

Limerick off to successful start

Newcomer O'Connor match-winner at Sligo

(By "L.L." SOCCER CORRESPONDENT)

Sligo Rovers, 0; Limerick, 1.
SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD Turlough O'Connor, Athlone, made a promising start to his League of Ireland career when, at the Show Grounds, yesterday, he scored the winning goal for Limerick.

Young O'Connor, a minor international centre-forward, had a second goal disallowed.

Sligo Rovers, who had beaten St. Patrick's Athletic the previous week, had a great chance of opening their Shield programme with a win for Limerick's inside-right, "Ginger" O'Rourke, missed the first eight minutes of the game. The car in which he made the journey from Dublin broke down. The appointed referee was also late in reaching Sligo and one of the linesmen took his place.

Even before O'Rourke brought them up to full strength, Limerick were shaping like winners. They had far more of the play territorially, and, with luck, would have won very comfortably, indeed.

"Ginger" O'Rourke, playing his second game for the Shamrocks, again stood out, but the forwards, on the whole, should have made better use of the many openings carved out for them by the wing-halves.

Limerick had a late change—Peter O'Halloran at centre-half for Denis Linnane. O'Halloran pleased in a steady defence, which gave goalkeeper Kevin Fitzpatrick great protection.

Eddie Tuite, and Joe Casey were sound fulls, and wing-halves Des McNamara and Ewan Fenton played with tremendous drive and skill.

It was feared that the strong-tackling Sligo defence would be too rugged for the young Limerick forward line, which included two teenagers—youth's "cap," Marty Hogan and minor international, Turlough O'Connor. But the visiting forwards, apart from some shooting lapses, all played their parts in this tonic win.

SHOWED NEAT TOUCHES

Hogan teamed up very well with "Ginger" O'Rourke, and Turlough O'Connor, in the centre, showed neat touches, and looks a good prospect. Sligo defenders, O'Reilly and Duffy, were often in trouble trying to cope with the visitors' left wing partnership of Ala Finucane and Mick Doyle.

Limerick played attractively, but they will have to step up on their shooting when they face Shamrock Rovers in their first home game of the season next Sunday.

Sligo Rovers made several positional changes in the second half, but all to no avail. They were just not in the same class as Limerick in the outfield play. The homesters' latest signing, Larry Conroy (ex-Shelbourne), but Damian Bradley and Jackie Burnside tried very hard, too, and in defence, Gerry O'Reilly and Hubert Campbell had a lot of extra work thrown on their shoulders, but acquitted themselves well.

GREAT GOAL

There was quite an element of opportunism about Limerick's goal. The Sligo keeper,

Gus Lynch, parried a dangerous shot from Limerick's inside right, O'Rourke, but O'Connor dashed in and drove a stinging left-footed shot to the net. A short time before O'Connor scored, Sligo missed what was really their best chance of the game. Albert Reilly headed a well-placed cross from right-winger Bernard Keane, but Kevin Fitzpatrick saved brilliantly, sending the ball behind for a corner.

Sligo Rovers—Lynch, O'Reilly, Campbell, Duffy, Mitchell, Cossgrove; Keane, Kelly, Reilly, Bradley, Conroy.
Limerick—Fitzpatrick; Tuite, Casey; McNamara, O'Halloran, Fenton; Hogan, O'Rourke, O'Connor, Finucane, Doyle.
Referee—P. Graham (Dublin).

Way clear to sign Gerry Mackey

It is expected that Gerry Mackey, who played for Ireland in the 1957-58 World Cup series and who made several appearances for the League of Ireland, will sign for Limerick to-morrow night. Gerry left Shamrock Rovers four seasons ago to play non-League football in England with King's Lynn, a club he captained last season when they reached the third round of the English Cup. He is still on Shamrock Rovers "books," but the Milltown club and Limerick have settled on a transfer fee, and it only remains now for Limerick and Gerry to agree to terms.

Limerick play their first home game of the season next Sunday when Shamrock Rovers, unbeaten so far this term, and 6-1 winners over Bohemians yesterday, will provide the opposition. It is possible that Gerry Mackey will be in the home line-out. The game promises to be an outstanding treat.

West Indies on top

At lunch on the final day of the fifth Test, the West Indies had made 78 for 1 wicket, and with over a day and a half to go were in a comfortable position, 188 behind England.

At 3.30 the tourists were 188 for 1, and seemingly set for victory.

JUMPING CONTEST TO SET THE BALL ROLLING

(By DES HANRAHAN)

A HURDLE race will set the ball rolling at the Markets Field this evening, first race 9 o'clock. The going is sure to be extra heavy and we cannot expect fast times.

Mr. Dermot Joyce, Limerick, has had some very good "timber-toppers" down through the years, and his Treaty Pride will come in for very special attention in the jumping contest. This one clocked 34.85 on August 13, and the following day, returned 32.70. However, Tommy Blue, Jovial Company, Handsome Croppy and Setare-Andaktan were all tried a fortnight earlier and their owners will have had more opportunities to "school" them.

If there is a market move for anything else, it might be advisable to follow the money, but Treaty Pride should run well, nevertheless.

Truthful Champion, runner-up to Cooltoanin Champion in the final of the 700 yards sweepstake, must be the choice for the fourth race. This bitch is an out-and-out stayer and she should be able to give odds and a beating to Ben Phada and Oho Joseph. The last named only gave best to Ask Joey (30.00) in the last few strides, and Ben Phada sprang a major surprise when making all the running to upset a gamble on Prince of Tulig in

very fast time—30.02.

In the second race I make out a good case for Mr. J. Corbett's (Newcastle West) Adrienne Princess, a bitch that won her two grading trials. Top Dog and Never Doubt may fill the minor places.

The third event affords Fiesta Gitana a good chance to make amends for his 3 lbs. beating by Capital (30.82). He was very unlucky then, but the opposition is formidable this time, and one I have slightly more regard for is Heather Don, a member of the very successful Knock Hill Chieftain—Lucerne litter.

Tasty Dick should go close in the fifth event, but Silly Miller and Angelic Touch will make him earn victory.

If newcomer, Granite Eyes (30.74 trial) can beat Shrove Bully and Float Home, he will go close in the sixth race, and in the final event, Bright Sort will be ideally suited by trap six, and should score from Silver Spire (finished, fast behind Tour Honour) and Swift Judy. Bright Sort beat Here He Goes and Hopper's Express impressively first time out, despite losing ground at the first bend through wide-running.

TO-NIGHT'S SELECTIONS

MISS CONNOLLY v. MISS Q IN LADIES' DECIDER

O'SHEA VERSUS MULHOLLAND IN MEN'S FINAL

THE finals of the Limerick Senior Close Championships, which were due to be at Limerick L.T.C. Grounds yesterday, were postponed to Sunday next because of heavy rain made the courts unplayable. Contesting the singles final will be the holder of the title O'Shea (Catholic Institute), and that of player, Eugene Mulholland (Shelbourne and Institute). In the ladies' final, Margaret (Limerick) will oppose Ann Quaid (Catholic Institute) in what promises to be another in

In the men's semi-finals Tony O'Shea had to produce his very best in overcoming last week's Junior champion, his brother, Frank O'Shea, 6-3, 6-4.

Although Tony won in straight sets, Frank gave a finer display than the score would suggest and had he shown a little more steadiness towards the end of the second set, he might have extended the holder to a third set.

TONY SOUNDER However, as it turned out, Tony proved the sounder all-round player and deservedly qualified for the final. His positional sense was first-class and another feature of his play was at the net, where time and again he placed his half-volleyed shots with great precision.

The other men's semi-final was a one-sided affair in which Eugene Mulholland scored an easy straight sets win over another institute player, Paul McDonagh, 6-1, 6-2. Mulholland, too, displayed some fine tennis and if he can produce the form that we witnessed on Saturday he could make things hot for Tony, who is bidding for his second successive title.

SHOCK RESULT

The ladies semi-finals produced a shock result when last week's Junior champion, Kilrush-born Josephine Glynn, who earlier in the week sprang a surprise by defeating the South of Ireland champion, Elizabeth Kelly, was beaten by the up-and-coming 18-year-old Margaret Connolly, who was selected for the Munster Girls Interprovincial side recently. On Saturday's performance, in which she won 6-4, 6-4, Margaret must be fancied to win the title against Ann Quaid (Catholic Institute), who was brought to three sets by Margaret's sister, Aine Connolly, in a very long encounter, 6-3, 5-7, 7-5.

Western removed Co. Chair

At Saturday's Limerick County I Limerick County champions for the sons Western Ga moved from the sen year's competition: field 17 minutes later final.

Western Gaels b Kilmeedy by 2 poi day fortnight, but Mr. T. O'Sullivan, read at Saturda stated that Wester 17 minutes late tak and that the gam p.m. did not con 3.25 p.m.

The chairman, M said that in acco the general rule w fine of £5 and loss for 1 minutes. If Gaels would have t from the competi

Objections on 6 by Feenagh-Kilme dealt with at ano of the Board.

At the same mee rick's objection, their quarter-final four points, City G registered accordin be heard.

Subsequent to meeting, a counter-receded from West two points, allegi players of the Feen team, did not decl native parish.

WEEK-END GOLF ROUND. GUERIN WINS FII THURLES SCRAT CUP

(By OUR GOLF CORRESPONDENT)

AS in every sport over a dismal week-end was badly hit by the rain. Many in events were played, however, without, unfor any great success for Limerick players.

The inaugural Thurler Scratch event, despite the heavy rain that fell increasingly throughout the day, was a big success yesterday. Michael Guerin continued his recent excellent winning vein with a splendid victory, returning rounds of 71 and 70, to win by four shots from M. D. O'Brien of New Ross.

PRINCE RA

Hermitage and Golf Clubs in Du honoured this we from Prince Rain last visit to thes Prince's who plays at Adare Manor.