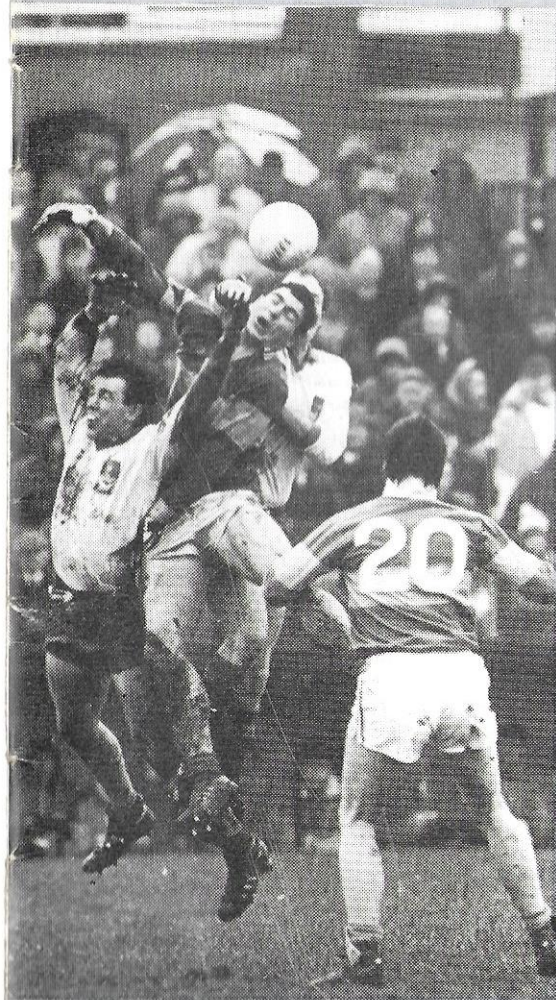
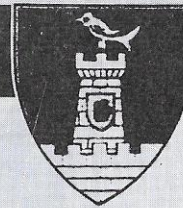


ROYAL LIVER NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
DIVISION ONE



Fr. Tierney Park,
Ballyshannon

SUNDAY, 12th FEBRUARY
1989

3.00 p.m.

Dún na nGall

v

Muineachán

REITEOIR:

SEAN Ó COSCRAIGH
(Maigh Eó)

PROGRAMME: £1.00



Great Northern Hotel

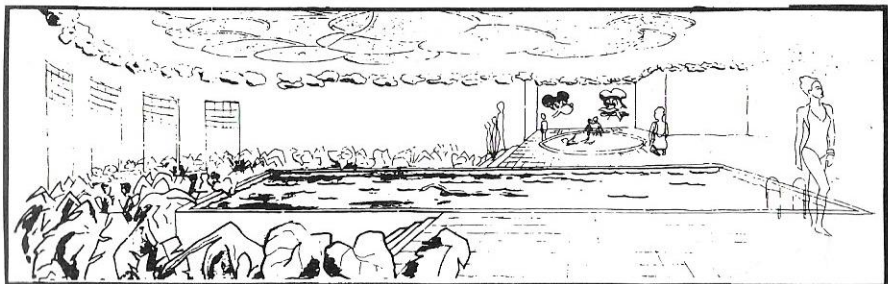
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IN MARCH 1989

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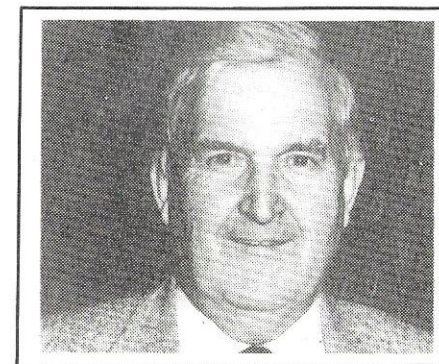
Application for membership available from:

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Phone 072-41204.

FÁILTE

We are proud to play host today to the players and supporters from Monaghan, a team that has been very much to the fore in Ulster football over the past few years. During the 1980s Monaghan succeeded in putting together a formidable footballing team in a county where club football is taken seriously and played with a vigour and spirit that is second to none. For many this side seemed to hold the greatest prospects of bringing the Sam Maguire back to the province after too long an absence. While the ultimate honour has so far evaded them, on behalf of all Gaels in Donegal I pay tribute to their achievements of recent years and especially congratulate team members Mickey Linden and Eugene Hughes on their recent All-Star awards.



Ba mhaith liom fáilte mhór a chuir roimh na peileadóirí agus na hoifigh An Mhuineacháin agus lucht leanúna ó gach áird.

Its not twelve months since Donegal last met Monaghan in an important National Football League game — the quarter final in Omagh. While the result of that game is now history it was a day when fortune failed to smile on Donegal and our hopes of an historic passage to the League semi-finals were dashed. We have had the consolation of promotion to Division 1 and our players and management go into today's game in determined fashion to maintain our status and enhance our prospects of further advancement.

Once again I thank the home support for turning out in such large numbers for our first home senior inter-county game of 1989. I hope it is a token of what is to come and that throughout 1989 the marvellous enthusiasm of our followers will motivate and encourage our side to further successes in both the League and Championship.

I would like to once again congratulate the Aodh Ruadh Club for its fine arrangements for today's game and for yet another interesting and informative match programme.

As patrons can see considerable further development work has been done at these grounds with two new fully serviced dressing rooms and a G.A.A. Shop constructed since we were here last. I pay tribute to those involved in seeing these very practical developments provided so efficiently.

Patrons will also be glad to hear that county ground development in Ballybofey is also continuing apace and that by the end of this year there will be a very substantial overall improvement in our county ground facilities from the spectators, players and match officials standpoint.

CATHAL O FÁCHTNA,
Cathaoirleach Coiste Chontae, C.L.G.

MATCH PROGRAMME

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

Compiled by: Tom Daly, P. J. Buggy, Peter Campbell (Aodh Ruadh C.L.G.)

Contributors: Pól Ó Gallchoir, Raidió Na Gaeltachta; Connie Duffy, Donegal Democrat; John Graham, Monaghan Co. Secretary.

Photographs: Michael O'Donnell, Donegal Democrat.

● COVER PHOTO: Action from the last meeting, the League quarter-final in Omagh in 1988. Martin Gavigan contests a ball while Sylvester Maguire awaits the outcome.

BEST WISHES TO DONEGAL

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Geraldine O'g's

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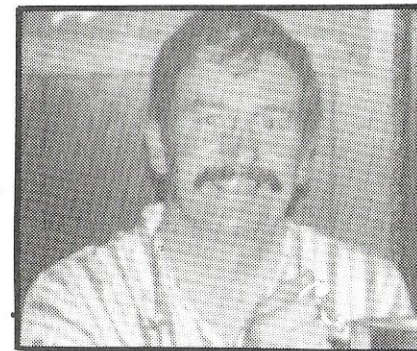
To-days Referee — John Cosgrove Co. Mayo

Now an established inter-county referee, John Cosgrove epitomises the committed G.A.A. official. A school teacher from Crossmolina, Co. Mayo, he has been deeply involved in the promotion and development of Gaelic football in his club area. His ability, dedication and commitment were justifiably recognised in 1987 when he was selected as both the Mayo and Connacht G.A.A. Clubs Man of the Year and was presented with the Ciba Geigy award at both levels.

John played senior club football with both Locken and Crossmolina. While the ultimate honour — a senior championship medal — evaded him he holds championship medals from his under-age days including two minor championships. At the other end of the scale, Mayo is one of the counties where a Masters Championship (over 30's) is organised and two of these medals have come his way.

On the refereeing front John has refereed county finals at all levels, 5 Connacht finals including under age, junior and club, seven Connacht College championships, the Railway Cup Shield and many other games at inter-county level.

While refereeing is a major interest for him it is the promotion of Gaelic football at under-age level which has occupied most of his time for many years now. A founder



member of Crossmolina's Bord na nOg he managed the local team which met and was defeated by Ballyshannon in the Community Games All-Ireland semi-final in 1957.

John last refereed a Donegal game 12 months ago when he officiated at the Down game in Ballybofey.

His umpires for today are:

- John Canavan
- Willie Donoghue
- Pauric Dooley
- John Harkin

All of them active and committed members of the Crossmolina club. John Harkin is a Donegal man by birth... but we promised we'd keep it quiet!!

ROYAL LIVER NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE TABLES

DIVISION ONE

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Derry	5	4	0	1	8
Dublin	5	4	0	1	8
Down	5	3	0	2	6
Kerry	5	3	0	2	6
Armagh	5	2	0	3	4
Donegal	5	2	0	3	4
Monaghan	5	2	0	3	4
Meath	5	0	0	5	0

DIVISION TWO

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Cavan	5	3	1	1	7
Cork	5	3	1	1	7
Louth	5	3	1	1	7
Mayo	5	3	1	1	7
Roscommon	5	2	1	2	5
Galway	5	1	2	2	4
Kildare	5	1	1	3	3
Longford	5	0	0	5	0

TODAY'S OTHER DIVISION ONE GAMES

Down v Derry; Kerry v Dublin; Armagh v Meath.

REMAINING DIVISION ONE FIXTURES

Sunday, February 26th: Dublin v Donegal; Kerry v Monaghan; Derry v Armagh; Down v Meath.

38th BALLYSHANNON

DRAMA FESTIVAL

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MARCH 12th - 19th

ADJUDICATOR: MS. BETTY ANN NORTON

SUNDAY, 12th BUTT DRAMA CIRCLE

THE YEAR OF THE HIKER

J. B. Keane

MONDAY, 13th BUNDORAN DRAMA GROUP

KEY FOR TWO

D. Freeman/J. Chapman.

TUESDAY, 14th CLOONCLARE PLAYERS

TARRY FLYNN

P. Kavanagh

WEDNESDAY, 15th LIFFORD PLAYERS

KING OF THE CASTLE

Eugene McCabe.

THURSDAY, 16th RATHANGAN PLAYERS, KILDARE

DRY ROT

J. Chapman.

FRIDAY, 17th BARDIC, DUNGANNON

THE BIRTHDAY PARTY

H. Pinter.

SATURDAY, 18th MONEYGLASS, CO. ANTRIM

THE HONEY SPIKE

Brian McMahan.

SUNDAY, 19th DRUMLIN PLAYERS, CO. MONAGHAN

THE FAITH HEALER

Brian Friel

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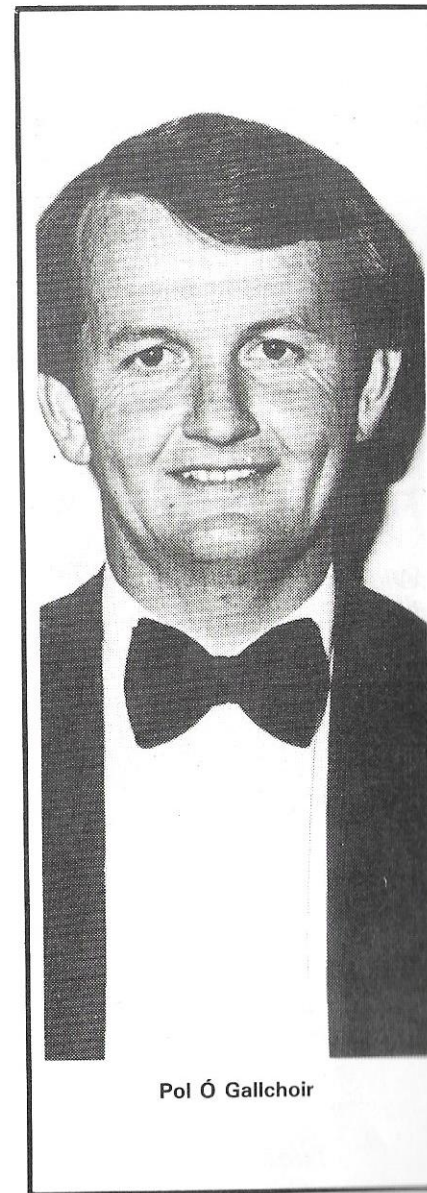
DÓCHAS AN FOCAL

Le Pól Ó Gallchoir, Raidió na Gaeltachta

Chuir Droim Soirn inní agus eagla orainn. Bhuail Mac Giollagáin agus a chuid fear muid le dhá phoinnte. Ach, bhí an scéal níos measa. Ní raibh na Conallaigh maith. Bhí an eite chlé go dona. Buaileadh ár lár páirce ar feadh daichead bomaite den chéad uair i sraith na bliana seo. Anois, tá dushlán eile ós ár gcoinne inniu. Tá Seán Mc Cague agus a chuid imreoirí i mBéal Atha Seanaigh, ach tá Mc Cague inníoch fosta. Rinneadh slad ar a fhoireann Dé Domhnaigh seo caite, agus tá an baol dí-cháilaithe ansin fosta.

Níl sa tSraith Náisiúnta ach ullmhúchan — ullmhúchan fa choinne na craobhe, nach raibh againn ón lá úd sé bliana ó shoin nuair a bhuail muid muintir Bhreifní le trí phoinnte. Ach an bhfuil Ó Connacháin agus Ó Muineacháin ag ullmhú. Tá na cosantóirí ar a ndícheall, ach tá laigeacht ar chlé. Tá bliain bhreá peile ag lads Ard a' Rátha i lár páirce — tuigeann siad a chéile, agus sa deireadh, tá péire aimsithe againn a fhanóidh le chéile. Tá na tosaithe rud beag lag — rud a bhí soiléir Dé Domhnaigh seo caite agus Máirtín in easnamh. Is mór an trua nach bhfuil Mac Gabhann, Ó Baoill agus Ó Cuinneagáin againn. Ach tá an dúshraith leatha ag Tomás agus Dónal — d'fhéadfaí é a láidriú ach chinntigh an imirce a mhalairt.

Bhí muid olc i gcoinne Ard Mhacha agus Dhoire. D'imir muid go maith sna cluichí eile. Tá an cumas ionainn agus tá na mílte anseo inniu. Tá súil agam go nérí linn, agus go mbeidh muid ag tabhairt ár naghaidh ar Phaire an Chrócaigh i gceann coicíse, agus ár súile againn ar na babhtáí ceathrú ceannais. Ach caithfear a bheith



Pól Ó Gallchoir

dóchasach agus muiníneach — go háirithe na himreoirí iad féin. Tá an cumas peile léirithe acu ach tá dhá chluiche chruaidhe romhainn.

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GOOD LUCK TO DONEGAL IN 1989

EAMONN McENEANEY

Eamonn McEneaney was Monaghan's top scorer in the N.F.L. in 1985 when he finished the series with a total of 1-27 (30 points) from 11 games. Not that scoring, or indeed leading the scoring charts is anything new to Eamonn, he was doing that as far back as 1978 when he was a minor.

In the Ulster minor final of that year he had a personal tally of nine points. He was only bettered by Tyrone's Pat McGeary at full forward who notched 2-4 of his team's total.

Eamonn, of course, is as accurate from play as from placed balls and is just longing to get back to full fitness after his enforced lay-off. And speaking of placed balls, who will ever forget that great 53 yard point that levelled the scores in the 1985 All-Ireland semi-final.



Eamonn McEneaney

MONAGHAN CONNECTION

One of Donegal's best known footballing sons could just as easily have played for Monaghan so strong are his connections with the Farney County.

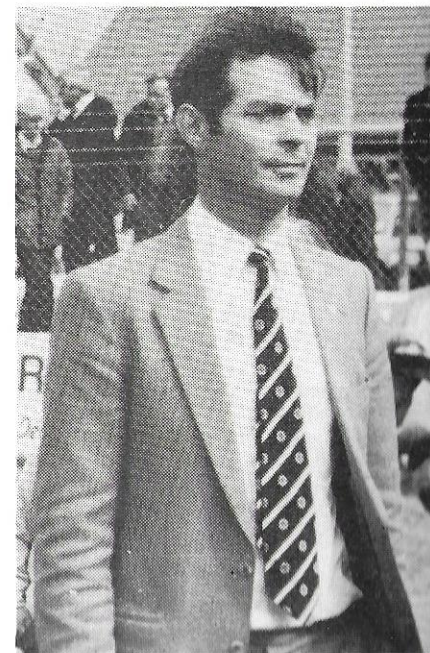
His father's family have been living in the Newbliss area of Co. Monaghan for generations and he also received his 2nd level education in St. Macartan's College whom he represented at all levels including McRory Cup.

I speak, of course, of Brian McEniff who won Ulster S.F.C. medals with Donegal in 1972 and 1974. It was his superb back play and cool leadership that was a hallmark of that 1972 first Ulster title for the county.

He was to achieve further honour as the first defender from Ulster to be chosen on the then Carrolls All-Stars.

In 1986 Brian was a guest at a special function in St. Macartan's College, along with Ciaran Murray, who had been chosen as an All-Star that year, to celebrate the event. A nice double for the Monaghan football nursery.

Brian himself keeps close links with Monaghan and indeed while he will not suffer from divided loyalties today he is sure to be one of the first callers to the Monaghan dressingroom.



Brian McEniff

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Ulster Council approved. Patented design.

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"We must do it today . . ."

— TOM CONAGHAN

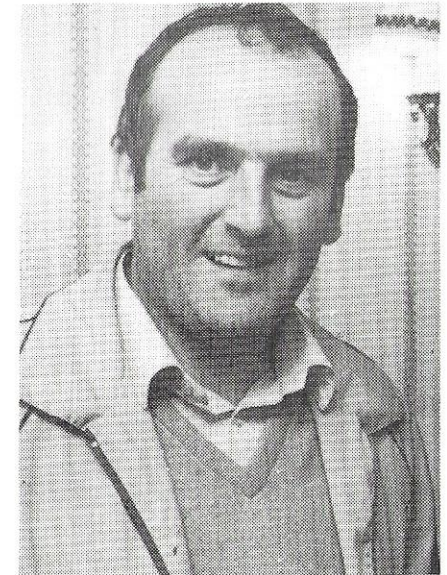
The '88/'89 historic League campaign is one where Donegal team manager Tom Conaghan has experienced the exhilaration of success against All-Ireland champions Meath and football kingpins Kerry on the one hand and disappointing defeats, particularly against Armagh, and more recently Derry when valuable points were lost by the narrowest of margins.

Always a believer in the value of a place in Division I from a football development point of view, Tom has one objective today — "winning, to ensure we stay up."

He has acted decisively following last week's disappointment in Drumsurn, bringing in four players from the start and making seven positional changes overall.

Recent reports of injuries in the Monaghan camp and of manager McCague's expressed view that Monaghan will be relegated do not influence or interfere with Conaghan's thinking or preparation.

"I tend to discard pre-match comments from and about opposing teams. Our concentration is on our own game and our own team. The players know what I expect of them today. A repeat of last Sunday's performance just isn't acceptable to me. I am demanding improved performances all round."



Tom Conaghan

The host of Donegal followers echo the team manager's sentiments and look today for an above par performance so that Donegal at least retain Division I status.

BEST WISHES TO DONEGAL IN '89

FERGUSON'S BAR

Bridgend, Ballyshannon.

Where G.A.A. games are played and re-played.



Nudie Hughes looks for a way through despite the attentions of Donegal's Cathal Campbell (left) and Brian Tuohy in the 1988 N.F.L. quarter final.

WHEN THEY LAST MET . . .

SUNDAY, MARCH 13th, 1988

MONAGHAN 1-5

DONEGAL 0-6

Although Donegal turned in a mighty effort in this National League quarter-final played at Healy Park, Omagh, Monaghan capitalised on some Donegal mistakes to take their place in the semi-final stages.

On a day which was more suited to water sports than to playing Gaelic football, both teams served up an entertaining and action packed game and the result was in doubt up to the very end.

Donegal played for 36 minutes with only fourteen men after Manus Boyle had received his marching orders in the 24th minute.

Manus Boyle opened the scored from a 21 yard free after three minutes and was then put through by Tommy Ryan but shot wide when well placed.

Eamonn McEaney opened Monaghan's account from a free in the 12th minute after Nudie Hughes had been fouled. Three minutes later Monaghan scored a fortunate goal when Gary Walsh fumbled and Eamonn Murphy had the simple task of shooting to an empty net.

Martin McHugh reduced the deficit with a point from a free and then McHugh reduced the leeway to one point from another free.

After Boyle's dismissal and some sustained Donegal pressure, McHugh levelled the scores just before half time, pointing an Anthony Molloy won free.

Donegal started the second half in determined fashion and, using the short, ball began to take the game to Monaghan. Tommy Ryan gave Donegal the lead with the best score of the game,

weaving his way through a number of Monaghan tackles before slotting over.

Eamonn McEaney levelled the scores again after a foul on Nudie. Then Monaghan substitute, Eugene O'Hanlon, gave a good ball to Michael O'Dowd who restored Monaghan's lead. Two minutes later, Ray McCarron stretched their lead with a stylish point from 40 yards.

Just before that Declan Bonner was unlucky not to connect with a Martin McHugh free. Bonner's flick was just too thin and the Monaghan men cleared.

With twelve minutes left, Charlie Mulgrew narrowed the margin to a point with a lovely point. Donegal pressed from then to the end but Monaghan's defence held firm. Martin McHugh had a series of three '45s' in a row but to no avail, and in the final minute Ray McCarron added a bonus point to leave Monaghan winners by two points.

Monaghan: P. Linden; S. McKenna, G. McCarville, E. Sherry; G. Hoey, Ciaran Murray, Brendan Murray; E. McEaney (0-2, from frees), D. Byrne; R. McCarron (0-2), M. O'Dowd (0-1), D. Flanagan; E. Hughes, E. Murphy (1-0), Bernie Murray. Sub. E. O'Hanlon for Flanagan (37 mins.)

Donegal: G. Walsh; J. J. Doherty, B. Dunleavy, C. Campbell; D. Reid, B. Tuohy, M. Shovlin; M. Gavigan, A. Molloy; M. McHugh (0-3, all frees), C. Mulgrew (0-1), B. Cunningham; D. Bonner, M. Boyle (0-1), T. Ryan (0-1). Sub., Sylvester Maguire for Bonner (43 mins.)

Referee: J. Gough (Antrim).

BEST WISHES TO DONEGAL IN '89
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The Donegal team defeated by Derry last Sunday in Drumsurn. Back row, l. to r., Tommy Ryan, Brian Tuohy, Marty Carlin, Brian Murray, Gary Walsh, Cathal Campbell, John Joe Doherty, John Connors. Front, l. to r., Pat Ward, Martin Shovlin, Martin Gavigan, Donal Reid, Seamus Carr, Anthony Molloy, James McHugh.

DUN NA nGALL

1
GARY WALSH
(Aodh Ruadh)

2
MARTIN SHOVLIN
(Naomh Ultan)

3
JOHN CONNORS
(Dungloe)

4
JOHN JOE DOHERTY
(Naomh Columba)

5
DONAL REID
(Red Hughs)

6
BRENDAN DUNLEAVY
(MacCumhalls)

7
BRIAN TUOHY
(Aodh Ruadh)

8
ANTHONY MOLLOY
(Ardara)

9
MARTIN GAVIGAN
(Ardara)

10
TOMMY RYAN
(Termon)

11
MICHAEL GALLAGHER
(Naomh Conaill)

12
CHARLIE MULGREW
(St. Eunans)

13
MARTIN McHUGH
(Kilcar)

14
BRIAN MURRAY
(Civil Service)

15
SEAMUS CARR
(Naomh Columba)

SUBSTITUTES: 16, **MICHAEL KELLY** (Four Masters); 17, **PADDY GAVIGAN** (Naomh Columba); 18, **CATHAL CAMPBELL** (St. Nauls); 19, **JAMES McHUGH** (Kilcar); 20, **MARTY CARLIN** (Red Hughs); 21, **JOYCE McMULLAN** (Four Masters); 22, **NOEL CARR** (Naomh Columba); 23, **CORNEY CARR** (Four Masters); 24, **PAT WARD** (Naomh Conaill).

FIRST HALF	GOALS	POINTS	WIDES	45's
DÚN NA nGALL				
MUINEACHÁN				

MUINEACHAN

1
PADDY LINDEN
(Ballybay)

2
EUGENE SHERRY
(Scotstown)

3
GERARD McGURK
(Scotstown)

4
MICK McENEANEY
(Corduff)

5
BERNIE MURRAY
(Scotstown)

6
MICHAEL CAULFIELD
(Scotstown)

7
DECLAN FLANAGAN
(Castleblaney)

8
SEAMUS McELROY
(Latton)

9
FRANK McENEANEY
(Corduff)

10
MARTIN McKENNA
(Monaghan Harps)

11
EUGENE HUGHES
(Castleblaney)

12
HUGH HAGAN
(Monaghan Harps)

13
RAY McCARRON
(Scotstown)

14
EAMONN MURPHY
(Emyvale, capt.)

15
MICHAEL CONLON
(Rockcorry)

SUBSTITUTES: 16, **PATRICK HAMILTON** (Latton); 17, **RAYMOND KELLY** (Emyvale); 18, **EUNAN McMAHON** (Castleblaney); 19, **GERARD HOEY** (Inniskeen).

SECOND HALF	GOALS	POINTS	WIDES	45's
DÚN NA nGALL				
MUINEACHÁN				

VISIT THE
GAA SHOP
IN THESE
GROUNDS

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CAMOGIE
STICKS,
FOOTBALLS,
SLIOTARS
AT BEST
PRICES

TEAM KIT
BAGS
KERRY
VIDEO
BEST OF '88
VIDEO
COACHING
VIDEOS

Peter Quinn completes term as Ulster President

With two Ulster teams involved in today's game it is relevant to reflect on the forthcoming Ulster Convention and particularly on the completion of Peter Quinn's highly respected 3-year term as Ulster President.

Recognised as one of the most capable and successful presidents in the Province's history, Peter is a native of neighbouring Fermanagh. He came up through the ranks as a player and club official with Teemore and as an official at county level.

His track record at Ulster Council level, where he has been a member for 20 years, has been such that he is the Ulster man most tipped and favoured to be the next man from the Province to hold the ultimate office in the Association, that of National President.

During his term of office he has led with distinction and impressed with his fairness and tenacity. The latter quality stood him well, particularly in dealing with the very difficult situations which arise for senior G.A.A. officials in the Six Counties. He was at all times to the forefront in protecting the rights and interests of G.A.A. clubs and their members against an oft indifferent and sometimes hostile establishment.

Currently chairman of the Games Development Committee at national level he is committed to improvements in playing standards, the establishment of coaching structures, clarifications and, where needed, revision of rules and the development of refereeing.



Peter Quinn

Gaels throughout Ulster will join in an expression of appreciation and thanks to one of the outstanding G.A.A. officials of our time and wish him well in his personal and official capacities in the years to come.

SNIPPETS

The highest ever score recorded in an official Gaelic football game was 5-11 scored by Frankie Donnelly, Tyrone in the Dr. Lagan Cup against Fermanagh.

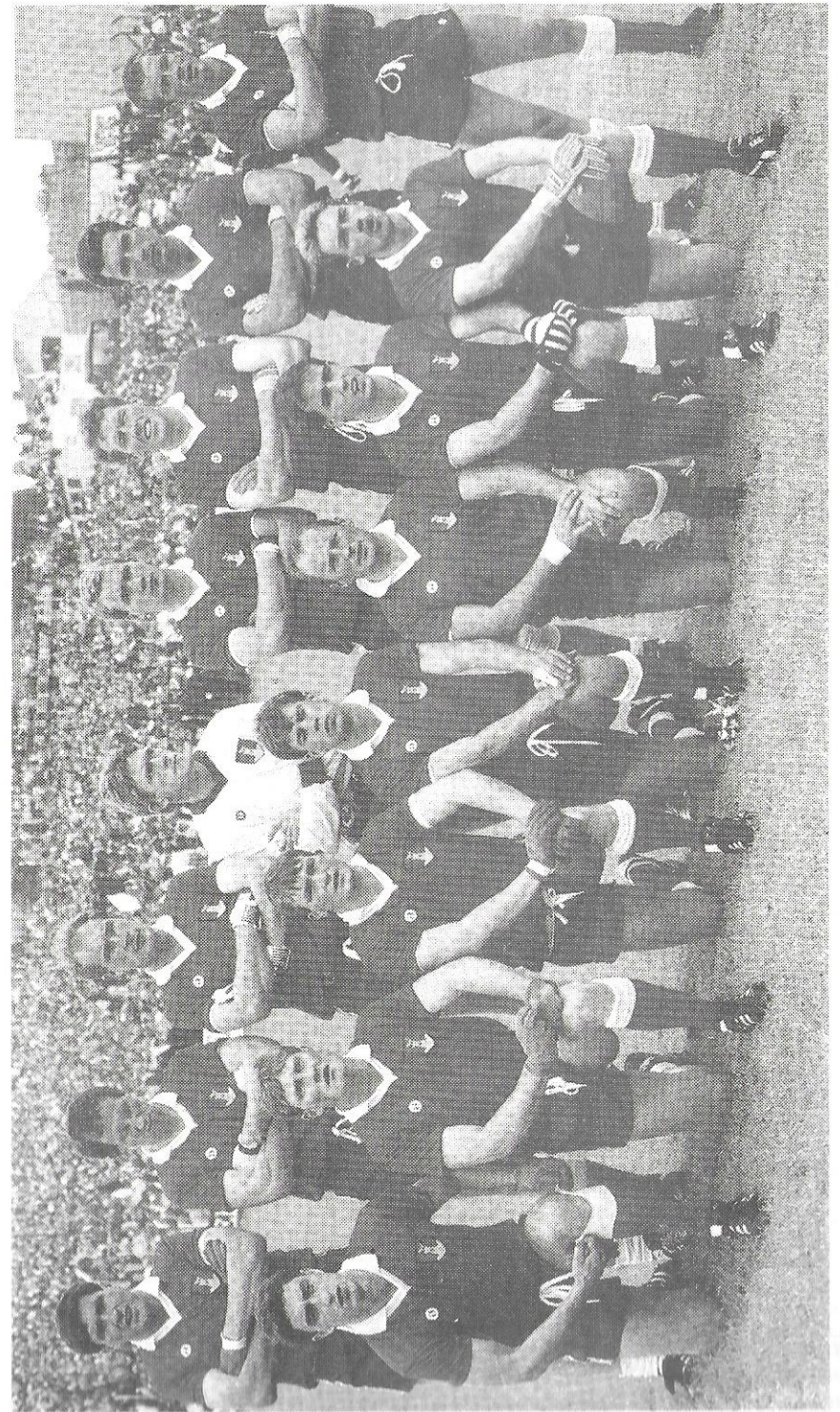
Monaghan have the unique distinction of being the only county to win the Ulster Double of senior hurling and football championships when they annexed both titles in 1914.

In the space of a few weeks, Down helped set up an attendance record for All-Ireland finals and semi-finals. They and Offaly drew an attendance of 90,556 for the 1961 final, while for that year's semi-final Down and Kerry attracted 71,573.

RTE first televised Gaelic Games live on St. Patrick's Day, 1962 when they broadcast the Railway Cup hurling and football finals.

Antrim were the first Ulster county to appear in an All-Ireland final when they were defeated by Cork by 6-6 to 2-1 in the 1911 football decider.

Jimmy Doyle of Thursles Sarsfields holds a record four All-Ireland minor medals.



MONAGHAN TEAM ON ULSTER FINAL DAY, 1988.

THE MAN FROM CURRIN

People involved in the G.A.A. will always tell you that one of the great things about the Association is the introduction which membership will give you when you move to a new town, a new job or meet new people. Interest in the games and participation in their promotion create a bond and fellowship with other people similarly involved which is always there, even if it is rarely spoken of or written about.

Towns and G.A.A. clubs throughout Ireland have all experienced the injection and breath of fresh air which a committed G.A.A. man coming from outside the area can bring to an established set-up.

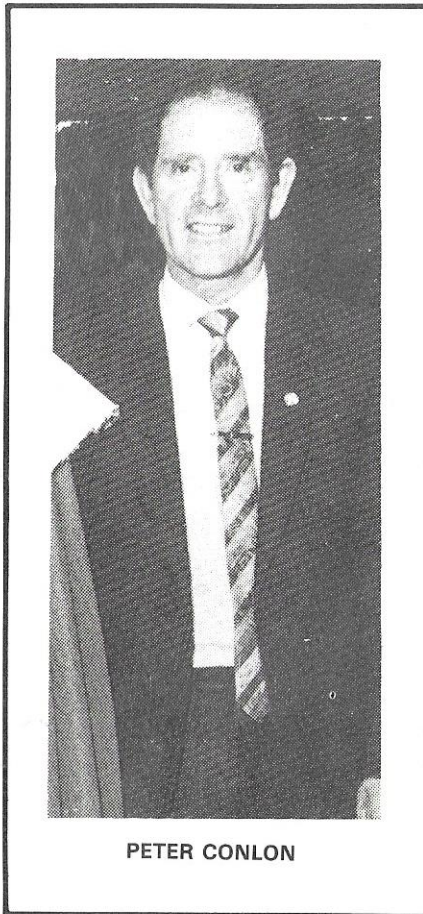
The Aodh Ruadh club in Ballyshannon has, over the years been fortunate to gain the services of many such people. Conversely, the club has also sent out many ambassadors who have thrown in their lot with other clubs — Pauric McGarrigle in Lucan, Ciaran McCready with Civil Service, Pat O'Brien (former Co. Secretary and new Development Officer) in Carlow, Patrick Daly in Boston, Ciaran McGinley in London, Tom Quinn to St. Brigid's, Dublin, Colm Herron to Monaghan Harps (current senior team manager), Hugh Daly to Ballymun Kickhams, Danny Bannigan to Lifford and Seamus Cleary to Mountcharles, to name but a few.

During the 1980's the club had the service of several well motivated and able administrators like Vincent McNally (Castleblayney) and Frank McHale, Mayo. Towering among those who have come to live in the area and got involved in the club is the man from Currin — Peter Conlon.

The parish of Currin in Co. Monaghan borders Fermanagh and indeed the local club, in an Ulster Council arrangement of over 50 years standing, actually draws some of the players from a small part of the Fermanagh hinterland, in the Newtownbutler area.

Established in 1886 the G.A.A. has been a strong force in Currin for over a 100 years and has produced many players and officials of great commitment and standing. Gaelic football was played in the area long before the foundation of the G.A.A. with evidence extant of games in the early 1800's. In recent years one of its better known players was Monaghan mid-fielder Hugo Clerkin.

That tradition puts in perspective the background and history of former Garda Sergeant Peter who has been an anchor-



PETER CONLON

man in the Aodh Ruadh club's under-age structure since the local Bord na nOg was first established. The first and current Runai of Bord na nOg locally, Peter's quiet efficiency and dedication among the youth of the area is second to none.

Of at least equal measure to that dedication is his interest in and loyalty to the footballing fortunes of his native Co. Monaghan. With what must be one of the best private collections of match programmes relating to a home county, Peter's admiration for one particular member of the footballing heroes of the modern Monaghan team earned him the nick-name "Nudie" among his former work colleagues. When he was station Sergeant in Ballyshannon, many is the summons set on ice as Peter recounted tales and stories

of the exploits of a man who has once again been recognised by all-star selection.

Peter Conlon is now an established figure in the Aodh Ruadh Club and one of its greatest stalwarts. That as it may be there is no doubt but that the man from Currin will have divided loyalties today and for that he can be forgiven. The Monaghan connection runs deep, with the Conlon name firmly etched in the history of the little club with boundaries almost touching Cavan, Monaghan and Fermanagh. In the annals of Currin club officials the Conlon name crops up regularly as long-serving officer in a period spanning nearly 100 years.

Club Secretary: Peter Conlon 1892/'96; Peter Conlon 1956/58; Club Chairman: Pat Conlon 1959-1966; Tom Conlon 1970-1988.

While the Conlon association with the Currin Club in Monaghan is an indelible one another generation of the family has opened what we hope will be a long and worthwhile association with Aodh Ruadh and Donegal. Peter's son Damian plays both hurling and football with the local clubs and played Co. Minor with Donegal in 1988. A promising player he is the latest in a long line of dedicated G.A.A. men from the Conlon clan.



CURRIN TEAM, 1965. Back, l to r, Peter Conlon, Tom Conlon, Jim Connolly, Pat McKiernan, Pat Conlon, Jimmy MacQuaid, Sean Smith, Pdraig McCaffrey. Front, l. to r., Mickey Connolly, Terry MacEntee, Sean Connolly, Seamus MacCabe, Sean Smith, Patsy Smith, Jimmy Maguire, Joe Kelly.

MONAGHAN'S '56 JUNIOR ALL-IRELAND

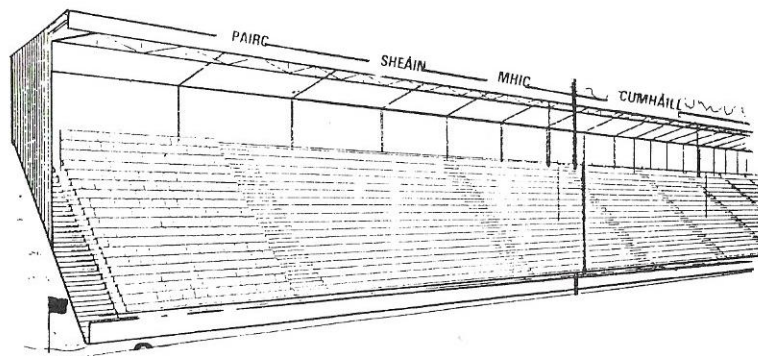
Monaghan won their first All-Ireland football title when they defeated London in the 1956 Junior final in Carrickmacross. Earlier they defeated Kerry in the All-Ireland semi-final and Kildare in the 'Home' final. Victory in this final made up for many previous disappointments and brought the Farney County their first national title. The Monaghan team was: Tommy McArdle (Drumowman); Gene McArdle (Donaghmoynne), Ollie O'Rourke (Inniskeen), Brendan Hamill (Aughnamullen), Denis McGuigan (Clones), Pat McGuigan (Cremartin), Dessie Ward (Ballybay), Joey Byrne (Inniskeen), Seamus McElroy (Latton), Seamus Mulligan (Three-mile-house), Ted Duffy (Clones), Pat Murphy (Clontibret), Pat Clarke (Clontibret, capt.), Noel Ward (Ballybay), Eamonn McCooney (Donaghmoynne). Subs., Dodo Murphy and Eamonn Murphy (Ballybay), Bennie Connolly (Emyvale), Peter McGinn and Ritchie Moore (Castleblaney), Peter Sherry (Scotstown), John Moen (Ballybay), D. Connolly, M. C. Dowd and Jim Duddy (Carrickmacross).

MAN OF THE MATCH

A specially commissioned piece of Donegal Irish Parian China, made in Ballyshannon, will be presented to the Man of the Match immediately after the game. The selection will be made by the members of the press attending the game.

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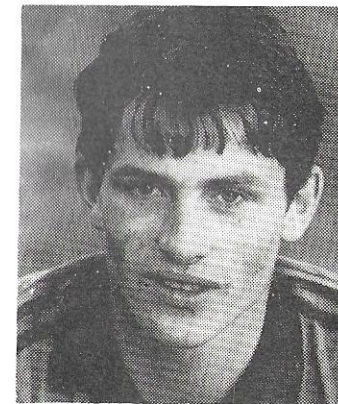
Draw will take place on Monday, 27th March, 1989.

Contact: Eugene Gallagher, Ballybofev.

FOCUS ON . . .

JOHN JOE DOHERTY

While talking to one of the mentors of the Donegal Minor team of 1985, which won the Ulster Minor Championship — only Donegal's second Minor Championship success — and were unlucky to lose to Cork in the All-Ireland semi-final, I asked him what members of the team would progress to play senior for Donegal. His reply was that John Joe Doherty would become Donegal's regular corner back and he also mentioned Tommy Ryan as having the right credentials. Four years on this prophecy has been fulfilled for, while still in his 21st year, John Joe has established himself, even at this stage, as a permanent member of the county's defence. In the interim period John Joe progressed to the senior ranks with impeccable displays for the U-21 All-Ireland winning team of 1987. He is also noted as being a fine clubman, usually lining out at centre half back or midfield and he captained Naomh Columba to win the Senior League in 1988. It is also interesting to note that N. Columba's only county titles at U-14, U-16 and Minor were achieved with



John Joe in the team in 1982, 1984 and 1986 respectively. Among other honours won were a Senior League in 1985 and an U-21 Co. Championship in 1987.

With players of the calibre of John Joe Doherty coming through the ranks Donegal football defences will have a sound cornerstone for the future.

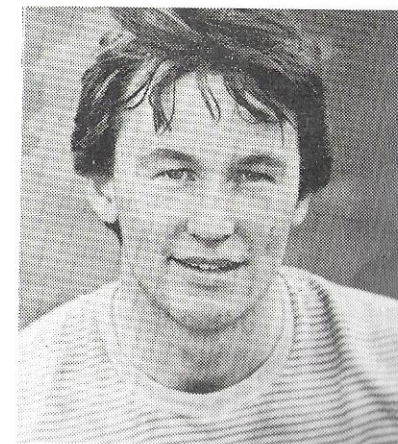
JOHN CONNORS

Born on 23rd December, 1967 in Manchester; moving to Newbridge, Co. Kildare in 1974 and arriving in Dungloe in 1979 would not be the usual route which Donegal county footballers would have but this does not seem to have deterred John Connors from developing into one of the county's best prospects in Gaelic football.

John burst on the scene during Donegal's U-21 All-Ireland winning campaign in 1987, first at corner back, then half back before finally making the full-back position his own and in this position he went on to become the 'find' of the campaign with his brilliant anticipation and great coolness under extreme pressure.

His honours, apart from the All-Ireland U-21 medal, include an Intermediate Co. Championship in 1986 and a Division Two Shield in 1987.

John, who now works in Dublin, made his debut for the Co. senior team in 1987/'88 League campaign against Clare at today's venue, but it was during the current campaign that he really made his mark with outstanding performances against Brian



Stafford of Meath and Eoin 'The Bomber' Liston of Kerry in those two memorable matches before Christmas.

At the young age of 22 years, John has the ability to establish himself as a full back capable of taming the leading full-forwards in the country.

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BEST WISHES TO DONEGAL

WHAT NOW, DONEGAL?

By Connie Duffy, Donegal Democrat

"What now, Donegal?" must surely be the burning question after the side's hugely disappointing performances against Down and more recently Derry last Sunday. Many would argue the team are much better than they showed up on those two occasions and that they failed to produce the football of which they are capable of yet that isn't much good if relegation is on the horizon.

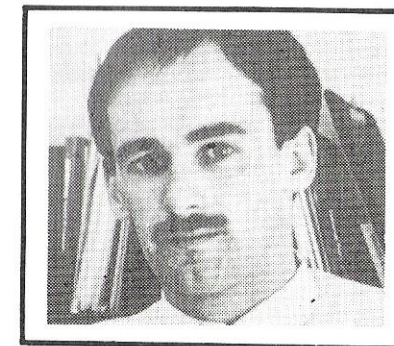
Sporting fortunes can be fickle and short-lived. Donegal's achievement in reaching Division One for the first time may not exactly rank as a "rags to riches" story, it had to happen sometime, the talent was always there, but for all that it was an exciting change of fortune.

It began well enough with what many would claim was an unlucky defeat at the hands of old rivals Armagh at the end of October. Then in November they celebrated their two most famous victories in recent times beating reigning All-Ireland and League champions Meath and the mighty Kerry. Many talked loudly about the greatness of the team and confidently predicted a future that would yield not only a successful league campaign but at the very least an Ulster title!

Now many of these staunch admirers have had to contend with Donegal's less than impressive performances against Down and Derry which brought them to today's position — a do or die contest against old rivals Monaghan. Many reasons have been given for this fall from grace — team selections, lack of flair, tactics or the fact that the other teams were made of the right stuff; the stuff Donegal lacked.

There's a four letter word that could adequately describe those notions but modesty prevents me from using it in writer form. Let's just say greatness comes with a passing of time and the build-up of confidence and talent. True Donegal still has some way to go to boast of having all these qualities but remember it takes an awful lot of effort and dedication not to mention a fair share of the luck to stay in Division One let alone stay at the right end of the table.

Injuries to key players or loss of form by others at vital stages has upset plans.



Admittedly the players and management played their part at times with some mind boggling decisions on and off the field yet for all their anxious moments they have tried to do their best. Now, however, on this fresh February afternoon their fate lies fairly and squarely in their own hands.

Looking at matters coldly and objectively Donegal were never going to win the National League and would have done much better than expected to qualify for the play off stages in such a tough division. No the priority at all times had to be survival.

They must find the necessary answers today to live up to their new found status — spirit, ability and the will to win is needed now more than ever before.

Team manager Tom Conaghan this week described today's game as the most important in his term of office so far. Whether or not Donegal have the players to win this crucial tie remains to be seen.

They have shown the character in the past to get over the knocks and get on the right track again and despite Monaghan manager Sean McCague's claims that he is already resigned to his team being relegated, the Donegal lads know this is also their last chance to stay up. They know too that Monaghan would fancy taking two points off Donegal easier than from Kerry who they play at the end of the month. They know also their last game is against Dublin who are very much the in-form side of the competition.

What now, Donegal indeed. Have you the right stuff? And if we lose.... what then?

MONAGHAN MUSINGS

By J. P. Graham, Co. Secretary

Games between Monaghan and Donegal are invariably fairly keenly contested affairs resulting in low scoring, close encounters. Even as far back as 1938 when Monaghan went on that year to win a very good Ulster Championship against firm favourites, Armagh, in the final, they had to scrape home by a mere point against Donegal in far off Carndonagh in the semi-final to the tune of Donegal 0-6, Monaghan 0-7. Coming up to more recent times there was, of course, that National League quarter-final in March of last year in rain drenched Omagh when Monaghan scraped home by a mere two points on the score of 1-5 to 0-6. Mind you underfoot conditions on the day did not contribute to open flowing football and the score that separated the sides was the opportunist goal by Eamonn Murphy.

CONTROVERSY

It is not unusual for some little controversy to creep into Monaghan/Donegal matches either during the game or afterwards but that would not be to say that the sides have not a healthy respect for each other. However, the one game that will probably be talked about for many years to come yet was the Ulster semi-final of 1983 in Irvinstown which turned into a fairly physical affair in the second half during which Donegal's Charlie Mulgrew received a serious injury and the ensuing comments were avidly quoted by the media for some weeks afterwards. More recently, of course, there was the U-21 Championship final of 1987 when Monaghan after holding Donegal to a draw, 1-4 to 0-7, were outclassed in the replay and went under by 1-11 to 0-8, but it was a game that was somewhat soured by a very serious injury to Monaghan's Declan Brennan,

which left him literally fighting for his life for some days afterwards.

FAIRLY FREQUENT CONTACT

Looking back to most people it would seem as if our paths do not cross all that often but over the last six or seven years the sides have met on quite a few occasions; twice in 1982, four times in 1983, once in 1984, again in 1985, a challenge match in 1986, the U-21 Ulster final in 1987 and, of course, the National Football League quarter final of 1988. Of those twelve encounters, the twelve, including that drawn U-21 game, the honours are exactly even with Monaghan having six wins and a draw and Donegal having six wins.

THE RESULTS

17/4/'82: S.F. Challenge: Monaghan 1-6, Donegal 1-4.
14/11/'82: N.F.L.: Donegal 1-7, Monaghan 1-5.
April 1983, Dr. McKenna Cup: Monaghan 1-9, Donegal 2-5.
June 26th, 1983, Ulster S.F. Championship: Donegal 1-14, Monaghan 1-9.
July 1983, U-21 C'ship: Donegal 1-5, Monaghan 0-7.
Nov. 6th, 1983, N.F.L.: Monaghan 1-9, Donegal 0-8.
Nov. 25th, 1984, N.F.L.: Monaghan 0-11, Donegal 0-7.
June, 1985, Ulster S.F.C.: Monaghan 1-14, Donegal 0-7.
1986 S.F. Challenge: Donegal 2-11, Monaghan 1-7.
May 10th, 1987: U-21 C'ship: Donegal 1-11, Monaghan 0-8.
13/3/'88, N.F.L. quarter-final: Monaghan 1-5, Donegal 0-6.

SNIPPETS

Monaghan are one of the six Ulster teams who between them have appeared in 18 N.F.L. finals stretching from 1931 to 1986.

Donegal finished second to Monaghan in Division III of the N.F.L. in 1983/'84 Monaghan with 12 points from 7 games, Donegal with 10 from their 7. Their respective scoring averages were quite close too, Monaghan scored a total of 7-70 (91 pts.) with 6-27 (45 pts.) being scored against, while Donegal had 5-70 (85 pts.) for and 3-40 (49 pts.) against.

In the N.F.L. Division II 1984/'85 Monaghan scored a total of 10 goals and 95 pts. (125 pts.) and conceded a total of 3 goals and 80 pts. (89 pts.) in the 11 games that took them to the N.F.L. title. Four of those goals were scored against Kildare in the quarter-final.

Monaghan, in fact, made a habit of scoring goals v Kildare because in their next meeting, a N.F.L. Division 1 tie, at Newbridge, they again ran in four goals as they accounted for the home side by 4-4 to 1-7.

Ulster's amazing Railway Cup run from 1960 to 1971 – The Donegal Connection

In a period when the Railway Cup appears to have fallen in popularity within G.A.A. circles, it is interesting to recall some of the fine performances given by Ulster footballers in the 'Sixties and early 'Seventies.

From 1960 to 1971 Ulster contested every final with the exception of 1961 and 1969. During this golden period of Ulster dominance they won the finals of 1960, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1970 and 1971. Donegal's contribution to these teams prove the worth of the players of the period, who were most unfortunate not to win at least one Ulster title.

For the record, the following players from Donegal actually played in those famous Railway finals:

1960 (defeated Munster): No Donegal representative.

1962 (defeated by Leinster): No Donegal representative.

1963 (defeated Leinster): P. J. Flood, Sean Ferriter, Frankie McFeely.

1964 (defeated Leinster): Seamus Hoare, Bernard Brady, Sean Ferriter.

1965 (defeated Connacht): Seamus Hoare, Bernard Brady, Paul Kelly, Sean Ferriter.

1966 (defeated Munster): Seamus Hoare, P. J. Flood, Paul Kelly.

1967 (defeated by Connacht): Seamus Hoare, Bernard Brady, Mickey Griffin, P. J. Flood, Mickey McLoone, Sean Ferriter.

1968 (defeated Leinster): Seamus Hoare, Bernard Brady, Neily Gallagher, Declan O'Carroll.

1970 (defeated Connacht): Brian McEniff.

1971 (defeated Connacht): Brian McEniff.

John Hannigan

When Donegal gaels recall great players of the past 30 years one name sure to crop up regularly is John Hannigan of St. Eunan's, who starred for the county in various positions from 1957 to 1973.

He made his Championship debut in a 3-11 to 3-5 defeat at the hands of an up-and-coming Down team in 1958 and played his last Championship game when he came on as a sub against Tyrone in the first round of the '73 competition. That particular game is one that most Donegal fans will want to forget as the game ended in an unfortunate defeat and will be remembered mainly for a nasty incident which resulted in Neily Gallagher receiving a facial injury and having to retire early on. In between 1957 and 1973 John Hannigan made 27 Championship appearances for his native county, a fact equalled only by Seamus Bonner.

John won an Ulster minor title with Donegal's 1956 history-making side and won a senior medal in 1972 and is thus the only Donegal man to hold Ulster minor and senior medals. He won Dr. Lagan Cup medals in 1965, '66 and '67 and Dr. McKenna Cup medals in 1963, '65 and '67. In addition he won senior Co. Championship medals with St. Eunan's in 1956, '60, '67, '69 and '72.



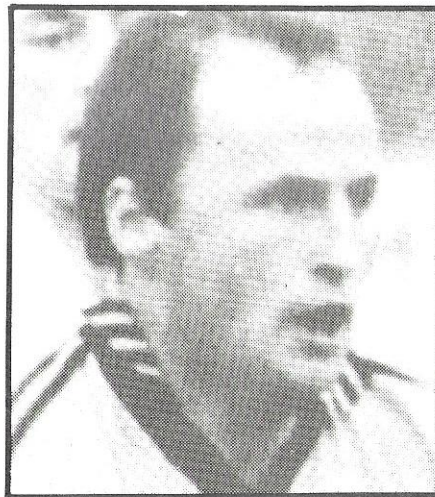
The fact that John never won a Railway Cup medal in an era when many Donegal players figured on successful Ulster teams, is due mainly to his versatility. He played for Donegal in almost every position and while his favourite position was centre-half back it was always a safe bet that he would be brought up front if the forwards needed an important score.

Today John enjoys a game of golf but still takes an interest in his county's fortunes and was among the many disappointed supporters who travelled to last Sunday's game in Drumsurn.

MONAGHAN'S '88 ALL-STARS

by J. P. Graham, Monaghan Co. Secretary

While some begrudgers in the national media would have questioned Nudie Hughes' right to his third All-Star award and, indeed, Paddy Linden's deserving of his first, there was literally no one in Monaghan but believed that justice had been done and that the selection of these two men on the 1988 All-Stars was totally justified. Eugene Hughes from Castleblaney, known locally as "Nudie", has been an ever present face on Monaghan teams for the last 12 years. In that time he has filled many different roles — corner back, wing half back, centre half back, midfield, leader of the attack, corner forward, wing half forward, you name it, Nudie has played it, and has brought to each position his own charisma and individualism that sets him apart from other players.



Eugene 'Nudie' Hughes

In any game, any team game, there are certain players who when they are "on the ball" they cause a buzz of excitement, create an air of expectancy in the crowd. Such a player is Nudie Hughes. And for those who felt they had seen the best of Nudie in 1984, 1985 and 1986 in Monaghan's great league and championship and Centenary cup runs, little did they know or realise the depth of talent and the matured play that was still to be seen from this great artist. There is no better place than the championship to parade one's talents and it is a firm belief in G.A.A. circles that if it is in them a championship will take it out of them. Well, Nudie Hughes is certainly proof of that and his dominance of the 1988 Ulster Championship series is proof of that. Before the championship began in Clones with Monaghan v Cavan Nudie was a marked man. And indeed all teams that Monaghan played certainly tried to mark him but human frailty being what it is there was no one who could match the guile and artistry and in most cases when the opposition would take remedial action to counteract the little genius it was the proverbial case of the stable door. His vital scores against Cavan, the steady point when Cavan looked to have made a last ditch comeback; his leadership qualities against Down in Breffni Park and his skill and opportunism in the final against Tyrone, all testified to his right to be given the

accolade of All-Star.

Nudie is a man who enjoys his football and indeed has been known to indulge in the odd spot of refereeing during even the most important match but there is one thing that is never dulled and that is his enthusiasm and his sense of humour, qualities that have brightened many, many Sundays for Monaghan players and followers alike.

Paddy Linden, now the veteran of the side at — well Paddy is over 30, has for long been acclaimed as a fairly consistent goalkeeper. Like Nudie Hughes, Paddy collected his third Ulster Senior Championship medal in 1988 having been between the sticks in 1979 when Monaghan took the Anglo-Celt Cup back to the county after a lapse of 41 years. He has been the man in the gap behind quite a few Monaghan full-backs, men of the calibre of Gerry McCarville, Eugene Sherry, Sean Hughes to name but three and seldom has anyone ever heard a full back criticise his last line of cover. Mind you it is not just in 1988 that Paddy's qualities as a safe keeper were recognised because even back in 1979, all of almost ten years now, Paddy was presented with a trophy by RTE for what they termed "The Save of the Year" and that was in the rather unhappy All-Ireland

Championship semi-final that year v Kerry. That year, as indeed in 1988, in the All-Ireland semi-final Monaghan had an off-day in Croke Park and but for Paddy Linden's ability and his safe handling there could have been quite a few more three pointers. Few will forget his one man show last August against Cork when he defied all comers even to the extent of saving a penalty. However, it was also in that game that he was to concede his only goal of the entire championship series and that in fairly controversial circumstances.

His consistency this year saw him selected for the provincial side for the Railway Cup series and it certainly wasn't all his fault that Ulster missed out on the title at the end. Paddy has added to those three Ulster Senior Championship medals, three McKenna Cups and National Football League Div. 3 and 2 medals as well as a National League winners medal for 1985.

With his club, Ballybay Pearse Brothers, Paddy has tried to vary his play by operating outfield but even there his mentors are happier when he is in that last line of defence when despite seeing chinks in the defensive armour they are reasonably reassured that their last line is trustworthy and that when called upon Paddy Linden is equal to the best. A very modest man by nature and one of the quieter players in the dressing room, Paddy, nevertheless, is totally committed to fitness and to doing everything or anything that he has to to prevent, as he says, the leather hitting the rigging.

When the awards were announced recently Paddy's home town of Ballybay was in carnival mood as they celebrated the club and the town's first All-Star. They had cause to celebrate and have just cause to be proud of their representative on what is called the cream of Gaelic football.

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SHOULD WE CHANGE THE RULES

By P. J. Buggy

In his Co. Secretary's report at the recent Donegal Convention, Co. secretary, Bart Whelan made reference to the fact that 1990 was the year when rule changes could be made in our games. He suggested that some of the less important competitions should be used for experimenting with changes which might help to improve Gaelic football.

While hurling is presently going from strength to strength and gaining favourable comment from media and spectators alike, it is generally accepted that the standard of football has declined. Bart Whelan rightly stated: "Many of the problems for Gaelic football stemmed from the fact that our rules do not include a legal tackle or the early release of the ball by the player."

What rules, if any, should be changed and how do we go about ensuring that the changes made are going to improve the standard of the game? Obviously, one way of ensuring that there is less fouling and more continuity is to keep the ball moving faster. Having recently looked at the most impressive video, "Kerry's Golden Years", a number of points arose. The handpass, for all its faults and various interpretations certainly kept the ball moving faster and was attractive to watch when used properly. The traditionalists will say that it destroyed the art of high fielding and some would say that the game was becoming more like basketball than Gaelic football. It was right that it was abolished in scoring positions because the goalie had no chance in one-to-one situations. However, there was, in my opinion, nothing wrong with the old fisted point from the hand and, perhaps, this should be re-introduced.

The pick-up directly from the ground is another way of speeding up the game as could be seen from Australian Rules football and the Compromise Rules games. The teaching of the skill of picking up the ball under the present rules has stretched many an under age team manager's patience to the limit but the truth is that bending down to pick up a ball results in a needless free in so many cases. Again the pick up with the foot has been an important skill and many people will not favour dispensing with it.

Another way of speeding up the game and doing away with so much bunching in the middle of the field is the quick kick-out from the hands. This practice has been used effectively in the Compromise Rules games and certainly would keep the ball moving.

The fact that our rules do not include a definition of a legal tackle certainly confuses managers, players and referees alike. There are various interpretations used from time to time and while the referee usually gets blamed no matter how he deals with the situation, the lack of guidance from the Official Guide leaves his task almost impossible. Should we insist that a player releases the ball when tackled? Should the solo run be discarded or restricted? Certainly it is almost impossible to dispossess a player legally while he is on a solo run. The rules should state clearly how a player may tackle an opponent and eliminate the present uncertainty and inconsistency.

Another area that creates confusion is the famous "advantage rule". In my opinion, the only fair and correct way of applying an "advantage rule" is as is presently applied in Rugby Union, where the referee waits to see if advantage accrues to the player fouled and if not calls back play and penalises the offending team. As the rule stands a referee cannot subsequently give a free after he allows play to continue. In most cases the referee blows the whistle immediately thus ensuring that the rule as it stands at present is implemented, but on occasions reducing the advantage to the player who was fouled.

During the next year it is essential that possible changes in rules are discussed fully to ensure that the correct decisions are made. Bart Whelan's suggestions should be taken on board by the powers that be and no stone should be left unturned to ensure that, after 1990, only minor changes in playing rules are necessary. Obviously, all the changes mentioned will not be necessary nor are they desirable as a package. However, we must learn by our mistakes in the past and, if necessary, study other football games as well as our own before making decisions which, if taken correctly, will silence the critics and confirm Gaelic football as the wonderful, skillful game it is.

QUIZ

1. Who were the last Ulster county to defeat Munster opposition in an All-Ireland football semi-final and in what year?
2. Who was President of the G.A.A. from 1976-1979?
3. In what year was the hand pass abolished in scoring situations?
4. Who captained Ulster to win the Railway Cup in Centenary year?
5. Tipperary were defeated finalists in the All-Ireland hurling championship in 1988. When was the last occasion they appeared in the final?
6. Three Offaly players won All-Ireland football medals in the 1970s and 1980s. Name them?
7. Donegal and Monaghan met in the 1979 Ulster final. Who were the captains?
8. In what Australian city did Ireland win the final and vital game in the Compromise Rules series in 1986?
9. When was the last occasion an All-Ireland hurling final was drawn and who were the teams?
10. Who was the last Ulster man to captain two Ulster Railway Cup winning teams?
11. Only one Donegal man has won Ulster Championship football medals at minor and senior. Who?
12. Kerry with 14 lead the field in winning the National Football League, but what county with 10 are second in the table?
13. The 1988 All-Ireland football final was won after a replay. When was the last time this occurred and who were the teams?
14. J. P. O'Kane and J. P. Keane opposed each other in an All-Ireland U-21 football final. With what counties did they play?
15. Only one Ulster county has never won a Minor football title. Who?
16. Offaly won the All-Ireland Football Championship in 1971 and 1972. Name both captains?
17. How many All-Ireland football titles have Dublin won?
18. Who won Division Two of the National Hurling League in '87/'88 season?
19. Who are the table toppers in Division Three South of the National Football League at the moment?
20. Who was the first player to play in All Ireland finals in minor, under-21, junior and senior in the same year?

QUIZ ANSWERS:

1, Down defeated Kerry, 1961; 2, Con Murphy (Cork); 3, 1981; 4, Eugene Ward and Brendan Brady; 8, Adelaide; 9, 1959, Waterford and Kilkenny; 10, Peter McGinnity, 1980, 1983; 11, John Hannigan; 12, Mayo; 13, 1972, Offaly and Kerry; 14, J. P. O'Kane (Antrim), J. P. Keane (Mayo); 15, Fermanagh; 16, Willie Bryan and Tony McTague; 17, 21; 18, Offaly; 19, Limerick and Wexford with 8 points each; 20, Denis O'Sullivan, Kerry, in 1964.



Donegal
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