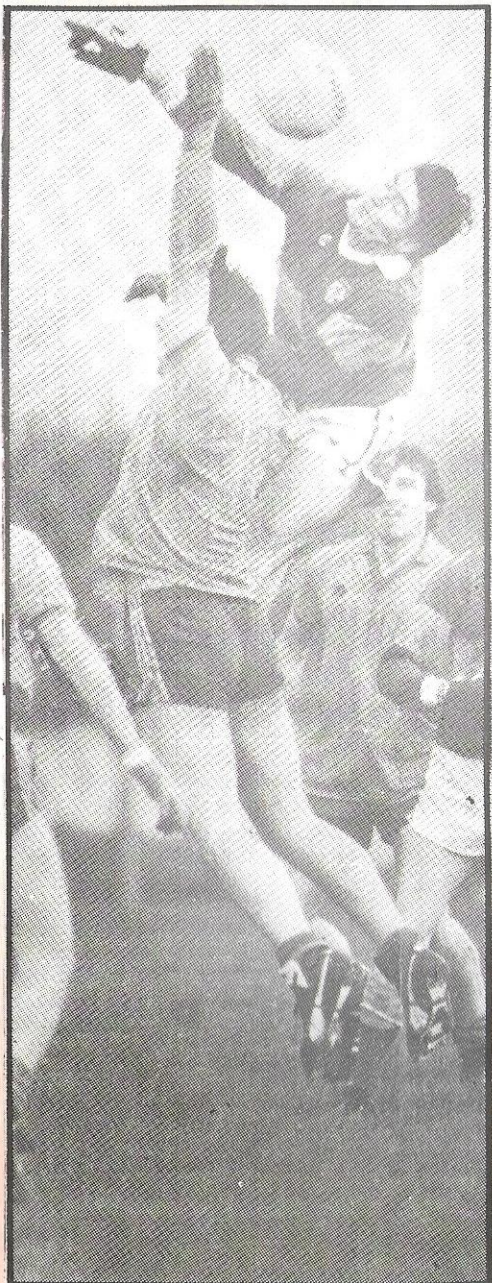


**ROYAL LIVER NATIONAL
FOOTBALL LEAGUE**



**Fr. Tierney Park,
Ballyshannon**

**SUNDAY, 13th DEC.
1987**

2.00 p.m.

Dún na nGall

v

An Clár

REITEOIR:

**Pádraig Mac Aogáin
(Liatroim)**

UNDER-10 CHALLENGE

AODH RUADH

(Béal Átha Seanaigh)

v

ST. MARY'S (Sligeach)

12.45 p.m.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

MATCH PROGRAMME 50p

Saimer Breeze Folk Club

(Sean Ógs Pub,
Ballyshannon)

Presenting every Wednesday Night,
the best in folk, traditional and other
types of music.

FORTHCOMING ACTS:

WED., DEC. 16th	JIMI SLEVIN
WED., DEC. 23rd	CHARLIE McGETTIGAN
WED., DEC. 30th	JON KENNY
WED., JAN. 6th	GREEN GRASS
WED., JAN. 13th	JOHN LENAGHAN
WED., JAN. 20th	KIERAN GOSS BAND
WED., JAN. 27th	COUNTRY NIGHT

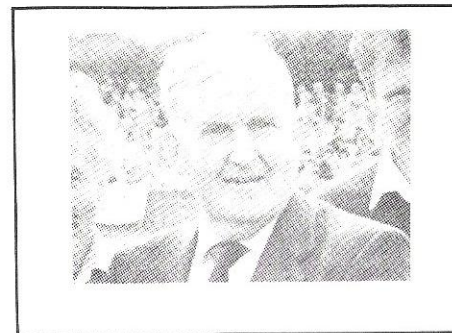
In aid of Mill Wheel project.

For further information, PHONE 072 51585

FÁILTE

Ba mhaith liom fáilte a chuir roimh na peileadoirí agus na hoifigigh an Clár agus luch leanúna ó gach áird.

Today's game marks the half-way stage in the 1987/1988 National Football League programme and with the traditional Christmas break coming the points are important to both teams. While it is late in the year for inter-county football the loyal followers have still turned out and we trust that the teams will provide them with a good hour's football entertainment.



It gives me great pleasure to welcome the players, officials and supporters from County Clare and while I cannot wish them success in today's game I very sincerely hope that their great efforts in developing their county team over the past few years will pay dividends for them in the not too distant future. The effort put into coaching of young footballers within Clare and particularly the approach and support of the Munster Council in the area of coaching is a worthy and laudable development.

To the home supporters I pay tribute to their continuing support for the Association in the County during 1987. The county's success in winning its second All-Ireland Under-21 Football Championship in the space of five years leaves us with a rich pool of football talent on which to base our plans, hopes and ambitions for senior success in the years to come. Both the patience and support of our supporters and followers will be required so that we can translate our potential to success at senior level.

A special word of thanks today to M/s. Heitons of Ballyshannon and Letterkenny for their donation of a magnificent perpetual cup for use with one of our under-age football championships in the county. It is both a generous and acceptable donation from this progressive firm which has already been extremely helpful to the Aodh Ruadh Club in relation to providing access through the company's property for the planned playing fields and housing developments in Ballyshannon. Go raibh míle maith agaibh!

A final word of thanks to the Park Committee of the Aodh Ruadh Club for once again presenting us with a fine souvenir match programme and to the businesses which have supported the programme by way of advertisements.

*Cathal O Fáchtna
Cathaoirleach Coiste Chondae C.L.G.*

MATCH PROGRAMME

Programme prepared by Park Committee, Aodh Ruadh G.A.A. Club.

Compiled by: Tom Daly (Park Committee Secretary), Michael Daly (Club P.R.O.), Peter Campbell (Park Committee).

Contributors: Gerry Slevin, 'Clare Champion', Ennis; Connie Duffy, 'Donegal Democrat'.

Photographs: Michael O'Donnell, Glenties, (075) 51360; 'Clare Champion'.

● FRONT COVER:

Martin Gavigan rises highest to contest this ball in game v Roscommon.

DONEGAL v CLARE . . THE CAMPAIGN SO FAR

With three games played in the 1987/'88 Royal Liver National Football League, the respective positions of Donegal and Clare can be gauged from the following table which shows the up-to-date position of all eight teams in Division 2.

DIVISION 2 TABLE							
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
DONEGAL	3	2	1	0	2-27	3-16	5
DOWN	3	2	0	1	3-25	0-28	4
GALWAY	3	1	2	0	3-19	0-26	4
CAVAN	2	1	1	0	0-25	2-16	3
ROSCOMMON	3	1	0	2	1-24	2-23	2
KILDARE	3	1	0	2	3-17	4-27	2
LAOIS	2	0	1	1	1-14	1-15	1
CLARE	3	0	1	2	2-26	3-26	1

In their three games to date Donegal and Clare have met varied opposition. A short summary of the performance of each county in their games to date follows:

ROUND 1 Sunday, 8th November

GALWAY 1-8
CLARE 0-9

A somewhat fortuitous second half goal put Galway on the road to victory in a closely contested game played at Pearse Stadium in atrocious conditions before less than 300 people.

The goal came midway through the second half when referee John Cosgrave awarded a penalty after Hugh Bleahen was taken down in the Clare square. Stephen Joyce's penalty kick was parried by Clare goalkeeper, Martin Flynn, but before the goalkeeper could secure possession, Joyce followed through to force the ball to the net.

Clare had the edge in the first half exchanges with Ger O'Keefe, Frank McInerney, Ger Killeen and Pat Burke showing some splendid accuracy from play and frees. Frank Griffin, Noel Roche, Michael Comyns gave Clare the early edge in possession but Galway points from Fergal O'Neill (2), Gay McManus, Jimmy O'Dea and Kevin Walsh left them trailing only one point at the interval, 0-6 to 0-5.

Scorers: Galway: G. McManus (0-3), S. Joyce (1-0), F. O'Neill (0-2), K. Walsh (0-1), H. Bleahen (0-1), J. O'Dea (0-1). Clare: G. O'Keefe (0-4), F. McInerney (0-2), G. Killeen (0-1), G. Fitzpatrick (0-1), P. Burke (0-1).

Referee: J. Cosgrave (Mayo).

DONEGAL 1-10
KILDARE 1-3

Donegal got their league campaign off to a fine start when they hammered a poor Kildare side at MacCunhaill Park, Ballybofey.

The Lilywhites failed to register a score in the first half in which Martin McHugh goaled from a penalty and converted two frees, with Joyce McMullan getting the other score as Donegal led 1-3 to 0-0 at half-time.

One of the biggest cheers of the afternoon came in the 10th minute of the new half when Kildare finally scored a point.

Martin McHugh (3), Donal Reid, Declan Bonner and Joyce McMullan (2) added further points for Donegal and only a lucky goal two minutes from time spared Kildare's blushes.

Donegal: Gary Walsh; Sean Bonner, Brendan Dunleavy, Cathal Campbell; John Joe Doherty (0-1), Brian Tuohy, Martin Shovlin; Martin Gavigan, James Carr; Martin McHugh (1-5), Donal Reid (0-1), Joyce McMullan (0-3); Declan Bonner (0-1), Eugene McMenamin, Matt Gallagher. Sub., Anthony Molloy for Reid.

Kildare: Sean Sergeant; Pat Kealty, Dave Malone, Seamus Dowling (1-0); Dave Dalton, Paddy O'Donoghue, Mike Moynihan; Anthony McLoughlin, Des Bergin; Declan Kerrigan (0-1), Brian Donovan, Mark Shaw; Pauric Nolan (0-3), Tom Travers, Brian Nolan. Subs., Colm Moran for Travers, David Loughman for B. Nolan.

ROUND 2 Sunday, 22nd November

CLARE 1-7
CAVAN 0-10

A draw was the fairest result between Clare and Cavan at Cooraclare. Playing with the storm in the first half Clare led by 1-7 to 0-1 at half-time and if they had taken all the chances that came their way, they could have added another six or seven points.

The only goal of the game came five minutes before half when Pat Burke breached the Cavan defence.

In the second half Cavan moved Ronan Carolan from left full forward to centre forward and he played a marvellous game, scoring six of his side's points. The equaliser came three minutes from the end and it was a tribute to the stoutness of the Clare defence that Cavan did not take the lead in a storming finish.

Scorers: Clare: P. Burke (1-4), A. Maloney (0-1), M. Roughan (0-1), G. Killeen (0-1). Cavan: R. Carolan (0-6), S. King (0-1), F. Smith (0-1), M. O'Donnell (0-1).

ROUND 3 Sunday, 6th December

KILDARE 2-8
CLARE 1-10

Kildare recorded their first league victory at Cooraclare on Sunday last when they had one point to spare over the home side.

The winners were four points clear at the interval and after just 30 seconds of the second half Mark Shaw added their second goal and he quickly followed with a point to put them eight points clear.

The move of Noel Roche to wing back inspired a great Clare rally in the last 10 minutes when they reduced the eight point lead to the minimum margin. The highlight of this rally was an outstanding goal from Aidan O'Keefe but missed chances cost them dearly and the visitors held on to win.

Scorers: Kildare: M. Shaw, D. Kerrigan (1-1 each), C. Moran (0-3), D. Fennon, J. Crofton, D. Dalton (0-1 each). Clare: A. O'Keefe (1-3), A. Maloney, O. Downes (0-2 each), P. Burke, G. Killeen, J. McGrath (0-1 each).

Clare: M. Flynn; G. Curtin, Aidan Maloney, N. Roche; M. Roughan, F. Griffin, W. Cahir; J. McGrath, M. Comyns; C. O'Donoghue, G. Fitzpatrick, G. Killeen; G. O'Keefe, A. O'Keefe, P. Burke. Subs., Anthony Maloney for Fitzpatrick; O. Downes for Comyns.

Referee: P. Lane (Limerick).

DONEGAL 1-6
ROSCOMMON 0-8

A freak goal 13 minutes into the second half helped Donegal to victory over Roscommon at Hyde Park. The crucial score brought the visiting team to within a point of Roscommon, who had led 0-8 to 0-2 at the break, and it came directly from a poorly struck Martin McHugh free kick from 50 yards which went all the way to the net after taking a deflection off full back, Pat Doorey.

Within a minute McHugh had tied the scores with a free before Tommy Ryan put Donegal ahead with what was Donegal's only score of the game from play. Three times in the closing stages Donegal hit the woodwork.

Roscommon, who lined out with Harry Keegan and Paul Earley, began the game in magnificent fashion with three points from Tony McManus and one from Tom O'Brien to lead by four points and they were seven points clear approaching half-time.

Scorers: Roscommon: S. Durney (0-3), T. McManus (0-3), T. O'Brien (0-2). Donegal: M. McHugh (1-4), J. McMullan (0-1), T. Ryan (0-1).

GALWAY 2-5
DONEGAL 0-11

U-21 star Manus Boyle came to Donegal's rescue at Tuam Stadium last Sunday with a last-minute point from a free to deny the home side victory.

Boyle had come on as a first half substitute and more than paid his way to give Donegal a draw that they deserved.

Donegal were dealt a severe blow early in the game when they lost Martin McHugh through injury but not before he had contributed three points. His team led 0-4 to 0-3 at half-time thanks largely to the display of Anthony Molloy who took command at midfield when moved out from full-forward.

Galway came back in the second half with two goals inside a minute by Ger Bourke and John Joyce, but Donegal rallied with in the last quarter with points from Pol McCool and Manus Boyle to earn a share of the spoils.

Scorers: Galway: G. McManus (0-3), G. Burke (1-0), J. Joyce (1-0), P. Kelly, S. Joyce (0-1 each). Donegal: M. McHugh (0-3), Joyce McMullan, D. Bonner (0-2 each), D. Reid, T. Ryan, M. Boyle, P. McCool (0-1 each).

Donegal: G. Walsh; S. Bonner, B. Dunleavy, C. Campbell; J. J. Doherty, B. Tuohy, M. Shovlin; J. Carr, M. Gavigan; M. McHugh, D. Reid, J. McMullan; T. Ryan, A. Molloy, D. Bonnar. Subs., M. Boyle for Carr; P. McCool for McHugh.

GOOD LUCK TO DONEGAL TODAY

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&

FLOUR MILLS

SPONSORS OF DONEGAL

G.A.A. ALL-COUNTY FOOTBALL

LEAGUE, DIVISION 1.

A FAIRYTALE-LIKE CAMPAIGN FOR DONEGAL

By Connie Duffy, GAA Correspondent, Donegal Democrat

There are those, who while acknowledging the merit of what this young Donegal team have achieved so far, now say that it will prove a case of "so far and no further." Whatever about that one has got to admit the Royal Liver National Football League campaign is proving something of a fairytale-like story for the side.

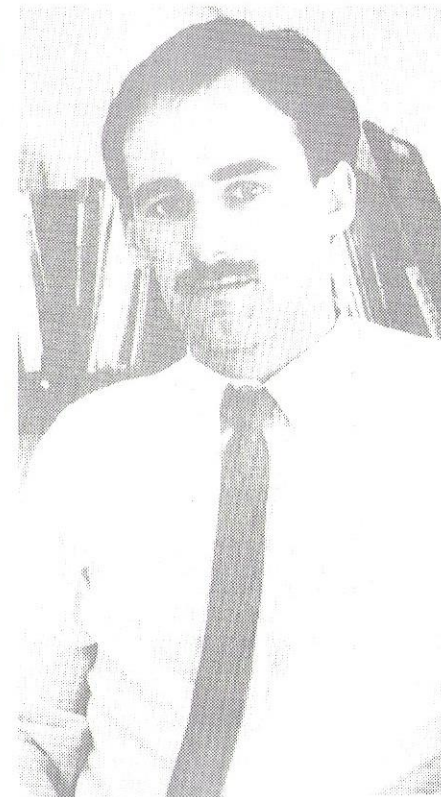
The dark days of the championship have been forgotten with three impressive results to date and the promise of more to come. They have squared up to the experienced, established side and answered them with wholehearted and workmanlike performances. Nor should we overlook the fact that under a new backroom team, the outfit has done as well, if not better, than any county side in recent years. That is an achievement in itself.

But the real challenge is only now upon us. Barring a major disaster the side can move forward in their remaining games to contest the league quarter-finals. Naturally Tom Conaghan will not say this, even the players will not commit themselves but nevertheless expectations are high. Such statements invariably revive memories of past disappointments and, of course, we've had our fair share of those.

Today's opposition have a lot to prove. They would consider themselves most unlucky to be propping up the table. They lost their opening game against Galway (1-8 to 0-9), drew with Cavan in the second (1-7 to 0-10) and last Sunday were just pipped by the minimum margin by Kildare (1-10 to 2-8). It's make or break time for manager Noel Walsh and his team.

The last time they played Donegal they were hammered by nine points in Ballybofey (2-8 to 0-5). Interesting to note it was also the last game in the league series before Christmas. Although the final scoreline suggests otherwise, Donegal had to fight all the way for the points. It won't be any different today.

Looking to the future it's anybody's guess



Connie Duffy

what will happen in the last three games. As the team manager says: "One game at a time."

But the challenge is there and is formidable but not by any means impossible. The skill and commitment they have shown despatching Kildare and Roscommon will have to be repeated and probably improved upon if they are to break the seal of tradition and reach Division One. We will need the heart and fight that saw them battle for a share of the spoils against Galway. Yes we've seen the right characteristics, let's hope it's only the tip of the iceberg.

TEAMS

AODH RUADH

	1	
	SEAN MAGUIRE	
2	3	4
KEVIN ROSE	STEPHEN WARD	JAMES McCAULEY
5	6	7
CHARLES KANE	KFITH MANNION	PATRICK McGRATH
8	9	
NIALL ROGERS (capt.)	JOHN GILLESPIE	
10	11	12
BARRY TRAVERS	KENNETH McGURRAN	SEAN PERRY
13	14	15
SEAN McGEE	NIALL CLANCY	MICHAEL WARD

SUBS: 16, Daniel Goan; 17, Owen Duqgan; 18, Robert Sheerin; 19, Ryan McGloin; 20, James Shannon; 21, Michael Begley; 22, Gerard Ferguson; 23, Anthony Sheerin; 24, Gavin Rogers; 25, Gareth Blake.

ST. MARY'S

	1	
	KEITH FARRAGHER	
2	3	4
D. KENNEDY	STEPHEN SCANLON	MAURICE MEADE
5	6	7
J. O'BRIEN	J. MURTAGH	GER LYNCH
8	9	
CARL GILLIGAN	DARRAGH McGARRITY	
10	11	12
CONOR O'GRADY	ED. SLATTERY	PAUL KEAVENEY
13	14	15
COLIN McNAMARA	KIERAN MARTYN	AUBREY DOLAN

SUBS: 16, Derek McTiernan; 17, Darragh Roberts; 18, Noel Kelly; 19, Conal Sexton; 20, Niall Comerton.

UNDER-10 CHALLENGE GAME

St. Mary's, Sligo v Aodh Ruadh, Ballyshannon

A feature of inter-county or important club games in Ballyshannon over the past few years has been the practice of having under-age game as a curtain raiser. The objective is to give young players the opportunity to share in the sense of occasion of the bigger games. The '87 under-

age competitions are long over so today's game sees the local club, Aodh Ruadh, South Donegal under-10 champions, in a challenge against St. Mary's, Sligo. An under-8 challenge game is taking place simultaneously at the club's second pitch.

ST. MARY'S G.A.A. CLUB, SLIGO

One of Ireland's foremost senior and sevens sides in the early 1980s, St. Mary's commenced active and organised involvement in under-age affairs with the formation of a Bórd Na nÓg in Centenary Year. A strong primary schools league is now in operation and 1987 has been the first year for under 8 and under-10 leagues and coaching. Over the past

few years there have been strengthening links between St. Mary's and the Aodh Ruadh club through games at both senior and under-age levels.

Bórd Na nÓg officers: Chairman, Liam Maher; vice-chairman, Sean Ewing; secretary, Cathal O'Donnell; under-10 team managers, Kevin O Grady, Pat Dolan and Philip Jones.

AODH RUADH

One of Donegal's longest established and most successful clubs, Aodh Ruadh currently fields up to 20 teams in the age groups from under-10 to senior with Gaelic football, hurling, camogie and rounders catered for. Under age football has always been an important aspect of the G.A.A. in Ballyshannon but throughout the 70s and 80s the club's involvement in under age games has been intensified and is now highly

organised with excellent back-up from parents in the area. The club has won county championships at all levels and in 1987 retained the senior championship title.

Bórd Na nÓg officers: Chairman, Phonsie Travers; vice-chairman, Seamus O'Donnell; secretary, Peter Conlon; treasurer, Jim Kane; under-10 team manager: Jim Kane.

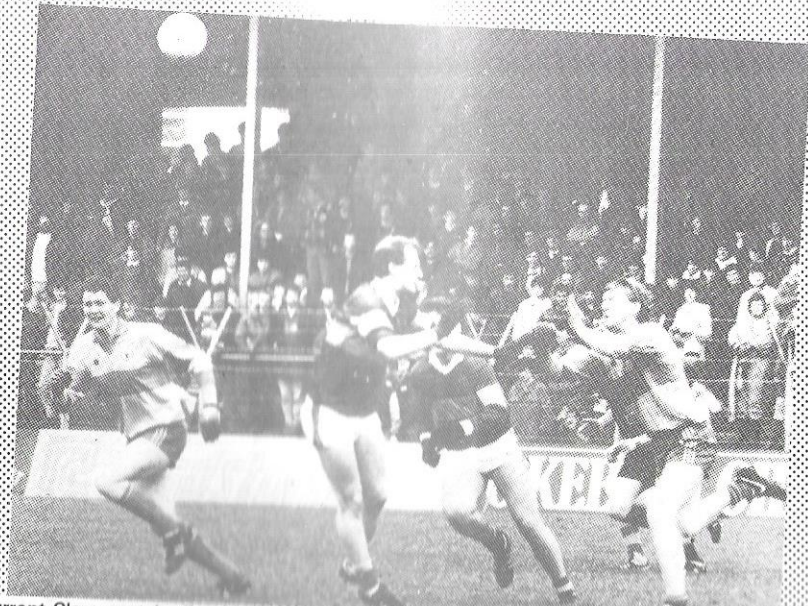


Aodh Ruadh U-10 team, Southern Divisional champions. Back, l. to r., Michael Ward, Keith Mannion, Niall Clancy, Sean Maguire, Patrick McGrath, Stephen Ward, James McCauley, Charlie Kane, Jime Kane (manager). Front, l. to r., Sean McGee, Kevin Rose, Niall Rogers (capt.), Kenneth McGurran, Barry Travers, Sean Perry, John Gillespie.

CLARE IN ACTION



LET ME OUT — Noel Roche, watched by Fintan Barry, makes his way past Ger Power and Mike Sheehy during Clare's quarter final game with Kerry earlier this year.



Current Clare captain, Frankie Griffin, sends Clare out of danger in the championship quarter final against Kerry. Noel Normoyle (left), one of the county's outstanding players, has not played in the present league because of injury.



Clare, Division 3 South champions, prior to their vital game with Tipperary. Back, from left: Noel Normoyle, John O'Connor, George Fitzpatrick, Michael Lillis, Francis McInerney, Fintan Barry, Aidan O'Keefe, Frankie Griffin. Front, from left, Gerard O'Keefe, Martin Flynn, Noel Roche, Aidan Moloney, Donal O'Keefe, Gerry Killeen, Pat Blake.

DUN NA nGALL

1
G. BREATHNACH
(Gary Walsh)

2
S. Ó CNÁIMHSÍ
(Sean Bonner)

3
B. MacDUINSHLÉIBHE
(Brendan Dunleavy)

4
C. Mac COILÍN
(Cathal Campbell)

5
S. S. Ó DOCHARTAIGH
(John Joe Doherty)

6
B. Ó TUAITAIGH
(Brian Tuohy)

7
M. Ó SHEIBHLEÁN
(Martin Shovlin)

8
A. Ó LÚDHOĠ
(Anthony Molloy)

9
M. Ó GABHAGAIN
(Martin Gavigan)

10
M. Mac AOIDH
(Martin McHugh)

11
D. Ó RIADA
(Donal Reid)

12
S. MacMAOLÁIN
(Joyce McMullan)

13
D. Ó CNÁIMHSÍ
(Declan Bonner)

14
M. Ó BAOILL
(Manus Boyle)

15
T. Ó RIAIN
(Tommy Ryan)

FIR IONAID: 16, **M. Ó Ceallaigh** (Michael Kelly); 17, **S. Mac Giolla Chearra** (James Carr); 18, **P. Mac Cumhaill** (Paul MacCumhaill); 19, **E. Ó Breisleáin** (Eamonn Breslin); 20, **M. Ó Gallachoir** (Matt Gallagher); 21, **E. Mac Meanmáin** (Eugene McMenamin).

VISIT THE
G.A.A. SHOP
IN THESE
GROUNDS

AODH RUADH
G.A.A. CLUB
**WHO SAYS
WHAT**
SEÁN ÓGS, Fri.,
18th Dec.

AODH RUADH
G.A.A. CLUB
JON KENNY
Comedian, etc.
SEÁN ÓGS, Wed.,
30th Dec.

AN CLAR

1
MAIRTÍN Ó FLOINN
(Martin Flynn)

2
LIAM Ó CATHAOIR
(Willie Caher)

3
AODHÁN Ó MAOLÓNAIGH 4
GEARÓID MAC CURTÁIN
(Aidan Maloney) (Gerry Curtain)

5
PROINSIAS Ó GRÍOFA
(Frank Griffin)

6
DUINE EILE
(A.N. Other)

7
NÓL DE RÓISTE
(Noel Roche)

8
SEAN MAC CRAITH
(John McGrath)

9
OLIBHÉAR Ó DUBHÁIN
(Oliver Downes)

10
GEARÓID Ó CAOIMH
(Gerard O'Keeffe)

11
DUINE EILE
(A.N. Other)

12
GEARÓID Ó CILLÍN
(Gerry Killeen)

13
ANTOIN Ó MAOLÓNAIGH
(Anthony Maloney)

14
AODHÁN Ó CAOIMH
(Aidan O'Keeffe)

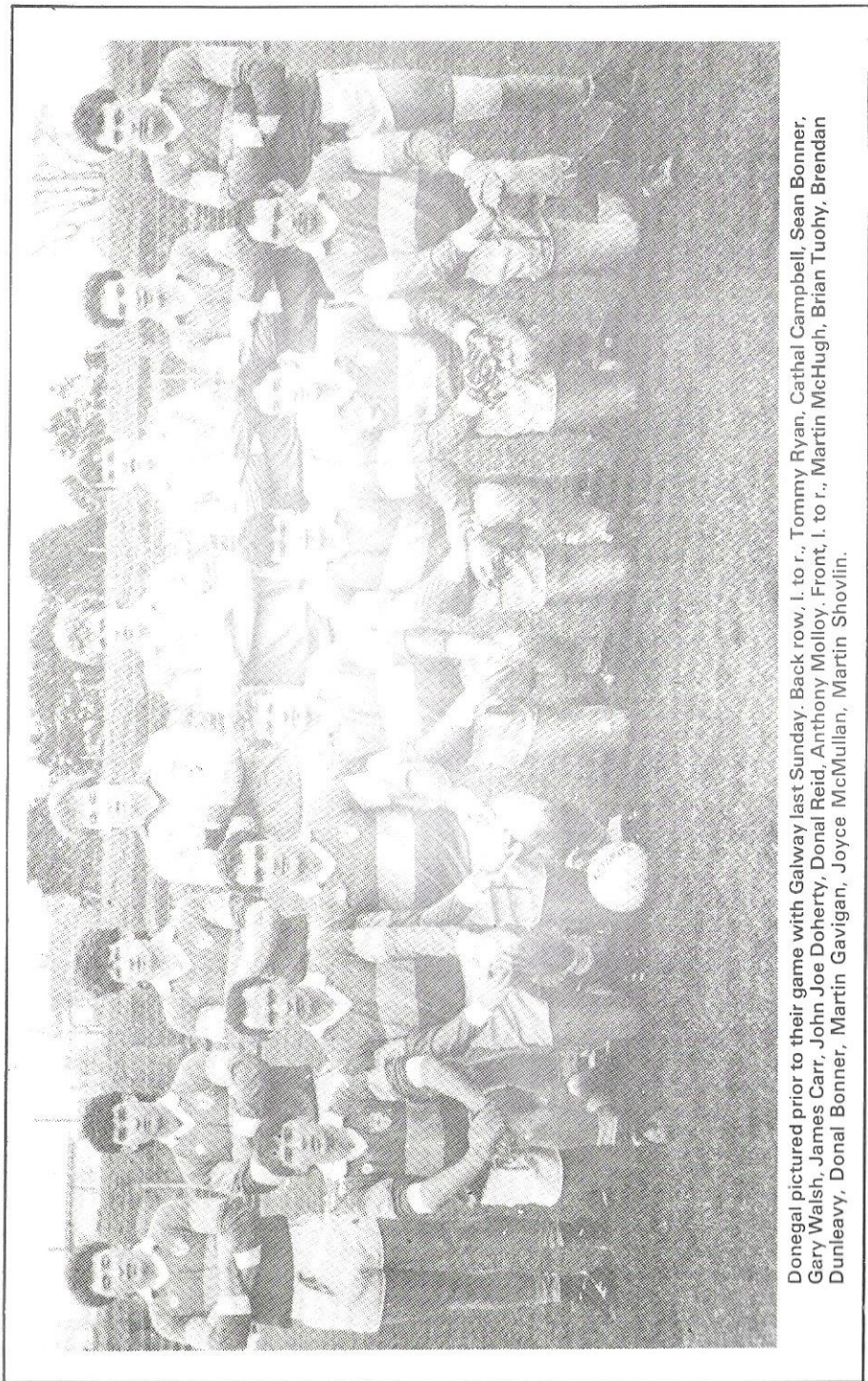
15
PÁDRAIG DE BÚRCA
(Pat Burke)

FIR IONAID: 16, **Pádraig Ó hAirmhí** (Paddy Harvey); 17, **Micheál Laighléis** (Michael Lillis); 18, **Proinsias Mac an Airchinnigh** (Francis McInerney); 19, **Michéal Ó Ruáin** (Michael Rouinel); 20, **Michéal Ó Coimín** (Michael Comyns); 21, **Fionntán de Barra** (Fintan Barry).

FIRST HALF	GOALS	POINTS	WIDES	45's
DÚN NA nGALL				
AN CLÁR				

SECOND HALF	GOALS	POINTS	WIDES	45's
DÚN NA nGALL				
AN CLÁR				

DONEGAL IN ACTION



Donegal pictured prior to their game with Galway last Sunday. Back row, l. to r., Tommy Ryan, Cathal Campbell, Sean Bonner, Gary Walsh, James Carr, John Joe Doherty, Donal Reid, Anthony Molloy. Front, l. to r., Martin McHugh, Brian Tuohy, Brendan Dunleavy, Donal Bonner, Martin Gavigan, Joyce McMullan, Martin Shovlin.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY NOEL

Clare's most distinguished footballer, Noel Roche, today celebrates his 28th birthday. Top honours may have eluded the county but the image presented by the quiet spoken Kilkee man, the achievements that have been his over the past decade or so at all levels of the game, have provided Clare people with ample cause to rejoice.

Noel has always epitomised the spirit of one who is immersed in football and despite the fact that provincial or national honours have never been experienced, his determination has never waned and whether it be in the colours of Kilkee St. Senans, Clare, Munster or in the Ireland strip in the Compromise Rules games against Australia, it is all out effort from Noel Roche.

He has been a regular on the Clare team since the late '70s and for the past five seasons has readily found his place in the Munster Railway Cup team. In 1984 when the Australians came over, Noel threw his hat into the ring and his fierce determination won the admiration of Kevin Heffernan who selected him for all games. A year later it seemed his career was in tatters when, in a game with the Southern Command against the Air Corps, Noel broke his leg, thus confining him to crutches while his beloved Kilkee set out in defence of the county title they had regained after four decades, in Centenary year.

But back he bounced to win a Munster place in '86 and with his sights firmly set on a trip to Australia, the old Roche drive was soon in top gear. That trip was won and, of course, a few months ago, when the Aussies came over here the self same Noel was an automatic choice for selection and played in the three tests.

The Kilkee army man has captained Clare in several seasons. Defence is his preferred role but he has seen duty in attack also and lined out at midfield for the opening two games of the current league. Certainly a man for all positions, but it is only symptomatic of the pride which Noel takes in his game. He loves football. Football has been good to him and the Clare cause is dearest to his heart. Nothing would please him more than to see the Banner county make the breakthrough.



Noel Roche

Should that day come in the near future, it goes without saying that Noel Roche will be to the forefront in seeking to place Clare's name up in lights. When times are rough, his dedication is no less enthusiastic. Players like him deserve to be rewarded but one fancies that Noel would gladly forego all the personal honour that has been showered on him, to see Clare in the limelight.

BEST OF LUCK TO DONEGAL ON SUNDAY

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Dinner Dances, Social Functions and Football
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THE LEAGUE IS CLARE'S BREAD AND BUTTER

By Gerry Slevin 'Clare Champion'

Could there be anything more contrasting than the preponderance of the Kerry/Cork syndrome in Munster and the glorious uncertainty that hangs over the Ulster championship each year? It is inevitable that Kerry or Cork will come out of Munster. Between them they have won a whopping eighty seven provincial senior titles and one has to go back as far as 1935 for a break in the Kerry/Cork sequence. In that year, Tipperary came through. Clare won their one and only provincial title in 1917. They failed to Wexford in the All-Ireland final.

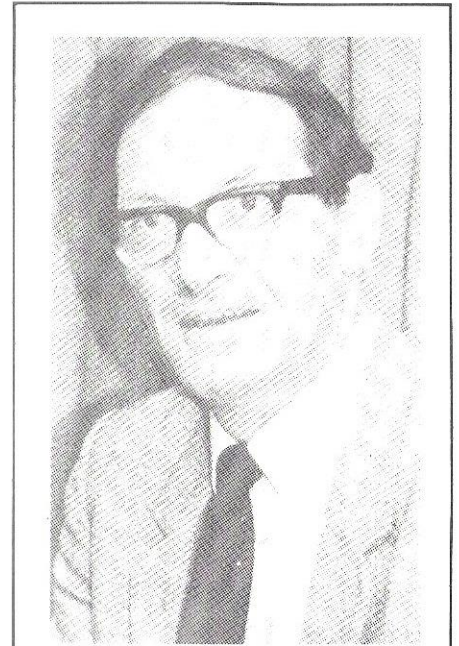
So, is it any wonder that Clare take to the league with far greater confidence than the championship? At least they will be avoiding Cork and Kerry in the earlier rounds. Such was in fact the case last season when Division III (South) honours were at last won. It was a welcome relief in Clare to have moved up a step. Promotion had eluded them narrowly in previous seasons and an all out effort was made to rid themselves of the shackles of the lower regions of the league.

Having achieved their aim, they were in far better mood to take on Kerry in the quarter final and at the end of a hectic hour in Cusack Park, Ennis, only a Ger Power goal separated the sides, 1-10 to 0-10.

Clare are under no illusions whatever about what faces them in Division II. Standards are so much higher than they have been used to but they will know that if they are to become anything in the football scene, they must make a bold bid to, at least hold their own in the division for a season or two.

They travelled to Galway for their first game and even the most partisan of Galwegians will admit the Connacht champions were very fortunate to take both points. It was 1-8 to 0-9 at the finish, Galway's goal the result of a very dubious penalty. Next they faced Cavan in Cooraclare and shared the spoils, 1-7 to 0-10. Kildare came to Cooraclare last Sunday and Clare paid the penalty for defensive errors as Kildare held on to win by a point, 2-8 to 1-10.

Under Dave Weldrick's guidance, the team has shown remarkable spirit and they will realise that the league is their bread and



Gerry Slevin

butter. They realise, too, that the road ahead is long and fraught with all kinds of problems. However, they are willing to give it everything in the knowledge that it is only by coming up against strong sides, that they will ever amount to anything.

Back in the early '70s, when the league had a different format to that which now pertains, they reached the quarter finals and suffered agonising defeats at the hands of Armagh and Monaghan. Indeed in the same year that Dublin made the breakthrough back in 1974, Clare defeated them soundly in the League in Croke Park.

To-day, Clare make the long journey to the North West knowing just how vital every game is. They will make a bold effort to take the points. For them, the league means so much. Having achieved promotion from Division III, the last thing they want is to be consigned there again next season. It would have the effect of undoing a lot of hard work.

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QUIZ

1. Where did Clare play their two home matches in the League to date?
2. Name the five players who scored for Donegal in this year's All-Ireland U-21 final replay against Kerry?
3. Mostrim is a G.A.A. Club in which county?
4. Who scored the Galway goal in the 1983 All-Ireland football semi-final against Donegal.
5. True or false: Have Clare ever played in an All-Ireland football final?
6. Who captained the Donegal Vocational School team who were defeated by Kerry in the All-Ireland final in 1987?
7. RTE's first live televised games were the Railway Cup finals, but in what year?
8. Who was Clare's first All Star?
9. Who scored both Aodh Ruadh goals in this year's Senior Football Championship final against Kilcar?
10. Who captained Louth to victory in the 1957 All-Ireland Football final?
11. What is the name of the G.A.A. Park in Ennis?
12. Where in Leitrim was Meath's Colm O'Rourke born?
13. Who captained the Australian team during the recent Compromise Rules series?
14. Who did Donegal beat to win the Special All-Ireland U-16 Hurling title?
15. Who did Burren defeat to win the Ulster Club Championship in 1987?
16. Who captained Naomh Brid to the League and Championship double in 1987?
17. The Donegal scoring record in Ulster Championship football is held jointly. Name both players?
18. Only two Donegal clubs supplied players for both Donegal All-Ireland Final winning U-21 teams. Name them?
19. With what club in Cork did Larry Tompkins play with during 1987?
20. Who captain Galway to their All-Ireland Hurling Championship title in 1987?

ANSWERS: 1, Cooraclare; 2, Mannus Boyle (1-7), Dermot Ward (0-2), Tommy Ryan (0-1), Barry McGowan (0-1), Seamus Ward (0-1); 3, Longford; 4, Val Daly; 5, True, they were defeated by Wexford in the 1917 final; 6, Frank Ward; 7, 1962; 8, Ger Loughane; 9, Sean Boyle; 10, Dermot O'Brien; 11, Cusack Park; 12, Aughavas; 13, Bruce Lindsay; 14, Sligo; 15, Kingscourt; 16, Conal Haughey; 17, Mickey McLone (3-4 v Fermanagh, 1966), Seamus Bonner (4-1 v Antrim, 1974); 18, Aodh Ruadh (Tommy McDermott, Brian Tuohy and Sylvester Maguire in '82 and Diarmaid Keon in '87) and Ardara (Anthony Mollo in '82 and Thomas Maguire and Luke Gavigan in '87); 19, Crosshaven; 20, Conor Hayes.

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