

GALLANT IN DEFEAT UNDER GRAVE HANDICAP

PIKE 'SHOCK' SHELS

O'Donovan injury told

PIKE ROVERS, 1; SHELBORNE, 2.
(CASEY) (COLEMAN, WILSON)

A GAIN it is the end of the trail for Pike Rovers, but the non-leaguers can look back on yesterday's second-round Cup clash with Shelbourne as their finest ever 90 minutes. The "Reds," now the only side that can possibly carry off the League and Cup double, had the escape of their lives against opposition which for all practical purposes was only at ten-man strength for the last fifty minutes.

(By Des Hanrahan)

Before Joey Wilson hammered home the winner five minutes from the end, Pike had four golden chances of reaching the semi-final, but, unfortunately, three of them came the way of their hobbling winger, Eddie O'Donovan, who made a brave effort with a header which was cleared off the goal-line by Brendan O'Brien, but who was unable to connect with the required force or direction when placed by Casey and Tobin on the right, and later when positioned on the left by

Richie O'Brien. In the circumstances, Pike put up a whole of a show. They never let-up and had Paddy Casey and Gabriel Tobin received better support up front it could have been a very different result. Shelbourne did not relish the hard and fast tackling of the home backs and, in spots, they looked rattled and completely out of their stride. But they were far more dangerous near goal and but for the brilliant play of Eamonn O'Connor would have finished winners by a wider margin.

TOP OF THE CLASS!
O'Connor was in devastating form. Quite a number of his saves were out of the top-drawer and one, in particular, will stand out in the memory for many a day to come. I refer to his second-half effort, a flying dive to pull down a Ben Hannigan special, which had goal written all over it. His courage, too, was fully tested, and here also he came through with flying colours.

It is a pity that someone has to be saddled with some blame for this frustrating defeat—Pike were at least worth a second chance—but left-back Brian Hanrahan, whose full-blooded tackling had Joey Wilson on the run for much of the game, made the mistake of his career before Shelbourne drew level in the first half. He mis-kicked when it seemed that his clearance would bring play well into "enemy" territory, and from this break Shelbourne opened the movement that led to Jim Coleman scoring.

Brian made amends subsequently with some hefty roots upfield. The wingers, though, were the chief weakness. Richie O'Brien, who had turns on the left and right, has played much better, and Eddie O'Donovan, even before his injury, was not in nearly the same form that he had been against Longford Town.

Shelbourne admitted after the game that the result could easily have gone the other way, and that Pike surprised them with their determination, "fire" and football ability. All in the 1388 attendance, too, will I am sure agree that it would have taken very little to swing the issue in Pike's favour. Shelbourne must certainly have been thanking their stars when the ball was scrambled away, in the 18th minute of the second half, after Gabriel Tobin had scooped the ball out of goalkeeper John Heavey's hands.

LACKING INCHES!
Pike had more corners than the opposition, but they were lacking the necessary inches to make their presence felt near goal. In defence, all played their parts for the losers, particularly the halves, Jack Hunt, Paul Croke and Paddy O'Dwyer. Croke, despite an ankle injury, had an excellent game, though opposed by the visitors' top-scorer, Eric Barber. Hunt was as wholehearted as they come, and "Son" O'Dwyer, too, was on top of his form. The fulls, Mick Bennis and

Brian Hanrahan, were up against a pair of very dangerous wingers and came through with high marks. Paddy Casey, at inside-right, was again the star in attack. As Captain, he did everything in his power to try and save the day. He went about his work in a cool and workmanlike manner and was as skilful as any forward on view. He had best backing from diminutive centre-forward Gabriel Tobin, who frequently had Paddy Strahan going the wrong way, but who just had not the right luck at the vital moments. Strahan was, of course, master in the air, but Tobin made him "sit-up."

Paddy Hackett, while showing at nice touches at inside-left, could have been more forceful. John Heavey was in luck a few times in the winners' goal, but the fulls, Tom Carroll and Brendan O'Brien, were able to cope with O'Brien, Eric Barber being well policed by Croke. Shelbourne had to rely on their wings for their main source of danger. Joey Wilson and Ollie Conroy were never given too much rope, but they had their moments.

JUNIOR SOCCER

GERALDINES LEAGUE VICTORY OVER ISLAND UNITED

(By "SOCCERITE")

Only two League games were played yesterday. Geraldines defeating Island United and Shelbourne gaining a narrow win over Wembley Rovers. The game arranged for Caledonian Park did not take place and this venue will be out of commission for some time, as drainage work is being carried out on the pitch.

At Janeshoro Park the "Boro" played a challenge game when Ennis Utd. failed to travel. At the Barracks Field, Sarsfield Utd. played a challenge game with Ballynanty Rovers.

GERALDINES 2
H. Mulcahy, J. O'Brien.
ISLAND UTD. 0
Island were decidedly unlucky in this game for they had two goals disallowed by the ref. and their appeals that the ball was over the line also went unheeded. However, these incidents apart, Geraldines just about deserved their victory. Late in the first half Hugh Mulcahy scrambled the ball over the line for the winners first goal. Luck was not with Island in their efforts to equalise, and near the end Joe O'Brien headed the second goal for the winners, who were best served by Paddy Allen, Vinny Prendergast, Joe O'Brien, John

Paul Croke proved too sound for Eric Barber. Chance of the game was lost by Eddie O'Donovan, who was clear as Shelbourne stood up appealing for offside but, though waved on by referee "Pip" Meighan, the winger shot feebly and hopelessly wide. Wilson's all-important goal resulted from a movement started by Hannigan and carried on by Barber. Pike Rovers — E. O'Connor; M. Bennis, B. Hanrahan; J. Hunt, P. Croke, P. O'Dwyer; E. O'Donovan, P. Casey (Captain), G. Tobin, P. Hackett; R. O'Brien. Shelbourne — Heavey; Carroll, R. O'Brien; Bonham, Strahan, Roberts; Wilson, Coleman, Barber, Hannigan, Conroy. Referee—J. Meighan (Dublin).

THE PLAY
Shelbourne were first to threaten and Hannigan was dangerously near with a header. In the 18th minute, a long clearance by Hannigan was pounced on by Tobin, who placed Paddy Casey for a left-footed shot that curled in off an upright. In the 34th minute, Paul Croke almost turned the ball through his own goal, but O'Connor saved the situation. Three minutes later, Barber, clear on the right, centred and after Hannigan's shot had come back off a defender, Coleman let fly and as the ball was crossing the line it was helped on its way by Croke. There were near-misses galore at both ends before Wilson

clinched the issue. Chance of the game was lost by Eddie O'Donovan, who was clear as Shelbourne stood up appealing for offside but, though waved on by referee "Pip" Meighan, the winger shot feebly and hopelessly wide. Wilson's all-important goal resulted from a movement started by Hannigan and carried on by Barber. Pike Rovers — E. O'Connor; M. Bennis, B. Hanrahan; J. Hunt, P. Croke, P. O'Dwyer; E. O'Donovan, P. Casey (Captain), G. Tobin, P. Hackett; R. O'Brien. Shelbourne — Heavey; Carroll, R. O'Brien; Bonham, Strahan, Roberts; Wilson, Coleman, Barber, Hannigan, Conroy. Referee—J. Meighan (Dublin).

Spurs defeated Aston Villa 2-0 on Saturday with goals from Danny Blanchflower and Cliff Burnley beat Sheffield United with a goal from Ray Pointer. United had virtually only ten men all through for Gerry Summers pulled a thigh muscle in the second minute.

OTHER SPORT INSIDE

Kelly and Junior Gavin. Best for Island were Pa Butler, Steve Corbett (goal), Larry Johnson, Myles O'Shaughnessy and Cyril Guerin. In the second half a player from each side was sent off by referee T. Brown.
SARSFIELD UTD. Nil
BALLYNANTY RVS. 5
(T. Rice, 2; P. Proctor, 2; S. Cusack)
Ballynanty proved too strong for Sarsfield Utd. in this challenge game played at the Barrack Field. Ballas scorers and best players were Tim Rice (2), Pat Proctor (2), S. Cusack (1), Noel Collins and Clem Bennett. Sarsfield's pick were Paddy Roche, Christy O'Donnell, Phonsie Franklin, Mick Ryan and Mick Sheehy.

RACING

WORCESTER

1.30—
HOUSEHILL (5/1) 1
Doyles Cross (10/1) 2
Tom Bowling (5/1) 3
Powder Rock (11/10f.) 17 ran.

2.0—
BALKON CATCH (100/7) 1
Frisky Scot (9/2f) 2
K.L.E. (8/1) 3
All 18 ran.
Because of a false start, the 2.30 race was put back to 3 o'clock and all subsequent races were also put back 30 minutes.

2.30—
TRANSATLANTIC (25/1) 1
Kingfish (33/1) 2
Son of Tam (8/1) 3
All ran.

3.00—
FLOW-KAJ (15/8 f.) 1
Prince Gin (33/1) 2
Pena (100/7) 3
All 13 ran.

3.30—
HOLF CASTLE (100/8) 1
Cinnamon II (11/4 f.) 2
Heron Princes (100/8) 3
All 19 ran.

SOUTHWELL

2.0—
LIVELY HOPKINS (10/1) 1
Mount Taurus (9/4f) 2
Splital Hill (11/2) 3
All 10 ran.

2.30—
SAPCHMO (2/1) 1
Shake Folly (6/1) 2
Zenith II (4/1) 3
All 12 ran.

3.00—
MARINER'S NIECE (20/1) 1
Ande R (9/4) 2
Ship-Shah (5/1) 3
9 ran.

3.30—
DOMINATOR (20/1) 1
Performance (311) 2
Samaritan (10/1) 3
All 15 ran. Call Girl, 4/5 fav.

Spurs and Burnley can meet in final

The dream of most soccer followers in England of a Cup Final on May 6th, between the two outstanding club sides in the country, took the last step nearer reality to-day when they were drawn in separate semi-finals. Tottenham Hotspur are paired with Preston North End or Manchester United, and Fulham or Blackburn Rovers will meet Burnley. The semi-finals will be played on March 31st. Spurs defeated Aston Villa 2-0 on Saturday with goals from Danny Blanchflower and Cliff Burnley beat Sheffield United with a goal from Ray Pointer. United had virtually only ten men all through for Gerry Summers pulled a thigh muscle in the second minute.

West G.A.A. Board

Unseemly conduct deplored

A WARNING that during the coming Championship season a serious view would be taken of any unseemly incidents that would tend to bring the Association into disrepute, was issued by the Chairman (Mr. Liam Fitzmaurice, N.T.), at a meeting of the West Limerick G.A.A. Board at Rathkeale on Tuesday night. Remarking that they were now commencing a new Championship year, the Chairman warned clubs and club secretaries that the Board would take a very serious view of any scenes that might be calculated to bring the Association into disrepute. They could not close their eyes, he added, to the fact that last year there had been a few occasions on which such scenes took place. He thought it only right, therefore, to tell the delegates that the Board's Inquiry Committee would be in operation during 1962. If, as a result of their investigations, any case came before the Board the

Shannon Garry through area

(By Our Rugby)
SHANNON, the holders, to the Limerick area Junior Cup as a result of Munster and St. Mary's, Park yesterday.

Shannon, after falling behind deservedly 9-3, but Garryoven had time before defeating St. Mary's in SHANNON 9 Pts. YOUNG MUNSTER 3 Pts.

On this form, Shannon are going to make a bold bid to retain their Munster Junior Cup title. Young Munster provided stern opposition, but the all-round power and expert teamwork of the "Parish" side proved decisive factors. Shannon have a very experienced fifteen and they never panicked despite the fact that they went behind when Eddie Tuille landed a penalty goal in the third minute. They kept playing through the equaliser in the 15th minute when Gerry O'Carroll landed a good penalty goal. Before the interval the Shannon skipper failed with two kicks which would usually be in his range. Throughout the first half the rival packs tore into one another with great verve, and the large attendance was kept well entertained by two sides who have dominated the competition for the past three seasons. Young Munster were dangerous on occasions in the second half but it was Shannon who generally held the whiphand. They gradually wore down the gallant "Wasps" XV and scored two excellent tries to achieve meritorious victory. First, Tom Creamey dived over after a grand back movement, and the scoring was completed when Sean Creamey touched down for a fine try. Outstanding for Shannon were Gerry O'Carroll, Mick Arthurs and Sean O'Connor (backs), and Des