

# Team of the week — Janesboro United



**WHEN JANESBORO' UTD.** won the under 14 cup for the first time last season there were many who opined that their success was of the flash in the pan variety, but all doubts concerning 'Boro's true ability have been quelled following some well planned victories in the current season's under 15 league. With a couple of games remaining to be played 'Boro are but two points behind league leaders Wembley Rovers, and to quote Manager Joe McCarthy, "if we don't overtake the Blues in the race for league honours then you can take it that the under 15 cup will be ours".

Janesboro' have the happy knack of being able to rise to the occasion when least expected and even when they were going through a lean spell in the early part of the decade they could always be relied upon to put in that extra effort when demanded most. The present under 15 side is one of the most talented ever to wear the club's colours and they are anxious to follow up last season's cup victory with a similar success in

the current campaign. And the players they will be relying upon to add another chapter to the club's illustrious history are: Back Row: Joseph Waters, Gerard Fitzgerald, Dermot Hefernan, Brendan Dillon, Tom Purtill and James Bourke. Front Row: Gus O'Donovan, Michael Sheehan, Alexis Clancy, John Liddy, Ger Fahy and Desmond Kennedy.

Their record to date this season makes for most interesting reading. Earlier in the year they won the "mini" league when defeating Northend in the final, and except for a shock defeat by Ballynanty Rovers they have an impressive record in the under 15 league. They gave what was perhaps their best performance when holding a crack Wembley side to a scoreless draw at Pearse Stadium, and carried on the good work by administering a 2-1 knock out blow to the hitherto unbeaten St. John's. They are now depending on St. John's to take full points from Wembley, for such a result would bring them back into the running for

further honours. With Cup time just around the corner the 'Boro boys are all set for what they expect will be a victorious run and their main wish is that they will avoid meeting Wembley until the final, when they hope to gain revenge for their Evans Cup defeat a couple of months ago.

'Boro have one of the finest young 'keepers in local soccer in Brendan Dillon, while Joe Waters and Ger Fitzgerald are hitting it off well in the full back positions. Fitzgerald is a younger brother to Tony Fitzgerald, who made a fine debut for Limerick in their recent friendly against Plymouth Argyle.

The "big" man in defence is pivot Tommy Purtill who is equally as good along the ground as he is in the air. The versatile Ger Fahy, although small in stature, is not one to shirk his duties, and on his opposite flank, Gus O'Donovan is just the type to unsettle opposing forward lines.

Janesboro' have plenty of scoring power up front. Michael

Sheehan, voted outstanding footballer of the year last season, has few equals as a winger, while the dashing Des Kennedy and Jim Bourke have contributed in a big way to their club's great run. The crafty Alexis Clancy is the ideal linkman and his ability to carry the ball has been a big factor in 'Boro's rise to the top.

There is tremendous club spirit in the 'Boro camp and with all players willing to play their parts in helping the Black and Whites to restore former glory we can expect exciting things from them in the weeks ahead. The cup is now foremost on their minds and if they can maintain their recent good form then I see no reason why they should not be involved in the final shake up for honours. Team manager, Joe McCarthy is not letting any grass grow under his feet and has a hefty training schedule laid out for the coming weeks.

With the panel of players only too keen to respond, it is safe to assume that we shall see them at their best for the cup.