

**Pairc An Chrócaigh,
9 Bealtaine 1993**

Clár Oifigiúil **Luach £1**

Kian O'Mahon

Ard Stiúrthóir

ROYAL LIVER ASSURANCE

National Football League

Final Ath-Imirt 1992/93

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Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

Cluiche Ceannais Craobh Peile Laighean Fé - 21

An Mhí v. Baile Átha Cliath

2.15 i.n. Réiteoir: P. Kelleher (Cill Mhantáin)

.....

National Football League Final Replay

Baile Átha Cliath v. Dún na nGall

3.30 i.n. Réiteoir: B. White (Loch Garman)

**Extra Time must be played in the
event of a draw at full time**

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- Treatment Ambulance - rear of Section 10
- Upper Cusack - rear of Section N
- Treatment Ambulance - rear of Section 10
- Hill 16 Treatment Ambulance - rear of Terrace behind Medical Centre
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- First Aid crew on pitch in front of Nally Stand and at Dressing Room Entrance
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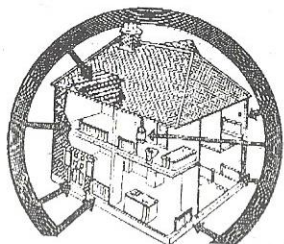
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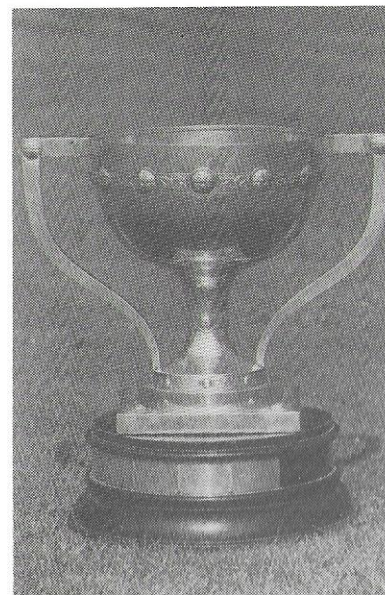
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Tel. 073 22052



Brian White (Loch Garman) is a member of the Rathgahogue/Cushinstown club, and he has been refereeing for around six years. He was the man in the middle when Tyrone beat Roscommon at Breffni Park last April on the same day that Donegal lost to Dublin in Royal Liver National League quarter-finals.

Later in the year he took charge of the Leinster senior football final, in which Dublin beat Kildare. He played hurling and football with his club, and represented Wexford at minor and under-21 level. He refereed the National Football League quarter-final between Donegal and Derry on Easter Sunday last and of course was the man in the middle at the drawn game in Croke Park last Sunday.



National Football League Title Winners

15: Kerry:	1928, 1929, 1931, 1932, 1959, 1961, 1963, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1977, 1982, 1984.
10: Mayo:	1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1941, 1949, 1954, 1970.
7: Dublin:	1953, 1955, 1958, 1976, 1978, 1987, 1991.
6: Meath:	1933, 1946, 1951, 1975, 1988, 1990.
4: Cork:	1952, 1956, 1980, 1989.
Down:	1960, 1962, 1968, 1983.
Galway:	1940, 1957, 1965, 1981.
3: New York:	1950, 1964, 1967.
2: Derry:	1947, 1992.
Laois:	1927, 1986.
1: Cavan:	1948.
Longford:	1966.
Monaghan:	1985.
Roscommon:	1979.

The National Football League was suspended from 1942 to 1945 due to World War II.

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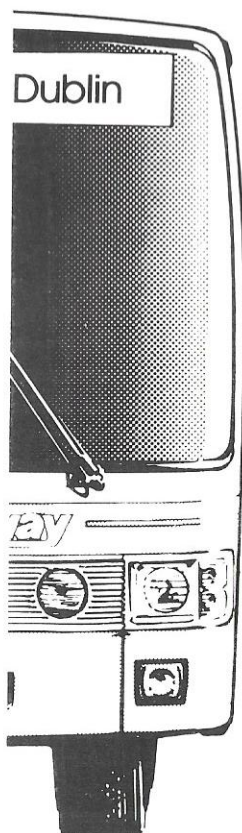
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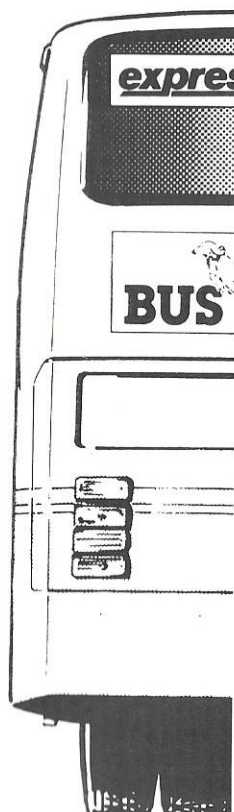
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RESULTS

First Round to Final

FIRST ROUND - OCTOBER 18TH

Ballybofey:	Donegal	1-9;	Kildare	0-6
Pearse Park:	Leitrim	1-12;	Longford	2-5
Páirc Uí				
Chaoimh:	Cork	4-15;	Cavan	2-7
Thurles:	Tipperary	3-12;	Carlow	0-10

Croke Park:	Derry	0-11;	Dublin	0-9
Páirc Na Gael:	Louth	1-11;	Limerick	2-7
Wexford Park:	Wexford	2-12;	Sligo	0-6
Ballinasloe:	Galway	2-10;	Antrim	0-8

Athletic				
Grounds:	Laois	1-11;	Armagh	1-4
Castlebar:	Mayo	2-12;	Tyrone	1-11
Austin Stack				
Park:	Kerry	0-17;	Wicklow	1-11
Irvinestown:	Fermanagh	1-13;	Kilkenny	1-3

Ballybay:	Monaghan	2-10;	Offaly	1-13
Páirc An Iúir:	Down	0-10;	Meath	0-10
Cusack Park:	Clare	0-8;	Roscommon	0-8
Portlaoise:	Westmeath	1-10;	Waterford	1-8

SECOND ROUND - NOVEMBER 1ST

Cullen Park:	Donegal	0-12;	Carlow	0-5
Carrick-on				
-Shannon:	Leitrim	0-11;	Cork	0-11
Newbridge:	Kildare	0-19;	Tipperary	1-12
Breffni Park:	Cavan	1-10;	Longford	1-6

Markievicz				
Park:	Dublin	0-18;	Sligo	0-8
Casement Park:	Antrim	0-11;	Limerick	0-10
Ballinascreen:	Derry	2-8;	Wexford	1-8
Drogheda:	Louth	1-11;	Galway	1-11

Portlaoise:	Kerry	2-15;	Laois	0-16
Aughrim:	Wicklow	1-8;	Armagh	0-8
Nowlan Park:	Mayo	4-19;	Kilkenny	0-2
Omagh:	Fermanagh	0-8;	Tyrone	0-6

O'Connor Park:	Offaly	2-9;	Down	1-12
Athlone:	Clare	2-12;	Westmeath	3-8
Navan:	Meath	1-11;	Monaghan	0-11
Kiltoom:	Roscommon	0-9;	Waterford	0-7

THIRD ROUND - NOVEMBER 15TH

Croke Park:	Dublin	1-8;	Louth	0-9
Páirc Na Gael:	Derry	1-14;	Limerick	1-8
Tuam:	Galway	1-9;	Sligo	1-7
Gorey:	Wexford	3-7;	Antrim	1-12

Ballyshannon:	Donegal	1-14;	Leitrim	0-6
Pearse Park:	Kildare	1-13;	Longford	1-7
Páirc Uí				
Chaoimh:	Cork	2-16;	Carlow	0-0
Thurles:	Cavan	1-13;	Tipperary	1-7

Ballina:	Mayo	0-13;	Laois	2-5
Armagh:	Tyrone	2-12;	Armagh	2-8
Nowlan Park;	Kerry	5-20;	Kilkenny	1-3
Enniskillen:	Fermanagh	0-10;	Wicklow	0-5

Cusack Park:	Clare	1-10;	Offaly	1-10
Scotstown:	Monaghan	0-11;	Roscommon	1-7
Newry:	Down	1-4;	Westmeath	0-6
Walsh Park:	Meath	2-9;	Waterford	0-6

FOURTH ROUND - NOVEMBER 29TH

Casement Park:	Dublin	1-7;	Antrim	0-5
Celtic Park:	Galway	1-8;	Derry	0-9
Markievicz				
Park:	Sligo	0-10;	Limerick	0-7
Drogheda:	Louth	1-10;	Wexford	1-8

Breffni Park:	Donegal	1-16;	Cavan	0-9
Newbridge:	Kildare	0-14;	Cork	0-10
Cullen Park:	Longford	1-10;	Carlow	0-11
Cloone:	Leitrim	1-13;	Tipperary	0-5

Aughrim:	Mayo	1-11;	Wicklow	1-7
Tralee:	Kerry	1-8;	Tyrone	0-9
Athletic				
Grounds:	Armagh	2-20;	Kilkenny	0-5
Portlaoise:	Fermanagh	1-6;	Laois	1-4

Navan:	Meath	1-4;	Clare	0-7
Hyde Park;	Down	1-4;	Roscommon	0-7
Moate:	Monaghan	4-9;	Westmeath	3-8
O'Connor Park:	Offaly	0-15;	Waterford	1-7

RESULTS

First Round to Final — continued

FIFTH ROUND - FEBRUARY 14TH

Wexford Park: Dublin 0-11; Wexford 1-7
 Glenullin: Derry 2-12; Sligo 2-8
 Tuam: Galway 0-11; Limerick 1-7
 Casement Park: Antrim 0-9; Louth 1-4

Semple Stadium: Donegal 1-12; Tipperary 1-9
 Athy: Kildare 2-15; Carlow 0-2

Páirc Uí
 Chaoimh: Cork 0-12; Longford 0-7
 Breffni Park: Leitrim 1-9; Cavan 0-10

Lisnaskea: Mayo 0-13; Fermanagh 1-6
 Omagh: Tyrone 1-19; Kilkenny 1-4
 Killarney: Kerry 1-11; Armagh 2-5
 Arklow: Wicklow 2-6; Laois 1-9

Dungarvan: Clare 2-14; Waterford 0-11
 Elphin: Roscommon 0-14; Westmeath 0-10
 Newry: Down 1-14; Monaghan 1-7
 Navan: Offaly 1-9; Meath 1-7

SIXTH ROUND - FEBRUARY 28TH

Croke Park: Dublin 0-13; Galway 1-6
 Ballinascreen: Derry 2-9; Antrim 0-7
 Markievicz
 Park: Louth 1-7; Sligo 0-6
 Askeaton: Wexford 2-9; Limerick 0-7

Ballybofey: Donegal 1-8; Cork 0-9
 Newbridge: Kildare 3-11; Cavan 1-5
 Pearse Park: Tipperary 0-11; Longford 1-7
 Cullen Park: Leitrim 1-13; Carlow 0-5

Crosmolina: Mayo 1-9; Kerry 1-9
 Omagh: Tyrone 1-7; Wicklow 0-6
 Ballyragget: Laois 1-9; Kilkenny 1-4
 Lurgan: Armagh 1-8; Fermanagh 0-9

Ennis: Clare 1-8; Down 0-7
 Kiltoom: Meath 2-11; Roscommon 0-8
 O'Connor Park: Westmeath 1-10; Offaly 2-6
 Carrickmacross: Monaghan 2-10; Waterford 2-8

SEVENTH ROUND - MARCH 14TH

Askeaton: Dublin 0-15; Limerick 0-9
 Drogheda: Derry 1-11; Louth 0-10
 New Ross: Galway 1-13; Wexford 1-9
 Sligo: Antrim 1-13; Sligo 0-3

Longford: Donegal 3-16; Longford 0-7
 Carrick-on
 -Shannon: Kildare 3-8; Leitrim 0-8
 Cork: Cork 3-13; Tipperary 1-5
 Kingscourt: Cavan 3-13; Carlow 0-8

Charlestown: Armagh 0-10; Mayo 0-8
 Potlaoise: Laois 2-11; Tyrone 0-8
 Enniskillen: Kerry 2-14; Fermanagh 1-6
 Aughrim: Wicklow 2-16; Kilkenny 0-6

Ennis: Clare 2-13; Monaghan 1-8
 Tullamore: Roscommon 0-16; Offaly 1-10
 Dungarvan: Down 0-20; Waterford 0-6
 Athlone: Meath 1-13; Westmeath 0-5

PLAY-OFFS - MARCH 28:

Castleblaney: Down 1-11; Meath 0-9
 Longford: Roscommon 2-12; Offaly 2-8
 Croke Park: Roscommon 1-16; Monaghan 1-8

QUARTER-FINAL - APRIL 4TH

Croke Park: Kerry 0-16; Down 0-15
 (after extra time)

QUARTER-FINAL - APRIL 11TH

Croke Park: Dublin 1-13; Kildare 0-8
 Breffni Park: Donegal 0-10; Derry 2-3
 Castlebar: Clare 0-9; Mayo 0-8

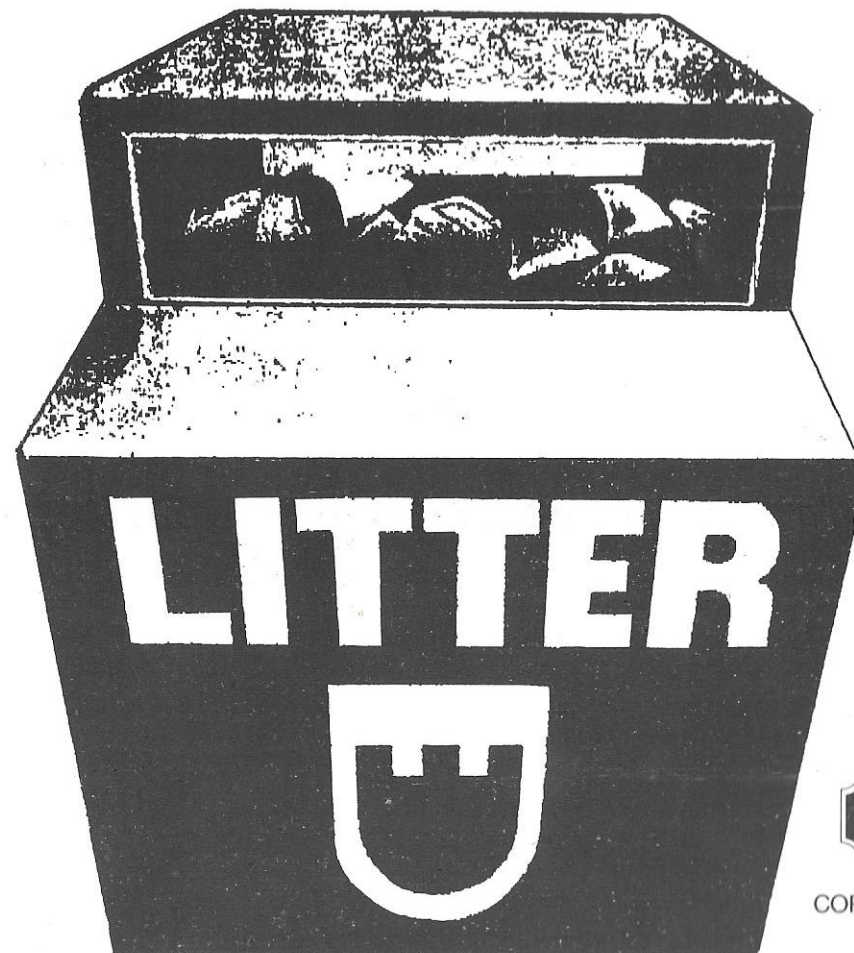
SEMI-FINALS - APRIL 18TH

Croke Park: Donegal 1-12; Clare 1-7
 Croke Park: Dublin 1-10; Kerry 0-11

FINAL - MAY 2ND

Croke Park: Donegal 0-9; Dublin 0-9

LET'S ALL PITCH IN



Drawn Finals

Last Sunday's draw was only the sixth in the history of the competition, which discloses a pattern not unlike that of the championship which, over the time span of the National League, has seen seven finals end in stalemate. Fourteen years separated the first drawn league decider (Dublin v Mayo, 1934) and the second (Cavan and Cork, 1948). In 1974 Roscommon and Kerry took two hours to decide the issue while in 1982 Kerry beat Cork rather easily at the second attempt. Meath and Dublin featured in the fifth drawn final after a thrilling hour in '88 with Meath winning the replay with plenty in hand.

First In Five Years

This is the first National Football League final replay since 1988, and Dublin were involved in that game. They gained a draw with Meath with a point in the final seconds by Joe McNally to tie the scores at Dublin 1-8; Meath 0-11.

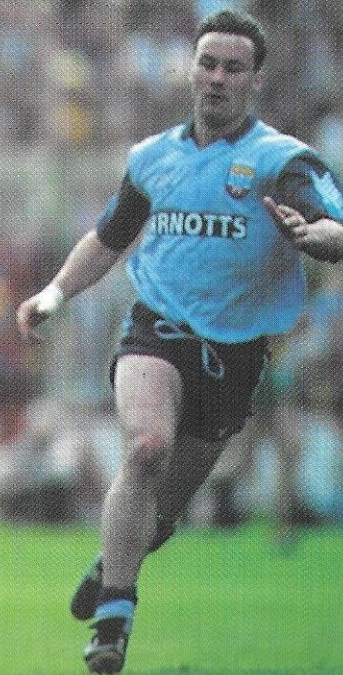
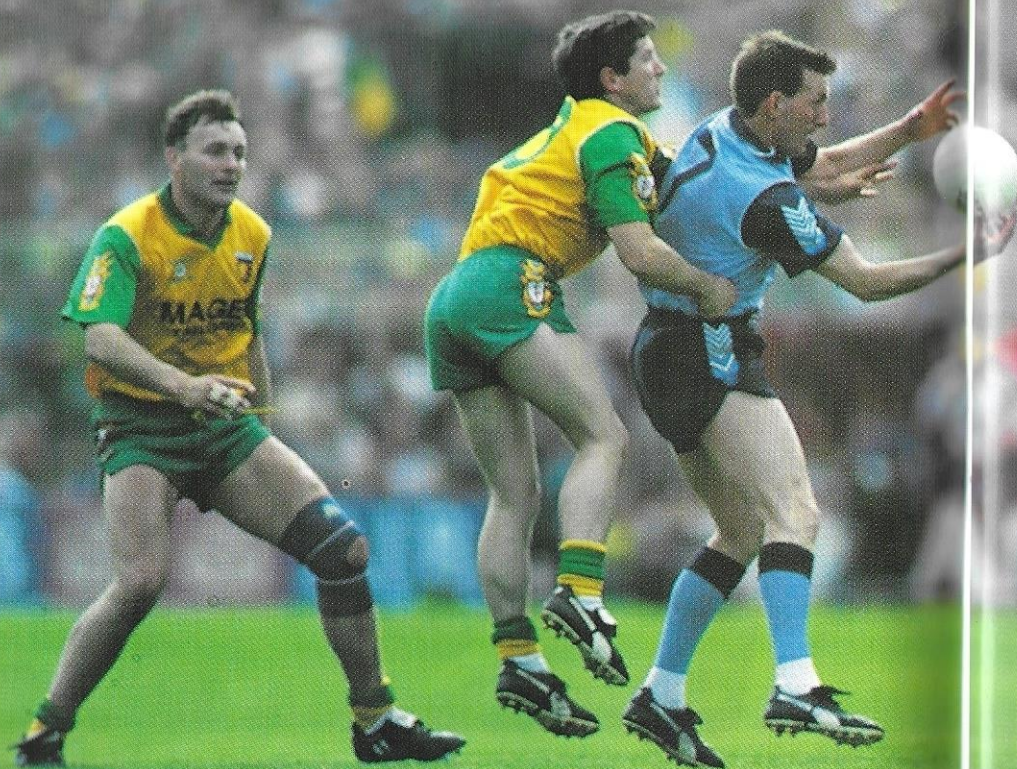
After twelve minutes in the replay, a Meath defender was sent to the line by the referee, but the Royal County rose to the challenge in great style with Brendan Reilly a real hero.

At 18 years of age, he lined out at right half forward for the biggest game of his career until then and scored a goal nine minutes into the match. When Meath were reduced to 14 men, Reilly was moved back to the defence and did an excellent job.

Declan Bolger and Jim Bissett tried hard at midfield for Dublin and Barney Rock was accurate from frees, sending over seven. However, Meath still won well by 2-13 to 0-11.

Dublin's team included John O'Leary, Vinny Murphy and Charlie Redmond, who lined out last Sunday against Donegal.

Mick Deegan (Baile Átha Cliath) gets to the ball before James McHugh (Dún na nGall) watched by Anthony Molly and Paul Curran.



Leinster Under-21 Football Championship Finals

1964:		
Laois	1-8; Offaly	0-8
1965:		
Kildare	1-11; Offaly	0-10
1966:		
Kildare	4-14; Longford	2-5
1967:		
Kildare	3-11; Wicklow	0-4
1968:		
Offaly	2-13; Wexford	0-7
1969:		
Laois	2-7; Wicklow	2-6
1970:		
Louth	2-13; Offaly	2-9
1971:		
Offaly	1-9 Meath	0-11
1972:		
Kildare	2-9; Offaly	0-6
Replay		
Kildare	0-14; Offaly	2-8
Draw		
1973:		
Offaly	3-8; Kildare	3-6
1974:		
Dublin	1-10; Wexford	0-8
1975:		
Dublin	0-12; Laois	1-6
1976:		
Kildare	1-12; Dublin	0-9
1977:		
Offaly	0-12; Kildare	0-4
1978:		
Louth	2-8; Offaly	2-7
1979:		
Offaly	4-14; Louth	5-4
1980:		
Dublin	0-10; Kildare	0-8
Replay		
Dublin	2-7; Kildare	1-10
Draw		
1981:		
Louth	2-8; Longford	0-6
1982:		
Laois	2-11; Longford	0-3
1983:		
Kildare	1-13; Louth	1-8
1984:		
Dublin	0-9; Carlow	0-6

Laois Usher In Under-21 Era With A Win

The first Leinster under-21 football championship final was played at Portlaoise in early August 1964 when the home county beat Offaly by 1-8 to 0-8. Right full forward Christy Connor scored the goal.

Dublin did not make their final debut until 1974 and it proved a winning one. They beat Wexford at Carlow by 1-10 to 0-8 and retained the championship the following year.

The Metropolitans' last appearance in the concluding round was at Tullamore last May against Kildare. Good goal-keeping by David Byrne and the accuracy of Pauric Doherty, who hit five points, was not enough to prevent the Dubs from bowing out. Niall Buckley and Anthony Rainbow were prominent for the Lily Whites, who finished with nine points to spare.

Meath lost their final debut in 1971 to Offaly at Mullingar and had to wait until 1985 for their initial title triumph. The Royal County's last final defeat was in 1987 at Tullamore, where they went down to Laois.

Six counties have so far won the Leinster under-21 championship, with Kildare and Offaly setting the pace with seven titles apiece. Dublin and Meath are in joint second place with four crowns.

1985:			extra time		
Meath	2-7; Kildare	0-12	Offaly	0-12; Wexford	2-6
1986:			Replay and Draw after extra		
Offaly	1-10; Laois	0-9	time		
Replay			Offaly	0-8; Wexford	1-5
Offaly	1-11; Laois	2-8	Draw		
Draw			1989:		
1987:			Meath	2-5; Kildare	0-9
Laois	1-12; Meath	1-8	1990:		
1988:			Meath	1-14; Wicklow	0-6
Offaly	2-7; Wexford	2-5	1991:		
Third Replay			Meath	0-9; Wicklow	1-5
Offaly	1-12; Wexford	1-12	1992:		
Second Replay and Draw after			Kildare	2-12; Dublin	0-9

Roll of Honour

7: Kildare:	1965, 1966, 1967, 1972, 1976, 1983, 1992
Offaly:	1968, 1971, 1973, 1977, 1979, 1986, 1988
4: Dublin:	1974, 1975, 1980, 1984
Meath:	1985, 1989, 1990, 1991
Laois:	1964, 1969, 1982, 1987
3: Louth:	1970, 1978, 1981



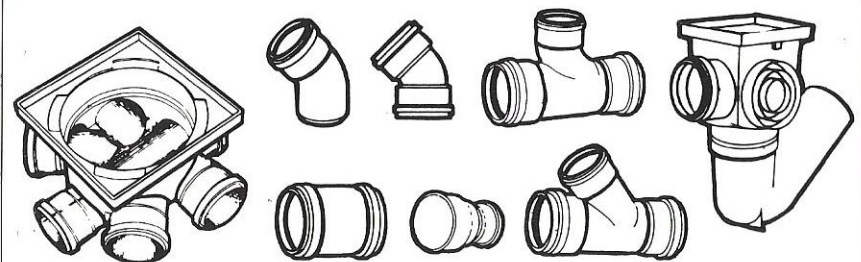
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(6) G. Mac Oireachtaigh
GRAHAM GERAGHTY
Seneschalstown

(7) T. Ó hAinle (CAPT.)
THOMAS HANLEY
Athboy

(9) S. Mac Aonghusa
JIMMY McGUINNESS
Dunsany

(8) A. Ó Broin
TONY BYRNE
St. Peter's, Dunboyne

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JASON HENDRICK
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HUGH CAROLAN
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(12) S. Mac Carthaigh
JOHN McCARTHY
Walterstown

(13) P. Ó Súilleabháin
PETER SULLIVAN
St. Patrick's

(14) T. Ó Conchuir
TERRY O'CONNOR
Ballivor

(15) C. Ó Sioradáin
CATHAL SHERIDAN
Moynalvey

FIR IONAIÐ: (16) C. Ó Siurtáin (Kevin Jordan) *Gaeil Colmcille*, (17) T. Ó Seighín (Thomas Shine) *Gaeil Colmcille*, (18) S. Ó Brádaigh (John Brady) *Ó Mathúna*, (19) P. Ó Míach (Paul Meade) *Simonstown Gaels*, (20) B. Ó hAilpín (Brendan Halpin) *Oldcastle*, (21) D. Ó Máirtín (David Martin) *Athboy*, (22) C. Ó Maicín (Conor Macken) *Seneschalstown*, (23) D. Ó Ugáin (Damien Wogan) *St. Colmcille's*.

ROGHNÓIRÍ: John Sullivan (St. Patrick's), Jim Cooney (Ballinabrackey), Paul Kenny (Simonstown Gaels), Oliver Harding (Slane), Tommy Mahon (Kilbride), John Joe Murray (Gaeil Colmcille).

Trainer & Coach: Paul Kenny.

AN MHÍ	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seachaí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
Iomlán					

Baile Átha Cliath (Fé 21)

Dathanna: Gorm is Dubhgorm

(1) E. Ó Cairbre
EOIN CARBERRY
An Caislean

(2) C. MacAogáin
CONOR KEEGAN
Whitehall/Colmcille

(3) S. Mag Oirc
SEAN McGUIRK
Fingallians

(4) M. Ó Cearúill
MICK CARROLL
Ballymun Kickhams

(5) L. Breathnach
LIAM WALSH
Thomas Davis

(6) D. Ó hArrachtáin
DERMOT HARRINGTON
Naomh Mearnóg

(7) U. Ó Dálaigh
WAYNE DALY
St. Kevin's

(9) D. Benton
DARREN BENTON
Thomas Davis

(8) B. Ó Caoinnealbháin
BRENDAN QUINLIVAN
Ballymun Kickhams

(10) B. Ó Rua
BRIAN ROWE
St. Kevin's

(11) D. Ó Broin
DAMIEN O'BRIEN
Lucan Sarsfields

(12) D. Ó Bearáin
DECLAN BARNES
St. Sylvesters

(13) G. Breathnach
GER WALSH
Thomas Davis

(14) R. Ó Baoill
ROBBIE BOYLE
Erin's Isle

(15) S. Mac Eochaidh
SHAY KEOGH
St. Sylvesters

FIR IONAIÐ: (16) G. Ó Gallchóir (Gordon Gallagher) *Round Towers*, (17) G. Mac Cathail Riabhaigh (Gavin Gray) *Kilmacud Crokes*, (18) D. Ó Riain (David Ryan) *Lucan Sarsfields*, (19) F. Mac an Ultaigh (Fergus McNulty) *Lucan Sarsfields*, (20) T. Ruiséil (Terry Russell) *Erin's Isle*, (21) B. Ó Broin (Brendan O'Brien) *Trinity Gaels*, (22) U. Ó hAodha (Vincent Hughes) *Skerries Harps*, (23) P. Ó Clúmháin (Paul Clifford) *Round Towers*, (24) D. Mac Ruairí (David Rogers) *St. Brigid's*.

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seachaí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
Iomlán					

A First For Meath and Dublin in Curtain-Raiser

Meath and Dublin have the players with the skills to provide an entertaining curtain-raiser when they meet for the first time in a Leinster under-21 football championship final.

The Royal County has a strong framework of footballers from the gifted side that won the All Ireland minor title in 1990 and are impressing as a good, all round side.

They had a decisive wins over Kilkenny by 1-14 to 0-4 and Longford by 2-10 to 1-1 in their opening games and turned in a fine second half display last time out when seeing off Wexford by 1-13 to 2-7.

Hugh Carolan, who scored six goals in the 1990 under-18 national triumph, helped himself to 1-1 against the Slaneysiders and Graham Geraghty and Enda McManus, also All Ireland medal winners at minor, were other giants in the success.

Dublin started their campaign with a comfortable 1-14 to 0-6 win over Carlow. Nor were they really troubled next time out by Louth at Parnell Park, where the brilliance of left full forward Shay Keogh was a bright feature of a run-away 2-15 to 1-8 win.

Keogh had a fine game and contributed seven points to

Leinster Under-21 Football Final

Today, Dublin and Meath break new ground in their long-standing rivalry as for the first time they are in opposition in a provincial under-21 football final. Considering the extent and intensity of the rivalry which exists between these counties at senior, junior and minor level, it is remarkable to note that they have never met in a Leinster under-21 final - indeed, the nearest they have come to a final meeting was in 1981 when they were semi-final opponents at Parnell Park.

For some reason not immediately apparent, the under-21 grade has failed to yield dividends for Dublin and Meath as on the occasions that they have taken Leinster honours they have slumped at the All Ireland stage.

Both counties were slow to make their mark at this level: the competition was more than ten years in existence before Dublin won their first Leinster title while Meath, who contested their first provincial decider (unsuccessfully) against Offaly in 1971, had to wait until 1985 to annex the first of their four Leinster crowns.

Provincial finals apart, Dublin and Meath have maintained a modest mutual presence in under-21 football and to date they have met on only seven occasions - the most recent clash being in 1983 - with the record reading 5-2 in Dublin's favour.

The details:

1968 - Dublin	1-9;	Meath	0-5
1969 - Dublin	0-11;	Meath	1-6
1971 - Meath	1-18;	Dublin	1-12
1972 - Meath	0-7;	Dublin	0-4
1976 - Dublin	1-7;	Meath	0-7
1981 - Dublin	0-13;	Meath	0-7
1983 - Dublin	1-6;	Meath	0-8

the Dubs tally. Wayne Daly at left half back and full back Sean McGuirk and Robbie Doyle in attack were others to sparkle for the winners.

Dublin had to survive a late Westmeath rally before booking their place in the final with an 0-14 to 1-8 win.

Poor finishing did not help Dublin's cause, but they still led by 0-9 to 0-3 at the interval. Westmeath rallied strongly in the final quarter, but two points by Shay Keogh kept them at bay and ensured a clear-cut win at the final whistle.

Both teams have much to encourage them. Dublin will have the added support from their early arrivals for the county's league final replay, but the Meath boys are unlikely to be in the least upset by having to meet the Liffesiders in such a tension-filled atmosphere as Croke Park.

It promises to be an exciting affair, and we look forward to good football, top class individual displays and some good scores to help further enliven matters.



Dún na nGall

The Donegal team which played Dublin in Croke Park last Sunday :

Back row (l-r): Donal Reid, Matt Gallagher, John Joe Doherty, Declan Bonner, Brian Murray, Gary Walsh, Barry McGowan, Barry Cunningham.
Front row (l-r): Martin McHugh, Manus Boyle, Tony Boyle, Martin Gavigan, Anthony Molloy (captain), Martin Shovelin, James McHugh.



League Final Marksmen

Unlike the championship in which the scoring feats in finals have been meticulously recorded - at least over the past 60 or so years - the deeds of marksmen in National League finals have scarcely been noted - if they have been noted at all - which is all rather strange as for periods,

notably the 1930s, they were more prestigious than championship deciders.

Understandably, the first league final, which was a low-scoring affair, did not feature any remarkable displays of marksmanship and the 1-1 notched by Laois's John Miller, was sufficient to give him the distinction

of top scorer. But as the 'secondary' competition became securely established in the Thirties the meeting of Cork and Kerry at Killarney (1933) saw Jim Regan from Kinsale account for 3-0 of the losers' total and that record of three 'majors' in a league final still stands 60 years later, although the total of nine points was to be touched on a number of occasions thereafter - mainly by free-takers on winning teams.

After Regan's feat, Mayo marksmen dominated the charts until the break in activity occasioned by World War Two. And there were many eye-catching

performances by the men in the green and red - Paddy Moclair scored 2-0 in the drawn 1934 final with Dublin at Castlebar and Patsy Munnely matched that in the replay at Croke Park. The dashing Moclair was again in the van when the title was retained a year later, his 2-2 being easily the best return of the day. Patsy Munnely again took the honours with 2-1 in 1937 and Josie Munnely equalled Jim Regan's total when he notched 2-3 in the '38 final against Wexford at Castlebar. Moclair was top scorer for the third time with 2-2 in the 1939 win over Meath, and though

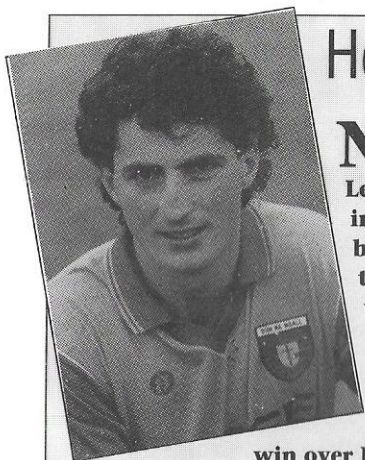
aggrived Mayo opted out of the competition in 1939-40, winning ways and scoring prowess returned when Josie Munnely's 2-2 helped to see off the Dublin challenge in the last final before the close down of the Emergency years.

All the finals of the late Forties were won without any notable displays of marksmanship, and it wasn't until 1953 when emerging Dublin made the headlines that a significant tally was recorded - Kevin Heffernan getting 2-2 against Cavan.

And five years later Ollie

Freaney reached the magic figure when he notched 0-9 in the defeat of Kildare.

The great encounters involving Down, Dublin and Kerry in the early Sixties, which drew crowds of championship proportions, produced only two marksmanship displays of note - Teddie O'Dowd's 2-1 for Kerry in 1961 and Mick O'Dwyer's 0-7 against New York two years later. The first and second 'legs' of the 1967 final in New York saw the 'home' team's Pat Cummins and Tom Furlong hit the same score - 2-1 - to share the honours of that two-part decider.



Hegarty's Late, Late Points

Noel Hegarty has more cause than most to remember last week's drawn Royal Liver National Football League final. Not only did he play really well after being introduced as a substitute by Donegal at centre half back, but he found time to move up field to send over the point 19 seconds from the end that sent the match with Dublin to a replay.

His achievement revived memories for many North-West fans of his pointed free 90 seconds from the end of a keenly contested Donegal senior final of 1990 that earned Naoimh Columba a dramatic one point win over Killybegs in the county final.

Hegarty, a hard-working and polished footballer, made his senior inter-county debut in the autumn of 1990 and has gone from strength to strength. He had an excellent game at left full back last September when Donegal made that memorable break-through in the All Ireland senior final.

Hegarty has won Ulster medals at Vocational Schools and Ulster senior inter-county level and is 23.

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Best wishes to both teams today



Baile Átha Cliath

Dathanna: Gorm is Dubhgorm

(1) S. Ó Laoire

JOHN O'LEARY (CAPT.)

O'Dwyers

(2) C. Breathnach
CIARAN WALSH

St. Anne's

(3) D. Déiseach
DERMOT DEASY

Garda

(4) P. Ó Morán
PADDY MORAN

Whitehall/Colmcille

(5) E. Ó hIorua
EAMONN HEERY

Erin's Isle

(6) P. Ó Corráin
PAUL CURRAN

Thomas Davis

(7) M. Ó Duiginn
MICHAEL DEEGAN

Erin's Isle

(9) S. Ó Síoda
JACK SHEEDY

Garda

(8) P. Ó Bealáin
PAUL BEALIN

St. Kevin's

(10) S. Ó Gáibhín
JIM GAVIN

Round Towers

(11) T. Ó Cearra
TOM CARR

Ballymun Kickhams

(12) N. Ó Guidín
NIALL GUIDEN

Raheny

(13) P. Cléirigh
PAUL CLARKE

Whitehall/Colmcille

(14) U. Ó Murchú
VINNIE MURPHY

Trinity Gaels

(15) M. Ó Deoráin
MARTIN DORAN

Clontarf

FIR IONAIÐ: (16) M. Piondar (Mick Pender) *Kilmacud Crokes*, (17) S. Ó Bairr (John Barr) *Erin's Isle*, (18) P. Mac Giolla Rua (Pat Gilroy) *St. Vincent's*, (19) P. Ó Dochartaigh (Pauric Doherty) *Naomh Mearnóg*, (20) M. Ó Gealbháin (Mick Galvin) *St. Oliver Plunketts*, (21) N. Mac Lannchaidh (Niall Clancy) *Kilmacud Crokes*, (22) G. Ó Riagáin (Ger Regan) *St. Vincent's*, (23) P. Ó Donncha (Pauric O'Donoghue) *Kilmacud Crokes*, (24) D. Ó Fuarain (David Foran) *Thomas Davis*.

ROGHNÓIRÍ: Pat O'Neill (Manager), Jim Brogan, Fran Ryder.

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seachaí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
Iomlán					

Dún na nGall

Dathanna: Ór is Uaithne



(1) G. Breathnach

GARY WALSH

Burren

(2) S. S. Ó Dochartaigh
JOHN JOE DOHERTY

Naomh Columba

(3) M. Ó Gallchóir
MATT GALLAGHER

Naomh Bríd

(4) B. Mac Gabhainn
BARRY MCGOWAN

Na Cealla Beaga

(5) D. Ó Maolbhríde
DONAL REID

Aodh Rua Coill na gCuirdiú

(6) N. Ó Eigheartaigh
NOEL HEGARTY

Naomh Columba

(7) M. Ó Sheibhleáin
MARTIN SHOVELIN

Naomh Ultan

(8) A. Ó Lúdóg
ANTHONY MOLLOY (CAPT.)

Ard an Ratha

(9) B. Ó Múirí
BRIAN MURRAY

An Stát Sheirbhís

(10) S. Mac Aodha
JAMES MCHUGH

Cill Chartha

(11) M. Mac Aodha
MARTIN MCHUGH

Cill Chartha

(12) B. Mac Cuinneagáin
BARRY CUNNINGHAM

Na Cealla Beaga

(13) D. Ó Cnaimhsí
DECLAN BONNER

Na Rossa

(14) A. Ó Baoill
TONY BOYLE

An Clochán Liath

(15) M. Ó Baoill
MANUS BOYLE

Na Cealla Beaga

FIR IONAIÐ: (16) P. Ó Ceallacháin (Paul Callaghan) *Beart*, (17) P. Mac Giolla Chearra (Paul Carr) *Na Ceithre Máistir*, (18) M. Ó Chrossáin (Mark Crossan) *Naomh Adhamháin*, (19) S. Mac Cuinneagáin (John Cunningham) *Na Cealla Beaga*, (20) M. Ó Gaibheagáin (Martin Gavigan) *Ard na Ratha*, (21) S. Mac Maoláin (Joyce McMullin) *Na Ceithre Máistir*, (22) S. Mag Aonasa (Jim McGuinness) *Naomh Conail*, (23) S. Mag Uidhir (Sylvester Maguire) *Aodh Rua, Béal Átha Seannaigh*, (24) S. Ó Dufaidh (John Duffy) *An Stát Sheirbhís*.

TEAM MANAGER: Brian Mc Eniff. TEAM TRAINER: Anthony Harkin.

SELECTORS: Naul McCole, Michael Lafferty, Seamus Bonner.

DÚN NA NGALL	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seachaí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
Iomlán					

Kik Spoirt Teo



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A Challenge To Bring Best Out Of Dublin

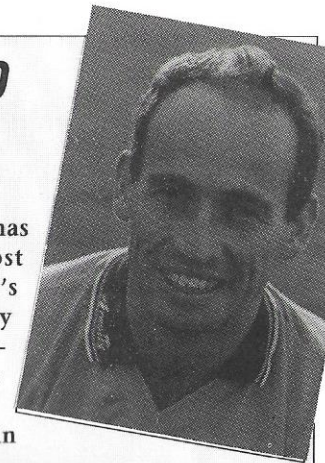
The Royal Liver National Football League final replay provides the type of challenge tailor-made to bring out the best in Dublin. Many maintain they have lost their chance of glory because they failed to turn their first half dominance last week into match-winning scores in the second and in the end were caught by a late Donegal point.

Certainly, the Leinster champions played sparkling football for long spells in the drawn match. They also dominated midfield for most of the opening half and started the second with a real flourish as Charlie Redmond pointed after only 19 seconds.

However, the Dubs went scoreless for 23 minutes after that and that is not a statistic expected from a forward division that includes gifted attackers. It also points

Tommy Is So Versatile

Tommy Carr's versatility has made him one of the most valuable assets in Dublin's team in senior inter-county football. In a lengthy inter-county senior career he has played in a variety of positions and proved his class in all.



He started his senior career in 1985 as an attacker and made an appearance as a substitute in a forward role in the unsuccessful All Ireland senior final of 1985 against Kerry.

Subsequently, Carr played at right half back, centre half and right full back before taking over at left full back, from where he captained the Dubs to last year's Sam Maguire Cup tie.

The Ballymun Kickhams club man has of late been back in the attack. He has three Leinster senior medals and was right half back when the county won their last Royal Liver National League title in 1991.

clearly to the need for a step up in the scoring rate if the title is to be regained at the second attempt.

The Dubs must also go into the replay without two of their most experienced players because of suspension.

However, there is tremendous character in the Metropolitan squad. The players have come out battling strongly and successfully from tight corners in the past. The latest engagement is also sure to invoke an extra

special response from Dublin.

The Metropolitan players have a strong panel of players, plenty of experience and proven class and all round ability. They also appreciate better than most just what is required for success at this level. In short, they still have all the assets necessary to produce the type of free-flowing play from first to final whistle and finishing technique to turn the key in the door to a title last held in 1991.

Baile Átha Cliath



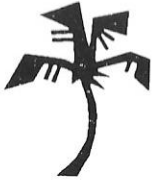
The Dublin team which drew with Donegal last Sunday:

Back row (l-r): Charlie Redmond, Dermot Deasy, Paul Bealin, John O'Leary (captain), Tom Carr, Paddy Moran, Jack Sheedy.
Front row (l-r): Ciarán Walsh, Paul Curran, Vinnie Murphy, John Calvert, Niall Guider, Eamonn Heery, Martin Doran, Mick Deegan.



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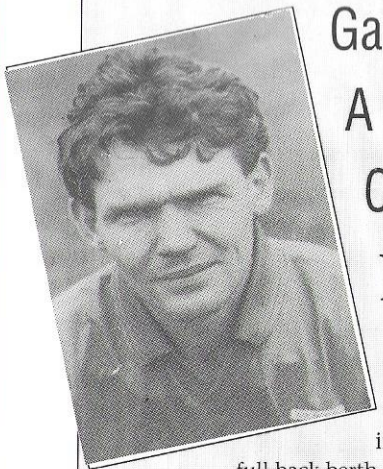
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**Best of Luck
to
Both Teams
from
Gerry Colgan & Staff**

Donegal Hope It Will Be Second Time Lucky

Gallagher Doing A Good Job For Champions



Matt Gallagher, who has been doing such a good job at full back for Donegal, is a brilliant link with the team that won the county's first All Ireland inter-county title in 1982. He held down the left

full back berth in the side that beat Roscommon for the under-21 crown at Carrick-on-Shannon.

Prior to that breakthrough, however, he had stepped up to the senior inter-county ranks in a league game at the end of November 1981.

Gallagher, cool under pressure and alert, has been a key figure in the Donegal resurgence. He won his second Ulster senior medal last year and has also put his talents impressively on parade with the Northern provincial team. Indeed, he was at No. 2 in the team that won the last interprovincial final played in 1992.

Gallagher has experience of forward play and against Fermanagh in last year's Ulster semi-final at Omagh he made a sortie up from full back to pop over a point.

Although Donegal did not make a winning debut in a Royal Liver National Football League final last week, they can still feel well pleased at earning a replay.

It is generally accepted that the All Ireland champions did not produce football up to the expected flair, dash and creativity, in the first half especially. And when Charlie Redmond started the Dubs off on the right note with a point in 19 seconds of the second half, Donegal had a mountain to climb.

But playing with the confidence of champions they stormed back well and deserved the reward for their persistence and good play when Noel Hegarty sent over the equalising point with time virtually up. That tied the score at 0-9 each.

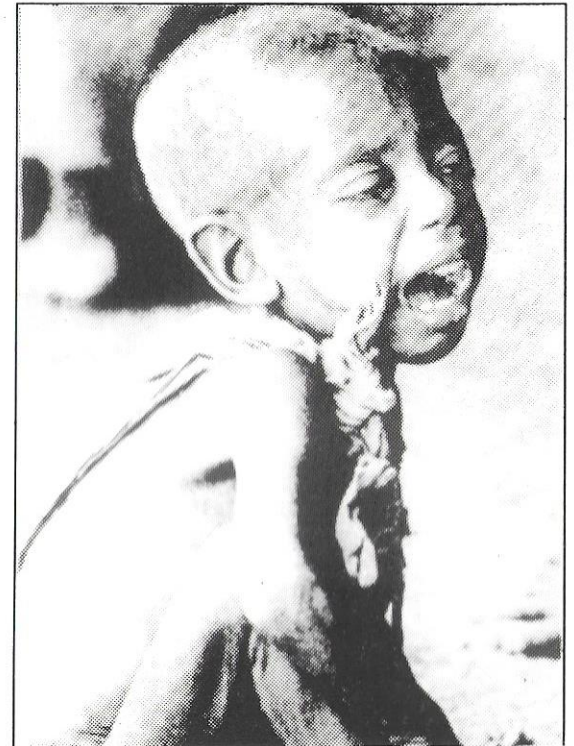
Hegarty did an excellent job for Donegal when sent in for the second half at centre half back as substitute for Martin Gavigan, who was suffering from an illness. The

Naomh Columba man, who won an All Ireland senior medal at left full back, settled in well and produced play of a high standard.

He also showed tremendous maturity and an ice-cool nerve when he broke from defence to move up field and send over what might yet prove one of the most crucial scores in league history for Donegal as he kept hopes alive by tying the scores.

Donegal are hoping to build on that performance. They showed yet again that they have gained greatly in confidence since winning the Sam Maguire Cup. They refused to panic last week when the match appeared to be slipping away from them for much of the first half, stuck resolutely and confidently to the task and, in the end, got a deserved second chance.

In this mood again today, the Ulster men will be hard to prevent from writing another memorable chapter to a great season for the county by capturing a first league crown.



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Áth Cliath, Athimirt agus Aithmhúscailt!

De ghnáth ní bhíonn athimirt in aon chluiche chomh maith nó ar aon chaighdeán leis an gcéad chluiche. I gcás an chluiche inniu b'ainnis an rud é muna mbeadh an athimirt i bhfad níos fearr ná an cluiche an Domhnach seo caite. Bí an caighdeán peile íseal, bhí an himreoirí ina scataí i lár páirce agus ní raibh aon iar-rócht á dhéanamh ag ceachtar foireann an liathróid a spaecadh, go háirithe nuair a bhí an ghaoth na bhfábhar. Anuas ar sin bhí 47 saorspeacanna agus mór scóráladh ach aon chúilín déag ón imirt.

Is dócha go mbíonn bainisteoirí ag coinneáil súil ar an chroabhchomortas ag an tráth seo den bhliain agus go mbíonn an traenáil meáite acu so chaoi nach sroicheann na himreoirí buaic-phointe na haclaíochta ró luath; níl aon dealramh leis an gcinéal sin tuairimíochta agus más fiú d'imreoir ar bith a bheith go leanúnach ag foireann chontae ach go háirithe ba cheart go mbeadh sé ag barr a éifeachta i ngach chluiche.

Ní foláir nó go bhfuil an dá foireann inniu tar éis buntáiste a bhaint as an gcéad chluiche. Ceaptar go raibh níos mó le foghlaim ag na Conallaigh ná ag an gcéilí comhraic. Bhí na

'Dubs' níos scioptha agus níos díoghrasaí sa chéad leath ach níor éirigh leo na scóranna a chnusaú mar a bhí tuillte acu — arís bhíodar ag brath an iomarca ar Vinny Ó Murchú agus, cé nár lig sé síos iad, ní raibh an tacaíocht a bhí riachtanach ar fáil do. Bhí an leath lán-tosach, Tomás Ó Cearra, ag imirt i ngach cearn den pháirc, agus ag déanamh go maith, ach ní raibh sé ag gníomhú mar chuntóir do Vinny in am an ghátair.

Bhí an cuma ar an scéal ó thaobh Dhún na nGall de go raibh Déaglan Ó Cnáimhsí agus Séamus Mac Aodha ag fulaingt go fóill ón tinneas agus go mbeadh fir ionaid, a bhfuil raidhse dibh ag an tuaisceartaigh, ag feaidhmiú níos éifeachtaí le linn na huairte ar fad.

Fiú muna n-éiríonn le Baile Átha Cliath sa dara iarracht, tá buntáiste nach beag bainte as an Léig reatha acu. Tá cúigear nó

seisear imreoirí óga den scoth aimsithe acu, go háirithe imeasc na gcosantóirí agus más féidir leo cúpla tosaigh den chaighdeán céanna a aimisiú beidh leo. I gcás na gConallach tá cóir a bheith an fhoireann chéanna acu is a bhuaigh craobh na hÉireann anuraidh agus déarfadh éinne leat go bhfuil sé sin maith go leor chun craobh na Léige a bhaint!

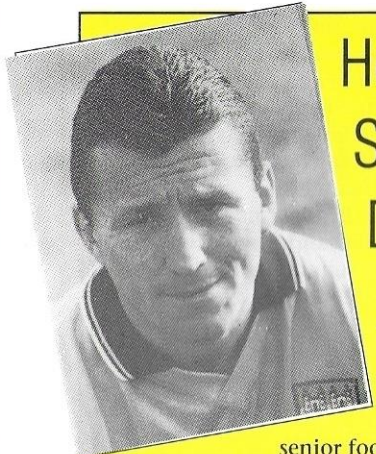
Beidh ar na 'Dubs' déanamh gan Cathal Mac Réamoinn ar na tosaigh san athimirt seo agus n'fheadar an bhfuil duine eile acu chomh héifeachtach chun na saor-speacanna a chur thar an trasnán; muna bhfuil is díol trua iad.

Ceaptar go mbeidh Dún na nGall níos éifeachtaí inniu ná mar a bhíodar an Domhnach seo caite; is dócha nach mbeidh mórán feabhais gur féidir a chur ar foireann Átha Cliath ach má imríonn siad 'peil', sa seanchiall den fhocal sin, d'fhéadfaidís an dubh a chur ina gheal ar an sameoilaithe agus an chraobh a bhí acu dhá bhliain ó shin a thabhairt leo.

Outside Croke Park

Leaving aside the Meath-New York final of 1951, which was played in conjunction with the Galway-New York hurling final and attracted a crowd of 40,000 to the Polo Grounds, the biggest attendance at a National League football final outside Croke Park was the 39,139, which saw Cork beat Kerry at Páirc Uí Chaoimh in 1980.

Replay Misfortunes



Heery Also Shines In Different Areas

Eamonn Heery is another member of the Dublin senior football squad who appreciates just what good attacking play and also defensive football are all about.

He was a key figure in a half back line that contributed in rich measure to the Dubs march to last year's All Ireland final, but in some recent games has proven his ability as an attacker.

However, the St. Vincent's clubman has given some of his best performances at No. 7 and also enjoyed glory days. He held down that position in Dublin's last two Leinster senior final winning teams and in the 1991 league final win over Kildare. He is 28.

If Dublin have an eye to history they will approach today's replay with no little trepidation as over the years they have enjoyed little success in replayed finals - league or championship. Of the five league finals that ended in stalemate previous to last Sunday, Dublin were involved in two of them and defeat was their lot on both occasions.

In 1934 they did well to end 'all square' with Mayo at Castlebar (2-3 to 1-6) before 10,000 spectators but, despite playing the replay at Croke Park and the magnificent efforts of Ned McCann, Bobby Beggs, Ger Fitzgerald, Murt Kelly, Mick Keating and Johnny McDonnell, they went down by 1-5 to 2-4. Their second replay experience, in 1988, was even more disappointing. Having played a thrilling draw (0-11 to 1-8) with Meath on April 17, they were crushed in no uncertain manner five weeks later when Meath's

winning margin was a comprehensive eight points (2-13 to 0-11).

One step back from the final, Dublin fared no better in the only league semi-final replay they contested. In 1956 they were reigning champions when they travelled to Cork for the clash with Cork and were certainly worth the second chance they earned on a 1-4 to 0-7 scoreline. There was no luck in the replay, however, as Cork won at Croke Park by 1-16 to 1-9 - a scoreline that didn't flatter the winners.

And even the hurling league had its share of 'second chance' disappointment for the capital. In the first hurling final to be drawn (1946), Dublin had every reason to be satisfied with a 1-6 all verdict when they opposed Clare at the Limerick Gaelic Grounds. But when the teams met in the replay at Croke Park a few weeks later, there was no doubting the justice of the 2-10 to 2-5 scoreline in Clare's favour.

Dublin's replay misfortunes have also had a championship dimension. In the only replay of an All Ireland football final in which they took part (1894 v Cork) they were in arrears when the game was abandoned with only two minutes left to play and the fact that the title for that year is credited to Dublin owed nothing to events on the field of play and almost everything to boardroom manoeuvring. And the picture in championship hurling is no better. Dublin lost the two All Ireland final replays they contested - against Tipperary in 1908 and Limerick in 1934 - after they had lost the 1902 "home" final at Cork at the second attempt.

With the Meath marathon of two years ago to add to the background outlined above, Dublin's approach to yet another replay of a national final will be cautious in the extreme.

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NATIONAL LEAGUE FINALS

1926-1993

1925-26 - New Ross:
 Laois 2-1; Dublin 1-0
 1926-27 - No Competition
 1927-28 - Croke Park:
 Kerry 2-4; Kildare 1-6
 1928-29 - Croke Park:
 Kerry 1-7; Kildare 2-3
 1929-30 - No Competition
 1930-31 - Croke Park:
 Kerry 1-3; Cavan 1-2
 1931-32 - Killarney:
 Kerry 5-2; Cork 3-3
 1932-33 - Croke Park:
 Meath 0-10; Cavan 1-6
 1933-34 - Castlebar:
 Mayo 2-3; Dublin 1-6
 Replay - Croke Park:
 Mayo 2-4; Dublin 1-5
 1934-35 - Castlebar:
 Mayo 5-8; Fermanagh 0-2
 1935-36 - Points system. No final.
 Mayo winners with 12 points
 from eight games. Runners-up
 Dublin and Cavan with ten
 points.
 1936-37 - Croke Park:
 Mayo 5-4; Meath 1-8
 1937-38 - Castlebar:
 Mayo 3-9; Wexford 1-3
 1938-39 - Ballina:
 Mayo 5-9; Meath 0-6
 1939-40 - Croke Park:
 Galway 2-5; Meath 1-5
 1940-41 - Croke Park:
 Mayo 3-5; Dublin 0-7
 1941-45 - League Suspended

1945-46 - Croke Park:
 Meath 2-2; Wexford 0-6
 1946-47 - Croke Park:
 Derry 2-9; Clare 2-5
 1947-48 - Croke Park:
 Cavan 2-11; Cork 3-8
 1948-49 - Croke Park:
 Mayo 1-8; Louth 1-6
 1949-50 - Croke Park:
 New York 2-8; Cavan 0-12
 "Home" final - Croke Park:
 Cavan 2-8; Meath 1-6
 1950-51 - Polo Grounds:
 Meath 1-10; New York 0-10
 "Home" Final - Croke Park:
 Meath 0-6; Mayo 0-3
 1951-52 - Croke Park:
 Cork 1-12; New York 0-3
 "Home" Final - Croke Park:
 Cork 2-3; Dublin 1-5
 1952-53 - Croke Park:
 Dublin 4-6; Cavan 0-9
 1953-54 - Croke Park:
 Mayo 2-10; Carlow 0-3
 1954-55 - Croke Park:
 Dublin 2-12; Meath 1-3
 1955-56 - Croke Park:
 Cork 0-8; Meath 0-7
 1956-57 - Croke Park:
 Galway 1-8; Kerry 0-7
 1957-58 - Croke Park:
 Dublin 3-13; Kildare 3-8
 1958-59 - Croke Park:
 Kerry 2-8; Derry 1-8
 1959-60 - Croke Park:
 Down 0-12; Cavan 0-9

1960-61 - Croke Park:
 Kerry 4-16; Derry 1-5
 1961-62 - Croke Park:
 Down 2-5; Dublin 1-7
 1962-63 - Croke Park:
 Kerry 1-18; New York 0-10
 "Home" Final - Croke Park:
 Kerry 0-9; Down 1-5
 1963-64 - New York:
 New York 2-12; Dublin 1-13
 "Home" Final - Croke Park:
 Dublin 2-9; Down 0-7
 1964-65 - New York:
 New York 0-8; Galway 1-4
 "Home" Final - Croke Park:
 Galway 1-7; Kerry 0-8
 1965-66 - 2-leg system - Pearse
 Park:
 Longford 1-9; New York 0-7
 1965-66 - 2 leg system - Croke
 Park:
 New York 0-10; Longford 0-9
 Aggregate:
 Longford 1-18; New York 0-17
 "Home" Final - Croke Park:
 Longford 0-9; Galway 0-8
 1966-67 - 2-leg system - New
 York:
 New York 3-5; Galway 1-6
 1966-67 - 2 leg system - New
 York:
 New York 4-3; Galway 0-10
 Aggregate:
 New York 7-8; Galway 1-16
 "Home" Final - Croke Park:
 Galway 0-12; Dublin 1-7
 1967-68 - Croke Park:
 Down 2-14; Kildare 2-11
 1968-69 - 2-leg system - New
 York:
 Kerry 0-12; New York 0-12

Kerry 2-21; New York 2-12
 (After extra time)
 Aggregate: Kerry 2-33;
 New York 2-24
 "Home" Final - Croke Park:
 Kerry 3-11; Offaly 0-8
 1969-70 - Croke Park:
 Mayo 4-7; Down 0-10
 1970-71 - Croke Park:
 Kerry 0-11; Mayo 0-8
 1971-72 - Croke Park:
 Kerry 2-11; Mayo 1-9
 1972-73 - Croke Park:
 Kerry 2-12; Offaly 0-14
 1973-74 - Croke Park:
 Kerry 1-6; Roscommon 0-9
 Replay - Croke Park:
 Kerry 0-14; Roscommon 0-8
 1974-75 - Croke Park:
 Meath 0-16; Dublin 1-9
 1975-76 - Croke Park:

Dublin 2-10; Derry 0-15
 1976-77 - Croke Park:
 Kerry 1-8; Dublin 1-6
 1977-78 - Croke Park:
 Dublin 2-18; Mayo 2-13
 1978-79 - Croke Park:
 Roscommon 0-15; Cork 1-3
 1979-80 - Páirc Uí Chaomh:
 Cork 0-11; Kerry 0-10
 1980-81 - Croke Park:
 Galway 1-11; Roscommon 1-3
 1981-82 - Killarney:
 Kerry 0-11; Cork 0-11
 Replay - Páirc Uí Chaomh:
 Kerry 1-9; Cork 0-5
 1982-83 - Croke Park:
 Down 1-8; Armagh 0-8
 1983-84 - Limerick:
 Kerry 1-11; Galway 0-11
 1984-85 - Croke Park:
 Monaghan 1-11; Armagh 0-9

1985-86 - Croke Park:
 Laois 2-6; Monaghan 2-5
 1986-87 - Croke Park:
 Dublin 1-11; Kerry 0-11
 1987-88 - Croke Park:
 Meath 0-11; Dublin 1-8
 Replay - Croke Park:
 Meath 2-13; Dublin 0-11
 1988-89 - 2-leg system - New York:
 Cork 1-12; New York 1-5
 Cork 2-9; New York 1-9
 Aggregate:
 Cork 3-21; New York 2-14
 "Home" Final - Croke Park:
 Cork 0-15; Dublin 0-12
 1989-90 - Croke Park:
 Meath 2-9; Down 0-11
 1990-91 - Croke Park:
 Dublin 1-9; Kildare 0-10
 1991-92 - Croke Park:
 Derry 1-10; Tyrone 1-8

Largest Attendance in a Quarter of a Century

The attendance of 51,400 at last week's drawn game was the largest at a National Football League final in 25 years.

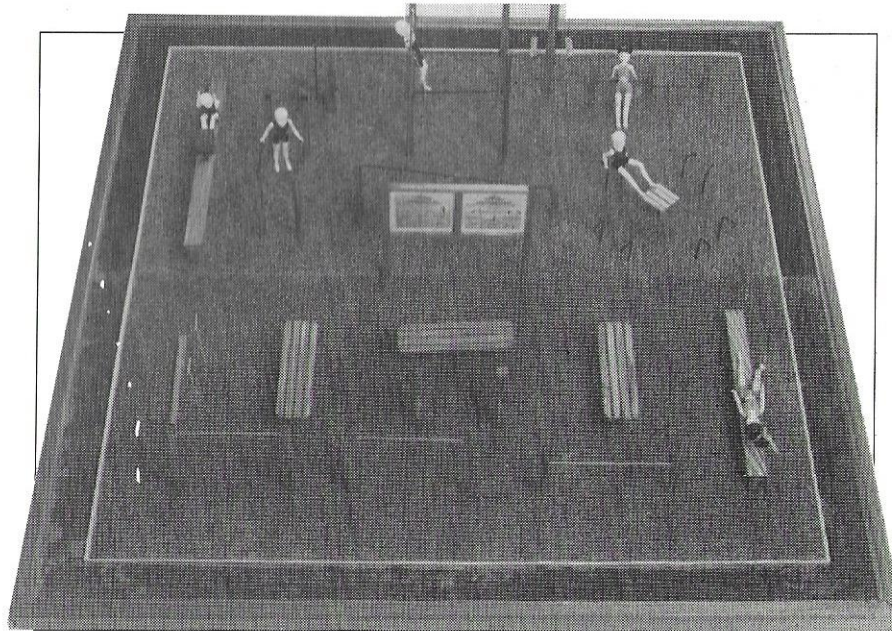
A crowd of 47,661 watched Down beat Kildare for the 1968 crown at Croke Park. Five years ago, when Meath and Dublin played a draw, there was an attendance of 45,516 and that ranked as the largest at a final since 1968 prior to last week's history-making game.

Down and Dublin set a new attendance record for a League final proper and one that still stands at 56,515 for their meeting in 1962. However, over the next two years bigger crowds attended "Home" finals.

57,180 spectators watched Kerry beat Down in the 1963 "Home" decider and a year later there was a tremendous attendance of 70,126 for the clash of Dublin and Down. The attendance at the last final replay in 1988 was 33,260.

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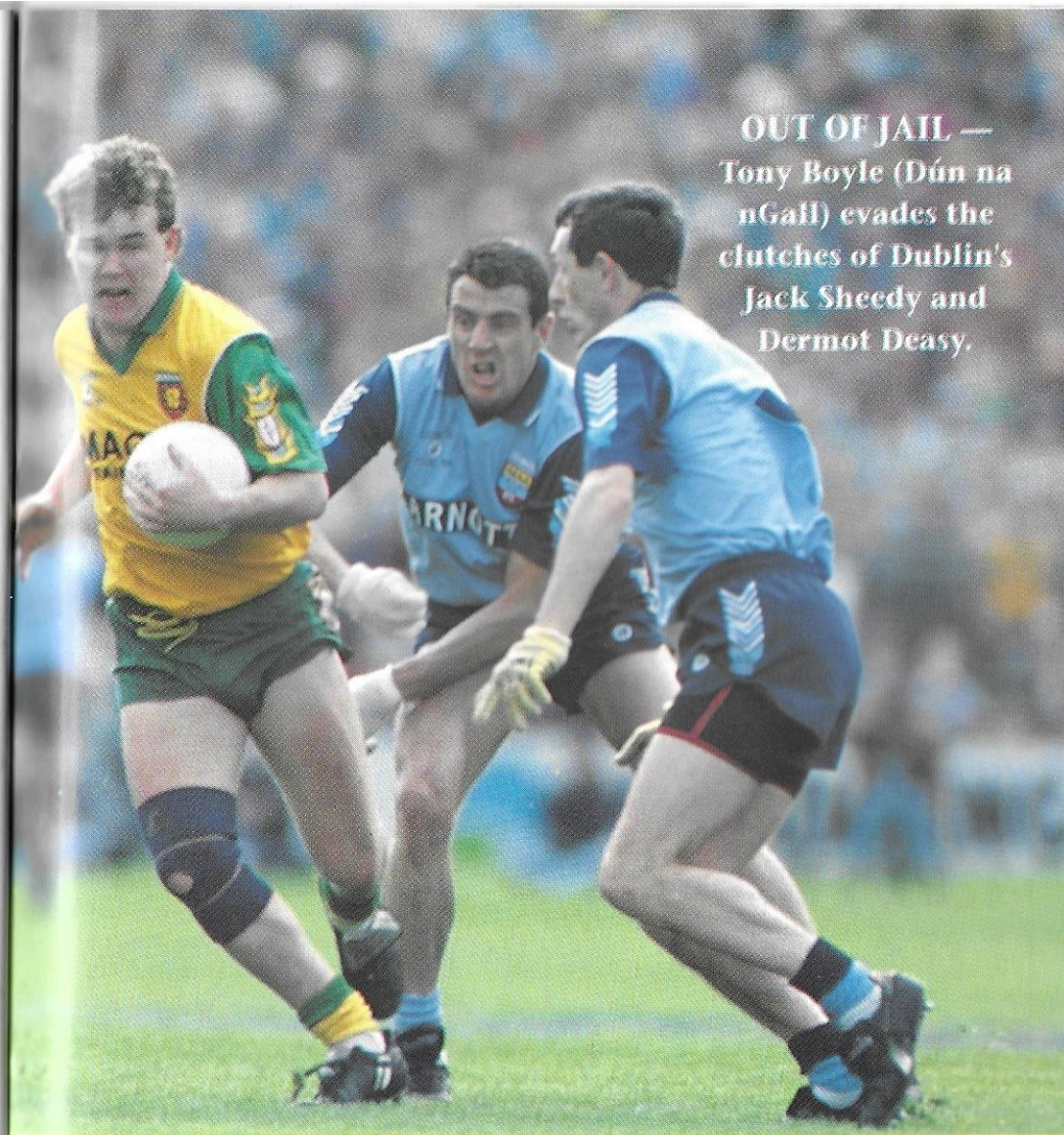


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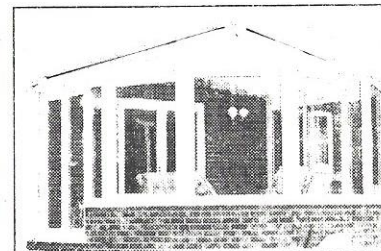


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Tony Boyle (Dún na nGall) evades the clutches of Dublin's Jack Sheedy and Dermot Deasy.

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Ádh Mór ar Fhoireann Dhún na nGall

The appeal of gaelic football as reflected in last Sunday's final attendance of over 51,000 might well be described as the wonder of the age - at a time when dwindling support is a problem for most sports bodies.

This year's attendance was significant in that it was the first time in more than 30 years that a league final (football or hurling) broke the fifty thousand mark. True, there were greater gatherings at the Down-Kerry game in 1963 and the Dublin-Down clash a year later, but these were "Home" finals - the winners having to face New York later in the final proper at which the returns were much less than for the penultimate encounters.

The attendance figures for National League finals make interesting reading, ranging from the farcical five hundred who witnessed the first final in 1926 to the huge crowds of the late fifties and early sixties, on to the surprising decline of the early 1980s and then the splendid turnout for Donegal and Dublin. In between there were many impressive gatherings. When Meath and Cavan met in 1933, a crowd of 11,100 constituted a new record - a record that was to survive until the All-Leinster Meath-Wexford final of 1946 brought 18,215 to Croke Park.

THE Attendance SAGA

A spate of records followed - 25,300 at the Cavan-Cork drawn game in '48 was upped to 26,576 for the replay. A year later the Mayo-Louth final advanced the record to 28,342, but that stood for a mere 12 months as the Cavan-Meath "Home" final (38,258) and the Cavan-New York final a few weeks later (31,870) set new figures.

The surge continued. For the first time the forty thousand mark was passed when Meath beat Mayo in the "Home" final (46,197) and the Meath-New York final was watched by 40,000 spectators at the Polo Grounds - but that was a double header with Galway and New York also in action.

Dublin and Kildare pushed the attendance record to 49,268 in 1958 and two years on Down and Cavan bettered that by 183 (49,451) in the first all-Ulster decider. Almost inevitably it was Down and Dublin who set the all-time record (56,515 in 1962) and if

the "Home" finals already referred to improved on that massive gathering, those 1962 figures were never approached since - until last Sunday.

The seventies saw fluctuating attendances. A downpour kept the crowd at the drawn Kerry-Roscommon final in 1974 down to a paltry 12,541, though the replay in much better conditions was also disappointing (22,947). The drawing power of Dublin boosted the figures for the closing years of the decade as the forty thousand mark was twice exceeded.

Attendance-wise the early eighties suggested that the National League was losing its appeal as, apart from the Kerry-Cork clash in 1980, figures plummeted with only 14,674 spectators at the Kerry-Galway decider in '84. The pattern of recent years is familiar: as Dublin challenged the crowds rolled in - 35,181 for their game with Kerry in '87, 41,516 at their drawn game with Meath a year later and 44,532 at their show-down with Kildare in '91, which was the biggest attendance at a final since Kildare and Down met in 1968.

And now with Donegal contributing their special appeal it might not be an exaggeration to suggest that the 1962 figures are at last in real danger of being tumbled.

Donegal Unbeaten In League

Donegal are unbeaten after ten outings in the Royal Liver National Football League. Dublin lost their opening game to Derry - their only defeat.

	P	W	D	L	For	Against
DONEGAL	10	9	1	0	9-118 (145 points)	4-70 (82)
DUBLIN	10	8	1	1	4-113 (125 points)	2-83 (89)

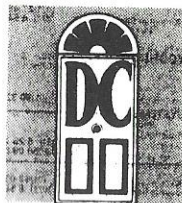
Donegal Scoresheet

33 points:	Declan Bonner	2-27
32:	Manus Boyle	1-29
27:	Tony Boyle	2-21
9:	Brian Murray	1-6
8:	James McHugh	0-8
6:	Barry Cunningham	1-3
5:	Anthony Molloy	0-5
	John Duffy	1-2
	Tommy Ryan	1-2
	Joyce McMullan	0-5
3:	Sylvester Maguire	0-3
	Martin McHugh	0-3
2:	Noel Hegarty	0-2
	Barry McGowan	0-2

Dublin's Marksmen

27 points:	Charlie Redmond	1-24
20:	Vinny Murphy	0-20
12:	Tommy Carr	0-12
	Jack Sheedy	1-9
10:	Keith Barr	0-10
7:	Mick Galvin	0-7
	Martin Doran	1-4
6:	Pat Gilroy	0-6
	Paul Clarke	0-6
5:	Niall Guiden	1-2
3:	Paul Curran	0-3
	Paul Bealin	0-3
2:	Eamonn Heery	0-2
	Mick Deegan	0-2
1:	Dessie Farrell	0-1
	Johnny Barr	0-1
	Pauric O'Donoghue	0-1

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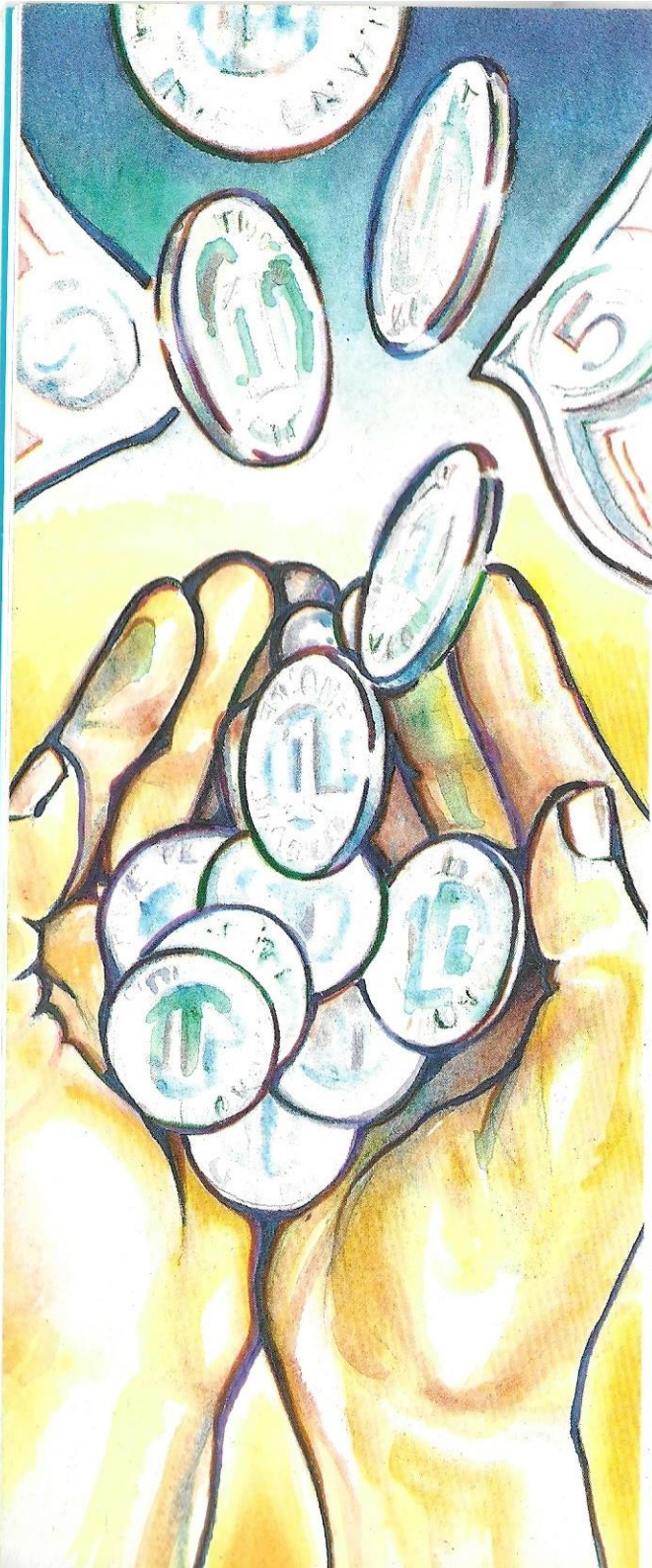
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