

Sraith Comortas Náisiúnta Peile



Church & General
National Leagues



i bPáirc Aíbhístin de Staic, Trá Lí

Dé Domhnach 13ú Márta, 1994

CIARRAÍ

v

DÚN NA NGALL

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Fáiltiú Seán O Ceallaigh

(Cathaoirleach Choiste Chontae)

Fáilte romhaibh, a chairde, go dtí an cluiche fíor-thabhachtach seo, babtha deireannach na sraithe Church & General. Feailte ó chroí roimh mhuintir dhún na ngall, a bhfuil clú agus cáil bainte amach acu le cúpla bhain anuas. Tá súil againn go mbeidh cluiche fíor-taithneamhach againn inniu mar a mbíonn againn le muintir an iar - thuaisceart i gcónaí.

Strange to relate Kerry and Donegal had rarely if ever met in competitive fare up to a few years ago. That we have met quite frequently in recent years in testimony to Donegals new found status as a G.A.A. super-power, which culminated in they winning Sam Maguire for the first time ever two years ago. Long overdue, thoroughly deserved and widely acclaimed. It is significant too, that Donegal has defeated Kerry quite frequently as well in recent years. So, today, Kerry people will be hoping not just for two invaluable Church & General League points but will also be hoping that the Green and Gold of the South West can restore some balance against the mighty Northerners.

Unfortunately, we have to line out today without two of our most promising young players Seamus Moynihan and Michael Hassett and we wish them both a speedy recovery from their injuries.

However, it's an ill-wind and three young men came into the side an bheirt ón nGaeltacht Dara O Sé agus Dara O Cinnéide and Brian Clarke from the Dr. Crokes. If these three young players come up trumps today there will be many a happy Kerryman this evening. So, hopefully, it's the start of great carriers for the trio.

Spring is in the air, and so competitive season swings into action. Next Sunday sees the commencement of the County Leagues and from here on it will be go, go, go. Hopefully, we will still have an interest in the Church and General National League for the rest of the Spring. By the way, Austin Stack Park where today's game is being staged will officially be opened on June 5th. A long season ahead. Here's hoping it will be a good one for both Kerry and Donegal.

Le dea-mhan,

Seán O Ceallaigh (Cathaoirleach.)

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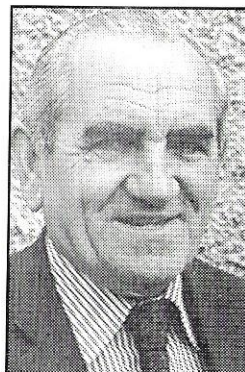
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Jackie Power



The news of the death of Jackie Power came as a great shock to his family and friends. Although approaching his 78th birthday, Jackie was young at heart and in remarkably good shape for his age.

He was so much part and parcel of the local Social and Sporting scene that it is hard to envisage his absence.

In his moving graveside opation, his great friend, Seamus O'Mahony, Radio Kerry's Head of Sport described him as a legend and traced his outstanding sporting career, first as a hurler and indeed a footballer with his club ahane and his native County Limerick and later as a Coach/Trainer with Kerry Hurling, Limerick Hurling and Austin Stacks Hurling

and Football teams.

He won two All-Ireland SH Medals (1936 and 1940), five NHL Medals in a row (1934/1938) and six Munster SH Championship Medals with his native Limerick. At Club level he won fifteen County Hurling Championship Medals and five County Football Championship Medals with Ahane.

A few years after the end of his playing career (in 1948/1949) he moved on work promotion to Tralee. He joined the Austin Stacks Club and trained their Hurling and Football teams in the late 60s and early 70s. In 1968 and 1969 the Stacks Senior Hurlers were narrowly defeated in two county finals. He took great pride however in training the Senior Football Team that bridged a 37 year gap to win the 1973 County Championship. The same year Jackie achieved a remarkable double as Coach/Trainer with his native Limerick when they won the All-Ireland Senior Hurling title.

Prior to this he had been involved with Kerry Hurling; he was Trainer and Selector of the Kerry Junior Hurling Team that won All-Ireland honours in 1961. Again he was bridging an even longer gap here - 70 years since Kerry won their last All-Ireland Hurling victory - the SH title of 1891.

In later years he was to relish the success of the great Kerry football side of 1975 to 1986 to which his son Ger made an outstanding contribution. In 1991 Jackie received one of the highest non-playing honours the game can bestow when he received the coveted "ALL TIME ALL STARS AWARD".

Jackie lived life to the full. His warm and outgoing personality will be very much missed this Summer at all venues where one encountered him down the years - the Gaelic Grounds, Semple Stadium, Fitzgerald Stadium, Pairc Uí Chaoimh - wherever in fact Hurling and Football was played. His family and his many friends young and old will miss him greatly.

Ar dheis De a anam dilis.

Listellick Sports Committee

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Church and General National Football Leagues Division I

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Derry	6	6	0	0	12
Donegal	6	4	0	2	8
Dublin	6	3	2	1	8
Down	6	2	2	2	6
Kerry	6	3	0	3	6
Kildare	6	2	1	3	5
Mayo	6	1	0	5	2
Clare	6	0	1	5	1

Today's Games (Final Round)

Kerry v Donegal

Down v Kildare

Clare v Mayo

Derry v Dublin

“Win £25” in our G.A.A. Quiz

The first all correct entry drawn will win £25. Entry is free. Send answers on a plain sheet of paper to: John Joe Sugrue, Doon, Tralee, Co. Kerry. Closing Date: March 25th 1994

QUESTIONS

1. Who was the only Donegal player chosen on the 1993 All-Stars football team?
2. Who captained Kerry to win their last National Football League Title in 1984?
3. In which year did Donegal team manager, Brian McEniff win his All-Star Award?
4. Who captained Meath to win the 1993 All-Ireland U-21 football title?
5. Who was Jack Lynch's midfield partner in the "Hurling team of the century"?
6. Which team knocked Galway out of the 1993 Connacht S.F. Championship?
7. In which year did Eddie Keher of Kilkenny win his last All-Ireland S.M. Medal?
8. In which year did Kerry's Mick O'Connell make his last championship appearance?
9. Who is the manager of the Leitrim S.F. team?
10. In which year did Offaly reach their first All-Ireland S.F. final?
11. Who captained Donegal to their Historic All-Ireland S.F. win in 1992?
12. Who won the 1993 All-Ireland senior handball, 60 x 30 Softball Singles title.
13. Who captained Cork to win the 1993 All-Ireland senior camogie title?
14. Name the only Wicklow footballer to win an All-Star award?
15. Which Ulster County has won the most All-Ireland S.F. titles?
16. Which Kerryman won the inaugural minor 60 x 30 Softball singles All-Ireland Championship in 1949?
17. Ger Heavin is the leading scorer in the current N. Football League. Which County does he play for?
18. Who was the last player to score from a penalty in an All-Ireland S.F. Final?
19. Who did Kerry footballer Timmy O'Dowd replace at half-time in the 1986 All-Ireland S.F. Final?
20. Which team won the 1993 All-Ireland Junior Football Championship?

MAYDAY WEEKEND

HANDBALL FUNDRAISING MARATHON

8 p.m. Friday, 29th April to 8 p.m. Saturday, 30th April '94

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MAYDAY! MAYDAY! MAYDAY!

This is a direct appeal to handballers nationwide to put their utmost effort into the forthcoming 'Marathon' fund raising exercise, run to help both handball and the Irish Cancer Society. Our charity this year is the Irish Cancer Society and I know that anything we can do to help this organisation to combat this dreaded disease will be greatly appreciated. Very few of us have remained untouched in some way by cancer and so we know how vital money is in helping to continue the fight.

Handball for many years has found itself unable to promote and develop the game properly. At the heart of this problem is the perennial one of lack of money to fund such areas as coaching, promotion and general development throughout the country. Further, there is the need to help upgrade our facilities and encourage a greater community involvement in our sport. A major effort by all our units could give our sport the much needed new-start and at the same time aid a very worthwhile cause viz the Irish Cancer Society.

Please do everything you can to make MAYDAY WEEKEND '94 a great success. Our last Marathon was a magnificent effort and with your full support we can do even better this time. Lets do it!

Sean Mac an tSaoi, Uachtaran, Irish Handball Council.

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These boys and girls took part in the Cumann na mBunscoil Primary schools handball competitions at Tralee Sports centre on Sunday, February 27th 1994. **Front Row L. to R.:** Ciara Ní Luasa, Kathy Moloney, Yvonne Flaherty, Michelle Culloty, Mary O'Brien, Elaine Wrenn, Mary Twomey, Máiread Ní Néill and Aoife Ní Colleáin. **Back Row:** Michael Collins, Derek Shanahan, Ricky Moloney, Daithí O'Leónard, James Nagle, Gavin Wrenn, Pádraig McCarthy, Colmán O'Gadhra, Ross O' hUiginn, John O'Mahony, Jim Foley, James O'Sullivan and Vincent Doona. Also included in the picture are muinteoírí Brendan Dennehy Castlemaine N.S., Sean O'Domhnaill and Colm O'Conchubair, Sean Mhic Easmain Trá Lí. Four schools Castlemaine N.S., Listellick N.S., Scoil Mhic Easmain and Glenbeigh N.S. took part. Máiread Ní Néill, Scoil Mhic Easmain won the girls singles competition and Michelle Culloty and Kathy Moloney, Listellick N.S. were successful in girls doubles. Derek Shanahan Listellick N.S. won the boys singles and Daithí O'Leónard and Colmán O'Gadhra, Scoil Mhic Easmain won the boys doubles competition.

A Game of Handball for a Bowl of Corn Flakes or £400.

I arrived in St. Brendan's College, Killarney in the late summer of 1968 with the usual myriad of fears, hopes, and expectations of any young lad leaving home for the first time. Whatever about school, and whatever about future prospects for the Diocese of Kerry or beyond, one thing was for sure - there would be plenty of opportunity to wear out the new boots, the new togs and the spanking, sparkling glorious Green and Gold jersey. I was not disappointed. At first it seemed like we did nothing else, later it seemed to settle down a bit and finally we realised that nothing mattered in the place!. There we were fully converted in just two weeks - ah yes them were the days.

It was here also that I was first introduced to handball. I feel a little embarrassed about this fact as the famous handball alley in Doon is only about a mile back the road from me and was apparently in full use at this time as I would find out soon enough. There were four magnificent alleys in St. Brendan's, two of which seemed to reach up into the very sky itself. I can't recall the first game I played but I do remember that shortly afterwards I invested in a handball of my own. It was daringly retrieved from the wire netting which covered the court and became a prize possession.

Constant practice seemed to be the order of the day. Sometimes courts would have to be pre booked or else you waited in line - as a "Pleb" you waited a lot! It only served to increase desire and enthusiasm. Games were played, friends were made, challenges issued, peers tested, victories cherished, defeats tasted and all the time learning to play and improving. It was such a thrill to watch the older lads - "the seniors" - play.

There were brilliant players - singles and doubles - with a range of skill that was difficult to comprehend - underarm, overarm, all arm, off the backwall, sidewall, sticks, butts and dead rollers, short serve, lob serve, left hand, right hand, off the air, even off the ground!!

The pace and Tenacity of these games was difficult to understand at first but there is something in life that ensures that if you learn a thing its hard way it is never easily forgotten. And so it was for me on my introduction to the side bet, the rubber, and the doubles or quits scenario. The rubber was for an agreed number of games played to agreed number of aces and the side bet was anything from your bowl of corn flakes to having your bed made for a week. Close games inevitably went to doubles or quits and one could easily get cleaned of his weeks supply of Vitamin D.

Of course these bets appear very trivial when compared with the side bets which were played for in the early years of handball in the G.A.A. Reports from these matches make continual reference to side-bets, wagers, and stakes, with amounts varying between £5 and £25 - a tidy sum around 1880! But the sum of £25 pales into insignificance beside the rubber which took place in 1887 between John Lawlor and Phil Casey. Back in 1885 John Lawlor, who was born in America, defeated David Browning of Limerick for its Championship of Ireland. The rubber was for 21 games of 15aces which Lawlor won 11-7. He retained his title in Cork in 1886 and the following year 1887 saw the arrangement of a rubber of 21 games of 21 aces between Lawlor and ex Alderman Phil Casey of Brooklyn, New York who was born in Ireland, for the

Championship of the World. The stakes here were for the sum of £400! Imagine how much that was worth then or better yet how much it would be worth to-day! Seemingly it remains the largest amount ever played for in a handball contest. Ten games were played in Grattan Street in Cork in August after which Lawlor led 7-3. The remaining games were played in the month of November in Brooklyn in a court which Casey had built himself. The score was 8-0 to Casey, the boarded floor and the speed of the ball proving too much for Lawlor. Immediately there after Lawlor challenged Casey, who was 10 years his senior, to a rubber for £200 with half the games in Cork and half in New York. The challenge remained open for six months but was never taken up. Casey obviously knew about doubles or quits!!

Interestingly enough in 1888 Tom Jones (Tralee) was declared champion of Ireland and discussions took place regarding a match between Jones and Lawlor but it never took place unfortunately. Lawlor went to America in this year ('88) and on his return in 1895 he was to meet Tralee's other famous son, James Fitzgerald, for the championship of Ireland. The rubber was for 11 games out of 21, with 15 aces to each game and was played in Cork. Fitzgerald won by 11 games to 7.

Talking of Championships takes me back to the first year Handball Tournament organised in the Sem by Mr. Denis Brosnan in 1969. Happy "To" is relate Denis is still working like a trooper today! It attracted 64 entrants, boarders and day pupils and the final was played in the month of May between Master Tom Barrett, Millstreet and a Master Michael Culloty, Listellick. It was a cracker. Supporters of each player - hundreds! were crammed together on the back wall and side wall. The first game went to the Corkman but true to form the response was swift and in its third game at

16-19 down it looked all over - but it wasn't. After regaining serve with an absolutely incredible butt off the backwall - well, that's what they all said afterwards! - I proceeded to serve out the game and win 21 - 19. I shall never forget that day as long as I live.

I arrived home to Listellick that summer with a beautiful cup for handball and word quickly spread to the Doon lads that some guy over in Gurrane was supposed to be good at handball. Needless to say a rubber was arranged by interested parties and I was pitted against John Joe Sugrue, champion of his people, proud, fearless and of no mean skill. The rubber was arranged for a summers evening after the cows were milked and on my very first visit to the Doon alley I was duly dispatched with clinical efficiency. I shall never forget that day either!!

Today this same John Joe works tirelessly to promote handball in the Listellick and Doon areas and indeed beyond. My own children are among those who have benefitted from his dedication and his willingness to give of his time and expertise to any child interested in the game. Regular training and competitions take place at the Tralee Sports Complex under the auspices of the Fitzgerald Jones Club. It is indeed a tremendous facility to have for handball but I keep getting a hankering to go back to Doon once more. Perhaps the time is right to look at the prospect of restoring it to former glories? Would there be enough interest out there to support such a bold move? Would people be willing to give of their time and effort for such a task? I believe they would. Let's examine that scenario shall we because I'm still looking for a rematch, obviously in the Over 40's Category!! We might even have a side bet, who knows!

By: Michael Culloty

SNIPPETS

When Donegal defeated Kerry after a replay to win their second All-Ireland U-21 title in 1987, the team included future senior stars, Manus Boyle, John Joe Doherty, Tommy Ryan and Barry Cunningham. Manus Boyle was the leading scorer in that final with a fine personal tally of 1-7. Noel O'Leary captained the Kerry side and current Irish International rugby star Mick Galway was at midfield and scored a goal.

1993 Texaco hurler of the year, D.J. Carey of Kilkenny is also an accomplished handballer. D.J. won All-Ireland 40 x 20 minor singles and doubles medals in 1988 and 1989. He also won an All-Ireland 60 x 30 minor doubles medal in 1989. He has partnered Michael "Duxie" Walsh in senior doubles in the 40 x 20 Court, and they recently won the Leinster senior doubles championship.

Former All-Star hurler, Ned Buggy of Wexford has also distinguished himself in the handball courts, with considerable success.

Kerry team manager Denis "Ogie" Moran is the only player to have captained his county to win the All-Ireland U-21 and Senior titles. "Ogie" captained the U-21's in 1977 and a year later captained the Kerry side which beat Dublin 5-11 to 0-9 in the All-Ireland senior final.

Jim McKeever (Derry 1958) and Colm O'Rourke (Meath 1991) are the only footballers to have won Texaco Footballer of the year awards when their counties lost in the All-Ireland finals.

Cork are the last county to win the N.F.L. and All-Ireland titles in the same year. They achieved that double in 1989.

Mrs. Noreen Doherty, Donegal, County G.A.A. Secretary is the only female in the country to hold the position.

Bob McConkey Limerick, was the first player to receive the Liam McCarthy Cup, when Limerick defeated Dublin in the 1921 All-Ireland SH Final.

Tipperary SH team manager, Michael "Babs" Keating played at right full forward on the Munster team which won the railway cup football title in 1972. Also included on that team were Mick O'Connell, Mick O'Dwyer, John O'Keeffe, Ray Cummins and Billy Morgan.

Kathleen Mills Dublin, holds the most All-Ireland Senior Camogie medals. She won a total of 15 medals between 1942 and 1961.

Kerry have won the most N.F.L. titles. They have won on fifteen occasions. Donegal have yet to win the N.F.L. Kerry won four in a row N.F.L. titles from 1971 to 1974. The winning captains were: Donie O'Sullivan '71, Mick Gleeson '72, Brendan Lynch '73 and Paud O'Donoghue '74.

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Recognition at last for Michael "Duxie" Walsh

Handball received a welcome boost at the end of 1993 when Michael "Duxie" Walsh of Kilkenny received the Texaco of the year award for handball.

The so called Cinderella sport had been overlooked for many years when these prestigious awards were announced.

"Duxie" Walsh won his award in recognition for his achievement in surpassing the late Paddy Perry's record of eight All-Ireland 60 x 30 singles titles in a row.

Paddy Perry hailed from Roscommon and he competed his eight in a row victories in 1937. Walsh equalled that record in 1992 and he won his ninth successive title when he beat Walter O'Connor of Meath in the All-Ireland final at Croke Park on the eve of the 1993 All-Ireland football finals.

The Kilkenny man has had phenomenal success in the handball courts.

In the 1980's he represented Ireland in the

U.S.A. 40 x 20 singles championships winning the U-15, U-17, U-19 and U-23 U.S.A. titles.

He won his first All-Ireland medal at juvenile level in 1977 and he has won at least one All-Ireland every year since.

In 1984, the G.A.A. Centenary year, he won all six All-Ireland minor medals on offer.

He won his first All-Ireland senior medal in 1985 and he has also partnered D.J. Carey, the Kilkenny All-Star hurler in senior doubles in the 40 x 20 court.

Carey ironically also won the Texaco award for hurling in 1993.

"Duxie" Walsh will be bidding for a tenth successive All-Ireland 60 x 30 singles title later this year and it would be a brave man indeed who would bet against him achieving another remarkable

KERRY

1. Peter O'Leary

Legion

2. Sean Burke

Bishopstown

3. Anthony Gleeson

Civil Service

4. Liam Flaherty

Ballydonoghue

5. Billy O'Shea

Laune Rangers

6. Connie Murphy

Dr. Crokes

7. Eamon Breen

Finuge

8. Noel O'Mahoney

Clontarf

9. Dara O Sé

Gaeltach

10. Sean McElligott

Knocknagoshel

11. Timmy Fleming

Laune Rangers

12. Dara O Cinnéide

Gaeltach

13. Brian Clarke

Dr. Crokes

14. Maurice Fitzgerald

St. Mary's

15. Sean Geaney

Dingle

SUBS: 16. Pa Laide (Austin Stacks), 17. Bingo Driscoll (Annascaul), 18. Conor Kearney (Laune Rangers), 19. Noel O'Leary (Dr. Crokes), 20. Bernard McElligott (Brick Rangers), 21. Brendan Lane (Brosna), 22. Adrian Hassett (Laune Rangers), 23. Gene Farrell (Annascaul), 24. Pat McKenna (Laune Rangers).

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DONEGAL

1. Gary Walsh

Burren

2. John Joe Doherty

Naomh Columba

3. Matt Gallagher

Naomh Bríd

4. Paddy Hegarty

Naomh Columba

5. Donal Reid

Aodh Rua

6. John Cunningham

Na Cealla Beaga

7. Martin Shovlin

Naomh Ultan

8. Noel Hegarty

Naomh Columba

9. Brian Murray

An Stát Sheirbhís

10. James McHugh

Cill Chartha

11. John Gildea

Ceill Bridge

12. Joyce McMullin

Na Ceithre Maistir

13. Jim McGuinness

Naomh Conail

14. Tommy Ryan

An Tearmain

15. Manus Boyle

Na Cealla Beaga

SUBS: 16. Paul Callaghan (Beart), 17. Anthony Molloy (Ard an Ratha), 18. Mark Crossan (Naomh Adhamháin), 19. Mark Mac Shane (Cill Chartha), 20. Martin McHugh (Cill Chartha), 21. Paul Carr (Na Ceithre Maistir), 22. Donal Breslin (Gaoth Dobháir).

The Kerry Handball Board

Welcomes the Donegal team and its supporters to Austin Stack Park, Tralee for today's crucial National Football League game.

We wish both teams the best of luck and hope for a sporting and exciting game.

May the best team win.

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John Joe Doherty, a lone star in 1993

By: Michael Daly, Donegal Democrat

Donegal travel to Tralee today with only one current Bank of Ireland All Star, John Joe Doherty.

It is perhaps a huge change in times for Donegal and this writer to be somehow bemoaning the fact that John Joe is Donegal's only All Star. It's certainly changed times from 1988 when Donegal arrived to play Kerry hoping to play well, going home happy to have beaten Kerry, even if it was a Kerry side in decline.

The positions may be exactly reversed this time out, Donegal may well be a great team in decline, unable to recreate the brilliance of 1992 while Kerry, under Ogie's tutelage, are perceived to be a team to watch.

We shall know more as to the veracity of that perception this evening, we already know that Donegal's sole All-Star, from the Naomh Columba club in Glencolmcille, really is a player to watch.

In some ways a replica of another great Gaeltacht player, Páidí, John Joe is a native speaker, a Gael to the backbone and very much a club-man, always willing to go that extra yard for his home parish.

It was that mortas cine that drove him to his first success in 1987 when he and a brilliant Donegal under 21 team lifted only the second under 21 All Ireland title for the county. The other came in '82, the best of both teams are long married - some would argue too long - into the unit that won in September 1992 and continue to believe they can repeat that feat in '94.

'6 year old John Joe's seminal experience of that all important winning locker room came in that replayed '87 final, against Kerry side who lost by five points, 1-12

to 2-4 and had current Irish rugby international Michael Galwey at midfield.

Doherty was soon to come to the notice of senior management, playing his first senior inter-county game in November, 1987, against Kildare. His championship debut followed in '88 against Armagh. He played in the drawn Ulster final of 1989 against Tyrone but missed the replay through injury, with Brendan Dunleavy taking his place. He won a senior Ulster Championship medal in 1990 but on the Thursday before the semi-final against Meath he got injured again and missed out, with Paul Carr benefitting.

After a League game against Antrim in '91 he picked up a serious pelvic injury and waited almost a year to get back in the side. He was an unused sub. against Derry in the '92 Ulster final and again in the semi with his luck changing hours before the All-Ireland final when he got a late call-up after Martin Shovlin was declared unfit to play through injured.

Although '92 was wonderful, the year gone by saw Donegal eclipsed by Derry. However, very good League form and his involvement to the Ulster final ensured John Joe of his '93 All-Star. In getting the award he became Donegal's 11th Star. Selected in his best position, right-corner back, John Joe should be back in that berth today when Donegal take to the field.

Today, he will be not just the only current All Star on view from Donegal, Kerry of course, overlooked this year by the selectors.

Footnote: The Kerry team beaten in that 1987 Under 21 All Ireland final by Donegal were: Ciaran Moran; Ken Savage, Michael

Brosnan, Morgan Nix; Pat Coughlan; Noel O'Leary; Stephen Stack; Michael Galwey (1-0); James Brosnan; P.J. Gaire; Martin Dennehy, Donal McEvoy; Ger Looney (0-1); Pearse Hoare (0-3); Gerald Murphy (1-0).
Subs: Martin Downey for Dennehy; Tom Walsh for Coughlan.

And the Donegal Team: Danny

Gallagher; John Joe Doherty; John Connors; Thomas Maguire; Diarmaid Keon; John Cunningham; Paul Carr; Barry Cunningham; John Gallagher; Paddy Hegarty; Tommy Ryan (0-1); Barry McGowan (0-1); Dermot Ward (0-2); Manus Boyle (1-7); Luke Gavigan.
Sub: Seamus Ward (0-1) for John Gallagher.

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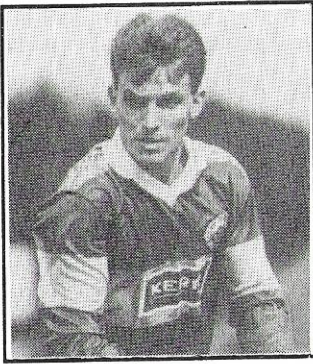
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BILLY O'SHEA

Billy O'Shea played all his early football with Listowel Emmetts. His father, Dr. Pat, had played with

the Kerry minors in 1960 and had a few trials with the Kerry Seniors, where he caught the eye of the great maestro himself, Mick O'Connell. Unfortunately, pressure of studies ended a very promising career and when he qualified he took up residence in Listowel. Billy left the north Kerry town in 1987 and headed for the town of his forefathers. He first played for the Laune Rangers on the 30th March of that year, interestingly enough as a wing-back in the U-16 team. He helped the Rangers to win the double that year, the Mid-Kerry and County Championships, defeating Beaufort and Austin Stacks respectively. The latter game, played in Castleisland was a cracker with Pa Laide playing for Stacks and Billy and Adrian Hassett on the Rangers' side. The blues triumphed on the score 3-9 to 1-13.

In the following year, Billy switched to the forward line on the Rangers U-16 team but both Beaufort and Stacks exacted sweet revenge by winning their respective competitions. However, he was corner-forward on the Mid-Kerry team which won the Co. U-16 Division Championship by defeating Castleisland in Tralee in a replay. The drawn game had been played in Killarney and turned out to be an enthralling affair before ending all square, 1-8 each. The replay had to go to extra time with Mid-Kerry eventually winning on the score of 2-12 to 1-11. Later on that year he played in goals for the Rangers

minor team which defeated Austin Stacks in the county final replay on the score 1-12 to 1-5.

In 1989, Billy reverted to wing-back and collected his second county minor medal when Rangers accounted for St. Brendans in the score 2-12 to 0-8. At mid-field on that day for St. Brendans were Conor Kearney and Bernard McElligott. 1990 was a year of mixed fortunes for the new budding star. He captained Laune Rangers minor team who were appearing in their fifth county final in succession but they had to succumb to an O'Driscoll and Farrell led West Kerry on the score 3-9 to 1-5. He scored a point and Seamus Moynihan got a goal in the All-Ireland minor final, but Meath, spearheaded by Enda McManus and Graham Gerarty, won on the score 2-11 to 2-9. On the club front, Billy was by now establishing himself on the senior team and won his first Mid-Kerry Senior Championship medal when Laune Rangers defeated old adversaries Milltown/Castlemaine 1-10 to 1-8 in a pulsating final. The year ended in another bright note when the Rangers won their first U-21 Co. Championship by accounting for O'Rahillys 0-8 to 0-7 with Billy at left half forward, Timmy Fleming mid-field and Adrian Hassett right-half back.

1991 began in disastrous fashion for the dashing red-head. Kerry defeated Cork in the U-21 Munster final in Páirc Uí Chaoimh in dreadful conditions. Billy had a blinder but in the 54th minute he was victim of an unpunished sliding tackle which left him with a broken leg. Also on that Kerry team were Peter O'Leary, Liam Flaherty, Conor Kearney, Bingo O'Driscoll, Pa Laide and Bernard McElligott. The irrepressible Billy was back in action again by the end of August winning his second Mid-Kerry Senior Championship. When the Kerry Senior

Senior selectors went looking for new talent following the defeat by Down in the All-Ireland semi-final, Billy made his senior debut in the National Football League against Kildare.

On the following year, he made his senior championship debut with Kerry. However, having beaten Cork, Clare won the Munster final to every Kerry supporter's dismay. Kerry made amends by beating Cork in the Munster U-21 final but had to succumb to Tyrone in the All-Ireland semi-final. Laune Rangers won the Mid-Kerry Championship again and the Co. League Div. 1 to end the year on a successful note.

Success continued to elude Billy at senior inter county level in 1993. Kerry lost to Cork in the Munster semi-final. However, he collected his third U-21 Munster medal by triumphing over the old enemy. However, Meath won the All-Ireland final despite the best efforts of Billy on the forty.

Nevertheless there was some consultation for him when Rangers won the county senior championship by accounting for Annascaul. The Langford St. dynamo had an outstanding championship at wing back. So far, this year Billy O'Shea is a regular wing back on the county senior team. He showed his versatility recently when he was reckoned man of the match on the 40 for Munster in the Railway Cup final against Ulster. Though still a beginner, he has achieved an amount in his chosen sport. He has a county minor, U-21 and senior championship medal. He has 3 Munster U-21 medals. Nevertheless, he has also experienced disappointment, which will also serve him in good stead. His commitment to the game is total - even to a fault. He has uncanny skill, courage, energy and speed and at 22 he has much to contribute to both club and county. Go néirí go breá leis.

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Kerry and Donegals last N.F.L. Clash at Austin Stack Park

Kerry and Donegal last met in a N.F.L. game in Tralee on Sunday, November 20th 1988.

The game was played in dry conditions and watched by a crowd of about 3,000. However, underfoot conditions were sticky and this seemed to militate more against Kerry than their opponents. Donegal took the game to Kerry from the outset and after 20 minutes led 0-5 to 0-2.

Eoin "Bomber" Liston was put through by Dermot Hannafin but his attempted shot was smothered by a defender and cleared to safety. Maurice Fitzgerald had a point from a '45' and by half time the sides were level 0-5 each. Donegal had seven wides in this half and Kerry didn't have a single wide.

Fitzgerald put Kerry in front at the start of the second half but Martin McHugh equalised shortly afterwards.

Murray and Carlin sent Donegal into the lead with points in the 10th and 12th minutes. Kerry's next score came in the 18th minute, a point by Liston.

Then Donegal struck for a vital goal. Tommy Doyle sent Pat Spillane careering through the middle of the field, but as the Kerry stalwart surged forward he

handpassed the ball straight into the hands of Donegal defender, Martin Shovlin.

Shovlin passed to Marty Carlin who in turn found Brian Murray and the full forward goaled from straight in front of the goal.

Kerry had played in the blue jerseys of Munster and Donegal wore the green jerseys with gold hoop. In the circumstances it appeared that Spillane was the victim of mistaken identity and actually thought he was passing the ball to a Colleague.

That score decided the game and Donegal collected the points. Final Score Donegal 1-10 Kerry 0-11.

The Teams lined out as follows:

Donegal: G. Walsh, J.J. O'Doherty, J. Connors, C. Campbell, D. Reid, B. Touhy, M. Shovlin, A. Molloy, M. Gavigan, P. Ward, M. Callin, T. Ryan, M. McHugh, B. Murray, S. Carr.

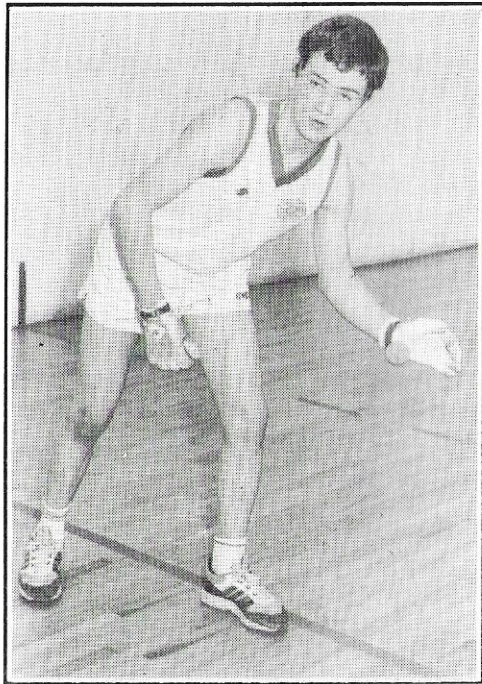
Kerry: C. Nelligan, N. Savage, A. O'Donovan, G. Lynch, T. Doyle, T. Spillane, E. Walsh, D. Hannafin, T. Brosnan, D. McEvoy, J. O'Shea, M. Fitzgerald, M. McAuliffe, E. Liston, P. Spillane.

Subs: M. Brosnan for N. Savage, J. Kennedy for D. Hannafin, E. Breen for McEvoy. Referee: R. Moloney (Limerick).

Buíochas

Coiste liathróid Láimhe Chiarraí wish to thank the Kerry G.A.A. Board for allowing them produce this programme. A special word of thanks to our advertisers for their support. We also thank Eamon O'Sullivan, P.R.O. of the Kerry G.A.A. Board, Mrs. Noreen Doherty, Secretary, Donegal G.A.A. Board and all who contributed articles. The proceeds of today's programme will go towards the promotion of juvenile handball in the county.

Kerry's Brightest Handball Stars



Dominic Lynch

While the Kerry senior footballers were beating Mayo in the N.F. L. at Ballina on the 20th February; another Kerry sportsman was keeping the green and gold flag flying in the handball court.

Dominic Lynch from Glenbeigh was in action against Pa Doody of Limerick in the Munster 40 x 20 minor singles final at Mallow.

Dominic had won his quarter final and semi-final games with considerable ease and in the final he proved too good for his opponent winning in straight games, 21-12, 21-2, to win Kerry's first ever provincial 40 x 20 minor singles title.

Dominic came through the juvenile ranks and showed potential from an early age.

He won Kerry County Championship medals at U-12, U-13, U-14, U-15 and U-16 level and also won Kerry Colleges medals with Killorglin Community School. In 1991 he won the Munster U-14 doubles 40 x 20 title in partnership with John Joe Quirke.

Last year the pair did the county proud when they won the Munster and All-Ireland U-16 40 x 20 doubles titles to give handball in Kerry a badly needed boost. Dominic's success story didn't end there. He went on to win the Mallow Minor invitation singles tournament in October and later that month he won the Irish open U-17 40 x 20 singles trials and thus qualified to represent Ireland in the U.S.A. U-17 singles championships in Chicago in December.

He won the Consultation event in these championships and gained invaluable experience.

On last Saturday, March 5th Dominic travelled to Mallow to play Trevor Winders of Kildare in the All-Ireland 40 x 20 Minor singles semi-final.

The Kildare player went into this game with a big reputation, having won an All-Ireland minor handball singles title in 1992. Dominic never got going in the first game in this contest and lost 21-7. The signs looked ominous in the second game when he trailed 13-3.

The young Kerry star composed himself however and began to play brilliant handball and fought back to win the game 21-14.

The third game was closely contested but Dominic was not going to be stopped and he went on to win, 21-16.

He will play either Michael

Finnegan Cavan, or Oliver Cassidy, Mayo in the All-Ireland final later this month and what an achievement it would be if he goes on to win the title. It is certainly well within the compass of this outstanding Kerry Sports Star who is eligible to play minor for another two years.

John Joe Quirke

John Joe Quirke is also from Glenbeigh and he has been Dominic Lynch's partner at U-12, U-13, U-14 U-15 and U-16 level.

This year the partnership was broken up as John Joe was eligible to play U-16.

The partnership will be restored again next year and they will both be playing in the minor doubles and singles championships.

In addition to winning the Munster and All-Ireland U-16 doubles title last year, John Joe also won the Munster Vocational Doubles Championship in partnership with Pat Murphy.

The pair represented Killorglin Community School and were most

unlucky to lose in the All-Ireland final at Croke Park.

John Joe has won Kerry County Championship medals at U-12, U-13, U-14, U-15 and U-16 level.

He also won Kerry Colleges Handball medals and last year captained the Killorglin Community Schools team which won the Kerry Colleges Senior title.

He also represented Ireland in the U.S.A. U-15 singles championships in Chicago last December and while not successful will have gained very valuable experience.

John Joe is a wholehearted and skilful player and he has proved an ideal partner for Dominic Lynch.

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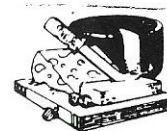
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The Pressure of Success

By: Peter Campbell (Donegal Democrat)

Writing in a Kerry programme may not be the best place to talk about the pressure of success but it's better than talking about the pressure of failure. Donegal reached the summit of Division One of the National Football League for the first time in 1988 having scaled the heights from Division 3 over the previous eight seasons spending four years in each Division.

Their first away win in the '88 / '89 season was at today's venue but away wins have been, for the most part, a rare occurrence, winning just three times before the 1992 / '93 season. After their All-Ireland success they won all their four away League games but that was in the re-organised League and the success came against Cavan, Longford, Carlow and Tipperary - hardly the kind of results that raises eyebrows.

However, their home record in the National League in Division 1 is quite remarkable. Against Clare three weeks ago, Donegal were playing their 21st home game and they have been successful in all but one of them - Down defeated them in Ballyshannin in their second home game in 1988.

Their record against Kerry has also been very good in this top Division. Apart from the meeting here in 1988, the sides have met twice in Ballyshannon with Donegal winning twice - in 1989 Donegal won by 0-11 to 0-10, while in 1990 Donegal won by 1-12 to 0-12.

The last six seasons represent the latest period ever in Donegal football.

The All-Ireland success of '92 came after the side had contested four Ulster finals in-a-row, winning two and losing two.

The National League final defeat after a replay last year was also breaking new ground for the side as they had failed at the semi-final stage on five occasions before that.

The incentive for breaking new ground is always there for teams that are hungry for success. However, coping with success and being hungry to add to it is something that Donegal have yet to be accustomed to.

The present Donegal squad is largely based on All-Ireland winning U-21 teams of 1982 and 1987. The members of the '82 winning team are all now well into their thirties and the axe is beginning to loom large over them.

The hunger for more success has not helped since the All-Ireland win by the loss of key players through injury. Most Gaelic lovers in Ireland await with anticipation the return of Tony Boyle, arguably the most exciting player to hit the gaelic scene in the past couple of years. His return is the most talked about feature of Donegal football for some time. Donegal's success may be linked to Tony's return.

Even in Kerry's case being able to cope with success can only come after you are successful. It is a new phenomenon in Donegal but something which is most welcome.

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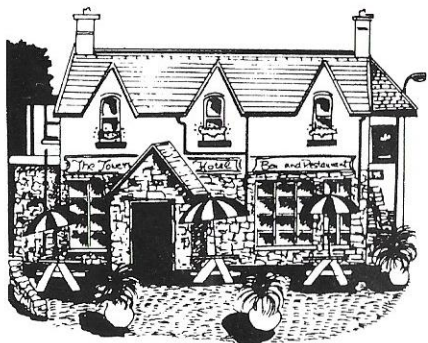
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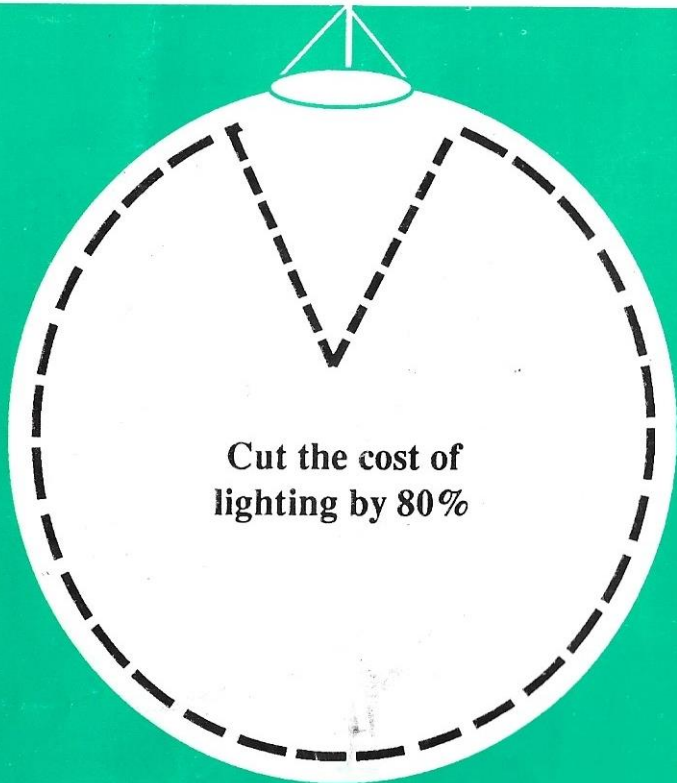
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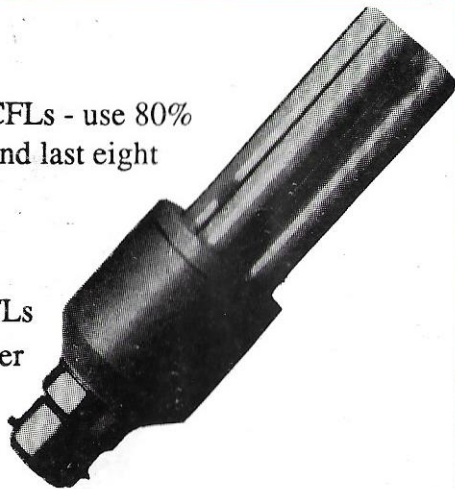
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