

City Schools Senior Cup Football Final

On Friday next, at 3 o'clock, in the Christian Brothers' Sportsfield, Rathbane, the destination of the City Schools Senior Cup will be decided (writes a correspondent). This year's final sees a novel pairing in St. Patrick's and St. Mary's, two schools who tried extremely hard in other years without any outstanding success. Few will deny that they have reached the decider on merit alone.

St. Patrick's have a good, strongly-built side, with the accent on attack. On their way to the final they eliminated the Model in the first round, but were given a hard struggle before overcoming Munchin's in the semi-final. They have their stars and pin a lot of faith in mid-fielder "Blondie" Regan, whose father holds an All-Ireland medal for Limerick.

Likewise, Clancy and O'Brien come from families which have served the Limerick team well and truly in the past. There are others, too, not perhaps so well known but all equally determined to bring the senior trophy to the grand little school on Dublin road. But to do this they will have to get the better of a really enthusiastic St. Mary's team. These lads have trained hard and just will not hear of defeat. Like their opponents, they are relying on their forwards to see them through.

Strangely enough, it is to the youngest lad on the team, Junior O'Connell, that they are looking to put them on the victory trail. Junior is a little bundle of energy, but a rand footballer as well. He should receive a good service from centre-field man, Anthony McCarthy. St. Mary's defeated the holders, St. Brendan's, in the semi-final and this has given them added confidence. However, they are taking nothing for granted and every man will give of his best to the final whistle.

So there they are, two very well matched sides with the same ambition. To attempt to forecast the result would be extremely foolish as it might well depend on the hop of a ball or just one nicksick. No matter what the outcome it should be a thrilling struggle. What is more, these are two teams which concentrate purely on football. Anything in the line of roughness is completely foreign to them, so a fast, clean exhibition is expected. Let's hope we are not disappointed, and when the long whistle blows may the better team receive the coveted trophy.

Lansdowne Win In Extra Time

Lansdowne, 4; L.P.Y.M.A., 2.
Extra time was necessary to de-

Mick English Makes His Mark In International Rugby

(By "N.M. II")

MICK ENGLISH is here to stay! That sentence more or less sums up the general feeling of most rugby commentators and writers after Saturday's Lansdowne Road international in which the Bohemians out-half made his international debut.

A bit late in the day now for comment on the game itself. It has been widely and comprehensively covered, with all sorts of views expressed—how the Irish pack was deplorably sluggish in its heeling; the disappointing display of John O'Meara, though most of the blame can be laid at the feet of the pack; the effectiveness of the Welsh wing forwards, devastating in the policing of O'Meara and in covering in general. All these views have been put forward and very correctly so. Therefore, it is surely to the everlasting credit of Mick English that under such circumstances he, with his Welsh opposite number, the wonderful and magical Cliff Morgan, should emerge from this game as one of the outstanding personalities and happily from our point of view one of Ireland's biggest successes.

With anything resembling a decent service English would surely have left an even more indelible impression. As it was, he played with supreme confidence from beginning to end. Neither Noel Murphy nor Jim Donaldson laid a hand on the elusive Morgan throughout the game, yet English "nailed" him on several occasions to check the Welsh wizard before he got fully into his stride. His handling, with one exception, was flawless, his kicking when under pressure—and he was under a lot of it—lengthy and accurate, and several breaks through brought the crowd to its feet in appreciation. What a pity the English referee, Dr. N. Parkes, should have adjudged the slightest of fumbles once in the middle of the field a knock-on when Mick had cut the Welsh defence wide open; this was, in fact, his best solo break.

Altogether, it was a display which has stamped Mick English as a worthy successor to his illustrious predecessor, Jack Kyle, and assured him of further honours in the international field.

HIGHFIELD SURVIVE IN MUSGRAVE MUD.

Highfield Nil.
Shannon Nil.

The date for the Munster Cup first round re-play between Shannon and Highfield will probably be Sunday week, March 30th, at

Highfield—S. O'Carroll; J. Curtin, F. Buckley, B. Russell, D. Wixted; T. Finn, C. Odum; J. Fennell, L. Ormonde, T. Stack, T. Frost, M. Leahy, T. Dempsey, K. Clancy, M. Brady.
Referee, Mr. P. O'Kane.

YOUNG MUNSTER LEFT IT LATE

Young Munster II 11 Pts.
Old Crescent II 3 Pts.

Played in bitterly cold and wet conditions at Thomond Park on Sunday, Young Munster advanced to the area final of the Munster Junior Cup when defeating Old Crescent by a goal, a try and a penalty goal to a penalty goal.

Far from being a convincing victory as the score would seem to suggest, it was only in the last five minutes of play that the winners went in front. At that time the score had stood at 3-3, and though Young Munster had been on the offensive for most of the second half, their backs were so ineffective that a draw appeared likely. However, a push over try, which was converted, and a second try on full-time clinched the issue.

To sum up the game briefly, Old Crescent had the backs and Young Munster the forwards. The winners had no issues up to the calibre of S. McRedmond, J. Riordan and A. Leonard, and with the exception of J. Reynolds the Old Crescent forwards were a shade behind the standard of such as J. Ryan (a tower of strength in the lines out), T. Shine and N. Kilbridge. With the aid of a really fine scrummaging pack, the last named easily won a majority of the set scrums. In the Crescent pack Reynolds was well supported by P. O'Connor and D. Moloney.

The Young Munster back line was poor. T. Brennan failed to make the best use of his pack's superiority in the set scrums. J. Clarke on the left wing was the best of the three-quarters. When moved to out-half N. Carey did his best to get the line moving without, however, very much success.

With wind advantage Old Crescent had the better of the first half, and J. Riordan gave them the lead with a penalty goal. The second half was fought out mostly in the Crescent end of the field, and with a penalty goal N. Carey equalised for Young Munster. Having tried for several push-over tries J. Ryan eventually succeeded in getting the touch down from a scrum near the posts. N. Carey converted. On time Young Munster struck again when W. Keenan