare), J. Henry (Mayo), E. O'Riordan (Leitrim), Sub., M. Fardy.

Ref., Sean O'Meara (Tipperary).

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SCORERS

N.C.P.E. — M. Browne 1-1, P. Spillane 0-2, A. Shortt 0-2, G. Dillon 0-2, M. Spillane 0-1, E. Mahon 0-1.

Claughaun — T. (Cha) Kennedy 0-7, E. Cregan 0-1.

TEAMS

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Claughaun — D. Keehan, J. O'Dwyer, P. O'Dwyer, M. Cregan, M. Graham, P. O'Dwyer,

nedy, P. Naughton, M. Tynan, D. Sheahan.

Referee — G. Ryan (Lattin, Tipperary).

NEW IRELAND SHIELD FOR PATRICKSWELL

In the curtain-raiser at the Gaelic Grounds, Patrickswell won the 1974 New Ireland Shield junior hurling league final when they defeated Treaty Sarsfield 3-6 to 1-7 after an entertaining, if unspectacular, game.

Patrickswell, who were in arrears 1-5 to 1-2 at half-time, got great service from John Enright, John Morrissey, Willie Fenton, David Punch, Junior Morrissey and Joe Lynch, while on a Treaty side that faded after a promising start, Tony Williams, Ger Skehan, Stevie O'Shaughnessy, Johnny Murphy, Denis Bartley and Johnny Ryan were most in the picture.

YOUR WEEK-END G.A.A. SCOREBOARD

IFC — Na Piarasigh 1-9, St. Kierans 1-5. City SFC — NCPE 1-9, Claughaun 0-8. New Ireland Shield JH Final — Patrickswell 3-6, Treaty Sarsfield 1-7. JH Shield — Mungret 5-10, Southill 0-2; Patrickswell 2-7, Na Piarasigh 0-11. South MFC — Kilmallock 2-4, Stakers 1-5; Ballylanders 6-14, Castletown-Ballyagran 0-1; Knockaney 3-10, Banogue 1-4. MHC — Garryspillane 3-4, Kilmallock 1 5. JH Shield — Stakers 3-9, Castletown-Ballyagran 2-4. SHC — Dromin-Athlaca 2-15 Banogue 4-8. East SHC — Pallasgreen 2-6, Kiltelney Dromkeen 3-7. MHC — Doon 3-3, Cappamore 0-3. MFC Caherline 2-4, Murroe 2-4; Ahane 3-8, Knockane 1-2.

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G.A.A.:

17/11/75

Double for N.C.P.E.

N.C.P.E. 5-12
U.C.C. 2-8

The splendid pitch at Newport, Co. Tipperary, was the venue for the Higher Education football league division 1 game on Saturday, in which the holders, N.C.P.E., beat U.C.C. who put in a very commendable second half display.

The Cork side were behind 3-7 to only two points at the interval, but N.C.P.E. remained on top to the end, thanks to some fine points by Galway star, John Tobin, who contributed eight points.

Jimmy Dunne, Jimmy Deenihan of Kerry, and Dublin stars, Brian Mullins and Fran Ryder, did well for N.C.P.E., while U.C.C. were best served by Simon Murphy, C. Mangan of Austin Stacks, full forward, Gerry Griffin and Tom Creedon.

Scorers: N.C.P.E. — J. Tobin 0-8, B. Talty 1-4, J. Dunne 2-0, G. Dillon and F. Ryder 1-0 each.

U.C.C. — G. Griffin 2-1, S. Murphy 0-4, C. Mangan 0-2, T. O'Connor 0-1.

N.C.P.E. 2-9
U.C.C. 1-0

In a Higher Education football league game, also at Newport, N.C.P.E. made it a double over U.C.C. when having a one-sided division 'B' tie win.

Scorers: N.C.P.E. — C. O'Malley 1-1, A. Toomey 0-4, B. Murtagh 1-0, C. McCarthy and P. Herlihy 0-2 each.

U.C.C. — A. McCarthy 1-0.

AT ASKEATON NCPE

In the other semi-final at Askeaton, hot favourites for the crown, NCPE, breezed into the final with a convincing 1-13 to 0-5 victory over last year's finalists.

Although still missing many of their 'big guns' the College mustered a fairly strong combination which included Kerry stars Jimmy Deenihan, Pat and Mick Spillane and Fran Ryder of the 'Dubs' squad.

NCPE raced into an early lead when Pat Spillane pointed a free, but St. Kieran's quickly replied per Pat Leahy and after a fairly even first half the College led 0-5 to 0-4.

The turning point in this contest came after 10 minutes of the second half when well-known hurler Rory Kinsella scored a rather easy goal for NCPE and St. Kieran's were reduced to 14 men when one of their players received marching orders.

NCPE continued to raise white flags, while St. Kieran's could only manage a single point during the entire second half.

Best for N.C.P.E. were Liam Fardy, Fran Ryder, Jimmy Deenihan, Mick Spillane, Pat Spillane, Mick Kilcoyne and Rory Kinsella, while Tommy Larkin, Sonny Crowley, John Windle, Pat Leahy and Dave Greaney impressed for St. Kieran's.

SCORERS

N.C.P.E.—P. Spillane 0-6; R. Kinsella 1-0, F. Ryder 0-3, M. Kilcoyne 0-2, D. Barry, J. O'Halloran 0-1 each.
O'Halloran 0-1 each.

NCPE TOO STRONG FOR THE 'WELL'

Although Christy Jeffers opened the scoring for the 'Well' after two minutes, they were always struggling thereafter to a fit and very talented NCPE combination in a one-sided City Senior Football Championship final at Kildimo.

The students had edged to a 4 points to 2 lead after 12 minutes, and without ever moving into the overdrive, they cruised into a half-time advantage of 1-10 to 0-3.

With Fran Ryder and Mayo's Ritchie Bell dominating the mid-field duels, they continued to dictate the trend of play or resuming and although Patrickswell fought courageously to the finish they simply had no answer to the flair and skill of N.C.P.E., who were further strengthened by the entry of Galway's Jimmy Tobin as a substitute in the second half.

Stars for NCPE were Liam Fardy, Jimmy Deenihan, at centre-back; Mick Spillane, Fran Ryder, Richie Bell and forwards, Pat Spillane, Jimmy Dunne and Gerry Dillon, who notched 1-8.

Patrickswell's hardest triers were Richie Bennis when moved to centre-back; Sean Foley, John Diffley, their most accomplished footballer; Leonard Enright, Peter Bennis, Christy Jeffers and John Morrissey.

Scorers: NCPE—G. Dillon, 1-8; P. Spillane, 1-3; R. Bell, 0-3; T. Donnellan, E. Mahon, J. Dunne, 0-2 each; B. Talty, 0-1.

Patrickswell: C. Jeffers, F. Nolan, 0-1.

TEAMS

NCPE: T. Owens, P. Moriarty, L. Tardy, N. Dunne, B. Lillis, J. Deenihan, M. Spillane, F. Ryder, R. Bell, E. Mahon, P. Spillane, T. Donnellan, J. Dunne, A. Shortt, G. Dillon. Subs.: J. Tobin for T. Donnellan; B. Talty for P. Spillane, T. Harkin for F. Ryder.

Patrickswell: T. Bennis, B. Nolan, P. J. O'Grady, J. Morrissey, F. Nolan, Phil Bennis, J. Diffley, S. Foley, L. Enright, Peter Bennis, R. Bennis, D. Punch, C. Jeffers, W. Fenton, J. Lynch. Subs.: P. Carey for D. Punch; Junior Morrissey for J. Lynch.

Referee: B. Cross (St. Patrick's).

and Ted Owens, were best for NCPE, who never revealed the form shown against the 'Well' last week.

Liam Lenihan, Dermot Flanagan, Pat O'Neill, Brian Tobin, and Liam Lawlor, were most in the picture for St. Patrick's.

Scorers: NCPE—J. O'Halloran, 2-1; R. Kilsella, 1-3; C. Honan, 0-5; P. Ryan, L. Tardy, 1-0 each. St. Patrick's: P. Hartigan, T. Cross, V. Cobbe, 1-0 each; P. O'Neill, 0-3; N. Kirwan, 0-2.

TEAMS

NCPE: T. Murphy, P. Aherne, D. Barry, T. Owens, J. Henry, L. Heffernan, J. Greenwood, T. Donnellan, C. Honan, R. Kinsella, J. O'Halloran, M. Burke, P. Ryan, L. Tardy, D. Walsh. Subs.: L. Murphy for Walshe; G. Kennedy for Murphy.

St. Patrick's: M. Foley, P. Hogan, V. Phelan, P. Duffy, L. Lenihan, D. Flanagan, C. Ball, P. O'Neill, P. Hartigan, N. Kirwan, B. Tobin, L. Lawlor, V. Cobbe, T. Cross, P. O'Brien. Sub.: J. Frost for C. Ball.

Referee: S. O'Connor (Cloughaun).

Senior Hurling

2/6/75

NCPE survive Ballybrown rally

NCPE 3-5
Ballybrown 1-9

NCPE qualified to meet Cloughaun in the City Division Senior Hurling Championship Losers Group final on Sunday next, 3.30, when they defeated Ballybrown 3-5 to 1-9 in an exciting game, especially in the second half, at the Gaelic Grounds on Sunday.

NCPE, minus several of the players who helped them in earlier rounds of the championship, were aided by a strong wind in the first half, and opened well with a goal and a point from Gerry Kenenedy in the first five minutes. Colm Honan notched 1-2 from frees before Charlie McCarthy opened Ballybrown's account with a point in the 14th minute.

A great goal by John O'Halloran, who doubled an Eamonn O'Riordan pass, enabled NCPE to lead 3-4 to 0-4 at 1-15 time.

When Pat Lynch pointed a free and Martin Hayes goaled within 5 minutes of resuming, Ballybrown looked well set for victory. Rory Kinsella had NCPE's lone second half point in the 6th minute, followed by two for Ballybrown by Charlie McCarthy.

Then followed a 17-minute scoreless period, during which Ballybrown were completely on top, but failed to raise a flag. Two late points by John Nash and Charlie McCarthy reduced the deficit, but NCPE survived the rally.

Best for NCPE were Tom Donnellan, Ted Owens, John Grisewood, John O'Halloran, Rory Kinsella and Colm Honan; while Tom Ryan, Eamus Lyons, Charlie McCarthy, Pat Fogarty, Martin Hayes and Paddy McCarthy were most impressive for Ballybrown.

Scorers: NCPE—C. Honan 1-3, S. Kennedy, 1-1, J. O'Halloran 1-0, G. Kennedy 0-1. Ballybrown —C. McCarthy 0-5 M. Hayes 1-0, P. McCarthy 0-2, J. Nash 0-2, P. McCarthy 0-2, J. Nash 0-2.

RUGBY:

First cup for N.C.P.E.

(by CORMAC LIDDY)

N.C.P.E. 6
Nenagh 3

Amidst tremendous excitement at Rathbane on Tuesday evening, N.C.P.E., with considerable vocal support from the hundreds of students, won their first ever rugby trophy when they beat Nenagh in the Webb Cup final.

Clare hurler Colm Honan and Kerry footballer Jimmy Deenihan were in the N.C.P.E. side which played bright, open rugby. Another inter-county G.A.A. player in the side was Andy Shortall of Laois, and Bohs. player Paul McAlhinney was at out-half.

But the delight of N.C.P.E. was silenced minutes from the end when Nenagh were awarded a penalty which came back off the upright as most thought it was destined to force a replay.

Hockey star John Holt dropped a goal for N.C.P.E. and Patsy Ryan kicked a penalty and the winning team was:

Patsy Ryan; Julian Davis, Colm Honan, Jimmy Healy, John Dunne; Paul McAlhinney, John Holt; Tom Casey, Jim Tuohy, D. Barry, B. Begley, A. Shortall, Jimmy Deenihan, Greg McInerney and J. Bergin.

After the game the Webb Cup was presented to the captain of the N.C.P.E. team by Mrs. Mary Hayes, sister of the late Sean Webb, the former Bohemians player, in whose memory the trophy was presented.

N.C.P.E. take Leaguetitle

N.C.P.E. 2-6
U.C.D. 0-7

A FOAL in each half proved the decisive scores which enabled N.C.P.E. to win the Higher Education First Division League title for the first time at Tullamore yesterday when they emerged convincing and deserving winners (2-6 to 0-7) against a disappointing U.C.D. side which fielded five below full strength.

In Ted Owens, the winners had a first class goalkeeper who brought off a magnificent save from Jerry McEntee, late in the game and he was afforded excellent cover by a defence in which Jim Deenihan, Brendan Lillis, and Denis Moran were outstanding.

Moran was the man of the match, for he linked up cleverly with midfielders Brian Mullins and Fran Ryder to give the Limerick side a slight edge in this sector.

Scorers — N.C.P.E.: J. Tobin (0-4), G. Dillon (1-1), B. Mullins (1-0) and R. Bell (0-1). U.C.D.: J. Walsh (0-3), B. Walsh, B. Dunleavy, P. J. O'Halloran and P. Duggan (0-1 each).

Senior Hurling

NCPE survive Ballybrown rally

NCPE 3-5
Ballybrown 1-9

NCPE qualified to meet Claughaun in the City Division Senior Hurling Championship Losers Group final on Sunday next, 3.30, when they defeated Ballybrown 3-5 to 1-9 in an exciting game, especially in the second half, at the Gaelic Grounds on Sunday.

NCPE, minus several of the players who helped them in earlier rounds of the championship, were aided by a strong wind in the first half, and opened well with a goal and a point from Gerry Kenenedy in the first five minutes. Colm Honan notched 1-2 from frees before Charlie McCarthy opened Ballybrown's account with a point in the 14th minute.

A great goal by John O'Halloran, who doubled on an Eamonn O'Riordan pass, enabled NCPE to lead 3-4 to 0-4 at half time.

When Pat Lynch pointed a free and Martin Hayes goaled within 5 minutes of resuming, Ballybrown looked well set for victory. Rory Kinsella had NCPE's lone second half point in the 6th minute, followed by two for Ballybrown by Charlie McCarthy.

Then followed a 17-minute scoreless period, during which Ballybrown were completely on top, but failed to raise a flag. Two late points by John Nash and Charlie McCarthy reduced the deficit, but NCPE survived the rally.

Best for NCPE were Tom Donnellan, Ted Owens, John Grisewood, John O'Halloran, Rory Kinsella and Colm Honan; while Tom Ryan, Seamus Lyons, Charlie McCarthy, Pat Fogarty, Martin Hayes and Paddy McCarthy were most impressive for Ballybrown.

Scorers: NCPE—C. Honan 1-3, S. Kennedy, 1-1, J. O'Halloran 1-0, G. Kennedy 0-1. Ballybrown—C. McCarthy 0-5, M. Hayes 1-0, P. McCarthy 0-2, J. Nash, P. Lyons 0-1 each.

the students of Limerick P.E. College and St. Joseph's, Belfast, clash in the Higher Education League.

Unbeaten Limerick, led by Kerry's Jim Deenihan and Pat Spillane, reinforced by Dublin's Brian Mullins and Fran Ryder, and Galway sharpshooter, Johnny Tobin, go through to the final if they win.

The Dublin senior football league match between St. Maurs and St. Brendan's, scheduled for Rush tomorrow afternoon has been postponed.

THOMOND THROUGH

Thomond College went through the formality of playing Ahane in the second game. They led 2-9 to 1-0 at half time and after the resumption they continued

College always on top

THE college side won 1-13 to 0-5. Pat Spillane of Kerry put them ahead with a point early in the game, but Pat Leahy had the equaliser shortly afterwards.

N.C.P.E. were just ahead 0-5 to 0-4 at the break, but in the second half they were well on top and St. Kierans could only manage a point in this half.

Hand tackling was the feature of the game and referee Davy Quirke of Oola, was forced to send a St. Kierans player to the sideline in the second half.

Jimmy Deenihan, Liam Fahy, Mick Spillane, Rory Kinsella and Frank Ryder were the best of the college side. Pat Leahy, John Windle, and Tommy Larkin tried hard for St. Kierans.

to score at will. Ahane were never there with a chance and became very frustrated and as the game progressed they were inclined to use tactics that kept the referee well in tune.

Brian Talty, Pat Spillane, Mick Kilcoyne, Aidan Greene, Gerry Dillon and John O'Connell were the pick of a star laden college fifteen. Sean Kelly, Pat Aherne, Tom Lalor, Pat Herbert and Tony Bradley were Ahane's best.

P. Spillane 2-5, Gerry Dillon 1-2, J. O'Connell, Larry Murphy, Mick Browne 1-1 each, B. Talty 0-3 and M. Kilcoyne 0-2 were the College marksmen. Sean Kelly replied for Ahane.

Thomond College: L. McCarthy, L. Golden, D. O'Keeffe, I. Heaney, N. Connolly, S. O'Shea, D. O'Boyle, B. Talty, A. Greene, M. Kilcoyne, M. Browne, G. Dillon, J. O'Connell, P. Spillane, L. Murphy. Sub., J. Quane for Murphy.

Ahane: D. Meskell, T. Canny, J. Byrnes, B. Jones, P. Herbert, M. Cussen, K. Herbert, T. Lalor, T. Bradley, E. Meskell, P. Meskell, G. Meskell, S. Herbert, P. Aherne, S. Kelly. Sub., M. Hickey for Byrnes.

Referee, R. Moloney, Kilmallock.

G.A.A.:

Inter-county stars shone

N.C.P.E. 0-8
U.C.G. 2-8

Two star-studded sides produced some fine passages of football, U.C.G. emerging winners by a rather flattering margin of two goals. Donegal inter-county player, Paul McGettigan, gave an impressive scoring display from midfield, ending with 2-5 (1-5 from frees). He gave Brian Murtagh (who played well for NCPE in goal) no chance with a well-taken penalty half-way through the first half. At half-time, U.C.G. led 1-5 to 0-5. The second half was very closely contested, with NCPE forwards unable to cash in on some very good possession given them by a very solid home defence, with the half-back line of M. Connolly, A. Harkin and D. O'Boyle in particularly fine form. McGettigan stunned the stunned the home side with a second goal 10 minutes from time, a blow which they never really recovered from.

Best for NCPE — apart from those mentioned — were Jimmy Dunne and Eddie Mahon.

U.C.G. were best served by E. Farrell, M. Kearney and, of course, McGettigan.

NCPE hurlers travelled to Belfield to play UCD in Div. I hurling league this Saturday and our Freshers play the same college in Limerick in the Freshers' League.

In a division B football tie last week UCG scored a narrow single point win over NCPE, 7 points to six.

The visitors scored first from their star midfielder Ray McNicholas, in the opening minute and they went on to lead by 5-3 at the interval.

Backed by the breeze in the second half NCPE staged a commendable rally sparked off by splendid displays by Liam Murphy, James Heaney and Paul Moriarty in defence and with Mick Kilcoyne and Cathal McCarthy doing best of the forwards.

NCPE scorers were P. Coleman, 0-2; H. Kavanagh, C. McCarthy, M. Kilcoyne, P. Herlihy, 0-1 each, and B. McNicholas, 0-4; J. Bourke 0-2, and C. Kearney, 0-1, scored for UCG.

7/2/76 N.I.H.E. G.A.A. Club

On Wednesday, our hurlers completed their league programme with a 3-point defeat by St. Patrick's College, Carlow. Being led by 3 goals at one stage in the game, N.I.H.E. fought back and indeed with a larger slice of luck and a more accurate full-forward line, they might have won. However, an encouraging aspect is that, like the football, a large percentage of the team is composed of first years.

Our next football engagement is against N.C.P.E. on Wednesday next, Feb. 11, in the quarter-finals of the Higher Education Championships. Despite a well-earned shock win over Bolton Street in the last round, the players are well aware of the formidable task facing them.

The panel for that game is: G. Higgins, J. Doherty, M. Walsh, D. Murphy, D. Kiely, J. Clarke, M. Flynn, G. Leahy, D. O'Connor, P. Meskill, M. Malone, P. Galvin, F. McDonogh, R. Colgan, G. Flynn, T. Hogan, N. Fitzgerald, D. Cronin, D. Harman.

THOMOND IN TOP FORM

Thomond College 2-8
University College, Cork 1-4

Leo Patten was the star of Thomond College who surprised a very strong U.C.C. side in the Higher Education Football League at Plassy on Saturday. Patten scored two goals and three points for his side which deserved their win in a game which produced good football despite the conditions.

U.C.C. had a big sprinkling of big names including Martin Doherty, John Mulvihill and Sean Walsh, but the better teamwork of Thomond College proved decisive. Eddie Mahon, Martin Connolly, Mick Spillane, Mick Caulfield, Jimmy Dunne and Brian Talty shone for Thomond.

Scorers: Thomond College. L. Patten 2-3, J. Dunne 0-2, D. Smith 0-2, M. Spillane 0-1. U.C.C. L. Gould 1-2, S. Walsh, J. Myler 0-1 each.

Thomond College: B. Murtagh, M. Heuston, G. O'Shea, E. Mahon, M. Connolly, B. McSweeney, M. Caulfield, M. Spillane, T. Harkin, M. Browne, D. Smith, J. Dunne, L. Patten, B. Talty, C. McCarthy.

U.C.C. J. Prendergast, T. Foley, M. Doherty, E. Desmond, D. Buckley, D. Good, J. Nolan, J. Mulvihill, G. Vaughan, C. Mangan, S. Walsh, M. Keane, L. Gould, J. Myler, M. Kearns.

4/12/77 Thomond take first title

THOMOND COLLEGE 1-12
CROOM (holders) 0-4

Powered by several inter-county players, Thomond College won their first ever Limerick senior football final at Kilmallock yesterday when they had a convincing win over the holders Croom.

Although weather conditions militated against first class football there was some good fare for the sizeable attendance.

College, playing with the wind in the first half, got off to a dream start with an early goal which was due to a

defensive blunder by Croom. Fired by this good beginning they took control and led at half time by 1-10 to nil.

Croom began the second half in determined fashion and had an early point. Several chances of reducing the lead further were squandered by Croom forwards and their attempts at closing the gap by going for goals were foiled by a sound College defence.

Scorers: Thomond T. Arkins 1-2, B. Talty 0-3, R. Bell and J. O'Connell 0-2 each, M. Kilcoyle, D. Smith and G. Dillon 0-1 each, Croom: Kiely 0-4.

Thomond College: Denis Smith, M. Hueston, S. O'Shea, G. Mahon, M. Connolly, B. McSweeney, D. O'Boyle, T. Arkins, M. Spillane, D. Smith, R. Bell, G. Dillon, M. Kilcoyle, B. Talty, J. O'Connell. Subs: A. Green for D. Smith.

Croom: A. Lawlor; J. Carroll, M. Reidy, T. Kiely, D. Murray, J. Breen, P. Culhane, G. Murray, M. Quilty, G. Howard, G. Collins, P. Kiely, W. Dunne, P. O'Connor, L. Breen. Subs: L. Fahy for L. Breen.

Referee: S. O'Connor, (Limerick).

S.F. SEMI-FINAL:

Thomond College through to first decider

Thomond College ... 3-10

Claughtaun ... 2-4

Thomond College are through to the final of the County Senior Football Championship. At Bruff on Sunday, they defeated Claughtaun 3-10 to 2-4 in a semi-final clash that never reached any great heights.

The open flowing football we expected from the College side never materialised, and indeed if Claughtaun had taken two great goal scoring chances in the first half the result would have been much closer. On top of that they had a goal disallowed and some kickable shots went just wide of the target.

It must also be stated, however, that had the College forwards their shooting boots on they would have gone to town in the second half. It was 2-3 to 0-3 at the turn after Claughtaun had played with the assistance of a strong breeze. Thomond tacked on a further 1-7 after the resumption as well as kicking close in balls very wide. With better direction at least another ten points would have been added to their tally.

The Thomond College full-back line always looked suspect and this was borne out at the threequarter stage when Claughtaun broke through for two goals.

Brian Talty and Tony Harkin ruled at midfield for the College, and with centre-back Mick Caulfield they contributed in a big way to victory. Others to

show up were Mick Connolly, Gerry Dillon, Pat Spillane and Richie Bell.

Denis Keehan, Eugene Tuohy, Eamonn Cregan, Tony Kennedy, Mick Ryan and Tom Marsh tried hard for Claughtaun.

Thomond College scorers: G. Dillon, 2-4; J. O'Connell, 1-1; P. Spillane, 0-3; R. Bell, 0-2.

Claughtaun scorers: T. Kennedy, 1-2; K. Moran, 1-1; M. Ryan, 0-1.

Thomond College: L. McCarthy (Cork), L. Golden (Mayo), D. O'Keeffe (Laoighis), E. Maher (Meath), M. Connolly (Mayo), M. Caulfield (Wexford), D. McSweeney (Cork), B. Talty (Galway), T. Harkin (Donegal), J. G. Dillon (Kerry), M. Kilcoyne (Westmeath), P. Spillane (Kerry).

Subs. L. Murphy, J. Heaney, G. Greene.

Claughtaun: D. Keehan, D. Graham, E. Tuohy, F. Berkery, B. O'Gorman, C. Cregan, M. Ryan, T. Marsh, F. Connolly, K. Moran, E. Cregan, L. Lawlor, T. Kennedy, M. Graham, D. Sheehan.

Subs. V. Browne, R. Prendergast.

Referee, R. Moloney (Kilmallock).

In the under 21 football semi-final also at Bruff, Treaty-Sarsfields disposed of Ahane on the score 2-4 to 1-4.

CROOM WIN

In the quarter-final at Adare, the holders, Croom, after leading 0-4 to 0-3 at half time, beat Askeaton 2-4 to 6 pts. They now play St. Kieran's in the semi-final.

THOMOND THROUGH

Thomond College went through the formality of playing Ahane in the second game. They led 2-9 to 1-0 at half time and after the resumption they continued to score at will. Ahane were never there with a chance and became very frustrated and as the game progressed they were inclined to use tactics that kept the referee well in tune.

Brian Talty, Pat Spillane, Mick Kilcoyne, Aidan Greene, Gerry Dillon and John O'Connell were the pick of a star-laden college fifteen. Sean Kelly, Pat Ahern, Tom Lalor, Pat Herbert and Tony Bradley were Ahane's best.

P. Spillane 2-5, Gerry Dillon 1-2, J. O'Connell, Larry Murphy, Mick Browne 1-1 each, B. Talty 0-3 and M. Kilcoyne 0-2 were the College marksmen. Sean Kelly replied for Ahane.

Thomond College: L. McCarthy, L. Golden, D. O'Keeffe, I. Heaney, N. Connolly, S. O'Shea, D. O'Boyle, B. Talty, A. Greene.

M. Kilcoyne, M. Browne, G. Dillon, J. O'Connell, P. Spillane, L. Murphy. Sub., J. Quane for Murphy.

Ahane: D. Meskill, T. Canny, J. Byrnes, B. Jones, P. Herbert, M. Cussen, K. Herbert, T. Lalor, T. Bradley, E. Meskill, P. Meskill, G. Meskill, S. Herbert, P. Ahern, S. Kelly. Sub., M. Hickkey for Byrnes.

Referee, R. Moloney, Kilmallock.

14/11/77

Munster Inter-Club Senior Football: Thomond and Stacks in thrilling draw

Mike Sheehy saves the champions

BY SEAN MURPHY

AUSTIN STACKS (KERRY) 2-6
THOMOND COLLEGE (LIMERICK) 2-6

A SUPERB point from play by Mayo-born Ritchie Bell four minutes from the finish earned Limerick champions, Thomond College, a merited draw with reigning All-Ireland club champions, Austin Stacks, from Tralee in the Munster Inter-Club Senior Football Championship semi-final before a wildly excited crowd at Limerick Gaelic Grounds on Sunday.

Wind, rain and a slippery surface plus a greasy ball were not conducive to copy-book football, but both sides mastered the prevailing conditions amazingly well and served up a veritable feast of all that is best in modern day Gaelic football.

This game was fast-moving, tantalising and at times thrilling and in a nail-biting finale a draw was perhaps an equitable result although both camps can bemoan their lost chances.

Despite the aid of the wind in the first half Thomond were unable to harness the elements to their advantage and were rocked to their heels with a whirlwind opening scoring spree by Austin Stacks in the first seven minutes of play.

In the 3rd minute Dinny Long after a long solo run sent a high lobbing shot towards the Thomond goalmouth. Goalie, Donncha Smith seemed to have the situation well under control when Jackie Power fisted the ball out of his reach to the net for a surprise goal. With John O'Keeffe winning much possession at midfield Stacks continued to dominate the exchanges and points from Paudie McCarthy and Dinny Long (from a 50) left the Tralee side ahead 1-2 to nil after seven minutes play.

MAGNIFICENT FOOTBALL
Gradually Thomond settled down with Brian Talty, Tony Harkin, Jimmy Dunne and Richie Bennis playing magnificent football. Indeed Thomond produced awe-inspiring football during the 12 minutes preceding the interval.

Their precision, moving forwards used the ball as if it belonged to them, flung it around

at will and really frustrated the more direct Kerry defence. Thomond introduced a new dimension in the hand-passing game perfected by the Dubs in their all-conquering march and in the process secured two picture goals which ended Stacks total dominance and boosted their own morale and confidence.

The first Thomond goal arrived in the 22nd minute when Jimmy Dunne set up Gerry Dillion for a spectacular score, and the second, a real peach by any standards, came via Pat Spillane to Jimmy Dunne with Mick Kilcoyne putting the finishing touch to a delightful movement in the 24th minute.

Thomond were now in command and Richie Bell soloed his way through for a flaming point to leave his side ahead 2-1 to 1-2 at half-time.

Thomond maintained their superiority in the opening minutes after resuming, and Pat Spillane shot a great overhead point after four minutes play. Stacks then introduced the injury hampered Kerry star, Michael Sheehy, and although he shot a scoreable free wide just after appearing on the scene, Sheehy was to play a major role in the final result.

PICTURE GOAL

Jimmy Dunne pointed a free in the 7th minute to stretch Thomond's lead, but in a flash Mike Sheehy displayed his talent when he ran on to a Paudie McCarthy centre to hand-pass a picture goal and keep Stacks well in contention. Jimmy Dunne

Thomond: G. Dillion (1-1), M. and so Thomond were in front 2-5 to 2-2 with 15 minutes remaining.

Urged on by their fanatical supporters, Stacks rallied their

sagging forces and Mike Sheehy raised two white flags from frees. Ger Power, now in a forward role, shot the equaliser in the 23rd minutes, and the stage was set for a dramatic finish.

Mike Sheehy gave Stacks the lead with a point in the 25th minute, but then came Richie Bell's point for equality before both sides missed chances of victory.

With two minutes remaining Mike Sheehy struck an upright from a close-in free and the ball was scrambled to safety and in the dying seconds Gerry Dillion's angle free for Thomond was just short of target in a welter of excitement.

Michael Houston, Denis O'Boyle, Brian Talty, Tony Harkin, Jimmy Dunne, Richie Bell, Gerry Dillion and Pat Spillane were outstanding for Thomond College while Ger O'Keeffe, Ger Power, John O'Keeffe, Dinny Long, Garry Scollard, Paudie McCarthy, Jackie Power and Mike Sheehy were most prominent for Austin Stacks.

SCORERS

Thomond: G. Dillion (1-1), M. Kilcoyne (1-0), R. Bell (0-2), J. Dunne (0-2), P. Spillane (0-1).
Austin Stacks: M. Sheehy (1-3), J. Power (1-0), P. McCarthy, D. Long, G. Power (0-1) each.

TEAMS

Thomond College — D. Smith (Limerick), M. Houston (Donegal), S. O'Shea (Longford), E. Mahon (Meath), M. Connolly (Mayo), B. McSweeney (Cork), D. O'Boyle (Mayo), B. Talty (Galway), T. Harkin (Donegal), J. Dunne (Offaly), R. Bell (Mayo), G. Dillion (Kerry), M. Kilcoyne (Westmeath), P. Spillane (Kerry), D. Smith (Galway). Sub: M. Spillane (Kerry) for Declan Smith.

Austin Stacks — T. Brick, G. Scollard, N. Power, P. Lucey, G. O'Keeffe, T. O'Keeffe, G. Power, J. O'Keeffe, J. C. McElligott, C. Mangan, D. Long, T. Sheahan, P. Moriarty, P. McCarthy, J. Power. Subs: M. Sheehy for J. McElligott, B. Carroll for P. Moriarty, T. McSweeney for J. Power.

J. Griffin (Clare) proved to be a very controversial and unpredictable referee.

2-4-77

Thomond College coast to Higher Ed. title

THOMOND COLLEGE (LIMERICK) 2-13

SLIGO REGIONAL COLLEGE 0-3

THE scoreline in no way reflected the superiority of Thomond College in the final of the Higher Education League at Athlone yesterday.

Poor finishing at close range against a weak defence robbed Thomond of at least three goals and as many points. Pat Spillane and Mick Kilcoyne were the earlier offenders although it was Spillane who scored the final goal after R. Bell had three points in a row. Gerry Dillon had Thomond's first goal after his side led by 0-6 to 0-1 at half time.

Scorers, THOMOND, G. Dillon (1-3), P. Spillane (1-2), R. Bell (0-4), J. Dunne (0-2), and points each from M. Kilcoyne and D. O'Boyle. SLIGO, D. Meehan (0-2), S. Joyce (0-1).

THOMOND COLLEGE — B. Murtagh, M. Houston, S. O'Shea, E. Mahon, M. Connolly, B. McSweeney, D. O'Boyle, T. Harkin, M. Spillane, J. Dunne, R. Bell, G. Dillon, M. Kilcoyne, P. Spillane, J. O'Connell. Subs — M. Brown for Kilcoyne, J. Heaney for Houston, P. Burke for O'Connell.

SLIGO REGIONAL COLLEGE — P. Farry, J. Flynn, P. Dolan, M. Jacob, G. Thompson, R. Mulligan, E. Egan, D. Meehan, S. Joyce, S. Crossan, T. Moyné, S. O'Connor, J. Munnelly, F. Smith, G. McGrann. Subs — T. McDonagh for McCrann, W. Ward for Thompson.

REFEREE—J. Griffin (Athlone).

down the field.

HIGHER EDUCATION G.A.A. LEAGUES

NEW-LOOK SIDE FROM THOMOND

THOMOND COLLEGE, Limerick, can only speculate at this stage whether or not they can re-enact their prestigious feats of last year when, among other deeds they lifted the All-Ireland club senior football title.

The composition of that particular side has cut up badly but a fair idea of what the immediate future holds for the Limerick students may well be revealed on Saturday when their new look side play U.C.C. in the opening round game of the Higher Education S.F. League.

The match has been switched from its original siting, the Mardyke, to the Farm where the pipe opener will see the same institutions do battle in a Div. II "B" tie (1.15).

Considering the acknowledged strength of their panel last year, Thomond can be expected to be formidable especially after a few games as the side knits. But at the moment one can only wonder how new boys such as Mike Clarke and Pat Burke (Mayo) and Pearse Dillon (Tipperary) will link up with the established Brian Talty (Galway) Brian McSweeney (Cork) and Mayo under 21 star Martin Connolly.

THREE MISSING

Missing this year will be the influence of Richie Bell, Sean O'Shea and Eddie Mahon on which the side thrived last term. The younger members of last years pool, Nial Moyna and Chris McGlynn, along with Frank Noone and Mick Caulfield can be relied upon to help significantly in the welding together of what is, in fact, an untried team. All four figured in that Div. I final defeat by St. Joseph's Training College, Belfast, earlier this year.

U.C.C. were not very hopeful yesterday of having Kerry star Sean Walsh back in action to boost their bid. Walsh damaged a knee against Dublin in the Croke Park League match and has not played since but he is likely to return to the action with Kerry on Sunday.

Johnny Mulvihill, also of Kerry, is a certain starter and along with top scorer Donal Buckley, Leo Gould and strong midfielder Don Good will be all out for a morale boosting opening win.

All of this week's action is confined to Saturday and there are some interesting matches listed. St. Patrick's Maynooth

and U.C.D. meet in a Div. II clash at St. Marys Park and the U.C.D. vets may not have it all their own way when they face Carlow Regional at Greenfield.

Yet another U.C.D. team, "Alberts", in section "D", line out at Devlin Park where the opposition is provided by a useful Bolton Street side. One of the more interesting matches in the lower grades brings Tralee and Crawford into opposition in the Div III section "A" football series at Tralee.

FIXTURES

SATURDAY

DIV. I "B" FOOTBALL

At The Farm — U.C.C. v Thomond, 3.15.

DIV. II "B"

At The Farm — U.C.C. v Thomond 1.15.

DIV. II "C" FOOTBALL

At St. Mary's Park — Maynooth v U.C.D. (Belfield), 1.30.

At Greenfield — U.C.D. (Vets) v Carlow Regional College, 3.00.

DIV. II "D" FOOTBALL

At Devlin Park — U.C.D. (Albert) v Bolton Street, 1.30.

At Dundalk — Dundalk Regional College, v St. Patricks, 3.00.

DIV. III "A" FOOTBALL

At Thomond — N.I.H.E. v St. Marys Immaculate, 3.00.

At Tralee — Tralee v Crawford, 3.00.

FRESHERS "C" FOOTBALL

At Venue to be arranged — U.C.C. v U.C.G. 3.00.

SPORTS DIARY

Racing — Dundalk 1.30, Clonmel 2.0, Ascot 1.30, Newcastle 1.15.

Soccer — European Cup Winners Cup 2nd Round 2nd Leg — Shamrock Rovers (0); Banik Ostrava (3), Milltown, 2.30. European Cup 2nd Round 2nd Leg — Dynamo Dresden (0); Bohemians (0) Dresden, 4.0. Leinster Senior Cup Quarter-final — Shelbourne v Fatima Rangers, Tolka Park, 8.0.

Rugby — Des Merry Under 21 Floodlit Competition, Greystones v Bective 7.45, Belvedere v De La Salle, 9.0, both at Clonskeagh.

Greyhound Sales — Shelbourne Park, 11.0.

Greyhound Racing — Shelbourne Park 8.0, Cork 8.0, Derry 8.0, Navan 8.15, Tralee 8.15, Kilkenny 8.30.

Cross Country — Co. Roscommon BLOE Championships and BLE Novice Championships, Convent Ground, Roscommon, 2.00.

1/11/78

HIGHER EDUCATION GAA

'Hurlers' intake is deplorable

"THE POOR INTAKE of hurlers to Thomond, the national College of Physical Education is to my mind a reflection of the state of the game in the country." This was the opinion of a spokesman at the Limerick Institution yesterday as his college hurlers prepare for their opening round match against seasoned U.C.G. in the Higher Education Senior League at Limerick on Saturday.

Thomond are, in fact, the second college this year to express the feeling that they should not be operating in Division I hurling. St. Patrick's Training College, Drumcondra, said likewise the other week as they faced the mature performers of U.C.D.

The Limerick College has only got some 17 hurlers to choose from and they are mainly depending on footballers who play hurling as their second choice sport. Brian McSweeney (Cork) and Martin Connolly (Mayo) are prime examples. Together with this pair Mick Caulfield supplies the basic power behind the suspect strength of Thomond.

But in Galway they have a certain respect for Thomond mainly because of their level of fitness. Galway's Tony O'Regan said yesterday "they always give us a good game and are at an advantage for this opening round match because they had longer than us to prepare."

Galway build around inter-county men, Joe Connolly P. J. Burke, and Conor Hayes, of the home county and Kilkenny's Ciaran Brennan, Limericks Pat Ryan, and Clare under 21 star, Vinnie Daly.

With talent like that it would be a major shock if they don't win.

It is expected to be a lot different for Galway's footballers when they travel to Santry on Saturday to take on Trinity College led by all stars, Tommy Drumm and Robbie Kelleher.

TOMORROW

Div. II "A" Football

At Malone ? Queen's Univ. v NUU.

At Jordanstown — Polytech v St. Joseph's TC, 3.0.

Div. III "B" Football

At Naas — Army School v Trinity College, 3.0.

SATURDAY

Div. I "A"

Div. I "A" Football
At Malone — Queen's Univ. v St. Patrick's TC., 2.30.

Div. I "B" Football
At Santry — Trinity College v UCG, 2.30.

At Mardyke — UCC v UCD, 2.30.

Div. II "B" Football
At Mardyke — UCC v Cork Regional College, 1.0.

At Sligo — Sligo Regional College v Thomond College, 2.30.

Div. II "C" Football
At St. Mary's Park — Maynooth v UCD Vets, 2.30.

At Greenfields — UCD (Belfield) v Carlow Regional College, 2.30.

Div. II "D"

At Devlin Park 2 UCD (Albert) v Dundalk, 2.30.

At Terenure 2 Bolton St. v St. Patricks, 2.30.

Div. III "A" Football

At Thomond — NIHE v Tralee, 2.30.

At Victoria Crescent — Crawford v Limerick, 2.30.

At Santry 2 Kevin St. v Trinity College, 1.0.

DI

Div. II "C" Hurling
At Coleraine 2 NUU v Polytech, 2.30.

Freshers Hurling
At Malone ? Queen's Univ. v St. Patricks.

Div. I Hurling
At Thomond 2 Thomond v UCG, 3.0.

8/11/78

SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Thomond College2-6
Monaleen0-6

FIELDING SEVEN of their successful All-Ireland winning side of last year, Thomond College got a rare fright from a young and eager Monaleen team before eventually winning their city senior football championship game by 2-6 to 0-6 at the Gaelic Grounds on Sunday.

At the same venue, Patrickswell, without ever displaying the champions' touch, strode to a convincing 4-6 to 0-6 victory over fellow parishioners, Ballybrown, to reach yet another city senior hurling final. 15.7.78

Monaleen certainly gave youth its fling by including eight of last year's minor team in the team to face the mighty College combination and their judgment was vindicated with a superb performance.

Monaleen played with a gale force wind in the first half and had two early points from Eddie Franklin and Pa Moloney, but overall failed dismally to harness the elements to their advantage, and a complete lack of penetration in the forward division was clearly evident, and this proved costly as the game progressed.

In a sudden raid upfield, Thomond grabbed a surprise goal per Timmy Murphy, but Pa Moloney shot the equaliser for Monaleen before Declan Smith edged the "College" ahead once again in the 20th minute.

Two master saves by Liam Murphy, the Thomond goalie, and great defensive work by Martin Connolly, deprived Monaleen of several scores before Mike Moloney equalised from a free to level the sides at the interval.

A major upset looked imminent on resuming when Noel Bridgeman shot a fine point for Monaleen and with Diarmuid Leonard, of Garryowen fame, lording it at midfield, the challengers surged forward but could not snatch the vital scores.

Eventually the football talent of Martin Connolly, Sean O'Shea, Mike Caulfield, Declan Smith and Jimmy Dunne gained supremacy for Thomond College and they pulled away for a deserved but flattering six point success.

In addition to Diarmuid Leonard, Tom Griffin and county minors Wilfred Cremins, Noel Leonard, Brian Spillane and Nial McDonnell were most impressive on a promising Monaleen team.

Scorers:

Thomond College — T. Murphy, 2-1; J. Dunne, 0-4; D. Smith, 0-2.

Monaleen — N. Bridgeman, 0-2; P. Moloney, 0-2; E. Franklin, 0-1; M. Moloney, 0-1.

TEAMS

Thomond College — L. Murphy, M. Hurston, S. O'Shea, J. Halbert, C. McGlynn, M. Caulfield, M. Connolly, D. Smith, T. Harken, P. McGinnitty, J. McCarthy, C. McCarthy, T. Murphy, P. McCarthy, N. Magner. Subs.: D. O'Callaghan for C. McGlynn; P. Herlihy for P. McCarthy.

Monaleen — J. Doherty, E. Leonard, T. Griffin, J. O'Brien, W. Cremin, N. Leonard, V. O'Brien, B. Spillane, D. Leonard, D. Hyde, N. Bridgeman, N. McDonnell, M. Moloney, E. Franklin, P. Moloney. Subs.: E. Nicholas for D. Hyde; W. Nicholas for V. O'Brien.

Referee, Pat Lane (Foynes).

Senior Football championship:

Thomond held by Croom

Monaleen oust Kilmallock

By SEAN MURPHY

Thomond College (holders)	1-11
Croom	2-8
Monaleen	1-9
Kilmallock	1-5

All Ireland champions, Thomond College, dangled precariously on a tight-rope of uncertainty at Bruff yesterday and only an equalising point from their star performer, Brian Talty, two minutes from time enable them to escape from the gaping jaws of defeat in their Limerick county senior football championship encounter with last year's defeated finalists, Croom.

Played in atrocious conditions, the game was brimful of excitement with both sides playing with amazing spirit and determination.

Admittedly the College were missing many of their "big guns" but full marks to Croom who were also depleted. Nevertheless they really rose to the occasion in this David and Goliath pairing with an outstanding display of wholehearted endeavour endowed with a high percentage of football know-how.

ENJOYED

Croom enjoyed much possession in the first half but some glorious chances were missed and Thomond sailed serenely into an interval lead of 0-8 to 0-2.

Thomond continued to dominate the exchanges on resuming and seemed bang on target for their expected victory when they extended their advantage to 0-10 to 0-2 as time ticked away.

However, Croom rallied their sagging forces and the unerring accuracy of Peter Kiely kept them in contention as they gradually reduced the deficit to a mere two points.

In the 21st minute the chips were really down as a long raking shot by Pat Culhane reached the Thomond net and Croom had suddenly taken a surprise lead.

But the champions reply was fast and decisive. In a sudden surge upfield Conor O'Malley's shot from 35 yards range completely deceived Pat Glynn in the Croom goal and Thomond had edged in front once more.

DRAMATIC

In a dramatic finale Croom seemed to have knocked the champions off their tory pedestal when Michael O'Shea booted the

ball to the Thomond net four minutes from time but like true champions Thomond rallied and Brian Talty earned them a second bite at the cherry with a superb overhead shot.

Best for Croom were Mark Reidy, Pat Culhane, Sean Breen, Gerry Murray, Garrett Howard, Peter Kiely, Martin Quilty and Gerry Sheahan, while Mick Hueston, Conor O'Malley, Brian McSweeney, Ritchie Bell, Sean O'Shea, Pierce Dillon and Brian Talty excelled for a Thomond side that never moved with their usual rhythm.

Scorers: Croom — P. Kiely 0-5, P. Culhane 1-0, M. O'Shea 1-0, G. Sheahan 0-1, G. Howard 0-1, M. Howard 0-1.

Thomond College — C. O'Malley 1-1, P. Dillon 0-5, T. Harkin 0-1, R. Bell 0-1, L. Patton 0-1.

TEAMS

Croom — P. Glynn, J. Moloney, M. Reidy, T. Kiely, P. Culhane, S. Breen, D. Murray, G. Murray, G. Howard, P. Kiely, M. Quilty, L. Fahy, G. Sheahan, M. Howard, M. O'Shea.

Thomond College — P. O'Neill, F. Harrington, M. Hueston, E. Mahon, C. O'Malley, B. McSweeney, M. Clarke, T. Harkin, R. Bell, P. McNamara, C. McCarthy, P. Dillon, L. Patton, B. Talty, F. Woods, Subs., J. Dunne for P. McNamara, S. O'Shea for F. Woods.

Referee, P. Lane (Foynes).

FRONT PAGE FOR THOMOND

The Limerick county football champions, Thomond College, who play in the All-Ireland club final on Sunday, are featured on the front page of "The Treaty Gael," the quarterly magazine published by the Publications Committee of the Limerick County Board. The magazine, which continues to set a headline for all other counties, includes an interview with Tony O'Brien, Limerick's captain in the 1971 League final, in addition to a comprehensive pictorial coverage.

Seamus O'Ceallaigh recalls "Memories from the Years Agone," Christy Fitzgerald writes on the "Unsung Heroes of the G.A.A.," which fittingly pays tribute to the same Mr. O'Ceallaigh, who is photographed after presenting the Taoiseach Mr. Lynch with his book, "Story of the G.A.A."

Limerick may not be enjoying success at national level in the games sphere but the 'Treaty Gael' proves that the structure of the association within the county is very much alive and well.

C.E.
23.3.78

GAELIC FOOTBALL:

N.C.P.E. PLAY 'WELL' IN CITY FINAL AT KILDIMO

THE CITY Senior Football Championship has made remarkable strides this year, and all concerned are to be heartily congratulated on the progress to date. Indeed, the divisional final takes place this Friday evening in the unfamiliar surroundings of Kildimo between the National College of Physical Education and Patrickswell.

The P.E. students go into this game as red-hot favourites, especially as they should be able to field practically their full-strength side. Many good judges feel that N.C.P.E., with a full complement would beat most county teams.

Their stars include Brian Mullins, the brilliant Dublin midfielder; Galway All-Star, Johnny Tobin; Jim Deenihan and Pat Spillane of Kerry; Richie Bell of Mayo; Hugo Clerkin of Monaghan; Andy Shortt of Laois and Mick Browne from Westmeath.

They put out a much under-

strength side when defeating Claughaun, traditionally one of the strongest teams. So the "Well," better known for their hurling prowess, will be very much the underdogs.

HURLING

The semi-final of the City Senior Hurling Championship between Claughaun and Ballybrown will be played at the Gaelic Grounds on Sunday at 7.30 and at 12 noon the same day at the Claughaun field, N.C.P.E. play St. Patrick's in the quarter-final of the losers group.

THOMOND COLLEGE VICTORY DINNER:

Special place of ^{6/5/78} Gaelic games

"IT IS ONLY right and fitting that Gaelic games should have special recognition in Thomond College, and it is pleasing to note the impact Gaelic football has made at the college," said Councillor Frank Prendergast, Mayor of Limerick, when he spoke at a victory function in Thomond College to celebrate the club's success in the All-Ireland inter-club football championship.

Continuing, Cllr. Prendergast paid tribute to all associated with the club's historic success and said their victory had put Limerick back on the football map once again.

The need for emphasis on the national games was stressed by the president of the G.A.A., Mr. Con Murphy, in a wide-ranging address, during which he formally announced that the Dept. of Education had agreed to build two handball alleys at the college.

The president paid a special tribute to the Thomond team, which, he said, had become a household name throughout the country as a result of the many brilliant displays. By raising standards, with their scientific approach and imaginative play, they had enhanced the image of the G.A.A. In more general terms, he said, they were conscious of the importance to the nation of the college, because there was a great need in every county for a consciousness of physical well-being.

"To clear up any doubts," continued Mr. Murphy, "we see students of Thomond College first and foremost as educationalists and specialists in the physical education field.

"After that," he said, "we would hope that P.E. teachers, having regard to the need for putting emphasis on Gaelic games — hurling, football, handball and camogie

— would do just that".

Turning his attention to members of the Thomond club, he said that even if they received appointments to schools with other traditions, there was an obligation on them to give students the opportunity to be introduced to our national games.

He complimented Dave Weldrick as manager of the Thomond team and expressed the hope that through the influence of John O'Halloran — chairman of the club — hurling would progress in the same way as football had.

Team captain, Pat Spillane, said that there was the nucleus of a good county football team in Limerick and he hoped that the success of Thomond College would help to stimulate a greater interest in the game within the county. "Gaelic football," said Spillane, "needed coaching. We may have used soccer and rugby tactics, but we realise that the game can be put across in a more attractive way".

Other speakers included Mr. Bobby Buckley, deputy chairman of the college's governing body, who stated he was glad Gaelic games had gained a foothold in the college. "However," he said, "we want all games promoted". Mr. Dave Weldrick and Mr. Jim Christian, the director of Thomond College, also spoke.

CLUB FOOTBALL SEMI-FINAL:

3rd draw between ^{21/1/78} Thomond and Stacks

BY "LEADER" REPORTER

AUSTIN STACKS 3-15, THOMOND COLLEGE 2-18.

THOMOND COLLEGE and Austin Stacks must try yet again to decide their Munster Club Championship semi-final. The Limerick and Kerry champions drew for the third time in Cork yesterday, "Stacks" equalising with a penalty goal by Mikie Sheehy with the last kick of the match.

Great scores, swaying fortunes, lost opportunities on both sides, all the stuff of sporting drama captivated and wrung the hearts of the onlookers before these finely matched rivals again finished level at the end of normal time. And then, at the curtain-call, half an hour of extra time, the remarkable battle went on a before with every player's endurance stretched to breaking-point, until the end of that, too, there was deadlock.

LIVELIER

Thomond were the better team when extra time began and Kilcoyne displayed his skill again when kicking a neat point to regain the lead. But, after that, fortunes swung one way and the other — scores were level twice — before Power, with a point, edged Stacks into the lead at the interval. Score: 2-12 to 1-14.

The second period of 15 minutes overflowed with excitement. Although Talt was now tiring at midfield, Thomond pressed their rivals defence severely and, in the sixth minute after the restart, were awarded a penalty when the Kerry full-back, Noel Power, lifted the ball off the ground with his hands inside the small box. Jimmy Dunne sent the ball into the net, like a bullet, well to the left of Brick's reach.

PENALTY

That was surely the winner, we thought, and a Thomond victory looked virtually certain when their right full-back, Michael Houston, raced down the field to increase the lead to three points with only two minutes remaining. And like that it stayed until, in the last and most remarkable moment of drama, Sheehy was fouled inside the penalty area and duly converted the spot kick for another amazing draw..

Thomond played better football than their opponents for

longer periods of the game, but Stacks deserved to survive because, full of fighting spirit, they simply refused to be beaten.

Talty was Thomond's outstanding player, though his efforts waned during extra time. Kilcoyne and Pat Spillane were the stars of the attack and, in a good defence, Houston, Sean O'Shea and Brian Mac Sweeney were consistently the most capable players.

Sheehy, Power, Long (late in normal time and all through extra time), Scollard a fine right full back, Ger O'Keeffe, were the stars of the unconquerable Kerry club.

Scorers — Austin Stacks: M. Sheehy 1-11 (1-8 from frees, 0-1 fifty), G. Power 1-2, P. McCarthy 1-1, J. L. McElligott 0-1, Thomond: B. Talty 0-6 (0-4 frees), M. Kilcoyne 1-3, P. Spillane 0-5, J. Dunne 1-1, J. O'Connell, T. Harkin and H. Houston 0-1 each.

Austin Stacks — T. Brick; G. Scollard, N. Power, U. Lucey; G. O'Keeffe (capt.) T. O'Keeffe, G. Power; J. O'Keeffe, J. L. McElligott; T. Sheehan, D. Long, B. Carroll; F. Ryan, M. Sheehy, P. McCarthy. Subs. F. Lawlor for Ryan (second half), P. Moriarty for Sheehan 78th min.), C. Mangan for McElligott (87th min.).

Thomond — L. Murphy (Cork), M. Houston (Donegal), S. O'Shea (Longford), E. Mahon (Meath), M. Connolly (Mayo), B. MacSweeney (Cork), D. O'Boyle (Mayo), T. Harkin (Donegal), B. Talty (Galway), M. Spillane (Kerry), R. Bell (Mayo), G. Dillon (Kerry), M. Kilcoyne (Westmeath), P. Spillane (Kerry, captain), J. O'Connell (Kerry). Subs.: D. Smyth (Galway) for Connolly (61st min.), Connolly for M. Spillane (injured, 74th), J. Dunne for Dillon (76th).

Referee: John Moloney (Tipperary).

Senior Football championship:

Thomond held by Croom

Monaleen oust Kilmallock

By SEAN MURPHY

Thomond College (holders)	1.11
Croom	2.8
Monaleen	1.9
Kilmallock	1.5

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Admittedly the College were missing many of their "big guns" but full marks to Croom who were also depleted. Nevertheless they really rose to the occasion in this David and Goliath pairing with an outstanding display of wholehearted endeavour endowed with a high percentage of football know-how.

ENJOYED

Croom enjoyed much possession in the first half but some glorious chances were missed and Thomond sailed serenely into an interval lead of 0-8 to 0-2.

Thomond continued to dominate the exchanges on resuming and seemed bang on target for their expected victory when they extended their advantage to 0-10 to 0-2 as time ticked away.

However, Croom rallied their sagging forces and the unerring accuracy of Peter Kiely kept them in contention as they gradually reduced the deficit to a mere two points.

In the 21st minute the chips were really down as a long raking shot by Pat Culhane reached the Thomond net and Croom had suddenly taken a surprise lead.

But the champions reply was fast and decisive. In a sudden surge upfield Conor O'Malley's shot from 35 yards range completely deceived Pat Glynn in the Croom goal and Thomond had edged in front once more.

DRAMATIC

In a dramatic finale Croom seemed to have knocked the champions off their lofty pedestal when Michael O'Shea booted the

ball to the Thomond net four minutes from time but like true champions Thomond rallied and Brian Talty earned them a second bite at the cherry with a superb overhead shot.

Best for Croom were Mark Reidy, Pat Culhane, Sean Breen, Gerry Murray, Garrett Howard, Peter Kiely, Martin Quilty and Gerry Sheahan, while Mick Hueston, Conor O'Malley, Brian McSweeney, Ritchie Bell, Sean O'Shea, Pierce Dillon and Brian Talty excelled for a Thomond side that never moved with their usual rhythm.

Scorers: Croom — P. Kiely 0-5, P. Culhane 1-0, M. O'Shea 1-0, G. Sheahan 0-1, G. Howard 0-1, M. Howard 0-1.

Thomond College — C. O'Malley 1-1, P. Dillon 0-5, T. Harkin 0-1, R. Bell 0-1, L. Patton 0-1.

TEAMS

Croom — P. Glynn, J. Moloney, M. Reidy, T. Kiely, P. Culhane, S. Breen, D. Murray, G. Murray, G. Howard, P. Kiely, M. Quilty, L. Fahy, G. Sheahan, M. Howard, M. O'Shea.

Thomond College — P. O'Neill, F. Harrington, M. Hueston, E. Mahon, C. O'Malley, B. McSweeney, M. Clarke, T. Harkin, R. Bell, P. McNamara, C. McCarthy, P. Dillon, L. Patton, B. Talty, F. Woods. Subs., J. Dunne for P. McNamara, S. O'Shea for F. Woods.

Referee. P. Lane (Foynes).

CLUB FOOTBALL C'SHIP: 23.1.78

Thomond make no mistake this time

THOMOND COLLEGE, 3-8; AUSTIN STACKS, 2-5.

THE MARATHON is over . . . Thomond College of Limerick yesterday beat Austin Stacks of Kerry in the 3rd re-play, and so qualified for the final of the Munster Club Championship against Nemo Rangers of Cork on Sunday week, February 5th. There was never any doubt about the outcome as Pat Spillane inspired his colleagues to a superb performance. Only two goals in the last eight minutes put a respectable appearance on the scoreboard for "Stacks."

The big difference this time was that while Thomond once more dominated the first half, they succeeded in strengthening their grip in the second half, something they had failed to do in any of the previous matches. Part of the explanation for this rather dramatic change was the overall improvement in the team. Other reasons were the invaluable contribution from Pat Spillane, a powerful defensive display from his brother Michael and a more effective performance from the attack, in which Declan Smyth was a worthwhile replacement and Ritchie Bell was far more impressive.

BAD FINISHING

At half time, Thomond led 2-4 to 0-3 and might have been further in front but for some bad finishing.

Ten minutes into the second half Thomond stretched their lead to nine points—the biggest margin yet in the four games. Stacks had resumed in spirited fashion, but, although they mounted several promising attacks, they were unable to penetrate. In an effort to bring about an improvement, Sheehy was moved to full forward and two substitutes were introduced, but Thomond's grip on the game became more firm.

Another goal from Spillane, a great individual effort when Smyth picked him out unmarked, about 25 yards from the goalmouth, gave Thomond the confidence they needed to stay in control. This score came in the 45th minute and, with a Sheehy point from a free, Stacks' only score since the 27th minute, the students' lead was now extended to eleven points.

SUPERIORITY

In the last quarter, Thomond

with some great defensive play. Full back Sean O'Shea, playing better than at any stage in the previous games, dominated around the square, Michael Spillane did trojan work at right half back and in the centre, when he moved after Power, and left half Martin Connolly complemented the fine work of left corner Eddie Mahon.

Tony O'Keeffe's improved play at centre-back, allied to the strong finish of Long and John O'Keeffe at midfield, reduced the impact of the Thomond forwards to an extent, and, at the same time, put their backs under more pressure. Stacks' efforts were rewarded when McElligott got a good goal in the 52nd minute, but that was their only success at penetrating, until Sheehy scored from a consolation penalty in the second last minute.

Scorers—Thomond—P. Spillane (2-1), B. Talty (0-5), R. Bell (1-1) and B. Smyth (0-1). Austin Stacks—M. Sheehy (1-2), J. McElligott (1-0), Ger Power, P. Moriarty, P. McCarthy (0-1 each).

TEAMS

Thomond College—L. Murphy, M. Houston, S. O'Shea, B. Mahon, M. Spillane, B. McSweeney, M. Connolly, T. Harkin, B. Talty, J. Dunne, R. Bell, D. Smyth, M. Kilcoyne, P. Spillane, J. O'Connell. Sub: D. O'Boyle for Houston.

Austin Stacks—T. Brick, G. Scollard, N. Power, P. Lucy, F. Lawlor, A. O'Keeffe, G. O'Keeffe, J. O'Keeffe, D. Long, T. Sheehan, M. Sheehy, G. Power, J. McElligott, P. McCarthy, B. Carroll. Subs: P. Moriarty for P. McCarthy; C. Mangan for B. Carroll; B. Curtin for C. Mangan.

Referee—J. Moloney (Tipper-

Jim Deenihan inspires NCPE to victory

N.C.P.E. 0-11
Ahane 1-4

N.C.P.E., with only a shadow of the team which won the city senior football championship advanced to the semi final of the county championship, when they defeated Ahane at Murroe, by a four point margin.

Because of inter-county commitments the college side lined out without such notable players as Johnny Tobin (Galway) Richie Bell (Mayo), Brian Mullins, Frank Ryder (Dublin) and Pat Spillane, Gerry Dillon, Ogie Moran (Kerry). Indeed they failed to take the field at the appointed time and when it did commence twenty five minutes late, they started without their left full back.

Brian Talty opened the scoring in the third minute with a point for N.C.P.E. and during the next ten minutes, they shot no fewer than six wides. The game's second score came in the fourteenth minute, per Martin Rainsford, the equaliser for Ahane. In the second quarter Ahane matched their more fancied opponents and the football played by John Byrnes, Sean Kelly, Bernard Berkery and Martin Rainsford at least equalled the best the opposition could offer. Only a point separated the sides at the interval with N.C.P.E. leading 0-3 to 0-2.

Jimmy Hassett levelled matters early in the second half, but it was N.C.P.E. who were in command for the greater half of this moiety and they slowly but surely built up a five point lead. Ahane reduced the deficit with an M. J. Aherne goal, but try as they might they could never pull back the remaining two points and late scores by Jimmy Deenihan and Declan Smyth ensure the college of a place in the next round.

N.C.P.E. scorers — B. Talty 0-4, J. Deenihan 0-3, C. Honan,

J. Quane, D. Smyth and A. Shortall 0-1 each.

Ahane scorers—M. J. Aherne (1-1), M. Rainsford (0-2), J. Hassett (0-1).

N.C.P.E.—E. Riordan (Dublin), D. Dundon (Laois), L. Fardy (Wexford), J. Heaney (Mayo), D. Weldrick (Dublin), J. Deenihan (Kerry), A. Greene (Clare), A. Shortall (Laois), D. Smyth (Galway), J. Quane (Limerick), M. Kilcoyne (Westmeath), M. Johnson (Clare), A. Kavanagh (Cork), B. Talty (Galway), D. Barry (Clare). Sub. C. Honan (Clare) for Barry.

Ahane—M. Byrnes, M. Fitzgibbon, J. Byrnes, F. Berkery, S. Kelly, T. Ryan, T. Lalor, P. Byrnes, P. Aherne, B. Berkery, P. Meskeel, K. Herbert, M. J. Aherne, J. Hassett, M. Rainsford.

Referee—P. O'Dwyer (Cloughaun).

N.C.P.E. win, lose

N.C.P.E. 1-7
Sligo Regional Tech. Col. 1-4

Centre forward Conor O'Malley was the star for N.C.P.E. in their Higher Education football league (Div. 2) game at Newport, Co. Tipperary, on Saturday. He scored a goal and two of their points and the winners other scorers were, Brian Murtagh 0-2, Pat Kerlihy 0-2, and A. Twomey 0-1.

Sligo scorers were: Sean Joyce 1-2, K. O'Connor and S. Crossan 0-1 each.

N.C.P.E. 0-3
U.C.G. 2-6

U.C.G. proved much too strong for N.C.P.E. in their Freshers Higher Education football league game at Newport on Saturday and were on top throughout.

S.F.C.:

Thomond make no mistake in replay

Thomond College 2-16
Croom 3-4

THOMOND College, the All-Ireland club football champions, scored a clear cut win over Croom at Bruff in their quarter-final replay, and never at any stage, did Croom look like causing an upset.

In contrast to the drawn game, the football was open and this helped the champions to pick off scores from far out. It was 1-7 to 0-2 at the turn and at the three-quarter stage it was one way traffic as Croom conceded frees which Brian Talty converted.

A late rally yielded three surprise goals, but the deficit was too much and Croom finished awell beaten side.

Sean O'Shea, Mick Spillane, Brian McSweeney, Declan Smyth, Conor McCarthy, Brian Talty and Tony Harkin were best for Thomond who have installed themselves as firm favourites to retain their title.

Garrett Howard at midfield, and Sean Breen at centre half back were outstanding for Croom. They received good support from Pat Glynn, Donal Murray, Pat Culhane, Mark Reidy, Gerry Murray and Peter Kiely.

Thomond College scorers — B. Talty (0-9), C. McCarthy (2-0), L. Patton (0-3), M. Spillane (0-3), J. Dunne (0-1).

Croom scorers — A. Lalor, L. Breen and G. Sheehan (1-0) each, P. Kiely (0-2) and M. Quilty and P. Culhane (0-1) each.

Thomond College — B. Murtagh, M. Hueston, S. O'Shea, E. Mahon, M. Spillane, B. McSweeney, M. Chawke, D. Smyth, T. Harkin, J. Dunne, R. Bell, C. McCarthy, L. Patton, B. Talty, C. O'Malley. Subs., P. McCarthy for Chawke, F. Harrington for C. McCarthy, P. Dillon for O'Malley.

Croom — P. Glynn, T. Kiely, M. Reidy, J. Moloney, D. Murray, S. Breen, P. Culhane, G. Howard, M. Quilty, G. Sheehan, G. Murray, P. Kiely, L. Fahy, M. Howard, L. Breen. Subs., A. Lalor for Fahy, M. O'Shea for M. Howard.

Referee, P. Lane (Foynes).

21-8-78

M.I.C.E. lost

M.I.C.E. 2-6
Waterford R.T.C. 3-8

Waterford R.T.C. deserved their five points winning margin from this Higher Education division 3 hurling league game at Monaleen on Saturday but the issue would have been close had the Limerick side availed of some of the good scoring chances which came their way.



Thomond College beaten by Oola in the senior football championship.

1979

LUCKY GOAL HELPS THOMOND

BY SEAN MURPHY

Thomond College 2-9
Monaleen 2-4

A FORTUITOUS goal deflected to the net by their full-back, Tom Griffin, from a 50 metres free by Galway's Brian Talty in the 16th minute of the second half, paved the way for Monaleen's surprise dethronement as county champions in a well-contested city senior football championship final in glorious conditions at the Gaelic Grounds on Sunday.

While it was this goal that finally sounded the death-knell of the champions aspirations, Monaleen will, however, also bemoan the spate of missed chances throughout the hour, but especially in the first half, when aided by a strong wind they shot no fewer than 15 wides.

But that is what the game is all about, the ability to snatch scores with half a chance.

So full marks to Thomond College for a gritty performance. They kept plugging away when their task seemed well-nigh impossible and eventually notched a deserved victory.

They played the more fluid and direct football, while Monaleen seemed obsessed with the idea of short passing, many of which went astray, and eventually plotted their own downfall.

Although Wilfred Cremen opened Monaleen's tally after one minute with a superb point, the champions were exceedingly slow to settle down and Brian Talty had edged the College ahead with two points.

Gradually Monaleen's talent surfaced as Derrick McCarthy and Diarmuid Leonard launched several attacks and Mike Moloney grabbed a goal after nine minutes.

Wilfred Cremen and Mike Moloney added points before Ged O'Dwyer crashed the ball to the net after Con Moynihan in the Thomond goal had made two good saves.

Brian Spillane missed a "sitter," just before the interval, so after a spell of total dominance in the opening 30 minutes Monaleen could only manage a half-time lead of 2-3 to 2-2.

Again on resuming Monaleen had numerous chances of stretching their lead but they all went abegging before Thomond got a grip on the situation.

Brian Talty and sturdy Martin Connolly were the inspiration of the Thomond boys as they struggled to get their rhythm and composure.

Points from Martin Connolly, Frank Noone, Roger McCarrick and Brian Talty brought them within one point of Monaleen, who were now defending stubbornly and playing like champions.

goal from Brian Talty and although Wilfred Cremen equalised for Monaleen with 5 minutes remaining, Thomond were now master of the situation and a great goal by Martin Connolly sealed the issue in their favour.

Brian Talty, Martin Connolly, Mick Caulfield, Frank Noone, Pierce Dillon, Pat McNamara and Roger McCarrick were the stars for Thomond College, while Derek McCarthy, Joe Reddington, Diarmuid Leonard, Eugene Leonard, Tommy Lenihan and Jed O'Dwyer tried hard for Monaleen.

SCORERS

Thomond College: B. Talty, 1-5; M. Connolly, 1-2; R. McCarrick, 0-1; F. Noone, 0-1.

Monaleen: M. Moloney, 1-1; W. Cremen, 0-3; G. O'Dwyer, 1-0.

TEAMS

Thomond College: C. Moynihan, J. Phayer, M. Caulfield, R. O'Callaghan, F. Noone, M. Clarke, P. McGinnithy, F. Fahy, K. Keogh, R. McCarrick, M. Connolly, Br. Lennon, P. Dillon, B. Talty, P. McNamara.

Monaleen: G. O'Doherty, J. Leonard, T. Griffin, E. Leonard, J. Reddington, N. Leonard, D. McCarthy, D. Leonard, B. Spillane, J. Lenihan, W. Cremen, N. McDonnell, G. O'Dwyer, N. Bridgeman.

Referee: P. Lane (St. Senan's).

CLAUGHAUN ADVANCE

Claughaun remained in the county senior football championship race when they scored an impressive 2-14 to 3-6 victory over Na Piarasigh in the losers' group semi-final played as a curtain-raiser.

Claughaun laid the foundation for this win in the first half when aided by the wind they went on a scoring spree to lead 2-8 to 0-1 at the interval.

Na Piarasigh, with John Power now in goal, improved immensely on resuming, but excellent defensive play by Eamonn Cregan and Mick Graham contained them well and Claughaun ran out worthy

CLUB FOOTBALL SEMI-FINAL:

3rd draw between Thomond and Stacks

BY "LEADER" REPORTER

AUSTIN STECKS 3-15, THOMOND COLLEGE 2-18.

THOMOND COLLEGE and Austin Stacks must try yet again to decide their Munster Club Championship semi-final. The Limerick and Kerry champions drew for the third time in Cork yesterday, "Stacks" equalising with a penalty goal by Mikie Sheehy with the last kick of the match.

Great scores, swaying fortunes, lost opportunities on both sides, all the stuff of sporting drama captivated and wrung the hearts of the onlookers before these finely matched rivals again finished level at the end of normal time. And then, at the curtain-call, half an hour of extra time, the remarkable battle went on a before with every player's endurance stretched to breaking-point, until the end of that, too, there was deadlock.

LIVELIER

Thomond were the better team when extra time began and Kilcoyne displayed his skill again when kicking a neat point to regain the lead. But, after that, fortunes swung one way and the other — scores were level twice — before Power, with a point, edged Stacks into the lead at the interval. Score: 2-12 to 1-14. The second period of 15 minutes overflowed with excitement. Although Talty was now tiring at midfield, Thomond pressed their rivals defence severely and, in the sixth minute after the restart, were awarded a penalty when the Kerry full-back, Noel Power, lifted the ball off the ground with his hands inside the small box. Jimmy Dunne sent the ball into the net, like a bullet, well to the left of Brick's reach.

PENALTY

That was surely the winner, we thought, and a Thomond victory looked virtually certain when their right full-back, Michael Houston, raced down the field to increase the lead to three points with only two minutes remaining. And like that it stayed until, in the last and most remarkable moment of drama, Sheehy was fouled inside the penalty area and duly converted the spot kick for another amazing draw.

Thomond played better football than their opponents for

longer periods of the game, but Stacks deserved to survive because, full of fighting spirit, they simply refused to be beaten.

Talty was Thomond's outstanding player, though his efforts waned during extra time. Kilcoyne and Pat Spillane were the stars of the attack and, in a good defence, Houston, Sean O'Shea and Brian Mac Sweeney were consistently the most capable players.

Sheehy, Power, Long (late in normal time and all through extra time), Scollard a fine right full back, Ger O'Keeffe, were the stars of the unconquerable Kerry club.

Scorers — Austin Stacks: M. Sheehy 1-11 (1-8 from frees, 0-1 fifty), G. Power 1-2, P. McCarthy 1-1, J. L. McElligott 0-1. Thomond: B. Talty 0-6 (0-4 frees), M. Kilcoyne 1-3, P. Spillane 0-5, J. Dunne 1-1, J. O'Connell, T. Harkin and H. Houston 0-1 each.

Austin Stacks — T. Brick; G. Scollard, N. Power, U. Lucey; G. O'Keeffe (capt.) T. O'Keeffe, G. Power; J. O'Keeffe, J. L. McElligott; T. Sheehan, D. Long, B. Carroll; F. Ryan, M. Sheehy, P. McCarthy. Subs. F. Lawlor for Ryan (second half), P. Moriarty for Sheehan 78th min.), C. Mangan for McElligott (87th min.).

Thomond — L. Murphy (Cork); M. Houston (Donegal), S. O'Shea (Longford), E. Mahon (Meath), M. Connolly (Mayo), B. McSweeney (Cork), D. O'Boyle (Mayo), T. Harkin (Donegal), B. Talty (Galway), M. Spillane (Kerry), R. Bell (Mayo), G. Dillon (Kerry), M. Kilcoyne (Westmeath), P. Spillane (Kerry, captain), J. O'Connell (Kerry). Subs.: D. Smyth (Galway) for Connolly (61st min.), Connolly for M. Spillane (injured, 74th), J. Dunne for Dillon (76th).

Referee: John Moloney (Tipperary).

29-6-80

Thomond had tough battle

Thomond College 1-11
Treaty Sarsfields 3-3

The standard of football in this city senior football final at the Gaelic Grounds on Sunday was not exactly vintage fare, but the game had its exciting moments. Plenty of honest endeavour and near misses made it a thoroughly enjoyable game and was by far the better of the three games played on Sunday afternoon.

Thomond College were first to show in front. Paul Marrow sent over a brace of points inside four minutes, but Tom Goodwin had Treaty Sarsfields on level terms with points in the 5th and 7th minute.

Paul Marrow, the dangerman in the College attack, scored a fine goal at the end of the first quarter. Minutes later it was the turn of Treaty to find the net. Declan Cunningham crashed home a penalty and some good points from Tom Goodwin put the Thomondgate side ahead.

At the interval they led 2-3 to 1-5.

Midway through the second half, Treaty Sarsfields had a great opportunity of sealing the issue, but they failed to convert a penalty after Tom Goodwin was pulled down in the goalmouth.

After this miss it was Thomond College who finished the batter side. They nosed in front and just held out for a narrow win. With the second last kick of the game, Treaty Sarsfields had another great chance to snatch victory, but an incoming forward squandered a certain goal.

Paul Marrow, Niall Moyna, Brian McSweeney, Sean O'Connor, Peter McGinty, Sean O'Reilly and Tony Breen were outstanding for the winners. Ger Copley, Ger Skehan, Tom Goodwin, Mick Aherne and Michael Ryan were in form for the losers.

SCORERS

Thomond College scorers - P. Marrow 1-7, N. Moyna 0-2, S. O'Connor and P. McGinty 0-1 each.

Treaty Sarsfields scorers - D. Cunningham 1-0, M. Ryan 1-0, T. Goodwin 1-2, G. Mahoney 0-1.

Thomond College - C. Moynihan, D. O'Leary, C. McGlynn, M. McBerty, E. Quigley, M. Clarke, F. Harrington, S. O'Reilly, T. Breen, S. O'Connor, B. McSweeney, P. McGinty, P. Burke, P. Marrow, N. Moyna.

Treaty Sarsfields - M. Aherne, M. O'Donnell, E. Griffin, J. Murphy, G. Ryan, G. Skehan, M. Mooney, G. Copley, K. Rennison, S. Copley, G. Mahoney, G. O'Shaughnessy, D. Cunningham, T. Goodwin, M. Ryan.

Referee - S. O'Connor (Claughaun).

THOMOND WIN AFTER POW-WOW

Thomond Coll. 2-8
Oola 1-6

THOMOND COLLEGE turned in a devastating display of attacking football when they defeated reigning champions, Oola, by five points, 2-8 to 1-6 after an uneventful Limerick County Senior Football Final, played in poor conditions before a small crowd at Pairc na nGael on Sunday.

It was a poor final by any standards and the first half was marred by very unsporting tactics and off the ball incidents, with several players lucky not to get "marching orders."

Referee Brendan Cross, who must be complimented for his handling of the game, always maintained a firm grip on the situation. Indeed at half time we had the unique happening of referee Cross calling the two

teams together and giving them a real dressing down as regards their tactics.

This "pow-wow" worked wonders as the second half was played in a real sporting manner.

Foundations

Thomond College, always the more accomplished side, laid the foundations for their success in the first half when two goals engineered with clinical precision sounded the death knell for Oola's aspirations.

The first came in the 20th minute when a centre from Pierce Dillion came unstuck in the mud and Sean Connor tapped home a goal, but the second was a real gem as Seamus O'Reilly, Pat McNamara, Pierce Dillion and Roger McCarrick all combined in a move-

ment which ended with Pat Burke hand passing a superb goal.

This score just a minute before half time enabled Thomond College to lead 2-4 to 0-4 at the interval.

The second half was a pedestrian affair with Thomond securely in command and although Joe Ryan converted an Oola penalty in the 18th minute the College boys finished comprehensive winners.

Pat Burke, Sean Connor, Pierce Dillion, Niall Moyna, Tony Breen, Kevin Keogh, Brian McSweeney and Mick Clarke were the chief architects of Thomond's deserved success while Patsy Ryan, Phil Ryan, Willie Byrnes, Sean Fitzgibbon, Dan Fitzgerald and Joe Ryan who finished with a personal tally of 1-5, played well for Oola.

SENIOR FOOTBALL SEMI-FINAL:

Thomond too good for Monaleen

BY SEAN MURPHY

Thomond College 0-9
Monaleen 1-3

Without having to draw unduly on their vast repertoire of football skills, Thomond College coasted to an easier than expected victory over Monaleen in a dull and lifeless county senior football championship semi-final at Gaelic Grounds, on Saturday evening.

Indeed the college boys victory was far more emphatic than their three points winning margin would suggest, as it was in the last four minutes of play, that Monaleen snatched a point from play and a goal from a penalty, which gave the scoreboard a look of respectability. Thomond College displayed greater dedication and teamwork, while in stark contrast Monaleen seemed to lack total commitment.

Eugene Leonard had an early point for Monaleen, but Sean Connor, a brother of Offaly star Matt Quigley had Thomond in front with well-taken points from play and they never relinquished the lead thereafter.

Monaleen suffered from a severe bout of squadermania in the first half frittering away golden scoring opportunities and at the interval Thomond led 0-6 to 0-2.

After Diarmuid Hyde missed a penalty for Monaleen in the 8th minute, it was all one-way traffic in the second half as the accurate kicking of Pat McNamara stretched Thomond's advantage to seven points, and the game seemed well out of Monaleen's reach.

However, they staged a late rally which saw Diarmuid Hyde snatch their only point from play, and Joe Reddington goaled from the penalty spot, but it was too late and Thomond finished deserving and

convincing winners of a poor contest.

Best for Thomond were Mick Clarke, Sean Connor, Pat McNamara, Seamus O'Reilly, Nial Moyna, Brian Ludden and Kevin Keogh; while Gerry O'Doherty, John O'Brien, Joe Reddington, Noel Leonard, Eugene Leonard and Jed O'Dwyer tried hard for Monaleen.

SCORES

Thomond College: P. McNamara, 0-4; S. Connor, 0-2; N. Moyna, 0-1; R. McCarrick, 0-1; P. Burke, 0-1.

Monaleen: J. Reddington, 1-0; E. Leonard, 0-2; D. Hyde, 0-1.

TEAMS

Thomond College: C. Moynihan, B. Ladden, C. McGlynn, M. Clarke, F. Harrington, K. Keogh, M. McBrierty, S. O'Reilly, P. Critchley, S. Connor, P. Marne, P. McNamara, P. Burke, R. McCarrick, N. Moyna.

Monaleen: G. O'Dhoerty, J. Leonard, B. Leonard, J. O'Brien, J. Reddington, N. Leonard, D. McCarthy, E. Leonard, W. Cremon, D. Hyde, B. Spillane, T. Lenihan, N. McDonnell, J. O'Dwyer, J. Lenehan.

Referee: P. Lane (Foynes).

CITY S.F.C. FINAL:

Thomond had tough battle

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Treaty Sarsfields 3-3

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SCORERS

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Treaty Sarsfields scorers - D. Cunningham 1-0, M. Ryan 1-0, T. Goodwin 1-2, G. Mahoney 0-1.

Thomond College - C. Moynihan, D. O'Leary, C. McGlynn, M. McBerty, E. Quigley, M. Clarke, F. Harrington, S. O'Reilly, T. Breen, S. O'Connor, B. McSweeney, P. McGinty, P. Burke, P. Marrow, N. Moyna.

Treaty Sarsfields - M. Ahern, M. O'Donnell, E. Griffin, J. Murphy, G. Ryan, G. Skehan, M. Mooney, G. Copley, K. Rennison, S. Copley, G. Mahoney, G. O'Shaughnessy, D. Cunningham, T. Goodwin, M. Ryan.

Referee - S. O'Connor (Cloughaun).

Eamonn Cregan had to retire with a suspected finger injury during the Cloughaun and Thomond College senior football game but on enquiry last night, it seems likely that Cregan will be fit to line-out with Limerick in their Munster championship game against Waterford on Sunday next.

Senior football:
Thomond College 6-11
Cloughaun 0-4
Senior hurling:
Old Christians 4-9
St. Patrick's 2-1

Former All Ireland club champions - Thomond College - issued a stern warning to all and sundry that they intend to regain their coveted crown when they strolled to a shattering 6-11 to 0-4 victory over Cloughaun in the city senior football championship at the Gaelic Grounds on Sunday.

Superior fitness and dazzling teamwork were the deciding factors in this drab one-sided affair. Cloughaun fared reasonably well in the first half but just could not match the skill and football acumen of the college boys in the second period.

Best for Thomond College were Brian Talty, Brian McSweeney, Mick Caulfield, Martin Connolly, Peter McGinnity and Roger McCarrig, while Vinny Browne, Tommy Marsh, Fergus McDonnell, Sean O'Reilly, Dermot Graham and Eamonn

Cregan tried hard for Cloughaun.

SCORERS

Thomond College - B. Talty 2-4, P. Bourke 2-1, M. Connolly 1-3, D. Morris 1-1, R. McCarrig 0-2.

Cloughaun - E. Cregan 0-2, J. Hehir 0-1, C. Walshe 0-1.

Thomond College GAA

Last Saturday the club earned a place in the Limerick Football Championship decider by beating Monaleen. This is only the second time the club has reached the final. The last occasion was in 1977 and that team went on to win the All-Ireland club championship. That included many of today's top names in gaelic football.

Thomond College GAA Club

Oola qualified last weekend to meet the college in the Limerick Football Championship final. Oola, it will be remembered, beat the college in the semi-final last year, so we will be hoping to go on better this year. The final is scheduled for Sunday, October 26th.

The panel for the final is: Brian McSweeney, Flan Harrington, Kevin Hourihan, Con Moynihan, Gene O'Riordan, Declan O'Leary, Mick O'Donovan (cork), Dermot Morris, Paul Marne, Sean Connor, Chris McGlynn (Offaly), Pete McGinty, Niall Moyna, Brenda Hackett (Monaghan), Charli McGeever, Micky McBrearty (Donegal), Mick Clarke, Pat Burke (Mayo), Pat Critchley, Mark Kavanagh (Laois), Eamonn Quigley (Dublin), Pierce Dillo (Tipperary), Kevin Keogh (Wexford), Brendan Lennon (Louth), Seamus Reilly (Meath), Pat McNamara (Clare), Brian Ladde (Kerry), Roger McCarrick (Sligo).

Team captain, Brian McSweeney, played a big part in Cork's victory over Dublin in the All-Ireland under 21 final on Sunday. Congratulations to Brian on a hard luck to Frank Walsh, who was on the losing team. Frank is a first year and he played right full-back on the Dublin team. Another member of the college team hitting the headlines lately is Charli McGeever. Charlie plays with Sligo Rovers and has scored twice so far this season.

Limerick crown goes to Thomond

THOMOND COLLEGE 2-8;
OOLA 2-6.

THOMOND COLLEGE, drawing on players from many parts of the country and including only one Limerick man, Tony Breen, won their second Limerick senior football title at the Gaelic Grounds on Sunday when they beat Oola, the holders, by 2-8 to 1-6.

Thomond had luck on their

their first goal after 20 minutes but their second by Pat Burke was a beauty and came after a six man movement. So Thomond turned over leading by 2-4 to 0-4 and although Oola had a penalty goal by Joe Ryan midway through the second half, they rarely looked like doing enough to hold on to the championship.

Scorers, Thomond P. Burke (1-3), S. Connor (1-2), P. McNamara (0-3), Oola, J. Ryan (1-5), J. Landers (0-1).

B. Ladden, C. McGlynn, M. Clarke; F. Harrington, K. Keogh, B. McSweeney (capt.); S. O'Reilly, T. Breen; S. Connor, N. Moyna, P. McNamara; P. Burke, R. McCarrick, P. Dillon. Subs - M. O'Donovan for McCarrick, M. McBrearty for Ladden.

Oola - J. Ryan; D. Quinlan, T. Ryan, T. McGrath; W. Burns, P. Ryan, J. Guerin; S. Fitzgibbon, D. Fitzgerald; W. Godfrey, D. Fitzgibbon, J. Landers; P. J. Burke, T. Landers, J. Ryan. Subs - John Ryan for Godfrey, D. Holmes for McGrath.

Referee - Mr. Brendan Cross.
M.F. Final - Na Piarasigh 0-3,

BARRS' TEAM

9/11/80

By JIM O'SULLIVAN

ST. FINBARRS 4-4, THOMOND 1-5

DISPLAYING better teamwork and greater penetration in attack, St. Finbarrs overcame the determined challenge of Thomond College in Saturday's Munster club football championship game at Ballinlough in impressive style.

Thomond, while they were found wanting in various parts of the field at different stages, played some good football. The goal they got, eight minutes from the end, was a reward for their spirited play and but for their lack of scoring power and the fine goalkeeping of Bertie O'Brien for the Cork side, they would have made a much closer match of it.

St. Finbarrs, whose performance featured copy-book play at intervals and only lapsed through lack of concentration, exhibited their class as early as the first minute. Jimmy Barry-Murphy won the ball in the left corner, transferred it to full-forward Richard Kenny and while his intended pass for Teddie Holland went astray, it was snapped up by Finny O'Mahony, who goaled from close range.

IMPROVED

Thomond improved as the game went on and, after two pointed frees from Pat McNamara, midfielder Tony Breen scored in the 10th minute after a good move to leave just two points between the sides. Then, the Barrs struck again with a Jamesie O'Callaghan goal in the 14th minute, the result of good play outfield. Two minutes later, Thomond came close to goaling when right corner forward Pat Burke crossed and McNamara got a hand to the ball, but the alertness of Bertie O'Brien prevented it from going into the net.

St. Finbarrs lost their momentum to a certain extent in the ten minutes before half-time, when centre-back Kevin Keogh was dominant, and centre-forward Niall Moyna impressive for Thomond. However, a 24th minute point from full-forward Roger McCarrick was the only reward for the students, who went in at the break five points behind, 2-3 to 0-4.

HIGH BALL

The second half was a mere two minutes old when the Barrs got an opportunist goal. Kenny's high ball from

the right put 'keeper Con Moynihan under pressure and his short clearance went to Barry-Murphy, who hit the ball powerfully to the net. Three minutes later came the fourth goal which was a brilliant score, involving O'Callaghan, Dave Barry and talented centre-back Mark Healy, who set up Teddy Holland for a score which showed the home side at their best. Holland, who lined out with an injured hand, played much more prominently in this half, although Keogh continued to work hard for Thomond.

MORE EFFECTIVE

Team captain Brian McSweeney was much more effective after switching to midfield and Thomond came forward repeatedly. Corner-forward Pierce Dillon worked his way through for a good point in the 45th minute but the goal they needed so urgently didn't come until it was too late. The scorer was corner-forward Burke, and it followed a good movement involving substitute Michael McGrearty, Michael O'Donovan and McCarrick. Seamus O'Reilly, re-introduced at full-forward for the last seven minutes, forced O'Brien to bring off another good save with time running out, and only a good interception by John Cremin prevented the same player from setting up a second goal.

Best for the Barrs were Bertie O'Brien, Donal O'Grady, Gene Desmond, John Cremin, Christy Ryan, Dave Barry and Jimmy Barry-Murphy.

Thomond's best were Christy McGlynn, Kevin Keogh, Brian McSweeney, Tony Brien, Niall Moyna and Pierce Dillon.

Scorers — St. Finbarrs: J. O'Callaghan and T. Holland (0-1 free) 1-1 each, J. Barry-Murphy and F. O'Mahony 1-0 each, D. Barry and M. Lynch 0-1 each.

Thomond: P. Burke 1-0, P. McNamara 0-2 from frees, T. Breen, R. McCarrick and P. Dillon 0-1 each.

St. Finbarrs — B. O'Brien, N. Kennefick, G. Desmond, D. O'Grady, D. Philpott, M. Healy, J. Cremin, C. Ryan, M. Lynch, D. Barry, T. Holland, F. O'Mahony, J. O'Callaghan, R. Kenny, J. Barry-Murphy. Sub.: D. Burns for O'Grady (injured).

Thomond — C. Moynihan, B. Ladden, C. McGlynn, M. Clarke, F. Harrington, K. Keogh, B. McSweeney (capt.), T. Breen, S. O'Reilly, M. O'Donovan, N. Moyna, P. McNamara, P. Burke, R. McCarrick, P. Dillon. Subs.: M. McGrearty for O'Reilly, P. Marron for Moyna, O'Reilly for McCarrick.

Referee: Eamonn O'Sullivan (Kerry).

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BY SEAN MURPHY

Thomond College 0-9
Monaleen 1-3

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SCORES

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Monaleen: J. Reddington, 1-0; E. Leonard, 0-2; D. Hyde, 0-1.

TEAMS

Thomond College: C. Moynihan, B. Ladden, C. McGlynn, M. Clarke, F. Harrington, K. Keogh, M. McBrierty, S. O'Reilly, P. Critchley, S. Connor, P. Marne, P. McNamara, P. Burke, R. McCarrick, N. Moyna.

Monaleen: G. O'Doherty, J. Leonard, B. Leonard, J. O'Brien, J. Reddington, N. Leonard, D. McCarthy, E. Leonard, W. Cremin, D. Hyde, B. Spillane, T. Lenihan, N. McDonnell, J. O'Dwyer, J. Lenehan.

Referee: P. Lane (Foynes).

Thomond College G.A.A. Club

The college team is now back in training for the Trench Cup. We reached the semi-final of this competition last year and we are hoping to go one better this time. We have now finished our league campaign and await to see if we qualify. We finished joint second and two teams qualify.

Our fresher team are still in with a chance of reaching the All-Ireland quarter finals if they win one of their games in the next few weeks.

The big event in the club at the moment is the 1st Annual Dinner Dance on January 17th. Presentations will be made by the President of the G.A.A., Mr. Paddy McGlynn, to last year's Freshers team, the Limerick City and County champions also. Look out

26.10.80

Thomond again reign supreme

Thomond College 2-8, Oola 1-6

THOMOND COLLEGE won their second Limerick Senior Football Championship in atrocious weather conditions at the Limerick Gaelic Grounds yesterday when they beat the holders Oola by 2-8 to 1-6. Thomond, who included only one Limerickman, Tony Breen, from Bruff, at midfield, the winner of a Munster Cup medal in rugby with Garryowen in 1979, led by 2-4 to 0-4 at half time.

They were certainly fortunate when Sean Connor, one of the famous Offaly family, scored their first goal in the 20th minute. There appeared to be little danger to the Oola defence until the ball stuck in the mud in front of their goal and allowed Connor to rush in and shoot to the net.

There was no luck, however, about their second goal, netted by Pat Burke just before the interval after five Thomond players had handled in a sparkling movement.

Oola fought on with great spirit in the second half and were rewarded with a penalty goal by Joe Ryan but they never looked like saving the game.

Scorers, Thomond: P. Burke 1-3, S. Connor 1-2, P. McNamara 0-3. Oola: J. Ryan 1-5, J. Landers 0-1.

Thomond College: C. Moynihan, B. Ladden, C. McGlynn, M. Clarke, F. Harrington, K. Keogh, B. McSweeney (capt.), S. O'Reilly, T. Breen, S. Connor, N. Moyna, P. McNamara, P. Burke, R. McCarrick, P. Dillon. Sub. M. O'Donovan for McCarrick, M. McBrearty for Ladden.

Oola: J. Ryan, D. Quinlan, P. Ryan, T. McGrath, W. Byrne, P. Ryan, J. Guerin, S. Fitzgibbon, D. Fitzgerald, W. Godfrey, D. Fitzgibbon, J. Landers, P. J. Burke, T. Landers, J. Ryan. Sub. John Ryan for Godfrey, D. Holmes for McGrath.

Referee: B. Cross.

18/5/85

Thomond get second chance

Thomond College0-7
Hospital-Herbertstown1-4

ALTHOUGH Thomond College were a trifle lucky to snatch the equalising point in the final minute of play in this opening round game in the county senior football championship against Hospital-Herbertstown at Pallasgreen on Sunday last, a draw was a very fair result.

Both sides lost plenty of chances of scores that would have swung this keenly contested match either way. It was good stuff all the way, with the zeal and determination of Hospital-Herbertstown matching the class of the college boys.

Hospital-Herbertstown were not unruffled by the late start, the kick-off was almost 20 minutes behind schedule, and they were ahead 1-3 to no score after ten minutes.

Thomond settled down at the beginning of the second quarter and against a stiff breeze narrowed the deficit with two points, to leave it 1-3 to 0-2 at half-time.

It was all square at the end of the 3rd quarter but Hospital-Herbertstown edged ahead once more when John Breen pointed a free. This was the only score from the South Limerick team in the second half and it almost took them into the second round.

Thomond equalised after a mix-up in the opposing defence, but in fairness they deserved another bite of the cherry.

Mike Hennessy was out-

standing for Hospital-Herbertstown. Best support came from Anthony O'Brien, Jim Carroll, Andrew Meaney, Liam Garvey and Martin O'Shea.

Martin Galligan at full-back and Padraig Gallagher at centre back gave commanding performances for Thomond College. Others to star were Jim Cronin, Mick Doyle, Ger Treacy, Sean Boland and Pat O'Sullivan.

Teams

Thomond College-S. Boland, Roscommon; P. O'Sullivan, Kerry; M. Galligan, Donegal; J. O'Sullivan, Cork; C. O'Baoill, Donegal; P. Gallagher, do.; M. McGreahan, do.; A. O'Brien, Westmeath; J. Cronin, Kerry; N. Rennick, Meath; S. Treacy, Waterford; J. Enright, Kerry; B. Keane, Cork; M. Doyle, Kerry; J. Harrington, Cork.

Subs., M. Porter, Donegal, for Harrington, T. Grealish, Tipperary, for Porter.

Hospital-Herbertstown-B. Kiely, T. Kiely, M. O'Shea, L. Doherty, G. Wright, M. Hennessy, A. O'Brien, A. Garvey, J. Carroll, B. Higgins, A. Meaney, J. Breen, L. Garvey, N. O'Brien, D. Cotter, subs., M. Durcan for N. O'Brien, D. Carroll for Cotter, D. Garvey for A. Garvey.

P. Gallagher 0-5 and M. Doyle 0-2 were the Thomond College marksmen. The replies came from L. Garvey 1-0 and J. Breen 0-4.

Ref., P. Byrne, South Liberties.

Thomond Make Their Exit

8/83

Thomond College made an unexpected exit from the County senior football championship when they failed by a single point - 0-11 to 0-10 to St. Kierans in an exciting quarter final tussle at Croom on Sunday.

The wisdom of the County Board in fixing the game for a holiday week-end almost guaranteed that the College would be understrength and they certainly paid the penalty.

Sonny Crowley, Tom Hartnett, Peter O'Connor, Paul O'Connor, Pa Leahy, Tom Larkin, and P.J. Molyneaux were best for St. Kierans while Sean Connor a brother of Offaly star - Matt Seamus O'Reilly, Mark Kavanagh, and Padraic Gallagher were consistent triers for Thomond College.

COUNTY SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Thomond advance

Thomond College 3-8
Hospital/Herbertstown 2-5

Thomond College could afford to make numerous changes in personnel for this first round county senior football replay at Croom, on Saturday last, and still be too good for Hospital/Herbertstown.

Indeed their replacements were at least as good as the players who had other commitments and in particular their centre half back, who swept aside the best efforts of the opposition.

The game did not produce the quality football of the drawn tie. It was scrappy at times with the referee kept busy in awarding frees from petty fouling to dangerous tackles. Indeed, members of the losing team, can consider themselves lucky not to have earned the displeasure of the official in charge.

The opening half was evenly contested and the winners led 0-4 to 0-3 at half time. Hospital/Herbertstown kicked gift chances wide in this half, including a penalty.

The College went through for an important goal at the end of the third quarter. Blunders in defence allowed them to bang home two goals in a seven minute blitz, and with ten minutes remaining they led 3-8 to 0-4.

Hospital/Herbertstown rallied and a goal from the penalty spot and another from play gave them new hope. But their fightback came too late, and Thomond College ran out deserving winners, and must now be considered serious contenders for the championship.

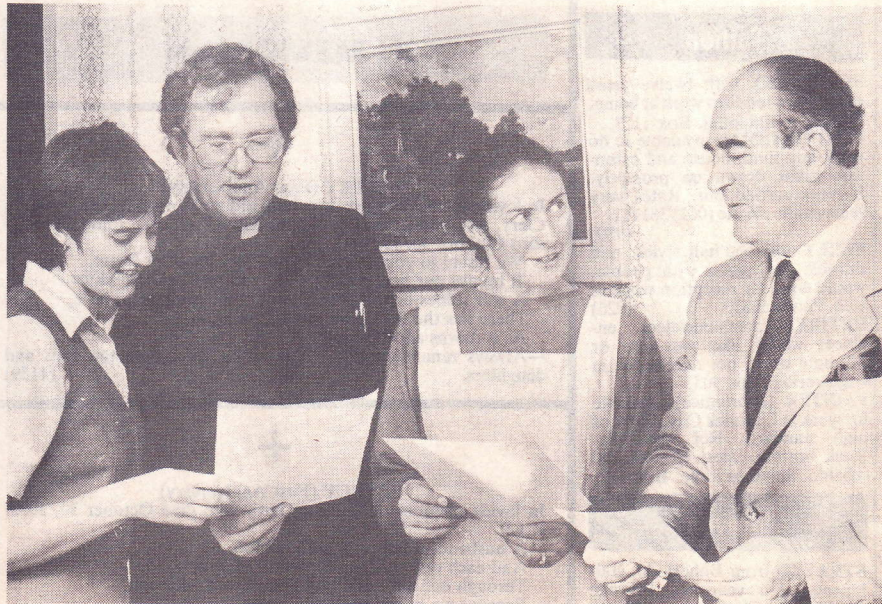
Brian O'Keeffe, Seamus O'Sullivan, Sean Boland, Michael O'Shea, Aidan O'Brien, Niall Rennicks, and Pat O'Sullivan, starred for Thomond. The losers who were without Jimmy Carroll, had good performances in Anthony O'Brien, Liam Garvey, Joe Moran, Liam Doherty, Ger Wright and Andrew Meaney.

TEAMS

Thomond College: S. Boland, J. O'Sullivan, P. O'Sullivan, S. Lombert, C. O'Baoill, B. O'Keeffe, M. Michael Greahan, S. O'Sullivan, A. O'Brien, N. Rennicks, D. O Ruadhlaigh, G. Treacy, B. Keane, M. O'Shea, S. O Aonraicht.

Hospital/Herbertstown: B. Kiely, T. Kiely, M. O'Shea, L. Doherty, A. O'Brien, N. O'Brien, D. Cotter, M. Hennessy, A. Garvey, J. Breen, A. Meaney, G. Wright, B. Higgins, J. Moran, L. Garvey. Subs: A. Garvey, T. Quaid, M. Durcan.

Referee: P. Byrne (South Liberties).



Photographed at A.I.B., 106-108 O'Connell Street, where a sponsorship cheque was presented to N.I.H.E. G.A.A. Club. In the picture, left to right: Ms. Carmel Ring, A.I.B.; Father John O'Shea, President, N.I.H.E. Club; Ms. Anne Moran, sport and recreation officer, N.I.H.E.; and Mr. Paddy O'Callaghan, manager, A.I.B.

Thomond college

After a long wait Thomond College now know their opposition for the City SFC semi-final, the college play Monaleen on Friday, June 3rd, at 7.45.

The college had a big win against a weak Na Piarasigh a few weeks ago while Monaleen defeated Patrickswell last week. The college have been busy since their first round match defeating the county footballers twice and Askeaton.

The college have not reached a city final in three years and they will be hoping to go one better than their semi-final defeat last year. The last time the college reached a city final (1980), they went onto win the county final that year.

The college team have not had the big names that were associated with the club in the past for a number of years, but things may be looking up.

A number of this present team have already made names for themselves and it is only a matter of time before they will be making the headlines as county players.

Pat Critchley, Mark Kavanagh and Pat Roe (Laois), and Eamonn Quigley (Dublin) played on the All-Ireland colleges team this year which won the representative games series. Three players McBrearhy, Gallagher and Meehan played with Donegal Under 21's the All-Ireland champions at present. The college team have many others who are on the fringe of county teams, but only time will tell.

Thomond College GAA

Everybody in the College is now looking forward to Saturday. We are travelling to Cork and we face the All-Ireland champions, St. Finbarr's, in the first round of the Munster Championship. With all of the Finbarr's team representing Cork at some stage in their careers, this is the toughest game we are likely to have this year. Kevin Menatt, the intermediate manager, thinks the speed of the College lads will be very much to our advantage. The team is expected to be much the same as the county final and with forwards as fast off the mark as Pierce Dillon the Barr's backline will have problems. Buses will be travelling from the College but we hope to see plenty of Limerick people there to support us.

The club is holding a house to house collection in Limerick tomorrow night (Nov. 6). We appeal to people to help as best they can. Unlike most clubs the College has no steady income and with eight away games this year we are depending on your help.

8-11-80

Thomond 1980 college GAA

Since it has been so long since the club was in the public eye we would like in the coming weeks to give some information about the club. This week is a list of the officers for the coming year.

President: Liam O Docharaigh, vice-Presidents: John O'Halloran and Dermot Morris. These officers are all lecturers in the college but the rest are students. Chairman: Pierce Dillon (Tipperary), Secretary, Robbie O'Callaghan (Kerry); Ass. Sec. Michael McBreart (Donegal); Registrar, Tom Condon (Limerick); Treasurer, Ger Deegan (Waterford); P.R.O., Brendan Hackett (Monaghan); First team captain, Chris McGlynn (Offaly). The club coach is Dave Wellerderick, a lecturer in the college and the freshers coach is Niall Moyna (Monaghan who is now coaching the Limerick County Footballers.

The club also has a hurling team which competes in the higher education competitions. The hurling coach is Tony Slattery and captain is Dick Walsh. In the coming weeks leading up to the county final some background on the players will be given.

Thomond take H.E. title

THOMOND COLLEGE 3-5
QUEENS UNIV. 1-9

Thomond College won the Higher Education senior football league division one title at Croke Park yesterday by beating a Queens University side which led for most of the way.

Thomond not only showed greater flair for scoring goals but they could also stop them thanks to the brilliance of their goalkeeper, Tommy Doonan, who parried a penalty in the first half by Seamus McAuley (Antrim) and then saved the follow-up kick by Armagh's Joey Donnelly. This save meant that the sides were level at the break, 0-5 to 1-2.

Greg Blaney (Down) kept Queens well placed in the second half Seamus Meehan poked home a goal in a crowded goalmouth with 10 minutes remaining. Blaney equalised for Queens but Thomond got the crucial closing scores! a point by Pat Marron, followed by a Micky Donovan goal and a point from substitute, Pauric Gallagher.

SCORERS: Thomond-P. Critchley (1-1), M. Donovan, S. Meehan (1-0 each), P. Marron (0-3), P. Gallagher (0-1).

THOMOND COLLEGE

THE ROAD TO ALL-IRELAND CLUB FOOTBALL FAME



Sean O'Shea, born in Hospital, Co. Limerick but living in Longford since he was three months old was the only Limerick born player on the winning Thomond College side.

The first All Ireland Senior Football championship was organised on a club basis and it was won by Limerick Commercials. That was ninety years ago and the final was played at Cloneskeagh, Dublin on 29th April 1888, where Commercials beat Young Irelands of Dundalk, 1-4 to 0-3.

Thomond College regained the title for Shannonside in 1978, playing eight exciting and epoch making games, including the County Limerick final, in the process. These games are worth recording:

4th December 1977. Limerick County Senior Football Final at

Kilmallock. Thomond College 1-12 Croom, holders 0-4.

11th December 1977. Munster Inter Club Senior Football championship at Pairc na nGael. Thomond College 2-6, Austin Stacks, Kerry, All Ireland Champions 2-6.

18th December 1977. Replay at Pairc Ui Chaoimh, Thomond College 3-4, Austin Stacks 1-10.

15th January 1978. Second replay and extra time at Pairc Ui Chaoimh, Thomond College 2-18, Austin Stacks 3-15.

22nd January 1978. Third replay at Pairc Ui Chaoimh, Thomond College 3-8, Austin Stacks 2-5.

5th February 1978. Munster Final at Pairc Ui

Chaoimh Thomond College 0-12 Nemo Rangers, Cork 1-3.

5th March 1978. All Ireland semi-final at Pairc na nGael Thomond College 1-12, St. Marys Sligo 1-8.

26th March 1978, All Ireland Final at Croke Park, Thomond College 2-14, St. Johns, Belfast 1-3.

Immediately after the game at Croke Park the officials of St. Johns club, and team captain, Andy McCallin, visited the Thomond dressing rooms where they praised the new All Ireland champions for their creative, stylish and sporting game and presented them with a magnificent wood carved plaque as a memento of the occasion.

In his after match



All-Ireland Club Champions 1978—Thomond College

Included are the complete panel namely Ger O'Loughlin, Gerry Dillon, Mick Caulfield, Denis O'Boyle, Tony Harkin, Jimmy Dunne, John O'Connell, Pat Spillane (Captain), Ritchie Bell, Eddie Mahon, Martin Connolly, Doncha Smith, Leo Golden, Brian McSweeney, Mick Houston, Leo Murphy, Mick Browne, Mick Kilcoyne, Larry McCarthy, Aiden Greene, Declan Smith, Mick Spillane, Sean O'Shea, and Brian Talty.

LIMERICK COLLEGES

FACTS AND FIGURES

Sé cuspóir ár gcomortaisí ná cluichí na nGael a chur chun cinn a measa daltaí meánscoile. Cé go bhfuil roinnt scoileanna ná bacann linn beag ná mór, is féidir a rá go bhfuil ag éirí measartha maith linn. Tá feabhas mór ar chúrsaí le roinnt blianta agus tá creidiúint mhór ag dul don rúnaí, an tAth. Máirtín O Lochtúis, S.D.B.

Competitions are held in under 18 hurling and football, U/16 H & F., U/14 H & F. There are separate competitions for weaker schools, while there are also age concessions. Some of the latter schools, such as St. Paul's, Kilfinane and Bruff F.C.J., have enjoyed some success. On the other hand schools that have done well in Munster competitions can often find that the opposition is not a pushover in the local competitions.

We are thankful to the Co. Board for their assistance and generous provision of medals.

The following schools participated in this year's competitions played to date:

Adare C.B.S. — Gamesmaster: Bro. Brennan.

Ardscoil Ris, Gamesmaster: Denis Houlihan.

St. Mary's, Askeaton — Gamesmaster, John Egan.

Bruff F.C.J. — Gamesmaster Tom O'Sullivan.

Causeway Comprehensive — Gamesmaster Gr G. White.

St. Clements College — Gamesmaster Tim Crowe.

Crescent Comprehensive — Gamesmaster Daithi O Gadhra.

Doon C.B.S. — Gamesmaster J.J. Fahy.

Presentation de la Salle, Hospital — Gamesmaster Bro. Raymond.

Kilfinane (St. Paul's) — Gamesmaster Tom Moore; Sr. Patricia.

M.T.I. Limerick — Gamesmaster Michael Johnston.

St. Ita's, Newcastle West, — Gamesmaster Donncha O Murchu.

Salesian College, Pallaskenry — Gamesmaster Fr. Martin Loftus.

Seat of Wisdom, Rathkeale — Gamesmaster Padraig Feehan.

Rath Luirc C.B.S. — Gamesmaster Sean Jones.

Sexton Street C.B.S. — Gamesmaster An Br. MacSuibhne.

Chairman Donncha O M u r c h u ; Secretary-Treasurer: Fr. Martin Loftus, S.D.B.

The success of the competitions is due in great part to the latter. Before his arrival in Pallaskenry the local competitions were in a sad state.

THE 1977-1978 TITLE HOLDERS — HURLING

Under 14 'A' O'Mara Cup — Sexton St. C.B.S. runner-up Rath Luirc C.B.S.

Under 14 'B' F.C.J. Bruff, runners-up St. Paul's Kilfinane.

Under 16 'A' Pat Kennedy Trophy, Sexton Street C.B.S. runners-up Causeway Comprehensive School.

Under 16 'B' J.J. Kenneally Cup, St. Paul's Kilfinane, runners-up Adare C.B.S.

Under 18 'A' Corn an Tochair (presented by Banna Beach Hotel) Rath Luirc C.B.S. runners-up Sexton Street, C.B.S.

Under 18 'B' St. Paul's Kilfinane, runners-up Ard Scoil Ris.

FOOTBALL

Under 14 'A' Russell Cup, Ard Scoil Ris, runners-up Presentation De La Salle, Hospital.

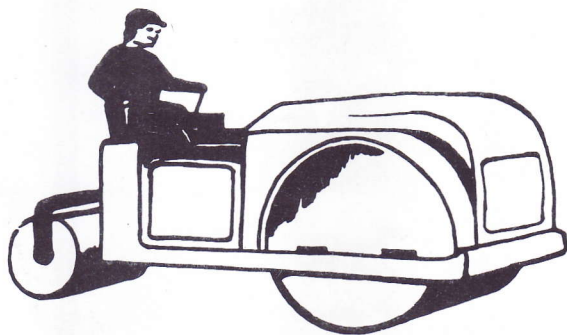
Under 14 'B' Corn na Mainistir (presented by Presentation De La Salle, Ho'spital) F.C.J. Bruff, runners-up Salesian College, Pallaskenry.

Under 16 Dr. O'Neill Cup, Salesian College, Pallaskenry, runners-up Presentation De La Salle, Hospital.

Under 18 Fr. James O'Donnell, Memorial Cup, Salesian College, Pallaskenry, runners-up St. Ita's, Newcastle West.

The Committee are seeking a trophy for their under 18 Hurling 'B' Championship and a kind donor would be greatly appreciated.

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Thomond College - A big impact on Limerick Football

—says Sean O Shea

Thomond College, formerly known as the National College of Physical Education, opened in Limerick in January 1973. Its purpose was to train teachers for secondary schools. These teachers would be highly qualified in two areas, physical education and a second subject of their choice. The college was not intended to produce super athletes but rather highly qualified teachers. People in general tend to think of Physical Education as a course, in physical exercises, football and athletics. This is in fact quite untrue, the course consists of three areas, Physical Education, Education, and Second Subject. The hours are equally divided between the three areas and when one allows that Physical Education includes 50%

theory only about one sixth of each week is devoted to actual physicals.

Early in the history of the college, students recognising the need for practice and competition set up their own clubs and societies. These are run by students and funded by students though some lecturers help in coaching. These clubs are voluntary and must meet outside lecture times, i.e. lunch hour, evenings and weekends. These clubs enter various leagues and competitions.

The G.A.A. club is one of these clubs, it has a membership of about 60 and is run like any other G.A.A. club in the country. I think it important to stress at this point that it is a G.A.A. club and not a football club and is run in accordance with G.A.A.

rules. It has a hurling team and a football team and hopes to foster handball at a later stage when facilities become available.

It has enjoyed great success with its football team in particular winning many Higher Education titles. This year after 4 previous attempts the club won the Limerick county championship and hopes to do well in the All Ireland club championship.

It has been said that the college team has a great advantage over other teams, since all its players are physically fit and have nothing else to do except play football all the time. However most of this is untrue and should be seen in its proper perspective. Some of the advantages it has are (i) facilities for training, (ii) players are together all the time, (iii)

because of the nature of the college, players tend to be dedicated and physically well endowed. (iv) We tend from time to time to get good county players.

These however are slight advantages, most clubs have facilities for training which would compare with the P.E. College. All that is needed is a field, dressing rooms and adequate footballs. This is all the college team ever use. During college term all our players are together but during teaching practice, Christmas, Easter and Summer holidays which accounts for 25 weeks of the year the players are dispersed all over the country and even farther afield. In our attempts to win the Limerick championship and other competitions this has hindered us greatly. Our



Senator Rory Kiely Chairman Limerick Co. Board presenting the trophy to Deputy Captain Ritchie Bell after Thomond College had defeated Croom in the 1977 Co. Senior Football Final.

Second Football Title for Thomond

Commitment and Co-operation OUR MOTTO FOR SUCCESS

THE ROAD to this victory began in 1979 at Caherconlish, when Oola beat us in the semi-final. That defeat gave us all the incentive and motivation to come back and win this championship today.

Those were the words of team captain Brian McSweeney after receiving the cup on behalf of Thomond College in this year's Limerick Senior Football Championship. This was the second time the College took the title, the last time being 1977. Brian, in fact, was the only survivor from that team playing this year.

On congratulating Thomond on their victory, Oola captain P. Ryan said that the College had raised the standard of football in Limerick and that teams now had to put a lot of hard work into winning this Championship. This article will in some way show the effort that the College footballers put into winning this Championship. Plans began back in September '79. That was the beginning of the College year. At the A.G.M. of the G.A.A. club, the secretary, Donal Fox, announced in his report that the College had failed to win anything in the Higher Education competitions and the defeat by Oola in the Limerick semi-final meant that we were starting from scratch again. The club were more determined than ever to replenish the sideboard with some silverware.

Within two weeks, the College teams had commenced training. The College has teams in the Higher Education competitions which begin in October and go on until April. The senior team was under the guidance of manager-coach, Dave Welderick. We defeated T.C.D., U.C.C. and drew with U.C.D. and U.C.G. to reach the higher education semi-final. We were then unlucky to lose by two points to St. Pats, who eventually lost to U.C.D. in the Final. At this point it is worth mentioning more about the U.C.G. game. It was played in Pearse Stadium, Galway, on a wet and blustery winter's day. The College trailed by four points at half time, after playing with the strong wind. With everybody expecting a U.C.G. onslaught in the second half, many players were pretty dejected in the dressing-room. Anyone who was in that dressing-room at half time will never forget how Brian McSweeney, shivering with the cold, raised the spirit of everybody there to such a height that no team would have beaten us that day. Against a strong wind in the second half, we drew with U.C.G. (Singerson Cup Winners) and were extremely unlucky not to win.

Says Brian Hackett P.R.O.

SPORTING GAMES

We reached the Trench Cup semi-final but lost to a good Ulster Polytech side. The real success of the year was the Freshers team under manager coach, Niall Moyna. This team beat the Ulster Polytech in one of the fastest, sporting games ever seen in Croke Park in the Fresher's Championship Final. The team was, Brendan Hackett, Declan O'Leary, Mick McBearly, Seamus Meehan, Eamonn Quigley, Mark Kavanagh, Charlie McGeever, Tony Murphy, Jimmy Keogh, Sean Connor, Paul Marron, Ger Deegan, Mick O'Donovan, Pat Critchley, Mick Loughnane, Senan Nolan, Gerry O'Riordain, Richard Scott, Martin Lynch, Donal Roche, Tommy Doonan. It is interesting to note that the only other College team to win the Fresher's Championship was the side that eventually proved so successful in 1977. Nine of the present senior panel were on the Freshers last year.

With the '79-'80 season being one of near misses for the senior team, we were more determined than ever to win the Limerick S.F.C. The team began training on its own with different team members taking charge of the sessions. Dave Welderick was unable to devote the necessary time because of business and family commitments. The College year ended on May 16th and everybody went their own way. The first round of the Limerick Championship began on Friday 31st May. The College team consists of people from every Province, so this entails long journeys back to Limerick for many. To show the commitment that was there, everybody on the panel was in Patricks Field that night for the game against Patrickswell. With many of the team that played throughout the year going to the U.S. the team that night was based on players who would be around for the summer. The strength of that team showed just how much talent there is in this panel.

CLOSE CALL

We beat Patrickswell by 3-11 to 3-8 in

a game which could have gone either way at various stages. The team was, C. Moynihan, M. Kavanagh, C. McGlynn, M. McBrearty, E. Quigley, M. Clarke, F. Harrington, S. Reilly, K. Kehoe, S. Connor, P. Marron, N. Moyna, P. Burke, R. McCarrick, M. O'Donovan. Subs: B. Hackett, B. McSweeney, P. McGinity. The semi-final of the city championship was played on June 22nd at the Gaelic Grounds. We defeated Cloughaun by 2-16 to 2-7 in a tough game but the speed, skill and superior teamwork of the College were the telling factors. That team was, C. Moynihan, D. O'Leary, C. McGlynn, F. Harrington, F. Quigley, M. Clarke, P. McGinity, S. Reilly, T. Breen, S. Connor, B. McSweeney, P. Marron, P. Burke, K. Hourihan, M. O'Donovan. Sub: G. O'Riordain. The City Final was played a week later at the same venue. We beat Treaty Sarsfields in a fiercely contested match by two points 1-11 to 3-3. The team showed four changes, M. McBrearty in the backline, P. McGinity left half forward and P. Marron and N. Moyna joined P. Burke in the full forward line.

Ballysteen were the next opposition on 31st August at Kilmallock. We played some of our best football in this game and Ballysteen had no answer to quick passing movements so characteristic of the College. We won easily by 5-10 to 0-10. The team was, C. Moynihan, D. O'Leary, B. Ladden, M. McBrearty, K. Kehoe, M. Clarke, P. McGinity, S. Reilly, T. Breen, S. Connor, B. McSweeney, P. Marron, P. Burke, R. McCarrick, M. O'Donovan. Subs: P. Critchley, P. McNamara, P. Dillon. With the College now re-opened and many of the team now teaching in various parts of the country, the commitment and co-operation was again seen. The students in College were forced to train in "Patrick's Field" and Monaleen, because of a strike in College. We are indebted to both these clubs for their help. Last year's fourth years, who had now graduated, arrived in Limerick every weekend for training sessions. The Semi-Final was played on 27th September, against Monaleen. We were expecting a close match because Monaleen were well prepared. The first half was very competitive, but in the first 15 minutes of the second half we sealed the game with some very accurate passing and shooting. The score was 0-9 to 1-3. Team: C. Moynihan, B. Ladden, C. McGlynn, M. Clarke, F. Harrington, K. Kehoe, M. McBrearty, S. Reilly, P. Critchley, S. Connor, P. Mar-