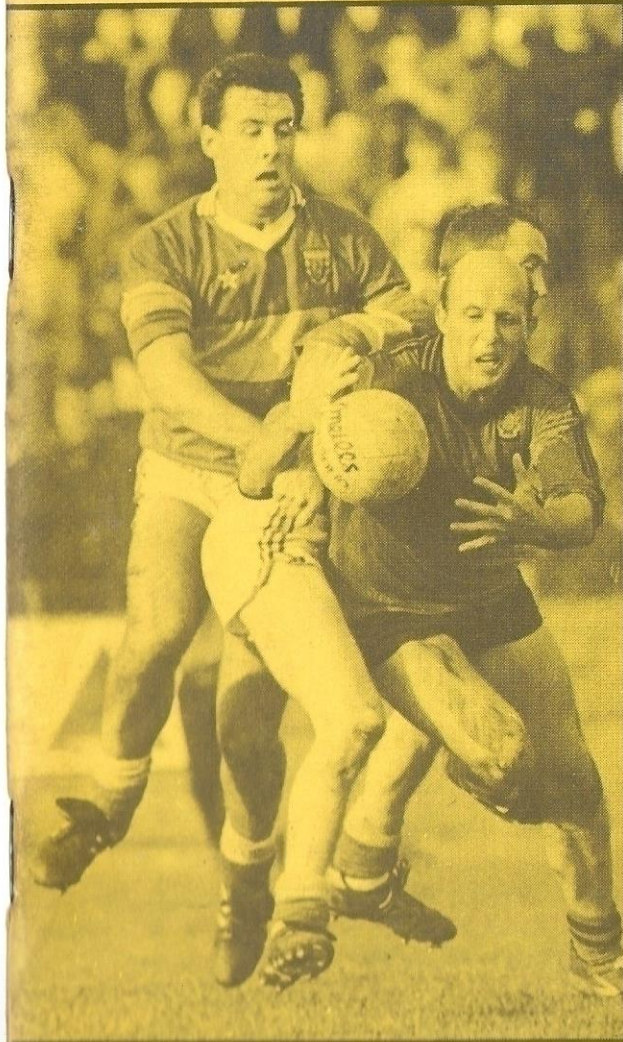
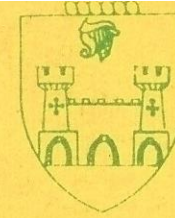




ROYAL LIVER NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
DIVISION ONE



FR. TIERNEY PARK,  
BALLYSHANNON

SUNDAY, 25th NOVEMBER,  
1990

2.30 p.m.

Dún na nGall

v

Ciarraí

REITEOIR:

Proinsias Ó Fionnáin  
(Sligeach)

(Francis Finan, Sligo)



LUACH: £1.00



# DONEGAL DEMOCRAT

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## **FÁILTE**

It is just over a year since Dún na nGall and Ciarraí met in Ballyshannon in the third round of Division One of the National Football League. Little did we think then that we would have Kerry back at this venue again so soon, in what is an important game for both sides.

Last year's game fully lived up to our expectations and with Mickey O'Sullivan now well settled in as manager, much "new blood" in the side and a growing confidence in Kerry as to the potential of their team, I am convinced that today's game can be as good a match as the League will produce.

Last season's League saw the rules experimentation take place with some teams taking to the new rules better than others. After only a few months in operation it is clear that the rule changes have for the most part helped to improve the game in many respects and have found favour with the spectators. With the experimentation phase gone and with it, the four quarters and goalkeeper's kick from the hands, the 1990/'91 League has a more settled look about it and League points are hard come by. This alone gives today's meeting between Donegal and Kerry that bit of extra edge.

It is appropriate that on behalf of everyone attending today's game, I warmly congratulate Jack O'Shea and Martin Gavigan on the distinction with which they represented Ireland in the Test Series against Australia. They have done their respective counties and their country proud.

As the year draws to a close, we in Donegal again look to the future with a view to maintaining our Division One status and again making a major impact in the Championship. In these endeavours we look forward to the continued support of our loyal band of followers. In particular I would like to encourage you to join the Donegal Supporters Club which was set up this year through the good work of our County Treasurer, Danny McNamee, and which already has a vital role in developing a sound financial base for the improvement of our county team and Association generally.

As always our appreciation to Aodh Ruadh for their efforts in staging the game and to the advertisers without whom match programmes like this could not be undertaken. **Their businesses deserve your support.**

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

## **MATCH PROGRAMME**

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

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

**Contributors:** Ciaran O'Donnell (Peoples Press), Charlie Joe McGinley (Derry People and Donegal News), Peter Campbell and Michael Daly (Donegal Democrat), P. J. Buggy, Eamon O'Sullivan, Kerry PRO.

**Photographs:** Michael O'Donnell (Donegal Democrat).

● **COVER PHOTO:** Brian Murray and Martin Shovlin tussle with Ambrose Rodgers in Donegal's last League game in Newry.

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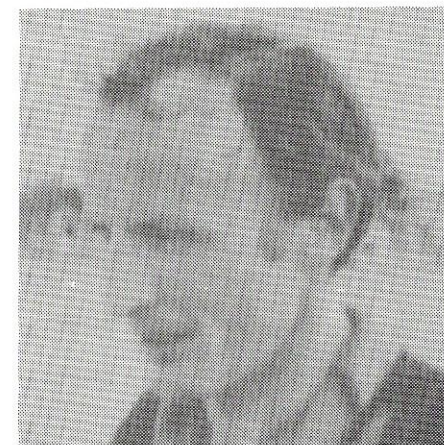
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## TODAY'S REFEREE

**FRANCIS FINAN**  
(SLIGO)

A long serving member of the Coolera/Strandhill GAA Club in Sligo, Francis Finan is a well-known referee in Sligo and Connacht. His footballing background includes an 8 year sojourn with the Sligo county senior team from 1976-1983, and a lengthy involvement with his club with whom he won Junior Championship and League and Intermediate Championship and League titles. He has trained and managed his local club's adult team and has a deep involvement with the Coolera/Strandhill under age teams.



Francis has refereed the Senior Football Championship in Sligo and Connacht Club Senior Championship and this year had the honour of refereeing the National League Football final between Cork and Meath.

## ROYAL LIVER N.F.L. TABLES

Division One				Division Two				Division Three (North)				Division Three (South)											
	P	W	D	LPts		P	W	D	LPts		P	W	D	LPts		P	W	D	LPts				
DONEGAL	2	1	1	0	3	Leitrim	2	2	0	0	4	Offaly	2	2	0	0	4	Carlow	2	2	0	0	4
Armagh	2	1	0	1	2	Derry	2	1	1	0	3	Fermanagh	2	1	0	1	2	Tipperary	2	2	0	0	4
Cork	2	1	0	1	2	Tyrone	2	1	1	0	3	Galway	2	1	0	1	2	Wicklow	2	2	0	0	4
Dublin	2	1	0	1	2	Kildare	2	1	0	1	2	Laois	2	1	0	1	2	Waterford	2	1	0	1	2
Kerry	2	1	0	1	2	Mayo	2	0	2	0	2	Monaghan	2	1	0	1	2	Wexford	2	1	0	1	2
Meath	2	1	0	1	2	Antrim	2	0	1	1	1	Louth	2	1	0	1	2	Clare	2	0	0	2	0
Roscommon	2	1	0	1	2	Longford	2	0	1	1	1	Sligo	2	1	0	1	2	Kilkenny	2	0	0	2	0
Down	2	0	1	1	1	Cavan	2	0	0	2	0	Westmeath	2	0	0	2	0	Limerick	2	0	0	2	0

## REMAINING DIVISION ONE FIXTURES

**Round 3 (today):** Cork v Dublin; Donegal v Kerry; Armagh v Meath; Roscommon v Down.  
**Round 4 (Sun., 2-12-'90):** Dublin v Roscommon; Kerry v Cork; Meath v Donegal; Down v Armagh.  
**Round 5 (Sun., 10-2-'91):** Down v Dublin; Kerry v Meath; Donegal v Cork; Armagh v Roscommon.  
**Round 5 (Sun., 24-2-'91):** Dublin v Kerry; Meath v Down; Donegal v Armagh; Roscommon v Cork.  
**Round 7 (Sun., 10-3-'91):** Kerry v Down; Dublin v Meath; Cork v Armagh; Roscommon v Donegal.

See the DONEGAL v DUBLIN  
1st round N.F.L. win  
on video after today's game

at

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## SUCCESS EVERY FOUR YEARS

*By Peter Campbell (Donegal Democrat)*

It is a sign of the times when we see Donegal spending most of their time at the top of Division One of the National Football League and nobody seems to blink an eyelid.

The end of the '80s under, firstly Tom Conaghan and latterly Brian McEniff has seen Donegal gain a major standing in the country's footballing charts.

Before the corresponding game last year against Kerry we were in joint top position while before today's game they are in a clear one point lead, but it has not always been like that.

If we look back to the beginning of the '80s we see that Donegal were languishing in Division Three of the National Football League.

Even with the success of the Under-21s in winning the All-Ireland title in 1982 and the winning of the Ulster Championship and narrow defeat by Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final of 1983, it was not until the end of the 1983-'84 League that we were promoted to Division Two.

It took four more years for the team to win their way to Division One.

In our first year in Division One we consolidated with wins over Meath (home), Kerry (away) and Monaghan (home).

Then last year we progressed to reach the quarter-final and while beaten by a last quarter fade-out against Meath in Clones it remains that a further progressive step up the

ladder towards success was achieved.

Which takes us back to my opening comments which suggest that supporters are not so much hopeful nowadays but have come to expect a Donegal team to be successful.

The launching of the Supporters Club brings the financing of the Training Fund into line with the norm of the more successful counties; this must be looked upon as a real development.

The continual strengthening of county squad with players who have been showing good form in matches shows us team manager McEniff's willingness to leave no stone unturned in his quest for team's success.

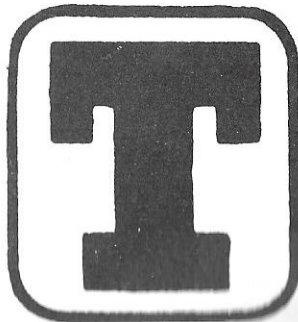
If the graph of League success over the last 11 years is true — four years in Division 3; four years in Division two; three years in Division One — then we should reach the semi-final of N.F.L. this year while next year would be expected to go all the way to win the League.

Our progress during the last five years in the Championship has been quite similar reaching the final in 1987 and only losing after a replay in 1988; this year we went a step further winning Ulster. If the four year cycle is consistent we should be playing our first All-Ireland final next year 1992 being the year of the double.

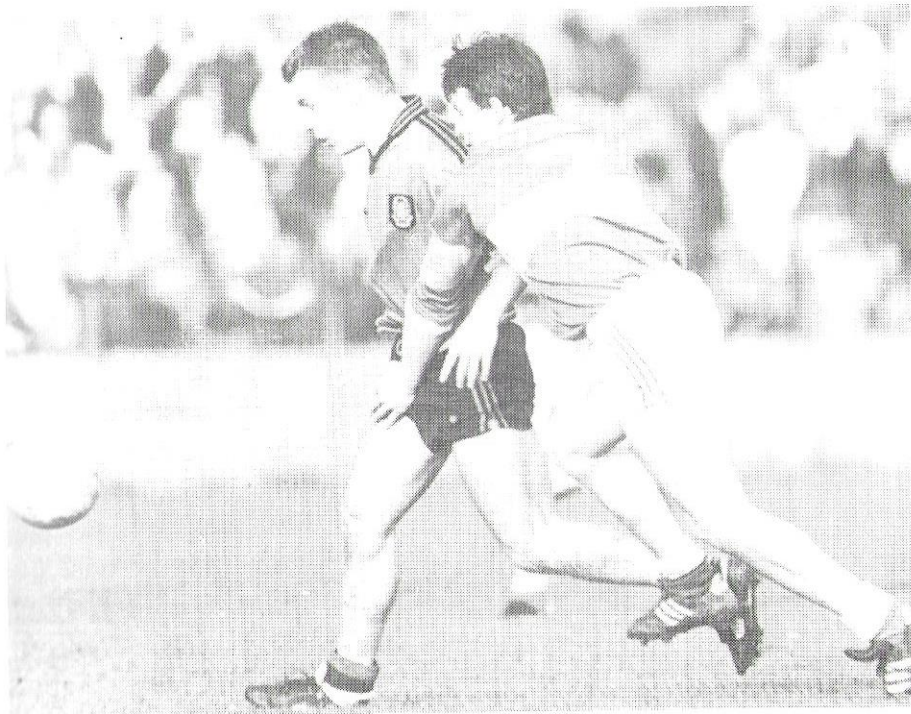
Let's hope our graph runs thro

## 20 QUESTIONS

# TENNENT'S IRELAND DONEGAL AND TENNENT'S — A WINNING COMBINATION



1. Who captained Galway to their first National Hurling League title?
2. Who was Tyrone's penalty taker in the 1986 All-Ireland final against Kerry?
3. Name the goalkeeper who won a record seven Senior All-Ireland football medals between 1931 and 1946?
4. When was the first 80 minutes All-Ireland football year and who were the competing teams?
5. Who was captain of the Ireland team against the Australia when the tourists visited here in 1987?
6. Which Kerry forward of the 1940s was nicknamed "Gega"?
7. In what county would you find the club, Rathnure?
8. Who captained Kerry to win the All-Ireland football final in Centenary Year, 1984?
9. In 1960 which referee took charge of both the All-Ireland football and hurling finals?
10. Leitrim recently captured the All-Ireland 'B' Championship when they defeated Sligo. Who was their captain?
11. With which club would you associate Kerry greats, Mikey Sheeey and Ger Power?
12. Two Ulster counties contested the 1985 National Football League final. Name them?
13. Who was the first captain to hold the Sam Maguire?
14. Armagh have played in two Senior All-Ireland Senior football finals. In what years?
15. In what county is Camross Hurling Club?
16. Who were winners of the first Munster Senior Football Championship title?
17. Which two clubs contested the Ulster Club Hurling final recently?
18. Who captained Galway to their 1964 All-Ireland Football final victory?
19. Which county holds the record of having won the most All-Ireland Minor Football titles?
20. Who was Galway's goalkeeper for their famous 3-in-a-row 1964-'66?



John Joe Doherty and James McCartin in action in the last League game in Newry.

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## SEAMUS MAC GEARAILT

Former senior All-Ireland medallist from the Gaeltacht club in Kerry, Seamus Fitzgerald has fond memories of two periods spent in Donegal in the '60s and '70s. In 1967 he spent a short period in Ballybofey when he remembers training for the Munster final with the Donegal side which included Sean Ferriter, Mickey McLoone, P. J. Flood and Pauric McShea among others.

However, his employment with Roinn na Gaeltachta required that he spend a year, from September 1971 to September 1972, in the Gweedore area. During that year he transferred to the Gweedore club but continued to play for Kerry and, in fact, played in that year's All-Ireland final and replay v Offaly. During a most enjoyable year he remembers many an exciting game in Maghergallon and throughout the county with a Gweedore team that included county stars at the time, Anton Carroll and Neilly Gallagher. He has fond memories of that period and though he did not have championship success he enjoyed his football and was particularly impressed by the successful St. Joseph's team of the time.

In a most successful career, Seamus won two All-Ireland minor medals with Kerry as goalkeeper in 1962 and 1963. An interesting member of the '63 team was Arthur Spring, brother of Dick Spring, who went on to become a well-known golfer. In 1962 he togged out as a sub. in the All-Ireland final due to the regular sub. goalie's absence through injury but never received a medal.

In 1963 Seamus won a National League medal, the first of a number of such awards. His success at national level continued with an U-21 All-Ireland win in 1964, again between the posts. At that stage, a serious leg injury interrupted his career and he missed much of 1965 as a result.

On his conversion to left full-back Seamus found his true position and continued in that position until he retired from the game. He won All-Ireland senior medals in 1969 and 1970 but suffered the disappointment of defeat both in 1968 against Down when he was sub. and after a replay in 1972 by an excellent Offaly side captained by Tony McTague. That proved to be his last All-Ireland and he had retired



from inter-county football when Mick O'Dwyer's young lions took the country by storm in 1975.

Since he retired from competitive football Seamus has been deeply involved in under-age football for both club and county. He now lives in Tralee and is involved with a mainly under-age club, Na Gael, and is a great believer in the theory that the future of the Association lies in our youth. He has had a number of stints as trainer and manager of Kerry minor teams and has had particular success in All-Ireland finals in 1975 and 1988. The 1975 team included Jack O'Shea, Charlie Nelligan, Mick Spillane and Sean Walsh who later became household names throughout the country.

Seamus is of the opinion that the standard is quite high today among the top counties but feels that Cork will be the team to beat again in 1991. He cites the in-depth strength of their panel as their most valuable asset. Kerry are going through a team building process and much progress has been made with talent from recent U-21 and minor successful teams and with patience and perseverance from everyone concerned success will come.

He will be unable to attend today's game due to a work commitment, when he is involved in the opening of a new community centre in the Kerry Gaeltacht. The centre is being officially opened by none other than Gaeltacht Minister of State, Pat 'The Cope' Gallagher. No doubt, at some stage, the conversation will turn to Gaelic football and today's game in Ballyshannon.

— P. J. Buggy

# JACK'S RETURN



Celebrating his 33rd birthday in Australia, Jack O'Shea returned to Ireland this week with the honour of being named Man of the Series.

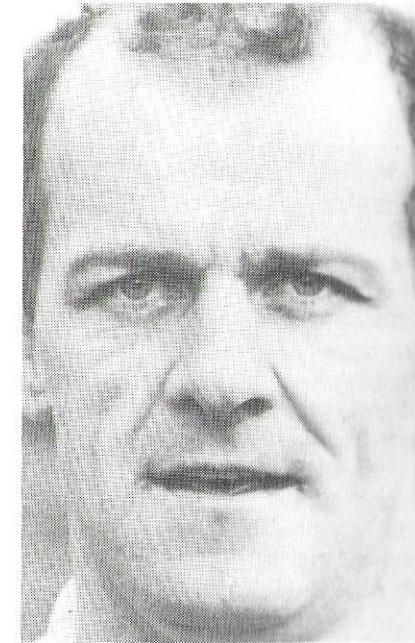
Now in the twilight of his career, Jacko seems to have got a new lease of life with his performances on the tour with Ireland.

He has been a household name on the Kerry team since 1977 and was a prominent member of the 4-in-a-row side from 1978 to 1981 — a team that is thought to be the best squad of players to represent any county in Ireland.

Jacko broke the mould that midfield players were just for winning high ball as he roamed the field looking for possession, backing up colleagues and frequently popping up in scoring positions. His scoring rate was very impressive but it is his energy and natural fitness and skill which has made him one of the greatest midfielders of all-time.

In recent times he has been appearing in various forward positions on Kerry line-outs but the games are usually not very old until Jack is called to once again man the vital midfield role.

In the corresponding fixture last year at this venue Jacko was only a substitute for the first half but it is remembered that when he came into the game in the second half he very nearly swung the game in Kerry's favour. Indeed, it took a last minute Manus Boyle free to give Donegal the points.



Jacko was the first success captain of an Irish team when he led them to victory over the Australia in 1985 and among his numerous honours in the game are seven All-Ireland medals (1978-'81; 1984-'88) three All-Ireland U-21 medals (1977, '76, '77), minor All-Ireland (1975), All-Star awards in-a-row (1980, 1985) and four Texaco Awards (1981, '84 and '85) — the only player to achieve this.

Playing his club football with Leixlip in Co. Kildare, Jack O'Shea has made a major contribution to make to Kerry football. Who knows, he may still be around when the Sam Maguire returns to the Kingdom.

## CONGRATS LEITRIM

Congratulations to neighbours, Leitrim, who ended their long wait for All-Ireland success when they recently defeated Sligo by 2-11 to 0-2 to win the All-Ireland 'B' competition.

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**BEST WISHES TO DONEGAL  
TODAY.**

## BACK UP FROM DOWN UNDER — HOPING TO PUT ONE OVER

*By Ciaran O'Donnell, Donegal People's Press*

Despite returning from Australia on Tuesday, it's business as usual for Martin Gavigan when he lines out for Donegal today.

Rambo, as he is affectionately known by the Donegal supporters, had the privilege of acting as vice-captain on the successful Test Tour which they won against the Aussies by the odd game in three.

Reflecting on the Test victory 'Down Under' the Stranorlar-based schoolteacher described his three week stay as unbelievable.

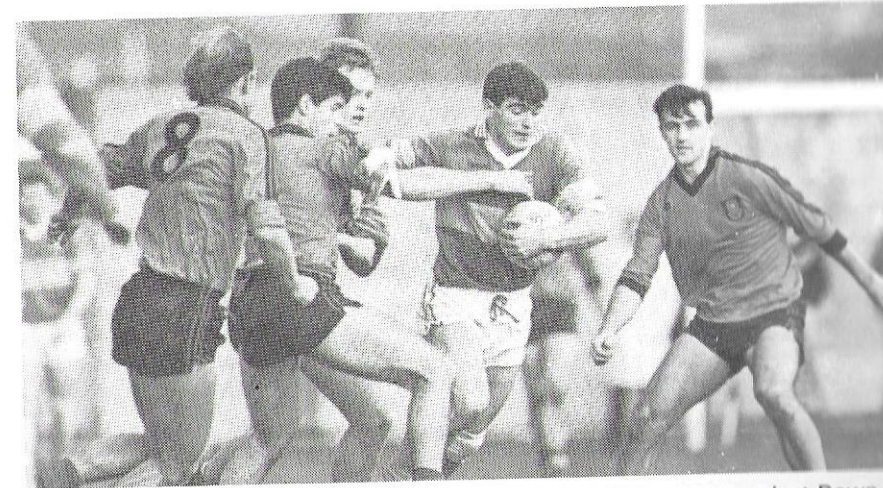
"Although we clinched the series by winning the second game, for me the highlight of the tour was the first game. Of the 20,000 fans that attended the game, over 15,000 were Irish and after the final whistle they all flocked onto the field. I was never as proud to be Irish as I was that day. The Irish support out there was marvellous.

"The second Test was a bit of anti-climax, as we had the game sewn up at half-time. However, after the second victory we could relax and enjoy the rest of our stay."

Gavigan, a winner of the monthly Merit Award for July last which was elected by the Ulster GAA Writers Association, has a lot of respect for today's opponents and praised their good style and patient build up.

The Ardara captain will be hoping to 'put one over' on Kerry's Jack O'Shea who accompanied Gavigan on the trip to Australia and won the 'Player of the Series' award.

"Jack has been playing the best football of his career and proved a handful for any team wherever he plays. Although we have built up a great friendship, we will both be out to win for our respective counties. Hopefully, we can collect two more League points today."



Martin Gavigan in typical determined mood in last N.F.L. game against Down.



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## GETTING TO KNOW YOU?

By Michael Daly, Donegal Democrat

*'Tis a Kerryman's clear understanding  
That, when to those colours he's true,  
He's wearing a mantle demanding  
The best that a mortal can do.'*

Kerry are running out of heroes, memories fade fast. They have a glorious footballing past, it's true; today in the Fr. Tierney Park may well see the emergence of some new heroes from the Kingdom.

It's hardly a stage of their choosing, but the late '80s Kerry no longer can afford to be choosy, so Donegal had better watch out for a new Kerry, a Kerry playing eight u-21s and four more warming the bench. No Bomber, no Pat or Tom or, indeed, Mick Spillane, just a Jack of trumps coming back from Australia as Caesar might have from Gaul, laden with new accolades, new trinkets — they'll hardly dazzle a plumber whose real expression of craft is with a football, not a wrench.

Kerry are never fit in November — until now — they never had to be. This time out Donegal are leading Division One, they are Ulster champions, they are favourites and that is uncomfortable.

Donegal are favourites, Kerry ARE fit; worse, they're hungry and it is no cliché when they talk about "respecting" Donegal. That alone makes Donegal's task all the more difficult, even at home, even in a to-now happy hunting ground called Fr. Tierney Park.

Last time out Donegal snatched victory thanks to a splendid pointed free in the final minute, scored by Manus Boyle.

Since then Kerry have remained under the red shadow of Cork, the



Munster final didn't work out at all, the League had to be taken seriously, perhaps for the first time in a decade? Against Armagh, while Donegal were beating Dublin 2-11 to 1-9, Kerry were heading for an eventual four point defeat, 3-6 to 1-8.

Three weeks later, October 21st, the first real hint of something special emerged from an 18 points to 2-7 victory over Roscommon at Killarney.

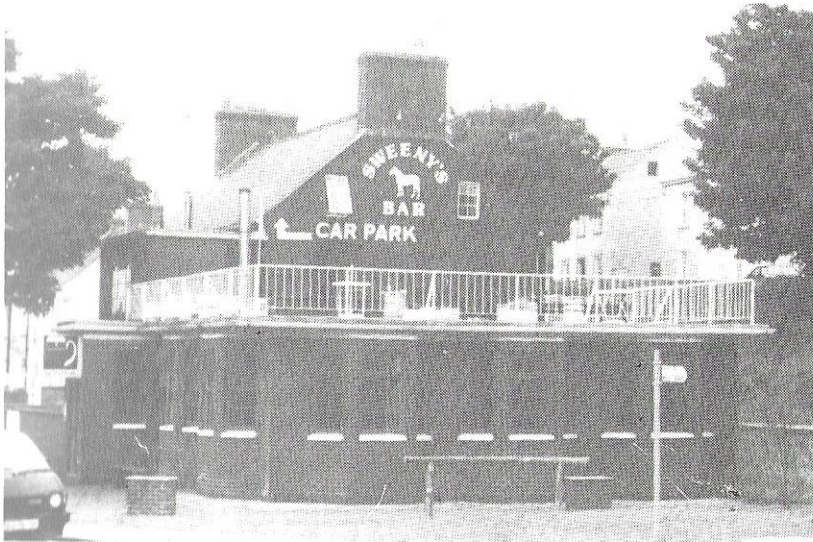
Only leading by three points 0-11 to 2-2 at the break, Kerry turned into the elements and allowed Roscommon only five more points to their seven.

Maurice Fitzgerald finished with 13 points, six in the first half, 12 of them from frees. Last Sunday Kildare proved easy meat in a challenge, the indications from Newbridge were all about a fit, sharp and accurate, if young, Kerry side. De ja vu? A young team from Kerry started something special in 1975, this time out, backboned by an under-21 side who have won this year's All-Ireland crown, Kerry come to Donegal.

We may not know this Kerry side . . . YET.

Welcome to . . .

# SWEENY'S WHITE HORSE BAR

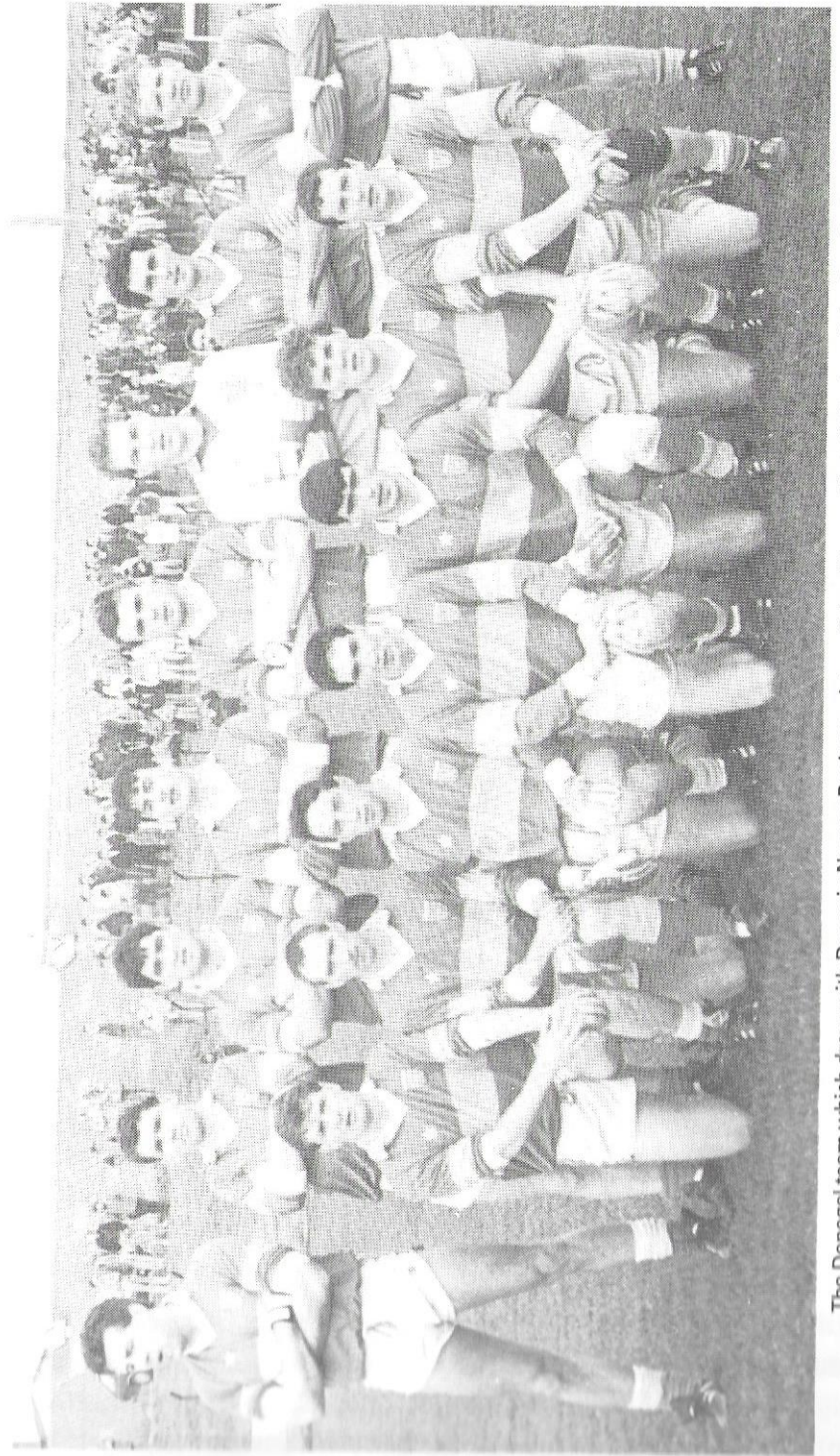


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The Donegal team which drew with Down in Newry: Back row, l. to r., Brian Murray, Matt Gallagher, John Cunningham, John Joe Doherty, John Ban Gallagher, Gary Walsh, Paddy Hegarty, Declan Bonner. Front row, from left: Manus Boyle, Martin Shovlin, Joyce McMullan, Donal Reid, Martin Gavigan, Tony Boyle, Charlie Mulgrew.

1-12

# DÚN NA nGALL

1  
**GARY WALSH**  
(Aodh Ruadh)

2  
**JOHN JOE DOHERTY**  
(Naomh Columba)

3  
**MATT GALLAGHER**  
(Naomh Brid)

4  
**JOHN CUNNINGHAM**  
(Killybegs)

5  
**DONAL REID (capt)**  
(Red Hughs)

6  
**NOEL HEGARTY**  
(Naomh Columba)

7  
**MARTIN SHOVLIN**  
(Naomh Ultan)

8  
**MARTIN GAVIGAN**  
(Ardara)

9  
**BRIAN MURRAY**  
(Civil Service)

10  
**PADDY HEGARTY**  
(Naomh Columba)

11  
**TOMMY RYAN**  
(Termon)

12  
**JOYCE McMULLAN**  
(Four Masters)

13  
**DECLAN BONNER**  
(Na Rossa)

14  
**TONY BOYLE**  
(Dungloe)

15  
**MANUS BOYLE**  
(Killybegs)

VISIT  
THE  
GALL  
SHOP  
IN  
THESE  
GROUNDS  
  
DONEGAL  
TOWN  
YOUTH  
BAND  
IN  
ATTENDANCE

**FIR IONAIÐ:** 16, **Michael Kelly**(Four Masters); 17, **Sean Bonner** (Na Rossa); 18, **Paul Carr** (St. Eunan's); 19, **John Ban Gallagher** (Killybegs); 20, **James McHugh** (Kilcar); 21, **Charlie Mulgrew** (St. Eunans); 22, **Gerry Curran** (Aodh Ruadh); 23, **Luke Gavigan** (Ardara); 24, **Barry McGowan** (Killybegs).

0-12

# CIARRAÍ

1  
**PETER O'LEARY**  
(Killarney Legion)

2  
**CONNIE MURPHY**  
(Dr. Crokes)

3  
**CIARAN CULHANE**  
(Ballylongford)

4  
**LIAM O'FLAHERT**  
(Ballydonoghue)

5  
**SEAN BURKE**  
(Milltown/Castlemaine)

6  
**VINCENT KNIGHTLY**  
(Annascaul)

7  
**STEPHEN STAC**  
(Listowel Emmet)

8  
**FINTAN ASHE**  
(Dingle)

9  
**A.N. OTHER**

10  
**JACK O'SHEA**  
(St. Mary's, Leixlip)

11  
**EAMONN BREEN**  
(Finugue)

12  
**MAURIC  
FITZGERALD**  
(St. Mary's  
Cahirciveer)

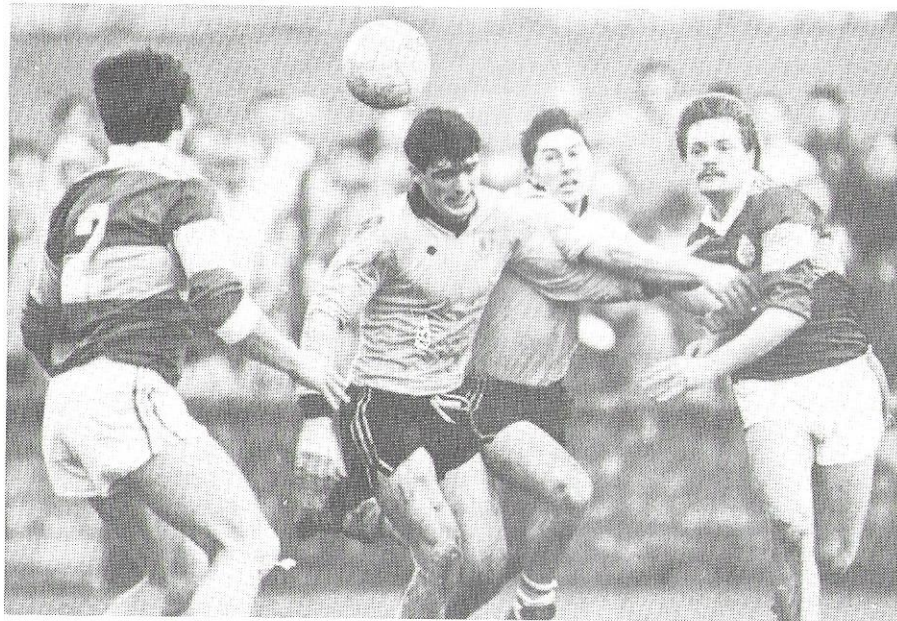
13  
**SEAN McELLIGOTT**  
(Knocknagoshel)

14  
**DAVID FARRELL**  
(Annascaul)

15  
**SEAN GEANE**  
(Dingle)

**FIR IONAIÐ:** 16, **Ambrose O'Donovan**(Gneeveguilla); 17, **Jack O'Conne** (Knocknagoshel); 18, **Noel O'Mahoney** (Kerins/O'Rahilly's); 19, **Pa Dennehy** (Currow); 20, **Aidan O'Shea** (Dr. Crokes); 21, **Donal McCarthy** (Kenmare); 22, **Kyran Moran** (Derrynane); 23, **Noel O'Leary**(Dr. Crokes); 24, **Pa McKenna**(Laune Rangers).

## Action from last year's clash



# AN RÍOCHT ANSEO ARÍS

*Le Séamus de Faoite, Oifigeach na Gaeilge*

Tá amhras orm nach bhfuil an tarraingt ildaite céanna ag aon fhoireann peile in Éirinn agus atá ag an Ríocht. Tagann siad anseo inniu go Pairc An Athair Mhic Tiernaigh mar ambasadóirí ar cheann dár gcluichí móra agus cuireann muid fearadh na fáilte rompu féin agus a n-oifigigh go Tír Chonaill.

Tá cuimhne fhada buan againn ar fhoireann Charraí le blianta anuas. Ba mhaith linn a bheith ábalta dul in iomaíocht lena gcrógacht ar pháirc na himeartha. B'fhada linn an lá nuair a thioctadh linn cúig cloigne déag cosúil leo a imirt. Bhuaigh siad "Sam Maguire" chomh minic agus a cháill muidinne cluiche craoibhe. Bhí muid uilig in éad leo.

Níl an t-inneall neartmhar péile, tríd 's tríd chomh tréan agus a ba gnáth leis a bheith, nó chomh héachtach agus a síleann siad féin. Níl mé ag rá go dtáinig meath ar bith orthu. Níl, bheadh sé níos oiriúnaigh a rá go dtáinig feabhas ar chontaethe eile agus thig linn i dTír Chonaill a rá go bhfuil muid ar cheann acu sin. Níl eagla orainn níos mó roimhe an Ríocht, ach tá muid ábalta tábhacht an scéil a thiuscint. Ní thig le aon chontae dul sa seans leis. Níl contae ar bith chomh soineanta le léithéid do smaoinéamh a bheith acu. Thig linn a rá ach mbíonn an Ríocht thar bharr in amanna, ach cosúil leis an Féinics thig leo éirigh agus dul in airde a réime. Tá súil againn nach dtarlóidh seo inniu.

Tháinig muid féin giota fada. Bhuaigh muid dhá chluiche sraithe a chéile orthu. D'imir muid iad i bhaile agus as baile, amharcann sé go bhfuil an mhír mhullaigh againn. Le blianta beaga anuas tá muid go maí le aon fhoireann eile agus níos feara nó a lán acu. Chomhlíon muid a gealltanais seo in Uladh leis an bhua a bhí againn indiaidh Tír Eoghain muid a chlógá i gcraobh sinsear na bliana anuraidh i gcluiche ath-imirte, indiaidh achar seacht mbliana. Rinne muid gnoithe maith i sraith na bliana anuraidh. Thig linn déanamh níos feara an seasúr seo agus thig seo dheimhniú chor a bheith ar an dóig a amharcann rudaí faoi lathaidh Solátharóibh bua inniu áit dúinn Roinn I an seasúr seo chugainn ainneoin go bhfuil ceithre chluiche fágtha go fóill le imirt.

Thig le Ciarraí an chuid is feara de imirt a fháil asainn agus mar a fheicimid é, imríonn muid peil níos feara le eadaí foireann le traidisiúin láidre peile. Tá súil againn gur mar seo a bheidh an cás inniu, ach ní miste caic an toradh, lig den bhua a bheith ag a phéil féin agus caithfidh muid ullu oibriú ar mhaithe le sin.

Tá muinín agam go mbeidh an bhua againn inniu. Tá a fhios agam go mbeidh muid bródúil as na buachaill agus nuair a imreoid muid An Mhír an Domhnach seo chugainn go mbeidh muid ag dul ansin agus fic againn go bhfuil muid ar barr na sraithe i Roinn I.

Go deimhin, tá muid taréis theacht giota fada.

# TONY BOYLE COMES OF AGE

By Charlie Joe McGinley (Derry People & Donegal News)

The headlines jumped out of the national media, "Boyle called into Donegal team, youngster to face Lyons". The date, August 15th, four days before Donegal played Meath in the All-Ireland football semi-final in Croke Park. Brian McEniff had just released his team — Tony Boyle was about to come of age.

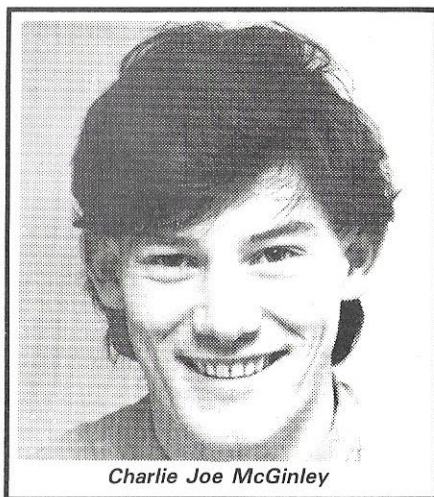
Few Donegal folk will need reminding of the result in Croke Park but many as they performed their 'post mortems' in the cold comfort of appropriate establishments afterwards were in unison that "young Boyle" was a player for the future.

A memorable point in the 6th minute of the game was a mere example of the talent in reserve. Tony admits openly that he had better games but attributes that to a combination of his own inexperience and the tactful display by veteran full-back, Mick Lyons, twelve years his elder.

Born in Dungloe it is hard to believe that Donegal's full forward for today's game is only 20 years old as he plays with a craft and maturity that way outnumber his age.

Tony is currently on temporary work placement with the Hospicare Engineering firm in Collooney as part of a diploma course he is studying at Sligo RTC. A measure of his commitment to the Donegal team is the fact that despite being based in Sligo he very rarely misses a county team training session.

We have come to expect nothing less from a player whose playing career blossomed at an early age while a student at the Rosses Community School. In 1980 at the tender age of 10 he won a county championship medal with Rosses Rovers and three years later won a



Charlie Joe McGinley

county Og Sport title with Dungloe. He quickly points out that without the help of the members of the Dungloe club he would not be where he is today. "Every member and player helped me in some way but really it was men like Liam Reilly and Sean Ward who have helped me to play for Donegal," Tony said.

Success followed the Og Sport victory when he won two Ulster Vocational School titles with Donegal. In the first All-Ireland semi-final in 1986, Donegal were defeated by Kerry and it was the Kingdom who were again to defeat Donegal in the final a year later.

A Minor League medal in 1987 with Dungloe is also a treasured memento. Tony Boyle has represented Donegal at all levels from U-16 to senior. But it was while playing for the Donegal U-21 team this year that he came under the favourable notice of the Donegal senior selectors. A memorable performance against Derry prompted Brian McEniff to draft the young Dungloe man into a county panel for a challenge match against

Tyrone in conjunction with the opening of a new pitch in the county. He showed promise and was retained in the squad for another such outing, this time against Galway in Charlestown.

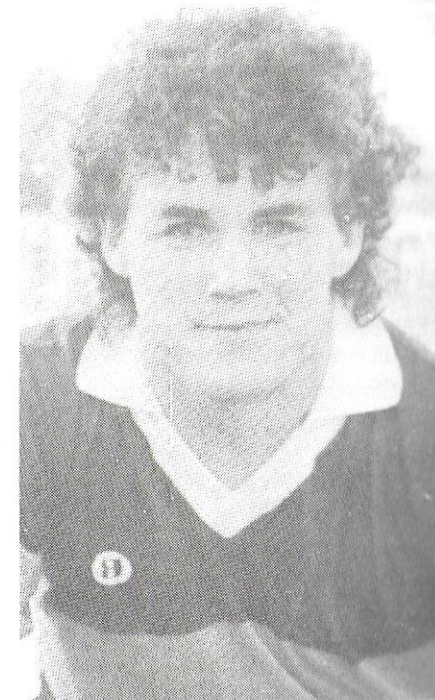
Throughout the Ulster Championship campaign, Tony sat on the bench, waiting for his call, but happy in the knowledge that he would get a run at some stage. It duly came in the closing minutes of an absorbing provincial final against Armagh. I remember interviewing Boyle afterwards and he said that he considered himself lucky to be part of the Donegal team and said it was just great to have won a provincial senior medal at such a young age.

After the Ulster final Brian McEniff and his merry men went south. Boyle was to be presented with his chance to impress. A magnificent game against Kerry was followed by an outstanding display in Castlehaven (Larry Tompkins and Co.) against Cork when he scored five points.

There could only be one decision that Brian McEniff could make for the full forward berth — Boyle had to play. After shrugging off a troublesome knee injury, Boyle lined out at Croke Park in the All-Ireland semi-final.

"It was a marvellous occasion for me being so young. I scored a good point early in the match but a combination of the big occasion and perhaps the fact that I was playing against one of the most experienced full backs in the game contributed to a poor display. It has been the highlight of my career to date. Hopefully, it is an experience I will learn by," Tony said.

When asked what his ambition was with Donegal, Tony said: "Well, at the moment all I want to do is hold down the full-forward position. There is so much competition for places in the team that no one is guaranteed a



Tony Boyle

start. Hopefully, we can have a good run in the League and then, possibly go one better in the championship this year. We have a good draw in Ulster this year but we must remember that no game in this province is easy so we will have to be at the peak of our game."

He acknowledges the fact that he has received tremendous support from the more experienced players in the county team, naming Anthon Molloy, Matt Gallagher and Marti McHugh specifically.

"They take me aside now and again and give me some useful tips which is a great help," Tony said.

Tony Boyle is a fine example to the young players in the county of what can be achieved by dedication and willingness to listen to those more experienced than himself. Certainly Tony Boyle is going to be a player that we are going to be hearing a lot more of in the year ahead.

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# KERRY'S EMERGING STARS

By Eamonn O'Sullivan, P.R.O., Kerry Co. Board

Micky O'Sullivan and his fellow selectors took over the Kerry team just a year ago — at the start of the '89/90 league campaign.

It was an undistinguished league for the Kerryman who just avoided relegation. This in itself was an achievement as Kerry had to build almost a completely new team.

Hand-in-hand with the league the senior selectors concentrated on the U-21 team and duly achieved All-Ireland success. However, a disastrous outing against Cork in the Munster final left an air of doom in the county.

However, the recent wins over Roscommon in the league and Kildare in the challenge once again have given new hope that the young players will restore Kerry's footballing tradition.

## BACKGROUND

Many of the newer players have experience of under-age success with the winning of the minor All-Ireland in 1988 and the reaching of the 1987 U-21 All-Ireland final where they lost to Donegal after a replay. In addition the U-21's won the Munster final in 1988 while the minors have won three in-a-row in Munster. Many of the stars of these successes are now graduating to the senior panel.

## TEAM

Jack O'Shea just back from Australia, gives the team vital leadership but only Connie Murphy, Ambrose Donovan and Maurice Fitzgerald are well known. In all nine of today's side played in the U-21 side that won that year's All-Ireland. Four more U-21's are included in the substitute.

Peter O'Leary of Killarney Legion has replaced the injured Charlie Nelligan. He has vast experience with both minors and U-21's.

Kyran Culhane of Ballylongford has been part of the Kerry panel for 5 to 6 years has played well at full back in the Roscommon game. Aged 25, he could solve a problem position for Kerry.

Liam Flaherty (U-21) makes his debut with the seniors after showing good form in recent challenges.

Jim Burke was U-21 full back but is equally effective anywhere from full back to mid-field.

Vincent Knightly (U-21) was a member of the Co. Champions West Kerry and could be the solution to one of Kerry's problem positions.

Stephen Stack holds All-Ireland senior medal since 1986 but after a two year absence, is now re-establishing himself in the team.

Fintan Ashe (U-21) is a tall mid fielder who starred in the 1988 minor success. His displays with West Kerry in the championship earned him a senior call up.

Eamonn Breen played as centre back on the U-21 side but was very impressive in his forward position against Roscommon.

Sean McElligott at 25 is one of the older players to make the breakthrough. A tendency to injuries hasn't helped him.

David Farrell from Annascaul has proved to be a real find. A regular goal-getter with his club he starred for West Kerry in this year's County championship.

Kerry's substitutes include a blend of the old and the new. Donegal will provide the answer to Kerry's progress. Here's to a great game.

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## RADIO G.A. G.A.!

For the first time ever an entire National Football League match will be broadcast in English from Fr. Tierney Park, Ballyshannon.

North West Radio, barely a month old, in association with John Mulligan & Sons, Ballyshannon, are doing only their second outside broadcast — two weeks ago they covered the Sligo-Leitrim All-Ireland B competition final in Roscommon and next week it's on to Leitrim again for an O.B. from the Leitrim-Mayo game.

Broadcasting on 102.5 F.M. and 96.3 F.M. to south Donegal, north Leitrim and Sligo, today's big match has a potential audience of 300,000 in

NWR's catchment area.

NWR commentator Willie Ryan is already widely acknowledged as one of the best in the business. He will be joined on commentary by NWR and Donegal Democrat Sports Editor, Michael Daly, while Rory O'Brien will anchor today's show which has its main emphasis on the big match.

On your way home from the game tune in for post match interviews with the key figures from both sides.

NWR wish to thank the Donegal County Board, the Aodh Ruadh Park Committee and those who in any way assisted them in making today's broadcast possible.

— M.D.



Rory O'Brien and Michael Daly pictured in NWR Studios.

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### CONGRATS LADIES

Congratulations to the Kerry Ladies football team on winning their ninth successive All-Ireland title when defeating Laois by 1-9 to 0-6. The side was: K. Curran, B. Leen, D. Whyte, P. Murphy, M. O. Doherty, P. Curran, M. Flaherty, C. Liston (0-4), M. J. Curran, M. Barry, A. Costello (0-1), S. Looney, M. Lawlor (1-2), E. Lawlor (0-1), H. McElligott. Sub., S. Sullivan.

### DONEGAL TOWN YOUTH BAND

The Donegal Town Youth Band are warmly welcomed to the Fr. Tierney Park. Now a regular feature of GAA games in the county, the band, formed in recent years, is a great credit to their local community and tutors. Spectators are asked to help the band in any small way that they can.

**ANSWERS TO QUIZ:** 1, Conor Hayes, 1987; 2, Kevin McCabe; 3, Dan O'Keefe of Kerry; 4, 1970 - Kerry beat Meath; 5, John O'Leary of Dublin; 6, Tom O'Connor; 7, Wexford; 8, Ambrose O'Donovan; 9, John Dowling, present GAA President; 10, Mickey Quinn, Aughawillan; 11, Austin Stacks; 12, Monaghan defeated Armagh; 13, Bill 'Squires' Gannon of Kildare; 14, 1953 (v Kerry), 1977 (v Dublin); 15, Laois; 16, Tipperary, they had a walkover against Limerick; 17, Dunloy (Antrim) defeated Ballygalget (Down); 18, John Donnellan; 19, Dublin and Kerry — both with 10; 20, Johnny Geraghty.



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