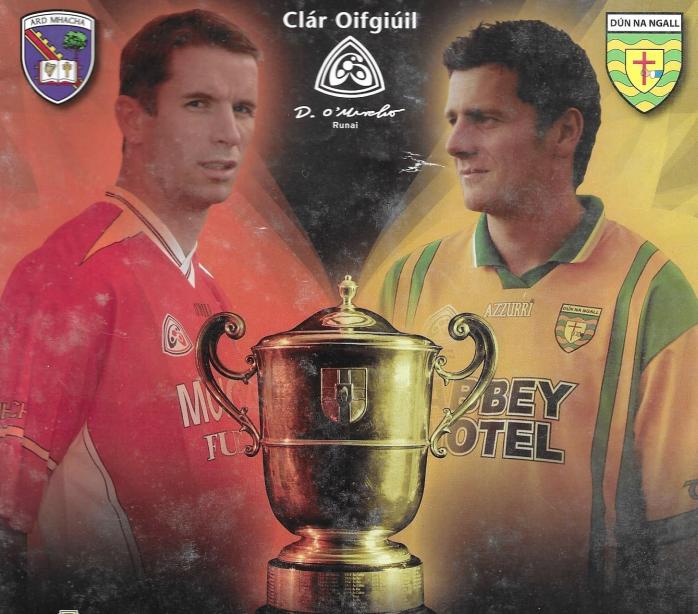
Comhairle Uladh CLG Cluiche Ceannais Peil Uladh 2006

Ard Mhacha v Dún na nGall at Páirc an Chrócaigh, Baile Átha Cliath 9u Iúil 2006 at 2.15pm

£2/€3





Bank of Ireland Football Championship





ARD MHACHA V DÚN NA NGALL



Cluiche Ceannais Peil Uladh 2006

ESB Ulster Minor Football Championship Final

12.30 in Aontroim v Dún na nGall

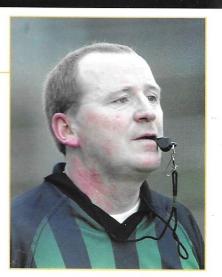
Minor Réiteoir - Barry Toland (Doíre)

Barry is a member of the Banagher club. He is married to Mary Kathleen and they have three children, Aiden, Cara and Liam. He has been refereeing for 11 years. He was appointed to the Provincial panel in 1999 and to the National panel in 2003. Barry refereed the 2002 Derry Senior Football Final and has

the distinction of refereeing the last three Ulster Vocational Schools Finals. He has officiated at games in the Ulster Minor Championship, Dr McKenna Cup, National League and the Kilmacud Sevens. He is a member of Roe Park Golf Club where he plays off a very respectable handicap of 14.

Standby Referee: Stephen McNamee (Tír Eoghain)

Linesman: Darren McQuillan (Muineachán) Sideline Official: Fergal Cleary (Fear Manach)



Bank of Ireland Ulster Senior Football Championship Final

2.15 in Ard Mhacha v Dún na nGall

Senior Réiteoir - Mick Monahan (Cill Dara)

Mick took charge of his first All-Ireland Senior Football Final last September. A few months earlier he refereed the Ulster Senior Championship Semi-Final between Armagh and Derry at Casement Park.

He made his inter-county refereeing debut at an O'Byrne Cup tie between Meath and Wicklow early in 1999 and his first senior championship match was between Carlow and Wexford in May 2000.

Mick has refereed senior championship games in a number of provinces as well as the 2000 All-Ireland Minor Final and the AIB club final of 2003. His other assignments included the All-Ireland senior semi-final between Armagh and Donegal in 2004.

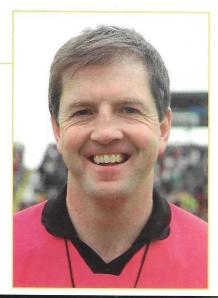
Standby Referee: Tomás Quigley (Baile Átha Cliath)

Linesman: Declan Corcoran (Maigh Eo)
Sideline Official: Con Reynolds (An Dún)

Design & Print: Lairdesign Contact: info@ulster.gaa.ie Editor: Stephen Donnelly Photography: Oliver McVeigh, John McAviney, Ian McGuinness & Michael O'Donnell

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BUÍOCHAS: Comhairle Uladh would like to thank the County Boards and all other contributors for their assistance in the



compilation of this programme. We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank all the players, management and backroom staff for their efforts today. Finally we thank all the supporters who have attended today's match, without you the championship just wouldn't be the same.







Focal An Uachtarán

Miceál Ó Grianain, Uachtarán, Comhairle Uladh

Ar son Comhairle Uladh ba mhaith liom failte a ghabhail libh go léir anseo inniu go Pairc an Chrocaigh do na Cluichi Ceannais Peil 2006 do triú bhlian i ndiaidh a cheile.

Failte speisialta go Uachtarán Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Nicky Brennan.

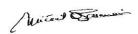
It gives me great pleasure to welcome you here today to this tremendous venue at Croke Park for the third consecutive year for our Ulster Minor & Senior Football Championship Finals. We extend a special welcome to new Uachtarán Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, Nicky Brennan.

We congratulate Armagh, Antrim and Donegal on reaching today's deciders and wish them luck on the day. Hopefully we will have two great games fitting for the unique occasion that is the Ulster Final. Today is the tenth game in our senior championship which once again, highlights the intense competitiveness within our province.

On behalf of Comhairle Uladh, I would like to thank all those people who have facilitated our games throughout the year. I make special mention of our stewards and gatemen who continue to make a major contribution on match days. To all the officials who have overseen the events on the playing field throughout this year's campaign, thank you for your time and effort.

We welcome the Cumann na mBunscol players who get this opportunity to display their talents in front of a large audience. We hope that they enjoy the occasion and they may even return in future years with their county minors or seniors. Finally, as this is my third and last year as Uachtarán, may I take this opportunity to wish all patrons an enjoyable and memorable day.

Le gach dea ghui. Is mise le meas





Presidential Milestones

Involved in 3 USFC Finals as a player (1967, '68, '69) – Won 2

Involved in 3 USFC Finals as a selector (1976, '78, '83)

Involved in 3 USFC Finals as a referee (1985, '86, '89)

Today will see him present the Anglo - Celt for the third consecutive year as President.

Clar An Lae

Aontroim v Dún na nGall Minors

- 12.13 Aontroim amach ar an bPáirc
- **12.16 Dún na nGall** amach ar an bPáirc
- 12.30 Tús an Cluiche:

 Aontroim v Dún na nGall
- 13.00 Half Time
- 13.10 Start of Second Half
- 13.42 End of Minor Game
- 13.44 Presentation of Corn Péil na Mionúr to Captain of winning team by Tomas O Dalaigh, Leas Uachtarán, Comhairle Uladh

St Michael's CBS Band

Ard Mhacha v Dún na nGall Seniors

- **13.57 Ard Mhácha** amach ar an bPáirc
- **14.00 Dún na nGall** amach ar an bPáirc
- 14.07 Paráid
- 14.13 Amhrán na bhFiann
- 14.15 Tús an Cluiche:

Ard Mhacha v Dún na nGall

- 14.50 Half time Cumann na mBunscol
- 15.05 Start of Second Half
- 15.44 End of Senior Game
- 15.44 Presentation of Corn Anglo Celt to Captain of winning team by Miceál O Grianain, Uachtarán, Comhairle Uladh

Amhrán na bhFiann

Curfá:

Sinne Fianna Fáil
A tá fé gheall ag Éirinn,
buion dár slua
Thar toinn do ráinig chugainn,
Fé mhóid bheith saor.
Sean tír ár sinsir feasta
Ní fhagfar fé'n tiorán ná fé'n tráil
Anocht a théam sa bhearna bhaoil,

Le gean as Chaoil chun háis ná saoi

Le gean ar Ghaeil chun báis nó saoil

Le guna screach fé lámhach na bpiléar Seo libh canaídh Amhrán na bhFiann.





Bank of Ireland Foreword

Colm McKenna, Head of Marketing Bank of Ireland, Northern Ireland

On behalf of Bank of Ireland, I would like to welcome you to Croke Park today for what is expected to be a thrilling 2006 Bank of Ireland Ulster Final.

Both teams have emerged as finalists from what has been an exciting and action-packed Ulster Provincial Football Championship campaign. After overcoming Fermanagh in their semi final replay, Armagh will now be eager to complete their first ever three successive Ulster titles in a row, having won in 2004 and 2005.

However, they will have a challenging afternoon ahead of

them today, as a youthful Donegal side, who showed impressive form against Derry, will be equally as determined to improve on their last Bank of Ireland Ulster Final meeting with Armagh in 2004. Under the guidance of new manager Brian McIver, they will be looking to recapture the Anglo Celt Cup for their first Ulster title since 1992.

Now in its thirteenth year, Bank of Ireland are delighted to be sponsors of the key sporting event in Ireland that is the Bank of Ireland Football Championship.

Finally, I would like to wish both Donegal and Armagh the best of luck today and look forward to



what promises to be an afternoon of great football.

Cluiche Ceannais Peil Uladh 2006

Bank of Ireland
Football Championship



ESB Foreword

Padraig McManus, Chief Executive ESB

On behalf of ESB, I would like to welcome you all to the ESB Ulster Minor Football Final. The Minor championship is a key indicator to the future state of the GAA. I expect both Antrim and Donegal to provide a great game of football today.

ESB is proud to be linked with the GAA through our sponsorship of the ESB All-Ireland Minor Championships; both our organisations have developed alongside each other over the past decades. ESB and the GAA Junior Championships were both founded in the late 1920's, so it could be said that they both grew up together. Our sponsorship of the Minor Championships marks a coming of age for the competitions. This partnership is, I believe, the most natural liaison between business and sport in Ireland. It is appropriate that two of the oldest and largest institutions in Ireland join forces.

ESB's sponsorship of the All-Ireland Minor Football Championship has a sound commercial basis too, as the energy market in Ireland moves to an All Island basis we in ESB see support of sports with a national footprint as a key component to the development of the sport and of ESB.



I wish the best of luck to both teams in today's final and hope that they and all of you enjoy a magnificent game of minor football.





Comhairle Madh

EIDRE

Are registered to use the Protection of Children Service

We safeguard and promote the interests and well-being of all those under 18 years of age who are involved in our activities.

Club Officials must take:

The Child Protection Awareness Workshops for Administrators
(Your County Child Protection Co-ordinator will arrange)

'Club Coaches must be Qualified' Are you?

Coaching Courses are Available.

(Your County Coaching Officer will arrange)

6300 Coaches & 360 Administrators have taken the C.P.A. Workshops to date

We Abide by the Code of Best Practice for Youth Sport

Our aim is to make Gaelic Games More Fun for Young People

We Discourage the use of Alcohol/Drugs/Tobacco

Ulster Designated Officer – Danny Murphy
Ulster Children's Officer - Catherine Corrigan
Contact Number - (028/048) 3752 1900



















The Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Childrens' Sport in Ireland





Teams & Scorers

Ulster Minor Championship 2006

Down

G Joyce

7th May: Cavan 1-16 Down 1-13 Casement Park

Ref: Stephen McNamee (Tyrone)

Cavan I McEvoy N O'Reilly T Smith D O'Reilly McEnroe 0-1 D O'Dowd **B** Watters **R** Dunne R Cullivan 0-2 Colm Smith 0-3 P Brady 0-1

E Keating 0-3

E McHugh 1-1

E Gaffney 0-1

M Dunne 0-1

Subs:

Conor Smith 0-1 Subs: K Sheridan 0-2 S Murdock M Magee

M Digney A Sloan C O'Hagan G McCartan C'Murney F Doyle 0-1 P Fitzpatrick 0-2 L Toner J O'Reilly N Mulholland 0-1 S Grant 0-1 C Maginn 0-1 S Kelly 0-1 P McComiskey 1-6 T Hanna C Killen M McCartan

14th May: Armagh 0-10 Monaghan 1-6 @ Clones Ref: Leo Smyth (Down)

Armagh: P Rogers S Finnegan K Toner **D** Rowland D McKenna 0-1 A Conlon P McKeown S Harold 0-3 N Treanor B Magee G McGarvey 0-1 S Clarke 0-1 C Watters 0-1 S Forker 0-2 K Carragher 0-1 Subs: C Casey

M McÁllister J Donnelly

Monaghan: E McArdle C Galligan C Greenan D Duffy P Lambe N McAdam P Ward **S Markey** M McKenna J Turley 0-1 D Bishop 0-2 P Donaghy J Brady 0-1 M McDevitt 0-1 M McElroy 1-1 Subs:

D Fanning

Antrim: Damien Lynch **Patrick Lowe Gerard Crossey** Darren Harbinson Daniel Hanna **Justin Crozier** Aidan Gribbon 0-1 **Gerard McCann** Sean Burke Kevin McBride Conor Murray 0-2 Tony Alwell Conor McGourty 0-4

Aaron Thompson 0-1 Dermot McCann

@ Clones

11th June: Antrim 2-8 Armagh 2-7

21st May: Antrim 0-09 Fermanagh 0-08 @ Enniskillen Ref: Robbie O'Donnell (Donegal)

Sean O'Neill 0-1 **David Cummings** Subs:

Barry Mulrone Sean Reilly **Paul Cosgrove** Anthony McGuinness Josh McDermott Pat Grue Daryl Keenan 0-3 Lee McQuaid, Cathal Beacom 0-5 Paul McCusker

Fermanagh:

James McGrath

Niall McGovern

Eugene Maguire

Eamon McHugh

Eoin Donnelly

27th May: Donegal 0-12 Cavan 0-6 Enniskillen

Ref: Darren McQuillan (Monaghan)

Cavan:

J McEvoy

Donegal: L McFadden **B** Shovlin S Boyle M McGowan P McGinley 0-1 L McLoone 0-1 D Walsh **R** Wherity A Lynch E Wade 0-1 M Murphy 0-3 M McElhinney D Molloy 0-1 D Gallagher 0-3 G Ward 0-1 Subs:

N O'Reilly T Smith D O'Reilly J McEnroe D O'Dowd **B** Watters R Dunne R Cullivan 0-1 C Smith 0-1 P Brady E Keating 0-1 E McHugh 0-1 C Smith E Gaffney 0-1 Subs: D Gavigan M Dunne 0-1 D McGarvey 0-1 **S Higgins B** Faherty M Cunningham 28th May: Tyrone 1-10 Derry 0-10 @ Omagh

Ref: Gregory Walsh (Antrim)

Tyrone: M O'Neill A Girvan **G** Haughey R McNabb C McRory D McDermott 1-0 S McNally 0-1 N Loughran R McKenna P McNeice B Toner 0-3 C McMahon G Devlin 0-6 T O'Hagan J McAnulla Subs: D McNulty M McKenna

Derry: T Mallon **B** Henry E Hegarty D McBride D Mulholland D O'Neill E Greene 0-1 J Monaghan 0-1 R O'Kane **B** Gormley S Barton | Kielt 0-2 N McNicholl 0-3 A Campbell J McNicholl 0-3 Subs: S Dodds C McKenna

A Heron

Ref: Gerry McCarron (Monaghan) Antrim: D Lynch P Lowe G Crossey **D** Harbinson D Hanna I Crozier A Gribbon G McCann S Burke C McGourty 1-6 C Murray 0-1 T Aidwell D McCann S O'Neill A Thompson 1-1 Subs: M Sweeney

B Neeson

K McBride

Armagh: **P** Rogers S Finnegan **K** Toner P McKeown D Rowland A Conlon M McCoy **G** McGarvey S Harold **B** Magee C Watters 0-1 K Carragher 1-3

M Cullen N Treanor M McAllister 1-0 Subs: **R Kelly S** Clarke **F** Hanratty







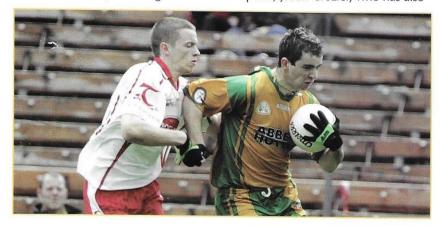
Minor Preview

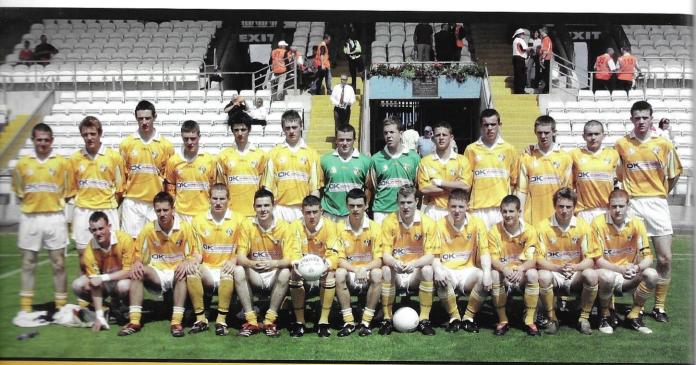
Stiofan O Donnaile, Comhairle Uladh

Today, Antrim and Donegal meet in the Ulster Minor Football Championship final for the first time ever. Antrim have collected **8 Ulster Minor Championships** with 1982 being their most recent, while Donegal have collected 4, with their last success being ten years ago, in 1996. Antrim actually reached the minor deciders in 1997 and 1998, but lost out to Tyrone on both occasions. The following year, 1999, Donegal lost to Down after a replay. 2006 has provided a new batch of players from both counties, and while Donegal collected the league title and thus, were fancied to be strong contenders, Antrim have been the surprise packets of this year's Championship.

Antrim manager Seamus O'Prey must surely be delighted with the progress of his side in this year's competition. Antrim secured their first win in this minor grade since 1998, when they defeated Fermanagh by 0-9 to 0-8, at Brewster Park on 21st May. In their Semi Final meeting with Armagh, Antrim again emerged victorious by the bare minimum, as they collected a 2-9 to 2-8 win. This victory was backboned by a virtuoso performance by Conor McGourty, who notched 1-6, including a late

winner. McGourty has been in outstanding form all year for his club, St Galls, his school, De La Salle Secondary, Antrim minor hurlers and, of course, Antrim minor footballers. In fact, he has already collected three Ulster medals this year, with the above teams, and he will be aiming to make that four today! Antrim can again look to the likes of team captain, Justin Crozier, who has also







Minor Preview

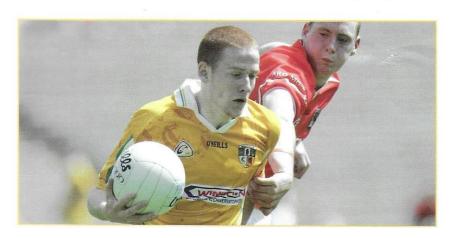
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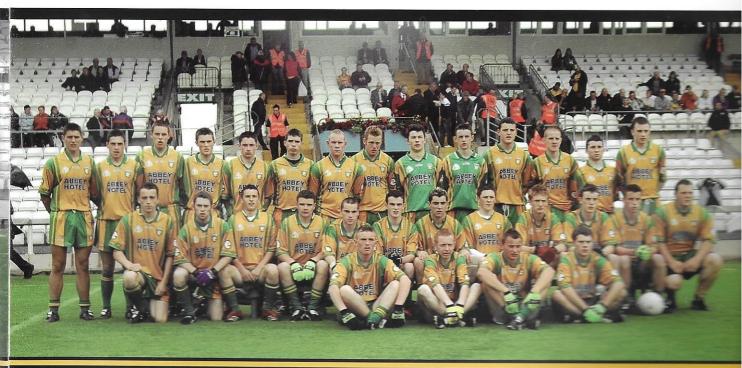
had a tremendous campaign to date, half back Aidan Gribbon, Gerard McCann at midfield and Conor Murray in attack. After collecting the Ulster Minor League title, Donegal faced the difficult task posed by Cavan in the Quarter Final. Donegal overcame this with considerable ease as they recorded a 0-12 to 0-6 over the Breffni men, at Brewster Park. In

their Semi Final meeting with Tyrone, Donegal staged a late rally to run out 0-11 to 1-5 winners, after trailing by three points with fifteen minutes to go. In the first half, Donegal seemed to be lacking punch up front, and manager Sean Clerkin made a vital change. Dualtach Molloy entered the fray and emerged as the Donegal hero, as he notched up four points.

Michael Murphy showed some good touches including a vital 45m kick that he converted in the closing stages. Paul McGinley at wing half back and Martin McElhinney at half forward have also been impressive in this year's competition.

As the Minor Championship concludes, all counties can be proud of their contribution and many may feel that they could have reached today's decider. Once again, the 'curtain raisers' gave us a tremendous insight into the future of Ulster football, with no shortage of skill, determination and passion. Minors can often be unpredictable, but one thing is sure today, in that a new name will go on the Fr Murray Cup this year. Antrim are aiming to bridge a gap of 24 years, while Donegal are looking for their first success since 1996. Good luck to all involved and may the best team win!











Fir Ionaid/Substitutes: 16. Francis Neeson, Naomh Muiri 17. Conor Mc Auley, Mhic Uilín 18. Kevin Mc Bride, Naomh Séamas
19. Dermott McCann, Na Cicéaimí 20. Mark Cullen, Lámh Dhearg 21. David McElhome, Clann na hÉireann

22. David Cummings, Naomh Gall 23. Brian Neeson, Naomh Eoin 24. Jim Donnelly, Gort Na Móna

Cúil Cúilini Seachaí 45 Saor Ciceanna

1ADH LEATH
2ADH LEATH
1CHLÁN









Fír Ionaid/Substitutes: 16. Declan O Donnell, Carn Domhnaigh 17. Barry Shovlin, Cill Chartha 18. Aidan Lynch 19. Declan Mc Garvey, Cloch Cheann Fhaola 20. Declan Gavigan, Ard an Rátha 21. James Carroll, Casco Donald 22. Ciaran Geaney, Cloch Cheann Fhaola 23. Daniel Green, Malainn 24. Paul White, Bun an Process

	Cúil	Cúilini	Seachaí	45	Saor	Сісваппа
1ADH LEATH						
2ADH LEATH						
IOMLÁN						



Jordanstown

Taking Ulster Football to the Third Level

It is generally recognised that the emergence of the University of Ulster as a strong football force in the late eighties was one of the catalysts in the renaissance of Ulster senior football. The correlation between Sigerson and Senior success is irrefutable, just look at the Jordanstown Sigerson winners on the Down, Donegal, Derry, Armagh and Tyrone sides.

The University of Ulster's Jordanstown GFC is aiming to launch a major new sports scholarship scheme in September.

You Can Help

Such a scheme is only possible with financial assistance from the commercial businesses, past members, sponsors and GAA supporters.

If you or your company would like to help "Sponsor a Student" then please contact Paul Rouse, UU GAA Development Officer at 028 90366960 or e-mail: prouse@ulster.gaa.ie

Any help will be appreciated

Past Members

We are planning a Golf classic in the autumn and a major reunion in Feb 2007 to coincide with hosting the Sigerson Cup in Belfast and the 21st anniversary of the 1986/87 Jordanstown Sigerson/Ryan Cup and Fresher treble.

Past members please register online at www.uujgaelic.com. Through the new enhanced website all past members will receive frequent newsletters and information via e-mail and mobile text messages. Jordanstown "Friends for Life".

Refereeing Matters in 2006

Fr Seamus Gardiner, Spokesman for Referees

Below, I have outlined a number of key areas where work is ongoing for the development of referees, throughout the country.

Red card: Sending off offences
Let me say at the outset that I
know no referee who wants to send
off a player. In practice the criticism
might be made that they err on the
side of leniency. Commentators and
Analysts sometimes comment on a
sending-off as harsh and there was no
"malice" involved. In the rules that
referees are expected to implement
the word "malice" never occurs.

All of us have the luxury of debating the pros and cons of a particular offence. Watching TV we can view it a number of times. The referee has no such luxury - on the spot decision on the basis of the view he has of the incident.

On-going education of referees
During the championships intercounty referees meet once a month
to review the games to date and to
see if any trends need to be corrected.
This year the Referees' Committee
are trying to have one main theme
for each seminar. The June seminar
concentrated mainly on Umpiring
performances and the July seminar
will focus on Noting and Yellow-Card
offences.

The mood at the seminars is usually very positive, very supportive as it can be a humbling experience to see one's mistakes highlighted before one's peers. Sometimes the allegation is made that after one of these seminars a specific rule is highlighted and referees change what they have been doing since the beginning of the championship and managers and players are not informed of a change in direction. At the beginning of the

championships, referees are told to implement all the rules and they will be assessed accordingly.

If it emerges from actual assessments in the previous month that certain fouls are not being penalised then these are highlighted. But they are still told to implement all the rules.

Comhairle Uladh Initiative Comhairle Uladh has been working with the Ulster referees for the last year and a half to help raise their fitness levels. Using the Global Positioning Technology, a small box has been placed on the referees shoulder allowing him to be tracked all over the pitch. In fact this was also used to monitor Mick Monahan in last year's All-Ireland final. The information recorded gives an indication of how far the referee has travelled in a game, at what speeds they have travelled in different speed zones and what their heart rate was at different stages of

Just as for players, dehydration is a huge factor and can effect the referee's decision-making especially towards the end of a game.

the game.

A detailed advice sheet on nutritional issues has been issued to help referees prepare for games, e.g. what a referee needs to drink every day and particularly before games and on the day of the game. Advice is given also on meals, quantity and times on days of matches.

Comhairle Uladh has also created an Ulster Referees' Academy and will give twelve young referees an opportunity to prepare as players do. It's an exciting development and one which will undoubtedly help refereeing in general in the future.





15

Looking to the Future

Ulster Council Open Day, Diarmaid Marsden, RDO

The Ulster Council GAA recently held a very successful Open Day on Wednesday 28th June, in the Armagh City Hotel. Around 150 invited guests attended this unique event to witness at first hand the many projects and initiatives that the Ulster Council GAA is currently involved in and the projects that it intends to roll out over the next few years.

Miceál Greenan, Uachtarán Comhairle Uladh, opened the proceedings with a welcome to the audience, that included representatives from Government Departments and Agencies, Local Councils and Sponsors as well as representatives from all aspects and codes of our Gaelic Games.

The focus of all the presentations was on moving forward. Danny Murphy, Runai Comhairle Uladh, spoke of "treating yesterday as history and using today to plan for the future tomorrow". The importance of the GAA in the community was also summed up by Danny as he suggested that "it is all about people, people feeling important and feeling important to be part of what we are about". In his address Danny also spoke of the important role the GAA can play in welcoming the "New Irish - the immigrant community" into our culture and society.

The Ulster Council GAA is currently undergoing a process of modernisation and has developed a number of strategic priorities.

As part of the new strategic plan (Beir Bua Nua 2006-2010) a significant number of new staff have been appointed to the Ulster Council. Dr Eugene Young, Director of Coaching

and Games Development highlighted the work ongoing in the province and introduced the new staff, their roles and in particular the specific projects they will be involved in

An example of one of these projects was detailed in an informative presentation by Aileen Tohill on Health and Wellness. Aileen spoke of the Ulster Councils' plans to hold information evenings for our members on topics such as active lifestyles, diet, smoking, cancer, heart disease and alcohol/drug abuse.

Two short presentations on the impact of the GAA at club level were delivered by Barry O'Hagan (Derry City Council) and Mark Conway (Venturei Networks). Barry touched on the issues affecting clubs in an urban environment while Mark spoke about our rural clubs and

experiences from his own club. Kildress. The final presentation of the afternoon, entitled "Moving Forward Together" was delivered by the Ulster Councils' Operations Manager, Stephen McGeehan. The audience was given an overview of the Ulster Councils' plans for the next 5 years focusing on developing places, people and co-operation in the GAAs' ever increasing role as a cross border organisation promoting Gaelic Games. Stephen outlined the opportunities for Government Departments, Agencies, Local Councils, Health Boards etc, to work with the Ulster Council in the future.

This very successful day concluded with a question and answer session, where the audience had an opportunity to ask questions or seek clarification on the plans outlined by the Ulster Council GAA.







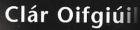
Comhairle Ul Cluiche Ceannais Pei

Ard Mhacha v Dún na nGall at Páirc an Chrócaigh, Bail 9u Iúil 2006 at 2.15pm

Lairdesign

THE TEAM BEHIND THIS SEASON'S PROGRAMMES

> PROUD TO BE DESIGNERS TO THE ULSTER COUNCIL +44 (0) 28 8225 2495





D. O'Mercho



Bank of Ireland Football Championship



ZZURRÍ

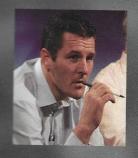


ARD MHACHA V DÚN NA NGALL

Armagh V Donegal at Croke Park 9th July, 2006

Live on BBC TWO

Catch match highlights on The Championship Monday, I 0th July at 7pm on BBC TWO









Listen live on Sunday Sportsound on 1341MW
Text 81771

Tune in for post-game analysis on The Big Sunday from 6.15pm 92-95FM

bbc.co.uk/ni/championship

Moving Forward Together

Tom Daly, Provincial Integration Chairman

The integration process has begun at National and Provincial level and over the next few months Gaels across Ulster will begin to understand more about the development and what it means for them.

As the term 'integration' suggests, the process is about bringing things together – and in relation to Gaelic Games, this means combining the talent, resources and thinking from those involved in the running of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael, Cumann Peil Gael na mBan, the Handball association and the Rounders association to best develop all aspects of Gaelic Games and Culture.

Since 2002, a National Integration Task Force, comprised of the Presidents and Chief Executives of the GAA, Camogie and Ladies Gaelic Associations, has been looking at ways of increasing co-operation

between the three codes. Following the completion of a pilot programme across 8 counties nationwide, things are now gathering speed.

The Integration
Task Force has
recommended that
closer co-operation
occurs at Provincial
and County level,
while a united
and integrated
approach takes
place at Club
level.

For Clubs this means that one management committee - made up of members of all codes within the club, takes charge of all aspects of Gaelic Games within the community. Many GAA clubs across Ulster are already integrated while others have ladies codes attached to them. A phased and structured approach over the next two years will formalise these arrangements and ensure that all clubs are integrated fully. The aim is that by uniting at Club level, there will be greater efficiency in running the Club in terms of sharing facilities, fund raising, youth and Club development.

An Integration Sub-Committee at County level will create opportunities for co-operation at this level for developing all Gaelic Games. County Integration officers from the GAA, Ladies Gaelic and Camogie have now been appointed at County level and the County Integration Committees.

Provincially, the Ulster Council GAA have appointed two Development Managers to liaise with both the Camogie and Ladies Gaelic and carry the process forward in consultation with representatives of the Ulster Councils of the five Associations.

An Ulster Integration Committee has been established to give a forum for discussion between the bodies in such areas as fixtures, facilities, coaching, strategic planning and games development and it is hoped that this committee will hold its first meeting before September.

Already the Ulster Council has had two double headers with both Camogie and Ladies Gaelic Football respectively with the Ulster Junior Camogie Final - Derry v Down being played before the Donegal and Down Senior Championship quarter final in Ballybofey. The Ladies

played the Armagh v Donegal senior quarter final before the Donegal and Fermanagh Ulster Semi-Final replay in Clones. It is hoped that the Ulster Council will increase the number of double headers for Camogie and Ladies Gaelic in both next years Hurling and Football championship.

The Ulster Council's Coaching Programme will again take an integrated approach this winter with the inclusion of Camogie and Ladies Football courses alongside those applicable to all codes. The first Elite Summer Camp for the top U16 Camogs and Ladies Footballers will take place in August, following the format of the Hurling and Football one. The Club Development Programme will support and assist Clubs through the Integration process and there will be specific Women's and Men's Health Awareness nights from









Memories of Croke Park

Brian Carthy, R.T.É. Gaelic Games Correspondent and Commentator

It is now over forty years since I first heard Croke Park spoken about and little did I realise back then how significant a role the internationally renowned venue on Jones' Road would play in my life.

That introduction took place one night in our home when my father and a few of the neighbours started discussing the deeds of the Roscommon team of the forties and their legendary captain, Jimmy Murray. That conversation, some time in the early sixties, introduced me to the wonderful world of Gaelic football and hurling and to the G.A.A.'s most celebrated venue.

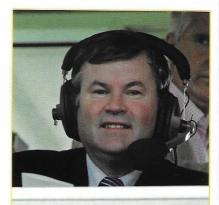
As far as Jimmy Tiernan, Johnny Walsh, Packie Sweeney, Mick McLoughlin and my father were concerned, Croke Park was the 'Peoples Park'. It was the place where footballers and hurlers from little scattered villages and towns around the country attained legendary status for their sporting exploits and where joy and heartbreak were experienced in equal measure. Furthermore, Croke Park was the place where one of their very own, a near neighbour and friend, Dr. Hugh Gibbons had made his name on All-Ireland Final day in 1944.

Through my work with R.T.É. Sport over the past twenty-two years, I have witnessed first hand, up close, the uninhibited joy felt by a player at the realisation that his ambition of winning an All-Ireland medal had been achieved. And I have observed, too, at close quarters that awful pain experienced by players who finish up on the losing side on All-Ireland Final Sunday. I will never forget the delight on Clare captain Anthony Daly's face in 1995 when he led the Banner County to their first All-Ireland senior hurling title in eighty-one years. Contrast that with the heartbreak

felt by Limerick forward Gary Kirby, who agonisingly finished up on the losing teams in the All-Ireland Finals of 1994 and 1996 and all the others like him, since Croke Park first opened its gates. As R.T.É. Gaelic Games Correspondent and commentator, I set out at all times to be as fair minded and impartial as I possibly can be, but like everyone else, I like to see new counties emerge as Armagh did in 2002. The sight of inspirational captain Kieran McGeeney sinking to his knees at the final whistle is a memory that Armagh followers will cherish forever.

The 'Voice of Gaelic Games', Micheál O'Hehir, through his vibrant living commentaries, constantly provided his radio listeners with a most vivid and colourful description of Croke Park. Someone once said that there are more pictures on radio. How true! Even before I was lucky enough to make it through the turnstiles, I felt I knew every nook and cranny of the 'Peoples Park'. Micheál O'Hehir saw to that! Eventually, I got to Croke Park in the early sixties. Just as a spectator. My greatest desire would have been to play there but happy days in gentle places like the Orchard Park in Elphin or Coman's Park in Roscommon town was more at pace with my own football and hurling talents.

Yet, I am privileged to be doing the next best thing in my role as Gaelic Games commentator with R.T.É. Radio Sport and for me any day in Croke Park is a day well spent. Today's Ulster Football Final between Armagh and Donegal is the third successive year that the Northern Province's showpiece has been played in Croke Park. This clearly underlines the standing of the Ulster final and is further evidence of the success the counties from the province have enjoyed in recent years at national



level, most notably through the exploits of Tyrone and Armagh.

But who will ever forget the All-Ireland breakthrough of Brian McEniff's Donegal in 1992 and Eamon Coleman's Derry the following year? And lest we forget, highly impressive Down teams claimed All-Ireland honours in 1991 and 1994 with Pete McGrath as manager.

And what about Peter Canavan's exploits in the 1995 All-Ireland Final against Dublin? Canavan scored eleven points but still ended up on the losing side. But thoughts of 1995 were far from Canavan's mind when he captained Tyrone to win their first ever All-Ireland senior title on the last Sunday in September 2003. Tyrone, again under the management of Mickey Harte, won the All-Ireland Final last year, captained this time by the inspirational Brian Dooher. Those are just a small flavour of the magical moments that have lit up Croke Park through the decades. Hopefully we can look forward to many more wonderful games in what is now a multi-million Euro, state of the art stadium, which is the pride of G.A.A. followers everywhere and can justifiably be compared to the very best in the world.





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A Word in Your Ear

Micheal McGeary, Sunday Life

The meeting of old adversaries Armagh and Donegal this afternoon revives a host of golden memories. From an Armagh perspective it's difficult to look beyond the summer of 1999 and the championship clash between these great old rivals in Ballybofey.

The Orchard county then managed by the two Brians, McAlinden and Canavan appeared to be heading for an inglorious championship exit when they found themselves two goals and a point in arrears after only seven minutes, John Duffy and Tony Boyle finding the Armagh net. The visitors though showing great resilience and character rallied to such an extent that it was the home side who had to come from behind with a late Michael Hegarty point to force a replay.

With Diarmaid Marsden an increasingly influential figure Armagh won the replay by five points - a first tentative step on route to lifing the Anglo Celt trophy for the first time in 17 years.

More recently Armagh under the stewardship of Joe Kernan accounted for Brian McEniff's side in the first Ulster final to be played in Croke Park on Sunday July 11, 2004. It's doubtful if an Armagh side has ever played as well before or since for on that warm, glorious summer afternoon few teams in the country could have lived with them.

A Diarmaid Marsden goal enabled them to lead 1-9 to 0-4 at half time before further goals on the restart from Paddy McKeever and Oisin McConville wrapped it all up. But within a matter of weeks the Orchard County men were left licking their wounds after being sensationally beaten by Fermanagh in the All-

Ireland Quarter-Final, the same afternoon that Tyrone crashed out to a Kieran McDonald inspired Mayo.

Now after one of the most enjoyable Ulster Championships of recent times, the two best sides in the province go head to head with the Anglo Celt trophy the prize at stake. Donegal have been a delight this season. Under the discerning eye of manager Brian McIver they have been transformed from a bunch of no hopers to a team with genuine championship credentials.

McIver, a modest, good humoured man with an impressive footballing CV had the courage to take on the Donegal job when wiser men were running for cover. His arrival went a long way towards concentrating the minds of the Donegal players. He has never suffered fools gladly and he wasn't about to change. He was as good as his word in that every player in the county was given a chance to impress. He secured promotion from the Allianz League Division Two while at the same time mixing and matching in a bid to come up with a winning formula.

The players trusted him implicitly and together they have emerged as a team with genuine championship



credentials, a team that has enhanced the Ulster Championship with its freshness and vitality. They are the new kids on the block, young men determined to drag Donegal football back into the sport's mainstream affording it the opportunity to make the headlines for all the right reasons.

It all makes for an intriguing confrontation. McIver's young pretenders against Joe Kernan's hardened warriors who have dominated the Ulster scene for the greater part of the last decade. It's a pairing that would grace any final and totally fitting that it should go ahead at one of Europe's finest stadiums.











Paul McGrane
Age - 31 Height - 6' 2"
Weight - 13st Occupation - Accountant

To captain any team is a great honour, but to be selected as captain of your county senior team is a tremendous privilege. I also believe this is a great honour for my family and club so I only hope I can carry out my role to the best of my ability thus giving the position the respect it richly deserves.

The sense of pride that I feel to be associated with such a dedicated panel of players is immense and will remain with me for years to come.

I wish to take this opportunity to pay tribute and thanks to our team manager Joe Kernan, assistant

manager Paul Grimley and team trainer John McCloskey, for the outstanding professionalism they have shown in preparing us not only for today's final but indeed each and every game we play.

My thanks also to the "back up team", County Board, and team sponsor Hugh Morgan, who have played important roles in Armagh's success in recent years. Finally, to the game itself I hope that ourselves and Donegal will produce a spectacle that shows all that is good in Gaelic Football, thus doing justice to such a spectacular setting as Croke Park.

Francie Bellew Age - 30 Height - 5' 11" Weight - 13.5st Occupation - Electrician



Ronan Clarke Age - 23 Height - 6′ 3″ Weight - 13.5st Occupation - Student





J P Donnelly Age - 27 Height - 5' 11" Weight - 12.5st Occupation -Machine Operator



Paul Duffy Age - 22 Height - 5' 9" Weight - 12.5st Occupation - Sign Maker



Paul Hearty Age - 28 Height - 6' 4" Weight - 16st Occupation - Electrician

Paul Keenan Age - 21 Height - 6′ 3″ Weight - 14st Occupation - Student



Aaron Kernan Age - 22 Height - 6' Weight - 13st Occupation - Estate Agent



Stephen Kernan Age - 23 Height - 5′ 11″ Weight - 13st Occupation - Mortgage Broker





Philip Loughran Age - 25 Height - 6' 4" Weight - 14st Occupation -Civil Engineer



Oisin McConville Age - 29 Height - 6' 1" Weight - 12.5st Occupation - Builder



Paul McCormack
Age - 26
Height - 5' 11"
Weight - 12.5st
Occupation - Teacher





Steven McDonnell
Age - 26
Height - 5' 11"
Weight - 12.5st
Occupation - Framer



John McEntee
Age - 28
Height - 6'
Weight - 14st
Occupation Occupational Therapist



Tony McEntee Age - 28 Height - 6' Weight - 14st Occupation - Cardiac Officer



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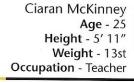
Kieran McGeeney Age - 34 Height - 6' Weight - 14st Occupation -Sports Officer



Ciaran McKeever Age - 22 Height - 6' 1" Weight - 13.5st Occupation - Bricklayer



Patrick McKeever-Age - 26 Height - 5' 11" Weight - 13.5st Occupation -Sales Consultant





Enda McNulty
Age - 29
Height - 5' 10"
Weight - 10.5st
Occupation - Sports
Consultant



Malachy Mackin Age - 22 Height - 6′ 2″ Weight - 14.5st Occupation - Student





Andy Mallon Age - 23 Height - 6' 1" Weight - 11st Occupation - Electrician



Brian Mallon Age - 22 Height - 5′ 9″ Weight - 13st Occupation - Student



Finnian Moriarty Age - 22 Height - 6' Weight - 13st Occupation - Student

Liam O'Hare
Age - 24
Height - 5' 10"
Weight - 12.5st
Occupation - Teacher



Aidan O'Rourke Age - 29 Height - 5' 11" Weight - 14st Occupation sportingvisons.com



Martin O' Rourke Age - 26 Height - 5' 10" Weight - 13.5st Occupation - Teacher





Gareth Swift Age - 21 Height - 6' 2" Weight - 13st Occupation - Bricklayer



Peadar Toal Age - 21 Height - 6' Weight - 12.5st Occupation - Tiler



Charlie Vernon Age - 19 Height - 6' Weight - 14st Occupation - Student



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- Fir Ionaid/Substitutes: 16. Alan Hearty, Raonaithe Na Croise 17. JP Donnelly, Na Clairsigh Ard Mhacha
- 18. Paul Keenan, Naomh Pádraig Carraig Chropain 19. Stephen Kernan, Raonaithe Na Croise
- Paul McCormack, Michael Mac Dubhuir An Ceide 21 Philip Loughran, Sheálin Sabhat Cloidigh
- 22 Paddy McKeever, Na Daibhidigh Baile Ui hAgáin 23. Finnian Moriarty, De Bhulbh Ton Doire Mhic Cais 24. Liam O'Hare, Naomh Padraig Coilleach Eanach 25. Aidan O'Rourke, Naomh Pádraig Droim an Tí
- Einan Malon, Tir Na nOg 27. Micheal O'Rourke, Naomh Pádraig Droim an Tí 28. Peadar Toal, Na Clairsigh Ard Mhacha Careth Swift, Na Clairsigh Ard Mhacha 30. Charlie Vernon, Na Clairsigh Ard Mhacha

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Dún na nGall

Senior Lineout



Pól Ó Durcáin Paul Durcan Na Ceithre Máistrí



Pádraig Mac Cathmhaoil Paddy Campbell Naomh Conall



Niall Mac Aoidh Neil McGee Gaoth Dobhair



Barra Ó Manacháin Barry Monaghan Na Ceithre Máistrí



Barra Ó Dúinín Barry Dunnion Na Ceithre Máistrí



Eamonn Mac Aoidh

Eamon McGee

Gaoth Dobhair

Niall O Gallchoir Neil Gallagher Gleann tSuili

Carl De Léis

Karl Lacey

Na Ceithre Máistrí



Breandán Ó Baoill Brendan Boyle Ard an Ratha



Criostóir Ó Tuathaigh Christy Toye (C) Naomh Micheál



Ruairí Caomhánach Rory Kavanagh Naomh Adhamhnán Mícheál Ó hÉigeartaigh Michael Hegarty Cill Chartha



Conall Ó Doinn Conall Dunne Naomh Adhamhnán Ciarán Ó Cnáimhsí Ciaran Bonner Gleann tSúilí



Adrian Mac Suibhne Adrian Sweeney An Clochan Liath

Fír Ionaid/Substitutes: 16. Michael Boyle, An Tearmann 17. Raymond Sweeney, An Clochan Liath 18. Damian Diver, And an Ratha

19. Noel Hegarty, Cill Chartha 20. Thomas Donoghue, Naomh Conall 21. Stephen McHugh, Ard an Racha 22. Frank McClynn, Cleann Fhinne

23. Stephen McDermott, Gleann Fhinne 24. Anthony Thompson, Naomh Conall 25. Colin Kelly, Cleann 5.

26. Leon Thompson, Naomh Conall 27. Martin Caulfield, Na Rossa 28. Brian Roper, Aodh Ruach 29. James Gallagher, Gaoth Dobhair

30. Michael Doherty, Na Ceithre Máistrí

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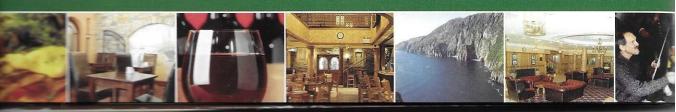
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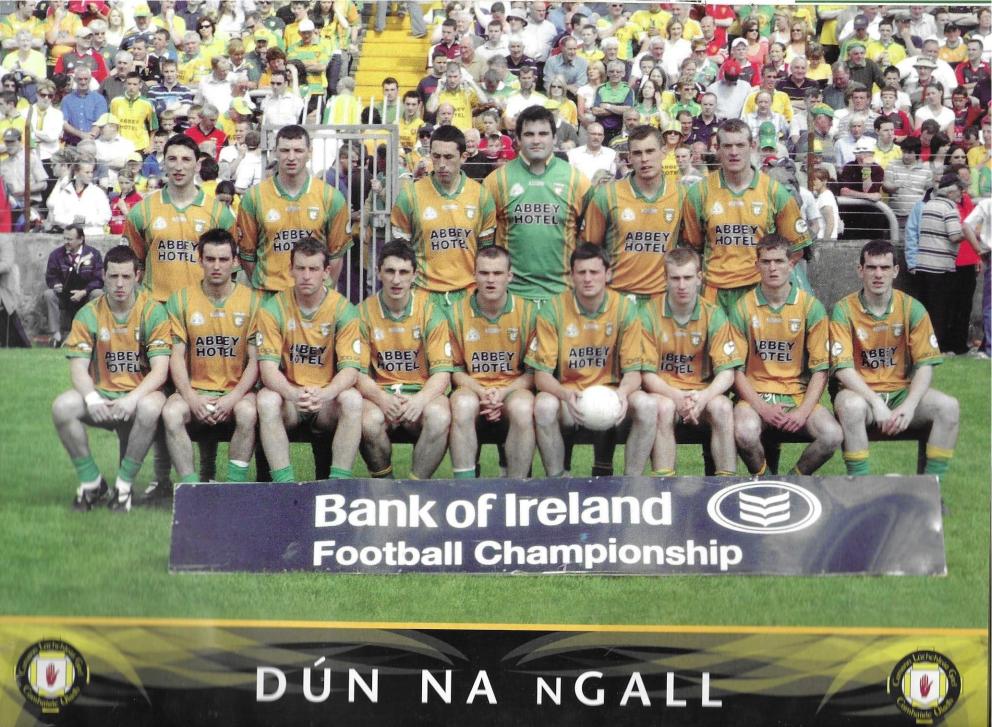
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GOOD LUCK DONEGAL FROM MANAGEMENT AND STAFF







Christy Toye
Age - 23 Height - 6' 3"
Weight - 14st Occupation - Teacher

On behalf of the Donegal Senior Football team I would like to take this opportunity to say what an honour it is to be part of an Ulster Final. We have had two good wins in the championship to date but we meet an even sterner test in the shape of Armagh today.

Our opponents record speaks for itself, they are going for their

third Ulster title in a row and they have been one of the top three teams in the country for the best part of a decade. The Donegal support has been great this year, we need more of the same today and hopefully supporters will experience the enjoyable, exciting football that both teams are capable of.

Michael Boyle Age - 18 Height - 6′ 1″ Weight - 13.7st Occupation - Student



Raymond Sweeney
Age - 28
Height - 6'
Weight - 13.7st
Occupation - Software
Engineer





Tommy Donoghue Age - 21 Height - 5' 11" Weight - 12st Occupation - Student



Paddy Campbell Age - 30 Height - 6' Weight - 14st Occupation - Engineer



Eamon McGee Age - 22 Height - 6' 2" Weight - 12st Occupation - Carpenter

Karl Lacey
Age - 21
Height - 5' 10"
Weight - 11.7st
Occupation - Sales
Merchandiser



Barry Monaghan Age - 27 Height - 6' Weight - 13.7st Occupation - Tyre Sales



Barry Dunnion Age - 23 Height - 5′ 7″ Weight - 11.7st Occupation - Sales Rep



8

Noel Hegarty
Age - 20
Height - 6'
Weight - 12.7st
Occupation - Student



Frank McGlynn Age - 19 Height - 5′ 11″ Weight - 12.7st Occupation - Student



Steven McHugh Age - 22 Height - 5' 10" Weight - 13st Occupation -Construction Worker





Neil McGee Age - 20 Height - 6' Weight - 13.7st Occupation - Student



Damian Diver Age - 31 Height - 5' 10" Weight - 12st Occupation - Shop Manager



Neil Gallagher Age - 23 Height - 6' 3" Weight - 15st Occupation - Technician



Stephen McDermott
Age - 24
Height - 6' 1"
Weight - 14st
Occupation Construction Worker



Anthony Thompson Age - 19 Height - 6' Weight - 13st Occupation - Student



Brendan Boyle Age - 24 Height - 6' 1" Weight - 14.4st Occupation -Civil Engineer

Conall Dunne Age - 23 Height - 5' 11" Weight - 13st Occupation - Accountant



Martin Caulfield Age - 26 Height - 6' Weight - 13st Occupation - Plumber



Adrian Sweeney Age - 29 Height - 5' 10" Weight - 13.7st Occupation - Plumber





Michael Hegarty Age - 27 Height - 5' 10" Weight - 12st Occupation - Sales Rep



Leon Thompson Age - 21 Height - 5' 9" Weight - 11.7st Occupation -Alarm Installer



Paul Durcan Age - 22 Height - 6′ 5″ Weight - 17st Occupation -Quantity Surveyor

Brian Roper Age - 31 Height - 5′ 6″ Weight - 11st Occupation -Monumental Sculptor



Michael Doherty
Age - 22
Height - 6'
Weight - 12.7st
Occupation - Student



James Gallagher
Age - 29
Height - 5' 11"
Weight - 13st
Occupation - Butcher



Colin Kelly Age - 22 Height - 6' 1" Weight - 11.7st Occupation - Plasterer



Rory Kavanagh Age - 23 Height - 6' 1" Weight - 13st Occupation -Primary Teacher



Ciaran Bonner Age - 21 Height - 6' 1" Weight - 13st Occupation -Construction Worker

View from the top

Joe Kernan

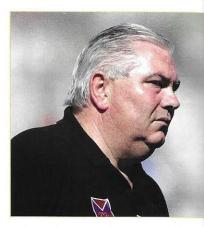
After four very competitive matches, two against Monaghan and then two meetings with Fermanagh, we now find ourselves in our fourth Ulster Final in five years - a remarkable feat in anybody's book.

Obviously to reach such standards takes a lot of time and effort from a number of people and therefore I wish to thank my assistants Paul Grimley, John McCloskey, and Brendan Tierney, the back up team of Eamon Mackle, Paddy McNamee and Paddy Og Nugent, our outstanding medical team, Eoghan O'Neill, Martin Clenaghan, Julie Davis, Eileen Mulholland, Dr Sean Digney and Dr Martin McConaghy, the County Board for their continuing support, and our sponsor Hugh Morgan. However, none of this could be achieved with out the dedication and commitment of the most important group of

people, the players, to whom we all owe a huge debt of thanks.

Despite what has been written or said about this squad in recent weeks concerning the mileage on their supposedly ageing legs, we have again this year introduced new faces into the squad which helps to keep the competitiveness that a successful team requires. So be assured complacency has not now and never will exist among the players that we have in this panel.

The fact that this will be the third meeting in four years in the Senior Final between ourselves and Donegal, and the fact that we have won the previous two will count for nothing today. Donegal have already shown the quality they have in this present panel, by firstly defeating Down and then knocking out Derry on route



to today's final and be assured Brian McIver will have left nothing to chanc in his preparations for today's clash.

The decision to stage the final once again in Croke Park I believe was the correct one as it will add to what is already a special day in the Ulster GA calendar, but even more importantly it allows more people to attend, especially families who under normal circumstances would not have had th opportunity.

Finally I wish to pay tribute and thank to the tens of thousands of fanatical supporters that have backed us all the way in recent years. All teams need encouragement and support and you have certainly provided that in abundance so we hope that we can return the favour by continuing to provide trophies and success.



Armagh Shorts

There are approximately 185,000 people living in Co Armagh

There are 55 GAA clubs in Co Armagh

Armagh won the All-Ireland Junior Football Championship in 1926

Armagh won their only All-Ireland Minor title in 1949 Armagh are aiming to become the first county to win three in a row since Down achieved this feat in 1959-1961

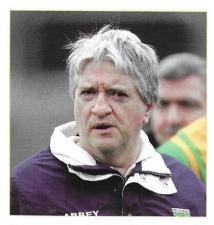
Paddy Moriarty won Armagh's first All-Star Award in 1972, while current manager Joe Kernan collected two All-Star Awards Crossmaglen Rangers
have won 3 All-Ireland
titles and have currently
won 10 Armagh Senior Football
titles in a row

Kieran McGeeney became the first Armagh captain to collect the Sam Maguire in 2002.



View from the top

Brian McIver



For everyone involved in Gaelic Football in Ulster, the Ulster Final is always a very special occasion. The fact that today's final is once again being played in Croke Park is an indication of the popular appeal of Ulster football. Whether you are walking up Clones Hill or down Jones' Road there is a great thrill on Ulster Final Day.

Our opponents today, Armagh, have a great record in recent finals and we know that we are facing a very experienced and highly successful side. Kieran McGeeney, Francie Bellew, Oisin McConville, Paul McGrane and Steven McDonnell are among the most influential and highly respected footballers in Ireland over the last ten years. Armagh manager, Joe Kernan, has a fantastic record at both club and county level and I always remember

his words of advice to me before the All-Ireland Club Final of 2002. When he rang me he said "Do not let it pass you by". In the ultra competitive arena of Ulster football, it is some achievement for Joe and Armagh to have won three Ulster titles in the last four years.

For Donegal it is great to have the minor and senior teams playing today in the Ulster Final. Our Senior Team has produced some great football in the games with Down and Derry and I hope that today this trend continues. Many of our players will be making their first appearance in Croke Park and I would ask out huge support here today to get behind them. A special word today for Michael Doherty, who, misses the game through injury. We all wish him a speedy recovery and hope to see him back again on the playing field very soon.

A word of thanks to our supporters. From very early in the Down game you got behind your team and that great support continued at Clones. I have no doubt that today you will enjoy the occasion and really get behind this young team. Thanks to all the clubs for their part in preparing these players from youth right up to present. The best of luck to Sean Clerkin, his management team and the minor team today. Having won the minor league, it would be a great achievement to add the championship title as well.

Finally a word of thanks and gratitude to our selectors and backroom team. I have been very dependant on you all for your support and expertise and I hope that today your work is rewarded. To the County Board, John Molloy and Jim White, our sponsors, a special word of appreciation.



Donegal Shorts

There are approximately 137,000 people living in Co Donegal

Donegals first appearance at Croke Park was in 1923, their senior hurlers played Limerick in the All-Ireland Semi Final

Brian McEniff, collected Donegal's first All-Star award in 1972

Donegal was the last of the eight counties to win Ulster Senior Championship honours when they defeated Tyrone in the 1972 final

Donegal have won 5 Ulster Senior Football Championships, with the last success coming in 1992 Donegal collected their only Sam Maguine in 1992

Current Donegal Manager, Brian McIver, managed Ballinderry to an All-Ireland club title in 2002.





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Ulster's All Time Top Scorers

John Campbell, Belfast Telegraph

Oisin McConville demurs when talk of records is in the air. It's not that he has become blase about Armagh's successes to date - it's just that his sole focus is on the future rather than on the past.

More pertinently, he is anxious to see the orchard county achieve further triumphs even if it means his name could be absent from the scoresheet. That's hardly likely, though. Indeed, the 29-year-old sharpshooter is today poised to succeed Peter Canavan as the highest individual scorer in the history of the Ulster Championship. While it's very much an attainable goal, Oisin is preoccupied with another target - the possibility of Armagh landing what would be their sixth Ulster title in eight years.

"The team is

bigger than

any individual

and loe Kernan

long in pointing

would not be

that out.

It's flattering to be spoken about in terms of records but an Armagh victory is the real goal," maintains Oisin.

It was just prior to his retirement from top-flight football last year that Peter the Great finally eclipsed the individual scoring record that had been held by Down maestro Paddy Doherty for the best part of four decades. Doherty accumulated 204 points - goals are included as three points - for the Mourne County up until he stepped down from the top-flight arena in 1971.

Canavan's achievement, meanwhile, was highlighted in Tyrone's second All-Ireland win in three years and cemented his outstanding contribution to the Red Hands cause for over fifteen years. His 218 points meant that he had outgunned the legendary Doherty but now McConville is poised to supplant Canavan himself as the Championship's all-time hot-shot.

Doherty's scoring exploits from play and from frees underpinned Down's dominance as the real footballing force in the 60's when three All-Ireland titles

(1960/61/68)

landed in the
Mourne County.
Doherty was a key
figure in all three sides and, like
Canavan and McConville, made his
most telling input in the games that
really mattered. Yet he spent part
of his sporting career as a soccer
player in the Irish League before
joining Preston North End. On
rekindling his gaelic football career,
he quickly made up for lost time
on the scoresheet and it has to be

remembered, too, that he amassed his mammoth total when no All-Ireland qualifiers were in vogue and when a heavy, laced football was the order of the day.

Canavan eventually overhauled Doherty last year before bowing out, his winning point from a free in the All-Ireland Semi-Final against Armagh and his superb goal against Kerry in the decider being scores that are already videoed in the memory bank of thousands of followers. Now in turn he is certain to be toppled from his perch as 29-yearold McConville, five years younger than the Tyrone master craftsman, continues his relentless pursuit of scores in Armagh's ongoing guest for further glory. His own 218 points to date have included a healthy ration of match-winning efforts, a plethora of spectacular efforts and a generous measure of successful shots from the most unlikely positions.

With both Armagh and Tyrone having charted courses through the qualifiers in the recent past, both he and Canavan were afforded ample opportunity to enhance their individual scoring ratios. Now McConville, with an All-Ireland medal, a National League honour, five Ulster Championship medals and ten Armagh championship medals with Crossmaglen Rangers to his credit, is ready to re-w the scoring history books. When he succeeds in this respect - we won't even contemplate the word "if" -McConville will mount a special GAA pedestal. Yet you can b of one thing - the honour, flar satiating his competitive des merely enhance his ambition his scoring record deployer tool in being in the control of the cont





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Early Ulster Finals

Aogán O Fearghail, Cisteoir, Comhairle Uladh

Patrick Kavanagh, poet and writer, considered his fellow Inniskeen man John McEneaney as "a Rhymer". McEneaney saw himself as a poet and revelled in the local title bestowed on him as "The Bard of Callenberg".

The Bard is useful for GAA historians for he wrote a lengthy rhyme or ballad on the first ever Ulster Final. His native Inniskeen Grattans represented Monaghan in the first ever Ulster Final under GAA rules when they faced Maghera MacFinns from Cavan. The game was played in Drogheda on 19 August, 1888. Maghera arrived with the then customary 21 players but Inniskeen had only 15. Maghera agreed to play with 15 and the game ended in a draw, two points each. The replay took place on 9 September, 1888. once again in Drogheda. Inniskeen Grattans were late arriving and the referee awarded the game to Maghera MacFinns.

The Cavan men, supporters and referee were having refreshments when the Inniskeen men arrived. Cavan agreed to take the field and the game went ahead! The Cavan men were beaten on a scoreline of three points to one. The Anglo Celt reported that "refreshments had an influence on the outcome" GAA matches played on Sundays were in breach of "The Sunday Observance Act". So many games were interrupted in 1889 that the Ulster Championship was not finished that year. In 1890 the Ulster Final was contested by Armagh Harps and Cookstown Owen Roes. Played at Blaris, Lisburn, the Armagh men won the final.

Cavan Slashers won the 1891 Ulster final played at Smithboro defeating Armagh Harps. Both teams brought their own goalposts and the players erected them.

Political problems, weak organisation and state harassment all contributed to a decline in the Ulster Championship for the remainder of the decade. The Ulster Council was formed on 22 March, 1903 and from then a regular and organised championship was held. Yet, the early GAA still encountered many difficulties. By now county teams were drawn from various clubs within counties and the 1905 Final saw Cavan face Armagh. The Final was fixed by the Ulster Council for Armagh. However, as the game was fixed for Easter Sunday the GNR railway company refused to put on excursion trains from Cavan. JF O'Hanlon, vice chairman of Ulster Council and proprietor of the Anglo-Celt re-named the railway company as the "Great Northern Anti Gaelic Railway Company of West Britain".

Ulster Council President Patrick Whelan from Monaghan, went to GNR head office in London to negotiate. GNR agreed to put on a train, at the Ulster Council's expense. The game ended in a draw and the replay took place in Cavan on 28th May and once again ended in a draw, 5 points each.

The second replay took place in Newbliss on 11th June and a crowd of 7,000 attended. Cavan won the game by 8 points to 4. By breaking the Sunday Observance Act the GAA were continually harassed by police and military. Once the crowds increased, they also brought the military's interest.

At the Ulster Semi-Final played in Cootehill in 1906, Cavan beat Monaghan watched by an estimated 8,000. The pitch was surrounded by a military cordon and the riot act was read to the crowd to hoots of derision.

Early Ulster Championships were difficult. Yet the perseverance and hard work of GAA people ensured that the games survived. The foundations were well laid and upon those foundations we are still building for the future.







Ster Senior Football Finals 1888 - 2005

Roll of Honour

MS Annagh 2-8 Tyrone 0-14 Armagh 0-13 Tyrone 0-11) Both

2004 Armagh 3-15 Donegal 0-11

@ Croke Park

2003 Tyrone 1-17 Down 4-8 (R: Tyrone 0-23 Down 1-5)

Both @ Clones

2002 Armagh 1-14 Donegal 1-10

Clones

2001 Tyrone 1-13 Cavan 1-11

Clones

2000 Armagh 1-12 Derry 1-11

Clones

1999 Armagh 3-12 Down 0-10

Clones

1998 Derry 1-7 Donegal 0-8

Clones

1997 Cavan 1-14 Derry 0-16

Clones

1996 Tyrone 1-9 Down 0-9

Clones

1995 Tyrone 2-13 Cavan 0-10

Clones

1994 Down 1-17 Tyrone 1-11

Clones

1993 Derry 0-8 Donegal 0-6

Clones

1992 Donegal 0-14 Derry 1-9

Clones

1991 Down 1-15 Donegal 0-10

Clones

1990 Donegal 0-15 Armagh 0-14

Clones

1989 Tyrone 0-11 Donegal 0-11

(R: Tyrone 2-13 Donegal 0-7)

Both @ Clones

1988 Monaghan 1-10 Tyrone 0-11

Clones

1987 Derry 0-11 Armagh 0-9 Clones

1986 Tyrone 1-11 Down 0-10

Clones

1985 Monaghan 2-9 Derry 0-8

1984 Tyrone 0-15 Armagh 1-7 **@ Clones**

1983 Donegal 1-14 Cavan 1-11 @ Clones

1982 Armagh 0-10 Fermanagh 1-4

1981 Down 3-12 Armagh 1-10

Clones 1980 Armagh 4-10 Tyrone 4-7

979 Monaghan 1-15 Donegal 0-11

@ Clones

1978 Down 2-19 Cavan 2-12

@ Clones

1977 Armagh 3-10 Derry 1-5

@ Clones

1976 Derry 1-8 Cavan 1-8 (R: Derry 0-22 Cavan 1-16 aet) Both @ Clones

1975 Derry 1-16 Down 2-6 @ Clones

1974 Donegal 1-14 Down 2-11

(R: Donegal 3-9 Down 1-12) <u> Both</u> @ Clones

1973 Tyrone 3-13 Down 1-11

@ Clones

1972 Donega 2-13 Tyrone 1-11

@ Clones

1971 Down 4-15 Derry 4-11

@ Belfast

1970 Derry 2-13 Antrim 1-12

@ Clones

1969 Cavan 2-13 Down 2-6

@ Belfast

1968 Down 0-16 Cavan 1-8

@ Belfast

1967 Cavan 2-12 Down 0-8

@ Clones

1966 Down 1-7 Donegal 0-8

@ Belfast

1965 Down 3-5 Cavan 1-8

@ Clones

1964 Cavan 2-10 Down 1-10

@ Belfast

1963 Down 2-11 Donegal 1-4

@ Cavan

1962 Cavan 3-6 Down 0-5

@ Belfast

1961 Down 2-10 Armagh 1-10 @ Belfast

1960 Down 3-7 Cavan 1-8 @ Clones

1959 Down 2-16 Cavan 0-7

@ Clones

1958 Derry 1-11 Down 2-4

@ Clones

1957 Tyrone 1-9 Derry 0-10

@ Clones

1956 Tyrone 3-5 Cavan 0-4

@ Clones

1955 Cavan 0-11 Derry 0-8

@ Clones

1954 Cavan 2-10 Armagh 2-5

@ Clones

1953 Armagh 1-6 Cavan 0-5

@ Belfast **1952** Cavan 1-8 Monaghan 0-8 @ Cavan

1951 Antrim 1-7 Cavan 2-3

@ Clones

1950 Armagh 1-11 Cavan 1-7

@ Clones

1949 Cavan 1-7 Armagh 1-6

@ Clones

1948 Cavan 2-12 Antrim 2-4

@ Clones

1947 Cavan 3-4 Antrim 1-6

@ Clones

1946 Antrim 2-8 Cavan 1-7

@ Clones

1945 Cavan 4-10 Fermanagh 1-4

@ Clones

1944 Cavan 1-9 Monaghan 0-5

@ Clones

1943 Cavan 2-3 Monaghan 0-5

@ Cavan

1942 Cavan 5-11 Down 1-3 @ Dundalk

1941 Cavan 3-9 Tyrone 0-5

@ Armagh

1940 Cavan 4-10 Down 1-5

@ Cavan

1939 Cavan v Armagh Abandoned @ Castleblayney (R: Cavan 2-3

Armagh 0-7 @ Croke Park)

1938 Monaghan 2-5 Armagh 2-2

@ Armagh

1937 Cavan 0-13 Armagh 0-3

@ Castleblayney 1936 Cavan 1-7 Monaghan 0-7

@ Castleblayney 1935 Cavan 2-6 Fermanagh 2-1

@ Belturbet 1934 Cavan 3-8 Armagh 0-2

@ Castleblayney

1933 Cavan 6-13 Tyrone 1-2

@ Armagh

1932 Cavan 2-4 Armagh 0-2

@ Monaghan

1931 Cavan 0-8 Armagh 2-1

@ Dundalk

1930 Monaghan 4-3 Cavan 1-5

@ Carrickmacross

1929 Monaghan 1-4 Cavan 1-4

@ Cavan (R: Monaghan 1-10 Cavan 0-7 @ Carrickmacross)

1928 Cavan 2-6 Armagh 1-4

1927 Monaghan 3-5 Armagh 2-5

@ Armagh

1926 Cavan 5-3 Antrim 0-6

1925 Cavan 2-3 Antrim 3-0 @ Monaghan (R: Cavan 3-6 Antrim

0-1 @ Belturbet)







Ulster Senior Football Finals 1888 - 2005

Roll of Honour Cont'd

1924 Cavan 1-3 Monaghan 1-3 @ Belturbet (R: Cavan 2-3 Monaghan 1-3 @ Ballybay) 1923 Cavan 5-10 Monaghan 1-1 @ Cavan 1922 Monaghan 2-3 Cavan 2-3 @ Clones (R: Monaghan 3-4 Cavan 3-3 @ Belturbet) 1921 Monaghan 2-2 Derry 0-1 @ Clones 1920 Cavan 4-6 Armagh 1-4 @ Cootehill 1919 Cavan 5-6 Antrim 0-2 @ Clones 1918 Cavan 3-2 Antrim 0-0 @ Belturbet 1917 Monaghan 4-2 Armagh 0-4 @ Clones 1916 Monaghan 3-1 Antrim 0-2 @ Clones 1915 Cavan 3-2 Monaghan 2-5

Monaghan 0-3 @ Clones) 1914 Monaghan 2-4 Fermanagh 0-2 @ Newbliss 1913 Antrim 2-1 Monaghan 1-2 @ Newbliss 1912 Antrim 2-2 Armagh 0-1 @ Castleblayney 1911 Antrim 2-8 Cavan 0-4 1910 Antrim 3-4 Cavan 0-1 @ Dundalk 1909 Antrim 1-9 Cavan 0-4 Clones 1908 Antrim 1-8 Cavan 0-4 @ Clones 1907 No Championship 1906 Monaghan 2-10 Antrim 1-2 1905 Cavan 0-7 Monaghan 0-3 1904 Cavan 0-7 Monaghan 0-4 @ Clones 1903 Cavan 0-5 Armagh 0-5 @ Armagh (R: Cavan 0-5 Armagh 0-5)

@ Newbliss) 1902 Armagh 2-2 Antrim 1-4 @ Belfast 1901 Antrim 3-5 Armagh 2-5 @ Belfast 1900 Antrim W.O. 1896-99 No Championship 1895 Cavan W.O. 1892-94 No Championship 1891 Cavan Slashers (Cavan) v Armagh Harps (Armagh) Abandoned @ Smithboro (R: Cavan 1-11 Armagh 0-0 @ Smithboro) 1890 Armagh Harps (Armagh) 2-8 Cookstown Owen Roe O'Neill's (Tyrone) 1-2 @ Lisburn 1889 No Championship 1888 Inniskeen Grattans (Monaghan) 0-2 Maghera McGinns (Cavan) 0-2 (R: Monaghan 0-3 Cavan 0-1)

@ Cavan; Cavan 0-8 Armagh 0-4

Teams & Scorers

@ Belturbet (R: Cavan 0-4

Ulster Senior Championship 2006

7th May: Down 1-13 Cavan 0-11 @ Casement Park, Belfast. Ref: Eugene Murtagh (Longford)

Down:

Brendan McVeigh Martin Cole **Brendan Grant** Daniel McCartan Paul Murphy John Clarke Damien Rafferty Alan Molloy Dan Gordan 0-1 Eoin McCartan 0-1 Ambrose Rogers 0-1 Daniel Hughes 0-3 Liam Doyle Brendan Coulter 1-0 Michael Walsh 0-5 Subs: Mark Doran Ronan Murtagh 0-2

Cavan: James Reilly Michael Hannon **Pauric Reilly Keith Fannin Martin Cahill Anthony Gaynor** Paul Brady 0-1 Dermot McCabe 0-1 **Cathal Collins** Mark McKeever **Peter Reilly** Sean Brady Gerard Pierson 0-1 Larry Reilly 0-2 Sean Johnston 0-6 Subs: Jason O'Reilly Cian Mackey Joey Jordan

Eddie O'Reilly

14th May: Armagh 0-10 Monaghan 0-10 @ St Tiernach's Park, Clones. Ref: Pat Fox (Westmeath)

Armagh:

Monaghan:

Shane Duffy Gary McQuaid James Covle Colm Flanagan Damien Freeman 0-1 **Vincent Corey Dermot McArdle Eoin Lennon** Paul Finlay 0-2 Dick Clerkin 0-1 Stephen Gollogly 0-2 Brian Mallon James McElroy Tomas Freeman 0-1 **Raymond Ronaghan** Rory Woods 0-2 **Subs: Hugh McElroy 0-1** Paul McGuigan

Ciaran McKinney Andy Mallon Tony McEntee **Enda McNulty** Aaron Kernan Ciaran McKeever Paul Duffy Kieran McGeeney 0-1 Paul McGrane Paddy McKeever Malachy Mackin 0-1 Steven McDonnell 0-2

Ronan Clarke 0-1, Oisin McConville 0-5 Subs:

JP Donnelly John McEntee 20th May: Armagh 1-13 Monaghan 0-10 @ St Tiernach's Park, Clones. Ref: Derek Fahy (Longford).

Armagh: Ciaran McKinney Andy Mallon Tony McEntee **Enda McNulty** Aaron Kernan Ciaran McKeever Paul Duffy 0-1 Kieran McGeeney Paul McGrane Paddy McKeever 0-1 Brian Mallon 1-1 Malachy Mackin Steven McDonnell 0-3 Ronan Clarke 0-2 Oisin McConville 0-5 Subs: Peadar Toal

Monaghan: Shane Duffy Dermot McArdle James Coyle Colm Flanagan **Damien Freeman** Gary McQuaid, Vincent Corey **Eoin Lennon** Dick Clerkin 0-1 Paul Finlay 0-4 Stephen Gollogly **Hugh McElroy** Thomas Freeman 0-2 Raymond Ronagha Rory Woods 0-3 Subs: Paul McGuigan Kieran Tavey

Ciaran Hanratty



Conor Laverty

Adrian Scullion





Teams & Scorers Cont'd

21st May: Fermanagh 1-09 Antrim 0-09 @ Brewster Park, Enniskillen. Ref: Marty Duffy (Sligo)

Fermanagh: Chris Breen **Peter Sherry Barry Owens** Shane Goan 0-1 Raymond Johnston Hugh Brady Shane McDermott 0-1 Sean Kelly Liam McBarron Mark Murphy Mark Little 0-3 James Sherry Tom Brewster Eamon Maguire Sean Doherty Ciaran O'Reilly 1-4 Subs: Rvan Keenan Marty McGrath

Niall Boque

Jonathan McGurn

Antrim: Paddy Murray Andrew McClean Paul Doherty Damien Gault **Anthony Scullion Anthony Convery** Joe Quinn Michael McCann 0-1 Ciaran Close Brendan Herron Aidan Gallagher Kevin Niblock 0-1 Kevin McGourty 0-1 Michael Magill 0-4 Subs: Colin Brady Terry O'Neill Owen Doherty Pat Cunningham 0-2 John Finucane

28th May: Derry 1-08 Tyrone 0-05 @ Healy Park, Omagh. Ref: David Coldrick (Meath)

Derry: Barry Gillis Kevin McGuckin Kevin McCloy Francis McEldowney Liam Hinphey Paul McFlynn Joe O'Kane 0-1 Johnny McBride loe Diver Mark Lynch Barry McGoldrick Fergal Doherty Enda Muldoon 1-3 Paddy Bradley 0-3 Eoin Bradley 0-1 Subs: Gavin Donaghy Fergal Crossan

Tyrone: Pascal McConnell Ryan McMenamin Cormac McGinley Ciaran Gourley Davy Harte 0-1 Conor Gormley Philip Jordan Colin Holmes Peter Donnelly 0-1 Brian Dooher Sean Cavanagh Raymond Mulgrew Ryan Mellon **Kevin Hughes** Owen Mulligan 0-2 Subs: Joe McMahon 0-1 Martin Penrose **Enda McGinley Dermot Carlin** Brian Meenan

4th June: Donegal 1-12 Down 1-1 @ MacCumhaill Park, Ballybofey. Ref: Gearóid O'Conámha (Galway)

Donegal: Paul Durcan Neil McGee Paddy Campbell Karl Lacey Eamon McGee 0-1 Barry Monaghan Barry Dunnion 0-1 Neil Gallagher Ciaran Bonner Christy Toye 0-1 Michael Hegarty 0-2 Rory Kavanagh 1-2 Colin Kelly Conall Dunne 0-2, Michael Doherty 0-2 Subs: Brendan Boyle Adrian Sweeney 0-1 Damien Diver Frank McGlynn

Down: Brendan McVeid Martin Cole Brendan Grant Alan Molloy Paul Murphy 0-1 John Clarke Adrian Scullion Ambrose Rodges Dan Gordon 0-1 Eoin McCartan Liam Doyle 0-3 Ronan Murtagh © Daniel Hughes 1-Benny Coulter 0-Michael Walsh 0-Subs: Mark Doran Conor Laverty Damian Rafferty Ronan Sexton James Colgan

11th June: Armagh 0-11 Fermanagh 2-05 @ St Tiernach's Park, Clones. Ref: John Bannon (Longford)

Fermanagh: Chris Breen Peter Sherry **Barry Owens** Shane Goan Ryan McCluskey Hugh Brady, Shane McDermott Liam McBarron Mark Murphy 0-1 **Mark Little** Sean Doherty Tom Brewster 1-1 Colm Bradley **Eamon Maguire** Ciaran O'Reilly 0-3 Subs: Ryan Keenan 1-0 James Sherry

Armagh: Paul Hearty Andy Mallon Francie Bellew Enda McNulty, Aaron Kernan 0-1 Ciaran McKeever 0-1 JP Donnelly Kieran McGeeney Paul McGrane Paddy McKeever 0-1 Brian Mallon Malachy Mackin Steven McDonnell 0-3 Ronan Clarke 0-2 Oisin McConville 0-3 Subs: Peadar Toal

11th June: Donegal 1-13 Derry 0-11 @ St Tiernach's Park, Clones. Ref: Michael Monahan (Kildare)

Donegal: Paul Durcan Neil McGee Paddy Campbell Karl Lacey 0-2 Eamon McGee Barry Monaghan Barry Dunnion Neil Gallagher Brendan Boyle Christy Toye Michael Hegarty Ciaran Bonner 0-2 Rory Kavanagh 0-5 Conall Dunne Michael Doherty 1-4 Subs: Damien Diver Adrian Sweeney Colin Kelly

Derry: **Barry Gillis** Kevin McGuckin Kevin McCloy F McEldowney 0-1 Liam Hinphey Paul McFlynn Joe O'Kane Johnny McBrid Joe Diver 0-2 Mark Lynch Barry McGoldrick Fergal Doherty Enda Muldoon 0-4 Paddy Bradley 0-4 **Eoin Bradley** Subs: Gavin Donaghy Paul Cartin Jim Kelly

25th June: Armagh 0-16 Fermanag 1-08 @ St Tiernach's Park, Clones. Ref: Paddy Russell (Tipperary)

Fermanagh: Chris Breen Ryan McCluskey **Barry Owens** Shane Goan Peter Sherry Hugh Brady Shane McDermott Liam McBarron Mark Murphy Mark Little 0-3 Tom Brewster 0-2 Eamon Maguire 0-1 Colm Bradley Sean Doherty Ciaran O'Reilly 1-1 Subs: James Sherry 0-1 Raymond Johnston Ryan Keenan Ionathan McGurn Mary McGrath

Armagh: Paul Hearty Andy Mallon Francie Bellew **Enda McNulty** Aaron Kernan 0-1 Ciaran McKeever Paul Duffy Kieran McGeenev Paul McGrane Paddy McKeever 0 Stephen Kernan Malachy Mackin 0-Steven McDonne Ronan Clarke 0-3 Oisin McConville 0 Subs: Martin O'Rourke 0-Tony McEntee

Top Scorers

Oisin McConville Ciaran O'Reilly Steven McDonnell Rony Kavanagh

Raymond Johnston

gal O'Reilly

(Armagh) (Fermanagh) (Armagh) (Donegal)

John McEntee

0-17 2-08 0-10 1-07

(17) (14) (10) (10) Enda Muldoon Michael Doherty Daniel Hughes Ronan Clarke

Brian Mullan

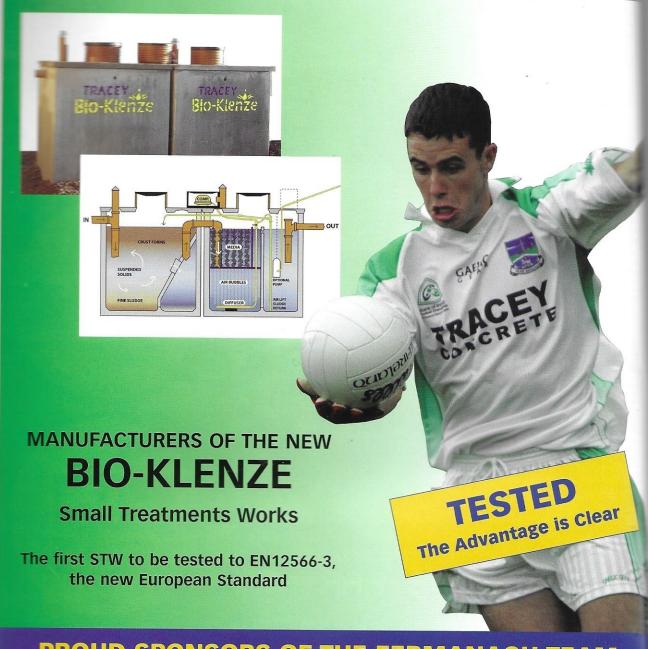
(Derry) (Donegal) (Down) (Armagh) 1-07 1-06 1-06 0-08

(9) (9) ___(8)

(10)

Aidan O'Rourke





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The last three in a row remembered

Matt Fitzpatrick, Down Recorder

It is hard to believe that it is almost half a century, forty-five years to be exact, since the last three in a row of Ulster SFC titles was achieved. Armagh go into today's decider hoping to achieve that feat in their battle with Donegal. Interestingly, Armagh were involved in that three in a row game of forty-five years ago. Unfortunately they were on the losing end as the valiant and mercurial Down side, the reigning All-Ireland Champions, won a titanic final by 2-10 to 1-10 in one of the best remembered and talked about Anglo Celt Cup deciders of all time.

Casement Park was resplendent as an estimated crowd of 38,000 saw Armagh dominate the first half only to be on the receiving end during the second period as Down came storming back to complete the three in a row. I remember the finish that would have done justice to any thriller as Armagh, in the final minutes, had the ball in the Down net but the score was disallowed and a free out awarded. That incident is and always will be remembered where ever and whenever this final is talked about. That was one of the great talking points. But there was another.

Down manager Barney Carr provided it when at half time with his side five points behind he took off team captain Kevin Mussen and sent in James McCartan who had been unable to start due to injury. James inspired the fight back, scored his side's second goal while Kevin Mussen was dropped for the All-Ireland series and Paddy Doherty installed as captain going on to lift the Sam Maguire Cup later in September.

The Final was in Casement Park on July 23, 1961. All-Ireland and Ulster Champions Down put their titles at stake against a vibrant Armagh team



who had cruised through their Semi Final against Monaghan. They came to Casement Park full of hope and confidence. Down opened with a point from Brian Morgan but Pat Campbell levelled from a free. Kevin Halfpenny with three points saw Armagh lead by 0-4 to 0-1 midway through the half as Armagh dominated the game. But Down as always refused to lie down. Ten minutes from half time Brian Morgan took a Doherty pass to send to the net to level the game. But Down's joy was short lived as Mark McQuaid raced in for Armagh's goal. He added a point, as did Harry Loughran, Pat Campbell and Jimmy Whan while Paddy Doherty had had a Down point. Armagh led by 1-7 to 1-2 at half time.

On the restart Down showed telling changes. James McCartan appeared at centre half forward, P.J. McElroy at full forward and Patsy O'Hagan at right half back in place of Kevin Mussen while the All-Ireland winning midfield of Joe Lennon and Jarlath Carey was restored. Three Paddy Doherty points reduced the Armagh lead to two. James McCartan cut in from the right and fired to the net and Down were

ahead by a point. Down had the bit between their teeth. Paddy Doherty, Sean O'Neill and P.J. McElroy added points as Down raced into a four point lead. Armagh staged a late, late rally. Mark McQuaid and Harry Hoy brought them back into the game with points. With time almost up a Harry Hoy free struck the post and was scrambled out for a "50". Dan Kelly floated the ball into the Down goals. A melee ensued and Jimmy Whan bundled the ball to the net. But referee Liam Maguire disallowed the score and gave Down a free. They had survived and while they took the honours on the day Armagh got all the plaudits for their great performance. Today Armagh will be hoping to put that game behind them and equal Down's feat of forty-five years ago.

Down: Eamon McKay; George Lavery, Leo Murphy, Pat Rice; Kevin Mussen (capt), Dan McCartan, John Smith; P. J. McElroy (0-1), Joe Lennon; Sean O'Neill (0-1), Jarlath Carey, Paddy Doherty (0-7); Tony Hadden, Patsy O'Hagan, Brian Morgan (1-1), Sub James McCartan (1-0) for K. Mussen.







laluing Volunteers

Brian McFniff

Brian McEniff has been involved in every way possible within the GAA. As a player, Brian had a tremendous career, which culminated in an All-Star award in 1972 when he was selected at right half back.

The Bundoran hotelier moved into a managerial role where he managed Donegal, Ulster and Ireland. In fact, in his capacity as player/manager, he brought Donegal to their first Ulster Senior title in 1972. It was in 1992 that he experienced his highest accolade in GAA where he led his native county to their first ever Sam Maguire triumph. In fact, when Donegal reached the All-Ireland Semi Final in 2003, McEniff was back at the helm.

Furthermore, he has managed Ulster teams to various successes in the interprovincial competitions. He also served as county chairman as well as being an extremely successful businessman.

Name: Brian McEniff

Club: Realt na Mara, Star of the Sea,

Bundoran

Marital Status: Married with ten children, 7 girls and 3 boys

How long have you been involved with the GAA?

All my life.

How long have you been involved with the Ulster football squad?

I have been manager of the Ulster squad for 23 years.

Do you find it difficult to find time to keep involved at club level?

No, I am currently on the club executive memories of your success and I also managed the Bundoran Under 12 team this year.

Brian, today will be the first time for many years that you haven't been directly involved, i.e. playing or managing, a Donegal side in an Ulster Final. Will that feel strange?

Yes, it will certainly be different. I will miss the buzz, but I will still enjoy the occasion from another perspective. At least I will not have to experience the stress on the sideline!

Donegal find themselves in Ulster Minor & Senior finals for the first time since '92, do you still have fond



that year?

Yes, the Ulster Final success in 1992 was a great display by Donegal. We were down to 14 men and playing against the wind in the second half that day.

Finally Brian, you've made some financial decisions in your time, wh would your money be on for the Ulster and All-Ireland Senior Footbal Championships in 2006?

I would have to say Donegal for the Ulster Final at this stage, and if we get over that we will discuss further successes.

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Donegal Div 1AR	League results Div 14
	reserve

North Send message to 88122				
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Armagh Div 2	Div 2 Football Leagu			







Valuing Volunteers

Joe Jordan

Joe Jordan has been the chairman of Armagh Co Board for the past five years and he has overseen the most successful era within the Orchard County. Armagh have collected every major honour in football with the exception of the Tom Markham Cup during Joe's tenure as chairman. He has served on various committees within his club and county. Joe has given tremendous service to the GAA within his county, and he even has the distinction of being the driving force for Armagh on their way to the 1977 All-Ireland Final!

Name: Joe Jordan Club: Middletown GAC

Marital Status: Married in 1969 with

3 girls and a boy

Employment Status: I served my time in Donnelly Bros where I started in June 1961 as a body man and spray painter. I stayed there to 1974, and for some reason I always wanted to be a bus driver. An advert for bus drivers came on the television on Boxing Day, 1974 so I sent an application away. By 2nd January 1975, I had started in the Driving School in the Oxford Street Depot. I spent my first year in the Lurgan Depot before I was transferred to Armagh, where I remained until September 2000.

How long have you been involved with the GAA?

I played my first match in 1958 for Armagh CBS against Dungannon Academy at O'Neill Park, and the game was refereed by the great Iggy Jones.

How long have you served on the County Executive?

I'm on the County Executive since 1973 when I was Secretary of the "...my first match in 1958 for Armagh CBS against Dungannon Academy at O'Neill Park, and the game was refereed by the great Iggy Jones".

Mid Armagh Board. I remained there to 1977 and I moved to Vice-Chairman from '82 to '84. I was then Chairman from '84 to '92, and I also served as the Football Board Vice-Chairman and Chairman up to 1997. I have been County Chairman for the last five years, which included our All-Ireland success in 2002.

Were you also involved at club level?

I have served every position at my club. I became Assistant Secretary in 1969, and in 1970, I moved to Secretary, a position I held until 1979. I was Vice-Chairman from 1980 to 1990 and I was then Chairman until 1993.

In 1977, you drove the bus to the All-Ireland Final, what was that like?

I first worked with the county team in 1975 when I drove the bus to Pearse Park, Longford for a challenge match. I drove players to training and matches in the car but this was the first bus experience with the county team. When we reached the All-Ireland Final in '77, it was decided that we would take a bus, so I got the job of driving. It was my first experience of a motorbike escort, where I had the joy of speeding down O'Connell Street! We stayed in the Trinity Halls of Residence in Dundrum on



the Saturday and Sunday night. Unfortunately, we were defeated by Dublin by 5-12 to 3-6. On the Monday night, we toured the county and we weren't home until 3am on Tuesday morning! It really was a great experience.

Joe, you were County Chairman when Armagh claimed Sam Maguire in 2002, what was that like?

It was a really great victory and a tremendous occasion. In the aftermath of that success in was decided not to tour the entire county on the night after the match. We went to Crossmaglen, Keady and we were in Armagh, right on schedule at 9.30pm. Then during the week, we toured the county.

Finally Joe what are your predictions for this year's All-Ireland Senior Hurling and Football?

I would like to think that Armagh will have a major say in the football, while I think Kilkenny will win the hurling title.





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Cup History

The story behind the prize - Aogán O Fearghail, Cisteoir, Comhairle Uladh

Fr. Murray Cup (Minor)

No other major field sport affords under age players the profile that Cumann Luthchleas Gael gives to its minor players. Playing before the major senior games raises the profiles of up and coming players. Today the minor footballers from Antrim and Donegal take centre stage to compete for the Fr. Murray cup. The Leinster minor footballers also compete for the Fr. Murray cup, different cup but named after the same man.

Fr. Larry Murray was an Armagh born priest of the Archdiocese of Armagh serving in Armagh and Louth. He was a Gael of great energy. Along with his priestly duties he spent his life promoting Gaelic games and Gaelic language. He established Irish colleges in the Donegal Gaeltacht which still thrive today. He had a special interest in promoting under age football and he was an under age mentor in every parish that he served. He presented two cups, one to the Leinster Council and one to the Ulster Council for their minor championships. Value the youth, they are our strength.

The Anglo-Celt Cup (Senior) This will be the 81st contest for the "Anglo-Celt", the cup was first played

for back in 1925.

Like all other aspects of Irish society, the 1910's and early 20's were difficult times for the GAA. From 1918, Ulster Council games were harassed by the military with a resultant drop in attendance and income. In 1919 each county had to contribute 10 pounds to the Ulster Council to keep things afloat. in 1920. At the Ulster Council mention on 17 April 1920, the h ammy forced their way into the

convention and arrested Secretary O'Duffy. The Ulster Championship continued however, and the final was played at Cootehill on 8 August, the referee was Dan Hogan, brother of Michael Hogan who was shot in Croke Park the following year and after whom the Hogan Stand is named.

The 1921 final was fixed for Derry on 22 January 1922, between Monaghan and Derry. By this date the border had been set up under the terms of the treaty. The Monaghan team were stopped at Dromore, Tyrone, on route to Derry. Several weapons were discovered and ten players imprisoned. The Championships for the next few years were seriously disrupted and the Council's financial affairs in crisis.

A crusade to reorganise was launched by the Ulster Council at Convention in 1923. Top priority was to seek a suitable trophy for the senior football

From 1923 until 1925 no donor emerged.

In 1925 John F O'Hanlon, editor of the Anglo – Celt newspaper in Cara donated a cup to the Council. The new cup gave a much needed book to the GAA and helped stabilise the competition. O'Hanlon was a staur GAA man and held senior positions Cavan Co Board and had been Vice-President of Ulster Council. Cavan were first county to receive the Ana - Celt defeating Antrim in the final played in Monaghan town. In 1962 the original cup was replaced and new Anglo - Celt was won by Down 1963. The Anglo - Celt cup and Uls GAA have forged a strong brand and the premier football competition has grown from shaky foundations to a towering competition



today.





Comhairle Uladh - Coaching and Games Development Programs

Dr Eugene Young, Director of Coaching and Games

Get involved in our comprehensive program for the winter period that targets all age groups. Access the web site at www.ulster.gaa.ie for details and obtain a calendar from you county coaching officer.

FUN TO FAME

Co-ordinated by County
Coaching Staff.
The Fundamentals improve the
physical literacy skills of young
children. An essential program to
support the development of sports
specific skills in the future. The next
two stages Learn to Train (u12) and
Train to Train (u16) are due to be
released in the winter.

COACH EDUCATION PROGRAM:

Co-ordinated by Regional

Development Officers.
The winter wouldn't be the same without the weekly gathering of coaches at practical or theoretical workshops. Some programs have been regionalised to allow for local access. We look forward to seeing

INNOVATIVE TRAINING TECHNIQUES 2:

you at the venues.

Co-ordinated by Tony Scullion. It is "Take 2" with Tony after a successful Innovative Training Techniques 1. Explore the latest training equipment and the enthusiasm required to be a top coach.

REGIONAL GO GAMES BLITZES:

Co-ordinated by Regional
Development Officers.
Last winters indoor hurling blitzes
were a huge success. Encouraging
participation is our priority and with
the coaches support we can make
this FUN. Get the local school and
club GO Games Blitzes underway
and then work with RDO's to provide
more opportunities.



ULSTER INTER COUNTY BLITZES:

Co-ordinated by Frankie Quinn and Tony Scullion.

U15, 16 and 17 one day Blitzes provide an opportunities to play and develop our young players. It would be great to see parents at these to support the young stars of the future.

TOP TOWN COMPETITION:

Co-ordinated by Regional Development Officers.
Engage with immigrant workers and integrate them into our clubs. The top town competition challenges clubs to put a team of non nationals into this competition. There will also be teams from higher education and all played under lights.

INTEGRATION PROGRAM:

Co-ordinated by Aileen Tohill and Ryan Feeney.

Drawing football, hurling, rounders, ladies football, handball and camogie under one umbrella is the challenge. The promotion of all codes in counties and in clubs the task.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS:

Co-ordinated by Aileen Tohill.

Obesity levels among children are rising; the challenge is to keep our children active through enjoyment of Gaelic games. We also need to care for those who have retired.

Link in with our health and wellness workshops during the winter and be proactive about your health.

CLUB ACCREDITATION:

Co-ordinated by Ryan Feeney.
Accessing money from public bodies is becoming more difficult. These seminars are designed to assist club governance. Time for a health check on your club to ensure you meet the requirements for funding. The funding is there and we are not accessing it.

DISABILITY AND SPECIAL NEEDS:

Co-ordinated by Una McKay (RDO). Training of volunteers and coaches is an essential first step. It's time to provide new opportunities for young people with special needs and disabilities. Get to a regional workshop and be active in your club.

GET ACTIVE, GET INVOLVED, GET INTO GAELIC GAMES IN ULSTER







Cumann na mBunscol

Todays Mini Games

Ard Mhacha

Cameron Dunnigan, St. Francis, Lurgan. Colm McKee, Foley P.S. Shea Heffron, Tannaghmore. Callum McCullagh, St. Malachy's, Camlough. Jamie Brady, St. Anthony's, Craigavon. Sean Colton, Darkley P.S. Micheal Murphy, St. Patrick's, Cullyhanna. Oisin Magee, St. John the Baptist, Portadown. Eugene Grimley, St. Joseph's, Madden. Mark O'Neill, Clonalig P.S. Reece Haughey, St. Patrick's Derrymacach. Cormac Kelly, St. Colmcilles, Grange. Nathan Morgan, St. Joseph's, Bessbrook. Ronan Rafferty, C.B.S, Armagh. Damien Caherty, Clea. Shane McCreesh, Anamar. Chris Johns, St. Brendan's, Craigavon. Aidan McParland, St. Mary's, Mullaghbawn.

Managers: Paul Doyle, Kevin Creery & Malachy McGeeney.

Dún na nGall

Peter Sweeney, Glassan NS, Creeslough. Patrick Bradley, Sessiaghoneill NS, Ballybofey. Conor Grant, Scoil Cholmcille, Newtowncunningham. Alun O'Dubhgaire, Scoil Eoin Baiste, Carrigart. Christopher Greene, Scoil Chroine, Dungloe. Ryan O'Donnell, Belcruit NS, Kincasslagh. Barry Griffin, St.Peter's NS, Mountcharles. Luke Bradley, St. Oran's NS Cockhill, Buncrana. Christopher Doherty, St.Cholmcille's NS, Glengad. Ciaran Thompson, Scoil Mhuire, Glenties. Ryan Farrell, Scoil Niall Mor, Killybegs. Matthew Crampsie, Scoil Treasa Naofa, Malin. Oisin Porter, St.Eunan's NS, Raphoe. Jack Brennan, Illistrin NS, Letterkenny. Calum Gallagher, Holy Family NS, Ballyshannon. Kyle Black, Scoil Mhuire, Ramelton. Liam Martin, St.Francis NS, Barnesmore. Ryan Hunter, Glenswilly NS.

Managers: Pauric Daly, Michael Weed, Michael O'Dochartaigh, Aengus McClafferty & Maria Doherty.

Young Whistlers

Todays Cumann na mBunscol Officials

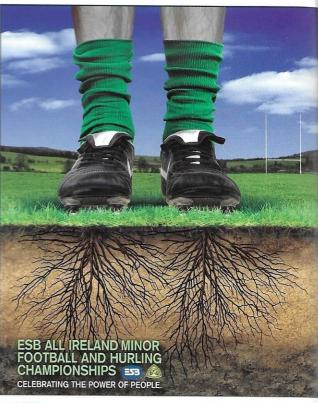
Three young referees from Fermanagh, James McPhillips, Shea Curran and Francis McBrien, who completed a Young Whistlers course in St. Comhghall's, Lisnaskea, will proudly officiate at the Cumann na mBunscol game today.

The Course was organised by Referee's Administrator, Brian Armitage and Referees' Committee secretary, Emmett Lavelle, and delivered by Fermanagh's HDM, Fabian Burns, and the FDM, Peter McGinnity. After they had excelled at the course the three young men gained very valuable practical experience refereeing at a Year 9 Football Blitz and a Year 9 Hurling Blitz at Lissan in June. Look out for referee James and his linesmen Shea and Francis and show your support and appreciation for the Young Whistlers who will provide our top officials of the future!











www.esb.ie







Coiste na Gaeilge & Oidhreachta Comhairle Uladh C.L.G

Tomás Ó Cuilinn, Cathaoirleach

Is amuigh i dteach Mhicí Uí Dhochartaigh, an teach tábhairne ar a nglaothar "Ceann Tuí" ar Bhóthar na Farraige i Ros Goill, taréis béile bhlasta de bhia na farraige a ithe, a bhíomar an oíche sin sa bhliain 1989. Is beag a shíl muid an oíche sin go roghnófar bainisteoir ar fhoireann Thír Chonaill, go gairid ina sin, a bhainfeadh Craobh na hÉireann don chéad uair. Na daoine abhí san iomaíocht- Brian Mac Cionn Dubh, Aodh Mac Claifeartaigh, Tomás Ó Conacháin agus P.S. Mac Gabhannbhíodar go léir ann agus bhí brí, beoghacht agus brostú iontu. Is cuimhin liom guth binn Aoidh ag rá Gleanntáin Ghlas Ghaoth Dobhair, P.S. ag rá "Na Buachaillí as Chondae Árd Mhacha" agus Brian ag casadh dreas ceoil dúinn ar an bhfeadóg stáin. Árd-oíche abhí ann gan dabht. Bhí Cúrsa na Gaeilge faoi choimirce Comhairle Uladh C.L.G. ag teacht i mbláth.

Sheas Comhairle Uladh le cúís na Gaeilge riamh, fiú nuair abhí sé íontach doiligh é sin a dhéanamh. Is tré mheán na Gaeilge a tionóltar cruinnithe de Chomhairle Uladh go dtí an lá atá inniu ann, cé is go ndéantar chuid mhaith oibre tré mheán an Bhearla 'sna fó-choistí. Mhúnlaigh Comhairle Uladh fódlíthe fóirstineacha freisin i dtreo is go mbéadh coiste sa chúige a dhéanfadh a ghnó go hiomlan tré mheán a Gaeilge ag có-oibriu le coistí eile i gcúrsaí cultúir agus oidhreachta.

Laoch na Gaeilge ab ea Alf Ó Muirí as Árd Mhacha. Is in éineacht lena chara Páidi Mac Fhloinn a thaistil sé ar a rothar go dtí Ros Goill i dtosach na seascaoidí nuair a chuireadh "Cúrsa na Gaeilge" ar bun don chéad uair. Lean an traidisiún sin The Ulster Council Irish language Course will commence on Monday 17th July and finish on Saturday 22nd July. Brochure & Info. Róise Ní Laifeartaigh 6 Swilly Park Letterkenny 074 (0035374) 91 28573

Árd Mhacha le leithéidí Pádraig Ó nUinseann, Seán Ó Mothlaigh agus ar ndóigh Seán Mac Canna. Is tráthúil smaoineamh fosta go bhfuil an Ghaeltacht is mó intíre i gCondae Aontroma san lá atá inniu ann.

Ar an drochuair tá chuid mhaith daoine abhí ann an oíche sin i Ross Goill ar shlí na fírinne. Ina measc siúd An Sagart Dónall Mac An Ghallóglaigh, Seán Mac an Bheatha, Cathal Ó Fachtna agus go leor eile. Fuair rúnaí Coiste na Gaeilge, Séamus de Faoite, abhí i mbárra réime an oíche sin, bás go tobann ina theach cónaithe ag Mín Riabach, An Tearmann, i mbaclainn a bhean céile -Máire - go luath maidin earraigh i mbliana. Tá "Laoch na hOidhreachta" faoi shuaimhneas anois ag Machaire Gathlán i gceartlár na Gaeltachta in aice na farraige móire. Go mba sámh codhladh na laochra. Séamus de Faoite

Beidh Cúrsa na Gaeilge ar siúl i mbliana on 17ú – 22ú Iúil 2006 in Ionad Lúthchleas Gael, Na Dúnaibh, Ros Goill. Gach eolas ó Róise Ní Laifeartaigh 074 (0035374) 91 28573. Aifreann Cuimhneacháin



do Shéamus de Faoite ag Mín Uí Bhaoighill , Croithlí 7.00 pm. 18ú Iúil. Paidreacha ag uaigh Shéamuis ag Reilig Mhachaire Gathlán 8.30 pm. Tae & Ceapairí (Teach Jack).

Fógra

Beidh Cúrsa na Gaeilge ar siúl i mbliana on17ú –22ú Iúil 2006 in Ionad Lúthchleas Gael, Na Dúnaibh, Ros Goill. Gach eolas ó Róise Ní Laifeartaigh 074 (0035374) 91 28573.

Aifreann Cuimhneacháin do Shéamus de Faoite ag Mín Uí Bhaoighill , Croithlí 7.00 pm. 18ú Iúil.

Paidreacha ag uaigh Shéamuis ag Reilig Mhachaire Gathlán 8.30 pm. Tae & Ceapairí (Teach Jack).

Memorial Mass for the late Seamus de Faoite Tuesday 18th July 7.00pm at Min Ui Bhaoighill mear Crolly Co. Donegal. Prayers and short Oration by Representative of Aisteoiri Ghaoth Dubhair at the graveside at Mahera Gallon 8.30pm Refreshments for those travelling Teach Jack 9.30.







Ground Regulations

Croke Park

- 1. All persons entering this ground are admitted only subject to the following Ground Regulations and to the Rules and Regulations of Páirc an Chrócaigh. Entry to the ground shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all these Rules and Regulations. Any person who fails to comply with these Ground Regulations may be refused entry or removed from the ground.
- 2. Fireworks, smoke canisters, gas-horns, bottles, cans, flags, banners, poles and other similar articles or containers, including anything, which may be used as a weapon, are not permitted within the ground, and any persons in possession of such an article or container may be refused entry or ejected from the ground.
- 3. Spectators are not permitted to bring alcohol into the ground.

- The unauthorised climbing of any structure, walls or building or seating in the ground is strictly forbidden.
- 5. Excessive noise such as that from the use of radio sets, gas-horns, and behaviour likely to cause confusion or nuisance of any kind, including foul or abusive language, is not permitted in any part of the ground.
- Under no circumstances is it permitted to throw any object onto the pitch.
- 7. Unauthorised persons are not permitted to enter upon the field of play and shall be ejected.
- Any person who fails to comply with the instructions from a steward may be ejected from the ground.
- 9. The stadium management reserve the right of admission.



- The stadium management reserves the right to refuse admission or to eject any person who refuses to be searched by a member of An Garda Siochána.
- 11. Any person who remains in a gangway or aisle may be ejected from the ground.
- 12. Páirc an Chrócaigh reserves the right for it's servants or agents to remove from the ground any person who does not comply with the Ground Regulations or whose presence in the ground could reasonably be construed as constituting a source of danger, nuisance or annoyance to other spectators.

First Aid, Lost Children & Safety Information

Safety Notice

In the interests of safety, patrons will not be allowed to enter the playing area after the games. The policy to prohibit such encroachment in the future has been taken to avoid further injuries and possible fatality and has been taken on the advice and promptings of the safety authorities, namely the Gardai, Dublin City Council, Fire Brigade and the ERHA. Supporters are sincerely thanked for their co-operation in the future to ensure that games can be enjoyed without recourse to fencing or avoidable instructions to seeing the action from all vantage points. Together we can ensure that a

Croke Park experience is both enjoyable and safe, particularly for the young and vulnerable.

First Aid & Lost Children

Cusack Stand Lower: Medical Centre, rear of Section 301 Cusack Stand Upper: Medical Centre, rear of Section 701 Hogan Stand Lower: Medical Centre, rear of Section 329 The Site Medical Officer will be situated on the pitch in front of the Cusack Stand. Treatment Centres are staffed by St

Treatment Centres are staffed by St John's Ambulance Brigade Members. Lost children can be collected at the above Medical Centres.

Public Telephone Locations

Cusack Stand, Lower Level (Level 3) Pay Phone at rear of Sections 309/310 Box Level, Level 6, Call Card at elevator opposite Box 633 Premium Level, Level 5, Card Phone/Credit Card Phone at rear of Section 510

ATM Services:

Bank of Ireland ATM facilities are available at the following locations:

Cusack Stand, at Concourse Level, at Premium Level Hogan Stand, at Premium Level





you know you can never take your eye off the ball in business

so do we

for a further meeting of minds, let's talk

Today, Armagh are 100% focused on retaining their Bank of Ireland Ulster title, while Donegal will be equally as committed to bringing home the Anglo Celt Cup for the first time since 1992.

In the same way, Bank of Ireland is totally focused on swinging the odds in your favour by understanding the challenges that face your business. To team up with your local Bank of Ireland Business Manager, phone 1890 365 222, call into us or visit www.bankofireland.ie/business today.

Bank of Ireland (



Understanding Business