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Sinsir

Ciarraí v Uíbh Fhailí

3·15

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(An Cabhán)

Mionúir

Corcaigh v Tír Eoghain

1·30

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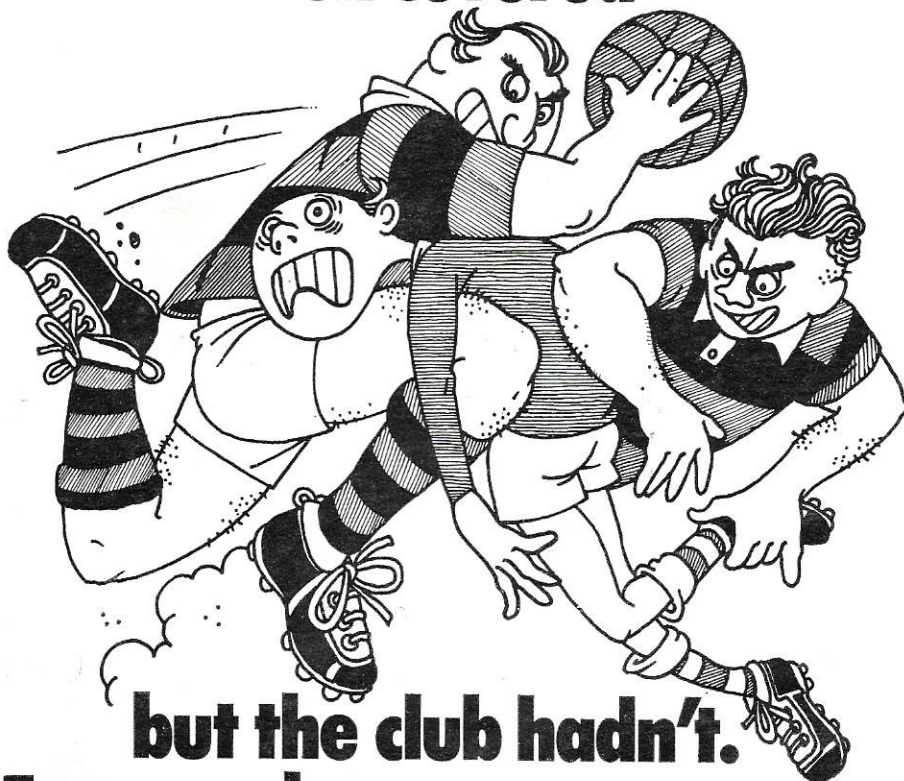
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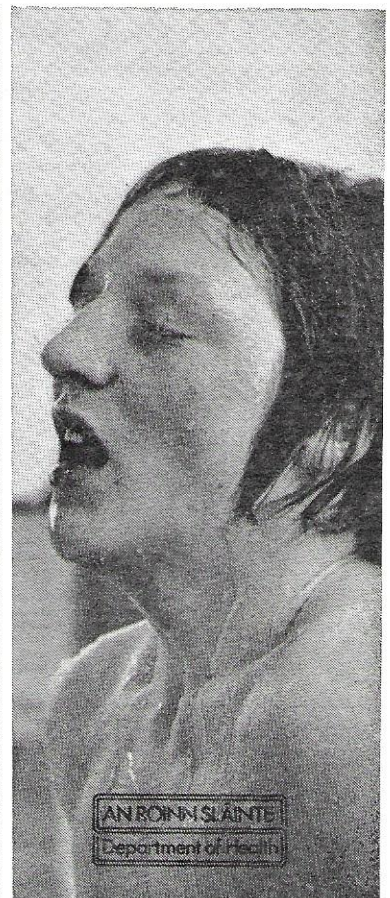
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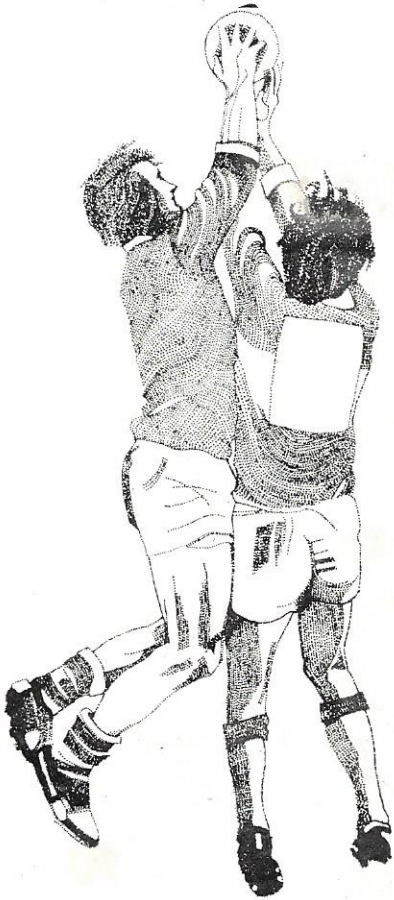
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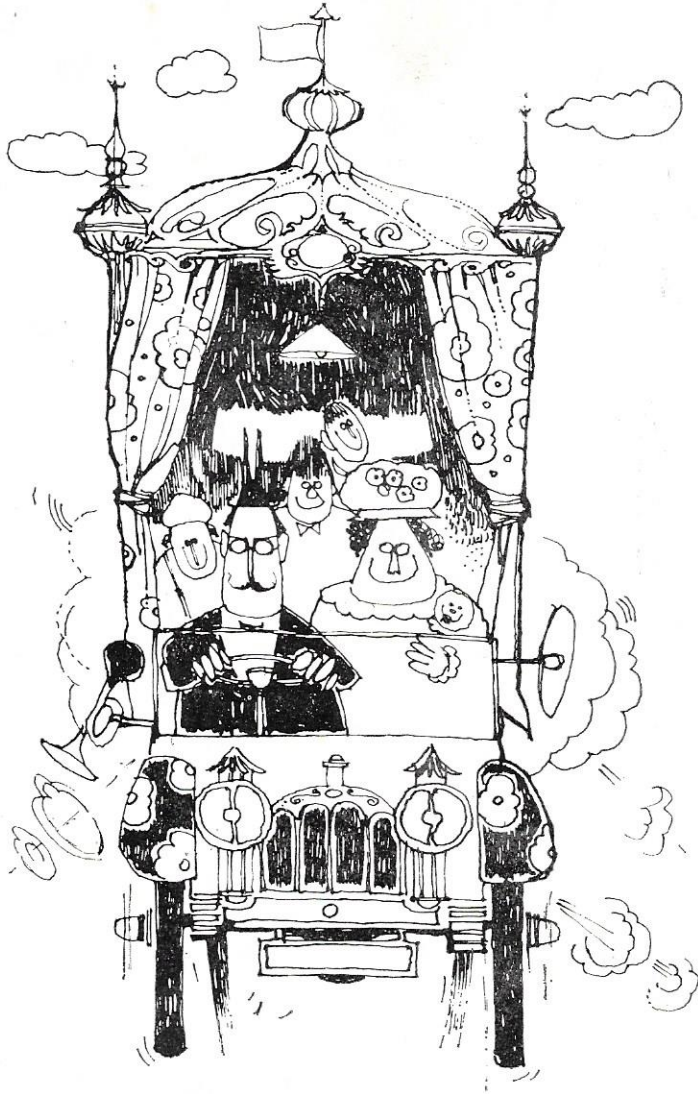


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GOODMILEAGE





● *Half back power viewed from an unusual angle — Kerry's Micheál Ó Sé, with typical vigour, clears a Meath attack in the All-Ireland final of 1970.*



(Ó leath. 9)

duction of the toddler to actual match conditions, which should always be done—as they do in Kerry —with a ball with which the county won the All-Ireland of 19 . . .

So much the better if it is autographed by the winning team of the year in question, so that the lad can learn the most important names of Ireland's history with his prayers.

Sometimes, without any real embarrassment, absent-mindedness has led many heads of households (and numerous priests and at least one Bishop) to be found wandering in the Rosary into:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>John Joe Sheehy,</i> | <i>Pray for us . . .</i> |
| <i>Johnny Riordan,</i> | <i>Pray for us . . .</i> |
| <i>Pluggy Moriarty,</i> | <i>Pray for us . . .</i> |
| <i>Con Brosnan and Bob Stack,</i> | <i>Pray for us . . .</i> |
| <i>The Landers Brothers,</i> | <i>Pray for us . . .</i> |
| <i>O'Connell most prudent,</i> | <i>Pray for us . . .</i> |
| <i>Higgins most powerful,</i> | <i>Pray for us . . .</i> |

When the lad can walk a little, it will be his Daddy's privilege to take him down the street and show him the neighbourhood, telling him the numbers of each house: Two, five, one, four,

six . . . The boy even at that age, does not need to be told that these bear no relation to the false numbers on the doors, but tell the tally of All-Ireland medals brought home there through the generations.



In myth and in reality, both, Kerry have forged the position which they hold in football; it is necessary for a team to have beaten them to ensure that they will be accepted as true champions. That is the challenge which faces Offaly.

But, on this occasion, Kerry have a real desire to justify themselves also, since the defeat in last year's Munster championship was a set-back to their pride; it would be a further set-back to their reputations and to the retrospective worth of their 1969 and 1970 wins if they were to lose now to Offaly.

THE TEAMS

The line-outs of the minor finalists are on pages 20 and 21 and the senior teams on pages 24 and 25.



● Historic occasion . . . Willie Bryan, the Offaly captain, with the Sam Maguire Cup after the county had won its first All-Ireland title 12 months ago.

SOME idea of how hard it is to earn "greatness", especially in football, is gained from the Offaly story. Their's has been a struggle that began towards the end of the 1950s and has gone on until today. Victory will end it today and not before time.

The emergence of Down simultaneously pushed the brave side of 1960-61 under water—only by inches. They could not mount a second effective spurt and had to wait for injections of new blood. By the end of the '60s the new blood had reacted with the old to mount the next phase: Kerry had the experience and that little extra polish in 1969; accidents of complacency robbed them in extraordinary fashion at the hands of Meath in 1970; grimly they returned to fight a gasping struggle to their first title in 1971.

They were a most powerful and skilled combination last year, always far more impressive than their final match and its desperate tensions would

Worthy and fine champions

allow them to show. It is more pleasant to dwell on their earlier championship rounds of controlled power-play and their subsequent displays of complete football in the League.

Similarly, it is pleasant to dwell another moment on the sheer delirious joy of victory—joy unconfined, abandoned, total in its complete lack of cynicism or qualification. It was an experience which renewed the faith of neutrals in the basic values of life as much as it expressed the whole pent-up emotional repression of those hard years, of Offaly's fight for greatness.

Yet, curiously, the pressures are on again. The cynicism of modern life demands that they prove themselves. What was more convincing than their performances through 1971? But, nowadays, no one merits the benefit of the doubt, and no team like Offaly can hope to avoid the touch of pitch from those who say "They were lucky," or "Galway were poor opposition," or "If it had been Kerry . . ."

Let it be said that, by any standards, Offaly were worthy and fine champions. Yet, the thought that was just a discussion-point has obviously worked its way into the minds of the players themselves, and they also realise that they can never rest easy with their crowned heads until the baleful pretenders from Kerry—sons of Kings and ex-Kings themselves—have been finally thrust aside.

Throughout the championship this summer they have shown refreshed form, their best football always very near the surface. But, once more,



● Flashback to the All-Ireland final of 1969, and the dramatic moment when Martin Furlong, the Offaly goalkeeper, dives to foil Kerry's Mick O'Dwyer of what seemed a certain goal.

the nerves must be taut, the burdens almost physical, as they face Kerry.

Why Kerry? Well, the history of events has conspired in a special way to make it important to overcome Kerry, though there is always the need for any aspiring champions to beat the mighty Kingdom. But especially so in Offaly's case.

Kerry it was who defeated them for the League in 1969; Kerry it was who defeated them in the All-Ireland final of 1969 . . . So, there will always be the doubt, if it is not resolved today.

There should be no doubt: Offaly have no reason to bow in any way to the fact that Kerry did not oppose them last year. But, what's the use of talking: the football public talks of nothing else but what might have happened; Offaly supporters protest too much of what they would have done to Kerry had they met; even the players

feel that complete justification must await the golden win over the Masters from the home of football. A Fischer, manifestly the more accomplished player, but needing to take on and beat the Russian Grand Master before the chess world was entirely his.

Now Offaly have the confidence of a comprehensive victory over Kerry in the League, which would normally be expected to mean a great deal. BUT, if you look up the records, it was Kerry who won out that same League, in spite of that defeat. Is there no getting away from this spectre that dogs their footsteps? Only by winning today, is seems.

So hard to earn the term "greatness"; so much sweat, so much toil, so many tears. And then to have to earn it twice over. Never mind; if they do, it will be proof doubly powerful of their true quality.



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THE MAN AND THE CUP

*"The Irish heart refused to beat in foreign captive chains,
It never would admit defeat, while life and love remained;
With high resolve, with courage bold, and zeal that could not tire,
You nobly trod the danger path, God rest you,
Sam Maguire."*

FIVE and forty years ago a group of his old friends and some younger admirers gathered together in Dublin to decide how best they could honour the memory of a man who, in his lifetime, had all but personified the spirit of the exiled Gaels.

The group decided that the memorial, for reasons that will be obvious, should be a cup that would be presented each year to the winners of the All-Ireland senior football championship . . . And that is why the name of Sam Maguire is the best known name in the entire G.A.A. world today.

But who was this Sam Maguire? And why should the All-Ireland senior football trophy be named after him?

Sam Maguire was a Corkman, born in Dunmanway, who left home as a youth to take up a position in the Post Office in London.

There the young West Cork man remained as true a son of his native country as ever breathed. Not alone did he throw himself heart and soul into the organisation of the Gaelic Athletic Association in the English capital, but he was the driving force behind the move to bring London teams into the All-Ireland championships at the start of the present century.

What is more, Sam Maguire, practising on the playing fields what he preached in the Council chamber, was an outstanding player in the exiles' vain bid to gain All-Ireland football honours through the following decade.

In all, he played in four finals, captaining London in two of these, but unlike their hurlers, the exiled footballers were never quite good enough in those days to overcome home opposition.

Moreover, Sam Maguire was one of the men who, by his hard work and enthusiasm, kept the games in London going through good days and bad. But his work for Ireland extended much further than the G.A.A. itself. He was, from his early days, a member of the secret revolutionary organi-

sation, the Irish Republican Brotherhood.

He soon became an officer of the I.R.B. and eventually London organiser. Indeed, it was Sam Maguire who swore a young fellow-West Cork man named Michael Collins into the I.R.B. at Barnsbury Hall in November 1909. They had been close associates in the G.A.A. of London from the time Collins arrived in that city and their association in the G.A.A. continued until Collins returned to Dublin at the end of 1915.

But their connection through the I.R.B. was, if anything, to grow even more close-knit through the years ahead.

During the vital phase of the Fight for Freedom, Sam Maguire was the man on whom Collins could always rely to carry out any instructions, no matter how difficult or dangerous the task involved.

Sam Maguire did not survive the death of Michael Collins for very long. For he died while still a comparatively young man, and he sleeps now, beneath a monument among his own in the quiet churchyard of his native parish of Dunmanway, where he first learned to love the games, the traditions and the ideals of the Gael.

In present times, when we hear talk of "two nations" of Irishmen in Ireland, of a people allegedly split forever into two irreconcilable camps by religious differences, it is timely to point out that Sam Maguire, All-Ireland football captain, patriot, I.R.B. man, friend and confidant of Michael Collins and of other leaders of the National Movement, was a Protestant.

Finally, here is a tribute from an article written about him not too long after his death:—"Sam Maguire was a great Gael and an intrepid Irishman, while he lived, the embodiment of the faithful exile who immolates himself for his ideal of duty and devotion. It would be well for Ireland if she were endowed with a kindlier remembrance of such sons, because the virtues they possessed are high stars in the firmament of human heroism that seeks no reward on this earth."

*"Perhaps some bard may frame a lay more fitting
far than mine,
When Ireland wakes, when dawns the day of
Liberty sublime;
Then let him tell of one who fell, while toiling
up still higher,
A Patriot among the few, God rest you, Sam
Maguire"*

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Matches on the way

OFFALY and Kerry each had three engagements on the way to the final. The Southerners averaged just a point a game more than the All-Ireland champions, but Offaly have a slight advantage in the defensive records.

Kerry, supreme in Munster for the 53rd time since 1892, were first in the field.

June 11—(at Clonmel)—Kerry 1-12; Tipperary 0-9.

July 16—(at Killarney)—Kerry 2-21; Cork 2-15.

August 13—(at Croke Park)—Kerry 1-22; Roscommon 1-12.

This gives them a match average of 22.33 points for a total of 4-55 (67 points), and they conceded exactly 15 points per game—total 3-36 (45 points).

Comprehensively ahead in their scoring chart is Mick O'Dwyer with 0-21. Liam Higgins scored 1-9, and in the third place at 0-9 is Mick O'Connell. Mick Gleeson put up 1-4, Brendan Lynch 0-7, Donal Kavanagh 2-0, Eamonn O'Donoghue and John O'Keefe 0-2 each, and Tom Prendergast completes the list with 0-1.

Offaly played all of their games at Croke Park. This was also the case in 1969 on the way to their last All-Ireland final clash with Kerry. Offaly are Leinster champions for the fifth time since 1960.

June 25—Offaly 2-17; Meath 3-5.

July 23—Offaly 1-18; Kildare 2-8.

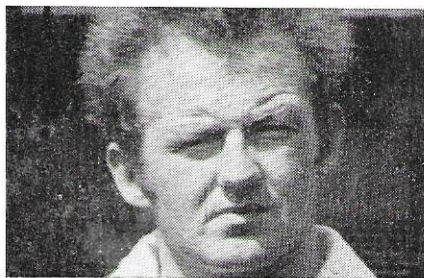
August 20—Offaly 1-17; Donegal 2-10.

They put up three points fewer than Kerry at 4-52 (64 points), which works out at an average of 21.33 points per match. They had 7-23 (44 points), or an average 14.66 points per tie, recorded against them.

As in the case of Kerry, it's one player well ahead of the field in the scoring line—Tony McTague, who has 0-20. Willie Bryan hit 1-7 and Kevin Kilmurray 2-4. John Cooney 0-7, Nicholas Clavin 0-6, Sean Evans 1-1, Seamus Darby and Larry Coughlan 0-2 each, and Murt Connor, Pat Fenning and Eugene Mulligan at 0-1 apiece were the other men on the target.

Na Captaein

SINSIR

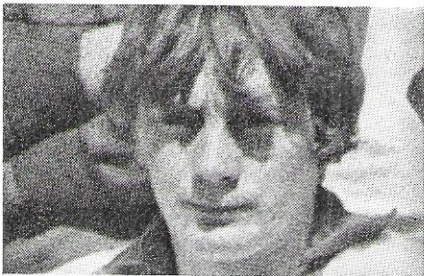


Tony McTague . . . Uibh Fhailí



Tom Prendergast . . . Ciarraí

MIONÚIR

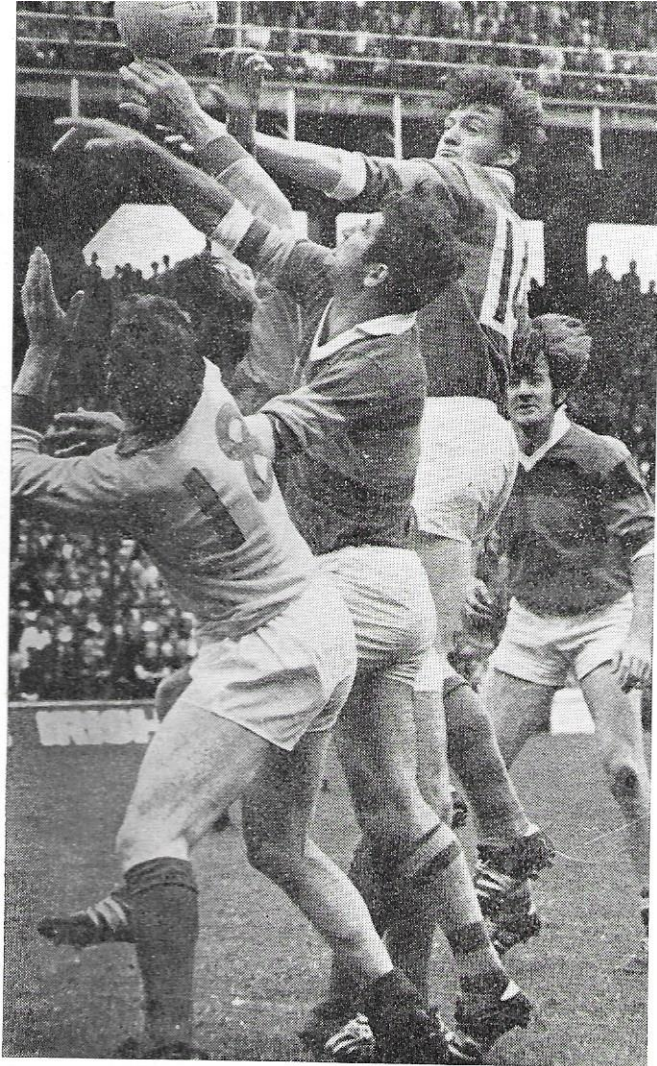


Frank McGuigan . . . Tir Eoghain



Gerald Ahern . . . Corcaigh

The leading marksmen



● Kerry's Mick O'Dwyer (centre) and Liam Higgins (No. 14) bombard the Roscommon goal in the semi-final on August 13. On right is Donal Kavanagh and No. 18 is Eamonn Beades of Roscommon.

ALTHOUGH Tony McTague and Mick O'Dwyer are in an extra special class when it comes to finding the target consistently, neither has yet marked an All-Ireland senior final appearance with the kind of scoring totals they produce in other games. The Offaly man reached his peak last year against Galway with 0-6, while the Kerry sharpshooter's best is 0-5. He put up that score against Down in 1968, and again against Meath two years ago.

These figures put McTague and O'Dwyer well down in the chart of the top individual scoring achievements in senior football finals since 1956. That was the year of a vintage decider, score-wise, between Galway and Cork.

Galway full-forward Frank Stockwell had a

celebrated hour with a fine bag of 2-5, and no forward has since equalled that total. Another two-goal-getter in that 1956 game was Cork right half-forward, Denis "Toots" Kelleher, who finished with 2-1 to his credit.

The nearest any player came to the Stockwell record was in 1970, when Mickey Fay, of Meath, recorded 0-10 against Kerry. However, that was an 80 minutes final, the first.

Leading the way for Kerry is Dan McAuliffe with 2-2 in the win over Galway for the 1959 title, while McTague's score last September brought him level in the Offaly list with Harry Donnelly, who scored 0-6 against Down in 1961.

Whatever about the prospects of Stockwell's good top-of-the-chart score being passed out today, he would be a brave man who would bet on this final producing a better individual record than the one set up in May, 1960, by Johnny Joyce (Dublin) at Mullingar.

Joyce, who wore the No. 14 jersey in that Leinster tie, hit a tremendous score of 5-3 against Longford, the highest individual total in a football championship game from 1955 up to the present.

The best individual score in the current series was put up by Michael Kearins (Sligo) in the Connacht semi-final replay with Mayo at Castlebar. In a game that went to extra time, he shot 0-14, 0-9 from frees.

McTague had his greatest scoring game as a senior last April, when he put up 0-14 in a draw with Mayo in a National League semi-final. O'Dwyer reached his peak against Tipperary in a National League tie at Killarney in December, 1969, with 2-11.

The leading individual scores in All-Ireland senior finals since 1956 are:

11 points—2-5—F. Stockwell (Galway) v Cork in 1956.

10 points—0-10—M. Fay (Meath) v Kerry in 1970.

9 points—0-9—C. Dunne (Galway) v Kerry in 1964.

2-3—S. Leydon (Galway) v Offaly in 1971.

8 points—2-2—D. McAuliffe (Kerry) v Galway in 1959.

1-5—P. Doherty (Down) v Kerry in 1960.

1-5—Don Feeley (Roscommon) v Kerry in 1962.

The minor final

THIS Cork-Tyrone meeting is another classic example of the way that the All-Ireland minor football championship continues to provide a vital stimulus to the game. Cork have not won the Sam Maguire Cup since 1945, but impressive achievements in the minor ranks in latter years, highlighted by an All-Ireland title treble in 1967-68-69, have helped in a prominent way in the development of football at senior level in the county.

Similarly with Tyrone. Football there gained much from the county's only All-Ireland minor title wins of 1947 and 1948. This year's march to a first decider in 24 years has in itself already given a boost to the game in the Ulster county.

Both counties are sure to profit further from the final, as these teams will provide very sound foundations for the future. The footballers from the North and the South are all safe fielders, accurate kickers, and play with tremendous dash and spirit, and considerable skill.

It speaks well, in fact, for the quality of the men in the minor ranks just now that the Tyrone captain and midfield player Frank McGuigan went in as a substitute in the Ulster senior final in July after winning his second Northern minor medal—he was also in the side that lost last year's All-Ireland semi-final to Mayo. McGuigan had played with Tyrone seniors against Armagh and Derry earlier in the championship, and he went on to add an Ulster under-21 medal this year to the minor award.

He is a footballer who seems destined to be to the forefront in the decider—but he is unlikely to be the only star.

Cork and Tyrone showed in the earlier rounds that they have more than the usual quota of outstanding players, and in all positions.

Some of the Cork players, in fact, have already All-Ireland final experience. Kieran Collins, Kieran Murphy, Robert Wilmot and Jimmy Barry-Murphy are links with the team beaten by Mayo at this stage last September, while Collins,

Wilmot, Barry-Murphy and Sean Farrell were among the Cork youths in action in the recent hurling clash with Kilkenny.

Cork opened with a comfortable win over Waterford, and then showed great fighting heart in the Munster final at Killarney by hitting back from a five points deficit eleven minutes into the second half to beat Kerry by a goal. Their ability to take goal-scoring chances was a decisive factor in their win over Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final.

Jimmy Barry-Murphy and Liam Good have been impressive in attack, but every member of a talented division is accomplished and can take a score.

The inflexible defensive spirit of Kieran Collins, Murphy, Conor Barrett and their colleagues in defence ensure a solid barrier to the Cork goal, and the Munster champions are also well served at midfield.

But Tyrone's credentials are no less impressive. They handled the challenges of good Donegal and Derry teams in the early stages, and then impressed many shrewd judges as a side likely to do well with their work-rate and purposeful showing in a two goal win over Cavan to retain the Northern title.

Probably the best performance of all was one that compensated for failure to Cork in 1967 and to Mayo last year in recent semi-finals when accounting for a good Meath side in the semi-final.

Midfielders McGuigan and Des McKenna shone in that game, but their displays did not overshadow the fact that Tyrone are also well served in the other sectors. Gerry Goodwin, Dominic Daly, Justin O'Doherty and their co-defenders confirmed earlier impressions that they are cool and dependable, while Michael Harte, Jimmy Hughes and Bosco O'Neill prompt an attack that is sharp and lively.

Both teams, then, have the credentials, and the footballers to colour this first-ever clash in a minor decider with one of the best All-Ireland championship finals in years.



● The Cork minor team who beat Galway, 2-8 to 0-11, in the semi-final on August 13.

CORCAIGH

Dathanna : Dearg is Bán
(Red and White)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>(2) C. Ó Coileáin
K. Collins
(Nemo Rangers)</p> <p>(5) S. Ó Fearail
S. Farrell
(Glenville)</p> <p>(8) S. Ó Súilleabháin
S. O'Sullivan
(Dunmanway)</p> <p>(10) L. Gúil
L. Gould
(Macroom)</p> <p>(13) P. Ó hArrachtáin
F. Harrington
(Clonakilty)</p> | <p>(1) T. Ó Súilleabháin
T. O'Sullivan
(Macroom)</p> <p>(3) C. Ó Baróid
C. Barrett
(Nemo Rangers)</p> <p>(6) C. Ó Murchú
K. Murphy
(Nemo Rangers)</p> <p>(11) L. Guid
L. Good
(Nemo Rangers)</p> <p>(14) S. de Barra-Ó Murchú
J. Barry-Murphy
(St. Finbarr's)</p> | <p>(4) T. Ó Críodáin
T. Creedon
(Macroom)</p> <p>(7) R. Bhilmot
R. Wilmot
(Bandon)</p> <p>(9) D. Ó hÍr
D. O'Hare
(Millstreet)</p> <p>(12) G. Ó hEatháin (Capt.)
G. Ahern
(St. Finbarr's)</p> <p>(15) C. Ó Súilleabháin
C. O'Sullivan
(Kilshannig)</p> |
|--|--|--|

Fir Ionaid: (16) D. Ó Ceocháin (D. Keohane, Careragh); (17) R. de Fuiteigh (R. Whitley, Na Piarasaigh); (18) T. de Baróid (T. Barrett, Millstreet); (19) P. Ó Murchú (P. Murphy, Glanmire); (20) S. Ó Sé (S. Ó Sé, Adrigole).

CORCAIGH	Cúil Goals	Cúilíní Points	Seachai Overs	50 Sl. 50's	Saor-Chiceanna Free Kicks
1adh Leath (1st Half)					
2adh Leath (2nd Half)					
Iomlán (Total)					



● Tyrone minors, 3-10 to 0-10 victors over Meath in the semi-final on August 20.

TÍR EOGHAIN

Dathanna : Bán is Dearg
(White and Red)

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| (1) P. Ó Coirealláin
P. Kerlin
(Eoghan Ruadh) | (3) A. Ó Maonaigh
H. Mooney
(Edendork) | (4) D. Ó Dálaigh
D. Daly
(Killeshil) |
| (2) G. Mac Gualraic
G. Goodwin
(Dungannon) | (6) C. Mac Giolla Uíir
C. McAleer
(Beragh) | (7) I. Ó Dochartaigh
J. O'Doherty
(Omagh) |
| (5) O. Ó Néill
O. O'Neill
(Omagh) | (8) P. Mag Uiginn (Capt.)
F. McGuigan
(Ardboe) | (9) D. Mac Cionnaoith
D. McKenna
(Augher) |
| (10) M. Ó Cuinn
M. Quinn
(Stewartstown) | (11) S. Ó hAodha
J. Hughes
(Coalisland) | (12) B. Ó Néill
B. O'Neill
(Clonoe) |
| (13) T. Mac Cathmhaoil
T. Campbell
(Omagh) | (14) M. Ó hAirt
M. Harte
(Ballygawley) | (15) P. Ó Cuinn
P. Quinn
(Aghaloo) |

Fir Ionaid : (16) M. Mac Giolla Chomhail (M. Coyle, Carrickmore); (17) P. Ó Gruagáin (F. Groogan, Carrickmore); (18) S. Ó Cuinneagáin (J. Cunningham, Pomeroy); (19) D. Ó Ceinneide (D. Kennedy, Dungannon); (20) S. Mac Daibhéid (J. McDaid, Omagh).

TÍR EOGHAIN	Cúil Goals	Cúilíní Points	Seachai Overs	50 Sl. 50's	Saor-Chiceanna Free Kicks
1adh Leath (1st Half)					
2adh Leath (2nd Half)					
Iomlán (Total)					

MIONÚIR

Na cluichí ceannais

TYRONE are one of five counties with unbeaten records in All-Ireland minor football finals. In 1947, they became the first from the Six Counties area to qualify for a decider, and then beat Mayo. A year later in their only other outing at this stage, Tyrone retained the title at the expense of Dublin.

Cork are the modern-day specialists of a series that was introduced in 1929. Their colours were not sported in a decider for the first time until as recently as 1960, when Galway proved triumphant. Last September Cork made it seven appearances in the past twelve seasons, a record for any county in the period, when losing to Mayo.

They won the title for the third successive year, and the fourth time in all, in 1969 by beating Derry.

Ulster have not had a direct interest in a decider since that 1969 game, and it is seven years since Derry scored the last Northern final win. That was against Kerry.

This will be the 40th final, and so far only one, that of 1970 between Galway and Kerry, ended in a draw. Galway won the replay, and here is how the counties now measure up in Roll of Honour:

7, Dublin, Kerry; 4, Cork, Mayo; 3, Galway, Roscommon; 2, Cavan, Louth, Tyrone; 1, Armagh, Clare, Derry, Meath, Offaly, Tipperary.

Roscommon, in 1941, were the first winners of the Tom Markham Cup, the trophy for the minor championship. Dublin's name is inscribed on the plinth six times, and Cork and Kerry come next with four successes.

Both Cork and Tyrone are concerned with two of the top scoring records in the series. In 1967, Cork hit 5-14 against Laois and this 29 points total shares with Dublin's score of 5-14 against Leitrim in 1956 the highest total rating for the series. In 1947, Mayo put up against Tyrone at 4-3 the best tally by an unsuccessful side.

Ulster gained an historic first in teenage football last April when St. Patrick's, Cavan, won the Hogan Cup for the All-Ireland Colleges' senior football championship for the first time. Tyrone are now the North's last hope for an inter-county

national title this year.

Following are the results of minor football finals since the inauguration of the championship in 1929:—

- 1929—Clare 5-3; Longford 3-5.
- 1930—Dublin 1-3; Mayo 0-5.
- 1931—Kerry 3-4; Louth 0-4.
- 1932—Kerry 3-8; Laois 1-3.
- 1933—Kerry 4-1; Mayo 0-9.
- 1934—Tipperary (awarded title).
- 1935—Mayo 1-6; Tipperary 1-1.
- 1936—Louth 5-1; Kerry 1-8.
- 1937—Cavan 1-11; Wexford 1-5.
- 1938—Cavan 3-3; Kerry 0-8.
- 1939—Roscommon 1-9; Monaghan 1-7.
- 1940—Louth 5-5; Mayo 2-7.
- 1941—Roscommon 3-6; Louth 0-7.
- 1942-44—Competition suspended.
- 1945—Dublin 4-7; Leitrim 0-4.
- 1946—Kerry 3-7; Dublin 2-3.
- 1947—TYRONE 4-4; Mayo 4-3.
- 1948—TYRONE 0-11; Dublin 1-5.
- 1949—Armagh 1-7; Kerry 1-5.
- 1950—Kerry 3-6; Wexford 1-4.
- 1951—Roscommon 2-7; Armagh 1-5.
- 1952—Galway 2-7; Cavan 1-6.
- 1953—Mayo 2-11; Clare 1-6.
- 1954—Dublin 3-3; Kerry 1-8.
- 1955—Dublin 5-4; Tipperary 2-7.
- 1956—Dublin 5-14; Leitrim 2-2.
- 1957—Meath 3-9; Armagh 0-4.
- 1958—Dublin 2-10; Mayo 0-8.
- 1959—Dublin 0-11; Cavan 1-4.
- 1960—Galway 4-9; **Cork** 1-5.
- 1961—**CORK** 3-7; Mayo 0-5.
- 1962—Kerry 6-5; Mayo 0-7.
- 1963—Kerry 1-10; Westmeath 0-2.
- 1964—Offaly 0-15; **Cork** 1-11.
- 1965—Derry 2-8; Kerry 2-4.
- 1966—Mayo 1-12; Down 1-8.
- 1967—**CORK** 5-14; Laois 2-3.
- 1968—**CORK** 3-5; Sligo 1-10.
- 1969—**CORK** 2-7; Derry 0-11.
- 1970—Galway 1-11; Kerry 1-10 (Replay).
Galway 1-8; Kerry 2-5 (Draw).
- 1971—Mayo 2-15; **Cork** 2-7.



● T. O'Sullivan, the Cork minor goalkeeper, goes down to save a Galway shot in the All-Ireland semi-final.

How the minors qualified

CORK are Munster champions for the 12th time, while Tyrone have edged ahead of all other counties in Ulster this year by winning their ninth provincial crown. They had shared the leadership with Armagh.

Cork played three games, as against Tyrone's four, and they scored just under two points more in each tie than the Northerners averaged. However, Tyrone's record in defence is over three points per game better than Cork's.

June 28—(at Midleton)—Cork 1-14; Waterford 0-8.

July 16—(at Killarney)—Cork 2-14; Kerry 1-14.

August 13—(at Croke Park)—Cork 2-8; Galway 0-11.

The Munster team averaged 17 points per game with a combined score of 5-36 (51 points), and their "against" record is 1-33 (36 points), or 12 points an hour.

Eamonn O'Sullivan is their top scorer with 2-5. Jimmy Barry-Murphy put up 1-7, Leo Gould 0-9,

Ger Aherne 1-5, Derry O'Hare 0-4, Liam Good 0-3, Sean O'Shea 1-0, Robert Wilmot 0-2, and Brian Og Murphy 0-1.

Tyrone had three games inside twelve days in Ulster:

July 19—(at Ballyshannon)—Tyrone 1-6; Donegal 0-6.

July 23—(at Dungannon)—Tyrone 1-15; Derry 1-7.

July 30—(at Clones)—Tyrone 3-6; Cavan 1-6.

August 20—(at Croke Park)—Tyrone 3-10; Meath 0-10.

Their over-all score is 8-37 (61 points), or an average of 15.25 points per game. They had 2-29 (35 points) scored against them at the average rate of 8.75 points in each game.

Their scorers were Michael Harte 3-7 (16 points), Frank McGuigan 1-7, Michael Quinn 1-5, Jimmy Hughes 0-7, Declan Kennedy 1-3, Dessie McKenna 1-1, Paul Quinn 0-3, J. Cunningham 1-0, Tommy Campbell and Bosco O'Neill 0-2 each.

CIARRAÍ

Dathanna : Gorm is Bán
(Blue and White)



(1) E. Mac Gearailt
E. Fitzgerald
(Crokes)



(2) D. Ó Súilleabháin
D. O'Sullivan
(Spa)



(3) P. Ó Donnchú
P. O'Donoghue
(Ballylongford)



(4) S. Mac Gearailt
S. Fitzgerald
(Gaeltacht)



(5) T. de Priondragás (Capt.)
T. Prendergast
(Keel)



(6) M. Ó Sé
M. O'Shea
(Gaeltacht)



(7) P. Ó Loingsigh
P. Lynch
(Beaufort and U.C.C.)



(8) M. Ó Conaill
M. O'Connell
(Waterville)



(9) S. Ó Caoimh
J. O'Keefe
(Austin Stacks and U.C.D.)



(10) B. Ó Loingsigh
B. Lynch
(Beaufort and U.C.C.)



(11) D. Caomhánach
D. Kavanagh
(Crokes and U.C.C.)



(12) E. Ó Donnchú
E. O'Donoghue
(Ballylongford)



(13) M. Ó Gliasáin
M. Gleeson
(Spa)



(14) L. Ó hUiginn
L. Higgins
(Lispole)



(15) M. Ó Duibhir
M. O'Dwyer
(Waterville)

Fir Ionaid : (16) P. Ó Gríofa (P. Griffin, Clonakilty); (17) D. Ó Cruaíoch (D. Crowley, Glenfleisc); (18) S. Breathnach (J. Walsh, Ballylongford); (19) S. Mac Sandair (J. Saunders, Rathmore); (20) M. Ó Súilleabháin (M. O'Sullivan, Kenmare).

CIARRAÍ	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaf	50 Sl.	Saor-Chiceanna
1adh Leath (1st Half)					
2adh Leath (2nd Half)					
Iomlán (Total)					



(1) E. Mac Gearailt
E. Fitzgerald
(Crokes)



(3) P. Ó Donnchú
P. O'Donoghue
(Ballylongford)



(6) M. Ó Sé
M. O'Shea
(Gaeltacht)



(8) M. Ó Conaill
M. O'Connell
(Waterville)



(11) D. Caomhánach
D. Kavanagh
(Crokes and U.C.C.)



(14) L. Ó hUiginn
L. Higgins
(Lispole)



(4) S. Mac Gearailt
S. Fitzgerald
(Gaeltacht)



(7) P. Ó Loingsigh
P. Lynch
(Beaufort and U.C.C.)



(9) S. Ó Caoimh
J. O'Keeffe
(Austin Stacks and U.C.D.)



(12) E. Ó Donnchú
E. O'Donoghue
(Ballylongford)



(15) M. Ó Duibhir
M. O'Dwyer
(Waterville)

Réiteoir:
F. Ó TIARNAIGH
(An Cabhán)



Maoir-Cúl:

S. Ó Néill
(An Dún)

S. Ó Conaill
(Doire)

P. Ó Longáin
(Sligeach)

G. Ó Tuathail
(Liatroim)



(2) M. Ó Riain
M. Ryan
(Erin's Isle, Ath Cliath)



(5) E. Ó Maolagáin
E. Mulligan
(Rhode)



(8) L. Ó Briain
W. Bryan
(Éire Óg)



(10) S. Ó Cuanaigh
S. Cooney
(Erin's Rovers)



(13) P. Ó Fionnáin
P. Fenning
(Tullamore)



(1) M. Furlong
M. Furlong
(Tullamore)



(3) P. Mac Cormaic
P. McCormack
(Rhode)



(6) S. Ó Labhraí
S. Lowry
(Ferbane)



(9) S. Ó hEimh
S. Evans
(Ballyfore)



(11) C. Mac Giolla Muire
K. Kilmurray
(Daingean)



(14) S. Mac Gabhann
J. Smith
(Gracefield)

(16) P. Ó Gríofa (P. Griffin, Clonakilty); (17) D. Ó Crualaioich (D. Crowley, S. Breathnach (J. Walsh, Ballylongford); (19) S. Mac Sandair (J. Saunders, M. Ó Súilleabháin (M. O'Sullivan, Kenmare).

Fir Ionaid: (16) N. Mac an Airchinnigh (N. Kinnarney, St. Columbas); (17) Mhín (N. Clavin, St. Carthages); (18) M. Mac an tSaoir (M. Wright, Daingean); (19) aig (J. Gunning, Rhode); (20) L. Ó hAnluain (L. Hanlon, Daingean).

	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaf	50 Sl.	Saor-Chiceanna
1st Half)					
2nd Half)					

UIBH FHAILÍ	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaf	50 Sl.
1ad Leath (1st Half)				
2ad Leath (2nd Half)				
Iomlán (Total)				

UÍBH FHAILÍ

Dathanna : Glas is Bán
(Green and White)



(1) **M. Furlong**
M. Furlong
(Tullamore)



(2) **M. Ó Riain**
M. Ryan
(Erin's Isle, Ath Cliath)



(3) **P. Mac Cormaic**
P. McCormack
(Rhode)



(4) **L. Ó Cochláin**
L. Coughlan
(Ballymore Eustace)



(5) **E. Ó Maolagáin**
E. Mulligan
(Rhode)



(6) **S. Ó Labhraí**
S. Lowry
(Ferbane)



(7) **M. Ó hEimhigh**
M. Heavey
(Rhode)



(8) **L. Ó Briain**
W. Bryan
(Éire Óg)



(9) **S. Ó hEimhín**
S. Evans
(Ballyfore)



(10) **S. Ó Cuanaigh**
S. Cooney
(Erin's Rovers)



(11) **C. Mac Giolla Muire**
K. Kilmurray
(Daingean)



(12) **A. Mac Tadhg (Capt.)**
A. McTague
(Ferbane)



(13) **P. Ó Fionnáin**
P. Fenning
(Tullamore)



(14) **S. Mac Gabhann**
J. Smith
(Gracefield)



(15) **M. Ó Conchúir**
M. Connor
(Éire Óg)

Fir Ionaid : (16) N. Mac an Airchinnigh (N. Kinnarney, St. Columbas); (17) N. Ó Cláirín (N. Clavin, St. Carthages); (18) M. Mac an tSaoir (M. Wright, Daingean); (19) S. Ó Conaig (J. Gunning, Rhode); (20) L. Ó hAnluain (L. Hanlon, Daingean).

UÍBH FHAILÍ	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seacháí	50 Sl.	Saor-Chiceanna
1 ^{ad} Leath (1st Half)					
2 ^{ad} Leath (2nd Half)					
Iomlán (Total)					

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SPORTS DEPT.

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● *Champions 1971 . . . the Offaly team who won the historic first All-Ireland for the county. Back row (l. to r.): P. McCormack, M. O'Rourke, M. Connor, K. Claffey, N. Clavin, S. Evans, M. Furlong, M. Ryan, K. Kilmurray. Front row (l. to r.): S. Cooney, A. McTague, W. Bryan (Capt.), E. Mulligan, M. Heavey, J. Gunning.*

● *Champions 1970 . . . the team who won Kerry's 22nd title. Back row (l. to r.): M. Gleeson, M. O'Connell, D. J. Crowley, M. Ó Sé, L. Higgins, P. O'Donoghue, J. O'Keefe, M. O'Dwyer. Front row (l. to r.): T. Prendergast, P. Griffin, J. Culloty, D. O'Sullivan, (Capt.) B. Lynch, E. O'Donoghue, S. Murphy.*



SINSIR

Na cluichi ceannais

OFFALY are in line to-day to become the first Leinster county to win two All-Ireland senior football finals in succession since Kildare won the championships of 1927 and 1928. The last double for Leinster was completed by Louth in 1957 and Dublin in 1958.

The 1928 decider takes on a further significance in that it was the first for which the Sam Maguire Cup was presented. Kildare had a point to spare over Cavan, and were captained by Bill Gannon.

The last successful title defence by a county in a decider was in 1970, when Kerry beat Meath to bring their record up to 22 championships since 1903. The remaining titles are shared as follows:

17, Dublin; 7, Galway; 5, Cavan, Wexford; 4, Kildare, Tipperary; 3 Cork, Down, Louth, Mayo, Meath; 2, Limerick, Roscommon; 1 Offaly.

Kerry will be making their 36th appearance in a final proper since 1892—a record also for the championship. This is Offaly's fourth final.

Offaly have a share in the most important attendance record in Irish sport. Their debut in a final in 1961 was against Down and the game drew the biggest attendance at a sporting fixture in this country—90,556. This figure cannot now be improved on, as the capacity of Croke Park has been reduced in the meantime.

The last drawn final was in 1952 and featured Cavan and Meath. Cavan won the replay.

In the following results summary the venues are given for the finals played outside Croke Park. * denotes that the particular final was played at the City and Suburban Grounds, Jones's Road, now Croke Park.

1887—Limerick 1-4; Louth 0-3 (at Clonskeagh).

1888—Unfinished owing to U.S.A. invasion by

G.A.A. athletes.

1889—Tipperary 3-6; Laois nil (at Inchicore).

1890—Cork 2-4; Wexford 0-1 (at Clonturk).

1891—Dublin 2-1; Cork 1-9 (at Clonturk).

(Note: At that time a goal outweighed any number of points).

1892—Dublin 1-4; Kerry 0-3 (at Clonturk).

1893—Wexford 1-1; Cork 0-1 (at Phoenix Park). Match unfinished.

1894—(Replay) Cork 1-2; Dublin 0-5 (at Thurles). Unfinished; Dublin awarded the championship. **Draw**—Dublin 0-6; Cork 1-1 (at Clonturk). Goal equalled five points.

1895—Tipperary 0-4; Meath 0-3*.

1896—Limerick 1-5; Dublin 0-7*.

1897—Dublin 2-6; Cork 0-2*.

1898—Dublin 2-8; Waterford 0-4 (at Tipperary).

1900—Tipperary 3-7; London 0-2*.

Home final: Tipperary 2-20; Galway 0-1 (at Terenure).

1901—Dublin 0-14; London 0-2*.

Home final: Dublin 1-2; Cork 0-4 (at Tipperary).

1902—Dublin 2-8; London 0-4 (at Cork).

Home final: Dublin 0-6; Tipperary 0-5 (at Kilkenny).

1903—KERRY 0-11; London 0-3*.

Home final: Kerry 0-8; Kildare 0-2 (at Cork). Second replay: Kerry 0-7; Kildare 1-4 (at Cork). Replay: Kerry 1-4; Kildare 1-3 (at Tipperary); goal disputed.

1904—KERRY 0-5; Dublin 0-2 (at Cork).

1905—Kildare 1-7; Kerry 0-5 (at Thurles).

1906—Dublin 0-5; Cork 0-4 (at Athy).

1907—Dublin 0-6; Cork 0-2 (at Tipperary).

1908—Dublin 1-10; London 0-4*.

CHRISTMAS CARDS IN AID OF BLIND BOYS

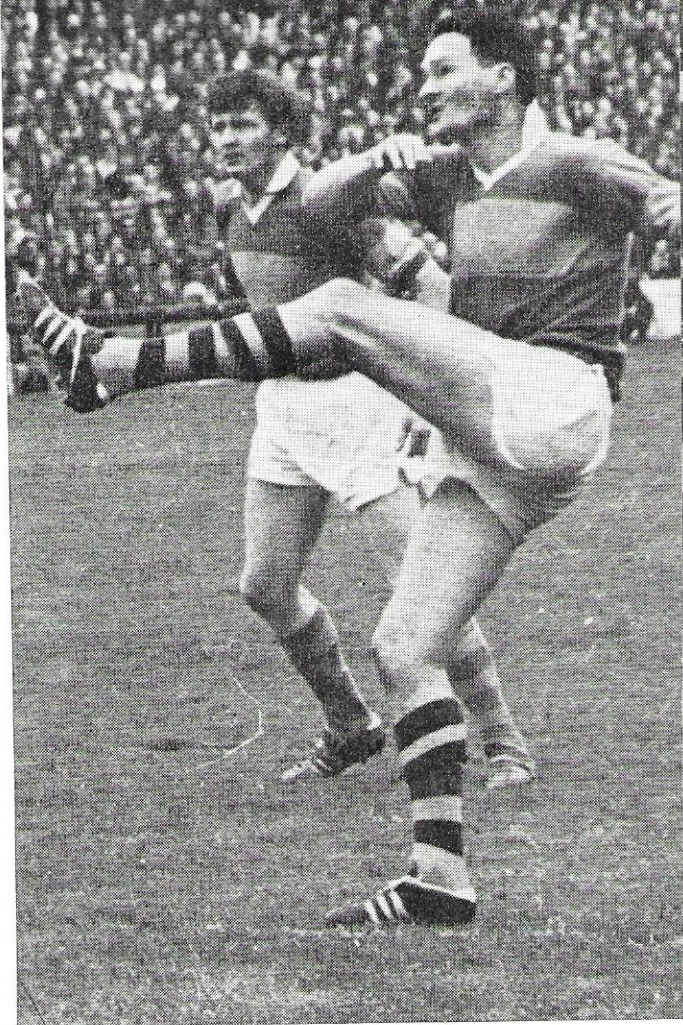
St. Joseph's School for Blind Boys

DRUMCONDRA — DUBLIN 9

Enquiries to Rev. Bro. Dalton

Home final: Dublin 0-10; Kerry 0-3 (at Thurles).

- 1909—**KERRY** 1-9; Louth 0-6*.
1910—**Louth** (walk-over), Kerry refused to travel. Fixed for Croke Park.
1911—**Cork** 6-6; Antrim 1-2.
1912—**Louth** 1-7; Antrim 1-2.
1913—**KERRY** 2-2; Wexford 0-3.
1914—(Replay) **KERRY** 2-3; Wexford 0-6. Draw: Kerry 1-3; Wexford 2-0.
1915—**Wexford** 2-4; Kerry 2-1.
1916—**Wexford** 2-4; Mayo 1-2.
1917—**Wexford** 0-9; Clare 0-5.
1918—**Wexford** 0-5; Tipperary 0-4.
1919—**Kildare** 2-5; Galway 0-1.
1920—**Tipperary** 1-6; Dublin 1-2.
1921—**Dublin** 1-9; Mayo 0-2.
1922—**Dublin** 0-6; Galway 0-4.
1923—**Dublin** 1-5; Kerry 1-3.
1924—**KERRY** 0-4; Dublin 0-3.
1925—**Galway** 3-2; Cavan 1-2.
Note: This was a substitute final.
1926—(Replay) **KERRY** 1-4; Kildare 0-4. Draw: Kerry 1-3; Kildare 0-6.
1927—**Kildare** 0-5; Kerry 0-3.
1928—**Kildare** 2-6; Cavan 2-5.
1929—**KERRY** 1-8; Kildare 1-5.
1930—**KERRY** 3-11; Monaghan 0-2.
1931—**KERRY** 1-11; Kildare 0-8.
1932—**KERRY** 2-8; Mayo 2-4.
1933—**Cavan** 2-5; Galway 1-4.
1934—**Galway** 3-5; Dublin 1-9.
1935—**Cavan** 3-6 Kildare 2-5.
1936—**Mayo** 4-11; Laois 0-5.
1937—(Replay) **KERRY** 4-4; Cavan 1-7.
Draw: Kerry 2-5; Cavan 1-8.
1938—(Replay) **Galway** 2-4; Kerry 0-7. Draw: Galway 3-3; Kerry 2-6.
1939—**KERRY** 2-5; Meath 2-3.
1940—**KERRY** 0-7; Galway 1-3.
1941—**KERRY** 1-8; Galway 0-7.
1942—**Dublin** 1-10; Galway 1-8.
1943—(Replay) **Roscommon** 2-7; Cavan 2-2.
Draw: Roscommon 1-6; Cavan 1-6.
1944—**Roscommon** 1-9; Kerry 2-4.
1945—**Cork** 2-5; Cavan 0-7.
1946—(Replay) **KERRY** 2-8; Roscommon 0-10.
Draw: Kerry 2-4; Roscommon 1-7.
1947—**Cavan** 2-11; Kerry 2-7 (at Polo Grounds, New York).
1948—**Cavan** 4-5; Mayo 4-4.
1949—**Meath** 1-10; Cavan 1-6.
1950—**Mayo** 2-5; Louth 1-6.
1951—**Mayo** 2-8; Meath 0-9.
1952—(Replay) **Cavan** 0-9; Meath 0-5. Draw: Cavan 2-4; Meath 1-7.



● **MICK O'CONNELL**

- 1953—**KERRY** 0-13; Armagh 1-6.
1954—**Meath** 1-13; **Kerry** 1-7.
1955—**KERRY** 0-12; Dublin 1-6.
1956—**Galway** 2-13; Cork 3-7.
1957—**Louth** 1-9; Cork 1-7.
1958—**Dublin** 2-12; Derry 1-9.
1959—**KERRY** 3-7; Galway 1-4.
1960—**Down** 2-10; Kerry 0-8.
1961—**Down** 3-6; Offaly 2-8.
1962—**KERRY** 1-12; Roscommon 1-6.
1963—**Dublin** 1-9; Galway 0-10.
1964—**Galway** 0-15; Kerry 0-10.
1965—**Galway** 0-12; Kerry 0-9.
1966—**Galway** 1-10; Meath 0-7.
1967—**Meath** 1-9; Cork 0-9.
1968—**Down** 2-12; Kerry 1-13.
1969—**KERRY** 0-10; Offaly 0-7.
1970—**KERRY** 2-19; Meath 0-18.
1971—**OFFALY** 1-14; Galway 2-8.

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Quotations from the papers

"KERRY literally strolled into their 37th All-Ireland senior football final" . . . "Kerry owe much to mighty Mick O'Connell" . . . "It was Bryan's presence at full forward that opened the way to victory for the champions" . . . "Offaly had a great and fearless goalie in Martin Furlong" . . . These are some of the comments taken from the match reports in the national daily papers on the recent All-Ireland senior semi-finals.

And, in the context of to-day's final, it is interesting to spotlight some of the views expressed after those games.

Of the Kerry-Roscommon match, Gerry McCarthy wrote in *The Irish Press*:

"It was a disappointing game, relieved only by the virtuosity of some of the Kerry men. Their experience was evident in the manner in which they covered off and backed up each other, it being very obvious each man was word perfect in his part in the over-all plan.

"In sharp contrast, Roscommon's tactics (?) were difficult to fathom. The forwards, as usual, adopted roving commissions, none more so than Freyne, who was at midfield as often as in his own position."

Of the same game, Paddy Downey in *The Irish Times*, said:

"When it was all over one was left wondering why Kerry's winning margin was as low as 10 points. A total of 15 wides, many of them kicked from good positions and by marksmen as expert as Mick O'Connell and Mick O'Dwyer, partially explains that situation and Roscommon's goal, scored by Dermot Earley in the 81st minute with the second last kick of the game, reduced the difference unexpectedly. But one felt that the Munster champions, who led at the interval by 1-11 to 0-8, could have made the agony of the losers' supporters very much greater if they had wished to do so."

John D. Hickey wrote in the *Irish Independent*:

"So comprehensive was their (Kerry's) mastery that they must have won by even an infinitely greater margin had not O'Connell and Mick O'Dwyer been uncharacteristically astray in their shooting.

"Although Kerry were much the more assured



● Mick Ryan fields a high ball outside the Offaly square during the All-Ireland semi-final on August 20. Challenging the right full-back is Donegal's Frankie McFeely.

team in the first 15 minutes, there was sufficient merit and elan in the Connacht side to hold out promise of a stirring battle, especially as they led by 0-4 to 0-3, on the merits, after 15 minutes.

"But from the time that Donal Kavanagh, who stepped up almost startlingly on his previous senior performances for the winners, scored their goal in the 16th minute, Roscommon disintegrated."

In the *Evening Press*, Sean O Ceallachain had this to say:

"For the ardent fan still longing for a spectacular game of football, it was a case of utter disappointment. The now highly criticised 80 minutes duration for All-Ireland semi-finals dragged to its weary conclusion yesterday. There was little hope for Roscommon of pulling the game out of the fire. They were simply outclassed by a very superior team which on the day were streets ahead in class and method."

The comments of Donal Carroll in the *Evening*

(Ar lean leath. 32)



● Paddy McCormack, the Offaly full-back, clears a Donegal attack in the semi-final.

(Ó leath. 31)

Herald included:

"In truth, Roscommon made it even easier for them—by patently over-using the ball. The gambit, not only yielded a wretched harvest; it gave the Kerry defenders all the time in the world to re-group and position themselves.

"The over-all effect was a dreadfully one-sided exercise as Kerry slipped casually into second gear, and took only the easiest of their scoring chances."

SO, to Offaly's win over Donegal.

Among the points made by Paddy Downey in *The Irish Times* were:

"The switch of midfielder Willie Bryan with full-forward Sean Evans (it took place shortly before the interval) was the most significant factor in their (Offaly's) recovery in the second half. Others were the move of John Smith from left full-back (where he had been having a moderate game) to centre half, Sean Lowry to left half, and Heavey nominally to the left corner, but actually

to follow the roving and dangerous Granaghan.

"But it was Bryan's presence at full-forward that opened the way to victory for the champions."

In the *Irish Independent*, John D. Hickey wrote:

"The football was never in the classical mould, but the sprint-like pace of the first half, particularly the opening twenty minutes, stimulated even neutrals that here was a Donegal that was unknown to us.

"Some, it was evident, considered that this, as football men are wont to say in advance of a game, was a two horse race. It was largely due to the brilliance of full-back Paddy McCormack, John Smith, a man transformed in the second half when at centre half back, the occasional bombardment of Army midfielder Larry Coughlan, the power of Sean Evans at midfield after the change of ends, the astuteness of Willie Bryan, who spent the second half at full-forward, and the inspiring zeal of centre forward Kevin Kilmurray that the champions qualified for a showdown with Kerry on September 24."

Padraig Puirseal, in *The Irish Press*, wrote that "the move that really won this match for Offaly was the exchange of Evans and Bryan". He went on:

"Evans and the powerful Coughlan took control at midfield after ten minutes of the second half and maintained their dominance there until the issue was all but beyond dispute. The crafty Bryan, though shaken from a first-half knock, outfoxed the man who had till then been Donegal's outstanding player, full-back McShea."

Writing in the *Evening Herald*, Donal Carroll said:

"Evans, who plays with the Offaly junior club, Ballyfore, had an outstanding second 40-minutes in the centre of the field. And this despite the fact that he turned on his ankle in the first half and had it heavily bandaged as he proceeded to outfield and outwork everyone else in the area.

"Heavey had the mobility and the tenacity to cancel out the tremendous threat represented by Seamie Granaghan. And Willie Bryan, seldom known for his accuracy near goal, plopped over four 'beauties' and 'made' plenty of others besides."

In the *Evening Press*, Sean O Ceallachain said:

"And there was no great feeling of exultation in the Offaly dressingroom. The bulk of the players readily admitted it was not one of their most memorable performances. One noticeable feature was the void created by the absence of star Offaly midfielder Nicholas Clavin, whose presence yesterday might well have struck the spark which would have ignited the team."

ANSEO IS ANSIÚD

TWELVE teams entered for the first All-Ireland senior football championship—that for the year 1887, and which was played on the open draw system. The counties were represented by their champion clubs. The pairings for the opening round were: Wicklow v. Clare; Louth v. Waterford; Kilkenny v. Cork; Galway v. Wexford; Meath v. Limerick; Tipperary v. Dublin.

Commercials, Limerick, and Young Irelands, Louth, qualified for the final played at Clonskeagh, Dublin, on April 29, 1888, which Limerick won 1-4 to 0-3.

In the 1889 All-Ireland final five Ryans played for Bohercrowe, Tipperary, who beat Portlaoise, Laois, who had five Cushions on their team.

Clonturk Park, Dublin, on February 28, 1891, was a day of notable triumph for Dublin Young Irelands. Early that day they beat Cavan Slashers in the All-Ireland semi-final, and the same afternoon lined out against Clondrohid, Cork, and beat them to capture the Blue Riband.

* * *

1892 marked Kerry's first appearance in an All-Ireland final. A goal had been made equal to five points that year and the number of players reduced from twenty-one to seventeen. Laune Rangers, led by that great athlete, J. P. O'Sullivan of Killorglin, made a great bid for the laurels, but Young Irelands played beautifully combined football and skillfully defied the bustling work of the eager and determined Munster men.

The first All-Ireland final played at Jones' Road, now Croke Park, was that of 1895. It was a highly controversial game in which Tipperary beat Meath, 0-4 to 0-3. There was an extraordinary sequel to the contest, when the referee, J. J. Kenny of Dublin, wrote to the newspapers of the following day stating that Tipperary secured one of their points unfairly and that the match should be replayed. Meath, very sportingly, refused to take advantage of the mistake alleged to have been made by the referee and the Munster men held their title. At Jones' Road also that same day Tipperary completed the double by winning the hurling crown at the expense of Kilkenny.

The 1902 All-Ireland final marked the opening of Cork Athletic Grounds. Bray Emmets repre-

sented Dublin were matched against London Irish and beat them, 2-8 to 0-4.

1903 was one of the great years of the championship. Kildare had rousing drawn games with Kilkenny before qualifying for the All-Ireland home final, in which they were pitted against Kerry. Three times this great pair met before the men from the "Kingdom" got the verdict and their first All-Ireland senior football title. A new standard was set in these games and a new Gaelic football era began. Two of the triumphant Kerry-men of that occasion—Dick Fitzgerald, Killarney, and Austin Stack, Tralee, have Gaelic parks now dedicated to their memory.

Kildare won their first of four All-Ireland titles when they beat Kerry at Thurles in a great game for the 1905 final.

The Kerry-Louth final in 1960 aroused great interest but a big disappointment was in store when the Kerry men refused to travel as a protest against the action of the Railway authorities who refused weekend travelling facilities for their followers. Louth were awarded a walk-over—the only bloodless victory in the history of the football championship.

Antrim were the first Ulster team to figure in an All-Ireland final. They were beaten by Cork in the 1911 decider.

Kerry and Wexford had a great drawn game and replay of outstanding merit before the 1914 "All-Ireland" went to the "Kingdom." The renowned Dick Fitzgerald was the winning captain.

* * *

Wexford were the first team to win four titles in a row—the years 1915, 1916, 1917 and 1918. A Connacht side appeared in the final for the first time when Mayo opposed the Wexford men in 1916.

The teams that played in a challenge game at Croke Park on "Bloody Sunday" when one of the Tipperary players — Michael Hogan of Grange-mockler—was shot dead in his football togs and twelve spectators suffered a like fate; also met in the All-Ireland final of that year, in which Tipperary beat Dublin, 1-6 to 1-2.

The championship went to Connacht for the first time in 1925. Mayo were nominated to represent the province at the inter-provincial stage and

(Ar lean leath. 35)

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(Ó leath. 33)

defeated Wexford by a goal. The other semi-finalists, Kerry and Cavan, were disqualified and when Galway beat Mayo in the subsequent Connacht final the men from the Corrib were declared All-Ireland champions.

★ ★ ★

1926 was another great Kerry-Kildare year, better even than the old days in the opinion of many who witnessed most of the great games of the past. Kerry won after a second meeting but Kildare reversed the verdict the following year in another thrill packed encounter.

Cavan appeared in their first final in 1928, and in a tremendous game they lost to Kildare by a solitary point, 2-6 to 2-5, the winning Leinster goal coming in the last minute of play.

For the first time ever Connacht and Ulster contested an All-Ireland final in 1933 and there was great excitement when Cavan won the crown for the first time, beating Galway, 2-5 to 1-4. The losers were back again the following year and won the Jubilee Year title, beating Dublin 3-5 to 1-9.

Mayo won in 1937—an unforgettable year for them.

Roscommon were champions for the first time in 1943 beating Cavan in a replay.

★ ★ ★

Dan O'Keeffe won a record seven All-Ireland medals with Kerry in 1946—his previous years being 1931, 1932, 1937, 1939, 1940 and 1941.

The 1947 final was played at the Polo Grounds, New York, on 14th September—the only decider played outside Ireland. Cavan beat Kerry, 2-11 to 2-7.

Meath won the first of their three finals in 1949.

Armagh were in the 1953 final, in which they lost to Kerry, 0-13 to 1-6.

Dublin beat Derry in the latter's only final appearance, which was in 1958.

The Sam Maguire Cup went over the Border for the first time in 1960, when Down beat Kerry.

★ ★ ★

Offaly were in their first final in 1961 when they lost to Down, 3-6 to 2-8. The attendance that day of 90,550 was a record that has not been surpassed. Offaly returned to win the title ten years later.

Dublin won the last of their seventeen titles in 1963, whilst Kerry brought their total to twenty-two in 1970.

● *Kerry's full-back, Paud O'Donoghue, punches clear in a tussle with Offaly's Kevin Kilmurray (then a substitute) during the 1969 All-Ireland.*



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G.A.A. BOOKS

The following is a list of G.A.A. books available, with the price, including postage attached, together with the name and address of the publisher in each case :

Tipperary G.A.A. Yearbook, 1971. Price 35p (Gerry Slevin, "The Guardian," Nenagh, Co. Tipperary).
Connacht Gaelic Games Annual, 1972. Price 35p;
Twelve Glorious Years. By Jack Mahon. Price 35p;
Three in a Row. By Jack Mahon. Price 17½p; (M.D. Publications, 29 Oaklands, Salthill, Galway).

The Football Immortals. By Raymond Smith. Price 60p. (Creative Press Ltd., Botanic Road, Dublin 9).

Gaels in the Sun. By Peter McDermott. Price 85p. (Peter McDermott, G.A.A., Navan, Co. Meath).

Our Games Annual, 1972. Price 40p (An Runai, C.L.G., Paire an Chrocaigh, Ath Cliath 3).

Offaly—The Heroes. Price 15p. ("Gaelic Sport," 80 Upper Drumcondra Road, Dublin 9).

Coaching Gaelic Football for Champions. By Joe Lennon. Price 60p.; **Fitness for Gaelic Football.** By Joe Lennon. Price 50p. (Joe Lennon, c/o Franciscan College, Gormanston, Co. Meath).

Peil. Price 25p.; **Report of the Commission on the G.A.A.** Price £1.00. (An Runai, C.L.G., Paire an Chrocaigh, Ath Cliath 3).

Gaelic Sport. Price 10p. Yearly Subscription £1.50. ("Gaelic Sport," 80 Upper Drumcondra Road, Dublin 9).

Roscommon G.A.A. Year Book, 1971. Price 40p. (Roscommon Herald, Boyle, Co. Roscommon).

County Wexford G.A.A. Review, 1971. Price 20p. (Echo, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford).

Bliain-Iris Mhuigheo—Mayo G.A.A. Yearbook, 1972. Price 25p. (Castlebar Mitchel's G.A.A. Club, Castlebar, Co. Mayo).

An Cul—a quarterly magazine devoted to G.A.A. games. Price 20p. (Gaelic Press, 5 Nth. Gt. Georges Street, Dublin 1).

Gaelic Stars of the Year. Price 25p. (Oisin Publications, 4 Iona Drive, Dublin 9).

An Deiseach—Waterford G.A.A. Annual, 1971-72. Price 35p. (Seamus O Braonain, Abbeyside, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford).

PAST ISSUES OF "OUR GAMES" AVAILABLE

The following issues of past Our Games Annuals are available:—1958, '60, '62, '63, '64, '69, '70 and '71. The 1962 book is most valuable as it contains statistics galore in ALL competitions up to that date. These are available from An Runai, C.L.G., Paire an Chrocaigh, Ath Cliath 3.

● *Sean Cooney (No. 10) and Murt Connor (No. 15) in action for Offaly last year. Cooney is still a key figure in the All-Ireland champions' attack.*



SCÓR



'SCÓR '73'

The G.A.A. talent Competitions are due to commence in the near future. The competitions will be named "Scór '73" this year. The following changes in competitions and dates are important to note.

"Scór na nÓg" which is the under 16 competition will be held from early in September to the Final on 9th December.

The Adult competition will commence on October 1st and continue until the Final on the 18th March, 1973.

Seo leanas na dátaí i gcóir na

Comortaisi Cuige

CONNACHTA: Feabhra 16adh, 1973

MUMHA: Feabhra 21adh, 1973

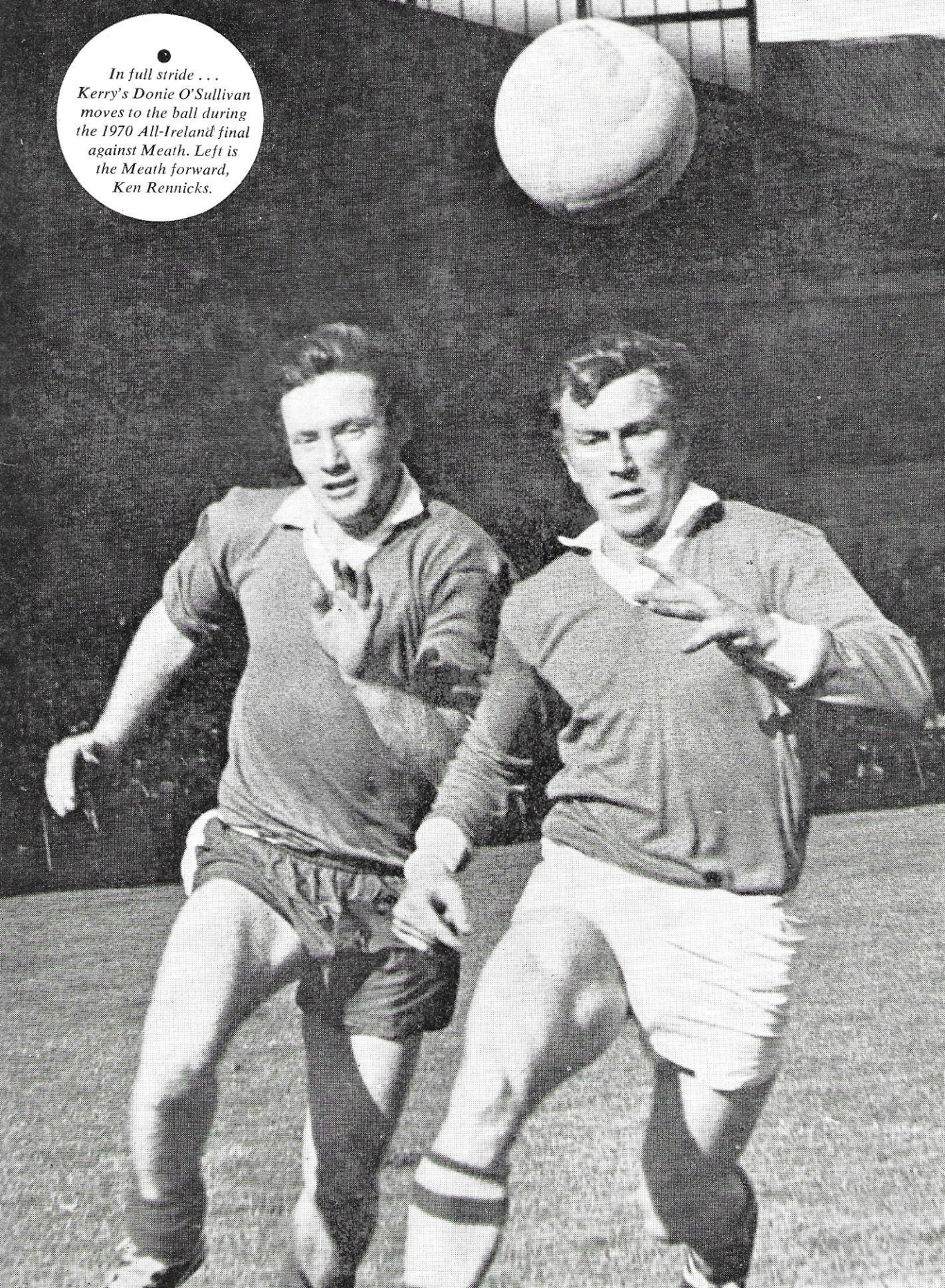
LAIGHEAN: Feabhra 18adh, 1973

ULAI DH: Feabhra 25adh, 1973

*The Scór '73 competitions for the
1972/'73 period are as follows . . .*

- 1 RECITATIONS
- 2 INDIVIDUAL STEP DANCING
- 3 INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC
- 4 NOVELTY ACT
- 5 QUESTION TIME
- 6 INDIVIDUAL BALLAD
- 7 TRADITIONAL SET DANCING
- 8 BALLAD GROUP SINGING

*In full stride . . .
Kerry's Donie O'Sullivan
moves to the ball during
the 1970 All-Ireland final
against Meath. Left is
the Meath forward,
Ken Rennicks.*



Previous meetings

ALTHOUGH this is only the second All-Ireland senior final between these counties, an interesting background to the game is provided by the fact that Kerry and Offaly have been in opposition in a number of important matches in recent seasons. Many of the players on duty today figured in the earlier clashes.

May 18, 1969—Kerry 3-11; Offaly 0-8

This was Offaly's first appearance in a National League "Home" final, but with Mick O'Shea impressive at left half-back, Mick O'Connell in grand form at midfield, and Brendan Lynch, Eamonn O'Donoghue and Mick O'Dwyer especially prominent up front, Kerry finished convincing winners, and went on to win the title in New York.

September 28, 1969—Kerry 0-10; Offaly 0-7

Kerry were bidding for a 21st All-Ireland title; Offaly for a first crown in two finals. A gale which blew from the canal end to the Railway goal did not contribute to good conditions, and it was, understandably, not a top-class football exhibition. However, the closeness of the scoring in the second half kept interest alive to the final whistle.

Kerry's position did not look so secure when they led by only 0-5 to 0-2 at the interval after having played with the gale. Offaly were soon into the attack after the restart, but were foiled in the opening seconds when Kerry goalkeeper and captain Johnny Culloty brought off a splendid—and decisive save—from Sean Evans.

Nevertheless, Offaly had cut their arrears to a point midway through the half, but Kerry finished the better in the closing stages for a well-deserved win.

One man dominated that game, Din Joe Crowley, who gave a masterly display at midfield throughout. Other Kerry stars were Culloty, Tom Prendergast, Seamus Fitzgerald and Mick Gleeson.

Offaly had a resolute half-back line in Eugene Mulligan, who had an impressive hour, Nicholas Clavin and Michael Ryan, while Willie Bryan worked hard at midfield, and Sean Evans was the best of the attack.

November 9, 1969—Offaly 1-10; Kerry 0-13

Offaly staged a great fight back in this drawn Grounds' Tournament final, although playing with

only fourteen men for 34 minutes.

In a thrilling game in which the teams mastered poor conditions, an Offaly player was sent off after 26 minutes with his team leading by two points. Ten minutes into the second half, Offaly, playing against the wind and rain, were three points down, and looked out of the hunt, but then came a dramatic change in fortune.

Leo Grogan went in as a substitute for Offaly at centre half-forward and in double-quick time scored a goal. Kerry went a point ahead; Offaly equalised, and were a point in front with four minutes remaining.

However, Pat Griffin got through to earn Kerry a second chance with a point.

All of the Offaly men pulled their weight in this outstanding performance, but particular mention must be made of Nicholas Clavin's power-play at midfield and centre half, of the effective work of Willie Bryan and the efficient touches of Tony McTague and Sean Kilroy up front, Kerry's best were Donie O'Sullivan at midfield and Pat Griffin and Eamonn O'Donoghue among the forwards.

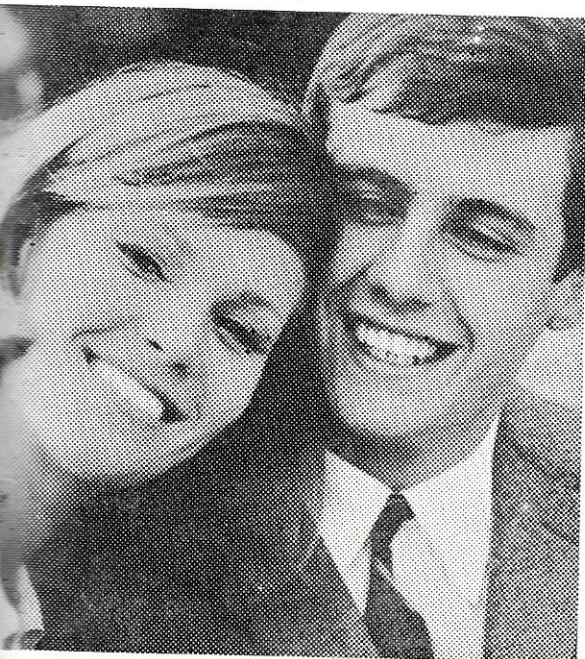
November 30, 1969—Kerry 2-17; Offaly 1-9

Kerry won the Grounds' Tournament final replay by turning on their best show of the year—a brilliant display of power-packed, purposeful and attractive football, and all highlighted by an immaculate exhibition from that sharpshooter par excellence from Waterville, Mick O'Dwyer, who finished with an impressive score of 2-8 to his credit.

December 12, 1971—Offaly 2-14; Kerry 1-9

If Kerry sparkled in that Grounds' Tournament win, the same can be said of Offaly in this National League victory. Before probably the greatest crowd ever at O'Connor Park, Tullamore, they stamped their status as the top team of 1971 beyond any question with a superb display of top-grade football.

Tony McTague was a brilliant inspiration for the Leinster side with his clever play and jinking runs, but essentially, it was a great team victory. The All-Ireland champions were not flattered by their eight points win. Kerry's goal came only in the closing minutes.



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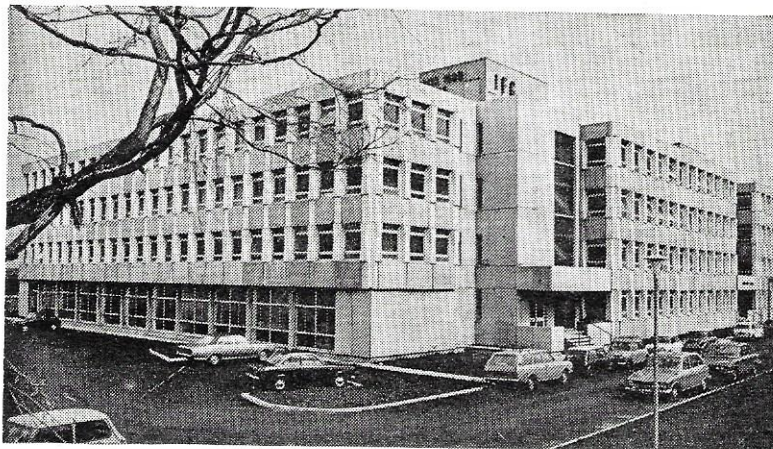
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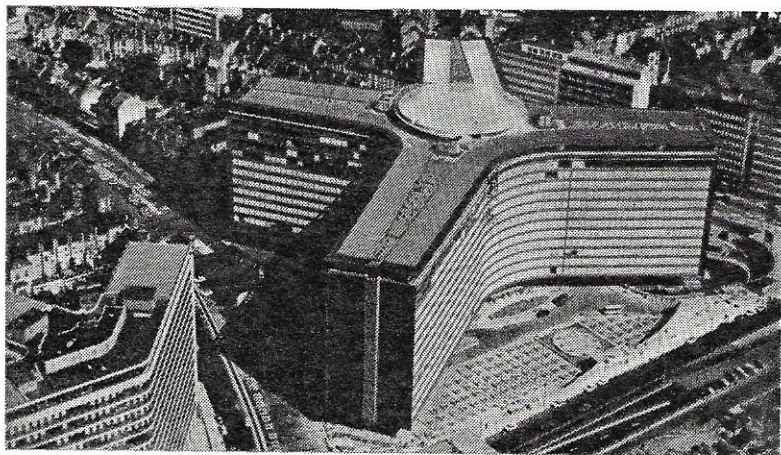
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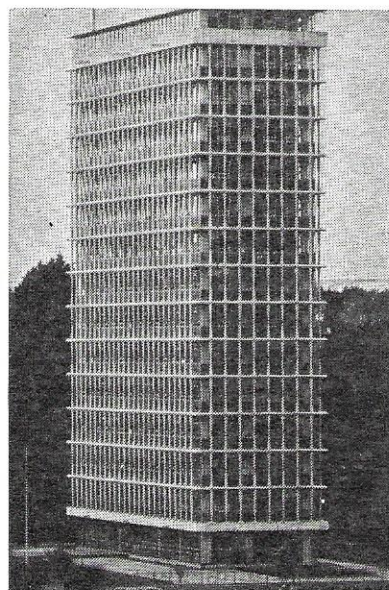


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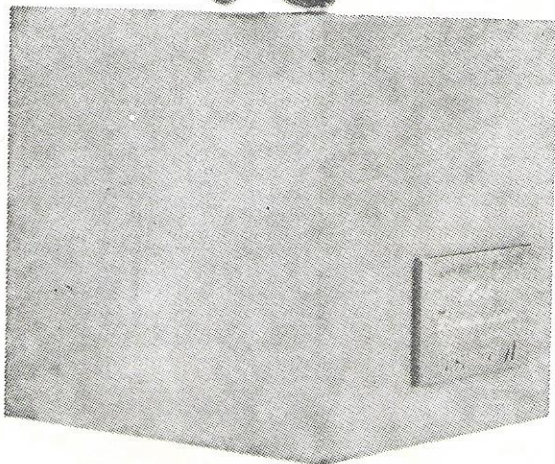
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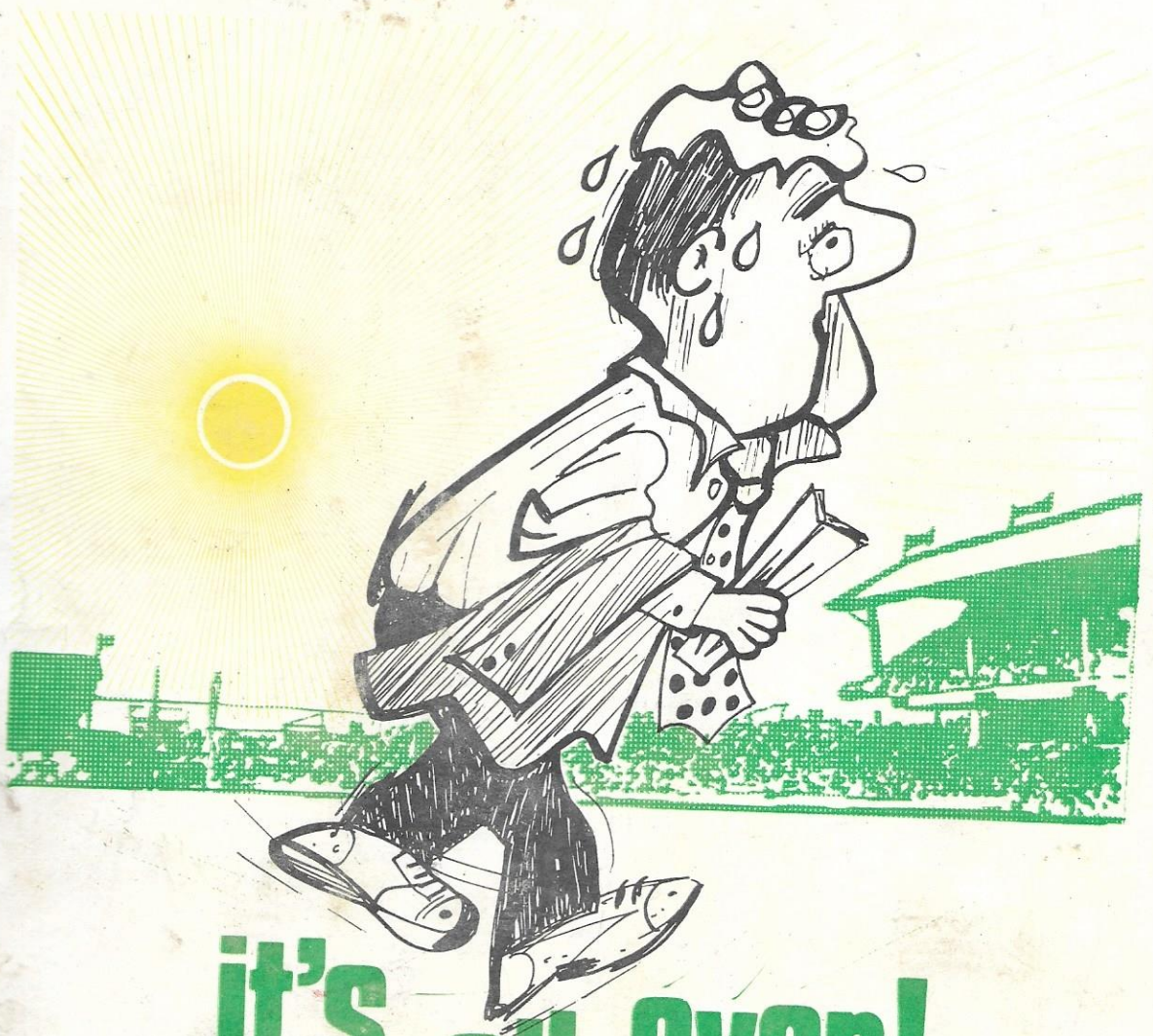
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