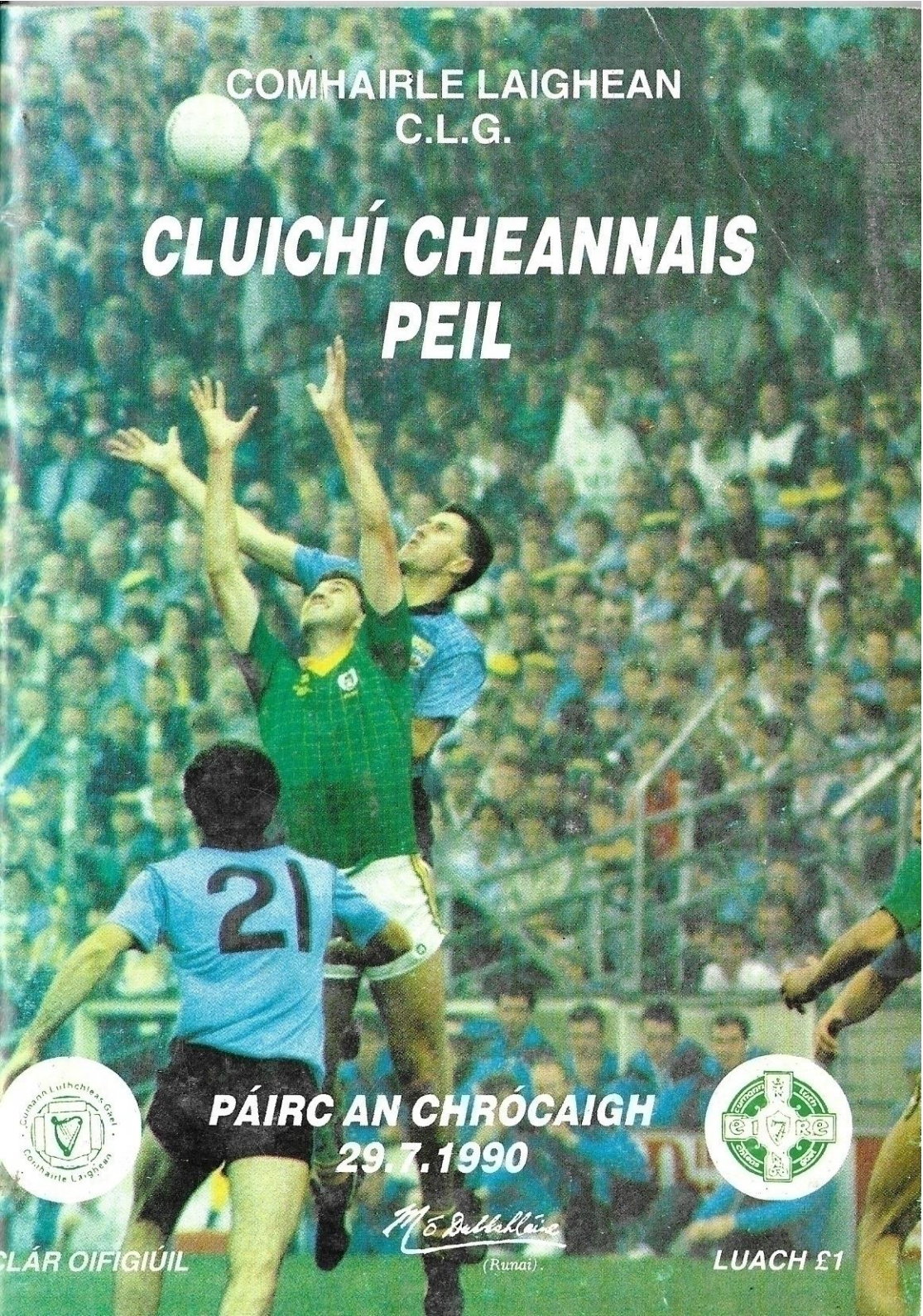


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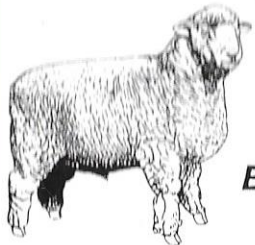
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CLÁR AN LAE INNIÚ TO-DAY'S PROGRAMME

MINOR FINAL

2.00 P.M.

CILL DARA
(KILDARE)

v.

AN MHÍ
(MEATH)

RÉITEOIR: PEADAR WHELAN (CILL MANTÁIN)

SENIOR FINAL

3.45 P.M.

AN MHÍ
(MEATH)

v.

ATH CLIATH
(DUBLIN)

RÉITEOIR: PADDY COLLINS (IARMHÍ)

BUÍOCHAS - THANKS

Ba mhaith liom, thar cheann Comhairle Laighean, mo buíochas a ghabháil leis na hOifigigh Conndae agus na daoine eile a chabhraíonn linn ár gcluichí a chur ar bhun gach Domhnach.

I would also like to avail of this opportunity to thank the thousands of players in the Province who provide us with such great entertainment every week. Our sincere gratitude is also extended to the many players who support us by attending our games.

Finally, on behalf of Leinster Council, I want to express sincere appreciation and thanks to our Programme Producer, Paddy Flanagan (Westmeath), for the excellence of his work in this and other programmes.

Michaeál Ó Dubhshláine,
Runaí Comhairle Laighean.

Sincere thanks to the following for their help in making this programme possible:

Brendan Cummins (Meath P.R.O.),
Tom Ryall (Kilkenny),
John Clarke, G.A.A. Statistician,
Tullamore.
Jim King, Secretary, Dublin G.A.A. Board.
Seamus Ó Faoláin.
Eugene Doherty, Development Officer,
Westmeath G.A.A. Board.

Paddy Flanagan.
(Programme Producer).

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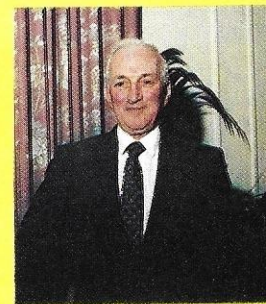
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Tá trí chontae ag imirt inniu. Cad faoi na contaetha eile? Is eol dom agus is eol do Chomhairle Laighean go bhfuil fuinneamh faoin obair atá ar siúl acu ina gcontaetha ar son na peile. Tá Coiste Forbartha sa chúige againn, forbairt peile i measc aidhmeanna eile acu, agus tá oifigeach peile i ngach aon chontae. Ní baol don pheil agus tá mé cinnte go dtiocfaidh feabhas ar staid peile na gcontaetha go léir de bharr obair na n-oifigeach seo. Go n-éirí leo.

I have the pleasure, to-day, of welcoming all our patrons to Croke Park for the Leinster Football final which, once again, involves Dublin and Meath. Much is made of the fact that both of these counties have met so often at this stage of the championship and that this cannot be good for the game. Indeed, when we consider that over the past fifteen years Dublin and Meath, together with Offaly, have contested every Leinster final, the question does merit serious consideration.

However, on the other hand, when we reflect on games between Dublin and Meath in the past they have enhanced the game of football and few will forget last year's thrilling encounter.

Dublin/Meath games have always been played with fierce spirit and intensity and, I have to say, with a great and healthy respect for each other. Much is made of the traditional rivalry and this is sometimes overstated by commentators. There should be an understanding by spectators and those who consider themselves to be informed critics for the position of players performing in the heat of a hyped-up match such as to-day's.

We also look forward to an excellent minor tussle and I am confident that Meath and Kildare will, in their way, contribute to a great day's sporting entertainment.

SEAMUS de GRAE.

TODAY'S REFEREES

PADDY COLLINS
(IARMHÍ)



To-day's Senior referee needs no introduction. One of the most experienced and respected officials in the country, Paddy Collins takes charge of his sixth Leinster Senior final having already officiated in 1978, 1979, 1981, 1982 and

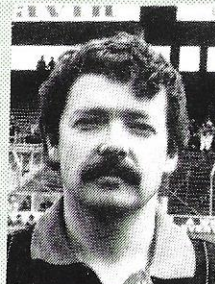
1983.

In 1974 Paddy refereed the All-Ireland Minor final and, two years later he took charge of the Senior All-Ireland final between Dublin and Kerry. He also refereed the Senior finals of 1979, Centenary Year and last year. He has no less than eight All-Ireland semi-finals to his credit as well as three N.F.L. deciders — 1981, 1984 and last year in New York.

In 1981 Paddy Collins refereed the Munster S.F. Championship final and he refereed seven of the Compromise Rule games between Ireland and Australia in Dublin, Perth, Melbourne and Sydney. He travelled to New York with the All-Stars in 1979 and he has taken control of two Leinster Club Championship finals, four Sigerson Cup finals, one Railway Cup final, one All-Ireland Club Championship final, four All-Ireland Colleges finals and numerous County finals, hurling and football.

Pat is a native of Athboy, County Meath and he played in all grades of hurling and football with his native county before taking up employment as a Psychiatric Nurse in St. Loman's Hospital, Mullingar. He played Senior hurling and football with Westmeath and helped his club to win two Westmeath S.F. Championship titles in 1961 and 1963. Pat is Secretary of the Westmeath County Board.

PEADAR WHELAN
(CILL MANTÁIN)



Having already refereed the Minor semi-final between Meath and Laois, Peadar Whelan takes charge of his first provincial final to-day.

Peadar is a member of Kiltegan club in Wicklow and has represented his club in both hurling and football. He has been refereeing for the past ten years and, even though he has refereed at all levels of football in his native county, he has yet to take charge of a Wicklow senior football final.

Peadar has refereed minor and junior championship games at inter-county level as well as numerous National League matches. He is son of former, long-serving Leinster Council delegate Peter Whelan and is domiciled in Dublin.

SENIOR UMPIRES

Noel Fitzgerald (St. Loman's), Liam Davitt (St. Loman's), Pat Lynagh (Kilbeggan) and Tommy Glennon (Tyrrellspass).

SENIOR LINESMEN

Des Maguire (Bunbrosna) and Seán Sheridan (Tyrrellspass).

MINOR UMPIRES

Barry Finnegan, Tom Hennessy, John Curran and Tommy Cullen — all from the Blessington Club in Wicklow.

AND OFFICIALS MEATH SENIOR SELECTORS —



Pat Reynolds (Walterstown), Seán Boylan (Dunboyne), Tony Brennan (Dunderry). Team Manager: Seán Boylan.

DUBLIN SENIOR SELECTORS —



Gerry McCaul (Ballymun Kickhams), Seán Doherty (St. Annes), Tony Hempenstall (Scoil Uí Chonail). Team Manger: Gerry McCaul.

MEATH MINOR SELECTORS

Pat O'Neill (St. Colmcilles), Ultan Fitzpatrick (Gaeil Colmcille), Paul Kenny (Simonstown), John Joe Murray (Gaeil Colmcille), Oliver Harding (Slane), Patsy Duff (Syddan), Tommy Mahon (Kilbride), Pádraig Dunne (Moynalvey), Benny Gartland (Wolfe Tones). Team Manager: Paul Kenny.

KILDARE MINOR SELECTORS

Anthony Bracken (Athy), Seán Ward (St. Kevins), Tony Moore (Allenwood), Tom Keogh (Sarsfields). Team Manager: Anthony Bracken.

Late Developers

The accepted wisdom has it that to have a team capable of winning an All-Ireland it is necessary to build from a minor team (or teams) that has taken an underage title (Offaly 1964 being often cited as proof of the contention). But Meath and Dublin title-winning teams of recent years would appear to contradict this, as not one of the great Dublin teams of the 1974—1979 period nor the Meath 1978—88 team, who between them won five All-Ireland titles, had even one All-Ireland minor medal between them!

THE 1990 SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP ROUND BY ROUND RESULTS

MAY 13th AT CARLOW --

Louth 3-8
Carlow 2-7

Louth: S. White 2-2, C. O'Hanlon 0-3, M. Malone 1-0, C. Curran 0-1, N. Brown 0-1, S. O'Hanlon 0-1.

Carlow: J. Nevin 1-1, N. Molloy 1-0, M. Nolan 0-1, M. Sibbald 0-1, G. Byrne 0-1, J. Owens 0-1, T. O'Brien 0-1, J. Hayden 0-1.

MAY 20th AT MULLINGAR --

Longford 0-15
Westmeath 0-7

Longford: J. McCormack 0-6, M. O'Hara 0-3, D. Barry 0-3, F. McNamee 0-2, K. O'Rourke 0-1.

Westmeath: L. Giles 0-3, J. Fleming 0-1, T. Ormsby 0-1, L. Adamson 0-1, A. Collins 0-1.

AT WEXFORD --

Kildare 3-8
Wexford 0-9

Kildare: J. Crofton 2-0, D. Kerrigan 0-3, J. Gilroy 0-3, T. Harris 1-0, P. Donogue 0-1, S. Dowling 0-1.

Wexford: B. Dodd 0-4, J. Power 0-2, T. Foran 0-2, M. Hanrick 0-1.

JUNE 3rd AT DROGHEDA --

Dublin 1-13
Louth 1-8

Dublin: K. Duff 0-5, M. Galvin 0-3, N. Clancy 0-3, J. McNally 1-0, D. Foran 0-1, C. Redmond 0-1.

Louth: C. Kelly 1-4, B. Kearns 0-1, G. Curran 0-1, M. Malone 0-1, S. O'Hanlon 0-1.

JUNE 3rd AT AUGHRIM --

Wicklow 1-7
Kildare 0-6

Wicklow: K. O'Brien 1-2, F. Daly 0-2, R. McHugh 0-2, M. Murtagh 0-1.

Kildare: J. Gilroy 0-3, S. McGovern 0-1, D. Kerrigan 0-1, T. Harris 0-1.

JUNE 10th AT NAVAN --

Meath 3-15
Longford 0-12

Meath: C. O'Rourke 2-3, L. Hayes 1-2, B. Stafford 0-4, B. Flynn 0-3, T. Dowd 0-2, D. Beggy 0-1.

Longford: D. Barry 0-7, J. McCormack 0-3, C. Lee 0-2.

AT PORTLAOISE --

Laois 3-15
Offaly 3-5

Laois: M. Turley 2-7, J. O'Connell 1-0, E. Kelly 0-2, D. Lawlor 0-2, E. Lacey 0-1, J. Nolan 0-1, L. Turley 0-1, T. Maher 0-1.

Offaly: B. Lowry 2-1, K. Kelleghan 1-1, D. Kavanagh 0-1, M. Plunkett 0-1, J. Stewart 0-1.

SEMI-FINALS

JUNE 24th AT NEWBRIDGE --

Dublin 2-14
Wicklow 0-12

Dublin: J. McNally 2-0, K. Duff 0-5,

E. Heary 0-3, N. Clancy 0-2, N. McCaffrey 0-1, P. Clarke 0-1, N. Guiden 0-1, M. Galvin 0-1.

JULY 1st AT CROKE PARK --
Meath 4-14
Laois 0-6

Wicklow: R. McHugh 0-4, F. Daly 0-4, P. Baker 0-1, C. Daye 0-1, J. Allen 0-1, E. O'Brien 0-1.

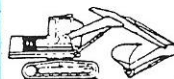
Meath: B. Flynn 2-5, B. Stafford 0-4, P. J. Gillic 1-1, D. Beggy 1-0, S. Kelly 0-2, C. O'Rourke 0-1, T. Dowd 0-1.
Laois: M. Turley 0-5, N. Roe 0-1.

TOP SCORERS

Name	County	Gls.	Pts.	Games	Average
Michael Turley	Laois	2	12	2	9.0
Bernard Flynn	Meath	2	8	2	7.0
Kieran Duff	Dublin	0	10	2	5.0
Dessie Barry	Longford	0	10	2	5.0
Colm O'Rourke	Meath	2	4	2	5.0
Joe McNally	Dublin	3	0	2	4.5
John McCormack	Longford	0	9	2	4.5
Stefan White	Louth	2	2	2	4.0
Brian Stafford	Meath	0	8	2	4.0

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Leinster Champions —



Dublin, Leinster Senior Football Champions 1989. Back row, left to right, Barney Rock, David Foran, Paul Clarke, Joe McNally, Tommy Carr, Gerry Hargan, Keith Barr. Front row, left to right, Mick Kennedy, Mick Galvin, John O'Leary, Paul Curran, Eamonn Heery, Dave Synott, Vinnie Murphy. (Kieran Duff, a last minute replacement for Charlie Redmond, missed the team photograph).

CÚIG AS A CHÉILE - SUCCESSIVE MEETINGS

Today's confrontation of Meath and Dublin sets a new record of five Leinster final meetings in successive seasons, the counties having set up a four-in-a-row record last year. It is surely appropriate that Dublin and Meath should be the counties to set up the new record for successive final confrontations, as the first time that the same counties faced each other three

years running in the eastern decider was a way back in 1894—95—96, when Meath and Dublin provided the pairing. Between those three meetings more than 90 years ago and the present Dublin—Meath monopoly there was only one other triple conformation, which was in the years 1919—20—21 when Dublin and Kildare were the finalists.



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Ó CHEAD GO CÉAD — IN TWO CENTURIES

Up to a little over 80 years ago championships invariably ran a year — or even two — late, a fact of G.A.A. life that often created huge problems for the administration — not to mention the frustration it created for historians and statisticians who attempted to chronicle the events of the period many decades later.

But these late-running championships did provide the interesting case of a championship beginning in **one century** and finishing in **another**. This was the Leinster championship of 1898 in which only four counties competed and which began at

Jones' Road on November 19th, 1899 when Wicklow beat Offaly. Wexford then beat Wicklow in the semi-final on December 17th and faced Dublin in the final, also at Jones' Road, on February 4th, 1900. These events gave Dublin the distinction of being the only county to win a Leinster football championship that took place in two different centuries — though the distinction of actually **playing** in two centuries belongs to Wexford, as Dublin qualified by way of a walk-over from Kildare.

League Champions —



Meath, Royal Liver League Champions 1989—90. Back row, left to right, Colm O'Rourke, Mick Lyons, Colm Brady, Donal Smyth, Martin O'Connell, Brendan Reilly, Brian Stafford, Liam Hayes, David Beggy. Front row, left to right, P. J. Gillic, Terry Ferguson, Colm Coyle, Bernard Flynn, Liam Harnan, Kevin Foley.



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SENIOR CAPTAINS

COLM O'ROURKE (MEATH)



Name: Colm O'Rourke.
Date of Birth: 31/8/57.
Car Make: Renault.
Occupation: Teacher.
Favourite Player and Why? Mick Kennedy because he is tough and fair.
Most Difficult Opponent: Mick Lyons.
Most Memorable Sporting Moment: 1988 All-Ireland Final replay.
Favourite T.V. Actor/Actress: Jack Nicholson and Meryl Streep.
Favourite T.V. Show: R.T.E. The Sunday Game/B.B.C. The Championship.
Biggest Influence on Career: My mother.
What do you dislike about Football: Playing in winter, in bad weather conditions and where facilities are bad.
Advice to Young Players: Enjoy your games, practice as often as possible with a ball. Listen to advice from team mentors and if a decision goes against you forget about it.

TOMMY CARR (DUBLIN)



Name: Tommy Carr.
Date of Birth: 31/10/1962.
Car Make: Peugeot 405.
Occupation: Army Officer.
Favourite Player and Why? Brian Mullins for his leadership qualities and fighting spirit.
Most Difficult Opponent: Paul Curran.
Most Memorable Sporting Moment: Winning Leinster Final 1989.
Favourite T.V. Actor/Actress: Jessica Lange.
Favourite T.V. Show: Neighbours.
Biggest Influence on Career: Myself.
What do you dislike about Hurling/Football: Some of the prevailing attitudes at Administration levels of organisation.
Advice to Young Players: Make sure that you are prepared and ready to make sacrifices to reach the top.

The Dublin team that beat Wicklow, 2-14 to 0-12, in the semi-final. Back row, left to right, Noel McCaffrey, Mick Kennedy, Joe McNally, Paul Clarke, Declan Bolger, John O'Leary, Keith Barr, Kieran Duff. Front row, left to right, Mick Galvin, Gerry Hargan, Tommy Carr, Eamonn Heary, Mick Deegan, Noel Guiden, Niall Clancy.



PLAYER OF THE PAST - NOEL CURRAN (MEATH)

When the name of Noel Curran crops up in the course of Meath's many football conversations, most minds will recall the glorious performance of the Royal County's No. 14 in the All-Ireland semi-final against Down, twenty-four years ago. Playing into the Canal End he sent over points from angles and distances as if the ball was attracted by some invisible magnet. This ability didn't come all that naturally — it was the result of long evenings spent on the pitch at Roestown, near Dunshaughlin where Noel honed the skills that were to so distinguish him. "It was by far the greatest pastime available to us at the time. We looked forward to the Tuesday evenings, when the juvenile matches were fixed and all we worried about was the possibility, for one reason or another, of a game not taking place." Noel's first taste of organised football came about in 1956. The St. Martin's Juvenile Club, from Dunshaughlin and Drumree, was formed and success was almost immediate. Although they lost the divisional final of 1956 to Skryne, St. Martin's returned in 1957 to capture the first of their remarkable three-in-a-row juvenile championships. In the final against Ballivor, Noel lined out at centre half forward on a team captained from centre-field by Jimmy Walsh. The pair would later play important roles in Meath's re-birth in the Sixties. In 1961 Noel lined out with the Kiltale Minors and came to the attention of the County selectors for the first time. However, Dublin ended their ambitions at Páirc Tailteann. In the following year Noel was summoned to trials for the Royal County Juniors, but, because of work commitments in Dublin, he didn't make the trials and watched as the juniors marched to All-Ireland success. Two years later Meath regained the Leinster Junior title but it wasn't until the All-Ireland series that Noel made the side, thus



NOEL CURRAN.

losing out for a second time on a Leinster Junior medal.

A few new faces were required on the Senior panel at the outset of the League in the Autumn of '64. Noel was called up for the game against Louth in Páirc Tailteann and got his chance when Jack Quinn cried off because of injury. Hopes were high throughout the county that 1965 would see the Sam Maguire Cup back in An Uaimh but it all went terribly wrong against Longford in Croke Park. "This defeat was one of the biggest disappointments of my career. We probably underestimated Longford, a team which grew stronger over the next three years." When the Leinster title was regained in 1966 the feeling in the Meath camp was that "this is our year". Down were demoralised by a great Royal County performance. Noel Curren lined out on the wing, a position in which he was never too happy and Gerry Quinn was at full forward. The selectors switched the pair and subsequently "everything went right for both of us". Meath flopped in the final against Galway. "Perhaps our victory over them in the Wembley Tournament proved to be our undoing. They deservedly completed their three-in-a-row while we were totally shattered."

It was back to the grindstone in 1967. The Leinster title was retained and Galway's success story had come to an end.

The incredible resolve of the Meath players finally saw them capture the All-Ireland title against Cork. "Of course it was the highlight of my career and it proved that you must persevere if you wish to be successful." Noel had played a leading role in bringing the title to Meath and his place in the county's Roll of Honour was guaranteed. The trip to Australia was a fabulous bonus in Noel's view. "The games in Australia were a worthwhile perk for the players, and although there are great similarities in our games, it is not practical to pursue further competition." Dunshaughlin won the Junior Football Championship to add further to a memorable 1967 for Noel.

Longford again ended Meath's hopes in 1968. "The team had been around for a long time and it told in the end." By the time Meath regained the Leinster Championship in 1970 Noel had lost his place.

There were many who felt that he could have helped Meath's cause in 1970 but it wasn't to be. He was recalled for the 1971 championship but Meath fell to Kildare in the Leinster campaign. His club career continued however and in 1977 he helped Dunshaughlin to win the Intermediate Championship. In 1982, he finally pulled up his Dunshaughlin roots and

threw in his lot with the Thomas Davis Club in Tallaght. His extraordinary loyalty to Dunshaughlin, although based in Dublin throughout his playing career, is greatly appreciated by the Gaels of the area. But with his sons playing with the Thomas Davis juveniles, the move became inevitable. He is naturally proud of Paul's emergence as a top class player and is hopeful that the recent eye injury will not hold back his career. Noel's wife Teresa, who hails from Limerick, is also a keen follower of the game while daughters, Olive and Sally and other sons Frank and Michael are equally enthusiastic.

Noel still lines out for the Thomas Davis Intermediate team and the Meath Over-40's. He simply loves the game and while he also enjoys a game of golf, he still prefers to either play or watch a game of football. "There is nothing wrong with the game, although I would like to have seen the quick kick-out continue. There may be too much emphasis on physical fitness rather than on the basic skills, but it's still a great game."

Whichever way to-days game goes, Noel can hardly lose. "When your son is involved with a team, you hope they do well, even if it's against your native county but after all, it's only a game of football."

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BEST WISHES TO MEATH



The Meath team that beat Laois, 4-14 to 0-4, in the semi-final. Back row, left to right, Colm O'Rourke, Mick Lyons, Colm Brady, Donal Smyth, Seán Kelly, Brendan Reilly, Brian Stafford, David Beggy. Front row, left to right, P. J. Gillic, Terry Ferguson, Bernard Flynn, Liam Harnan, Robbie O'Malley, Kevin Foley, Liam Hayes.

A DOUBLE ENTERPRISE

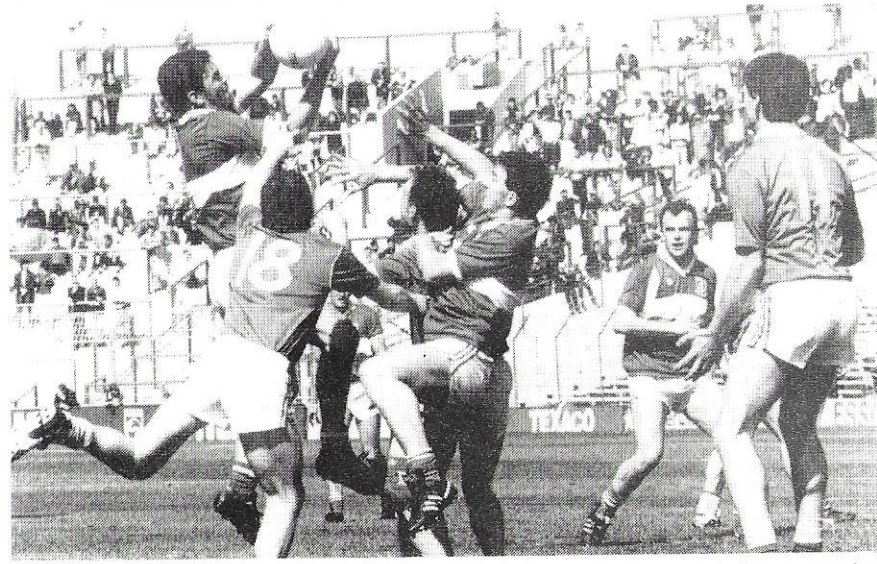
When Meath senior and minor footballers step out on Croke Park today they will have the incentive — if such is needed — to record the county's first-ever senior-minor double in Leinster football.

This particular double — unlike the senior-junior feat — has so far proved an elusive prize as far as the Royal County is concerned, as they have been repeatedly foiled at the final stage of the championship over the years.

Meath's frustration with the double began in 1954 when they won the senior and lost the minor finals on the one afternoon. A year later it was defeat on the double as Dublin beat them in both deciders. In 1970 the seniors won from Offaly and the minors lost to Dublin, and in '77 it was the same story in reverse — the minors won and the seniors lost.

The Eighties brought no change in Meath fortunes. In '86 the senior title was wrested from Dublin, but the Royal County under-18s, had no answer to a powerful Metropolitan fifteen. A repeat of these results in 1988 left Meath still seeking the elusive double.

Today presents Meath with its seventh chance of taking both titles, and there is an added dimension to the contest versus Dublin and Kildare. Having already annexed the junior and under-21 provincial crowns, should Meath emerge victorious from today's games they will be the first county ever to win four Leinster football titles in the one season. And that would be a mammoth achievement by any reckoning.



Pat Roe (Laois) outjumps friend and foe alike in this semi-final tussle for possession.

THREE-IN-A-ROW

Last year's clash of Dublin and Meath was the 14th final meeting of the counties in the space of 95 years.

Although some of these finals failed to provide really competitive fare, there have been the exceptions, and the rivalry that began in October, 1894 has been — and still is — one of the most exciting in the game.

The early meetings set the standard and began with three finals in successive years — 1894-95-96. Two drawn games, two Dublin wins and one for Meath established the counties as front-runners in the closing decade of the last century, and the details of these Dublin — Meath encounters before the turn of the century — the first-ever three-in-a-row provincial finals are:

1894 — Dublin 1—8, Meath 1—2.

Two hours of football — one at Navan and the other at Clonturk Park — had failed to separate two well-matched teams in the closing months of the year, but the third meeting, at Clonturk, on February 24, 1895 saw the issue finally decided.

Dublin with the wind in their favour laid the basis of their win in the first half as John Kennedy, Dick Curtis and the Kellys shared six points between them — to Meath's one.

Meath's luck was out as the wind slackened after the change of ends, but they fought back with spirit to reduce the arrears with a great goal. Dublin's Curtis responded with a like score to leave Dublin deserving, but slightly flattered winners by a margin of six points.

Dublin scorers: D. Curtis 1—2, J. Kennedy 0—2, L. Kelly 0—2, M. Byrne 0—2.

Meath: P. Kelly 1—0, W. Feeley 0—1, P. Clarke 0—1.

1895 — MEATH 0—6, DUBLIN 0—2.

Meath took the fight to the All-Ireland champions from the outset, but it took them fifteen minutes to breach the Dublin lines — and then it was for a point finished by Clarke. Even exchanges featured the second quarter until McDermott made it 0—2 to nil which was the score at the break.

Dublin fought vigorously to retain their crown when play resumed but Clarke doubled the Meath lead before Mike Byrne opened Dublin's account. When Paddy Byrne notched their second point the issue was wide open, but Meath finished strongly to take their first provincial title with four points to spare.

Meath scorers: P. Clarke 0—3, V. McDermott 0—1, B. McCabe 0—1, J. Sharkey 0—1.

Dublin: M. Byrne 0—1, P. Byrne 0—1.

1896 — DUBLIN 2—4, MEATH 1—5.

This twice postponed tie finally got under way at Bryanstown on October 24, 1897. The delays probably whetted public interest as there was a huge crowd present when Laurence Stanley threw in the ball to start yet another meeting of the rivals. "Darby" Erritty's goal cancelled early Meath points, but the champions pressed on to lead by 1—3 to 1—1 at the interval after McCabe had found the net.

Dublin took it up on the restart with Curtis, Erritty, Mike Byrne and Hayes to the fore and soon hit the front with a goal by Hayes.

Meath rallied gamely and were well in contention when a dispute arose which resulted in their leaving the field. The referee, after some delay, awarded the match to Dublin.

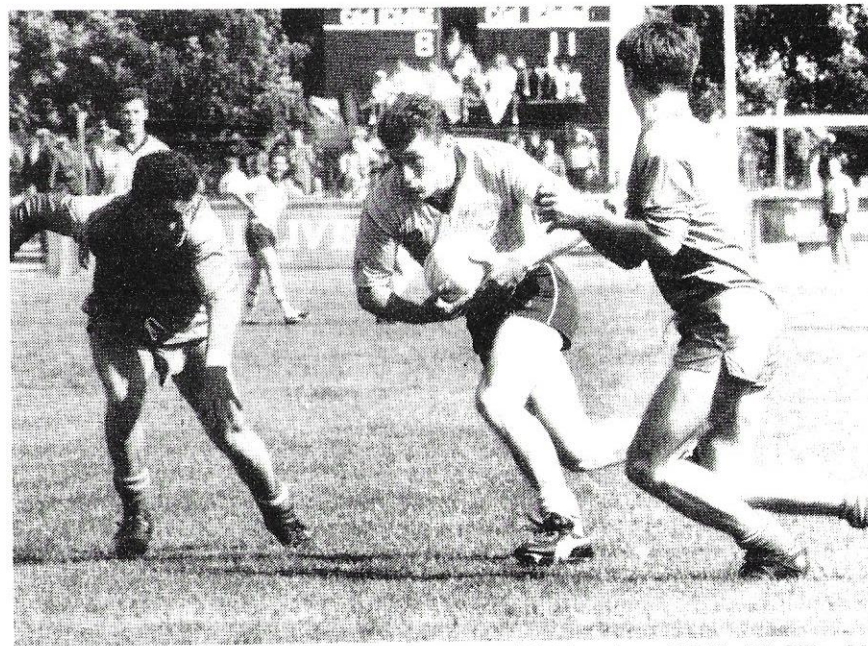
Dublin scorers: D. Erritty 1—1, M.

Hayes 1—0, D. Curtis 0—2, J. Gannon 0—1.

Meath: B. McCabe 1—0, T. McCullen 0—1, J. Teague 0—1, J. Reilly 0—1, M. Rogers 0—1, P. Clarke 0—1.

Surprisingly, only one Dublin player

took part in all five Dublin-Meath games between October, 1894 and October, 1897 — Mike Byrne. Meath did much better in this regard as M. Murray, M. Rogers, P. Clarke and B. McCabe featured in every meeting.

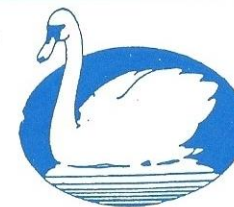


Mick Galvin (Dublin) with ball, cuts through the Wicklow duo of Philip McGillcuddy and Pat Baker in the semi-final.

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CHALLENGING

Having been the defending champions for three successive seasons, Meath today find themselves in the role of challengers for Dublin's title. It is a role with which they are not unfamiliar, but Meath memories of their bids to dethrone the Leinster champions are not all happy ones; indeed, Meath have enjoyed little luck in their attempts to down the reigning title holders over the years, especially in the early years, when after they had successfully unseated Dublin in 1895, they repeatedly failed in jousts with the teams at the top in the province. In fact, after that 1895 success they failed in every meeting until they overcame Laois in 1939.

Since then Meath have done somewhat better in their confrontations with the champions, although the overall figures (eight wins, and 27 defeats) show just how difficult they have found this particular assignment.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1895 — Jones' Road, Final: Meath 0—6, Dublin 0—2. | 1931 — Croke Park, Final: Kildare 1—4, Meath 1—4.
Replay: Croke Park: Kildare 1—5, Meath 0—4. |
| 1906 — Jones' Road, First Round: Kildare 0—8, Meath 0—2. | 1933 — Drogheda, First Round: Dublin 1—8, Meath 1—4. |
| 1908 — Jones' Road, First Round: Dublin 1—8, Meath 0—1. | 1934 — Drogheda, First Round: Dublin 2—8, Meath 1—9. |
| 1910 — Dundalk, Semi-final: Louth 3—11, Meath 1—3. | 1936 — Mullingar, First Round: Kildare 0—12, Meath 1—6. |
| 1912 — Jones' Road, First Round: Kilkenny 1—4, Meath 0—3. | 1938 — Croke Park, Semi-final: Laois 4—6, Meath 2—3. |
| 1913 — Jones' Road, Semi-final: Louth 2—3, Meath 0—2. | 1939 — Mullingar, First Round: Meath 1—9, Laois 1—7. |
| 1914 — Croke Park, First Round: Wexford 2—4, Meath 1—1. | 1942 — Drogheda, Semi-final: Dublin 3—5, Meath 1—10. |
| 1916 — Croke Park, Semi-final: Wexford 6—5, Meath 1—2. | 1947 — Croke Park, Final: Meath 3—7, Laois 1—7. |
| 1921 — Croke Park, First Round: Dublin 3—6, Meath 0—0. | 1949 — Croke Park, Semi-final: Meath 1—5, Louth 1—5.
Replay: Croke Park: Meath 2—9, Louth 3—6.
Second Replay: Meath 2—5, Louth 1—7. |
| 1923 — Croke Park, Final: Dublin 3—5, Meath 0—0. | 1951 — Croke Park, Semi-final: Meath 0—6, Louth 0—6.
Replay: Croke Park: Meath 0—7, Louth 0—6. |
| 1924 — Navan, First Round: Dublin 2—6, Meath 1—4. | 1963 — Second Round, Croke Park: Dublin 2—6, Meath 2—3. |
| 1926 — Croke Park, First Round: Wexford 0—7, Meath 0—3. | 1964 — Final, Croke Park: Meath 2—12, Dublin 1—7. |
| 1927 — Navan, Semi-final: Kildare 1—6, Meath 1—2. | 1970 — Croke Park, Final: Meath 2—22, Offaly 5—12. |
| 1929 — Drogheda, First Round: Kildare 1—5, Meath 0—8.
Replay: Kildare 3—5, Meath 0—9. | 1972 — Croke Park, Semi-final: Offaly 2—17, Meath 3—5. |
| 1930 — Croke Park, Final: Kildare 0—6, Meath 1—3.
Replay: Kildare 2—6, Meath 1—2. | |

THE CHAMPIONS

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1973 — Croke Park, Final: Offaly 3—21, Meath 2—12. | 1980 — Navan, Semi-final: Dublin 3—13, Meath 2—7. |
| 1976 — Croke Park, Final: Dublin 2—8, Meath 1—9. | 1984 — Croke Park, Final: Dublin 2—10, Meath 1—9. |
| 1977 — Croke Park, Final: Dublin 1—9, Meath 0—8. | 1986 — Croke Park, Final: Meath 0—9, Dublin 0—7. |



'Danger Ahead' — Dublin's Joe McNally collects the ball ahead of Wicklow's Hugh Kenny, in the semi-final.

LEINSTER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE COISTE FORBARTHA LAIGHEAN

Comprising of the Development Officers of each of the 12 Leinster Counties, it was set up by Comhairle Laighean in 1986 with it's main terms of reference — to implement the recommendations of the O'Ganaigh Report.

This year saw the end of Pádraig Ó Bogaigh's three year term as Cathaoirleach of the committee. The committee was fortunate to have a man of Pádraigh's calibre as Cathaoirleach and during Paddy's term quite a lot of good work at both county and provincial level was undertaken and, as a result, the province is better organised now in the promotion of our games. Teddy Fennelly (Laois) who has acted as Runai to the committee for the past three years also retired this year. The committee would like to thank both Paddy and Teddy for all their work and dedication over the past three years.

Former Cathaoirleach Comhairle Laighean, Sean Boothman has been given the task of chairing the committee, which currently consists of: Pat Toner (Lú), Secretary, Donal Hickey (Ath Cliath), P. J. McCaffrey (An Mhí), Michael Bove (Loch Gorman), John McCarthy (Cill Dara), Barry Hickey (Cill Chainnigh), T. J. Ward (Longport), Michael Reynolds (Laois), Pat Murphy (Cill Mhantáin), Michael O Broinn (Uíbh Fáili), Patrick Murphy (Ceatharlóch) and Eugene Doherty (Iarmhí) along with Brendan O'Sullivan (Leinster Hurling Officer) and Paddy Clarke (Leinster Football Officer).

Coiste Forbartha has been given the task of Developing and Promoting our games in the province. Considerable progress has been made in the growth and co-ordination of development activities in the past three years. The pooling of ideas and the trading of reports on activities within the counties has been of great importance to all concerned.

As a result of the workings of Coiste Forbartha Laighean each of the 12 Leinster Counties has now an active and working Development Committee who organise various programmes of events within the counties such as coaching courses, coaching clinics, football and hurling festivals, blitz seminars, mini games and teamwork schemes.

Leinster Football Officer Paddy Clarke, along with the County Football Officers, has drawn up a full programme of underage activities for 1990. These vary from Festival weekends to 7-a-side and 15-a-side one day blitzes and all 12 counties are taking part. A number of Hurling festivals and blitzes have also been organised for the year.

Last year Comhairle Laighean spent in excess of £63,000 on games development mainly on projects set up by Coiste Forbartha Laighean it is hoped to at least repeat this during 1990.

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The Men From Meath

LIAM HAYES: Age 28. Holder of two All-Ireland S.F.C., three Leinster S.F.C., two N.F.L. medals, one Centenary Cup, one Railway Cup medal, 1987, and one Bank of Ireland All-Star Award 1988. Liam has worn the Meath jersey under 14 and minor level winning a Leinster M.F. medal in 1980. **Sports Journalist.**

COLM BRADY: Age 20. Made his Senior championship debut in last year's Leinster semi-final against Offaly. Holder of two Leinster Under 21 F.C. medals 1989—90. Colm's only full championship game was against Laois in the current campaign. Winner of the "man of the match" award in the N.F.L. final against Down. The first member of his club to play Senior championship football for Meath. **Recreational Management Student.**

DAVID BEGGY: Age 23. Holder of two All-Ireland S.F.C. medals, three Leinster S.F.C. medals, two N.F.L. medals, one Bank of Ireland All-Star Award 1987, one Railway Cup medal. Commutes from Scotland. Affectionately known as "Jinx" he is one of the fastest players in the game. **Law Clerk.**

P. J. GILLIC: Age 23. P.J. is still the only Meathman to have won Leinster Championship medals at Minor, Under-21, Junior and Senior level. He has two All-Ireland S.F.C. medals, three Leinster S.F.C. medals, two N.F.L. medals, one Railway Cup medal, one Leinster Junior medal, one Leinster Under-21 medal and one Leinster Minor medal. **Mechanic.**

TOMMY DOWD: Age 20. Made his championship debut against Longford in Páirc Tailteann in June. Tommy's father also played Senior championship football with Meath in early '70's. Tommy has one N.F.L. medal and two Leinster Under-21 football medals. He also lined out for the county's Under-21 hurlers this year. **Joiner.**

COLM O'ROURKE: Age 32. Colm was the recipient of prestigious "Meath Footballer of the Year" Award for an unprecedented third time in 1989. He also captained the team to-day. It is fourteen years ago since he played in his first Leinster S.F. final. He is the proud holder of two All-Ireland S.F.C. medals, two N.F.L. medals, three Leinster S.F.C. medals, one Railway Cup medal, one Centenary Cup medal. **Teacher and Sports Shop Proprietor.**

BRIAN STAFFORD: Age 26. Brian holds two Senior All-Ireland medals, three Leinster S.F.C. medals, one Leinster Under-21, two Railway Cup (1987 and 1988) and two N.F.L. medals, All-Star 1987 and 1988, Texaco Award winner 1987. **Company Representative.**

BERNARD FLYNN: Age 26. Holds two Senior All-Ireland medals, three Leinster S.F.C. medals, two N.F.L., one Railway Cup and a Centenary Cup medal. All-Star 1987. Has represented Ireland in Compromise Rules games. **Businessman.**

DONAL SMYTH: Age 27. Made his Senior Championship debut against Longford in June. Holds two All-Ireland S.F.C. medals, two N.F.L. medals, three Leinster S.F.C. medals, one Centenary medal. Has also captained the Ó Mathúna team to Meath S.F.C. victory. **Garda.**

ROBBIE O'MALLEY: Age 25. Returned to the team for the Leinster semi-final having missed the N.F.L. final against Down through injury. Holds two All-Ireland S.F.C. medals, two N.F.L. medals, three Leinster S.F.C. medals, one Centenary medal, one Leinster Under-21 medal. Bank of Ireland All-Star 1987 and 1988, Texaco Award 1988. **Company Representative.**

MICK LYONS: Age 32. Holder of two All-Ireland S.F.C. medals, three Leinster S.F.C. medals, two N.F.L. medals, three Railway Cups, one Leinster Club Championship and four Meath S.F.C. medals. Captained Meath to victory in the 1987 All-Ireland final. Missed out on the 1989 championship through injury. The first Meathman to win two Bank of Ireland All-Star Awards. **Plant Hire Contractor and Businessman.**

TERRY FERGUSON: Age 29. Holder of two All-Ireland S.F.C. medals, three Leinster S.F.C. medals, two N.F.L. medals, one N.H.L. medal Division 3. If Meath win to-day Terry will have surpassed his father's achievement of winning three Leinster S.F.C. medals. Meath's "Footballer of the Year" in 1986. **Builder.**

EVIN FOLEY: Age 30. Holder of two All-Ireland Senior medals, three Leinster S.F.C. medals, two N.F.L. medals and one Railway Cup medal. Kevin has played for Meath in all four defensive wing positions. **Veterinary Surgeon.**

MARTIN O'CONNELL: Age 26. Holder of two All-Ireland S.F.C. medals, three Leinster S.F.C. medals, two N.F.L. medals, one Centenary medal, one Railway Cup medal, Bank of Ireland All-Star 1988. Martin has played a major role in inspiring his club's climb to Senior level from the lower ranks. **Meat Wholesaler.**

BRENDAN REILLY: Age 21. Made his Senior championship debut against Louth in Drogheda in 1988 having previously starred in the N.F.L. final replay. Missed out subsequently on the County's march to All-Ireland success because of injury. Holder of one All-Ireland S.F.C., one Leinster S.F.C., two Leinster J.F.C. medals, one Leinster Under-21 football championship. Brendan lined out with the county's under 21 hurling and football teams this year. **Electrician.**

The Men From Dublin

JOHN O'LEARY: Age 29. Captained Ireland against Australians in 1986 Test Series. Won All-Ireland medals at Minor (1979) and Senior (1983), and a National League souvenir in 1987. He has four Leinster Senior medals. Played in each of Leinster's Railway Cup winning teams of 1985, 1986 and 1987. Twice a Bank of Ireland All-Star. **Branch Manager, Irish Permanent Building Society.**

MICK DEEGAN: Age 26. Won an All-Ireland Minor medal at left halfback in 1982. Has been a consistent performer in the position as left cornerback in recent league games. Holder of one Leinster Senior medal. **Garage Owner.**

GERRY HARGAN: Age 29. Another of the stars of 1987 League final. All-Ireland Senior medalist in 1983, he has four Leinster Senior souvenirs. Won a Bank of Ireland All-Star award in 1985 and '89. Has played for Ireland in the Test series, and has two Railway cup medals. **Fireman.**

KENNEDY: Age 31. Graduated to the senior ranks after playing with Dublin in underage competitions. He was in the official panel of substitutes for the 1983 All-Ireland final, but did not appear during the win over Galway. Holds five Leinster Senior medals, All-Star recipient in 1989. Leinster Railway Cup medal winner in 1988. **Driver.**

KEITH BARR: Age 22. Made his Senior debut against Wicklow in last year's Leinster Championship. holder of Leinster Minor medal in 1986 and Senior medal in 1989. Also captained Dublin in the Leinster Minor championship of 1985. Holds colleges medals for Beneavin College in under 14, 15 and Senior grades. **Courier.**

TOMMY CARR: Age 27. Played Minor football for Dublin in 1980 was not involved in the 1987/'88 National League as he was on Army duty in the Lebanon. Has made the centre half back spot his own during current league. Has one Leinster Senior medal. **Army Officer.**

JAMONN HEERY: Age 26. Right half back with Dublin in 1982 All-Ireland Minor title winning team. He was called up to the Senior side for the 1986-'87 National League, but was not in the team that beat Kerry in the 1987 final. Leinster Railway Cup medal winner 1988 and Leinster Senior medal in 1989. **Draftsman.**

DAVE FORAN: Age 31. While only returning to the team for the Leinster championship gave v. Kildare last year, Dave is an old campaigner having made his Senior debut way back in 1978. Holds two Leinster Senior championship medals 1979/'89. Won his first Dublin championship medal with his club Thomas Davis in 1989. **Fireman.**

PAUL CLARKE: Age 24. Captained the Dublin Minor football team which won the All-Ireland in 1984. Shortly after made his Senior debut. Holder of one Leinster Senior medal. **Airport Police.**

VINCENT MURPHY: Age 20. Midfielder in the Dublin Minor team beaten by Kildare in 1987 Leinster final, he has lost little time in finding his feet as a senior, and has also shown a nice line in points scoring. Won a Leinster Railway Cup medal in 1988 and a Leinster medal 1989. **Sales Representative.**

KIERAN DUFF: Age 29. Has an All-Ireland Minor medal 1979, he has been a Senior since late in 1979, and has the games top award (1983), four provincial medals, four Railway Cup trophies, and two Bank of Ireland All-Star awards. **Linesman.**

CHARLIE REDMOND: Age 27. Made his Senior inter-county debut in 1983 but did not play in that year's All-Ireland final. A regular with the side for some time he won a Leinster Senior medal last year. Also plays hurling. **Fireman.**

MICK GALVIN: Age 26. Made his Senior debut during 1987 National League, and had an excellent game at full forward in his big match debut against Kerry in that year's League final win. Played in the Leinster decider against Meath last July. One Leinster Senior medal. **County Council Official.**

JOE McNALLY: Age 25. A goalkeeper turned ace goal-getter. His first outing for the county side was in goal against Armagh in the League in 1982. Now he is outgunning net minders in expert style. Goalkeeper in Dublin 1982 All-Ireland Minor title winning team, he helped the Dubs to their last Sam Maguire Cup win, and has played against the Australians. He has one Railway Cup medal and three Leinster Senior medals. **Self-employed.**

NIAL CLANCY: Age 24. Made his Senior debut for Dublin in National League v. Donegal this year. Won a Minor All-Ireland medal in 1984. Holds a Sigerson Cup medal which he won with U.C.D. in 1985. **Apprentice Solicitor.**

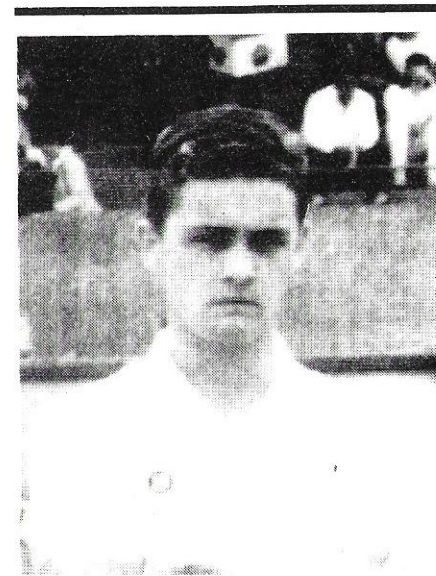
Gaisce Faoi Leith - A Mighty Achievement

After Meath's feat in reaching the 1970 All-Ireland it is generally considered that the county suffered a decline; certainly, as regards championship honours, the Seventies was a barren period for the Royal County as they proceeded to lose the provincial finals of '73, '74, '76 and '77. But in the midst of all this failure Meath produced an astonishing performance that garnered them a National title, and it wasn't for the fact of actually recording this success, but the manner in which they did so, that marks the winning of the National Football League in 1974-75 as one of Meath's greatest achievements.

In the mid-Seventies gaelic football was dominated by Kerry and Dublin, then fielding what were arguably the greatest teams the game has known; but in that league campaign — or rather in the closing stages of it — when there could be no suggestion of indifference on the part of the 'Kingdom' or the Metropolitanians, Meath, in a brilliant run, overcame Kerry in the quarter-final by 0-11 to 0-6 and Dublin in the final by 0-16 to 1-9. It was undoubtedly an achievement to be cherished.

The team which brought Meath its fourth league title and maintained the county's reputation for being able to muster a challenge to the best even in their less affluent days was: Ronan Giles (Capt.),

Mick Collins, Jack Quinn, Brendan Murray, Phil Smith, Pat Reynolds, P. J. O'Halloran, Joe Cassels, Mick Ryan, Eamon O'Brien, Ken Rennicks, Pat Traynor, Cormac Rowe, Ollie O'Brien, Matt Kerrigan.



Kevin Horgan — Kildare's Minor sharp-shooter.

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Best of luck to Dublin and Meath.

The Minor Match

When the minor grade was introduced in the late 1920's, in most areas the standing of the various counties at senior level was immediately reflected in the performance and achievements of their under 18 sides, as Kerry, Mayo, Galway and Dublin, to name only the most prominent, farmed the early honours. There were exceptions of course — Clare and Longford, who contested the first All-Ireland final in the grade, were devoid of even the faintest hint of success or tradition compared with the counties mentioned above.

But there were other counties whose pre-eminence at senior level did not appear to filter back to the new grade, and foremost among these were Meath and Kildare. Why counties with such a high profile in the premier competition should be stationed very far down the minor scale, has never been explained, but it was an inescapable fact of footballing life, and most certainly an enduring one.

As Longford, Dublin, Louth, Laois, Wexford and Westmeath surged forward to annex provincial honours in the Thirties, Kildare and Meath languished among the deprived counties, with only the appearance (a losing one) of Kildare against Dublin in the 1934 final to suggest that underage competition was at anything approaching an acceptable level. The Forties brought some improvement in the showing of Kildare and Meath, but three provincial finals (1940, 1942 and 1949) were contested by Kildare and the 1946 final by Meath without any addition to the Leinster Roll of Honour.

Meath's day dawned at last: three successive final defeats at the hands of Dublin preceded the magnificent triumph of 1957, but here was the root of another mystery. From one of the finest minor teams of the decade Meath reaped little reward in the shape of future seniors, and then the 1960s came and went with no imprint from the Lily Whites or the neighbouring Royal County.

Both counties have shown to better

effect over the past two decades, and if the Markham Cup has not rested in either county in that period, in Leinster competition Kildare and Meath are now very much front-runners in the quest for provincial honours. Indeed, at times they have offered the only creditable opposition to Dublin's dominance. Today they are final opponents for the fourth time with Kildare holding the edge by virtue of their wins in '75 and '83.

The details of their three final meetings to date are:

1975: Quarter-finals — Meath 2—18, Wicklow 1—5; Kildare 2—16, Westmeath 2—9.

Semi-finals — Meath 2—8, Dublin 0—8; Kildare 2—16, Laois 2—6.

Final — Kildare 2—9, Meath 3—5.

Kildare scorers: R. Mackey 2—1, T. Shaw 0—4, J. Hogan 0—3, M. Gorman 0—1.

Meath: C. O'Rourke 2—1, E. Mahon 0—4, P. Finnerty 1—0.

Kildare: Éamon Costello (Cappagh), Frank Mulligan (Clane), Pat O'Donoghue (Naas), Liam O'Callaghan (Newbridge), Mattie McCabe (Naas), John Crofton (Newbridge), Seán Kavanagh (Newbridge), Pat Kenny (Carbury), Kevin Dunne (Round Towers), Tom Shaw (Newbridge), Alex Whelan (Newbridge), Ronnie Mackey Capt. (St. Lawrences), Paul O'Flaherty (Athy), Michael Gorman (St. Lawrences), Jack Hogan (Naas). Subs.: John Kelly (St. Lawrences), Jack Ryan (Rathangan).

Meath: Michael McQuillan (St. Patricks), Paddy Ryan (Skryne), Eamon Ward (Moynalty), Bernard Cullen (Duleek), Tommy Waters (St. Marys), Paddy Mooney (Dunshaughlin), Tommy Mullen (De La Salle), Christy Reynolds (Walterstown), Paschal Farrelly (Syddan), Eddie Mahon (Athboy), Gerry Murtagh (Ballivor), Pádraig Finnerty (Skryne), Jim Duff (Syddan), Colm O'Rourke (Skryne), Liam McMahon (Wolfe Tones). Sub., Malachy Cullen.

1980 — First Round — Kildare 5—12, Carlow 2—5.

Quarter-finals — Meath 5—12, Westmeath 1—6; Kildare 2—14, Wicklow 1—9.

Semi-finals — Meath 3—7, Dublin 3—5; Kildare 1—11, Louth 1—8.

Final — Meath 1—12, Kildare 1—9.

Meath Scorers: F. Murtagh 0—4, A. Young 1—0, J. J. McCormack 0—3, L. Hayes 0—1, B. Husband 0—1, M. Barry 0—1, C. Reilly 0—1, T. Mathews 0—1.

Kildare scorers: L. Tompkins 0—7, S. Fahy 1—0, S. Ryan 0—1, L. Sex 0—1.

Meath: Liam Bellews (Castletown), John McEnroe (Oldcastle), George Clarke (Castletown), Dessie Dearney (De La Salle), Colm Coyle (Seneschalstown), Tom Carson (St. Patricks), James Bradley (Nobber), Tom Mathews (Meath Hill), Liam Hayes (Skryne), Finian Murtagh Capt., (De La Salle), Frank Foley (Trim), Bernard Husband (Moylough), Martin Barry (Walterstown), J. J. McCormack (Ballinabrackey), Charlie Reilly (Moynalty). Subs.: Michael Crawley (Duleek), Andy Young (Summerhill), Noel Carroll (Castletown).

Kildare: Niall Fitzgerald (Celbridge), Michael Fogarty (St. Lawrences), Tony McLoughlan (Athy), Pat O'Neill (Carbury), Michael McLoughlin (Oliver Plunketts), John Horan (Oliver Plunketts), Martin Brannock (Suncroft), Shay Fahy (Newbridge), Seán Ryan (St. Lawrences), Joe Holohan (Suncroft), Larry Tompkins (Oliver Plunketts), Liam Sex (Newbridge), Terry Gorry (Carbury), Liam McCormack (Leixlip), Tony Deere (Grangenolvan). Subs.: Dick Gibbons (Newbridge), Jim Carrick (Newbridge).

1983 — First round — Meath 7—17, Kilkenny 0—1.

Quarter-finals — Kildare 1—12, Carlow 3—4; Meath 2—7, Dublin 0—6.

Semi-finals — Kildare 1—7, Offaly 2—4, (Replay) Kildare 2—13, Offaly 1—10; Meath 1—7, Laois 0—7.

Final — Kildare 1—11, Meath 1—6.

Kildare scorers: P. McLoughlin 0—4, P. Dunne 1—0, P. Loftus 0—2, G. Boland

0—2, J. Byrne 0—1, B. Donovan 0—1, M. Cooke 0—1.

Meath: B. Flynn 1—3, C. Corr 0—1, D. Murtagh 0—1, P. Downey 0—1.

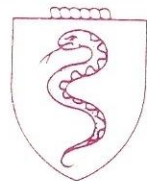
Kildare: Freddie Mitchell (Kilcullen), Seán McGovern (Athy), Kevin McCarthy (Newbridge), John Byrne (St. Marys), James Byrne (St. Lawrences), Danny Cahill (Kilcullen), Declan Kerrigan (Carbury), Anthony Delaney (St. Lawrences), Brian Donovan (Celbridge), Paul McLoughlin (Clane), Michael Cooke (Kilcock), Peter Loftus Capt., (Newbridge), Eugene Gorry (Carbury), Terry McDonald (Naas), Gerry Boland (St. Marys). Subs.: Michael Fitzpatrick (Oliver Plunketts), Pádraig Dunne (St. Marys).

Meath: Phil Fay (St. Culberts), Robbie O'Malley Capt., (St. Colmcilles), Aidan Curran (St. Colmcilles), James Farrell (Senschalstown), Declan Mullen (Oldcastle), Des Lane (Slane), Martin O'Neill (St. Colmcilles), Oliver Cudden (Duleek), Ciaran Carr (St. Colmcilles), Brian Rennicks (Trim), Bernard Flynn (St. Colmcilles), Donal Murtagh (Trim), Paddy Downey (Slane), John Kavanagh (St. Cuthberts), Peter Crosby (Grove Emmetts). Subs.: C. J. Murtagh (Trim), Matty O'Brien (Slane), Loman Dempsey (Ballivor).



Tony Byrne — top scorer for Meath Minors.

Cill Dara (KILDARE)



MINOR

**DATHANNA:
BÁN GO LÉIR
(All White)**

C. Ó Broin
1. CHRISTY BYRNE
Castlemitchell

C. Mac Riocaird
2. KEN DIXON
Johnstownbridge

L. Ó Saigheas
3. LIAM SEX
Sarsfields

D. Ó Cathasaigh
4. DEREK CASEY
Caragh

R. de Brún
5. RICHARD BROWNE
St. Kevins

S. Ó Lochlainn
6. JOHN LOUGHLIN
Sarsfields

M. Laighléis
7. MARK LAWLESS
Carbury

G. Ó Riain
8. GLEN RYAN
Round Towers (Capt.)

N. Ó Buachalla
9. NIALL BUCKLEY
Sarsfields

B. Ó Fathaigh
10. BRIAN FAHY
Leixlip

R. Ó Coinn
11. RONAN QUINN
Leixlip

A. Ó Suileabháin
12. ALAN SULLIVAN
Johnstownbridge

C. Ó hÓgáin
13. KEVIN HOGAN
Sarsfields

C. Ó Conalláin
14. CIARAN CONLON
Caragh

D. Ó Dúghaill
15. DERMOT DOYLE
Na Fianna

FIR IONAIÐ: 16. D. Ó Leathlobhair **DEREK LAWLOR** *St. Laurences*; 17. N. Mac Cathmhaoil **NIGEL CAMPBELL** *Sarsfields*; 18. L. Ó Ceallaigh **LEO KELLY** *Athy*; 19. P. Cobhroin **PÁDRAIG COBURN** *Athy*; 20. D. Mac Cathmhaoil **DAREN CAMPBELL** *Sarsfields*; 21. S. Ó hAnnáin **JOE HANNON** *Robertstown*.

An Mhí (MEATH)



MINOR

**DATHANNA:
GLAS IS ÓR
(Green and Gold)**

C. Ó Máirtín
1. CONOR MARTIN
Ballivor

U. Ó Riain
2. VINCENT RYAN
Ballinlough

E. Mac Mánaís
3. ENDA McMANUS
St. Peters, Dunboyne (Capt.)

N. Coiléir
4. NOEL COLLIER
St. Patricks

R. Mac Craith
5. RONAN McGRATH
Simonstown Gaels

G. Mac Oireachtaigh
6. GRAHAM GERAGHTY
Seneschalstown

T. Ó hÁinle
7. THOMAS HANLEY
Athboy

S. Ó hEanraic
8. JASON HENDRICK
Enfield

S. Mac Carthaigh
9. JOHN McCARTHY
Walterstown

A. Ó Broin
10. TONY BYRNE
St. Peters, Dunboyne

D. Ó Máirtín
11. DAVID MARTIN
Athboy

B. Ó Caollaí
12. BRENDAN KEALY
Dunshaughlin

A. Ó Cearúlláin
13. HUGH CAROLAN
St. Colmcilles

T. Ó Conchúir
14. TERRY O'CONNOR
Ballivor

C. Ó Síridéain
15. CATHAL SHERIDAN
Moynalvey

FIR IONAIÐ: 16. C. Mac Siúrtáin **KEVIN JORDAN** *Gaeil Colmcille*; 17. A. Ó Murchú **ANDREW MURPHY** *Skryne*; 18. C. Ó Móra **CIARAN MOORE** *Simonstown Gaels*; 19. D. Diolúin **DAVID DILLON** *Seneschalstown*; 20. B. Ó Léannacháin **BARTLE LENIHAN** *Duleek*; 21. P. Ó Broin **PAULO'BRIEN** *Simonstown Gaels*; 22. B. Ó hAilpín **BRENDAN HALPIN** *Oldcastle*; 23. A. Aghas **ALAN ASHE** *Boardsmill*; 24. P. Diolún **PAUL DILLON** *Syddan*; 25. S. Mac Gabhann **SEAMUS SMYTH** *O'Mathúna*; 26. C. Ó Maicín **CONOR MACKEN** *Seneschalstown*.

Áth Cliath (DUBLIN)



SENIOR GORM IS DÚGHORM (Blue and Navy Blue)

S. Ó Laoire
1. **John O'LEARY**
O'Dwyers

M. Ó Duígin
2. **MICK DEEGAN**
Erins Isle

G. Ó hArgáin
3. **GERRY HARGAN**
Ballymun Kickhams

M. Ó Cinnéide
4. **MICK KENNEDY**
St. Margarets

C. Ó Bairr
5. **KEITH BARR**
Erins Isle

T. Ó Carra
6. **TOMMY CARR**
Ballymun Kickhams (Capt.)

E. Ó hÍorua
7. **ÉAMONN HEERY**
St. Vincents

P. Ó Cléirigh
8. **PAUL CLARKE**
Whitehall Colmcille

D. Ó Fuaráin
9. **DAVID FORAN**
Thomas Davis

U. Ó Murchú
10. **VINNIE MURPHY**
Trinity Gaels

C. Ó Duibh
11. **KIERAN DUFF**
Fingallians

C. Mac Réamainn
12. **CHARLIE REDMOND**
Erins Isle

N. Mac Lannchaidh
13. **NIALL CLANCY**
Kilmacud Crokes

M. Ó Gealbháin
14. **MICK GALVIN**
St. Oliver Plunketts

S. Mac an Fhaile
15. **JOE McNALLY**
St. Annes

FIR IONAIÐ: 16. N. Mac Gafraidh **NOEL McCAFFREY** *Clontarf*; 17. C. Ó Fagáin **KEVIN FAGAN** *St. Vincents*; 18. L. Ó Cluasaigh **LEO CLOSE** *Scoil Uí Chonail*; 19. A. Mac Camhaoil **ANTON McCAUL** *Ballymun Kickhams*; 20. N. Mac Giodáin **NOEL GUIDEN** *Raheny*; 21. G. Mac Mathúna **GERRY McMAHON** *Scoil Uí Chonail*; 22. B. Mac Concharraige **BARNEY ROCK** *Ballymun Kickhams*; 23. D. Ó Bolgúir **DECLAN BOLGER** *St. Marks*; 24. D. Ó Fearail **DEREK FARRELL** *Na Fianna*.

An Mhí (MEATH)



SENIOR

DATHANNA: GLAS IS ÓR (Green and Gold)

D. Mac Gabhann
1. **DONAL SMYTH**
O'Mathúna

R. Ó Máille
2. **ROBBIE O'MALLEY**
St. Colmcilles

M. Ó Liatháin
3. **MICK LYONS**
Summerhill

T. Mac Fearghais
4. **TERRY FERGUSON**
Gaeil Colmcille

C. Ó Foghlú
5. **KEVIN FOLEY**
Trim

M. Ó Conaill
6. **MARTIN O'CONNELL**
St. Michael's

B. Ó Raghallaigh
7. **BRENDAN REILLY**
St. Peters, Dunboyne

L. Ó hAodha
8. **LIAM HAYES**
Skyrne

C. Ó Bradaigh
9. **COLM BRADY**
Simonstown Gaels

D. Ó Beigeáin
10. **DAVID BEGGY**
O'Mathúna

P.S. Mac Uilic
11. **P.J. GILLIC**
Carnaross

T. Ó Dúda
12. **TOMMY DOWD**
Dunderry

C. Ó Ruairc
13. **COLM O'ROURKE**
Skyrne (Capt.)

B. Stafort
14. **BRIAN STAFFORD**
Kilmainhamwood

B. Ó Floinn
15. **BERNARD FLYNN**
St. Colmcilles

FIR IONAIÐ: 16. M. Mac Úilín **MICHAEL McQUILLAN** *St. Patricks*; 17. P. Ó Liatháin **PÁDRAIG LYONS** *Summerhill*; 18. I. Ó Cearnaigh **IAN KEARNEY** *Walterstown*; 19. S. Ó Ceallaigh **SEÁN KELLY** *Dunderry*; 20. M. Mac Cába **MATTY McCABE** *Seneschalstown*; 21. G. Mac an tSaoi **GERRY McENTEE** *Nobber*; 22. F. Ó Muireartaigh **FINIAN MURTAGH** *O'Mathúna*.

The 1990 Leinster Minor Football Championship

— ROUND BY ROUND RESULTS —

MAY 12th AT PORTLAOISE —

Laois 4-13
Kilkenny 1-2

Laois: M. Hogan 1-3, H. Emerson 1-2, Mark O'Brien 1-2, M. Lawlor 1-1, Michael O'Brien 0-2, J. Murphy 0-1, A. Bowe 0-1, R. Confrey 0-1.

Kilkenny: B. Crowley 1-0, M. Dowling 0-1, C. Keegan 0-1.

MAY 13th AT CARLOW —

Louth 1-10
Carlow 0-10

Louth: S. White 0-4, A. Doherty 0-4, P. Donnelly 1-0, D. Duffy 0-1, M. Lowry 0-1.

Carlow: B. Walker 0-4, N. Foley 0-2, R. Maher 0-2, N. Murphy 0-1, B. Hannon 0-1.

MAY 20th AT MULLINGAR —

Longford 1-13
Westmeath 2-7

Longford: B. O'Connor 0-4, S. Belton 1-1, C. Fox 0-3, P. Donoghue 0-2, D. Lennon 0-2, A. Maxwell 0-1.

Westmeath: M. Staunton 1-1, M. Tumelty 1-1, G. Heavin 0-2, M. Murtagh 0-2, A. McDonald 0-1.

AT WEXFORD —

Kildare 2-13
Wexford 1-7

Kildare: R. Quinn 1-1, B. Fahy 1-1, N. Buckley 0-4, K. Horgan 0-3, G. Ryan 0-2, C. Conlon 0-1, T. Sullivan 0-1.

Wexford: E. Scallan 0-5, L. Murphy 1-1, J. English 0-1.

MAY 26th AT NAVAN —

Meath 2-16
Longford 2-9

Meath: T. Byrne 0-6, D. Martin 1-2, T. Connor 0-5, C. Sheridan 0-2, H. Carolan 1-0, C. Macken 0-1.

Longford: C. Hannify 1-2, C. Fox 1-2, B. O'Connor 0-3, S. Belton 0-1, P. Donoghue 0-1.

AT PORTLAOISE —

Laois 1-10
Offaly 1-6

Laois: M. O'Brien 0-4, H. Emerson 1-0, M. O'Brien 0-2, M. Lalor 0-2, J. Murphy 0-1, D. O'Connell 0-1.

Offaly: W. Reynolds 0-4, P. Moran 1-0, F. Wyer 0-1, V. Mooney 0-1.

AT DROGHEDA —

Louth 5-10
Dublin 1-4

Louth: A. Finnegan 2-1, A. Doherty 1-3, S. White 0-4, M. Leavy 1-1, J. O'Hanlon 1-0, P. Donnelly 0-1.

Dublin: T. Russell 1-0, C. McNally 0-1, A. Duff 0-1, T. Feehan 0-1, L. Callan 0-1.

JUNE 3rd AT AUGHRIM —

Kildare 0-12
Wicklow 1-7

Kildare: G. Ryan 0-6, C. Conlon 0-3, K. Horgan 0-2, A. Sullivan 0-1.

Wicklow: D. Coffey 1-3, D. Behan 0-2, C. Sullivan 0-1, S. Doyle 0-1.

SEMI-FINALS

JUNE 24th AT NEWBRIDGE —

Kildare 1-11
Louth 1-7

Kildare: K. Horgan 0-4, C. Conlon 1-0, N. Buckley 0-3, G. Ryan 0-2, T. Sullivan 0-1, B. Fahy 0-1.

Louth: A. Doherty 1-4, S. White 0-3.

JULY 1st AT CROKE PARK —

Meath 1-11
Laois 3-4

Meath: T. O'Connor 0-4, T. Byrne 0-4, H. Carolan 1-0, D. Martin 0-1, V. Ryan 0-1, C. Macken 0-1.

Laois: D. O'Connell 1-1, M. Hogan 1-0, K. Keogh 1-0, M. O'Brien 0-2, M. Lalor 0-1.

COLLEGE CHAMPIONS



Gormanston College, Intergrated Juvenile Football Team — "A" Champions 1989-90. Back row, left to right, Daniel Keohane, Nicholas Labrosse, Brian Smith, George Ryan, Robert Doran, Paul Lynch, Tom Finn, Pat Reynolds. Front row, left to right, Ian O'Reilly, Darrell Mooney, James Brennan, Simon Gaffney, Pádraig Grennan, Conor Walsh, Joe Woods.

MOL AN ÓIGE -



The Kildare Minor team that beat Louth, 1—11 to 1—7, in the semi-final. Back row, left to right, John Loughlin, Liam Sex, Christy Byrne, Ronan Quinn, Mark Lawless, Ciaran Conlon, Niall Buckley, Kevin Horgan. Front row, left to right, Brian Fahy, Glen Ryan, Alan Sullivan, Richard Browne, Derek Casey, Tom Sullivan, Ken Dixon.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

In 1989 Leinster Council G.A.A. had nett gate receipts of £610,000.00. The following are the main areas of expenditure during the year:

(a) Grants for the purchase and development of grounds and handball courts — £151,000.

(b) Games Development: This includes grant for special development in Tallaght (£10,000), Hurling Festivals, Football Festivals, Coaching Courses and a special hurling helmet project for second level schools — £64,000.

(c) Team Expenses — £64,000.

(d) Match Expenses i.e. referees, stewards, bands etc. — £69,000.

(e) Administration — £76,000.

(f) Injured Players' Benefits — £174,000. Grants were also made to Vocational Schools/Colleges Council, Leinster Handball Council, Leinster Camogie Council, Leinster Ladies Football Council, Inter Firms Council and St. Johns Ambulance Brigade.

Public Liability Insurance on our grounds and premises cost the Leinster Council and the twelve counties of Leinster a sum of £208,000 in 1989.

CIBA-GEIGY Clubman Of The Year For Kildare

Johnny O'Grady of Ardclough G.A.A. Club is Kildare's CIBA-GEIGY G.A.A. Clubman of the Year for 1989.

Johnny O'Grady is a founder member of the Ardclough Club which was established in 1936. He is currently club treasurer, a position he has held for the past 28 years. He has also been Secretary of the Club.

The Club has been very successful both in football and hurling and also camogie. The dedication of Johnny O'Grady to Ardclough was an important factor in the Club's success but he has also contributed substantially to County Board affairs as a delegate to the Board since 1936 and on numerous Kildare selection, finance and fixtures committees.

CIBA-GEIGY Clubman Of The Year For Meath

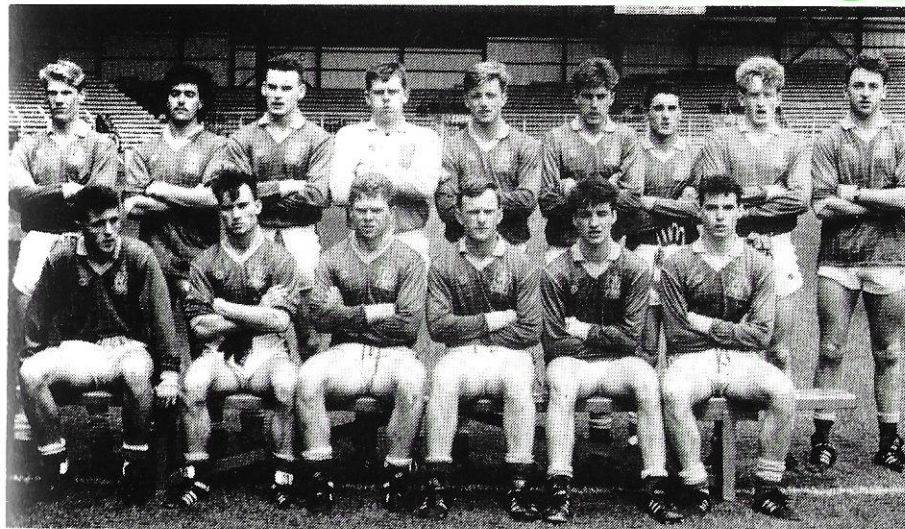
Pat Dalton of Ballinabrackey G.A.A. Club is Meath's CIBA-GEIGY G.A.A. Clubman of the Year for 1989.

Pat is currently Chairman of the Club and his drive and enthusiasm has transformed Ballinabrackey into a thriving unit of the G.A.A., fielding teams in under 12, 14, 16, minor and under 21, junior and intermediate.

Pat even has time for the ladies and the Ballinabrackey ladies football team won the Meath Senior Championship this year.

He has been particularly active in providing a club pavilion and his fund raising efforts were instrumental in raising £29,000 towards the cost of building it.

- AGUS TIOCFADH SÍ



The Meath Minor team that beat Laois, 1—11 to 3—4, in the semi-final. Back row, left to right, Graham Geraghty, Jason Hendrick, Conor Martin, James Smyth, Hugh Carolan, Thomas Hanley, Noel Collier, John McCarthy, Vincent Ryan. Front row, left to right, Tony Byrne, Conor Macken, Enda McManus, Terry Connor, James Murphy, Cathal Sheridan.

Leinster A.I.B. Schools Juvenile Football

Some 144 teams participated in the Juvenile Competitions of 1989/90. A number of new names appeared in the knock-out stages of the competition namely St. Declan's, Cabra, St. Kieran's, Kilkenny, and Tullow C.S.

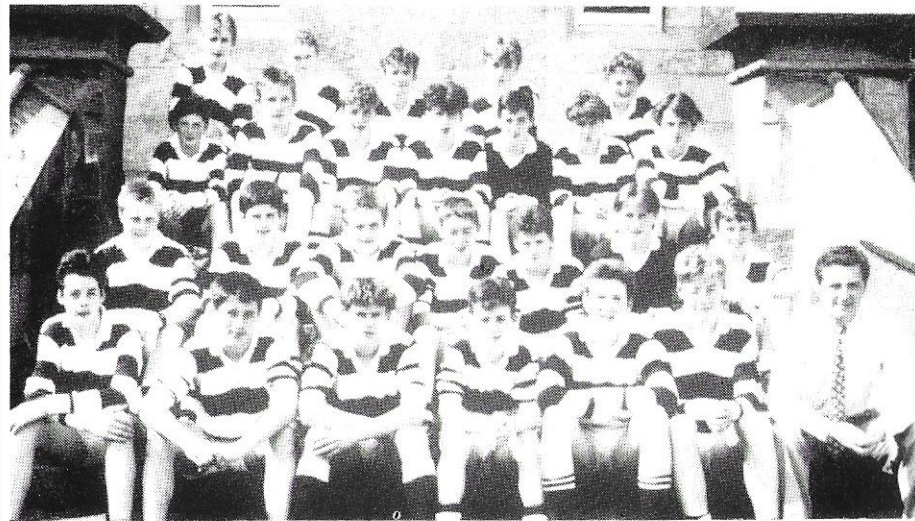
The finalists were Gormanston and St. Kieran's College, the latter making an impact over the past few years at Juvenile level. Played at one of Leinster's ideal venues regarding schools — Blessington, the final lived up to the high standard that was the norm throughout the competition. Gormanston emerged deserving winners. 36 schools participated.

Thirty-nine schools went to the post in the "B" competition. Again new faces were involved in the latter stages — Wexford C.B.S., Maynooth P.P., Ballymahon Secondary School, and St. Mary's, Dundalk just to mention a few.

Wexford C.B.S. overcame St. Fintan's, Sutton in the final at another school's "home" — Athy.

The "C" competition had 69 schools beginning the quest for provincial honours in September. All the quarter-finalists — St. Lawrence's, Loughlinstown, Castlecomer C.S., Ballinakill Salesians, Oldcastle P.P., Portmarnock C.S., Syngé Street, Bridgetown V.S. and Firhouse C.C. — were newcomers to the latter stages of the provincial competition.

On a winter's day — warmed by Blessington Special's — Castlecomer scored a dramatic late winner over Syngé Street C.B.S.



St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny, runners-up in the Colleges Juvenile "A" Championship. Front row, left to right, N. Bennett, O. Byrne, K. Vaughan (Capt.), K. Hughes, D. Duggan, M. Phelan, N. Connolly (Trainer). Second row, left to right, B. Ryan, P. Morrissey, P. Ryan, B. Dalton, J. Lawrence, B. Quinn, M. Leahy. Third row, left to right, P. J. Hickey, P. Rice, D. Dunne, T. Brophy, M. Coonan, S. Daly, M. Slattery. Back row, left to right, O. O'Connor, P. Lawlor, E. Carey, F. Cantwell, J. Comerford. Absent from photo, P. Dunne and G. Carew.



Wexford C.B.S. — Leinster Colleges Under 14 "B" Championship (1989—90) winners. Back row, left to right, O. Leacy, G. Finnegan, A. Stafford, J. Murphy, T. Dwyer, C. Byrne, P. Leacy, D. Mallon, P. Hayes, D. Furlong, S. Reville, E. Black. Front row, left to right, P. Murphy, W. Carley, N. Sheil, C. McNicholas, C. Bent (Capt.), D. Rossiter, P. Sheil, D. Dempsey, D. O'Grady, D. Lacey.

Hurling Before Football

It may seem strange today, but Meath was a force in minor hurling many years before they made an impact in football. In fact Meath's first under-18 title (and their only one to date) was annexed 28 years before the footballers' first Leinster win in 1957. This was in the 1929 season, the second year of the minor championships when a powerful Royal County fifteen beat Kilkenny in the final by 9—1 to 6—1 at Tullamore. Two years later Meath were again in the provincial final, but this time Kilkenny reversed the verdict.

It is of interest to note that Meath's nine goals in the 1929 final was the highest number of goals ever recorded against a Kilkenny minor hurling team.

Scór Ard In Aisce — A Record In Vain

The year 1970 is remembered with mixed feelings by Meath players and supporters of that time — a year when they recorded (and witnessed) one of the county's greatest displays in coming from eleven points down to beat Offaly in an epic Leinster final, and then the disappointment of losing the All-Ireland to Kerry despite running up a sizable tally against the vaunted 'Kingdom' rearguard. In fact, the 18 white flags raised by Meath in that final against Kerry constituted a record number of scores by a losing team in an All-Ireland final. Alas, for Meath it was a record in vain.

Past Meetings

Apart from the three occasions on which they have met in the final, the paths of Meath and Kildare minors have crossed at all stages of the championship — First Round, Quarter-final and Semi-final. Their first meeting was in 1929 when they were opponents in the quarter-final at Drogheda. That game was won by Meath, but it was another 20 years before they would again contest a championship game. Kildare reversed the 1929 verdict, but since then the balance has swung very definitely in the Royal County's favour.

In all these rivals have met fifteen times with the record reading eleven-four in Meath's favour. The scorelines of the 15 meetings were:

1929—Quarter-final: Meath 0—11, Kildare 0—1.

1949—First Round: Kildare 3—10, Meath 1—7.

1954—Semi-final: Meath 10—7, Kildare 0—2.

1955—Quarter-final: Meath 2—6, Kildare 0—8.

1962—Quarter-final: Meath 1—8, Kildare 1—4.

1964—Quarter-final: Kildare 5—9, Meath 0—2.

1969—First Round: Meath 1—10, Kildare 1—8.

1970—Semi-final: Meath 0—12, Kildare 1—6.

1975—Final: Kildare 2—9, Meath 3—5.

1978—Quarter-final: Meath 1—11, Kildare 0—7.

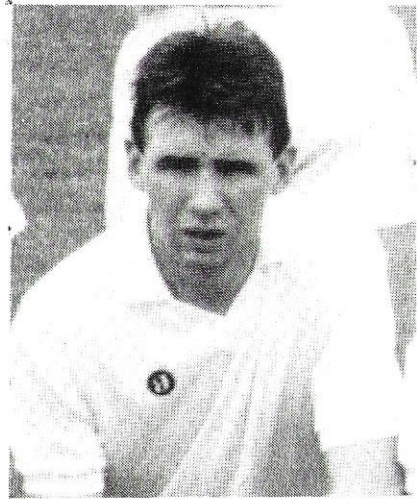
1979—Quarter-final: Meath 2—10, Kildare 1—7.

1980—Final: Meath 1—12, Kildare 1—9.

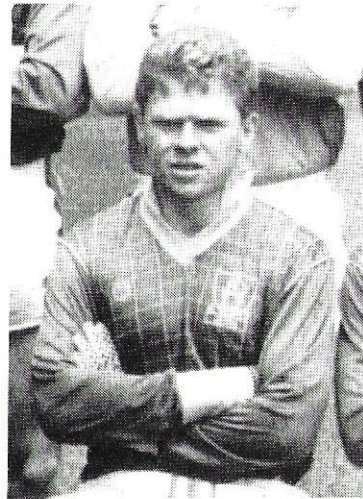
1983—Final: Kildare 1—11, Meath 1—6.

1985—Quarter-final: Meath 1—9, Kildare 1—7.

1988—Semi-final: Meath 0—8, Kildare 0—7.

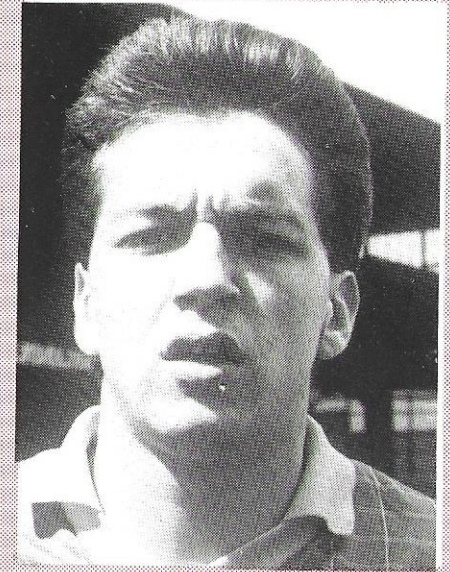


Kildare Minor Captain Glen Ryan.



Meath Minor Captain Enda McManus.

CHUN TOSAIGH - AHEAD OF THE PACK



Brendan Reilly (Meath).

It is unlikely that any member of the Dublin team today will be aware of the fact that not alone will they be striving to retain the title they won last year, but that they will also be trying, in the longer term, to preserve Dublin's proud record of having won more All-Ireland senior titles than the rest of Leinster combined.

This has always been the position, from the moment that Dublin won their first All-Ireland in 1891; but the 'lead' which often ran to seven or eight titles is now down to the precarious minimum. Meath's success in 1988 left the position — Dublin 21 — the Rest 20 — Meath (5), Wexford (5), Kildare (4), Louth (3), Offaly (3).

In respect of Leinster titles Dublin have won 39 to the 'Rest's' 64 — Meath being second in line with 13 titles.

Best Wishes to Meath from

LEINSTER FARM MACHINES LTD.

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CARRANSTOWN, DULEEK, CO. MEATH

Tel.: (041) 23549 / 23258

BIG WINS

Meath's huge semi-final win over Laois recalls feats in the past when the margin of victory in Leinster championship games ran well into double figures. Both today's finalists have experienced the satisfaction of facile wins and the despair of heavy reverses.

Such has been the standing of Meath and Dublin for many years now that 'defeat on the double' has not been experienced by any member of the present teams, but a glance through the records shows that overwhelming victory and shattering defeat came to all counties in due time.

Hereunder are listed the games won — and lost — by big margins (15 points and over) by Dublin and Meath teams since the beginning of the championship more than one hundred years ago.

Dublin — Wins:

- 1890 — First Round at Clonturk Park: Dublin 6—11, Westmeath 0—2 ... 27 points.
 1891 — Semi-final at Clonturk Park: Dublin 4—11, Wicklow 0—0 ... 23 points.
 1899 — First Round, Kilkenny: Dublin 7—17, Laois 0—3 ... 35 points.
 1902 — First Round, Jones' Road: Dublin 1—16, Wicklow 1—0 ... 16 points.
 All-Ireland Semi-final, Drogheda: Dublin 4—16, Armagh 1—6 ... 19 points.
 1921 — First Round, Croke Park: Dublin 3—6, Meath 0—0 ... 15 points.
 1942 — Second Round, Croke Park: Dublin 2—15, Longford 1—3 ... 15 points.
 1955 — Final, Croke Park: Dublin 5—12, Meath 0—7 ... 20 points.
 1960 — Second Round, Mullingar: Dublin 10—13, Longford 3—8 ... 26 points.

- 1961 — Semi-final, Navan: Dublin 4—14, Meath 1—7 ... 16 points.
 1973 — First Round, Wexford: Dublin 3—11, Wexford 0—5 ... 15 points.
 1976 — Quarter-final, Mullingar: Dublin 5—16, Longford 0—7 ... 24 points.
 1978 — Quarter-final, Carlow: Dublin 6—15, Carlow 2—9 ... 18 points.
 1979 — Quarter-final, Navan: Dublin 4—16, Louth 0—4 ... 24 points.
 1984 — First Round, Croke Park: Dublin 4—12, Wexford 0—9 ... 15 points.
 1985 — Quarter-final, Wexford: Dublin 4—13, Wexford 0—7 ... 18 points.
 1987 — Semi-final, Newbridge: Dublin 2—18, Wicklow 0—6 ... 18 points.
 1988 — Semi-final, Mullingar: Dublin 4—15, Longford 0—9 ... 18 points.
... and Defeats
 1903 — First Round, Geashill: Kildare 3—11, Dublin 0—3 ... 17 points.
 1978 — All-Ireland Final: Kerry 5—11, Dublin 0—9 ... 18 points.

Meath Wins:

- 1950 — Second Round, Croke Park: Meath 6—8, Wicklow 0—3 ... 23 points.
 1951 — Final, Croke Park: Meath 4—9, Laois 0—3 ... 18 points.
 1966 — First Round, Croke Park: Meath 4—15, Wexford 0—3 ... 24 points.
 1979 — First Round, Navan: Meath 6—19, Kilkenny 0—3 ... 34 points.
 1980 — Quarter-final, Tullamore: Meath 4—12, Westmeath 1—5 ... 16 points.

HEAVY DEFEATS

- 1990 — Semi-final, Croke Park: Meath 4—14, Laois 0—6 ... 20 points.

and Defeats:

- 1900 — First Round, Drogheda: Louth 6—19, Meath 0—5 ... 32 points.
 1916 — Semi-final, Croke Park: Wexford 6—5, Meath 1—2 ... 18 points.

- 1921 — First Round, Croke Park: Dublin 3—6, Meath 0—0 ... 15 points.
 1925 — First Round, Croke Park: Wexford 4—9, Meath 0—3 ... 18 points.
 1955 — Final, Croke Park: Dublin 5—12, Meath 0—7 ... 20 points.
 1961 — Semi-final, Navan: Dublin 4—14, Meath 1—7 ... 16 points.



"Testing the texture of the jersey". Mick Galvin (Dublin) extreme right, watches at teammate Joe McNally (15) is "well held" by an unidentified Wicklow hand.

Eolas An Deichniuir *Data Of Decade*

Although Meath, in terms of success in National competitions, was the most successful of all the Leinster counties, going on the actual number of games contested Dublin certainly presented the most impressive championship presence in the decade recently ended. Outside the big three, the most active county was Kildare who played a total of 20 games, but their return for all this activity was meagre indeed, as they failed, for the first time in this century, to reach at least one final in a ten-year period.

Effectively there were only eleven counties in contention during the Eighties, as Kilkenny after 1982, dropped back to junior ranks.

In the matter of championship games won Dublin, with 23 wins and Carlow with

two victories occupy opposite ends of the chart.

The complete record of 'Leinster' 80's reads:

	Pl.	W	D	L
Dublin	30	23	1	6
Offaly	26	17	2	7
Meath	24	16	1	7
Kildare	20	8	2	10
Louth	17	7	—	10
Wicklow	17	6	1	10
Longford	15	5	—	10
Laois	15	5	—	10
Westmeath	15	4	1	10
Wexford	15	4	1	10
Carlow	12	2	—	10
Kilkenny	3	—	—	3

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Best of Luck to Meath

PLAYER OF THE PAST - JOHN TIMMONS (DUBLIN)



JOHN TIMMONS.

Those of us who were fortunate enough to be around from the mid-Fifties to the mid-Sixties when John Timmons was in his prime will happily recall many of his great displays at club and inter-county level. He was born in Crumlin, Dublin, and in his early years he and his brother, Joe when living in Wicklow came to prominence with the Annacurra Club, Wicklow, at Junior and Intermediate level. When Wicklow won the O'Byrne Cup for the first time in 1955 John played at full forward winning his first Inter-County medal. Wicklow's second success in the same competition came in 1957 and again John figured on the team. Around this time both John and Joe had taken up residence in Dublin and while playing for the City team Seán McDermotts, they came under the notice of the Dublin selectors in 1958. They both won Leinster and All-Ireland medals with Dublin that year, John at midfield. John repeated this performance in 1963 together with a Grounds Tournament medal, again at midfield.

In 1962 and 1964 he won Railway Cup medals with Leinster and he also played on the winning Ireland team against the Combined Universities in 1962. Known as "Big John" he was of huge physique with an amazing burst of speed for such a heavy man — he was a strong player and a brilliant free taker who could find the posts from any angle.

This latter trait was borne out one day in a match Dublin played against Laois in the Leinster Championship in Dr. Cullen Park, Carlow. It was a needle match for John because, on the Laois team was Noel Delaney, whose sister, John was to marry sometime after. During the game and at a time when scores were hard to come by Dublin were awarded a free some sixty yards or more from the Laois goal and

adjacent to the sideline. In the silence that preceded John taking the kick a Dublin 'wag' amongst a fair number of his country cousins yelled out at the top of his voice "Point it yourself John". This gave rise to a lot of ragging and jeering from the crowd but John, in his own characteristic way, walked up to the ball and he may not have kicked it but he thudded it over the bar for an amazing point. He turned to the crowd as if endeavouring to identify the person who shouted the advice to him. He hadn't his fingers crossed preparatory to giving the "V" sign or his fist clenched to give the dummy sign as the players do to-day but he had a big grin on his face which spoke volumes.

First Time Exits

With Dublin and Meath threatening to monopolise the final day scene at Croke Park, it isn't easy to recall the last occasion on which these counties failed to survive the opening joust of the championship. For Dublin that occasion is almost 20 years in the past — in 1971 when they were beaten, 3—8 to 0—13 by Laois at Carlow. The last time Meath fell at the first fence was much more recent, when they were dismissed by Longford, 0—12 to 0—11 at Tullamore in 1982.

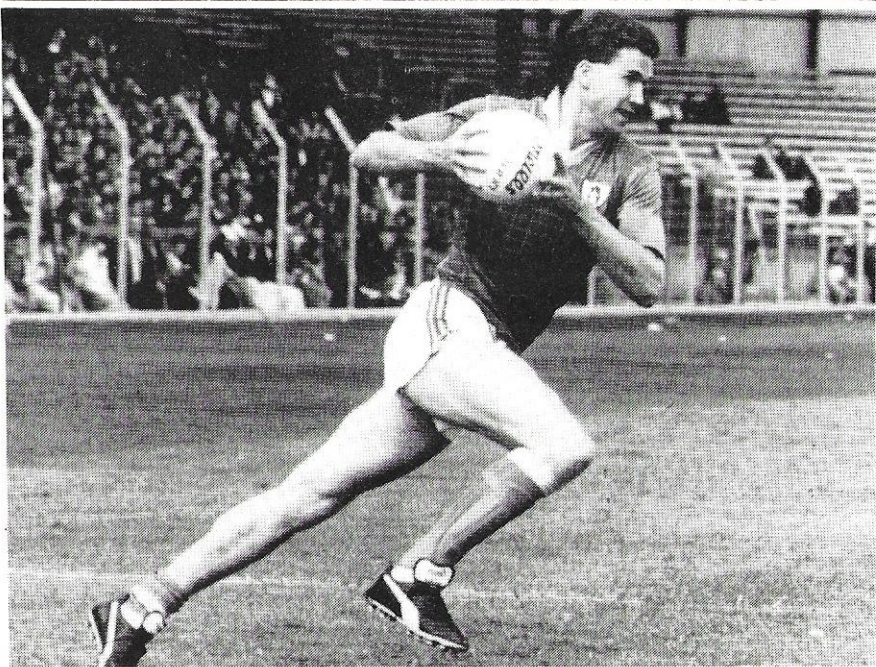
Dubs Gnothach - Busy Dubs

Nowadays most counties would be reluctant to play two vital championship matches on successive Sundays, and indeed, those responsible for arranging important ties would go to any lengths to avoid placing any county in such a position.

Footballers of an earlier age, however, would scorn this attitude — at least the great Dublin team of the 1890's would, to go on their record. In the 1891 championship they played and won, the semi-final and All-Ireland final on the one afternoon, and when the following year's championship came around they gave another demonstration of their durability by taking part

in three important ties (it could well have been four) in the space of 15 days. This remarkable feat was performed in March 1893. On the 12th, at Clonturk Park they beat Kildare in the Leinster semi-final, with the final listed for the same afternoon; ready and willing to play a second hour, Dublin were given a walk over by Louth. The following Sunday Dublin were in Athlone where they overwhelmed Roscommon in the All-Ireland semi-final, and on the 26th they took on Kerry in the final at Clonturk where they won their second title by 1—4 to 0—3.

It is doubtful if any team could boast of a comparable feat.



In full flight! Meath's Liam Hayes.

The Laois team, beaten 4-14 to 0-6, by Meath in the semi-final. Back row: left to right, Michael Turley, Joe Nolan, Martin Dempsey, Tony McMahon, Michael Dempsey, Eamonn Lacey, George Doyle, Leo Turley. Front row: left to right, Tony Maher, Tom Corry, John O'Connell, Pat Roe, Denis Laird, Noel Roe, Tommy Smith.



G.A.A. DEVELOPMENT IN TALLAGHT

In 1986 the Underage Committee established by Comhairle Laighean, in a wide ranging report, "Ógánaigh into the 1990's with G.A.A. Youth", highlighted the opportunities for G.A.A. development in new urban areas.

Dublin County Board, took up the challenge. A carefully prepared proposal involving tri-partite support of Central Council, Leinster Council and the Dublin County Board was approved in 1987.

The Dublin County Board enlisted the help of representatives from existing G.A.A. Clubs in Tallaght, of teachers, primary and secondary, from schools in the area in an interim working group which undertook essential preparatory ground work. By early 1988 information had been compiled on which decisions could be taken on the formation of parish based, school linked, new underage units. The plan focussed on the school going population, particularly on the 17,000 primary school children.

The Dublin County Board set up the Tallaght League, representatives of nine newly identified units with catchment areas ranging from 5,000 to 8,000 population. Three were linked to the "home" parishes of existing clubs. A major support factor in these formative years has been the sponsorship by Allied Irish Banks of a full-time Development Officer whose work began in April 1988.

Now preparing for its third year of activity all nine units participate at under 10, under 11 and under 12 levels. Some units field under 13 and 14 teams. The five year target is for games for each age group from under 10 to under 16. Currently about 650 boys play, on average, about 30 games each between September and Junr. Hurling is growing in popularity in an area where, among existing clubs, football was predominant.

Off season activities include games trips to other counties, "within club" leagues and coaching. Our thanks to parents, other adult club members, teachers agus na h-ógánaigí féin a mbíonn na cluichí a imirt acu. A special thanks to Allied Irish Banks for its help.

Much remains to be done if we consider a primary school population of 8,500 boys. However, má's fíor gur "tosach maith leath na h-oibre" the outlook must be encouraging.

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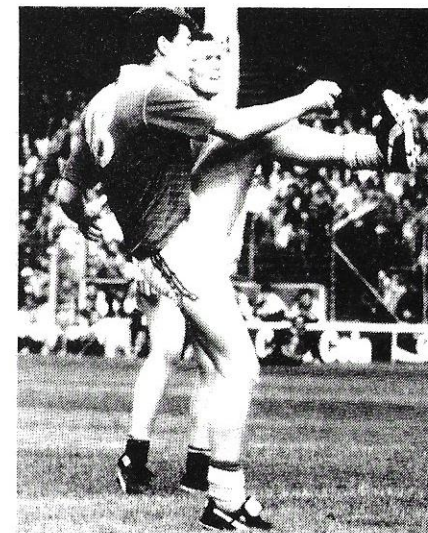
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DO-CHLOITE — IMPREGNABLE

The word "impregnable" is often used by sportswriters to describe an outstanding defensive setup... and more often than not the scribes tend to exaggerate. But the writers who so described the Dublin rearguard which helped to win the 1922 All-Ireland were as close to the exact truth as it is possible to get in sport, as in a five-match campaign they conceded an aggregate score of only 0-10.

The details of this astonishing performance are: beat Louth by 1-7 to 0-2; beat Kildare by 2-5 to 0-2; beat Kilkenny by 1-7 to 0-2; beat Monaghan by 2-5 to 0-0 and Galway in the final by 0-6 to 0-4.

It was said at the time that the only time Johnny McDonnell in the Dublin goal handled the ball during the year was when he placed it for the odd kick out!



Meat sub. Tommy Dowd tries for a point under the watchful eye of "the master" Brian Stafford — a shot from the semi-final v. Laois.

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The Wicklow team, beaten 2-14 to 0-12, by Dublin in the semi-final. Back row, left to right, Billy Kelly, Pat Baker, Hugh Kenny, Seamus Morris, Pat O'Byrne, Fergus Daly, Ashley O'Sullivan, Philip Healy. Front row, left to right, Dermot O'Brien, Robert McHugh, John Walshe, Conan Daye, Terry Allen, Mick Murtagh, Philip McGillicuddy.



Michael Turley (Laois) centre, is "closed down" by the Meath defence in this semi-final action. Meath players pictured are Mick Lyons (3), Liam Harnan, Robbie O'Malley and Kevin Foley on ground.

RICHARD BRENNAN

Turf Accountant

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"My ball". Mick Deegan (Dublin) beats Kevin O'Brien (Wicklow) to the ball in the semi-final.

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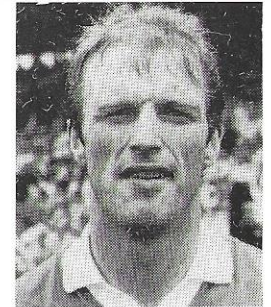
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Best Wishes to Meath

IN TWO PROVINCES

Over the past four years former Kildare player, Larry Tompkins has been making history in the Cork jersey, repeatedly returning some marvellous feats of marksmanship from frees and play. Ten years ago he was performing similar feats for Kildare in the Leinster minor football championship, and though his efforts were not crowned with either a Leinster or All-Ireland medal, he was easily the outstanding score-getter of the 1980 campaign, emerging not alone as the top scorer in the provincial final against Meath, but the best overall marksman of the competition with a total of 0—28 — eleven points ahead of his nearest rival — from four games.

As he has since been top scorer for Cork



in several Munster finals, Larry Tompkins enjoys the distinction of being the only player ever to be the best marksman in provincial finals in two provinces.

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AMISITHEOIRÍ CRUINNE — MARKSMEN OF THE DECADE

In terms of championship success the 1980's were dominated by three counties — Offaly in the early years and Dublin and Meath subsequently. The three counties had their outstanding marksmen when victory was being fashioned at every stage of the championship — Matt Connor, Barney Rock and Brian Stafford repeatedly making the headlines; but almost every county in the province had at least one outstanding score-getter, no matter what fortune held in store for that county — men like Larry Tompkins (Kildare), Martin Hendrick (Wexford), Jim McDonnell (Louth), Pat Baker (Wicklow), John McCormack (Longford), and John Ramsbottom (Laois).

Although his career ended tragically before the half-way stage of the decade was reached, the Offaly man's 2—8 in the 1980 semi-final with Kildare remained the best individual scoring feat of the period. Barney Rock's 1—9 against Longford at Tullamore in the 1982 quarter-final, ties with Tom Prendergast's 3—3 against Kildare (also in the '82 quarter-final and also at Tullamore) for second place.

Notable absentees from the list of top scorers in the Eighties are Colm O'Rourke and Finian Murtagh, though both of them came within a point of making the chart.

In all 14 players qualify for inclusion (scoring nine points or more) with Matt Connor accounting for an astonishing eight entries. Barney Rock gains five spots, the nearest player of any to the great Offalyman.

The complete list reads:

Matt Connor (Offaly) 2—8 v. Kildare at Croke Park (1980 semi-final).

Tom Prendergast (Laois) 3—3 v. Kildare at Tullamore (1981 quarter-final).

Barney Rock (Dublin) 1—9 v. Longford at Tullamore (1981 quarter-final).

Matt Connor (Offaly) 1—8 v. Kildare at Navan (1983 semi-final).

Barney Rock (Dublin) 0—11 v. Westmeath at Croke Park (1987 quarter-final).

Matt Connor (Offaly) 2—5 v. Longford at Croke Park (1984 quarter-final replay).

John McCormack (Longford) 1—8 v. Wicklow at Longford (1988 quarter-final).

Matt Connor (Offaly) 1—7 v. Dublin at Croke Park (1980 final).

Kevin Dawe (Louth) 2—4 v. Laois at Croke Park (1981 first round).

GerPower (Kildare) 2—4 v. Kilkenny at Nowlan Park (1982 first round).

Matt Connor (Offaly) 1—7 v. Dublin at Croke Park (1983 final).

Jim McDonnell (Louth) 1—7 v. Westmeath at Croke Park (1983 first round).

John McCormack (Longford) 1—7 v. Carlow at Tullamore (1983 first round).

Barney Rock (Dublin) 2—4 v. Wexford at Croke Park (1984 quarter-final).

Martin Hendrick (Wexford) 1—7 v. Kildare at Wexford (1986 first round).

Brian Stafford (Meath) 0—10 v. Kildare at Tullamore (1989 semi-final).

Brian Stafford (Meath) 1—7 v. Offaly at Croke Park (1989 semi-final).

Tommy Shaw (Kildare) 1—6 v. Wicklow at Croke Park (1980 quarter-final).

Matt Connor (Offaly) 0—9 v. Westmeath at Mullingar (1981 second round).

Larry Tompkins (Kildare) 2—3 v. Longford at Tullamore (1983 quarter-final).

Matt Connor (Offaly) 0—9 v. Laois at Tullamore (1982 semi-final).

Barney Rock (Dublin) 2—3 v. Meath at Croke Park (1983 quarter-final).

John Ramsbottom (Laois) 0—9 v. Carlow at Carlow (1984 first round).

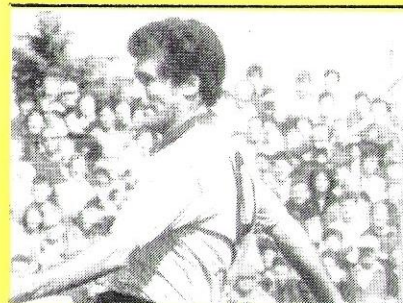
Matt Connor (Offaly) 0—9 v. Longford at Longford (1984 quarter-final).

Kevin O'Brien (Wicklow) 2—3 v. Laois at Aughrim (1986 quarter-final).

Pat Baker (Wicklow) 0—9 v. Longford at Aughrim (1989 first round).

DUAL CONFRONTATION

Dublin's feat in qualifying for both Leinster finals has been rightly hailed far and wide. But in a sense this is merely reverting to what was once regarded as the norm, as in almost every decade since the founding of the G.A.A. Dublin not alone contested, but won provincial finals in both codes. Dublin wasn't the only Leinster county to present a creditable challenge on two fronts as Wexford, Kilkenny, Laois and Offaly at various times over the years featuring in both provincial deciders. Strangely, in view of the number of counties capable of challenging for both titles in times past, on only three occasions were there dual confrontations in the Leinster finals. These were in 1899 when Dublin and Wexford were double finalists and in 1904 and 1922 when Dublin and Kilkenny were in opposition on both counts. In all three cases the honours were divided — Dublin winning the football and losing in hurling.



Dublin forward Kieran Duff



Scorer in chief — Brian Stafford, Meath.

PENALTY POINTS

The above caption does not refer to points scored from penalties, but rather to the experience of some famous Kildare and Meath names with 'spot-kicks' in Leinster minor football finals.

In the 1975 clash of these counties, Colm O'Rourke netted two kicks against Eamonn Costello, a feat that earned him the distinction of being the only player ever to convert two penalties in a Leinster under-18 final. In the 1980 final referee, Cormac Lally awarded three penalties — two of them to Meath, which were wided by midfielders, Tom Matthews and Liam Hayes. The Kildare 'spot-kick' was taken, surprisingly, not by Larry Tompkins, the side's regular place kicker, but by the captain, Shay Fahy who drove unerringly to the net for his team's only goal of the hour.

Despite the misses, Meath still managed to emerge winners. Penalty "shoot-outs" aren't always decisive.

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To play in two national finals on successive Sundays sounds like a tall order, but the Meath team of 40 years ago could take such an assignment in their stride as they demonstrated in 1951, when having contested the All-Ireland final with Mayo on September 23rd at Croke Park they were at the Polo Grounds, New York the following Sunday where they overcame the 'locals' by a goal margin to win the 1950—51 National League title. Unfortunately for Meath that was not the 'second leg' of a double as they had lost the All-Ireland to Mayo — a contributory factor undoubtedly being the vaccination they had to undergo for the American trip.



Concentration! Éamonn Heery (Dublin) goes on a semi-final solo run.

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GO LEOR FADHBANNA AG NA SCOILEANNA



Le Seamus Ó Faoláin.

Tugadh, tugtar agus im thuairim, tabharfar moladh faoi leith ag ceannairí, nó mar déarfadh "An Seanchaí" as Cill Dara, "Boic Mhóra" Chumann Lúithchleas Gael de bharr fás agus forbairt ár gcumann ó 1888 i leith. Aithním láithreach go raibh go leor cúntóirí toilteanacha acu ach marach na múinteoirí, na Bráithre Criostaí agus na hOird Bheannaithe eile, an mbeimis chomh láidir inniu? Seans mhaith nach mbeadh.

Tá an-eagras ar na Bunscoileanna faoi láthair; coiste gníomhach agus go leor cluichí á imirt ar fud na tíre acu. Is fás suntasach é seo, tá an bhunchloch slán; caithfidimid aire a thabhairt di.

Cad faoi na meánscoileanna agus na ceardscoileanna? Is féidir liom caint réasúnta údárasach faoi na Meánscoileanna. B'fhéidir go bhfuil na deachrachaí céanna ag na ceardscoileanna. Le teacht na mbusanna agus na múinteoirí P.E. — admháim go bhfuil obair an mhaith ar siúl ag na Muinteoirí P.E. do spórt fré chéile — ach táimid ag caint faoi pheil, iomáint, camogie agus liathróid láimhe go príomhdha.

Tarlaíonn sé réasúnta minic nach bhfuil an oiread sin suime ag na múinteoirí P.E. in ár gcluichí agus láithreach **screadaim ós ard** nach bhfuil, mar atá cúrsaí, dualgas orthu tús áite a thabhairt dár gcluichí. Fágaim sin tromualach traenáil fóirne ar mhúinteoirí atá gafa cheana féin ag ranganna "damanta" — ag busanna etc. Arís admháim go bhfuil cuid den obair seo ar siúl ag múinteoirí P.E. Bíonn ar na muinteoirí eile dul ag treanáil am lóin, ag deiridh seachtaine agus ag amanta míshóisialta eile. Agus imrítear thart fé 3,000 cluichí gach bliain.

Tagann ansin, lá na gcluichí agus caithfead a rá go bhfuil líon an-mhór cluichí ann. Caithfidh na múinteoirí bochta na hardmháistrí a phlámású, caithfidh siad a geomhhuínteoirí a phlámású lena ranganna a thógaint, busanna a eagrú, réiteoir a fháil agus páirc imeartha leath slí idir na foirne a fháil. Foighne! Cinnte is laochra C.L.G. iad na múinteoirí?

Bhí go leor deachrachaí ag na coláistí anuraidh maidir le páirceanna a fháil agus murach an comhoibriú an comhaibriú a fuair siad ó na clubanna thíos — agus admháim nach bhfuil an liosta lán — n'fheadar an n-imreofaí na cluichí go léir: **Swords, Lusk, Stamullen, Carlow C.B.S., Portlaoise, Kinnegad, St. Loman's Mullingar, Cullion, Bunbrosna, Johnstown, Trim, Naas, Cappagh, Castletown-Geoghegan, Kílcóck, Athy, Summerhill, Mountmellick, Timahoe, Dicksboro, Carlow Hurling Club, Graigcullen, Grange, Rush, Blessinton, Skerries** agus is cinnte go bhfuil áiteann fágtha ar lár again. Maith dom!

Níor luaigh mé na Coláistí Tríú Léibhéal nó na hOllscoileanna? Ta **6,039** fear ag freastal ar U.C.D. As an uimhir sin tá **210** ag imirt peile agus iomána, 8 bhfoirne acu, an leor san? Dúshlán? Ní féidir a sheanadh go mba cheart go mbeidh **ceannairí** nua do C.L.G. ag teacht as U.C.D. Dúshlán eile do Chomhairle Laighean.

FINALS BY

1960: Offaly 0—10, Louth 1—6.

Years of unrewarded endeavour, often in bitterly frustrating circumstances, were at last crowned with success when, at Croke Park, on July 31st, 1960, Offaly's footballers brought the first ever Senior provincial title to the county when they defeated Louth by a single point (0—10 to 1—6) before an attendance of 35,264.

The game got under way in drenching rain and Louth were first to score — a point from a Kevin Behan free in the second minute. Twelve minutes passed before there was another score and, again, it went to Behan from a 50 yards free. The first point from play came in the 18th minute when Tony O'Rourke finished a good Louth move to make it 0—3 to nil.

Offaly opened their account in the 20th minute when Seán Brerton punched a point and Tommy Greene made it two before Behan and George Carroll replied for Louth. Har Donnelly then pointed an Offaly free but in the dying seconds of the half John Egan picked up a ground shot by Jackie Reynolds and Behan crashed home the resultant penalty to leave Louth leading 1—4 to 0—3 at half-time.

Two points off frees by Har Donnelly, a punched point from Mick Casey, and an overhead point by Donie O'Hanlon brought Offaly level inside five minutes of the second half. By the 40th minute they had forged ahead when Har Donnelly pointed a free.

Louth hit back to regain the lead with points from Jim McDonnell and Jackie Reynolds and it seemed as if the Offaly effort had spent itself. But, as if stung into action, they put in a strong finish and after Donnelly levelled from a free it was team Captain O'Hanlon who scored what proved to be a winning point. A desperate Louth attack was beaten off and, in the closing minutes Offaly were in control but unable to consolidate their one point margin.

Offaly: Willie Nolan, Paddy McCormack, Greg Hughes, John Egan, Phil O'Reilly, Mick Brady, Seán Ryan, Seán Foran, Charlie Wrenn, Donie O'Hanlon, Seán Brerton, Tommy Greene, Mick Casey, Pat Carey, Har Donnelly.

Louth: Seán Flood, Ollie O'Reilly, George Carroll, Jim Meehan, Patsy Coleman, Jim McArdle, Stephen White, John McArdle, Frank Lynch, John Woods, Kevin Behan, Tony

O'Rourke, Paddy Geraghty, Jackie Reynolds, Jim McDonnell. Sub.: Jim Duffy.
Referee: Brian Smyth, Meath.

1970: Meath 2—22, Offaly 5—12.

The Leinster Senior Football Championship final of twenty years ago saw Meath capture their 12th title before a crowd of 32,085, at Croke Park, on July 19th, 1970. This was the first 80 minute provincial decider and it was a truly fantastic game that had the large crowd limp with excitement right up to the final whistle.

Meath, who wore Longford jerseys, opened in sparkling fashion and by the 13th minute they had scored five points without reply. After 15 minutes they led 0—6 to 0—1 and, at that stage Offaly's Leinster crown seemed bound for Boyneside.

Then came a brilliant Johnny Cooney goal for Offaly and the men in the tricoloured jerseys simple "went mad". Willie Bryan and Kevin Claffey took control in the middle of the park and the attack played ducks and drakes with a sluggish Meath defence.

In the space of 25 minutes they scored 4—7 to 0—9 — the game seemed as good as over.

When the teams reappeared Meath showed several changes but when Offaly went eleven points clear with a Paddy Fenning point Meath's case looked hopeless. But, their forwards continued to pick off points and in the 55th minute the score read 4—11 to 0—16 in Offaly's favour.

Next came an amazing burst of scoring that rocked the title bearers and put the blue jerseyed Meathmen right back into contention. The Meath resurgence began with a Mickey Fay goal and inside 30 seconds Fay struck with another goal and the teams were level when Mick Mellett swung over a point. Kieran Claffey regained the lead for Offaly but Tony Brennan equalised and then Meath went three points in front with scores from Tony Brennan, Matt Kerrigan and Ken Rennicks and only seven minutes remained on the clock.

With five minutes to go Offaly stunned the Meath support with a Willie Bryan goal and it was all square again. Both sides fought desper-

TEN

ately to get in front and just when it looked like ending in stalemate Tony Brennan took a pass from Matt Kerrigan and sent over the winner with a minute left to play.

Meath: Seán McCormack, Bertie Cunningham, Jack Quinn (Capt.), Peter Black, Mick White, Terry Kearns, Pat Reynolds, Vincent Foley, Vincent Lynch, Tony Brennan, Matt Kerrigan, Mick Mellett, Ken Rennicks, Joe Murphy, Ollie Shanley. Subs.: Mickey Fay and Peter Moore.

Offaly: Martin Furlong, Eugene Mulligan (Capt.), John Smith, John Egan, Nicholas Clavin, Larry Coughlan, Paddy Monaghan, Kieran Claffey, Willie Bryan, Paddy Fenning, Johnny Cooney, Tony McTeague, Pat Keenan, Matt Connor, Jody Gunning. Subs.: Jimmy O'Hanlon, Seán Kilroy and Willie Molloy.

Referee: Brendan Hayden, Carlow.

1980 Offaly 1—10, Dublin 1—8.

A fortnight after their hurlers had written themselves into the history books, Offaly footballers completed a notable double when they took the football title with a 1—10 to 1—8 win over Dublin, at Croke Park, on July 27th, 1980. A crowd of 60,000 saw the game.

It was Stephen Rooney who opened the scoring with a Dublin point and, after five minutes of play, they got a tremendous boost from a Bobby Doyle goal. Even though they continued to dominate Dublin just didn't get the scores and Offaly opened their account when Matt Connor pointed a free.

Dublin had numerous wides before David Hickey gave them their second point in the 22nd minute. Martin Furlong, the Offaly goalkeeper, was in fine form as he denied the Dublin attack time and time again before Johnny Mooney fed Matt Connor for Offaly's second point. Again Dublin hit back with points from Barney Rock (2) and Bobby Doyle to leave the half-time score, Dublin 1—5, Offaly 0—2.

Offaly made positional changes for the second-half and within seconds of the restart they had two points from Matt Connor frees. Barney Rock had a Dublin point and with 30 minutes left Offaly were five points down. It stayed that way for a further five minutes until Matt Connor tore through the Dublin defence

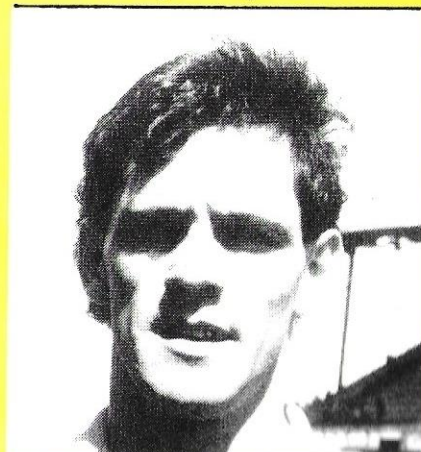
for a great goal. A point from the same player brought Offaly within a point of Dublin in the 41st minute. Mick Wright, from a free brought the sides level and the game was up for grabs.

Within a short time Offaly went ahead when Aidan O'Halloran pointed but, with twelve minutes to go, Tommy Drumm brought the sides level again. Offaly had points from O'Halloran and Gerry Carroll. John Caffrey and Matt Connor exchanged points to give Offaly a narrow but thoroughly deserved victory over the reigning champions who were seeking their seventh successive title.

Offaly: Martin Furlong, Eugene Mulligan, Richie Connor (Capt.), Ollie Minnock, Pat Fitzgerald, Mick Wright, Liam Currans, Tomás Connor, Gerry Carroll, Aidan O'Halloran, Kevin Kilmurray, Pat Fenning, Matt Connor, Seán Lowry, Johnny Mooney. Sub.: Christy Conroy.

Dublin: John O'Leary, Mick Kennedy, Mick Holden, Robbie Kelleher, Tommy Drumm, Fran Ryder, P. J. Buckley, Bernard Brogan, Stephen Rooney, Anton O'Toole (Capt.), Jim Roynane, David Hickey, Bobby Doyle, John Caffrey, Kieran Duff. Subs.: Barney Rock and Pat O'Neill.

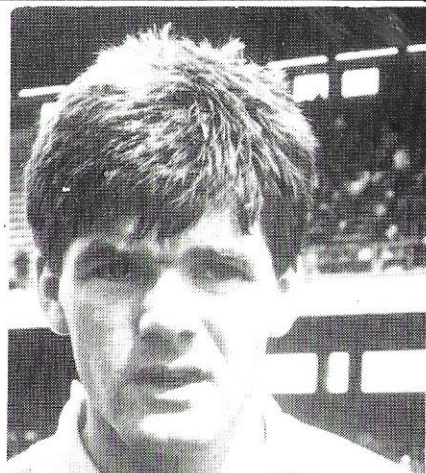
Referee: Paddy Kavanagh (Meath).



David Beggy (Meath).

FORWARDS OFF FORM

Whatever the outcome of today's final it is most unlikely that either set of forwards will experience the frustration that their predecessors knew almost 80 years ago. When Dublin and Meath met in the 1911 semi-final at Jones' Road both teams had forwards as good as any that were around at the time, and wind-aided Meath turned over with a lead of 2-2 to 0-1. When Dublin's turn came to have use of the elements, however, a blight descended on their attack and they could manage to add only one point to their half-time score. Meath could do no better; in fact, they did the same — scoring one point in the period. But the Royal County's first-half efforts were sufficient to carry the day as they progressed to the final on the score of 2-3 to 0-2, the losers' tally being the smallest ever recorded by a Dublin attack against this particular opposition in this century.



Meath Dangerman — P. J. Gillic.

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