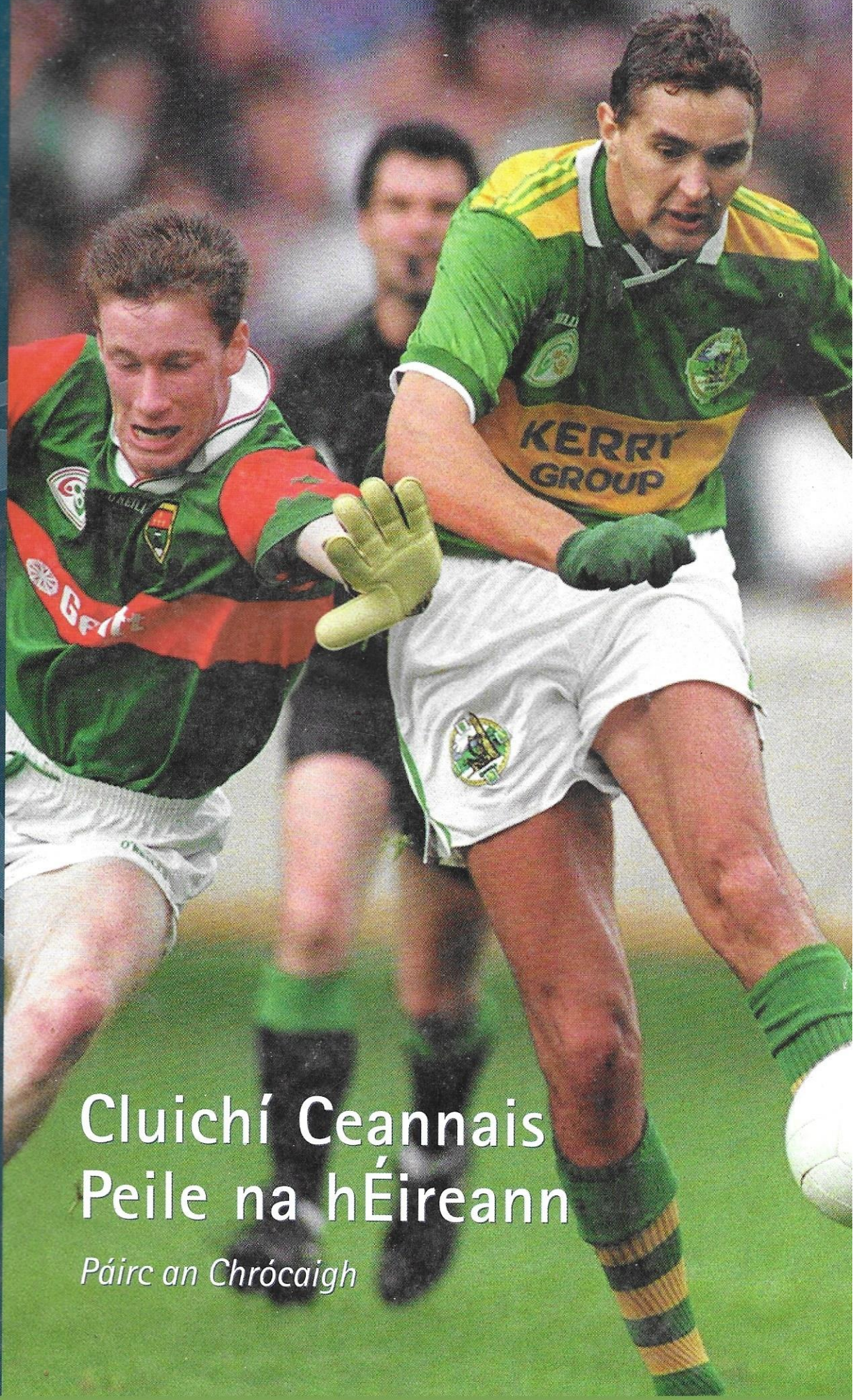


Clár Oifigiúil
€2.00 (incl.VAT)

CUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL



28.09.97



Cluichí Ceannais Peile na hÉireann

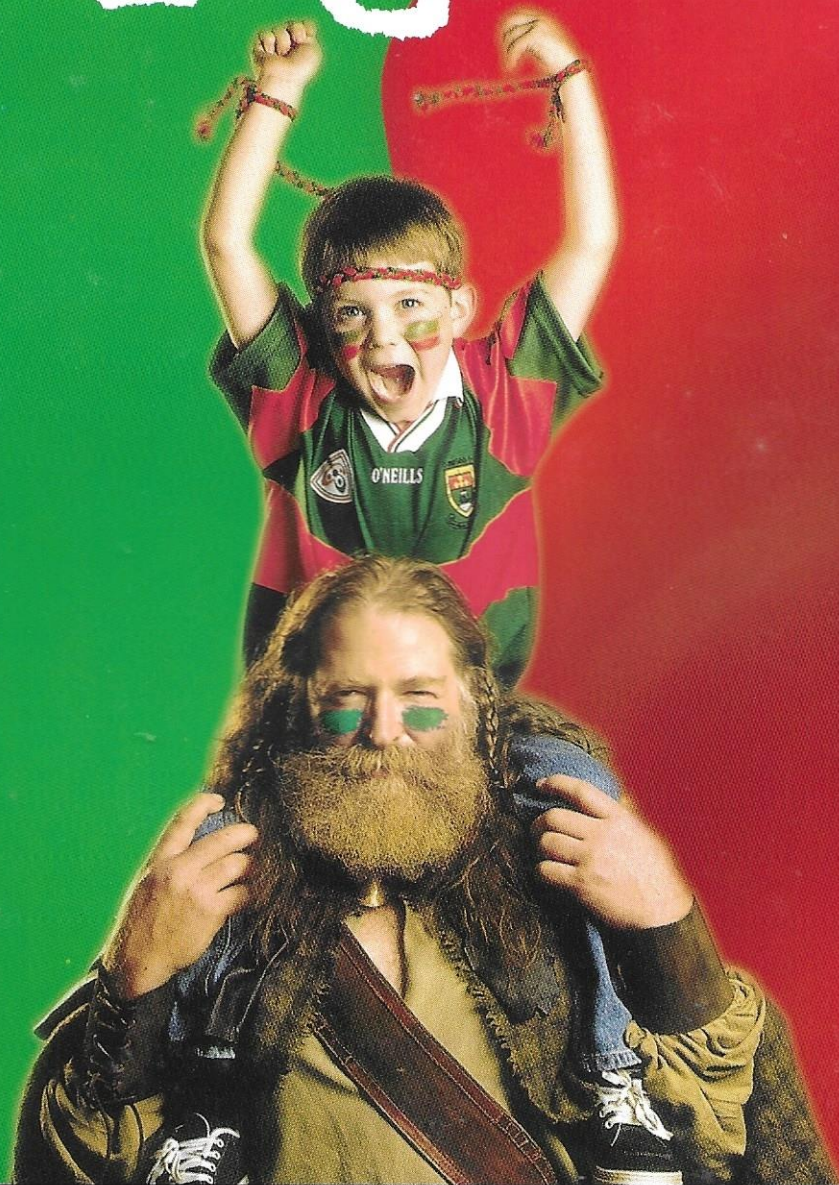
Páirc an Chrócaigh

Bank of Ireland

Football Championship

Rian Ó Maolshúichéil
Árd Stiúrthóir

SHOW YOUR
COLOURS!
ANSWER
THE CALL!



Bank of Ireland
Football Championship





CUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL



Cluichí Ceannais Peile na hÉireann

Mionúir

Laois v. Tír Eoghain

1.30.i.n. **Réiteoir:** J. Bannon (An Longfort)

Linesmen: N. Barrett (Corcaigh) **STAND-BY REFEREE**

D. Joyce (Gaillimh)

Sinsir

Ciarraí v. Maigh Eo

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

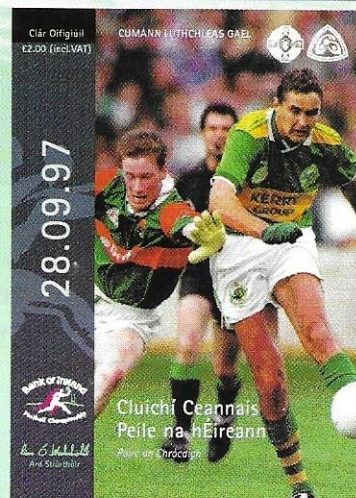
Linesmen: P. Casserly (An Iarmhí) **STAND-BY REFEREE**

B. Crowe (An Cabhán)

Amhrán na bhFiann

Sinne Fianna Fáil,
Atá faoi gheall ag Éirinn,
Buíon dár slua
Thar toinn do ráinig chugainn
Faoi mhóid bheith saor,
Sean-tír ár sinsear feasta
Ní fhágfar faoin tíorán ná faoin tráill.
Anocht a théam sa bhearna baoil
Le gean ar Ghaeil chun báis nó saoil
Le gunna scréach faoi lámhach na bpiléar,
Seo libh canaig amhrán na bhFiann.

Ár gClúdach



Our cover features:
James Nallen (Maigh Eo) and
Maurice Fitzgerald (Ciarraí)
in action during last year's
Semi-Final at Croke Park.

DBA

© Foilsithe ag DBA Publications Limited,
56 Carysfort Avenue, Blackrock, Co. Dublin.
Tel: (01) 288 7247. Fax: (01) 288 3583.
ar son CHUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL
Cló: Wood-Printcraft.

Teachtaireacht an Uachtaráin

Fearaim fíorchaoin fáilte romhaibh go léir go dtí Páirc an Chrócaigh do Chluichí Ceannais Peile na hÉireann 1997. Ba mhaith liom fáilte ar leith a chur roimh na foirne, na hoifigigh agus an lucht leanúna ó Mhaigh Eo, Ciarraí, Tír Eoghain agus Laois.

Ag tús na bliana seo bhí go leor daoine ag rá go raibh an pheil in ísle brí. Is cúis áthais dúinn ar fad a aithint go raibh sár-chluichí againn go dtí seo sna comórtais mionúir agus sinsir agus go deimhin bhí roinnt cluichí den scoth againn ina measc. Tréaslaím a n-iarachtaí leis na himreoirí ar fad a ghlac páirt sna comórtais craoibhe i rith an tséasúir agus gabhaim buíochas leis na hoifigigh agus na foirne bainistíochta a d'ullmhaigh na foirne ar fad. Níl dabht ar bith ach gur éirigh leo ar fad an pheil a athnuachan lena gcumas, lena ndúthracht agus lena scileanna.

Tá milliún duine tar éis siúl trí gheataí Pháirc an Chrócaigh i rith an tséasúir seo chun féachaint ar ár gcluichí. Níor tharla a leithéid ariamh cheana agus is údar mórtais dúinn ar éileamh chomh mór anois ar ár gcluichí. Ba mhaith liom buíochas an Chumainn a chur in iúl dár lucht leanta dílis agus cabhróidh a dtacaíocht linn an Cumann a fhorbairt do dhúshláin ná mílaoise nua.

Is ócáid stairiúil í seo toisc go mbeidh an lucht éisteachta raidió agus an lucht féachana teilifíse is mó riamh ag ár gcluichí ar fud an domhain. Is ábhar bróid dúinn sa Chumann go mbeimid ábalta ardú meanman a thabhairt dár n-imirceánaigh pé áit a bhfuil siad scaipthe ar fud an domhain. Dar ndóigh tá rath thar cuimse ar ár gcluichí thar lear i láthair na huaire agus tá siad á n-imir i chuire cheard ar fud na cruinne. Fáiltím go speisialta romhaibh ar fad a tháinig abhaile go hÉirinn chun freastal ar chluiche ceannais an lae inniu.

Cuirfead fáilte speisialta roimh iomaitheoirí na craoibhe sinsir, Ciarraí agus Maigh Eo. Tá traidisiún na peile go smíor sa dá chonndae sin agus níor imir sa dá chéile i gCluiche Ceannais na hÉireann i ngrád na sinsir ó 1932. Níor bhuaigh Maigh Eo Corn Mhig Uidhir ó 1951 nuair a bhí Seán Flanagan, athair Dermot, mar chaptaen ar an bhfoireann. Dar ndóigh tá Ciarraí iad

féin gan "Sam" ó 1986 nuair a bhí bainisteoir an lae inniu, Páidí Ó Sé i measc laochra na Ríochta. Táimid ar fad ag tnúth le sár thaispeántas peile ón dá fhoireann seo agus táim cinnte go bhfeicimid scileanna breátha na peile á léiriú ag an himreoirí sár-oilte seo.

Bhí bua stairiúil ag Laois anuraidh i ngrád na mionúir. Is mór an chreidiúint dóibh go bhfuil siad ar ais arís le foireann úrnua chun dul sa choimhlínt don chraobh ceannais. Ba bhliain tragóideach í an bhliain seo do Chonndae Thír Eoghain agus don fhoireann mionúir ach go háirithe. Chailladar duine dá laochra óga cróga, Paul McGirr, go tubaisteach ar pháirc na h-imeartha i gcoinne Ard Mhacha. Cuimhnimid go speisialta ar Phól inniu agus ar a mhuintir, Francie, Rita agus na páistí mar aionna speisialta ag Cumann Lúthchleas Gael inniu. Tá crógacht thar chuimse léirithe ag mionúir Thír Eoghain go dtí seo agus tréaslaím a ndílseacht do Paul McGirr leo.

Ba mhaith liom buíochas ó chroí a ghabháil le Banc na hÉireann atá mar phríomh-urraithe againn ar an gcomórtais craoibhe le cúpla bliain. Níl dabht ach gur chabhraigh a gcumas margaíochta agus bolscaireachta go mór le híomhá na peile a ardú os comhair an phobail i mbliana. Táimid go mór faoina gcomaoin as ucht a dtacaíocht airgeadais agus tá sé ag cabhrú go mór le forbairt na peile sna condaetha ar fud Éireann.

Guím gach rath ar na moltóirí atá ag feidhmiú inniu Brian White agus John Bannon agus a maoir. Gabhaim buíochas leis an meáin chumarsáide ar fad a thug oiread sin poiblíochta dúinn i rith an tséasúir seo. Tá focal molta a leith tuillte ag an Ard Stiúrthóir agus a fhoireann i bPáirc an Chrócaigh de thoradh an réamh-ullmhúcháin cuimsitheach, críochnúil atá curtha i gcrích chun an lá mór seo a reachtáil.

Ar deire guím gach rath ar na himreoirí ar fad a bheas ag dul sa choimhlínt inniu agus tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh ar fad taitneamh agus sult as na cluichí speisialta seo.

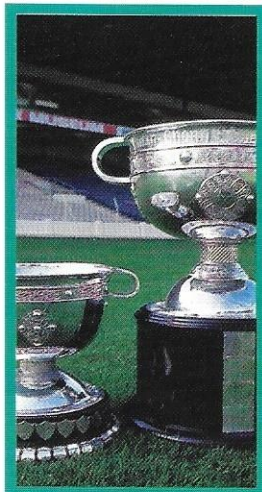
Seosamh Mac Donncha

Seosamh Mac Donncha,
Uachtarán, C.L.G.



Clár an Lae

- 1.13 i.n.:** Foireann Mhionúir Laoise amach ar an bPáirc.
- 1.15 i.n.:** Foireann Mhionúir Thír Eoghain amach ar an bPáirc.
- 1.25 i.n.:** Arrival of Uachtarán C.L.G. Seosamh Mac Donncha agus a bhean; Eirleamh C.L.G. An Dr. Diarmuid Ó Clúmháin, Ardeaspag Caiseal agus Imleach.
- 1.27 i.n.:** Arrival of An Taoiseach.
- 1.30 i.n.:** Craobh Mhionúir Peile na hÉireann. **Laois v. Tír Eoghain**
- 2.40 i.n.:** End of Minor Football Final.
- 2.45 i.n.:** Presentation of the Minor Trophy by An Dr. Diarmuid Ó Clúmháin.
- 2.55 i.n.:** Golden Jubilee Teams Cavan and Kerry introduced by Mick Dunne.
- 3.05 i.n.:** Paths to the Finals- Big Screen.
- 3.10 i.n.:** Foireann Mhaigh Eo amach ar an bPáirc.
- 3.12 i.n.:** Foireann Chiarraí amach ar an bPáirc.
- 3.20 i.n.:** An Taoiseach meets the teams.
- 3.23 i.n.:** Parade begins.
- 3.28 i.n.:** Amhrán na bhFiann.
- 3.30 i.n.:** Craobh Shinsir Peile na hÉireann. **Ciarraí v. Maigh Eo**
- 4.08 i.n.:** Salute to the Counties - Artane Bands with Finbar Wright.
- 4.15 i.n.:** Second half of the Senior Game.
- 4.50 i.n.:** Senior Game ends.
- 4.55 i.n.:** Presentation of the Sam Maguire Trophy to the winning captain by Uachtarán C.L.G. Seosamh Mac Donncha.





all ireland gold
all ireland gold
spórtiris
spórtiris
spórtiris ar an láthair
spórtiris ar an láthair
olé, olé
olé, olé



TnaG...

on the ball

A message from the Bank of Ireland



It is clear that 1997 will go down as a vintage year in the history of the Bank of Ireland Football Championship. It has been a summer in which new counties have emerged to challenge the more established giants of the game. The supporters of Sligo, of Clare and of Kildare as well as those of Cavan and Offaly have experienced the thrill of success before seeing their counties finally give their best for another year. In total, there have been 37 matches, including seven replays!

As we reach the climax of the 1997 Football Championship, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Croke Park for what is sure to be an open and exciting encounter between two evenly matched teams. Both Kerry and Mayo are backed by long heritage and tradition, albeit with differing success rates; while Kerry can look back on 30 Championship successes, Mayo must look as far back as 1951 for the last of their three titles. Can Kerry rekindle their winning tradition which was last ignited in 1986 or can Mayo finally make the breakthrough which they so nearly achieved last year?

Bank of Ireland and all its people take great pride in our association with what is Ireland's premier sporting event. In a year which has seen record crowds and unprecedented support for the Championship, we hope that we have contributed to the growth and development of this great game.

We salute and thank the players of 32 counties who have shown such skills and athleticism throughout the summer - the dedication which they show year after year is something which we all greatly admire. We also salute their supporters who have Answered the Call in their thousands and added so much to the spectacle and excitement of a great Championship.

Finally, I hope you enjoy the colour, excitement and atmosphere of this great sporting occasion. Today, and, of course, I wish both the Kerry and Mayo teams the very best of luck!

Des O'Reilly,
General Manager, Sales & Marketing,
Bank of Ireland.

Bank of Ireland
Football Championship



Medical / Lost Children

Upper Hogan: Medical Centre rear of Press Area.

Lower Hogan: Treatment and Cardiac Ambulance rear of Section G/L.

New Stand Lower: Medical Centre rear of Section 301.

New Stand Upper: Medical Centre rear of Section 701. Treatment and Cardiac Ambulance rear of Stand. Medical Personnel on duty on Premium & Box Level.

Hill 16: Treatment Ambulance beside Treatment Centre rear of Terrace. The Site Medical Officer will be situated on the pitch in front of the Nally Stand. All Treatment Centres are staffed by St. John's Ambulance Brigade members.

Lost Children

Lost Children can be collected at the above Medical Centres.

Ground Regulations - Páirc An Chrócaigh

- All persons entering this ground are admitted only subject to the following Ground Regulations and to the Rules and Regulations of the Gaelic Athletic Association. Entry to the ground shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all these Rules and Regulations.
 - Fireworks, smoke canisters, bottles, glasses, cans, flags, banners, poles and other similar articles or containers, including anything which could or might be used as a weapon, are not permitted within the ground, and any persons in possession of such an article or container may be refused entry or ejected from the ground.
 - Spectators are not permitted to bring alcohol into the ground/arena.
 - The climbing of walls, stands or other buildings in the ground is forbidden.
 - Excessive noise such as that from the use of radio sets or other appliances and behaviour likely to cause confusion or nuisance of any kind including foul or abusive language is not permitted in any part of the ground.
 - Under no circumstances is it permitted to throw any objects onto the pitch.
 - Unauthorised persons are not permitted to enter upon the field of play and shall be ejected.
 - Any person who fails to comply with the instructions from a steward may be ejected from the ground.
 - The stadium management reserve the right of admission.
 - The stadium management reserves the right to refuse admission to or to eject any person who refuses to be searched by a police officer.
 - Any person who remains in a gangway or aisle may be ejected from the ground.
 - The G.A.A. reserves the right for its servants or agents to remove from the stadium any person who does not comply with the Ground Regulations or whose presence on the ground could reasonably be construed as constituting a source of danger, nuisance or annoyance to other spectators.
- C.C.T.V. is in operation at this stadium.

The Artane Boys' Band and Senior Band

Music Programme

1.00 i.n.:

"Emerald Pride"
L. Palmer
"When the Saints go marching in"
H. Walters
"Eye of the Tiger"
F. Sullivan & J. Peterik
"Irish Molly"
J. Lynch

1.25 i.n.:

Salute for Uachtarán C.L.G., Seosamh Mac Donncha and the G.A.A. Patron, An Dr. Diarmuid Ó Clúmháin.

1.27 i.n.:

Arrival of An Taoiseach. Salute.

2.03 i.n.:

"God save Ireland"
Arr. J. Lynch
"The Foggy Dew"
Arr. J. Lynch

2.55 i.n.:

Cavan/Kerry Golden Jubilee Teams. "On the one Road". Trio.

3.10 i.n.:

Salute to Mayo.

3.12 i.n.:

Salute to Kerry.

3.20 i.n.:

An Taoiseach meets the teams.

3.23 i.n.:

March melodies for the Parade of the Teams.

3.28 i.n.:

Amhrán na bhFiann.

4.08 i.n.:

Salute to the supporters of both Senior Teams with Finbar Wright. "Moonlight in Mayo" "Rose of Tralee"

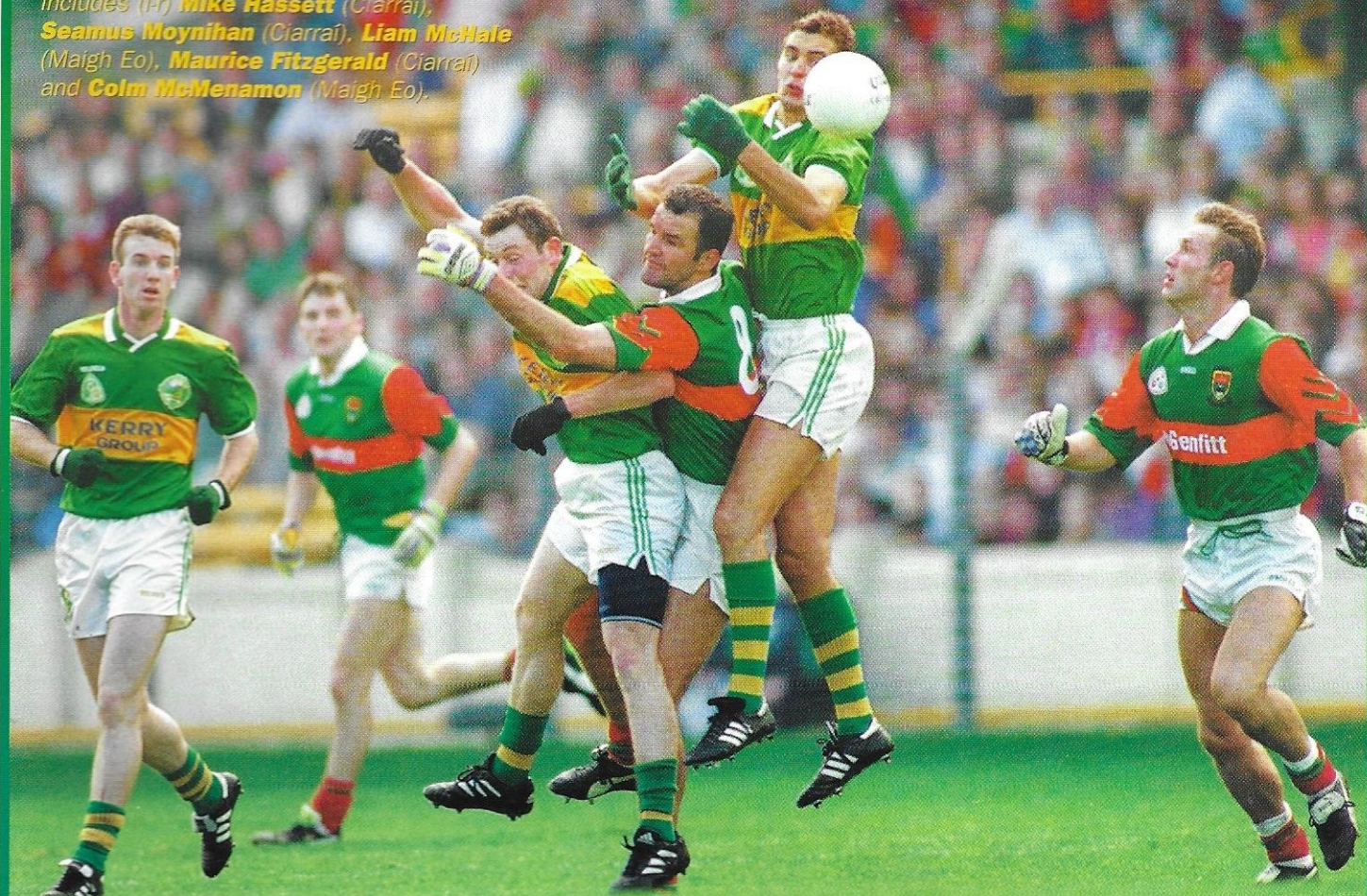
Musical Director:
Mr. Liam Palmer.

SINCE  1866

Magee

*Player or Supporter
Be a Winner with Magee*

Midfield action from last year's semi-final includes (l-r) **Mike Hassett** (Ciarraí), **Seamus Moynihan** (Ciarraí), **Liam McHale** (Maigh Eo), **Maurice Fitzgerald** (Ciarraí) and **Colm McMenamon** (Maigh Eo).



I.N.T.O. / G.A.A. Mini-Sevens



Boys' Football

Team U

Green and Gold

Pitch: Defending Hogan Stand - Canal End.

1. Vincent Hennessy, Lisvermane N.S., Tipperary.
2. Emmett Morrissey, Bruree N.S., Limerick.
3. Daniel Ward, St. Patrick's P.S., Derrygonnelly, Fermanagh.
4. Eoin Creedon, Kilmurry N.S., Cork.
5. Colm Kelly, Swan N.S., Laois.
6. Pádraig Twomey, Star of the Sea, Sandymount, Dublin.
7. Gavin Mallon, Loup P.S., Derry.
8. Peter Clinton, St. Mary's N.S., Carlanstown, Meath.
9. Niall McNamee, Ballybryan N.S., Offaly.
10. Francis Cleary, St. Felim's N.S., Cavan.

Team V

Green and Red

Pitch: Defending Cusack Stand - Canal End.

1. Ciarán Flynn, St. Felim's N.S., Cavan.
2. Kieran Cooke, St. Joseph's N.S., Boyle, Roscommon.
3. Lorcan Harney, Scoil Phádraig, Clane, Kildare.
4. Ciarán McGrath, Belclare N.S., Galway.
5. John Ryan, St. Joseph's B.N.S., Terenure, Dublin.
6. Barry Cogan, Clohogue N.S., Sligo.
7. Brendan Manning, Ashford N.S., Wicklow.
8. Eoin Reid, Ballyhale N.S., Kilkenny.
9. Martin Grogan, St. Columbkille's P.S., Carrickmore, Tyrone.
10. Owen Duffy, St. Joseph's N.S., Carrickmacross, Monaghan.

Girls' Football

Team W

Green and Gold

Pitch: Defending Cusack Stand - Hill 16 End.

1. Pamela Kelly, Allen N.S., Kildare.
2. Edel O'Sullivan, Vicarstown N.S., Cork.
3. Jackie Shiels, St. Oliver Plunkett's N.S., An Uaimh, Meath.
4. Laura Ross, Ballyduff N.S., Kerry.
5. Andrea Fitzpatrick, St. Helen's N.S., Portmarnock, Dublin.
6. Dymona O'Brien, Ballyahill N.S., Limerick.
7. Laura Quinn, St. Francis Xavier N.S., Coolmine, Dublin.
8. Rita Connaughton, Tang N.S., Westmeath.
9. Jennifer Kelly, Piltown N.S., Kilkenny.
10. Edel Gibbons, Dooish N.S., Donegal.

Team X

Green and Red

Pitch: Defending Hogan Stand - Hill 16 End.

1. Joanne Lyons, Ardkeeran N.S., Sligo.
2. Sarah Kenny, Windfield-Killyan N.S., Galway.
3. Sarah Jane McCormack, Muchgrange N.S., Louth.
4. Caroline O'Malley, The Neale-Glencorrib N.S., Mayo.
5. Ciara Brady, Carrigabruise N.S., Cavan.
6. Claire Crowley, Roundwood N.S., Wicklow.
7. Orla Saunders, St. Malachy's P.S., Belfast, Antrim.
8. Elaine Doyle, Clonegal N.S., Carlow.
9. Kathy Conway, St. Patrick's P.S., Moneymore, Derry.
10. Shauna McElvaney, St. Mary's N.S., Clontibret, Monaghan.

Big match experience on the side of Mayo



Mayo's two outings against Meath in last year's Bank of Ireland All-Ireland senior football final and replay sends them into this clash with Kerry with a distinct advantage in big-match experience.

Of the team that saw off Offaly in last month's semi-final only Peter Burke, Fergal Costello, David Heaney and Kieran McDonald did not appear during last year's games. The remainder of the side, other than David Nestor and Pat Fallon, played in both games against Meath.

This is the first time since 1951 that Mayo have qualified for successive All-Ireland senior finals. They made a successful defence of the championship in 1951 but have not won the All-Ireland crown in the meantime.

Can they end the titles famine this time? Their task is no easy one but with that wealth of big-match experience and accomplished players in all departments, the Connacht Champions must be in with a real chance.

Last time out, Mayo gave a workmanlike performance in the rain when beating much fancied Offaly by six points. Had their forwards made better use of their chances the winning margin would have been even greater.

The Connacht champions defence, shrewdly marshalled by Fergal Costello and James Nallen

in the half line and Pat Holmes at full back, gave an Offaly attack that had sparkled against Meath in the Leinster final little room to manoeuvre.

Mayo also had the whip hand at midfield, where Pat Fallon set a brisk and impressive pace.

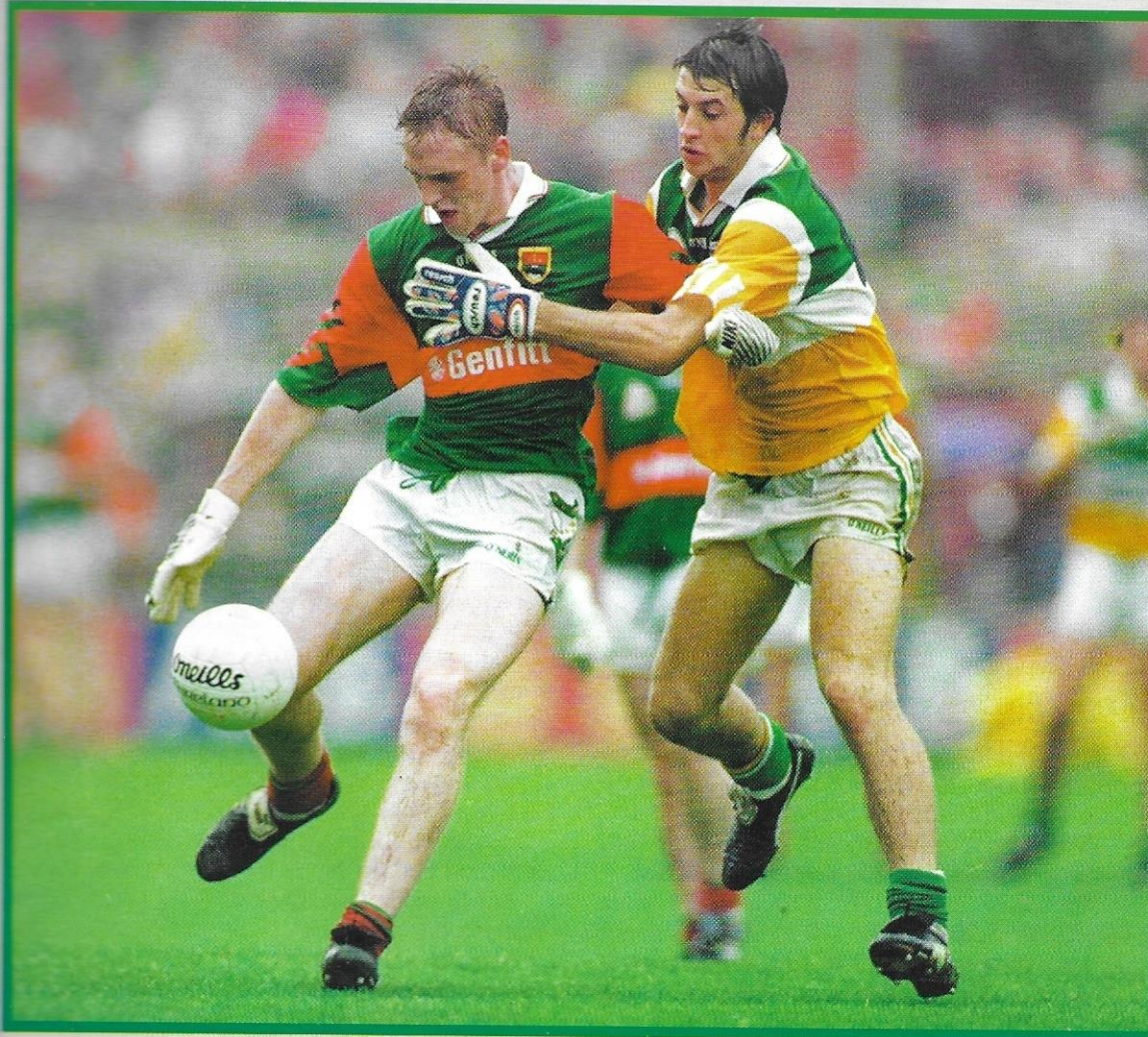
Mayo got off to a lively start and after twenty three minutes were 0-6 to no score ahead. Had the forwards made better use of their opportunities at this stage they could have been much further ahead. They led at the interval by 0-7 to 0-2.

Mayo continued to have the better of the exchanges after the interval but again squandered some good chances (they had 17 wides over-all) before finishing deserving winners of a disappointing game on an 0-13 to 0-7 scoreline.

Costello, Nallen and Holmes were by no means the only Mayo stars. Noel Connelly had a good game, while the roving Colm McManamon provided many valuable touches.

Kieran McDonald scored three valuable points and Maurice Sheridan's free-taking and general play also proved invaluable.

In addition, Mayo played with assurance and despite that disappointing total of wides in the semi-final they are now a formidable combination and one that will pose plenty of testing problems for the Kerry men.



Mayo's David Heaney gets the ball away despite the attentions of Offaly full-forward Roy Malone.

"Friendly personal service is always in fashion at TSB Bank. I like their style".

Mary Garrigan, Boutique Owner



When Mary Garrigan went looking for a bank, she wanted one that shared her own attitudes.

She chose TSB Bank.

There she found the full range of business and personal financial services she needed. They were open when she could get to them. And above-all, they were open-minded to her plans.

Mary Garrigan knows that good customer service is part and parcel of her business success.

At TSB Bank it's also the cornerstone of ours.



We want what's best for you.

The Kingdom has come a long way



Action from the Kerry – Cavan Semi-final featuring (l-r) **Bernard Morris** (An Cabhán), **Stephen King** (An Cabhán), **William Kirby** (Ciarraí), **Ronan Carolan** (An Cabhán) and **Liam O'Flaherty** (Ciarraí).

The changing face of football is mirrored by the fact that Kerry, the long time specialists of the All-Ireland senior championship, trail Mayo badly in experience at this stage of the campaign. They also start this game under the shadow of a six points defeat from the Connacht county in last year's semi-final.

However, the Kingdom have made solid progress over the past year or so. They displayed plenty of football ability and class when winning the Church and General National League title last May and gave workmanlike performances on the way to this Sam Maguire Cup tie.

Last time out Kerry were rocked by a Fintan Cahill goal just on half time that earned Cavan a dramatic 1-7 to 0-9 lead at the interval. But the Munster champions bounced back so well in the second half that they conceded only three further points to run out convincing winners by 1-17 to 1-10.

Kerry hit three points in the second half before Cavan recorded their first score of the period after nine minutes. However, the decisive score came in the 66th minute when Michael Francis Russell, who was put in possession by Maurice Fitzgerald, expertly found his way

through to the Cavan net to give Kerry a 1-15 to 1-10 lead and effectively seal victory.

Seamus Moynihan, Fitzgerald and substitutes Billy O'Shea and Russell did much to earn the Kingdom their first All-Ireland final appearance since 1986.

Moynihan was a master in the half back line with his polished football and also found time to help out at midfield.

Fitzgerald contributed many telling touches up front with his artistry, keen positional sense that led to scores and his expert finishing that yielded seven golden points.

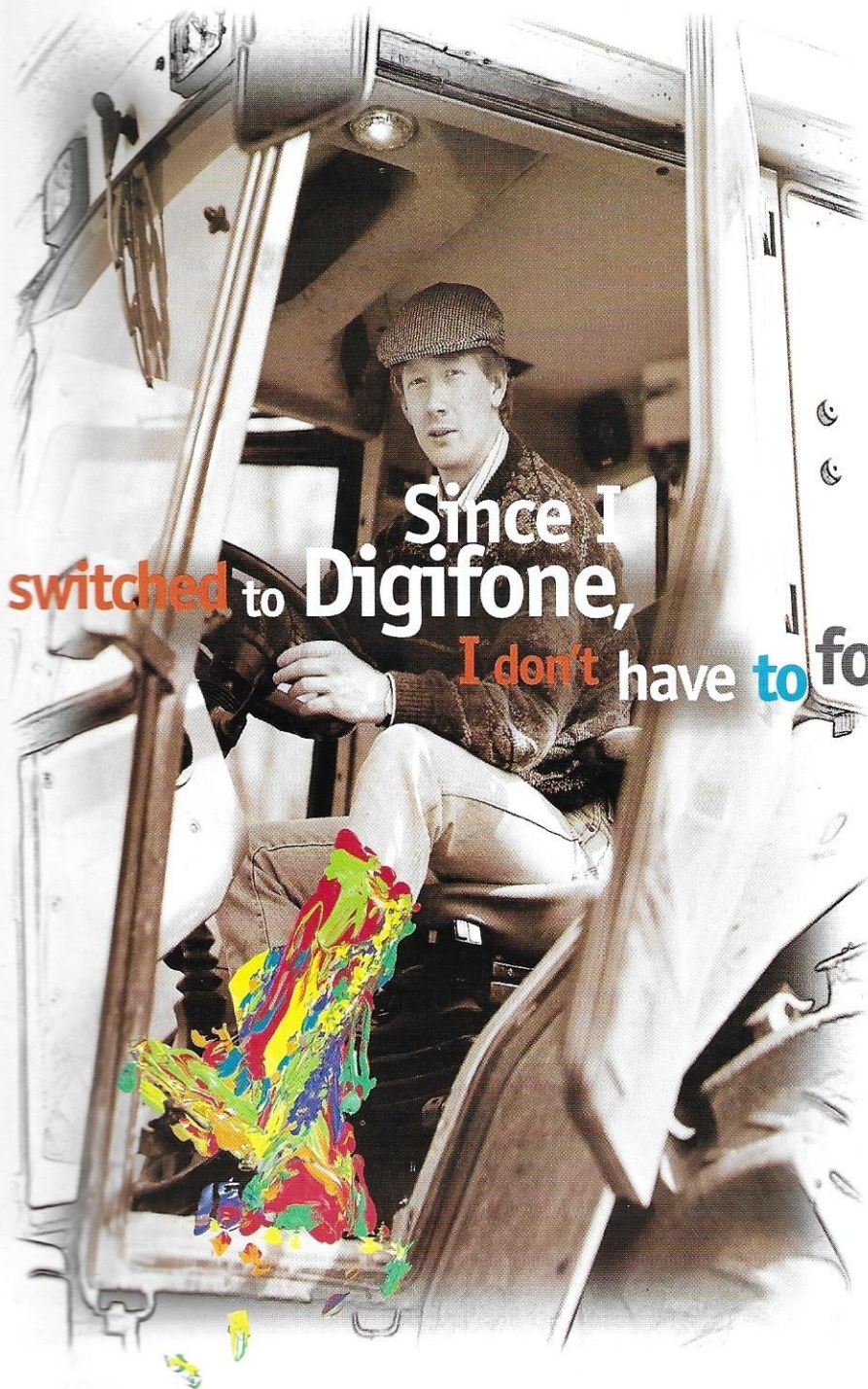
O'Shea increased Kerry's efficiency greatly after his introduction from the substitutes bench in the 32nd minute and also scored two fine points.

Russell, called into action after 48 minutes, showed up well and finished second highest scorer with 1-1.

Eamonn Breen and William Kirby were others who did much to advance Kerry's cause.

The Kingdom, then, have come a long way since their failure to Mayo in last year's All-Ireland semi-final. They are capable of responding today with the type of football and drive necessary to put them in with every chance of ending the county's long All-Ireland senior titles famine.





Since I
switched to **Digifone**,
I don't have to **fork out** as much!

I grudgingly bought a mobile
around the same time I got **the tractor**
with all the trimmings...
We have another bit of land about **ten miles**
down the road and the **mobile** means I don't
have to make half the trips back and forth...
Last month I switched to **Esat Digifone**
I heard **great** things about them
from a **friend** and I must say I haven't
been disappointed.
They certainly have the **coverage** where
they say they do. The **Message**
Minder's a **doddle**...
And the **Digifone** to **Digifone** calls
are much cheaper. Basically, anything that stops
me from having to **fork out** more than I have
to can only be a good thing...

Esat
DigifoneTM
It's time to move on

Call 1800 77 89 89 or drop into your nearest Digifone Dealer now.

Tá Turas Siar de Dhith ar Chorn Mhig Uidhir!

Roinnt blianta ó shin bhíodh peileadóirí na Ríochta níos minicí i bPáirc an Chrócaigh sa chraobhchlúiche do Chorn Mhig Uidhir ná aon chontae eile. Ach tar éis an éachta a rinne an fhoireann peile ab' fhearr ariamh, idir 1975 agus 1986, nior tháinig a gcomharbaí chun tosaigh arís go dtí inniu. D'imigh deich gcomortas tharainn in éagmais rithe na peile.

Tá an scéal ag Maigh Eo níos measa fós. I 1950 agus i 1951 bhí sár-fhoireann acu a bhain an dara agus an tríú chraobh don chontae siar thar Sionna ach le dachad a sé bliana ní dheachaigh 'Sam' go dtí contae na bPáirc Céide. Ba dhóbaire do an turas a dhéanamh i '96 nuair a bhí athimirt acu le contae na Mí a fuair an lámh in uachtar orthu san athimirt le cúlín amhain le sparáil.

Ar an mbealach go dtí an craobhchlúiche sin i '96 thug siad bata is bóthar d'fhoireann Chiarraí sa chluiche leathcheannais agus ní miste a rá go dtabharfaidh an bua sin buntáiste siceolaíoch dóibh inniu.

Bhí Maigh Eo sa chraobhchlúiche i 1989 chomh maith nuair a thugadar taispeántas maith i gcoinne churaidh na Mumhan ag an am, Corcaigh, ach is beag baint ná tionchar atá ag an gcluiche sin le foireann an lae inniu - 'Siad Diarmuid Ó Flannagáin agus Liam Mac Éil an beirt imreoir ón gcluiche sin atá fós ar fhoireann na nIartharach.

Le blianta beaga anuas bhí Chiarraí ag tabhairt aire cheart d'fhoirne óga sa chontae sa chaoi gur bhain siad craobh na mionúir i 1988 agus iad san áit tánaisteach i 1990 agus 1996. Ag tógáil orthu san bhí sár-fhoireann d'Ógánaigh (faoi 21 bhliain) i '93 agus '95/'96 nuair a bhain siad dhá chraobh Uile-Éireann. Ní comhtharlúint é go raibh baint mhór ag Páidí Ó Sé, Bainisteoir Chiarraí, leis na foirne sin agus a chomhghleacaí Séamus Mac Gearailt mar chuntóir aige. Leagadar araon an bhunsraith ar a bhfuil foireann an lae inniu tógtha.

Is dócha go bhfuil níos mó ag baint le bainistiú foirne ná corpoilúint agus scileanna an chluiche a léiriú do phainéal. Ní mór do bhainisteoir a bheith cáilithe chuca sin ceart go leor ach caithfidh sé/sí a bheith cumasaithe chun féin-mhuinín a ghiniúint in aigne na n-imreoirí; a chur ina luí orthu gur daoine speisialta iad atá tofa ar fhoireann an chontae; gur cheart dóibh a bheith bródúil as an ngeansaí a chaitheann siad; go bhfuil ar a laghad chomh maith lena gcéilí imeartha agus gur dual sinsear dóibh a bheith ar bharr an chairn i dtaca leis an pheil ghaelach de.

Is cinnte go bhfuil Seán Ó Mocháin agus Páidí Ó Sé in inmhe na riachtanais sin a chomhlíonadh. Ba pheileadóirí den chéad scoth an bheirt acu agus tuigean siad go maith na tréithe ar leith is gá a bheith ag gach imreoir chun dualgais ar leith a chomhlíonadh i bpé ceantar den pháirc a lonnaitear iad. Ní dócha go mbeidh aon easnamh ar thraenáil na bhfoirne a shíúlaigh go bródúil amach ar Pháirc an Chrócaigh inniu.

Agus conus mar a bhraitear iad i dtuairim chumais peileadóireacha agus iad á gcur i gcomparáid. Tógar na cluichí craoibhe chúige i dtús báire. Chuaigh sé rite le Chiarraí ar feadh cuid mhaith den chluiche an lámh in uachtar a fháil ar Thiobraid Árann sa chluiche leathcheannais. Cé go raibh caighdeán an-ard sa

chluiche ceannais in aghaidh An Chláir ní raibh 'An Banner' cloíte go dtí go bhfuair Pa Laide an t-aon chúl a bhí sa chluiche. Ní mór cuimhneamh air, mar sin féin, gur thug na Cláraigh bata is bóthar d'fhoireann den chéad ghrád a bhí ag Corcaigh.

Is gcás Mhaigh Eo bhí an chéad chluiche acu i gConnacht an ceann ba dheacra; bhí foireann iomráiteach ag Gaillimh agus iad ag imirt ar a dtáirseach féin i dTuaim. Ar deireadh bhí an lámh in uachtar ag fir na bPáirc Céide agus, bé an chéad uair do Mhaigh Eo na Gaillimh a chloí ar pháirc Iarlaithe ó 1951 i leith. Smaoinítear gur chuaigh Maigh Eo ar aghaidh chun craobh na hÉireann a bhaint an bhliain áirithe sin. An comhartha don bhliain seo é?

I gcrabhbhchlúiche Connachta in aghaidh Sligeach is ar éigin gur bhain Maigh Eo an bua. Gan aon dispeagadh a dhéanamh ar fhir Bheann Bulben bhí Maigh Eo go hainnis agus ní raibh na tosaí in ann scóranna a ghnóthú. Dá leanfadh an cluiche cúpla nóiméad eile bheadh comhscór ann ceaptar.

Sa chluiche leathcheannais in aghaidh An Cabháin d'imir Chiarraí go héifeachtach ach murach an sár-iarracht a rinne an sár-peileadóir Muiris Mac Gearailt rachadh sé rite leo na hUltaigh a cheansú. Choinnigh tacaí An Chabháin srian an-mhaith ar an gcuid eile de na tosaí agus ar deireadh bé an cúl a ghnóthaigh an fear ionaid, Ó Ruiséal, a chinntigh an bua do na Muimhneigh. Mar sin féin ní haon dóithíní An Cabhán nó aon fhoireann ó Ultaibh mar atá cruthaithe idir 1991/'94 nuair a ghnóthaigh foirne ón Chúige sin craobh Uile-Éireann. D'fhéadfá a rá go bhfuil Chiarraí ar ais leis na dintúirí cearta!

Sa chluiche leathcheannais eile bhí Maigh Eo i bhfad ró-mhaith do churaidh Laighean, Uíbh Fhailí a bhí tar éis éacht a dhéanamh agus curaidh na bliana '96 a leagadh. Bé an cluiche ab' fhearr a d'imir Maigh Eo i mbliana ach fós ní raibh na tosaí ag réiteach lena gcuid bróga i dtaca le scóranna a fháil. Glactar leis gur chuir an fliuchras isteach ar an gcluiche ach b'iad 'fathaigh' Mhaigh Eo ab'fhearr a sháraigh an doineann.

Cad faoin toradh inniu? Beidh an dá fhoireann ag cuimhneamh ar an gcluiche leathcheannais anuraidh nuair a bhain na hIartharaigh barrthuisle as fir na Ríochta. Ceaptar mar sin féin gur imigh tosaí Mhaigh Eo chun donais ó shin agus gur fheabhsaigh tosaí na Ríochta. Má éiríonn le Mac Éil agus Ó hOráin, go háirithe, feabhsú déanfaidh sé difríocht an-mhór do chás Mhaigh Eo. Ar an lámh eile dhe ní mór do Pa Laide agus Dara Ó Cinnéide cúnaimh níos fearr a thabhairt do Mac Gearailt ná mar a rinne siad sa chluiche leathcheannais. Muna n-éiríonn le Diarmuid Ó Flannagáin srian a choinneáil ar Ó Cinnéide beidh seans maith ag an Ríocht an chraobh a bhaint.

Má imríonn an dá fhoireann ag barr éifeachta beidh sár-chluiche ann; má fhaigheann Ó Sioradáin agus Mac Gearailt an iomarca seansanna le ciceanna éirice ní bheadh a fhios ag duine cé acu a ghnóthóidh na scóranna is mó; tá Mac Gearailt thar cionn mar imreoir agus muna sáráitear é beidh an lá leis an Ríocht.

Bheadh áthas ar a lán daoine lasmuigh de Chonnacht dá n-éireodh le Maigh Eo 'Sam' a thabhart siar den chéad uair ó 1966! Guítear rath orthu araon agus tá cluiche breá spórtúil chugainn ó dhá fhoireann chumasacha.

Tionchar Chiarraí

Ní raibh foireann mhéinseir Chiarraí i gcrabhbhchlúiche ó 1987 go 1996. Sa tréimhse sin bhain sé (6) chontae craobh na hÉireann eadhon: An Mhí (3) Corcaigh, (2) An Dún, (2) Dún na nGall (1), Dolre (1) agus Áth Cliath (1).

Sa tréimhse deich mbliana 1977-1986 nior bhain ach trí chontae an chraobh: Chiarraí (7), Áth Cliath (2) agus Uíbh Fhailí (1).

Sa tréimhse deich mbliana 1967-1976 bhain sé (6) chontae an chraobh: An Mhí (1), An Dún (1), Chiarraí (3), Uíbh Fhailí (2), Corcaigh (1) agus Áth Cliath (2).

Mí-Ádh Mhaigh Eo

I 1925 toisc nach raibh craobhchomortas Chonnachta críochnaithe d'ainmigh Coiste Chonnachta Maigh Eo le dul i ngleic le Loch Garman curaidh Laighean. Bhuaigh Maigh Eo 2-4 v. 1-4. Sa chluiche leathcheannais eile b'é an toradh Chiarraí 1-7, An Cabhán 2-3. Imríodh an dá chluiche ar 23/8/1925.

Níos déanaí d'ordaigh Coiste Chonnachta do Ghaillimh agus Maigh Eo craobhchlúiche Chonnachta a imirt agus bhuaigh Gaillimh.

Dhiúltaigh Chiarraí dul ar aghaidh don chraobhchlúiche agus ar an 10ú Lá Eanáir 1926 d'imir Gaillimh agus An Cabhán cluiche in éagmais an chraobhchlúiche agus bhuaigh An Ghaillimh leis an scór 3-2 v. 1-2. Roimhe sin d'imir na Carmannaigh in aghaidh Gaillimh i bPáirc An Chrócaigh ar 6/12/'25 agus an scór a bhí ann: Gaillimh 3-4; Loch Garman 1-1.

Smaoinigh ar Mhaigh Eo hocht!

A sign of low fuel prices.



The Statoil Price Promise is your guarantee of low fuel prices.

So when you're out driving look for the sign.

It means that no one in the area beats Statoil on price.

Look no further.


Closer to you

A Final Meeting ... 1932

Considering the extent to which they were involved in the closing stages of the championship from the first decade of the century up to the nineteen-fifties, it is surprising to note that Kerry and Mayo have met in only one All-Ireland final to date and that was sixty-five years ago (1932).

It was truly a 'David and Goliath' affair: Kerry with ten titles to their credit and unbeaten in league or championship for the previous four years, against a Mayo team none of whom had ever featured in a senior final.

And success had not diminished Kerry's fervour in pursuit of honours as on this occasion there was the incentive to equal Wexford's record of four titles in a row.

But the outsiders were not intimidated and an attendance of almost 26,000 saw them take the fight to Kerry from the throw-in. At the third minute Gerald Courell opened with a point and less than two minutes later they were three ahead when Paddy Moclair and Paddy Munnelly also raised the white flag. Kerry gradually steadied and Con Brosnan put the sides level with a well-taken goal. Tom Landers put Kerry in front, but Mayo finished the half strongly and Moclair with a point; and a goal from Courell, left them leading by 1-4 to 1-1 at the break.

Within a minute of the restart Kerry were level when Tom Landers goaled, and for the remainder of the third quarter, despite staunch resistance by the Mayo defence, Landers, Brosnan, Jackie Ryan (2) and Mike Doyle lifted Kerry into a five-point lead.

But the challengers were by no means finished. Gathering themselves for an all-out assault they raided the Kerry lines, and though the scoreboard remained unchanged for nine minutes, the game was again wide open when John Forde dashed in for a great goal. For four minutes it was touch and go but then Ryan swung over the point that ensured that Wexford's record had been equalled on the score of 2-7 to 2-4.

Kerry scorers: T.Landers 1-2, C.Brosnan 1-1, J.Ryan 0-3, M.Doyle 0-1.

Mayo: G.Courell 1-1, J.Forde 1-0, P.Moclair 0-2, P.Munnelly 0-1.

Kerry: Dan O'Keefe, Din O'Connor, Joe Barrett (capt.), Jack Walsh, Con Gaine, Paul Russell, Paddy Whitty, Johnny Walsh, Bob Stack, Con Brosnan, Joe O'Sullivan, J.J.Landers, Tom Landers, Mike Doyle, Jackie Ryan.

Sub: Bill Landers.

Mayo: Tom Burke, Mick Mulderrig (capt.), Sean Gannon, Paddy Quinn, Purty Kelly, Tom Tunney, Seamus O'Malley, George Ormsby, Mick Ormsby, Paddy Munnelly, T.J.Hanley, Patsy Flannelly, Gerald Courell, Paddy Moclair, John Forde.

In the course of the hour Kerry were awarded 18 frees and Mayo 17. Kerry had 16 wides and Mayo had eight. Mayo had just one '50' while the winners had seven. The attendance of 25,816 paid gate receipts of £2,248.

Only four points were scored from frees - Ryan (three for Kerry) and Courell, with one for Mayo.

Their Most Recent Championship Meeting ... 1996

Mayo 2-13; Kerry 1-10.

Mayo went into this game as underdogs for the Connacht representatives had lost the previous six All-Ireland semi-finals and had not beaten the Munster champions in the championship for more than three decades, but at the end of this exciting encounter in front of a disappointing 33,165 spectators, the six-point difference between the sides flattered the losers.

The Westerners were first off the mark in the second minute when Maurice Sheridan pointed a free and it was the eight minute before John Casey added to that initial score. Maurice Fitzgerald opened Kerry's account a minute later and at the quarter-hour the same player levelled matters from a free. Against the run of play Fitzgerald gave the 'Kingdom' the lead in the 17th minute, but Noel Connelly, Sheridan and Casey fired over three quick points to give Mayo a deserved lead.

Fitzgerald reduced Kerry's arrears to the minimum before Mayo struck for their first goal. James Nallen was both creator and finisher and his initial pass to James Horan was fed on to Liam McHale who galloped through the Kerry cover and fed the in-rushing Nallen who finished clinically. However, within 60 seconds Kerry had a goal of their own when Sean Burke's innocuous delivery from beyond the fifty was misjudged by John Madden in the Mayo goal and went all the way to the net. Mayo's response was immediate and a point by David Nestor was followed by a couple of Sheridan frees to leave the Westerners 1-8 to 1-4 ahead at the break.

Kerry opened the scoring after the break with a Fitzgerald free and another from the same player from play left just two points between the sides. Maurice

Sheridan steadied Mayo nerves with a free of his own but again Fitzgerald responded likewise, and following Horan's point the 'Kingdom' ace had his and his side's eight point to leave two points between the sides halfway through the second half.

Although the gap between the sides was just two points Kerry never really threatened a victory surge and points by Eamon Breen and Dara Ó Cinnéide were answered by a brace from Carey. Maurice Sheridan had Mayo's last point at the 31st minute and from the resultant kick-out the Connacht champions got their second goal. Declan O'Keefe's kick went straight to Horan who lobbed the ball back into the net from all of 40 yards to see Mayo through to their first final since 1989.

Mayo scorers: M.Sheridan 0-6, J.Casey 0-4, J.Horan 1-1, J.Nallen 1-0, D.Nestor 0-1, N.Connelly 0-1.

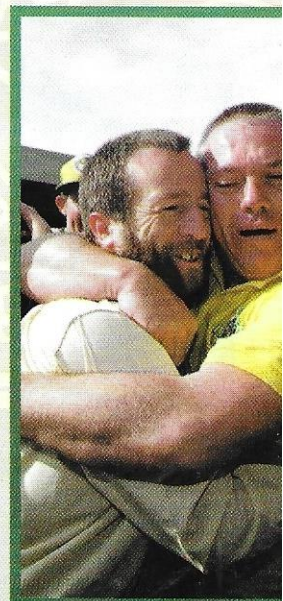
Kerry: M.Fitzgerald 0-8, S.Burke 1-0, E.Breen 0-1, D. Ó Cinnéide 0-1.

Mayo: John Madden, Kenneth Mortimer, Kevin Cahill, Dermot Flanagan, Pat Holmes, James Nallen, Noel Connelly, Liam McHale, Pat Fallon, James Horan, Colm McMenamon, Maurice Sheridan, David Nestor, John Casey, Raymond Dempsey.

Subs: Kevin O'Neill for Horan, Anthony Finnerty for Nestor.

Kerry: Declan O'Keefe, Stephen Stack, Mike Hassett, Charles McCarthy, Killian Burns, Sean Burke, Eamon Breen, Dara Ó Sé, Seamus Moynihán, John Crowley, Maurice Fitzgerald, Billy O'Shea, Gene Farrell, Liam Hassett, Dara Ó Cinnéide.

Subs: John O'Driscoll for McCarthy, Brian Clarke for Hassett, Denis Dwyer for Crowley.



Semi-Final Celebration

Above: **Páidí Ó Sé** celebrates with his County Board Chairman Sean Kelly, while below, **Pat Nallon** is fêted by ecstatic supporters.



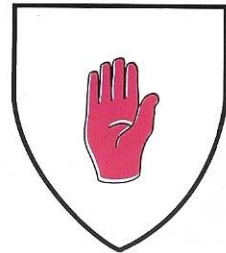
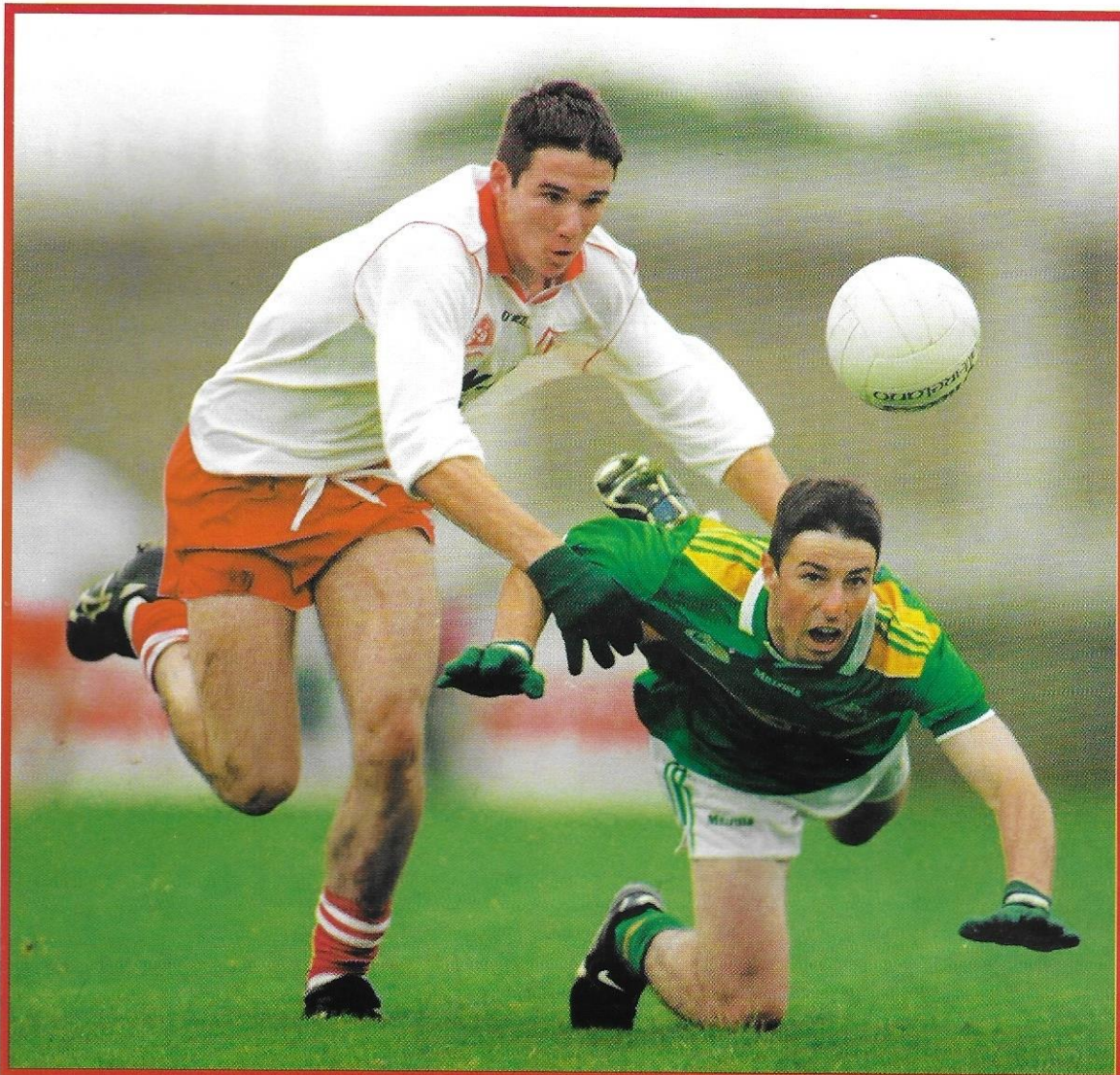


**This Sunday - the All-Ireland Football Final.
This Monday - the Final Analysis.**

Read GAA Correspondent Seán Moran with Sean Kilfeather and Tom Humphries
in The Irish Times colour Sport Supplement. This Monday in The Irish Times.

THE IRISH TIMES
SPORT
FOR THE TIMES WE LIVE IN

Tyrone displayed great character on way to final



Striving for possession:
Ciarán Gormley
(Tír Eoghain) and
Stephen O'Sullivan
(Ciarraí) in action in
the semi-final.

A last gasp point by Mark Harte that earned Tyrone a draw with Kerry in the All-Ireland minor football semi-final might yet prove a foundation stone for a long-awaited final win for the O'Neill County.

Not for the first time in the championship, Tyrone displayed great character in their draw with the Kingdom. Coming up to the close of a game in which Kerry enjoyed more of the play, the Ulster champions trailed by three points but fought back to cut their arrears to one.

Then up popped top-scoring Harte to display an ice cool nerve as he confidently slotted the ball over the bar in the 61st minute to tie the scores at 1-11 each. The referee sounded the final whistle immediately afterwards. That vital score boosted his tally to 1-5.

Harte was in even sharper finishing form in a thrilling replay at Parnell Park, Dublin, that went to extra time. He finished with 0-12, eleven points from frees.

Two well-drilled and accomplished teams kept spectators on their toes throughout with top-class football and keen exchanges. However,

Tyrone finished the stronger to record a memorable win.

It was still everything to play for at the interval in extra time with the scores level, but the Ulster Champions came out battling strongly after the restart. Points by Kevin Hughes, Brian O'Neill and Cormac McAnallen turned the key in the door to a hard-earned but well merited 0-23 to 0-21 victory.

Declan McCrossan and Brendan Donnelly in defence, Hughes at midfield and of course, sharpshooting Harte were giants for the Ulster champions.

In the Ulster final, favourites Tyrone were rocked by two early Antrim goals but fought back to win the title. Then came that great rally against Kerry in the drawn semi-final.

Tyrone, bidding for their first title since 1973, are a very accomplished team.

Marksman supreme Harte, Adrian Ball, team captain McCrossan in the half back line, full back Cormac McGinley, midfielder Hughes and forwards Brian McGuigan and Richard Thornton are among the players capable of taking a grip on the exchanges and steering a winning course.

Tyrone hoping for better fortune

Tyrone are hoping for better fortune than in their last All-Ireland minor final appearance in 1975 when they lost to Kerry by 1-10 to 0-4.

They won their third All-Ireland crown in 1973 when they had a 2-11 to 1-6 victory over Kildare.

An Ulster county has not won this title since 1989 when a Derry team that included Anthony Tohill and Gary Coleman, beat Offaly, who had 1997 senior captain Finbarr Cullen in their line-up.

Laois are well up to last year's standard



It will be a tremendous achievement by Laois if they follow last year's memorable first All-Ireland minor football title win by retaining the championship in their history-making clash with Tyrone.

Only forwards Brian McDonald and Stephen Kelly of the side that beat Mayo in the semi-final played in last year's never-to-be-forgotten final triumph over Kerry.

Both have understandably been very much to the forefront in the current campaign in which Laois have played polished and constructive football.

The holders were given a particularly testing time by Wicklow in the Leinster final and the accurate finishing of Stephen Kelly and McDonald, who scored 0-9 between them, proved very important in fashioning a 2-11 to 0-10 victory.

The O'Moore County boys were given some anxious moments by Mayo in the All-Ireland semi-final before a three goal salvo sent them marching back into the final.

The Connacht champions did not help their cause by shooting 18 wides but that still cannot take from the merit of the Laois win. The Easterners conceded a goal in nine minutes but hit back immediately with Brian McDonald finding the net after a good movement.

McDonald collected another goal after twenty-five minutes to help Laois to a 2-3 to 1-4 lead at the interval.

However, Mayo continued to keep in touch and twelve minutes from the end were just a point in arrears. Two minutes later substitute Tom Kelly, with his first touch, put captain Kieran Kelly in possession and he collected the team's third goal and the score that ensured a final outcome eventually by 3-8 to 1-9.

This was another good performance by Laois and one that demonstrated again that the present team is well up to the high standard of last year's national title-winning one.

McDonald, in addition to his two goals, sent over three points to leave his mark on the victory in a big way.

Team captain and right half forward Kieran Kelly, Brian Fitzpatrick at midfield along with John Paul Kehoe and Eoin Bland in defence were others who played important parts in securing the final ticket.

The O'Moore County boys face another testing assignment in this game, but on their performances so far they have the necessary qualities to have a genuine chance of recording an historic double for the county.

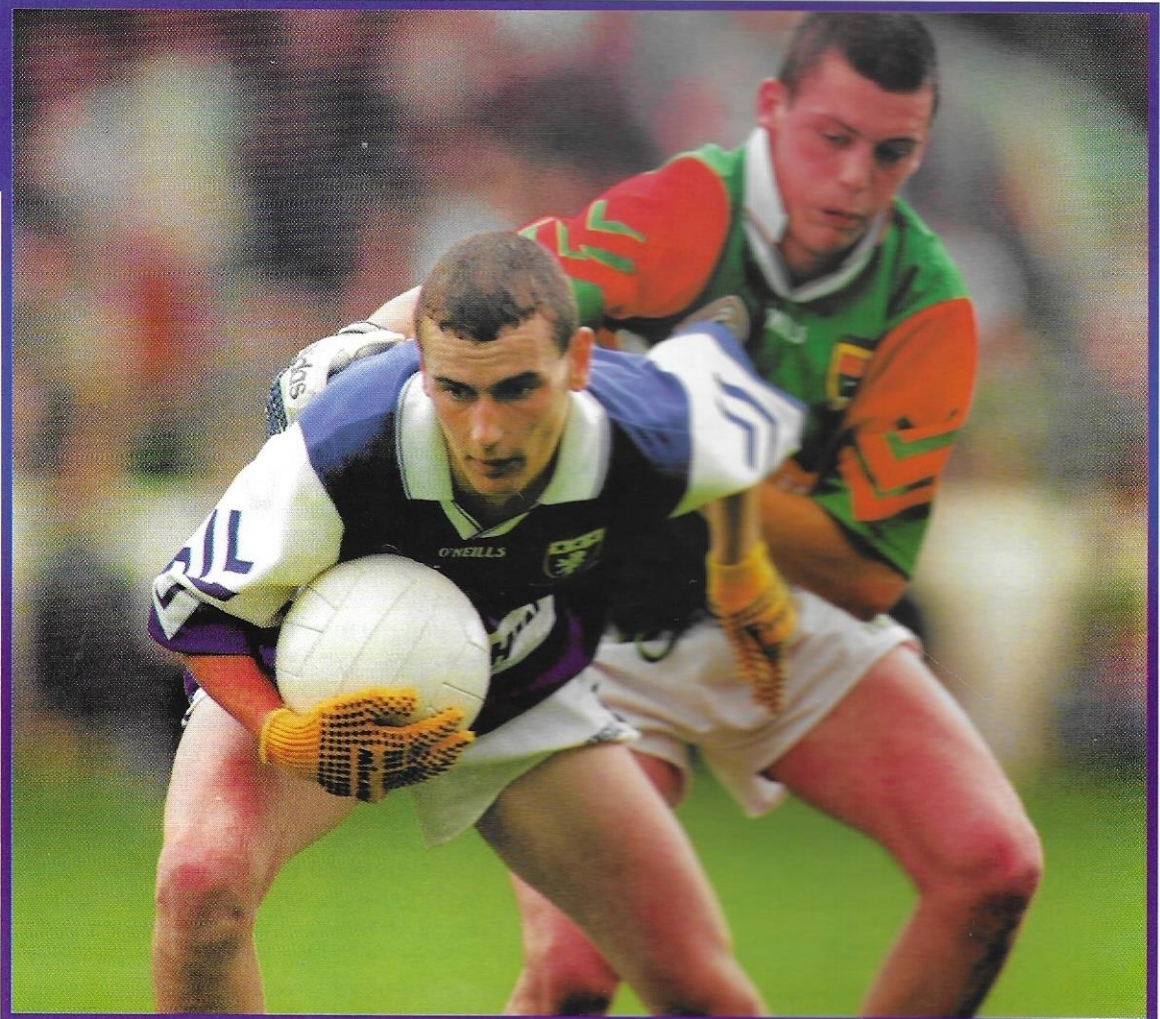
Diarmuid Mullins

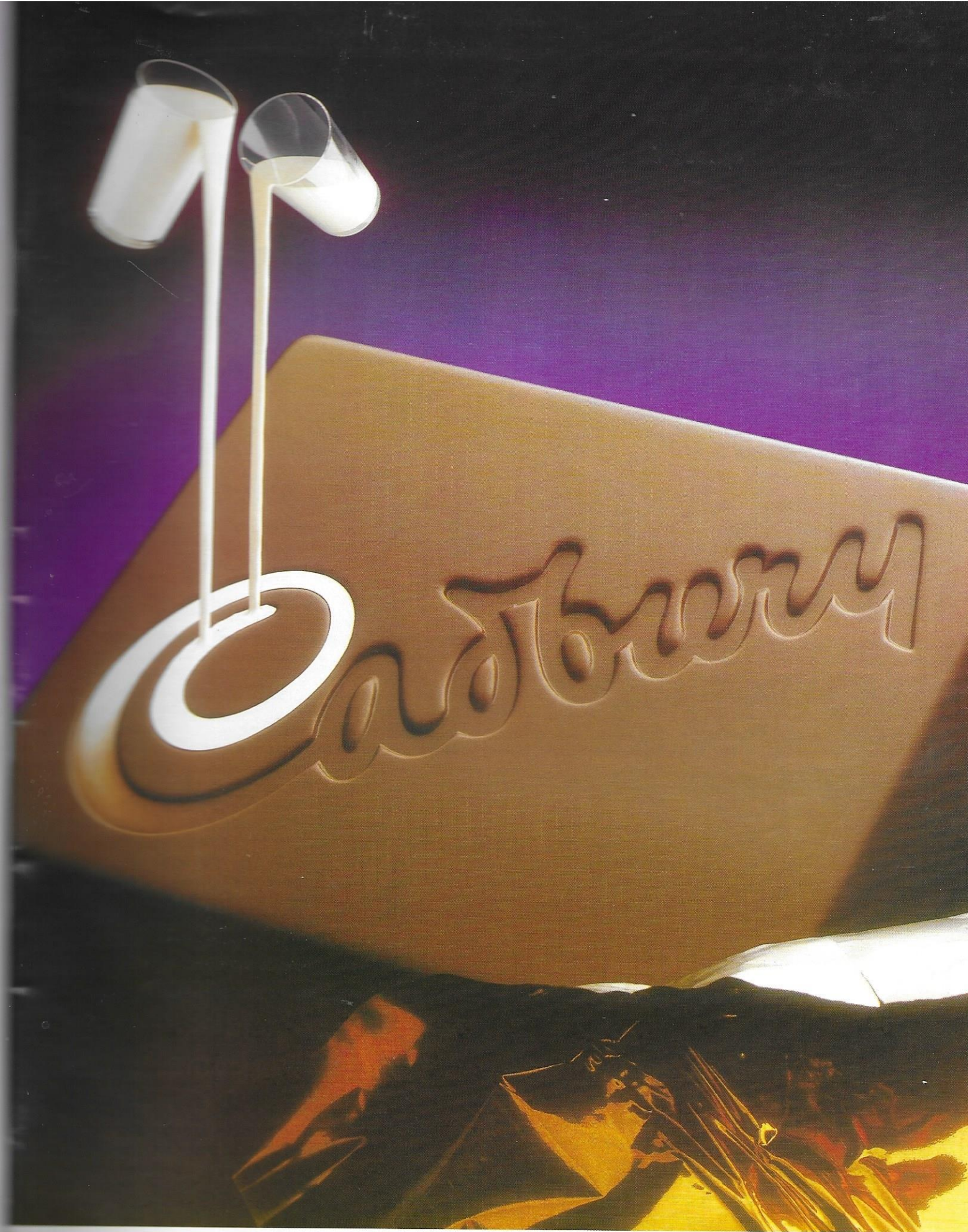
(Laois) holds off the challenge of Mayo's Trevor Mortimer in last month's semi-final

Last Goals

Tyrone's last goal in an All-Ireland minor final was from a penalty kick after nine minutes in their last title win in 1973 at the expense of Kildare when right half forward Sean O'Kane converted the kick. Tyrone won by 2-11 to 1-6.

Brian McDonald punched to the net after 48 minutes for the second and last Laois goal in last year's final win over Kerry.





Tastes like Heaven



Laois



The Laois Minor team which defeated Mayo in the semi-final:

Back row (l-r): Brian McDonald, Eoin Bland, Stephen Kelly, Darren Rooney, Michael Leigh, Brian Fitzpatrick, Mark Hovenden.

Front row (l-r): Diarmuid Mullins, Billy Brennan, Kieran Kelly (Capt.), Paul McDonald, John Paul Kehoe, Shane Hennessy, Joe Higgins, Thomas Mulligan.

Laois' path to the Final

Laois are defending the Tom Markham Cup won last year when they captured the All-Ireland minor football title for the first time.

The successful defence of the Leinster title in August brought the Laois record of provincial minor titles to five since 1932.

3rd May at Portlaoise:

Laois 0-9; Offaly 0-8

17th May at Portlaoise:

Laois 2-14; Kilkenny 4-5

6th July at Croke Park:

Laois 1-12; Meath 0-7

16th August at Croke Park:

Laois 2-11; Wicklow 0-10

31st August at Croke Park:

Laois 3-8; Mayo 1-9

Total Scored 8-54 (78 points)

Total Conceded 5-39 (54 points)

Average 1.44

Scorer	1	2	3	4	5	Score	Total
Brian McDonald	0-4	0-7	0-8	0-4	2-3	2-26	32
Kieran Kelly	—	1-3	0-1	1-1	1-0	3-5	14
Stephen Kelly	0-3	—	0-2	0-5	0-3	0-13	13
Garry Kavanagh	—	1-3	1-0	—	—	2-3	9
Mark Hovenden	—	0-1	—	1-0	—	1-1	4
Shane Hennessy	0-2	—	—	—	0-1	0-3	3
Brian Fitzpatrick	—	—	0-1	—	—	0-1	1
Darren Rooney	—	—	—	0-1	—	0-1	1
John Paul Kehoe	—	—	—	—	0-1	0-1	1

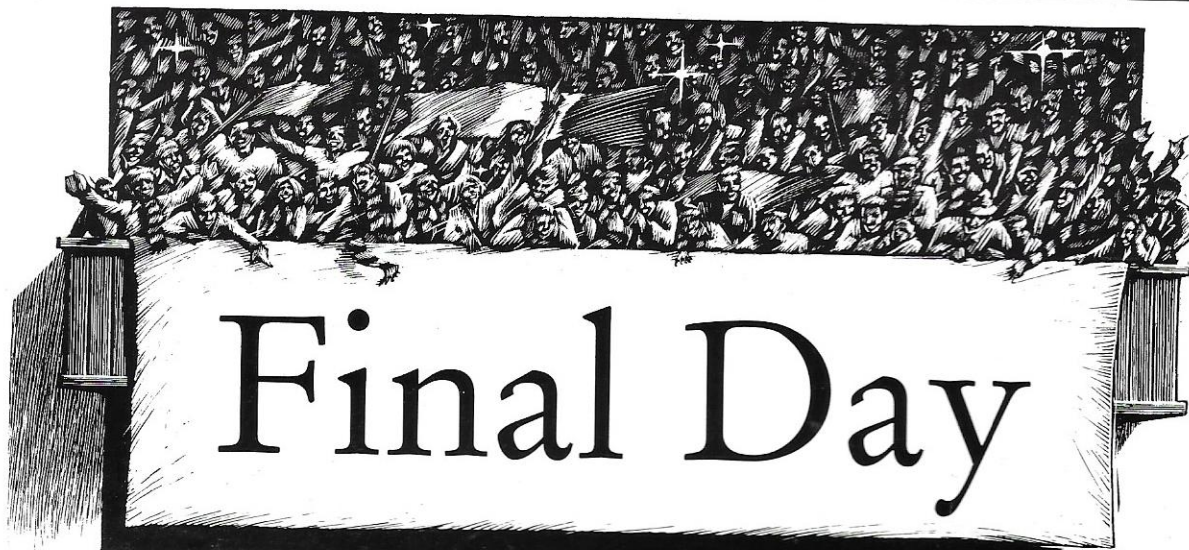
Two Links

The Laois team that beat Mayo last time out had just two playing links with last year's All-Ireland title winning side, forwards Brian McDonald and Stephen Kelly, who were both on the target in the semi-final. McDonald scored 2-3 and Kelly 0-3.

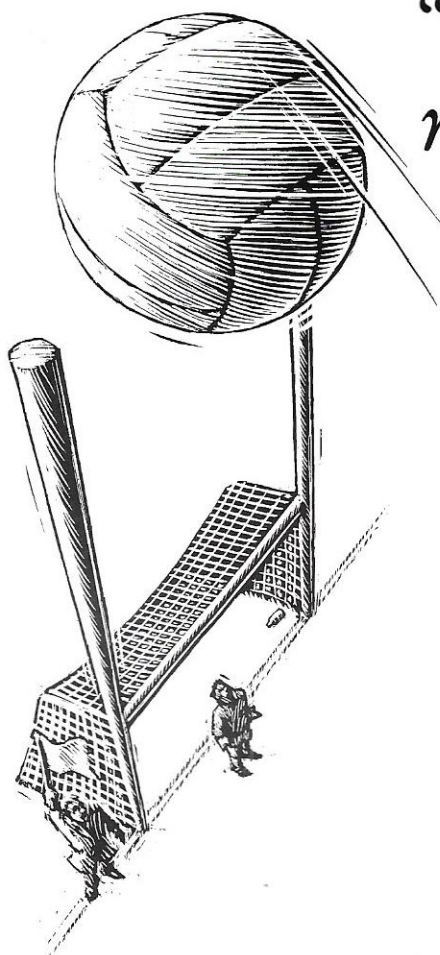
Eighteenth County

Laois became the eighteenth county to inscribe their name on the All-Ireland minor football championship Roll of Honour as a result of their final win over Kerry last September.

A year earlier Westmeath captured their initial national championship in the grade. They beat Derry.



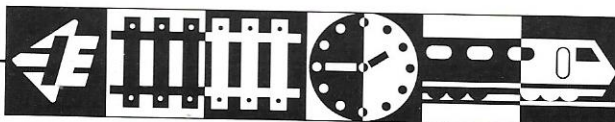
*“The pale moon was
rising but the west’s
still awake”*



Kerry and Mayo, two of the most storied gaelic football counties will battle again for the supreme honour. More than a decade without Sam is an unbearable wait for the kingdom, but Mayo has waited longer and had its hopes dashed twelve months ago.

Mayo men will swap stories of the peerless ‘Flying’ doctor Pdraig Carney in the early fifties or go as far back as the great Henry Kenny in the thirties. No Kerryman who saw him will forget the great Valentia man Mick O’Connell in the fifties and sixties or the great Dingle fisherman Paddy Bawn Brosnan in the late forties.

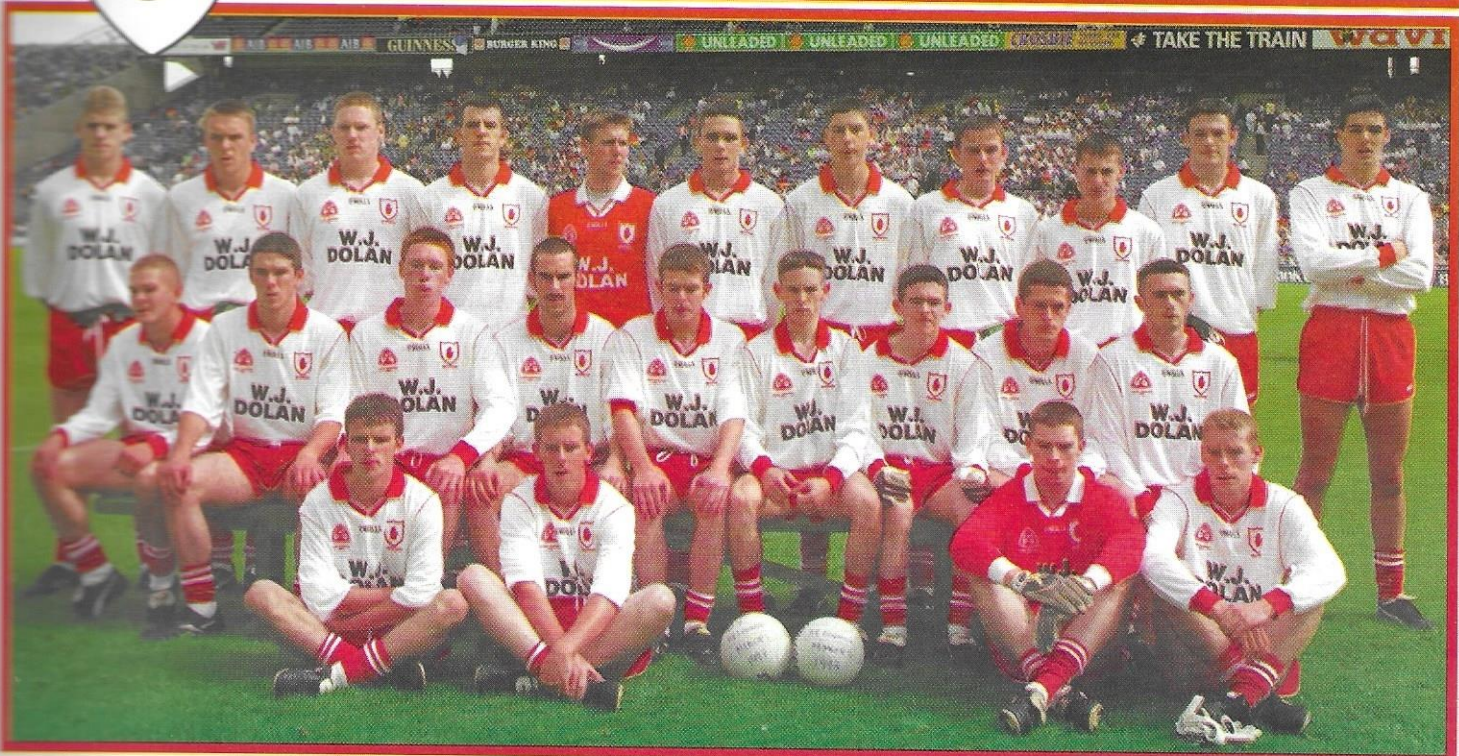
Even in the hungry forties and fifties the railway brought huge numbers of Mayomen and Kerry men to headquarters. We are delighted in these not so hungry nineties to continue that tradition.



it's time to take the train



Tír Eoghain



The Tyrone Minor team that played Kerry in the drawn Semi-final at Croke Park.

Back row (l-r): Kevin Hughes, Kevin O'Brien, Cormac McAnallen, Brian O'Neill, Gareth Maguire, Richard Thornton, Stephen O'Neill, Ciarán Meenagh, Brian McGuigan, Gary Hetherington, Conal Martin.

Seated (l-r): Joe Campbell, Ciarán Gourley, Cormac McGinlay, Declan McCrossan, Adrian Ball, Brendan Donnelly, Mark Harte, Stephen O'Neill, Darren O'Hanlon.

Front row (l-r): Aidan Lynch, Ciarán O'Hagan, Aidan O'Connor, Paddy Corry.

Tyrone's path to the Final

Tyrone regained the Ulster minor football title in July after an interval of four years to bring their record of Northern crowns to 16 since 1931.

They are appearing in their first final since 1975 when they lost to Kerry.

18th May at Clones:

Tyrone 2-10; Down 1-8

15th June at Omagh:

Tyrone 1-10; Armagh 0-9

29th June at Clones:

Tyrone 4-14; Monaghan 3-7

20th July at Clones:

Tyrone 3-13; Antrim 2-10

24th August at Croke Park (Draw):

Tyrone 1-11; Kerry 1-11

6th September at Parnell Park (Replay, AET):

Tyrone 0-23; Kerry 0-21

Total Scored 11-81 (114 points)

Total Conceded 7-66 (87 points)

Average 1.31

Scorer	1	2	3	4	5	6	Score	Total
Mark Harte	0-2	0-1	0-4	1-8	1-5	0-12	2-32	38
Stephen Donnelly	1-5	0-4	2-0	—	—	0-1	3-10	19
Richard Thornton	1-1	0-1	2-1	—	—	0-1	3-4	13
Kevin Hughes	—	0-3	0-3	0-1	0-1	0-2	0-10	10
Stephen O'Neill	—	—	0-1	—	0-1	0-3	0-5	5
Joe Campbell	—	—	0-1	0-3	—	0-1	0-5	5
Paul McGirr	0-1	1-1	—	—	—	—	1-2	5
Brian O'Neill	—	—	0-1	1-0	—	—	1-1	4
Darren O'Hanlon	—	—	—	1-0	0-1	—	1-1	4
Brian McGuigan	—	—	0-1	0-1	0-1	—	0-3	3
Declan McCrossan	—	—	0-1	—	0-1	—	0-2	2
Adrian Ball	—	—	—	—	0-1	0-1	0-2	2
Cormac McAnallen	—	—	—	—	—	0-2	0-2	2
Conal Martin	—	—	0-1	—	—	—	0-1	1
Paddy Corry	0-1	—	—	—	—	—	0-1	1

Record Point

The aggregate score of 44 points totted up by Tyrone and Kerry in the minor replay at Parnell Park on September 6 was easily the highest-ever aggregate in an All-Ireland minor football semi-final. But that was not the only record set up in this remarkable encounter, for not alone was it the highest-ever in an All-Ireland under-18 semi-final in football (or hurling), but it was also the top aggregate ever in a minor championship game at any stage of the competition in any province.



Laois

Dathanna: Gorm is Bán



An Captaen



Kieran Kelly

Kieran was only 17 last month and will be eligible for the minor grade again next year.

A student at St. Mary's, Knockbeg, he won the Man-of-the-Match award after his display for his club in their county minor football final win last year.

Kieran won four under-12 football championship medals and a Junior League medal. He also won a Leinster "B" Under-14 Colleges championship medal.

The gifted Ballylinan club man added a Leinster minor medal to his collection in July. He has been regularly on the scoring target this season and collected the third and decisive goal for Laois in their semi-final win over Mayo last month.

Roghnóirí

Oliver Phelan (Manager),
Martin Parkinson,
Ger Kelly.

Path To The Final

Laois

3rd May at Portlaois:

Laois 0-09; Offaly 0-08.

17th May at Portlaois:

Laois 2-14; Kilkenny 4-05.

6th July at Croke Park:

Laois 1-12; Meath 0-07.

16th August at Croke Park:

Laois 2-11; Wicklow 0-10.

31st August at Croke Park:

Laois 3-08; Mayo 1-09.

2
PAUL McDONALD
P. Mac Dónaill
(Arles/Killeen)

5
DIARMUID MULLINS
D. Ó Maoláin
(Portlaoise)

8
BRIAN FITZPATRICK
B. Mac Giolla Phódraig
(Portlaoise)

10
MICHAEL LAMBE
M. Ó Luain
(The Heath)

13
KIERAN KELLY
S. Ó Ceallaigh (Capt.)
(Ballylinan)

1
MICHAEL LEIGH
M. Mac an Lia
(Arles/Killeen)

3
EOIN BLAND
E. Bland
(Portlaoise)

6
JOE HIGGINS
S. Ó hUiginn
(St. Joseph's)

11
STEPHEN KELLY
S. Ó Ceallaigh
(St. Joseph's)

14
BRIAN McDONALD
B. Mac Dónaill
(Arles/Killeen)

4
THOMAS MULLIGAN
T. Ó Maolagáin
(Portlaoise)

7
JOHN PAUL KEHOE
S. P. Mac Eochaidh
(O'Dempseys)

9
DARREN ROONEY
D. Ó Ruanaidh
(St. Manmans)

12
TOM KELLY
T. Ó Ceallaigh
(St. Joseph's)

15
MARK HOVENDEN
M. Hovenden
(Ballylinan)

Fir Ionaid

(16) Paul Maher
P. Ó Meachair
(Stradbally)

(17) Paudge Leonard
P. Ó Loinín
(Ballylinan)

(18) Tom McDonald
T. Mac Dónaill
(The Rock)

(19) Billy Brennan
L. Ó Braonáin
(Arles/Killeen)

(20) Donnacha Phelan
D. Ó Faoláin
(Ballyfin)

(21) Shane Hennessy
S. Ó hÁonasa
(The Heath)

(22) Garry Kavanagh
G. Caomhánach
(Stradbally)

(23) Billy Walsh
L. Breathnach
(O'Dempseys)

(24) Thomas Lynch
T. Loingsigh
(St. Lazarians, Abbeyleix)

Laois

1adh Leath

2adh Leath

IOMLÁN

Cúil

Cúilíní

Seachái

45m

Saor Ciceanna

Roll of Honour All-Ireland Minor Football Championship

The Tom Markham Cup

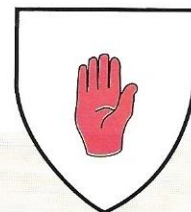
The winners of the All-Ireland minor football championship are presented with the Tom Markham Cup. The trophy commemorates a Dublin Gael, Tom Markham, who gave great service to the games and the G.A.A. and was first awarded for the 1940 final. Louth were the initial winners. Roscommon brought the trophy west in 1941 and Kerry recorded Munster's first win in 1946. A year later Tyrone brought the Cup north for the first time.

11: Kerry: 1931, 1932, 1933, 1946, 1950, 1962, 1963, 1975, 1980, 1988, 1994.
10: Dublin: 1930, 1945, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1958, 1959, 1979, 1982, 1984.
9: Cork: 1961, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1972, 1974, 1981, 1991, 1993.
6: Mayo: 1935, 1953, 1966, 1971, 1978, 1985.
5: Galway: 1952, 1960, 1970, 1976, 1986.
3: Derry: 1965, 1983, 1989.
Roscommon: 1939, 1941, 1951.
Tyrone: 1947, 1948, 1973.
Meath: 1957, 1990, 1992.
2: Cavan: 1937, 1938.
Down: 1977, 1987.
Louth: 1936, 1940.

1: Armagh: 1949.
Clare: 1929.
Laois: 1996
Offaly: 1964.
Tipperary: 1934.
Westmeath: 1995.



Tír Eoghain



Dathanna: Dearg is Bán

1
GARETH MAGUIRE

G. Mag Uidhir
(Cookstown)

2
KEVIN O'BRIEN

C. Ó Briain
(Dromore)

3
CIARÁN GOURLEY

C. Mag Thoirealaigh
(Rock)

4
BRENDAN DONNELLY

B. Ó Donnaile
(Eglis)

5
ADRIAN BALL

A. Bál
(Clann na nGael)

6
DECLAN McCROSSAN

D. Mac an Chrosáin (Capt.)
(E. R. O'Neills)

7
GARY HETHERINGTON

G. Ó Hetherington
(Donaghmore)

8
CORMAC McANALLEN

C. Mac an Ailín
(Eglis)

9
KEVIN HUGHES

C. Ó hAodha
(Kileeshil)

10
JOE CAMPBELL

S. Mac Cathmaoil
(Dromore)

11
BRIAN McGUIGAN

B. Mac Uiginn
(Ardboe)

25
CONALL MARTIN

C. Ó Máirtín
(Eglis)

13
MARK HARTE

M. Ó hAirt
(Eireagal Ciaráin)

14
RICHARD THORNTON

R. Ó Draighneáin
(Coalisland)

15
STEPHEN O'NEILL

S. Ó Néill
(Clann na nGael)

Fir Ionaid

(16) **Aidan O'Connor**
A. Ó Conchúir
(Kildress)

(17) **Paddy Corry**
P. Ó Corra
(Trillick)

(18) **Stephen Donnelly**
S. Ó Donnaile
(Aghaloo)

(19) **Aidan Lynch**
A. Ó Loingsigh
(Castlederg)

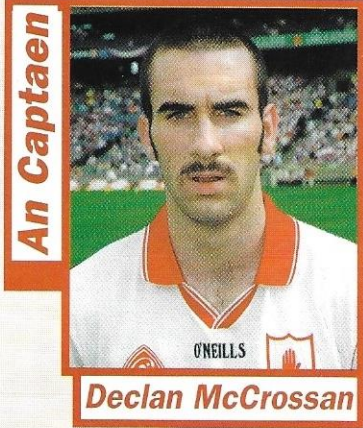
(20) **Cormac McGinley**
C. Mag Fhionnaile
(Eireagal Ciaráin)

(21) **Ciarán Meenagh**
C. Muíneach
(Loughmacrory)

(22) **Ciarán O'Hagan**
C. Ó hÁgáin
(Brackaville)

(23) **Darren O'Hanlon**
D. Ó hAnluain
(Eireagal Ciaráin)

(24) **Brian O'Neill**
B. Ó Néill
(Cookstown)



An Captaen

Declan McCrossan

After good displays at full back in the opening rounds of the championship Declan took over at left half back against Monaghan in the Ulster semi-final and has also been prominent in this role.

The Tyrone captain played Dr. MacRory Cup (Ulster Colleges' championship) football with Omagh C.B.S. was an inspiring captain in the campaign that brought Tyrone to the final.

Holder of one provincial minor medal, Declan, who is a polished footballer and tireless worker, is shortly to start studies at a University in Scotland.

Roghnóirí

Mickey Harte,
Fr. Gerard McAleer,
Martin McElkennon.

Path To The Final

Tír Eoghain

18th May at Clones:
Tyrone 2-10; Down 1-08.

15th June at Omagh:
Tyrone 1-10; Armagh 0-09.

29th June at Clones:
Tyrone 4-14; Monaghan 3-07.

20th July at Clones:
Tyrone 3-13; Antrim 2-10.

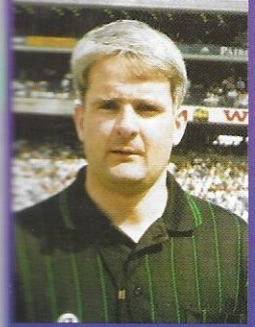
24th August at Croke Park (Draw):
Tyrone 1-11; Kerry 1-11.

6th Sept. at Parnell Pk. (Replay, AET):
Tyrone 0-23; Kerry 0-21.

Tír Eoghain

	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
IOMLÁN					

An Réiteoir: John Bannon (An Longfort)



John makes a speedy return to Croke Park. He had charge of the drawn Tyrone-Kerry All-Ireland minor football semi-final here last month and refereed the replay at Parnell Park, Dublin. Bannon has been officiating at national level for some time but this will be his first outing as referee of an All-Ireland minor football final. He is from the Legan Sarsfields club, is a former player, having won county championship medals at Senior 'B', Intermediate and Junior and is a former Longford Minor Board chairman.

John took over as referee in the extra time period in the Meath-Kildare Leinster senior semi-final first replay in July when referee Pat O'Toole, also of Longford, had to retire with cramp. His other assignments this year included Leinster SFC games, the Leinster Club final, AIB All-Ireland Club semi-final, NFL quarter-final as well as the Tyrone-Kerry Minor semi-final and replay.

Minor Umpires
Johnny Marlowe, Peter O'Reilly,
Tommy McCormack, Mike Doherty.

Big deal

Micra £2,500 off

Almera £3,000 off

Primera £3,000 off

The biggest scrappage deal ever at your local Nissan dealer.

The Government Scrappage scheme must finish at the end of 1997. With The Nissan Big Deal Offer, it's going to end with a bang.

If your car qualifies for the biggest scrappage deal ever, call us now - or next year you'll be kicking yourself.

YOU

CAN

WITH

NISSAN

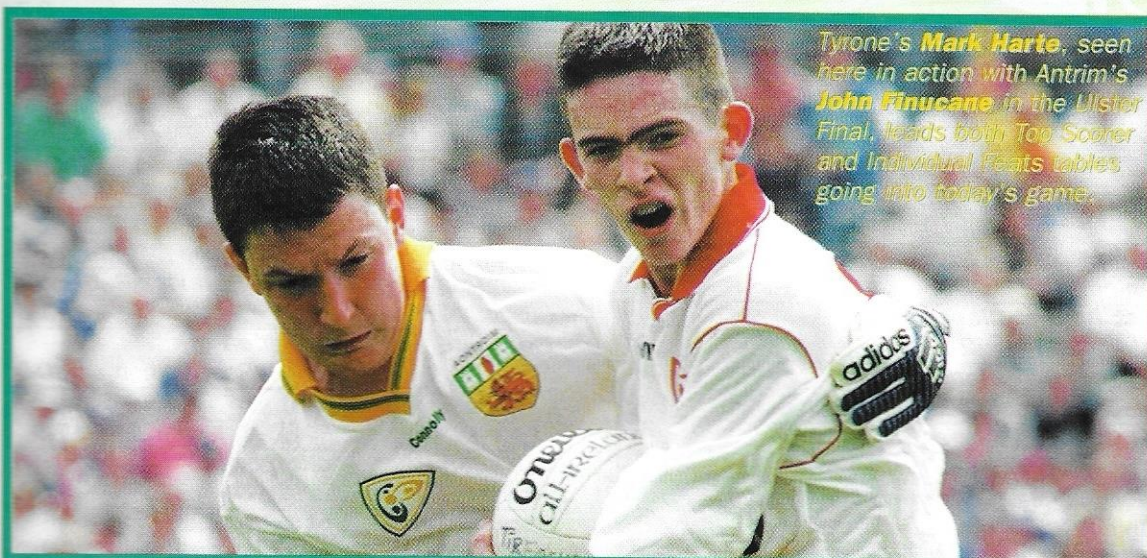
Top Scorers

Unlike last year, when Donegal's David McGinley was in an unassailable position after the semi-finals, the position of top scorer in this year's minor championship is still very much up for grabs. Tyrone's Mark Harte leads the way but his opposite number on the Laois side, Brian McDonald is just four points in arrears, and the honour of top scorer in the '97 minor championship rests between these two.

Others on view today such as Stephen Donnelly and Richard Thornton of the Ulster champions, and Kieran and Stephen Kelly of the reigning All-Ireland champions have a chance to improve their positions, but the title rests between the former duo.

In all, 17 players (14 last year) recorded twelve point or better totals in the course of the '97 minor championship and they are:

Mark Harte (Tyrone)	2-30 (36 points)
Brian McDonald (Laois)	2-26 (32)
Anthony Nolan (Wicklow)	4-13 (25)
Eddie Scully (Limerick)	1-19 (22)
Martin McNicholas (Mayo)	2-15 (21)
Stephen Donnelly (Tyrone)	3-10 (19)
Noel Kennelly (Kerry)	1-15 (18)
Paul Barden (Longford)	0-16
C Mullen (Clare)	1-12 (15)
Paul Close (Antrim)	2-9 (15)
Padraig Swinburne (Monaghan)	3-6 (15)
Kieran Kelly (Laois)	3-5 (14)
Stephen Kelly (Laois)	0-13
Andrew Coleman (Cavan)	2-7 (13)
Richard Thornton (Tyrone)	3-4 (13)
A Mooney (Clare)	3-4 (13)
Bernard O'Connor (Kerry)	2-6 (12)



Tyrone's **Mark Harte**, seen here in action with Antrim's **John Finucane** in the Ulster Final, leads both **Top Scorer** and **Individual Feats** tables going into today's game.

Individual Feats

an Fitzgerald (Laois) in 1995 and David McGinley (Donegal) last year, both took the overall and individual titles in their respective years, and Tyrone's Mark Harte has an opportunity of doing likewise today. Although his lead in the overall scorers chart is somewhat precarious, the twelve-point return he posted in the semi-final replay win over Kerry is unlikely to be bettered this afternoon. However, Longford's Paul Barden can feel somewhat hard done by as his 0-11 was scored in an hour's play while the

Tyrone youngster had an extra 30 minutes in which to compile his total, but it must be noted that Harte did equal Barden's total in the Ulster final. Martin McNicholas of Mayo was the only other player to register a double-digit return in this year's minor championship and just two players - Harte and Brian McDonald - make dual appearances in this year's chart.

Fourteen returns (the same as last year) of eight points or better were recorded in the '97 championship and they are:

Mark Harte (Tyrone)	0-12 v Kerry - All-Ireland semi-final replay at Parnell Park
Paul Barden (Longford)	0-11 v Westmeath - 1st round at Longford
Mark Harte (Tyrone)	1-8 v Antrim - Ulster final at Clones
Martin McNicholas (Mayo)	2-5 v Leitrim - semi-final at Castlebar
Eddie Scully (Limerick)	1-6 v Tipperary - play-off at Clonmel
Brian McDonald (Laois)	2-3 v Mayo - All-Ireland semi-final at Croke Park
Andrew Coleman (Cavan)	2-3 v Fermanagh - 1st round at Clones
A Mooney (Clare)	2-3 v Tipperary - round 1 at Limerick
Brian McDonald (Laois)	0-8 v Meath - semi-final at Croke Park
Paul Close (Antrim)	1-5 v Cavan - semi-final at Clones
Anthony Nolan (Wicklow)	1-5 v Carlow - 2nd round at Aughrim
Padraig Swinburne (Monaghan)	1-5 v Derry - 1st round at Clones
Stephen Donnelly (Tyrone)	1-5 v Down - preliminary round at Clones
Anthony Nolan (Wicklow)	2-2 v Wexford - 1st round at Gorey

North And East... Minor Finals

The first meeting of Ulster and Leinster teams in an All-Ireland minor final was exactly 60 years ago when Cavan and Wexford were in opposition. That game resulted in a win for the Breffni youths. The years since then have witnessed a further eight North-East finals the record of which reads five wins to four in Ulster's favour.

The nine finals were:

1937

Cavan	1-11;
Wexford	1-5

1948

Tyrone	0-11;
Dublin	1-5

1957

Meath	3-9;
Armagh	0-4

1959

Dublin	0-11;
Cavan	1-4

1973

Tyrone	2-11;
Kildare	1-6

1977

Down	2-6;
Meath	0-4

1989

Derry	3-9;
Offaly	1-6

1992

Meath	2-5;
Armagh	0-10

1995

Westmeath	1-10;
Derry	0-11

Minor Football Scoreboard

Leinster

3rd May at Gorey

Wicklow 2-11; Wexford 1-8

3rd May at Droichead Nua

Kildare 0-13; Louth 0-8

3rd May at Portlaoise

Laois 0-9; Offaly 0-8

3rd May at Longford

Longford 0-16; Westmeath 1-7

17th May at Droichead Nua

Dublin 2-8; Kildare 0-13

17th May at Aughrim

Wicklow 2-9; Carlow 0-5

17th May at Longford

Meath 1-16; Longford 0-9

17th May at Portlaoise

Laois 2-14; Kilkenny 4-5

Semi-final: 29th June at An Uaimh

Wicklow 2-6; Dublin 0-10

Semi-final: 6th July at Croke Park

Laois 1-12; Meath 0-7

Final: 16th August at Croke Park

Laois 2-11; Wicklow 0-10

Ulster

18th May at Clones

Tyrone 2-10; Down 1-8

25th May at Ballybofey

Antrim 4-3; Donegal 0-14

1st June at Clones

Monaghan 2-10; Derry 2-6

8th June at Clones

Cavan 3-16; Fermanagh 2-5

15th June at Omagh

Tyrone 1-10; Armagh 0-9

Semi-final: 22nd June at Clones

Antrim 1-9; Cavan 0-9

Semi-final: 29th June at Clones

Tyrone 4-14; Monaghan 3-7

Final: 20th July at Clones

Tyrone 3-13; Antrim 2-10

Munster

Preliminary League

9th April at Tipperary
Limerick 1-8; Waterford 1-3

9th April at Limerick

Clare 2-12; Tipperary 0-6

17th April at Newcastlewest

Limerick 1-11; Tipperary 3-5

17th April at Tipperary

Clare 4-18; Waterford 0-5

30th April at Clonmel

Tipperary 2-16; Waterford 1-4

1st May at Newcastlewest

Clare 2-8; Limerick 2-6

Play-off: 18th May at Clonmel

Limerick 3-9; Tipperary 3-7

Semi-final: 9th July at Tralee

Kerry 0-12; Cork 0-5

Semi-final: 10th July at Ennis

Limerick 1-6; Clare 0-7

Final: 20th July at the Gaelic Grounds

Kerry 4-12; Limerick 1-7

Connacht

11th May at Athenry

Mayo 0-9; Galway 0-6

Semi-final: 29th June at Castlebar

Mayo 2-15; Leitrim 1-9

Semi-final: 5th July at Markievicz Park

Roscommon 2-7; Sligo 1-8

Final: 3rd August at Hyde Park

Mayo 0-13; Roscommon 0-9

All-Ireland Semi-Finals

24th August at Croke Park

Tyrone 1-11; Kerry 1-11

31st August at Croke Park

Laois 3-8; Mayo 1-9

6th September at Parnell Park (replay)

Tyrone 0-23; Kerry 0-21

(After Extra-time)

Tyrone's first and last Minor Titles

1947 - Tyrone 4-4; Mayo 4-3.

This match took place with an end-to-end gale blowing and the Westerners played with it at their backs for the first 30 minutes. Despite missing a penalty they turned over leading by 4-2 to 0-2 but on the restart Tyrone gradually began to eat into that lead. With ten minutes remaining Eddie Devlin reduced the arrears to three points and the same player lobbed another point off as time ran out. In lost time Dan McCaffrey fired home the winning goal that gave Tyrone their first title.

Tyrone scorers: T.Sullivan 2-1, D.McCaffrey 1-1, M.Dargan 1-0, E.Devlin 0-2.

Tyrone - Michael Bradley, Liam Campbell, Robert McNulty, Vincent Cullen, Michael Vaughan, Eddie Devlin (capt.), Mick Cushnahan, Sean McGrath, Jack Poyntz, Harry Hartop, Malachy Dargan, Jackie McConnell, Dan McCaffrey, Tom Sullivan, Paddy Donnelly.

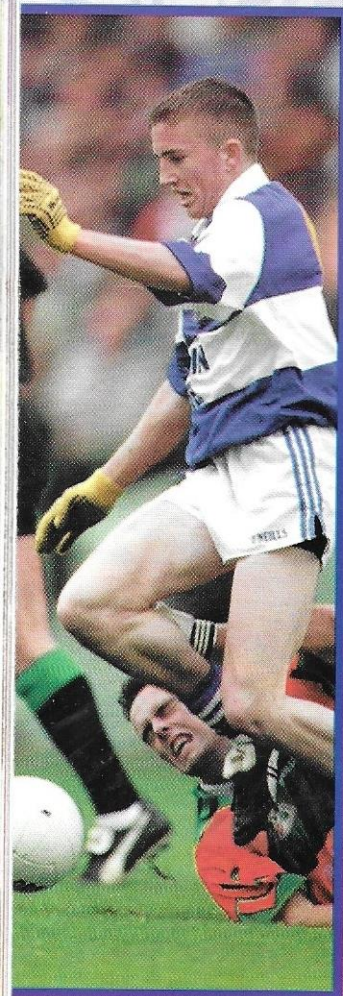
1973 - Tyrone 2-11; Kildare 1-6.

It was Des McKenna's outstanding display at midfield that helped lay the foundations for Tyrone's last All-Ireland title win. Goals by Sean O'Kane and Joe Cunningham in the first quarter helped the Ulster champions into an interval lead of 2-5 to 0-4 but on the resumption Kildare pressed strongly. A converted penalty at the three-quarter stage quickly followed by a brace of Lily White points threatened a close finish but Tyrone steadied and pulled away for a comfortable victory.

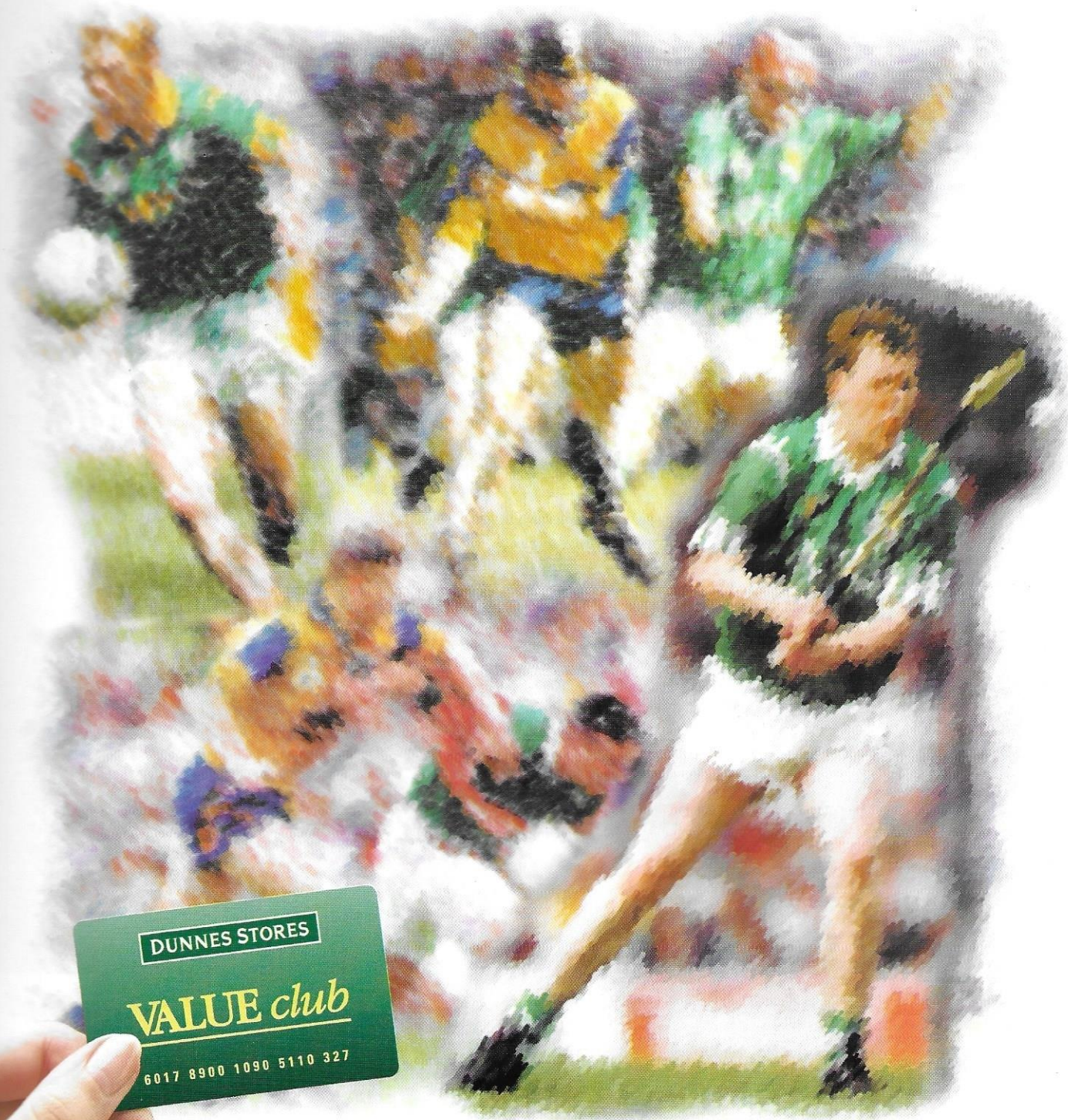
Tyrone scorers: M.Quinn 0-7, J.Cunningham 1-2, S.O'Kane 1-0, B.O'Neill 0-2.

Tyrone - Barry Campbell, Gerry Goodwin, Martin Lennon, Hugh Mooney, Seamus Gormley, Colm McAleer, Justin O'Doherty, Patsy Kerlin, Des McKenna (capt.), Sean O'Kane, Eugene McKenna, Joe Cunningham, Micky Quinn, Bosco O'Neill, Kieran Currie.

Sub - Seamus Coyne.



Joe Higgins (Laois) races past the fallen **Anthony McDermott** (Maigh Eo) in the semi-final.



Better value for
all Ireland champions

DUNNES STORES

For Even Better Value!

Retaining the honours... a difficult assignment

Today Laois are seeking to perform a feat that has defied the efforts of **Cork, Dublin, Meath, Kerry, Tyrone, Galway, Mayo and Down over the past 27 years - retaining the All-Ireland minor football title.**

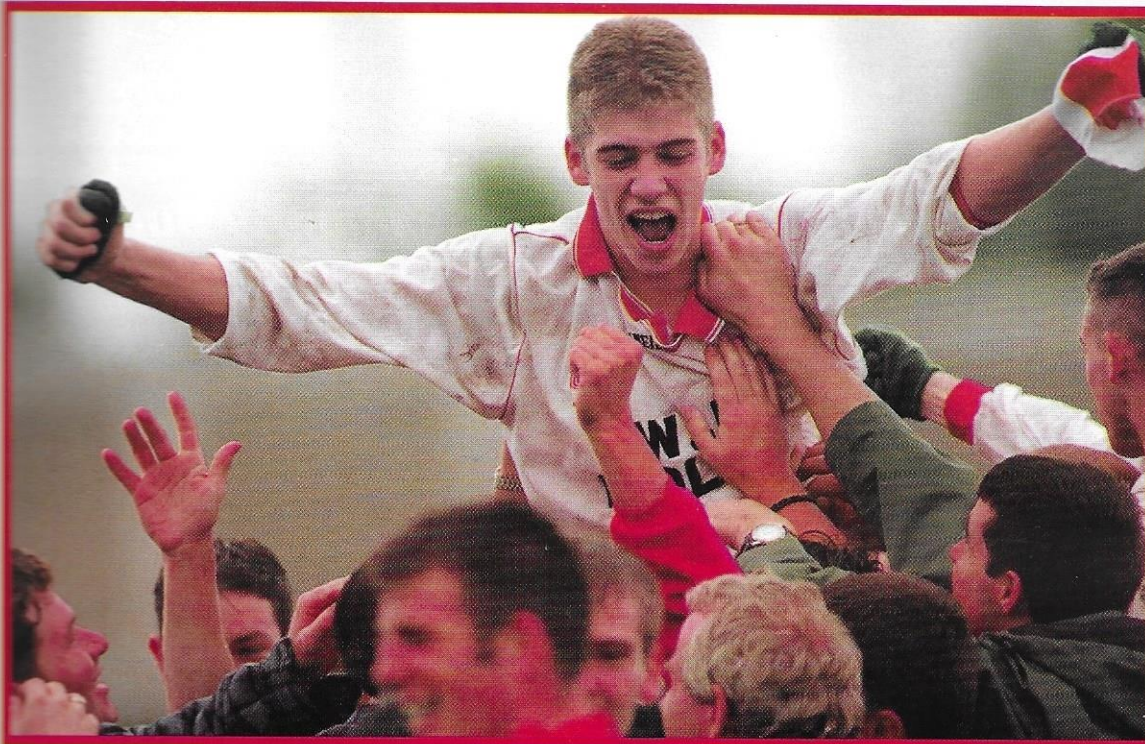
When compared with the senior championship, the under-18 grade is a disaster area for reigning champions. For instance, not since 1969 has the minor crown been retained, but during those years the senior title has been retained by Kerry (six times) and by Offaly (1971-72), Dublin (1976-77), Meath (1987-88) and Cork (1989-90).

And not alone has the minor title not been retained since 1969, but until Laois overcame Mayo four weeks ago, on only one occasion in the 28-year span did the reigning champions manage to qualify for the following year's final (Meath in 1993).

Cork was the last county to retain the crown and their win over Derry completed a three-in-a-row success. The '69 team included five players who had collected medals twelve months previous - Con Hartnett and John Coleman from Millstreet, Hugh O'Sullivan (Kanturk), Martin O'Doherty (St.Nicholas's) and Declan Barron who was a sub on the '68 side.

One has to go back a further ten years to find a Leinster county retaining the All-Ireland minor title which was in 1959 when Dublin beat Cavan. Winning a second All-Ireland medal on that occasion were Mick Kissane, Brian McDonald, Simon Behan and Paul Taylor. In this regard, as far as the eastern province is concerned, Dublin have a monopoly of dual medal holders as a number of city youths (apart from the above mentioned) collected awards in the mid-fifties. No other Leinster county to date has won back-to-back titles. In the matter of winning two All-Ireland minor medals, Dublin's Des Foley and Noel Fox enjoy a special distinction in that they won their awards, two years apart. This duo were on the team that won the 1956 title, missed out in '57 when Meath took over in Leinster and returned to help Dublin win the 1958 title.

Today seven Laois players are bidding to join the select company named above - Brian McDonald and Stephen Kelly who lined out in last year's final and John Paul Kehoe, Diarmuid Mullins, Tom Mulligan, Tom Lynch and Shane Hennessy who were substitutes on that occasion. Should Laois triumph this afternoon, Tom Lynch from Abbeyleix will make an interesting piece of minor history (should he not be called into action) as the only player to win two All-Ireland minor medals as a substitute.



Kevin Hughes

(Tír Eoghain) celebrates with supporters after his team's dramatic win over Kerry in the semi-final replay at Parnell Park, Dublin

A First Meeting

The final brings Laois and Tyrone into opposition for the first time in the minor championship.

If Laois retain the All-Ireland title they won for the first time last year they will be the first county to make a successful defence of the crown since Cork recorded their third successive final win in 1969.

Last Drawn Final

It is 27 years since an All-Ireland minor football final went to a second meeting. Galway (1-8) and Kerry (2-5) played a draw in 1970 at Croke Park and the Western county won the replay by 1-11 to 1-10.

Over The Border

Tyrone brought the All-Ireland minor football championship across the Border for the first time by beating Mayo by 4-4 to 4-3 in 1947.

Eoghanaigh agus Laoisigh - Dhá Fhoireann den Chéad Scoth!

Is breá an rud é dhá fhoireann mhionúir nach mbíonn i mbéal an phobail go ró-mhínic a fheiceáil i gcraobhchluiche Uile-Éireann.

Tréaslaítear le Laois agus le Tír Eoghain as craobhacha Laighean agus Uladh faoi seac a bhaint agus as na cluichí leathcheannais a bhuachtaint.

Anuraidh den chéad uair ariamh bhain buachaillí Laoise a gcéad chraobh Uile-Éireann sa ghrád seo agus tá cuid den fhoireann éifeachtach sin ar fhoireann an lae inniu; is mór an chabhair í sin do na himreoirí eile agus is buntáiste siceolaíoch é freisin. Níl aon amhras ach gur thug siad sár-thaispeántas in aghaidh Mhaigh Eo sa chluiche leathcheannais ach ar an lámh eile dhe bhí sé rite leo Cill Mhantáin a cheansú i gcraobhchluiche Laighean.

Tá traidisiún níos fearr ag na hEoghanaigh a bhain a gcéad chraobh mhionúir chomh fada siar le 1947 agus i 1948 nuair a bhain siad dhá chraobh as a chéile. Ó shin i leith tá chraobh eile gnóthaithe acu (1973) agus fú nuair nár bhain siad craobh Uladh bhí bunús maith i gcónaí ann do na foirne faoi 21 bhliain a bhain craobhacha ag tosach na nochaidí agus as a dtáinig an togha foirne sinsir le déanaí.

Sa chéad chluiche in aghaidh Chiarraí bhí na hEoghanaigh ar a ndian-dhicheall, go háirithe i lár na páirce, chun an fód a sheasamh i gcoinne buachaillí na Ríochta; d'fhéadfadh duine a rá go raibh an t-ádh orthu comhscór a bhaint amach an lá sin. B'iad an bheirt fhear ionaid a rinne gaisce chun na cúilíní riachtanacha a ghnóthú. Is cinnte gur thug an tubaiste uafásach, i gcomortas Uladh, nuair a cailleadh imreoir tar éis cúl a ghnóthú, mian an-láidir don fhoireann craobh na hÉireann a bhuachtairt mar chomórath air. Pé'r bith chruthaigh siad sa dara iarracht in aghaidh Chiarraí go raibh diongabháltacht do-chloíte iontu chomh maith le scileanna den chéad ghrád.

Beidh na Laoisigh ar a ndian-dhicheall an 'dúbhailt' a bhaint amach. Is cinnte gur chun tairthe na peile sa

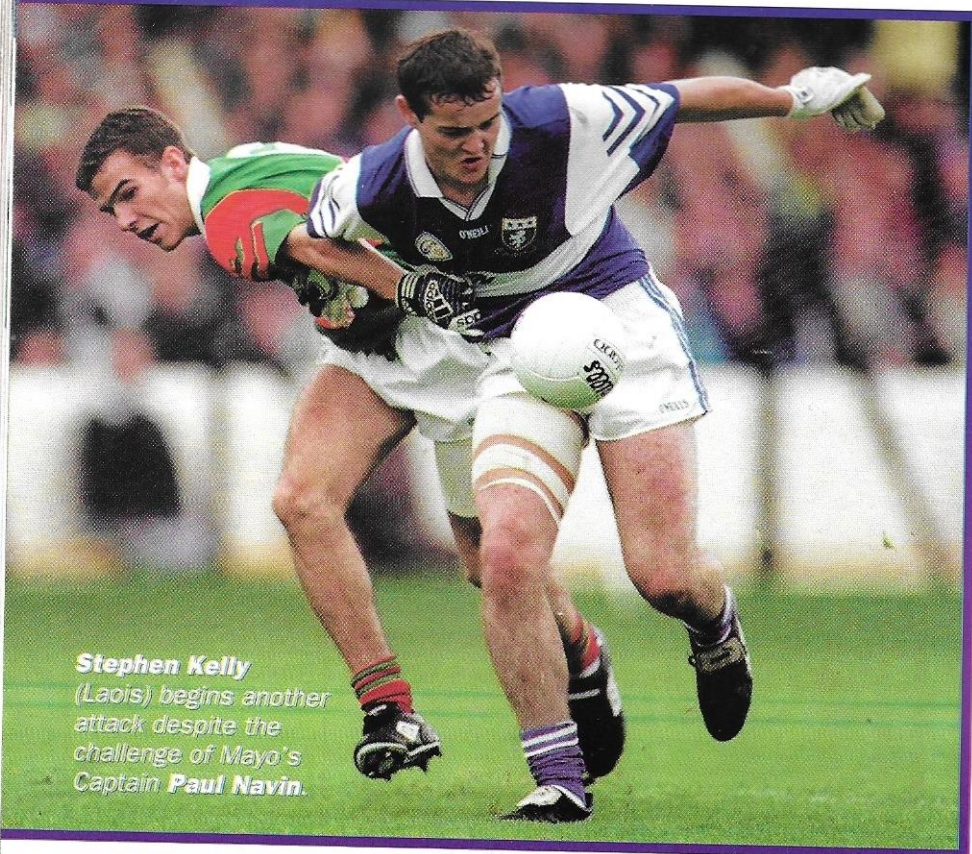
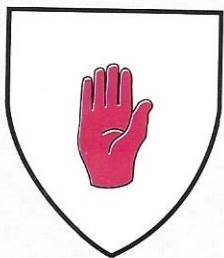
chontae an bua a bhain mionúir 1996; bhí cúpla duine acu rognaithe ar an bhfoireann shinsear ó shin. Tá cúlbaire thar an gcoiteann acu, bhuachaill breá, láidir ard Micheál Mac an Lia. Tá na cosantóirí tríd-istríd an-Éifeachtach agus fir lárpairce láidir cumasacha mar atá Brian Mac Giolla Phádraig agus Darren Ó Ruanaidh. Ach is é an peileadóir is éifeachtaí dá bhfacthas sa grád seo i mbliana ná Brian Mac Dónaigh leath-thosaí ar chlé. Braithfidh an toradh cuid mhaith ar na scóranna is féidir leis a ghnóthú go rialta.

Ar ndóigh tá peileadóirí inchoimparáid leis ar fhoireann Thír Eoghain; is dócha gurbé an gné is suntasaí ar fhoireann na nEoghanach ná go bhfuil na himreoirí ar fad, ó chúlbáire go lánthosaí, den caighdeán ard céanna agus nach bhfuilid ag braith ar "réaltóg" amháin nó beirt. Mar sin féin ní mór Brian MacUiginn a lua mar imreoir speisialta mar dual athar do (Frank).

Cluiche d'ardchaighdeán atá is ann dúinn agus is deacair a rá cé acu foireann a bhainfidh an lá. Guítear rath orthu araon. Ní ceart an deis a ligean tharainn gan focal molta a thabhairt dá dtreoirí. Tá dá lucht stiúrtha agus traenála, idir oifigigh an choiste chontae oifigigh na gclub agus múinteoirí sna scoileanna agus sna coláistí agus, gan amhras, do na tuismitheoirí a spreag iad agus a thug cead dóibh uaireanta fada traenála a chaitheamh. Go máire siad uilig.

Mar fhocal scoir ní mór focal buíochais a ghabháil leis na foirne mionúir tríd an tír nár bhain aon ghradam i mbliana. Ach murach iad ní bheadh aon chomortas ann. Agus gan fiachal a chur ann nach é an Cumann Lúthchleas Gael féin, lena chuid díograiseoirí ag gach leibhéal, a chuireann áiseanna ar fáil chun óige na tíre a oiliúint agus a choinneáil slán óna dáinséirí sóisialta atá ró-choitianta sa lá inniu, is trua a rá.

Más gá buille faoi thuairim a thabhairt faoin toradh ceaptar gur ag an hEoghanaigh a bheidh an lá. Ach má tá breall orainn beidh áthas orainn!



Stephen Kelly (Laois) begins another attack despite the challenge of Mayo's Captain **Paul Navin**.

Community Support

In the weeks leading up to today's final, the Laois GAA Supporters Club launched a fund-raising drive in support of the county's minor team. They received a magnificent response from the commercial sector both within and without the county. The sum raised, almost £26,000, will cover all the expenses for the team including playing gear, clothing, accommodation, post match banquet, etc..

Future plans include investment in Juvenile Coaching in both codes with the hurling already started under Offaly stars Joachim Kelly and Johnny Dooley.

The Laois Supporters Club is very grateful to all their sponsors and contributors and hopes that their efforts will be rewarded by victory in today's Minor Final.

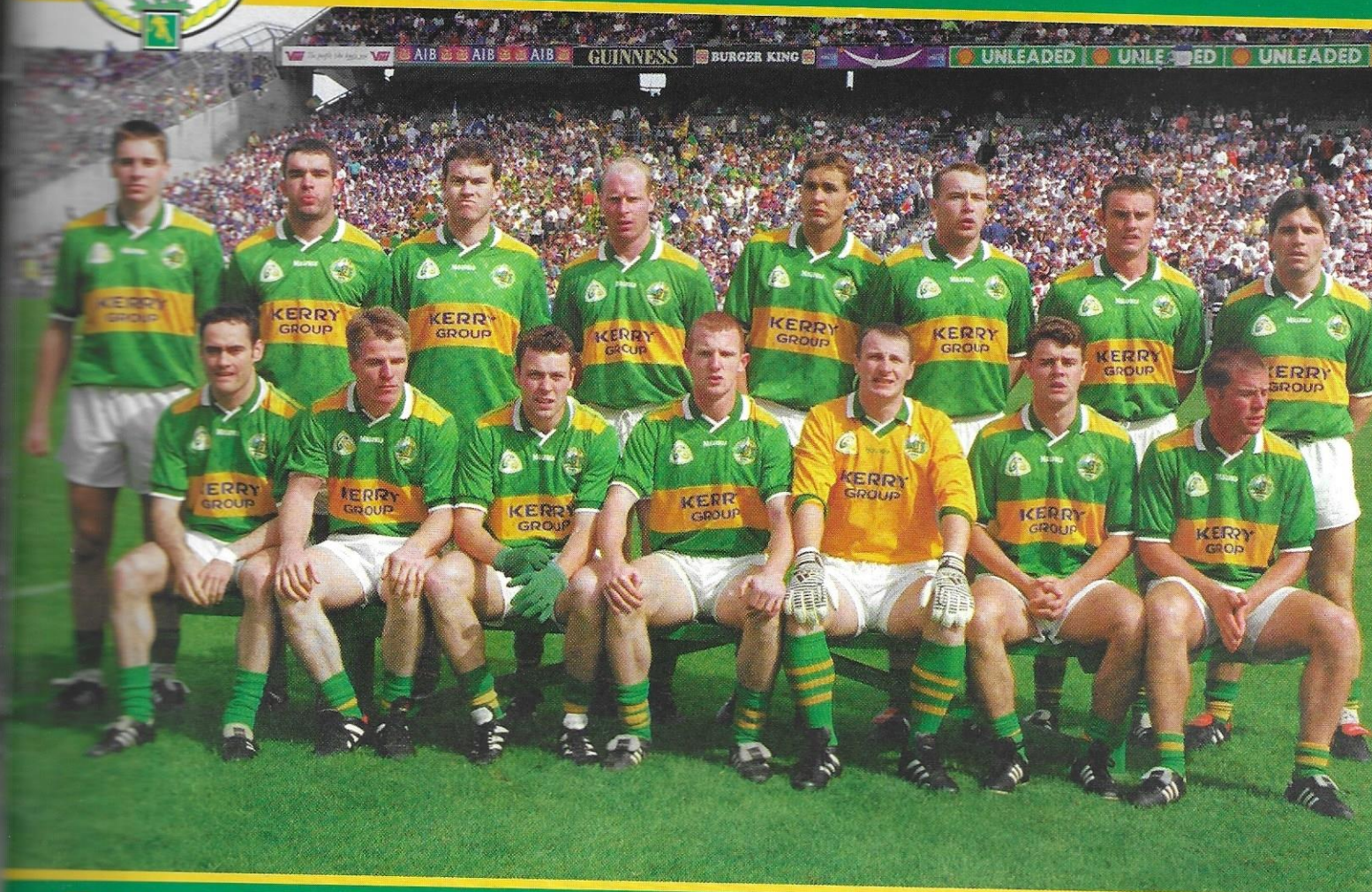
THE PURE ONE



Kerry Group plc, Princes Street, Tralee, Co. Kerry, Ireland. Tel: 066-22433. Fax: 066-23730



Ciarraí



The Kerry Senior Team which defeated Cavan in the Semi-final.

Back row (l-r): Dara Ó Sé, Barry O'Shea, Sean Burke, Liam O'Flaherty, Maurice Fitzgerald, Brian Clarke, William Kirby, Stephen Stack.
Front row (l-r): Pa Laide, Eamon Breen, Seamus Moynihan, Liam Hassett, Declan O'Keefe, Denis O'Dwyer, Dara Ó Cinnéide.

Kerry's route to the Final

Kerry are appearing in their first All-Ireland senior football final since 1986 when they won the Sam Maguire Cup for the third year in succession and the 30th time in all. This is their longest absence from the rankings since the period between their title wins of 1914 and 1924.

The successful defence of the Munster championship in July brought Kerry's provincial titles record to 65 since 1892.

29th June at Tralee:

Kerry 2-12; Tipperary 1-10

20th July at the Gaelic Grounds:

Kerry 1-13; Clare 0-11

24th August at Croke Park:

Kerry 1-17; Cavan 1-10

Total Scored 4-42 (54 points)

Total Conceded 2-31 (37 points)

Average 1.46

Scorer	1	2	3	Score	Total
Maurice Fitzgerald	0-7	0-5	0-7	0-19	19
Pa Laide	—	1-2	0-1	1-3	6
John Crowley	1-1	0-1	—	1-2	5
Denis O'Dwyer	1-0	0-1	0-1	1-2	5
Michael F. Russell	—	0-1	1-1	1-2	5
Liam Hassett	0-2	—	0-1	0-3	3
Dara Ó Cinnéide	—	0-2	0-1	0-3	3
Dara Ó Se	0-1	—	0-1	0-2	2
Brian Clarke	—	0-1	0-1	0-2	2
Billy O'Shea	—	—	0-2	0-2	2
Killian Burns	0-1	—	—	0-1	1
Eamonn Breen	—	—	0-1	0-1	1

Who says it's a Different Ball Game?

As sponsors of the GAA Jubilee Awards and Great Teams of the Past over the last 17 years, we know what success on the field really means.

Success on the playing field may seem a million miles removed from business. But, when you think about it, the same principles apply: hard work and dedication to achieve specific goals.

In the field of finance, no one works harder than Irish Nationwide to make money work for you, whether you want a Home Loan or a Commercial Loan, or you're looking for the best return on your investment.

Irish Nationwide. The results will speak for themselves.



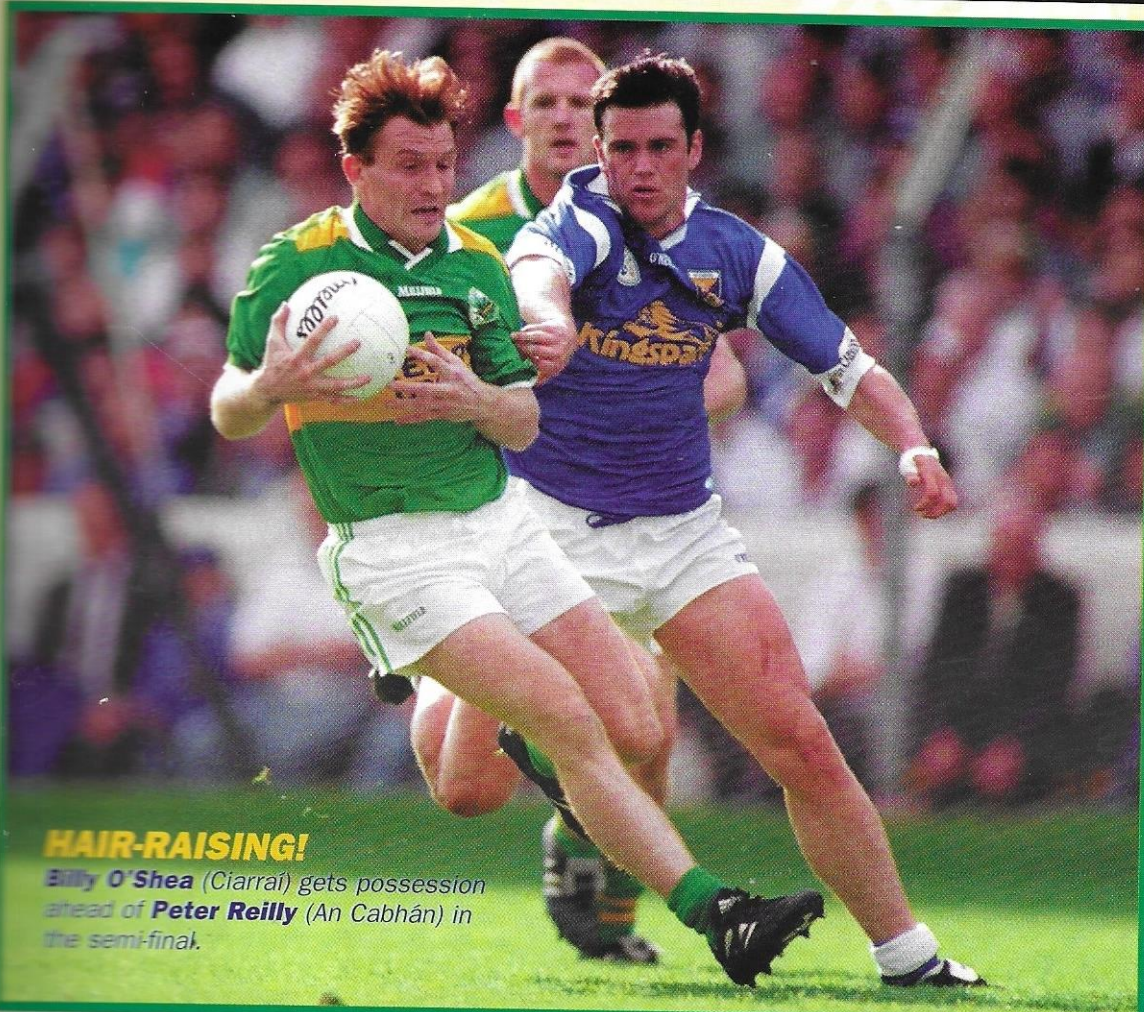
IRISH NATIONWIDE

BUILDING SOCIETY

HEAD OFFICE: 1 O'CONNELL STREET, DUBLIN 1. TELEPHONE: 6096000

Player Profiles

Ciarraí



HAIR-RAISING!

Billy O'Shea (Ciarraí) gets possession ahead of **Peter Reilly** (An Cabhán) in the semi-final.

Fitzgerald's proud scoring record in championship football

Maurice Fitzgerald is again this season demonstrating his expertise in turning scoring opportunities into scores. He is Kerry's leading marksman in the current championship.

The St. Mary's, Cahirciveen, clubman is well on the way to his 200th point, goals and points combined, in senior championship football. He

has 9 goals and 156 points (183 points) in 26 games stretching back to 1988.

Fitzgerald failed to score in only one outing—against Tipperary at Clonmel in a first round game in 1996. He had his highest score against Limerick at 2-10 in a first round game in 1995 at Limerick.

Five of the Kerry man's goals were from spot kicks and he also hit a point from a penalty.

Seeking The Double

Today Kerry are seeking to add All-Ireland honours to the National League title they won earlier this year - a double the Kingdom has annexed on several occasions over the years, most recently in 1964 when they beat Dublin (championship) and Galway (league).

Kerry was the first county to take both titles in one year when they overcame Kildare in the finals of both competitions in 1929. They

repeated the feat in 1931 and '32, but they then had to wait 27 years (1959) before they took the two trophies for the fourth time. Their two remaining doubles were won in 1969 and, of course, '84.

Mayo was the second county to win both titles which they did with considerable panache when they took the Sam Maguire in 1936, a few months after they had won the only National League decided on a straightforward points system.

All But One

Of Kerry's 30 All-Ireland triumphs, all but one were won at Croke Park (or Jones's Road as it was known before 1913). Their only success away from the capital was in the 1904 final which was played at the Cork Athletic Grounds and in

which they beat Dublin for the first time.

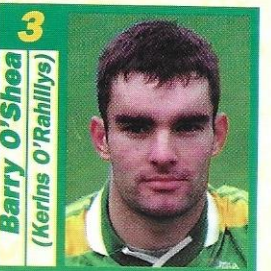
Strangely, Kerry lost all the finals they contested at other venues - Clonturk in 1892, Thurles in 1905, the Polo Grounds in 1947, as well as the "Home" final of 1908 which was staged at Thurles.



Age 25. 5'10". 13st. 7lbs. Garda. Made his senior debut against Donegal in 1995. 1 NFL; All-Ireland Vocational, Junior and Minor; 1 All-Ireland U-21, 2 Munster SFC.



Age 22. 5'11". 12st. College Graduate. Came on to the senior team against Laois last year. 1 All-Ireland College medal; 2 All-Ireland U-21; 1 NFL; 1 Munster SFC.



Age 21. 6'1". 14st. Student. A member of the senior panel since 1994, Barry has 1 NFL; All-Ireland Minor; All-Ireland U-21; Sigerson Cup medals and 1 Munster SFC.

**Not everything
we protect runs on
four wheels.**



The tiger. A symbol of beauty, strength and grace in nature. Esso companies worldwide plan to donate up to \$5m over the next five years to tiger conservation.



South And West...Senior Finals

It took more than 40 years to produce the first Connacht-Munster All-Ireland senior final which was in 1932 when Kerry and Mayo were in opposition. Kerry won on that occasion with Galway balancing when they took on the Kingdom six years later. Every decade since then has seen the South and West in opposition on final day with today's encounter being the first of the nineties. In all, the representatives of these provinces have met on 14 occasions with the record reading nine-five in Munster's favour.

1932	Kerry	2-7;	Mayo	2-4
1938	Galway	2-4;	Kerry	0-7 replay
1940	Kerry	0-7;	Galway	1-3
1941	Kerry	1-8;	Galway	0-7
1944	Roscommon	1-9;	Kerry	2-4
1946	Kerry	2-8;	Roscommon	0-10 replay
1956	Galway	2-13;	Cork	3-7
1959	Kerry	3-7;	Galway	1-4
1962	Kerry	1-12;	Roscommon	1-6
1964	Galway	0-15;	Kerry	0-10
1965	Galway	0-12;	Kerry	0-9
1973	Cork	3-17;	Galway	2-13
1980	Kerry	1-9;	Roscommon	1-6
1989	Cork	0-17;	Mayo	1-11

Player Profiles

4
Stephen Stack
(Listowel Emmets)



Age 30. 5'11". 13st.
Sales Manager.
Having made his senior debut in 1985, Stephen is the only member of the Kerry side with an All-Ireland SFC medal which he won in 1986. Also holds All-Ireland JFC (1994) and 4 Munster.

5
Seamus Moynihan
(Glenfesk)



Age 23. 5'11". 13st.
Student.
Made his senior debut against Clare in 1992 and has made a total of 11 Championship appearances. 1 NFL; 2 Sigerson Cup; 2 Munster SFC.

6
Liam O'Flaherty
(Ballydonoghue)

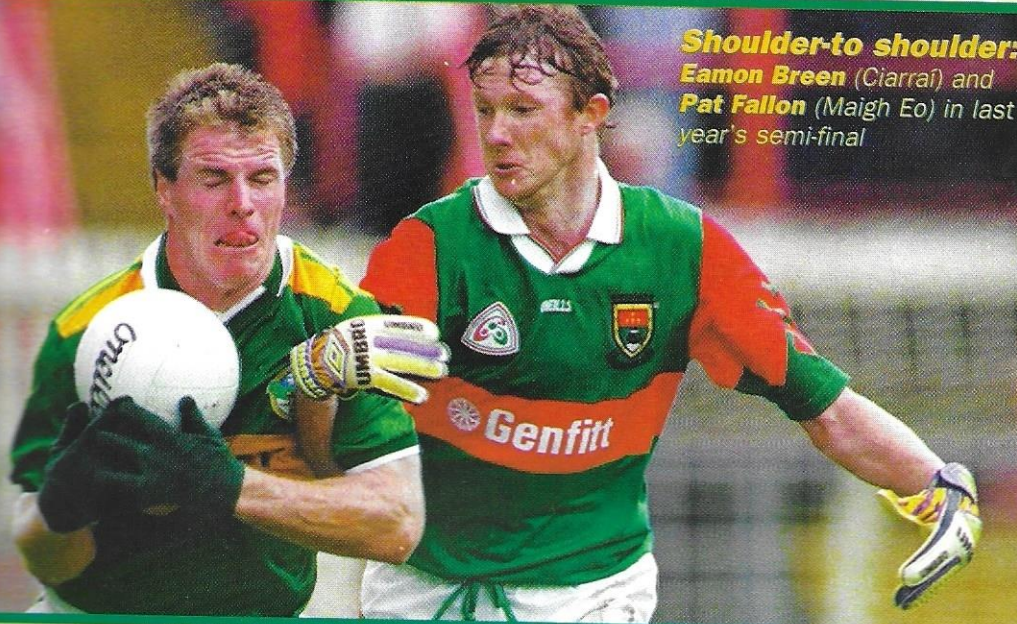


Age 27. 6'0". 13st.6lbs.
Farmer.
With 18 senior championship appearances since 1990, Liam has won 1 NFL; 1 All-Ireland Minor and All-Ireland U-21; 3 Munster SFC.

7
Eamon Breen
(Finghe)



Age 27. 5'11". 13st.
Plasterer.
Has also made 18 SFC appearances since his senior debut against Down in 1988. 1 NFL; 3 Munster SFC; All-Ireland U-21.



Shoulder-to-shoulder:
Eamon Breen (Ciarraí) and Pat Fallon (Maigh Eo) in last year's semi-final

Kerry Summer Camps a huge success

The slogan on the back of the T-Shirt distributed free among the youngsters attending the Kerry Football Summer Camps this year said it all - "Kerry Football - We're Back".

The slogan has now taken on an even more authentic as, since those T-Shirts were given out among hundreds of boys and girls attending the camps, Kerry have reached the All-Ireland Senior Football.

This was the third year of the Football Summer Camps and they again proved to be extremely popular with the participating boys and girls from all over the county.

In all, over 1,400 youngsters in ten venues participated in the Football Camps. The youngsters ranged in age between seven and fourteen.

Work in organising the camps started back in February when Pat O'Shea, as full-time Football Coach in the county, travelled to 140 schools to distribute 6,000 application forms.

The camps were held between June 30th and August 15th. The 18-strong coaching staff (10 full-time) included Kerry senior players Dara Ó Cinnéide, William Kirby and Barry O'Shea. Special back-up was received from many other Kerry stars including two lady footballers Mary Jo Curran and Geraldine O'Shea, as well as Kerry captain Mike Hassett who turned up at the camps with the NFL and Munster Championship cups.

Two people who have contributed enormously to the success of the Camps as well as all other coaching initiatives, are Sean Walsh, Chairman of Kerry Coaching Committee and Youth Officer Mike McCarthy without whose work little would be achieved.

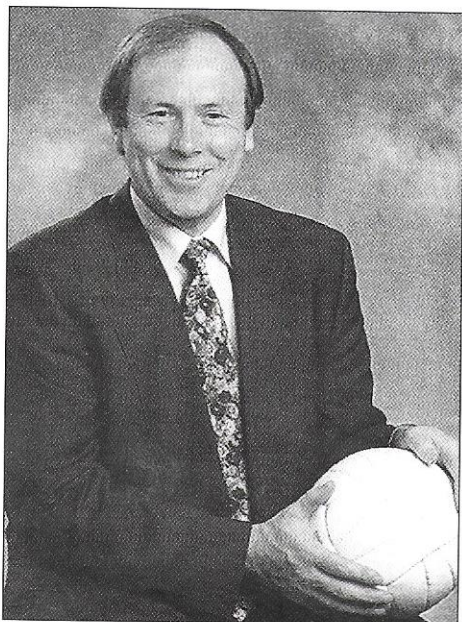
Children of today are definitely our players, administrators, spectators and parents of the future so it should go without saying that everything must be done to encourage all Irish youngsters to play our national games. The Summer Camp is one such way and it is vital for us that all children enjoy themselves in a fun and safe environment.



Pat O'Shea (on left) and William Kirby with a group of attentive listeners at a Kerry Football Summer Camp.

SUPPORT

THE SUPPORTERS



"Church & General understands the real meaning of support. For instance, you'll know of our support for the National Football and Hurling Leagues.

But what about the support you need for your Home and Motor Insurance? We score here too with competitive rates, and 24 hour Motor and Home Assist Services."

"TO FIND OUT MORE ASK YOUR BROKER"

Donal Ballard



Church & General

A MEMBER OF AGF-IRISH LIFE HOLDINGS p.l.c.

Church & General Burlington House, Burlington Road, Dublin 4.

Telephone: (01) 702 3000. Fax: (01) 660 9220.



UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

DIPLOMA IN SPORTS MANAGEMENT

This is a new two-year part-time course covering the principles of management and administration in the industry of sport.

The course aims to expand the knowledge and business skills of those currently employed in the sports industry and to provide a foundation for high calibre sports people with the basic skills for a sports related career.

This is a multi-disciplinary course involving the faculties of Commerce, Medicine, Philosophy and Sociology and the Language Centre in association with the University Industry Programme.

The course will commence on Tuesday, 16th September, 1997.

Applicants should be of matriculation standard with a background in sport.

Further information and application forms are available from:

**The Project Manager,
Continuing Education,
University Industry Programme,
University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4.
Tel: +353-1-706 8712/706 8714. Fax: +353-1-283 0669.**



UNIVERSITY
INDUSTRY
PROGRAMME

Moynihan a big Influence for the Kingdom



Seamus Moynihan can look back with satisfaction on his last Croke Park appearance. He gave a high-quality display in the half back line to exercise a decisive influence in Kerry's win over Cavan for a place in the Bank of Ireland All-Ireland senior football final.

His was a commanding presence as he put up a solid barrier to the Breffni forwards and also at times moved up to stamp his personality on the midfield exchanges. Moynihan, who will only be 24 next month, is a mature and accomplished footballer. He is a brilliant graduate from colleges' football and did much at midfield to help St. Brendan's, Killarney, to win the All-Ireland Colleges' senior title in 1992.

Later that year he won a Munster under-21 medal with the Kingdom at midfield and was also in the side that retained that crown the following year.

A senior inter-county footballer since 1992, the young Glenflesk clubman won two Sigerson Cup medals with U.C.Cork.

Earlier this year he helped to carve out a bright chapter in the annals of the Sigerson Cup as centre half back in the Tralee RTC team that became the first Regional Technical College side to win the most prestigious trophy in the Higher Education Championships.

A wholehearted footballer who never gives less than 100 per cent in any game,

Moynihan makes his senior inter-county final debut with two provincial senior medals also to his credit.

Seamus Moynihan clears his lines in the semi-final, shadowed by Cavan's Peter Reilly.

Player Profiles

8

Darragh O Sé
(Gaeitacht)



Age 22. 6'1". 13st. 7lbs.
ESB Technician.
Made his senior debut against Donegal in 1994, has made a total of 11 senior championship appearances. 1 NFL; 2 All-Ireland U-21; 2 Munster SFC.

9

William Kirby
(Austin Stacks)



Age 22. 6'0". 13st.
Student.
Made his senior debut against Meath in 1995. William is the holder of 2 All-Ireland U-21; 1 Sigerson Cup and 1 Munster SFC medals.

10

Pa Laide
(Austin Stacks)



Age 25. 5'11". 12st. 7lbs.
Bank Official.
Made his senior debut against Clare in 1990. 1 NFL; All-Ireland Minor; All-Ireland U-21 and 1 Munster SFC.

11

Liam Hassett
(Laune Rangers)



Age 22. 6'2". 13st.
Teacher.
Came into the senior side against Tipperary in 1995. All-Ireland Club; 2 All-Ireland U-21; 2 Munster SFC.

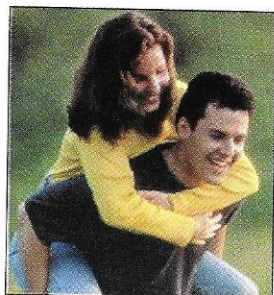
Confidence



Confidence is a rare commodity.

Finding someone you are confident won't let you down. Finding a partner with experience and knowledge to cope with the uncertainties of the future.

Finding the best possible healthcare for you and your family.



That's why so many Irish people have turned to VHI over the past 40 years, confident in the knowledge that they are in good hands, confident that they will receive the best possible private healthcare treatment at an affordable cost.



The people who know you

For details of membership contact VHI at: Dublin: VHI House, Lower Abbey Street, Dublin 1. Tel: (01) 872 4499. Cork: VHI House, 70 South Mall. Tel: (021) 277188. Dun Laoghaire: 35/36 Lower George's Street. Tel: (01) 280 0306. Galway: VHI House, 10 Eyre Square. Tel: (091) 563715. Limerick: 62 O'Connell Street. Tel: (061) 316122.

If you live outside these areas, you can contact VHI at 1-850 44 44 44 (charged at local call rate).

Website: <http://www.vhi.ie/> E-mail: info@vhi.ie

1997 Bank of Ireland Senior Football Championship Scoreboard

Leinster

11th May at Tullamore

Offaly 5-17; Longford 0-13

11th May at New Ross

Wexford 2-5; Westmeath 0-11

17th May at Mullingar (replay)

Westmeath 2-17; Wexford 1-15

25th May at Tullamore

Offaly 0-8; Westmeath 0-8

7th June at Mullingar (replay)

Offaly 1-14; Westmeath 0-7

1st June at Droichead Nua

Louth 1-13; Carlow 1-10

8th June at Croke Park

Kildare 1-11; Laois 1-7

15th June at Croke Park

Meath 1-13; Dublin 1-10

Offaly 1-17; Wicklow 1-8

Semi-Final: 29th June at An Uaimh

Offaly 1-10; Louth 0-11

Semi-Final: 6th July at Croke Park

Meath 0-12; Kildare 1-9

20th July at Croke Park (replay AET)

Meath 2-20; Kildare 3-17

3rd August at Croke Park (2nd replay)

Meath 1-12; Kildare 1-10

Final: 16th August at Croke Park

Offaly 3-17; Meath 1-15

Munster

11th May at the Gaelic Grounds

Limerick 1-13; Tipperary 0-16

18th May at Clonmel (replay)

Tipperary 1-17; Limerick 2-8

1st June at Dungarvan

Tipperary 2-7; Waterford 1-5

Semi-Final: 22nd June at Ennis

Clare 1-14; Cork 1-13

Semi-Final: 29th June at Tralee

Kerry 2-12; Tipperary 1-10

Final: 20th July at the Gaelic Grounds

Kerry 1-13; Clare 0-11

Connacht

25th May at Tuam

Mayo 1-16; Galway 0-15

1st June at Ruislip (AET)

Leitrim 2-18; London 1-13

Semi-Final: 22nd June at Markievicz Park

Sligo 1-14; Roscommon 1-11

Semi-Final: 29th June at Castlebar

Mayo 0-18; Leitrim 0-11

Final: 3rd August at Hyde Park

Mayo 0-11; Sligo 1-7

Ulster

18th May at Clones

Tyrone 0-15; Down 2-9

25th May at Clones (replay)

Tyrone 3-8; Down 1-11

25th May at Ballybofey

Donegal 2-12; Antrim 1-13

1st June at Clones

Monaghan 2-8; Derry 1-11

8th June at Celtic Park (replay)

Derry 2-15; Monaghan 0-10

8th June at Clones

Cavan 1-12; Fermanagh 1-12

15th June at Clones (replay)

Cavan 0-14; Fermanagh 0-11

15th June at Omagh

Tyrone 1-12; Armagh 0-12

Semi-Final: 22nd June at Clones

Cavan 2-16; Donegal 2-10

Semi-Final: 29th June at Clones

Derry 2-15; Tyrone 2-3

Final: 20th July at Clones

Cavan 1-14; Derry 0-16

All-Ireland Semi-Finals

24th August at Croke Park

Kerry 1-17; Cavan 1-10

31st August at Croke Park

Mayo 0-13; Offaly 0-7

Player Profiles

12
Denis O'Dwyer
(Waterville)



Age 21. 5'11". 12st.13lbs. Building Society Official. Made his first senior appearance against Laois last year. All-Ireland Minor; All-Ireland Vocational; 2 All-Ireland U-21; 2 Munster SFC.

13
Billy O'Shea
(Laune Rangers)



Age 25. 5'9". 11st.4lbs. Veterinary Representative. One of his side's most experienced campaigners with 14 SFC outings since his senior debut against Kildare in 1991. All-Ireland Club; Munster Minor, U-21; 2 Munster SFC.

14
Dara O Cinnéide
(Gaeltacht)



Age 22. 5'10". 12st.7lbs. Student. Made his senior debut against Mayo in 1994 and has made 10 championship appearances. 1 NFL; All-Ireland Junior; 2 All-Ireland U-21; 2 Munster SFC.

15
Maurice Fitzgerald
(St. Mary's)



Age 27. 6'2". 13st.7lbs. Teacher. The most experienced championship campaigner in the team, he has made a total of 20 SFC outings since his senior debut in 1988. 1 NFL; 2 All-Star Awards; 3 Munster SFC.

Fir Ionaid	(16) Mike Hassett (Laune Rangers)	Age 23.	6'1".	13st	Teacher.
	(17) Brian Clarke (Dr. Crokes)	Age 22.	6'1".	13st.10lbs.	Postman.
	(18) Sean Burke (Milltown/Castlemaine)	Age 27.	6'0".	14st.	Engineer.
	(19) Michael Russell (Laune Rangers)	Age 19.	5'11".	11st.7lbs.	Student.
	(20) Donal Daly (Furies)	Age 22.	6'2".	13st.7lbs.	Student.
	(21) Peter O'Leary (Legion)	Age 27.	6'3".	14st.	Office Equipment Business.
	(22) John Crowley (Glenflesk)	Age 22.	6'0".	14st.	Garda.
	(23) Morgan O'Shea (Kerins O'Rahillys)	Age 22.	6'1".	13st.10lbs.	Student.
(24) Tomás Ó Sé (Gaeltacht)	Age 19.	6'0".	12st.11lbs	Student.	



Ciarraí



Dathanna: Uaithne, Ór is Bán

An Captaen



Liam Hassett

Liam retains the captaincy of Kerry which he took over from his brother, Mike, who led the county to their Munster championship win and who was unavailable because of injury for the All-Ireland semi-final against Cavan.

Liam is no stranger to the role of an All-Ireland title winning captain. He led the county to last year's Under-21 final win over Cavan at Semple Stadium from centre half forward.

That was his second successive All-Ireland medal in the grade and he won his second Munster senior medal in July.

Hassett, who is 22, helped to write history as full forward in the Laune Rangers, Killorglin, team that won the AIB All-Ireland Club senior football title on St. Patrick's Day of last year.

He also has three county senior medals.

Bainisteoir



Páidí Ó Sé

Roghnóirí:

Páidí Ó Sé (Trainer),
Séamus Mac Gearailt (Coach),
Bernie O'Callaghan,
Jack O'Connor, **Tom O'Connor**.

1 DECLAN O'KEEFFE

D. Ó Caoimh
(Rathmore)

2 KILLIAN BURNS

C. Ó Broin
(Sneem)

3 BARRY O'SHEA

B. Ó Sé
(Kerins O'Rahillys)

4 STEPHEN STACK

S. Stac
(Emmetts)

5 SEAMUS MOYNIHAN

S. Ó Muineacháin
(Glenflesk)

6 LIAM O'FLAHERTY

L. Ó Flaitheartaigh
(Ballydonoghue)

7 EAMONN BREEN

E. Ó Braoin
(Finuge)

8 DARA Ó SÉ

D. Ó Sé
(Gaeltacht)

9 WILLIAM KIRBY

L. Ó Ciarba
(Austin Stacks)

10 PA LAIDE

P. Mag Léid
(Austin Stacks)

11 LIAM HASSETT

L. Ó hAisí (Capt.)
(Laune Rangers)

12 DENIS O'DWYER

D. Ó Dubhuir
(Waterville)

13 BILLY O'SHEA

L. Ó Sé
(Laune Rangers)

14 DARA Ó CINNÉIDE

D. Ó Cinnéide
(Gaeltacht)

15 MAURICE FITZGERALD

M. Mc Gearailt
(St. Mary's)

Fir Ionaid

(16) Mike Hassett
M. Ó hAisí
(Laune Rangers)

(17) Brian Clarke
B. Ó Cléirigh
(Dr. Crokes)

(18) Sean Burke
S. de Búrca
(Milltown/Castlemaine)

(19) Michael F. Russell
M. P. Ruiséil
(Laune Rangers)

(20) Donal Daly
D. Ó Dálaigh
(Fries)

(21) Peter O'Leary
P. Ó Laoire
(Legion)

(22) John Crowley
S. Ó Crualaoich
(Glenflesk)

(23) Morgan O'Shea
M. Ó Sé
(Kerins O'Rahillys)

(24) Tomás Ó Sé
T. Ó Sé
(Gaeltacht)

Ciarraí

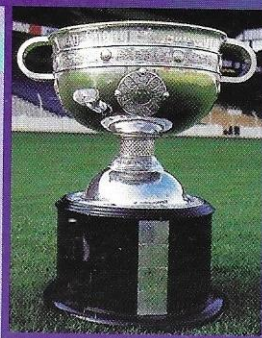
1adh Leath

2adh Leath

IOMLÁN

	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachái	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
IOMLÁN					

Roll of Honour All-Ireland Senior Football Championship



30: Kerry:	1903, 1904, 1909, 1913, 1914, 1924, 1926, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1937, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1946, 1953, 1955, 1959, 1962, 1969, 1970, 1975, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1984, 1985, 1986.	6: Meath:	1949, 1954, 1967, 1987, 1996.
22: Dublin:	1891, 1892, 1894, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1901, 1902, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1942, 1958, 1963, 1974, 1976, 1977, 1983, 1995.	5: Down:	1960, 1961, 1968, 1991.
7: Galway:	1925, 1934, 1938, 1956, 1964, 1965, 1966.	Cavan:	1933, 1935, 1947, 1948.
6: Cork:	1890, 1911, 1945, 1973, 1989, 1990.	Wexford:	1893, 1915, 1916, 1917.
		4: Kildare:	1905, 1919, 1927, 1928.
		3: Louth:	1910, 1912, 1957.
		Tipperary:	1889, 1895, 1900, 1920.
		Mayo:	1936, 1950, 1951.
		Offaly:	1971, 1972, 1982.
		2: Limerick:	1887, 1896.
		Roscommon:	1943, 1944.
		1: Derry:	1993.
		Donegal:	1992.





Maigh Eo



Dathanna: Uaithne, Dearg is Bán

1

PETER BURKE

*P. de Búrca
(Kiltimagh)*

2

KENNETH MORTIMER

*C. Ó Muircheartaigh
(Shrulle/Glencorrib)*

3

PAT HOLMES

*P. Mac Thomáis
(Cavan Gaels)*

4

DERMOT FLANAGAN

*D. Ó Flannagáin
(Ballaghadereen)*

5

FERGAL COSTELLO

*F. Mac Coisdeala
(Ballinrobe)*

6

JAMES NALLEN

*S. Ó Nailín
(Crossmolina Deel Rovers)*

7

NOEL CONNELLY

*N. Ó Conghaile (Capt.)
(Hollymount)*

8

PAT FALLON

*P. Ó Fallúin
(Balla)*

9

DAVID HEANEY

*D. Ó hÉanaigh
(Swinford)*

10

MAURICE SHERIDAN

*M. Ó Sioradáin
(Balla)*

11

COLM McMANAMAN

*C. Mac Meanmáin
(Burrishoole)*

12

JOHN CASEY

*S. Ó Cathasaigh
(Charlestown)*

13

KIERAN McDONALD

*C. Mac Domhnaill
(Crossmolina Deel Rovers)*

14

LIAM McHALE

*L. Mac Éil
(Ballina Stephenites)*

15

DAVID NESTOR

*D. Mac Adhastair
(Ballyhaunis)*

Fir Ionaid

(16) John Madden

*S. Ó Madáin
(Ballycastle)*

(17) James Horan

*S. Ó hÓráin
(Ballintubber)*

(18) Ronan Golding

*R. Ó Guallachta
(Balla)*

(19) Diarmuid Byrne

*D. Ó Broin
(Castlebar Mitchell's)*

(20) Brian Heffernan

*B. Ó hÉifearnáin
(Ballina Stephenites)*

(21) P.J. Loftus

*P.S. Ó Leachtnáin
(Crossmolina Deel Rovers)*

(22) Tony Morley

*A. Ó Muirthile
(Ballyhaunis)*

(23) David Brady

*D. Ó Brádaigh
(Ballina Stephenites)*

(24) Kevin Beirne

*C. Ó Béim
(Claremorris)*

Maigh Eo

Cúil

Cúillíní

Seachaí

45m

Saor Ciceanna

1adh Leath

2adh Leath

IOMLÁN

	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seachaí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
IOMLÁN					

An Réiteoir: Brian White (Loch Garman)



Brian today becomes the first Wexford man in 42 years to referee an All-Ireland senior football final.

He was the man in the middle at the AIB All-Ireland club football final on St. Patrick's Day and his other assignments this season included the Meath-Dublin first round championship clash and the Leinster senior final.

A member of the Rathgarogue-Cushintown club, White has been a referee for nine years and has controlled four Leinster senior finals as well as senior championship games in Munster, Connacht and Ulster.

The Wexford official had charge of last year's All-Ireland minor final, the 1993 National League final and replay and All-Ireland senior semi-finals.

A former hurler and footballer, and winner of intermediate medals in both codes, Brian will referee the Cavan-Kerry Church and General National League match in New York next month. This game will commemorate the 1947 All-Ireland senior final between the same counties at the Polo Grounds, New York.

Umpires

John Maher, Tom St. Leger,
Larry Malone, Willie Landy.

An **Captaen**



Noel Connelly

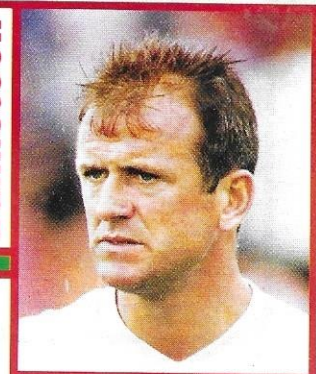
Will it prove a case of third time lucky for the Hollymount club man as team captain in a national senior final? Noel led Mayo in their two games against Meath for the Sam Maguire Cup last September.

Although now firmly established as a very accomplished left half back, Connelly started last year's championship as a forward against London. He was moved back to the No. 7 spot for the next game and has been a most influential figure in that role for the Connacht county.

The Mayo captain did not play minor with the county but is a former under-21 footballer. He led the county to their Connacht senior titles of 1996 and last August and he was in the Connacht team that lost the interprovincial final earlier this year to Leinster.

Now 25, Noel led his club to their last Mayo senior title in 1994.

Bainisteoir



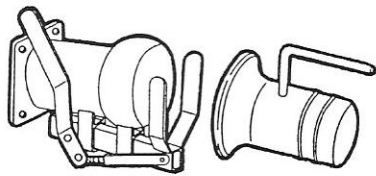
John Maughan

Roghnóirí:

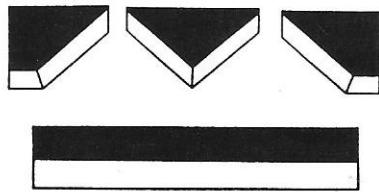
John Maughan (Manager),
Peter Ford,
Tommy O'Malley,
Seamus Rodgers (Trainer).



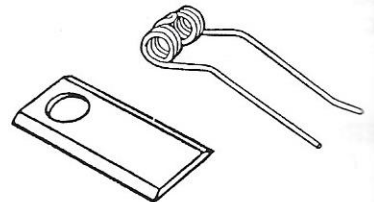
Genfitt



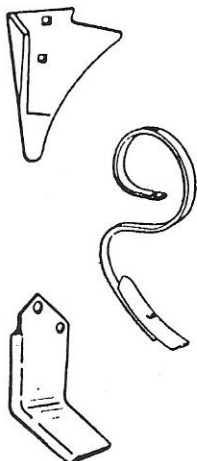
SLURRY COUPLINGS



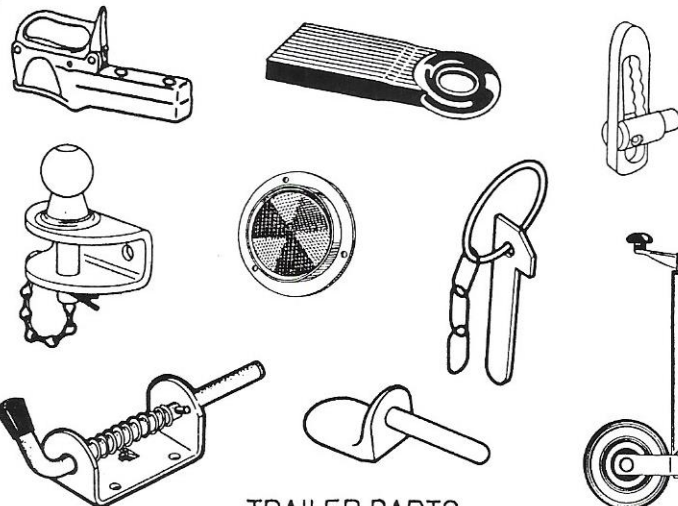
SHEARGRAB BLADES



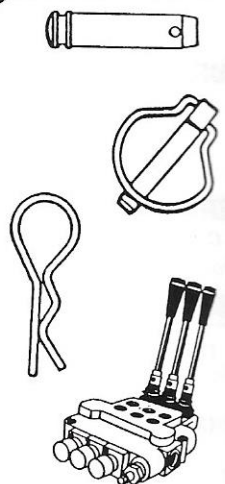
HAYMAKING PARTS



PLOUGH PARTS



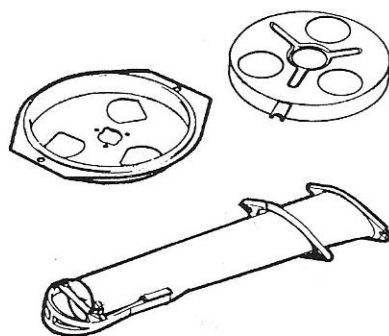
TRAILER PARTS



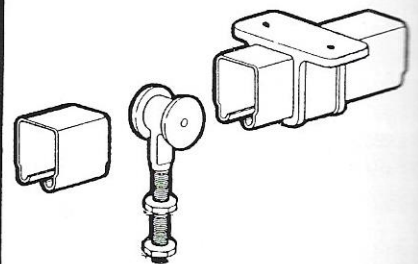
TRACTOR SPARES



GRASSTOPPER BLADES



VICON EQUIPMENT



DOOR TRACKING ITEMS

Manufacturers & Distributors to the Wholesale & Allied Trades

Tel: (094) 81377

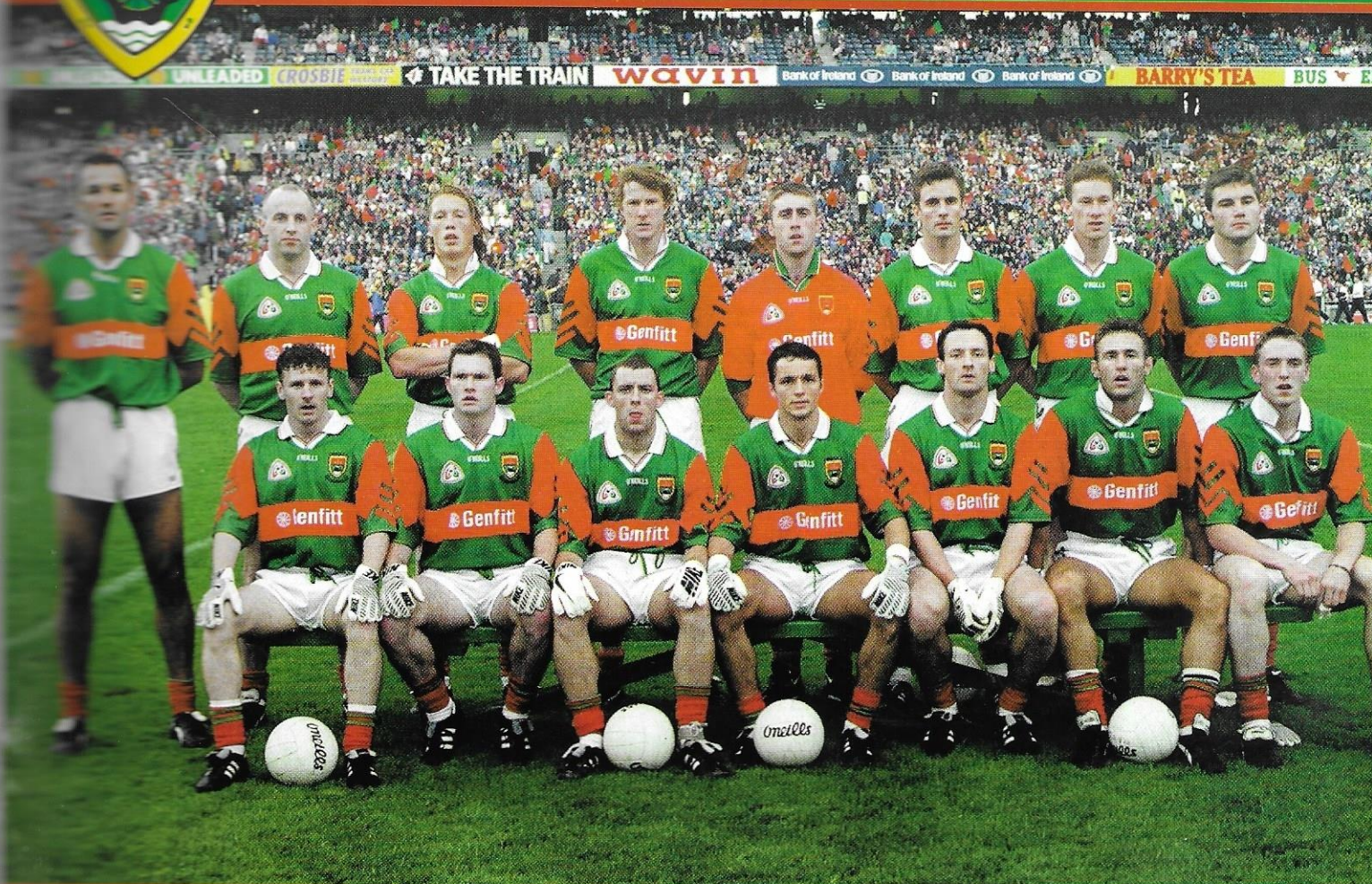
Genfitt Ltd.

Fax: (094) 81615.

GREYFIELD, KILTIMAGH, Co. MAYO.



Maigh Eo



The Mayo Senior Team which defeated Offaly in the Semi-final.

Back row (l-r): Liam McHale, Pat Holmes, Keiran McDonald, Pat Fallon, Peter Burke, Maurice Sheridan, James Nallen, James Horan.

Front row (l-r): David Nestor, Fergal Costello, Kenneth Mortimer, Noel Connelly, Dermot Flanagan, Colm McManaman, David Heany.

Mayo's route to the Final

Mayo won their second successive Connacht senior football title in August to bring their record to 38 provincial crowns since 1901.

The Western County contest a second successive All-Ireland final today for the first time since 1950 and 1951 when they won their last national championships.

25th May at Tuam:			
Mayo	1-16;	Galway	0-15
25th June at Castlebar:			
Mayo	0-18;	Leitrim	0-11
3rd August at Hyde Park:			
Mayo	0-11;	Sligo	1-7
15th August at Croke Park:			
Mayo	0-13;	Offaly	0-7
Total Scored	1-58 (61 points)		
Total Conceded	1-40 (43)		
Average	1.42		

Scorer	1	2	3	4	Score	Total
Maurice Sheridan	0-8	0-6	0-6	0-4	0-24	24
Kieran McDonald	0-2	0-4	0-2	0-3	0-11	11
David Nestor	0-2	—	0-1	0-2	0-5	5
Liam McHale	0-2	0-1	—	0-1	0-4	4
P.J. Loftus	1-0	0-1	—	—	1-1	4
John Casey	0-1	0-1	—	—	0-2	2
Diarmuid Byrne	—	0-2	—	—	0-2	2
James Horan	—	0-1	0-1	—	0-2	2
Pat Fallon	0-1	—	—	0-1	0-2	2
Kenneth Mortimer	—	0-1	—	—	0-1	1
James Nallen	—	0-1	—	—	0-1	1
Ronan Golding	—	—	0-1	—	0-1	1
Fergal Costello	—	—	—	0-1	0-1	1
Kevin O'Neill	—	—	—	0-1	0-1	1

“best of luck to
mighty **mayo** and the
kingdom of **kerry** from the
farmers champion”



JFC

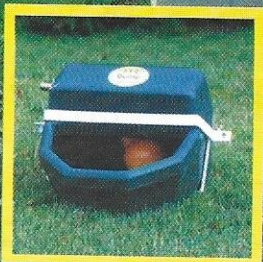


MANUFACTURING CO. LTD

Quality Plastic Products for the Farmer

Weir Rd., Tuam, Co. Galway Tel: 093 24066 Fax: 093 24923 Email: jfc@iol.ie

JFC Calf Hutch Rearing System



Drink Bowls



4x4 Inserts



Oil Tanks



Water Troughs

Mayo on the doubles trail

- Clare's historic minor and senior double in last week's All-Ireland hurling finals will not be followed by a similar feat by any county in the football programme. However, Mayo still have a chance of an All-Ireland titles double - and at the expense of Kerry! Goals by left full forward Tony Morley in the first half and left half forward Oliver Walsh in the second sent the Connacht county on the way to a 2-8 to 1-10 win over the Kingdom in the junior final at Ennis last month.
- Lais and Meath recorded the minor and senior double for Leinster last year.
- A Kerry win would give Munster the first double of All-Ireland senior hurling and senior football titles in the same year since Cork completed a

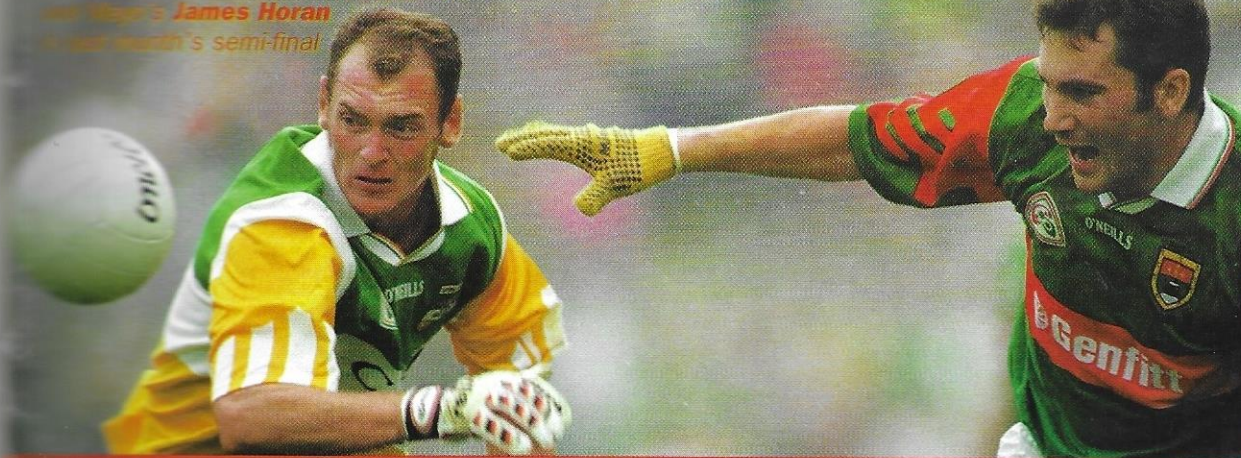
memorable two-timer in 1990.

That was also an historic year for Teddy McCarthy, who became the first man to capture the two top awards in the same year.

- Wexford and Meath brought the Liam McCarthy Cup and the Sam Maguire Cup to the East last year for Leinster's first double since 1983.
- Kerry are in line for the Church and General National League and Bank of Ireland All-Ireland senior football championship double. They beat Cork at Páirc Uí Chaoimh last May by 3-7 to 1-8. Kerry last won the League and Championship in the same year in 1984.
- A Tyrone win would earn Ulster a second All-Ireland inter-county title of the year. Derry are under-21 football champions.

It's over there!

He will evade Offaly's John Kenny
and Mayo's James Horan
in the semi-final



A Unique Double

Should Mayo emerge victorious from today's final they will have brought off a unique double by beating Kerry in two All-Ireland finals in one year.

Five weeks ago Mayo overcame the Kingdom in the junior final but, if tradition has any bearing on the matter, they face a mammoth task to bring off the second leg, for no county has ever beaten Kerry in two All-Ireland

finals in one season. Kerry, of course, have lost two finals in the past, but never to the same county.

Galway, however, came closer to recording this double than any other when, having beaten Kerry in the All-Ireland senior final in 1965, they overcame the green and gold in the junior "Home" final. It all leaves Mayo with an added incentive today - not that it is needed.

Classic Collection of GAA Songs

"The Greatest GAA Album Ever Vol. I", launched only last week by Seosamh MacDonncha in Croke Park, is already number 12 in the Irish Album Charts. It is a unique and comprehensive hit collection of classic songs which have become county anthems for generations of players and supporters.

The narration, by broadcaster Micheál Ó Murchearthaigh, evokes heroic names and memorable occasions from hurling and football history which have become legends in counties across the land. He takes a musical journey through those counties introducing songs which are synonymous with the national games.

Volume I features leading Irish artists performing well-loved songs from 16 counties. A specially commissioned track for all counties, "Warriors

Rising", captures the pride and passion which is associated with the GAA in every village, town and county throughout Ireland.

Speaking at the launch, the GAA President, Seosamh MacDonncha, said: "the album has been long overdue and I believe that it will, in years to come, be recognised as a classic of its time".

To complete this classic collection of GAA county songs, Volume II will include songs from the other 16 counties that evoke memories of classic hits, great games and great occasions. It will chronicle the evolution of theme songs adopted by our counties and, like the GAA, it will promote a sense of identity and pride of place.

"The Greatest GAA Album Ever Vol. I" is available in both CD and cassette format and is on sale at usual retail outlets nationwide and at Croke Park.

Player Profiles

Maigh Eo



1
Peter Burke
(Kiltimagh)

Age 20. 6'0". 14st.
Carpenter.
1 Connacht Senior medal; 1
Connacht U-21 medal.



2
Kenneth Mortimer
(Shrule/Glencorrib)

Age 23. 5'9". 11st.10lbs.
Bank Official.
1 Connacht M.F.C.; 1 All-Ireland M.F.C. Runners-up; 2 Connacht U-21; 2 All-Ireland U-21 Runners-up; 1 Connacht Junior; 2 Connacht SFC; 2 FBD Leagues; 1 All-Ireland S.F.C. Runners-up; 1996 All-Star.



3
Pat Holmes
(Cavan Gaels)

Age 30. 6'0". 13st.9lbs.
Bank Official.
6 Connacht S.F.C.; 1 Connacht U-21; 2 All-Ireland S.F.C. Runners-up; 1 Hogan Cup with St. Jarlath's Tuam; 2 FBD Leagues; 1 Connacht Club; 1 All-Ireland Club Runners-up; 1996 All-Star.



Raidió na Gaeltachta

AR FUD NA TÍRE

GACH LÁ 0800 - 1930 ar 92 - 94FM agus 102.7FM

Pat Holmes continues excellent service with Mayo



Pat Holmes is a member of the long-serving brigade in senior football who continue to set an excellent example for the young men of the game. Now 30, the Cavan Gaels clubman played a prominent part in Mayo's return to another Bank of Ireland senior football final.

Along the way he captured his third Connacht senior medal on the actual field of play. Holmes was Mayo's team leader when they lost the Connacht senior final to Leitrim in 1994 and he also captained the Connacht side that lost the interprovincial final in February to Leinster at Castlebar.

Holmes is an outstanding graduate from under-age football. He was at midfield in the St. Jarlath's, Tuam, side that won the All-Ireland Colleges' senior football title in 1984.

On the club front he was on duty with Castlebar Mitchels in their unsuccessful AIB All-Ireland club final against Nemo Rangers, of Cork, in 1994.

Pat is also a valuable link with the Mayo team that ran Meath so close for the Bank of Ireland All-Ireland football title last September. A tenacious defender and wholehearted footballer, his craft and controlled play continues to serve Mayo exceptionally well.

Pat Holmes in "flying" form in the Connacht Final watched by Sligo's Paul Taylor.

Player

Profiles

4

Dermot Flanagan
(Ballaghaderreen)



Age 35. 6'0". 13st.8lbs.
Barrister.
7 Connacht SFC; 2 All-Star Awards; 1 NFL Div. II; 1 Connacht M.F.C.; 1 Sigerson Cup; 1 FBD League; 2 All-Ireland S.F.C. Runners-up

5

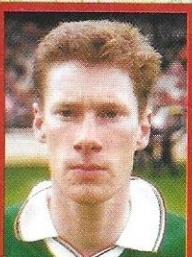
Fergal Costello
(Ballinrobe)



Age 23. 5'8". 12st.
Army Officer.
2 Connacht S.F.C.; 2 Connacht U-21; 2 All-Ireland U-21 Runners-up; 1 FBD League; 1 All-Ireland S.F.C. Runners-up.

6

James Nallen
(Crossmolina)



Age 23. 6'3". 12st.
Lecturer.
2 Connacht SFC; 1 Connacht U-21; 1 All-Ireland U-21 Runners-up; 2 FBD Leagues; 1 All-Ireland S.F.C. Runners-up; 1996 All-Star.

7

Noel Connelly
(Hollymount)



Age 25. 5'11". 11st.7lbs.
Quantity Surveyor.
Team captain. 3 Connacht S.F.C.; 1 FBD League; 1 All-Ireland S.F.C. Runners-up.



Two seats to Britain, one outstanding fare.

Right now, you and a friend can fly Aer Lingus from Dublin to London Stansted, Manchester, Birmingham, Glasgow, Leeds Bradford or Bristol for just £99 return for two.

With this great price all you have to do is sit back

and enjoy all the benefits of flying Aer Lingus.

These fares are available for travel until December 18th, 1997.

Who knows, this could be the start of a beautiful relationship.

You'll prefer flying
Aer Lingus.



Award winning
customer service



Reserved
seating



Complimentary
drinks



No charge for
credit card bookings



Free facilities for
special needs



Accommodate
unaccompanied
children



Modern fleet

Aer Lingus  **Airline of the year**

For full details, call Aer Lingus on (01) 705 3333, Cork (021) 327 155, Limerick (061) 474 239, Belfast 0645 737 747 or contact your local Aer Lingus Travel Shop or IATA Travel Agent. Fare quoted is subject to Government Taxes, some conditions and availability. Supplements apply from other Irish airports. <http://www.aerlingus.ie>

Individual Feats

Not surprisingly, the two best individual returns in this year's championship were recorded in matches that went to extra-time. On the first day of June at Ruislip, Declan Darcy gave an outstanding display of marksmanship when he recorded 2-13 (1-5 from play) of Leitrim's 2-18 in their opening round win over London while Trevor Giles helped himself to 2-8 of the Royals' 2-20 in their second draw with Kildare. Although the two Maurice's - Sheridan and Fitzgerald - do make appearances in the '97 chart, it is highly unlikely

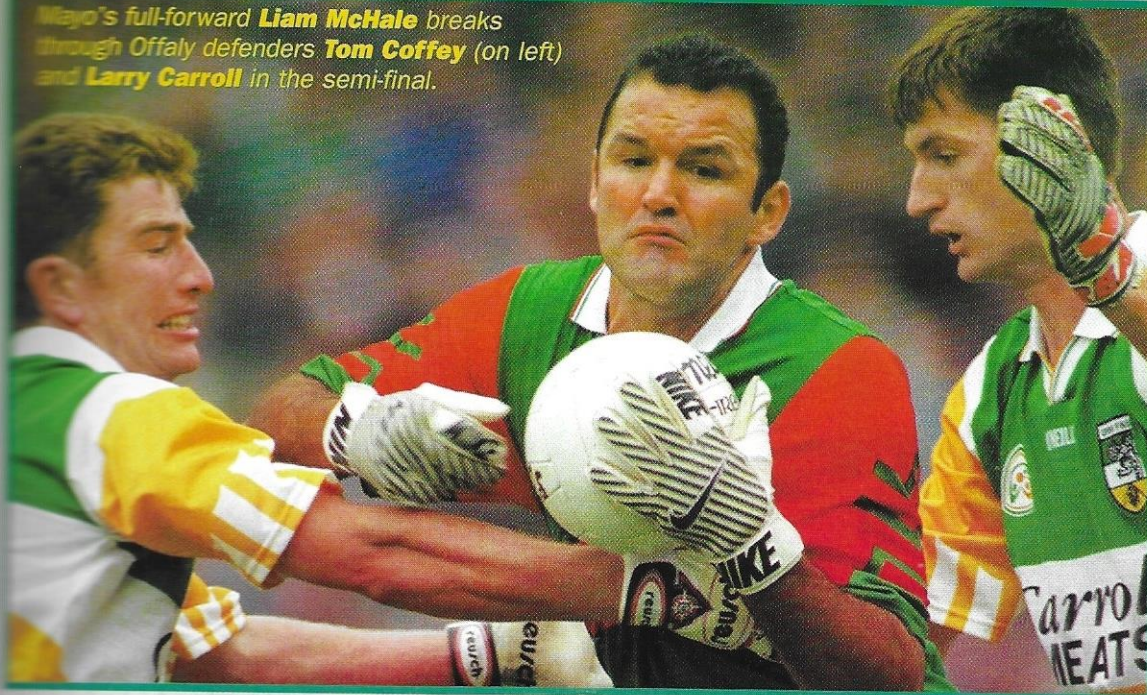
that either will unseat Darcy at the top of the table.

Last year's top two - Anthony Keating (1-8) and Dessie Barry (2-5) - fail to reappear this time around but Sheridan, Fitzgerald, Ronan Carolan and Paul Taylor all manage repeat performances. In fact, for Fitzgerald it is a double-double as he appears twice this season, repeating his dual performance of twelve months ago.

In all, 26 scoring performances (18 last year) of seven points or better were recorded and they are:

Declan Darcy (Leitrim)	2-13 v London - 1st round at Ruislip
Trevor Giles (Meath)	2-8 v Kildare - semi-final replay at Croke Park
Ronan Carolan (Cavan)	1-7 v Donegal - semi-final at Clones
Raymond Gallagher (Fermanagh)	1-7 v Cavan - 1st round at Clones
Paul Taylor (Sligo)	0-9 v Roscommon - semi-final at Markievicz Park
Neil Finnegan (Galway)	0-9 v Mayo - 1st round at Tuam
Padaig Graven (Kildare)	0-8 v Laois - 1st round at Croke Park
Blain McConville (Armagh)	0-8 v Tyrone - 1st round at Omagh
Gar Keane (Clare)	0-8 v Cork - semi-final at Ennis
Maurice Sheridan (Mayo)	1-5 v Galway - 1st round at Tuam
Shonan Cummins (Tipperary)	1-5 v Limerick - preliminary round replay at Clonmel
Jim Byrne (Wexford)	1-5 v Westmeath - preliminary round 1 replay at Mullingar
Way Claffey (Offaly)	1-5 v Meath - Leinster final at Croke Park
Joe Broily (Derry)	1-5 v Monaghan - 1st round replay at Celtic Park
Maurice Fitzgerald (Kerry)	0-7 v Cavan - All-Ireland semi-final at Croke Park
Shonan Reilly (Meath)	0-7 v Offaly - Leinster final at Croke Park
Maurice Fitzgerald (Kerry)	0-7 v Clare - Munster final at the Gaelic Grounds
David Reynolds (Offaly)	0-7 v Wicklow - 1st round at Croke Park
David Reynolds (Offaly)	0-7 v Louth - semi-final at Navan
Declan Darcy (Leitrim)	0-7 v Mayo - semi-final at Castlebar
Thomas Cleary (Westmeath)	0-7 v Offaly - preliminary round 2 at Tullamore
Declan Browne (Tipperary)	0-7 v Limerick - preliminary round at the Gaelic Grounds
Larry Reilly (Cavan)	1-4 v Donegal - semi-final at Clones
Stie Murphy (Meath)	1-4 v Kildare - semi-final 2nd replay at Croke Park
Joe Broily (Derry)	1-4 v Tyrone - semi-final at Clones
Joe Broily (Derry)	1-4 v Monaghan - 1st round at Clones

Mayo's full-forward **Liam McHale** breaks through Offaly defenders **Tom Coffey** (on left) and **Larry Carroll** in the semi-final.



Player Profiles

8

Pat Fallon
(Balla)

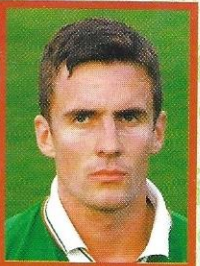
Age 31. 6'2". 13st.9lbs.
Bank Official.
2 Connacht S.F.C.; 2 FBD Leagues; 1 All-Ireland S.F.C. Runners-up.

9

David Heaney
(Swinford)

Age 20. 6'2". 13st.7lbs.
Student.
1 Connacht SFC; 1 Connacht U-21; 1 Connacht Junior.

10

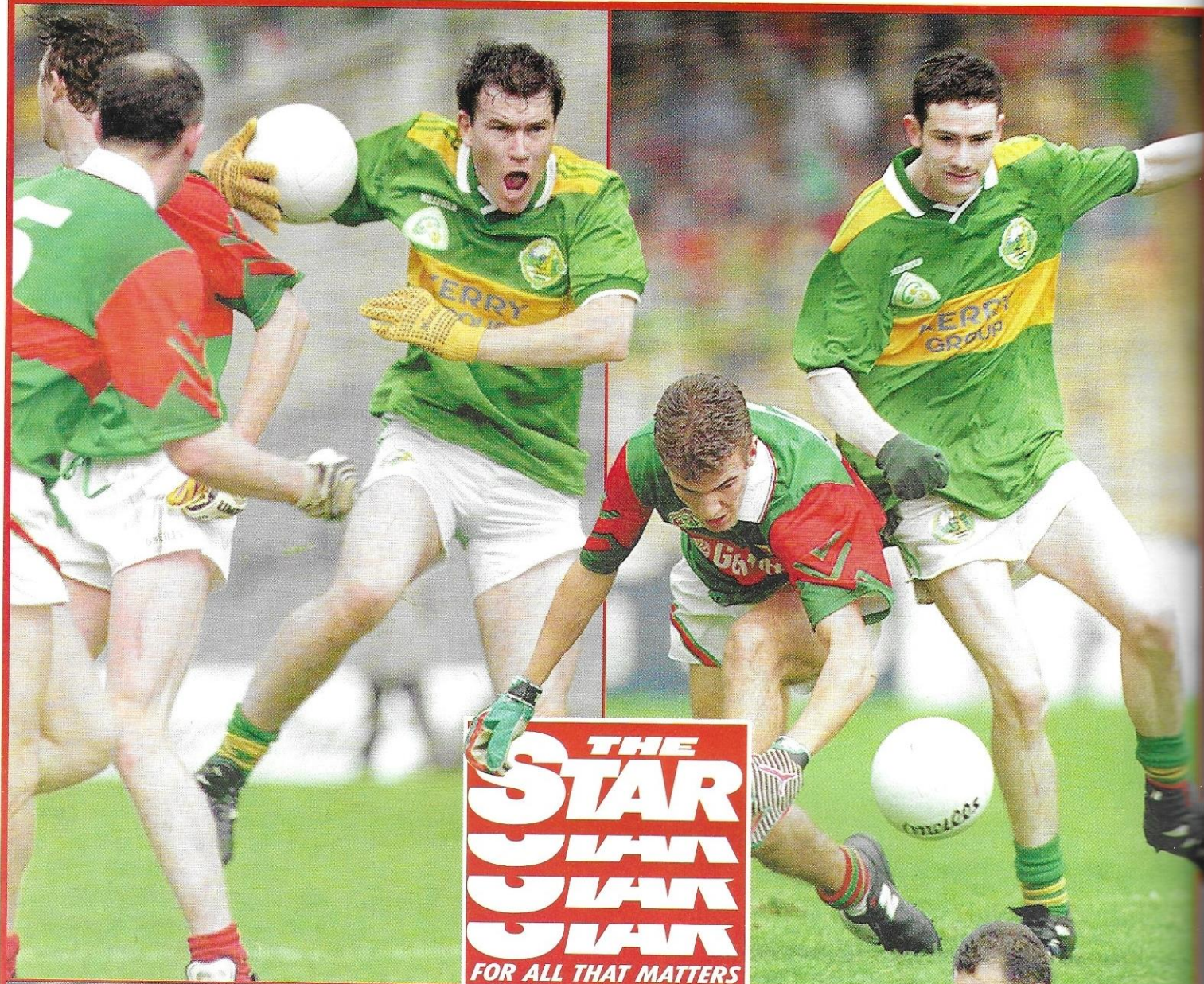
Maurice Sheridan
(Balla)

Age 23. 6'0". 13st.3lbs.
Building Society Official.
2 Connacht S.F.C.; 1 Connacht U-21; 1 Connacht M.F.C.; 1 Sigerson Cup with U.C.G.; 1 All-Ireland M.F.C. and 1 All-Ireland U-21 Runners-up; 2 FBD Leagues; 1 All-Ireland S.F.C. Runners-up.

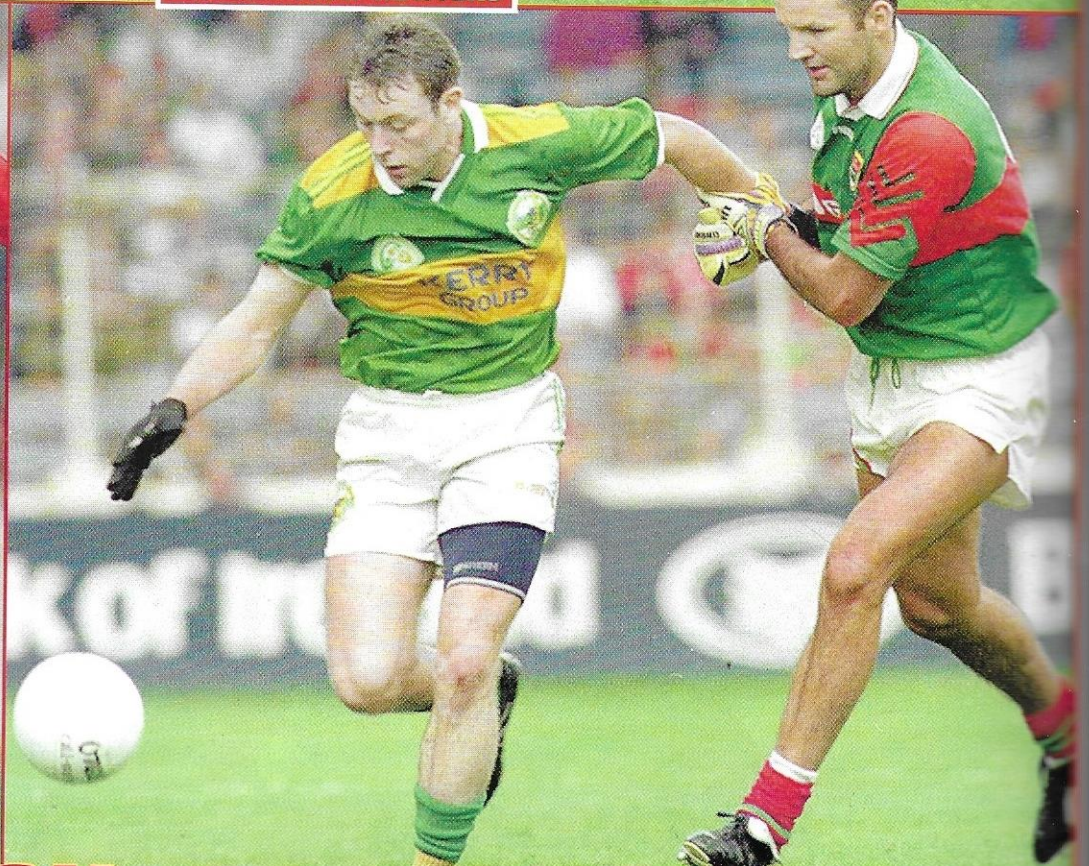
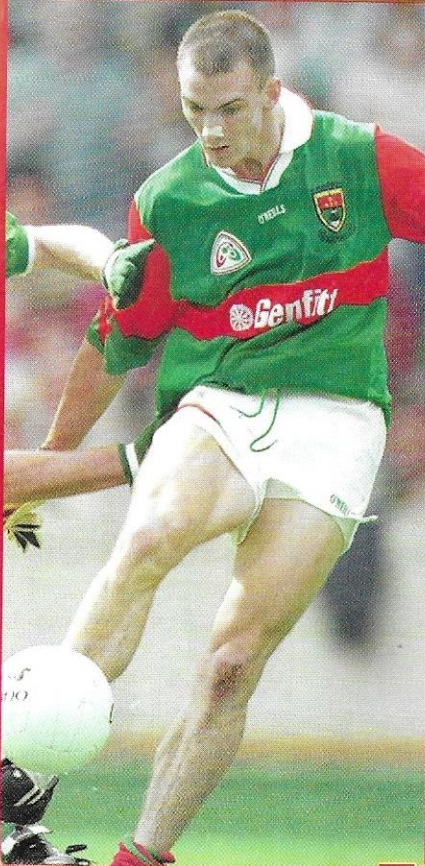
11

Colm McManaman
(Burrishoole)

Age 25. 6'2". 14st.
Electrical Contractor.
4 Connacht S.F.C.; 2 FBD Leagues; 2 Connacht Vocational Schools; 1 All-Ireland S.F.C. Runners-up.



THE
STAR
STAR
STAR
FOR ALL THAT MATTERS



SEE IT ALL IN 70 MINUTES ONLY IN THE STAR ON MONDAY

Top Scorers

Mayo's Maurice Sheridan, who was the top scorer in the '96 championship with 1-33, is currently placed fifth in the '97 table, and a modest return of four points in today's final would see the Mayo ace take the premier position. Considering the Balla forward has averaged six points per game in this year's championship to date the retention of the honour looks likely. However, Kerry's Maurice Fitzgerald is within striking distance of Sheridan, but the St. Mary's forward must score at least eight points and hope the Mayo ace has an off-day to gain the top spot.

In average terms Declan Darcy of Leitrim leads the way as his total of 2-20 (26 points) was amassed in just two outings, giving an average of 13 points per game. No other player can boast a double-digit average in this year's championship.

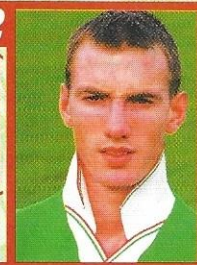
Along with Sheridan, Trevor Giles, who was second last year, is in the same position twelve months later although he now shares that place with Declan Darcy. Maurice Fitzgerald has fallen from joint fourth to joint tenth but, like Sheridan, has an opportunity this afternoon to improve his position, while Adrian Cush (joint 17th, same as last year) and Brendan Reilly (joint 13th down from joint 6th) complete the quintet.

The top 21 for the '97 championship to date are:

David Reynolds (Offaly)	0-27
Declan Darcy (Leitrim)	2-20 (26)
Trevor Giles (Meath)	2-20 (26)
Joe Brolly (Derry)	3-16 (25)
Maurice Sheridan (Mayo)	0-24
Padraig Graven (Kildare)	0-21
Ronan Carolan (Cavan)	1-18 (21)
Vinny Claffey (Offaly)	2-15 (21)
Peter Brady (Offaly)	2-14 (20)
Maurice Fitzgerald (Kerry)	0-19
Thomas Cleary (Westmeath)	0-19
Brendan Cummins (Tipperary)	1-13 (16)
Brendan Reilly (Meath)	0-15
Raymond Gallagher (Fermanagh)	1-12 (15)
Peter Canavan (Tyrone)	1-12 (15)
Ollie Murphy (Meath)	2-09 (15)
Peter Reilly (Cavan)	0-14
Adrian Cush (Tyrone)	0-14
Declan Browne (Tipperary)	1-10 (13)
Joe Cassidy (Derry)	0-12
Ger Keane (Clare)	0-12

Player Profiles

12

John Casey
(Charlestown)

Age 23. 6'1". 12st.7lbs.
Self-Employed.
2 Connacht S.F.C.; 2 Connacht U-21; 2 All-Ireland U-21 Runners-up; 2 FBD Leagues; 1 All-Ireland S.F.C. Runners-up.

13

Kieran McDonald
(Crossmolina)

Age 22. 6'1". 13st.5lbs.
Construction Worker.
1 Connacht S.F.C.; 2 FBD Leagues; 2 Connacht U-21; 2 All-Ireland U-21 Runners-up.

14

Liam McHale
(Ballina Stephenites)

Age 31. 6'5". 15st.
Salesman.
6 Connacht S.F.C.; 1 NFL Division II; 3 Connacht U-21; 2 All-Ireland S.F.C. Runners-up; 1 FBD League; 1996 All-Star.

15

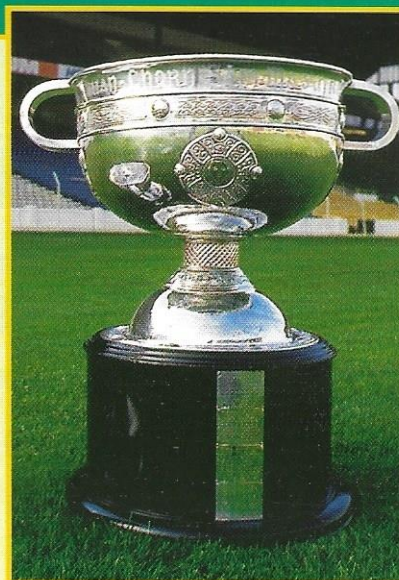
David Nestor
(Ballyhaunis)

Age 23. 5'8". 11st.2lbs.
Student.
2 Connacht S.F.C.; 1 All-Ireland Junior; 2 Connacht U-21; 2 All-Ireland U-21 Runners-up; 1 Sigerson Cup; 1 FBD League; 1 All-Ireland S.F.C. Runners-up.

The Sam Maguire Cup

The new Sam Maguire Cup was first on "offer" in 1988 when Meath, captained by Mick Lyons, and Cork, led by Tony Nation, played a draw. Joe Cassells was named as Meath's captain early in 1988, but missed a number of championship games because of injury. However, he went into the drawn final as a substitute, regained his place for the replay and took over the role of captain. Meath won and Cassells earned a special place in the new Sam Maguire Cup story.

Since then the Cup has been presented to Dinny Allen (Cork) in 1989, Larry Tompkins (Cork) in 1990, Paddy O'Rourke (Down) in 1991, Anthony Molloy (Donegal) in 1992, Henry Downey (Derry) in 1993, D.J. Kane (Down) in 1994, John O'Leary (Dublin) in 1995 and Tommy Dowd (Meath) in 1996.



Flir Ionald

(16) John Madden (Ballycastle)	Age 23.	6'0".	13st.5lbs.	Geophysicist.
(17) James Horan (Ballintubber)	Age 25.	6'1".	13st.	Laboratory Technician.
(18) Ronan Golding (Balla)	Age 24.	6'0".	13st.	Barman.
(19) Diarmuid Byrne (Castlebar Mitchels)	Age 23.	5'11".	12st.2lbs.	Salesman.
(20) Brian Heffernan (Ballina Stephenites)	Age 25.	5'10".	12st.2lbs.	Business Consultant.
(21) P.J. Loftus (Crossmolina)	Age 26.	5'11".	13st.2lbs.	Sports Masseur.
(22) Tony Morley (Ballyhaunis)	Age 28.	6'2".	13st.7lbs.	Painter.
(23) David Brady (Ballina Stephenites)	Age 22.	6'2".	14st.7lbs.	Bank Official.
(24) Kevin Beirne (Claremorris)	Age 29.	5'11".	12st.8lbs.	Salesman.

Penalty Parade

To date, the 1997 championship has seen 15 penalties awarded. This is a 50% increase on last year when final day was reached with only ten penalties awarded. Indeed, it is 1993 (also 15) since as many penalties were awarded prior to the final.

However, although more penalties are being awarded, the conversion rate has slipped alarmingly. Last season seven goals and two points were scored from ten penalties giving an average of 2.3 points per penalty, but this season just eight goals and one point have resulted from the 15 spot-kicks dropping the average down to 1.67 points per penalty. This is only slightly better than the worst return in recent years of 1.57 in 1995.

The 15 penalties awarded in the '97 championship, and the results, are:

11th May:	Enda Barden (Longford)	saved	by Pdraig Kelly (Offaly)
	Ciaran McManus (Offaly)	goal	v Longford
17th May:	Scott Doran (Wexford)	goal	v Westmeath
18th May:	Damien Reidy (Limerick)	goal	v Tipperary
	(Martin Quinlivan saved the original shot but Reidy scored the rebound)		
	Gary Mason (Down)	goal	v Tyrone
1st June	Declan Darcy (Leitrim)	goal	v London
	Peter Duffy (Monaghan)	hit post	v Derry
	Willie Quinlan (Carlow)	goal	v Louth
8th June:	Glen Ryan (Kildare)	goal	v Laois
15th June:	Trevor Giles (Meath)	wide	v Dublin
	Paul Bealin (Dublin)	hit crossbar	v Meath
	Keith Byrne (Wicklow)	wide	v Offaly
20th July:	Trevor Giles (Meath)	goal	v Kildare
	Trevor Giles (Meath)	saved	by Christy Byrne (Kildare)
3rd August:	Eddie McCormack (Kildare)	point	v Meath

Twelve months ago, Waterford's Tom Brennan was the only goalkeeper to actually save a penalty, but Pdraig Kelly and Christy Byrne did so this season, and Martin Quinlivan can count himself unlucky not to join that duo as he saved Damien Reidy's original effort only for the same player to beat him with the rebound.

A pattern that has emerged over the past few seasons of teams not giving away penalties once the provincial finals are reached continues. In 1993 and 1995 no penalties were awarded in the provincial finals or the All-Ireland series, with just one awarded last year (Maurice Sheridan in the Connacht final). The current campaign continues the trend and no penalties were awarded after the provincial semi-finals.

HARRINGTON

PRECAST CONCRETE LTD.

Manufacturers of:

- Precast Concrete
- Industrial Buildings
- Floor Slabs
- Beams and Stairs
- Roofing and Cladding

Contractors

Unit 73, Baldoye Industrial Estate,
Dublin 13.

Tel: 832 6292 Fax: 832 6293.

Final Hot Shots

The forwards in the Bank of Ireland All-Ireland senior football championship final will have to be very sharp in their shooting if a new peak for the nineties is to be recorded in this game. Leading the way is Peter Canavan with 0-11, ten points from frees, in Tyrone's unsuccessful bid against Dublin in 1995.

Canavan finished just a point behind the two leading final returns of 2-6 standing to the credit of Jimmy Keaveney (Dublin) against Armagh in 1977 and by Michael Sheehy (Kerry) in their 1979 win over the Dubs.

Those were in 70 minutes games and passed out the long-standing record held by Frankie Stockwell (Galway) at 2-5 in the 1956 final win over Cork. However, that still ranks as the leading return for a 60 minutes final.

Eoin Liston scored 3-2 for Kerry in their 1978 final win over Dublin.

Last year's two games between Meath and Mayo for the Sam Maguire Cup did not provide anything exciting in the scoring line. Trevor Giles recorded the highest individual return for both games at 1-4 in the replay. His goal was from the penalty spot. James Horan and Maurice Sheridan each hit 0-5 in the replay to lead the way for Mayo.

Tony & Ann McHugh, the management and staff of the Welcome Inn Hotel wish the Mayo team every success!

WELCOME INN HOTEL



CASTLEBAR, CO. MAYO.
TEL.: 094 22288 FAX: 094 21766

MAIN SPONSORS MAYO GAA SENIOR LEAGUES

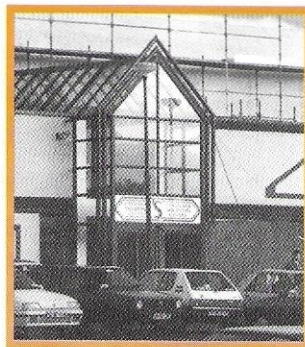
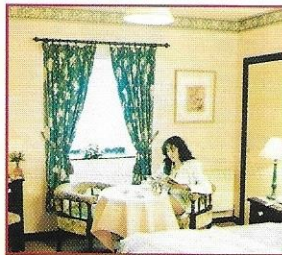
FAMILY RUN HOTEL WITH ALL MODERN FACILITIES

INCLUDING 40 EN-SUITE BEDROOMS, AWARD WINNING NEW LOOK 'REYNARDS' RESTAURANT AND MAYO'S MOST DAZZLING TRUE CONCEPT NITE CLUB 'COSMOS'

SUPER SPECIAL "WEEK-END AWAY" OFFERS AVAILABLE TO ALL G.A.A. CLUBS.

* WINTER 'COMMERCIALS SPECIAL' AVAILABLE *

TO-NIGHT MEET ALL YOUR FRIENDS AT 'SILVERS' - BAR EXTENSION & DANCING TO THE BEST SOUNDS OF THE 60'S, 70'S & 80'S



Builders & Developers of
over 85,000 square feet in
Castlebar's Designated Area,
Penney's & Super Valu
Shopping Centre,
Shops & Offices

**Mountain View
Securities Ltd.**

Contractors & Property Developers

Castlebar, Co. Mayo. Telephone: 094 - 24566

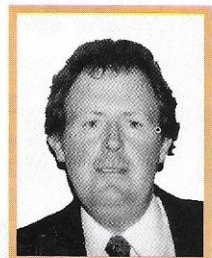
Numerous other developments include:

AIB Bank; Castlebar Credit Union; Welcome Inn Hotel; Castlebar Tool & Hire; Mangans Cash & Carry; Commercial Shop Units; C.C.D.A. Food Hall; Office Developments; Connaught Telegraph; S.I.P.T.U. Regional Office, Galway; 25,000 sq. ft. extension to Dunnes Stores, Castlebar.

Commercial Retail Space and Office Space available.



Anthony McHugh

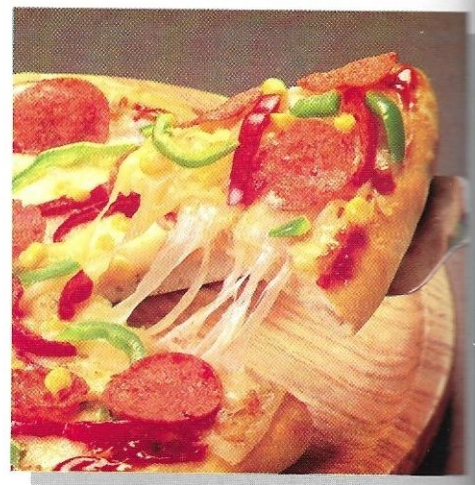
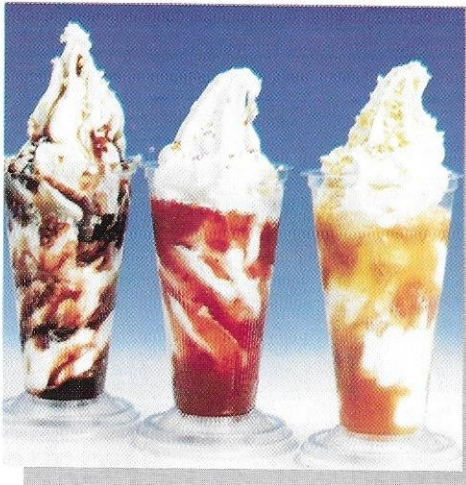


James McTigue

MAIN SPONSORS, CASTLEBAR MITCHELLS GAA

ANTHONY MCHUGH, JAMES MCTIGUE AND STAFF WISH THE MAYO TEAM EVERY SUCCESS!

THERE'S NO SUBSTITUTE.



See you on your way home
for the post match review.

Supermac'sTM

The Home Team



Kerry and Mayo colours backed by a proud tradition

By Raymond Smith, Sunday Independent

Today's All-Ireland senior football final brings into opposition two counties steeped in tradition, proud of the legacy forged by their finest teams and by individual players who left indelible footprints in the evolving decades.

The impact made by the men in the Green and Gold as they amassed a total of 30 titles goes right back to 1903 when Thady O'Gorman of Tralee brought home the first All-Ireland crown - but not before three epoch-making games with Kildare (played in 1905), who in the Lily White jerseys of Clane were led by the immortal Joe Rafferty.

Mayo's tally of three All-Ireland titles does not truly reflect the immensity of their contribution to football in the classical sphere since they opened up new vistas and set an all-time record by winning six successive National League titles in the period 1934-'39, did not enter the 1939-'40 competition and came back the following year to win the 1940-'41 League, Henry Kenny leading them to victory over Dublin in the final at Croke Park and even Dublin supporters rose to them as they walked off the pitch, victors by a clear seven points.

They were the acknowledged "League specialists" of their day. Yet this magnificent Mayo side, including such notable players as Purty Kelly, Jossie and Patsy Munnelly, Paddy Moclair, Patsy Flannelly, Gerald Courell, Paddy Quinn, Tom Burke, and, of course, Henry Kenny had only one All-Ireland (1936) to show for endeavour of supreme quality that made them the *conquistadors* of the thirties. Paddy Moclair said to me one day in Ballina that they should have taken four titles at least in this decade. They had the proud record of going 57 matches without defeat between August, 1935 and August, 1937 - and it put them on a plane apart.

LEGENDARY FIGURE

Dick Fitzgerald, a legendary figure in his own lifetime and after whom Fitzgerald Stadium, Killarney was named, had the honour of captaining Kerry for the first 15-a-side football final at Jones's Road - the Croke Memorial Tournament decider of 1913 against a Louth team in bright red, led by Jim Smith. Kerry had in their team one of the greatest fielders to come out of the reeks and glens, Pat ('Aeroplane') O'Shea from the little village of Castlegregory. His midfield partner was Con Murphy, the champion ploughman of Listry.

They drew the first day but Kerry won the replay and then went on to take the All-Ireland crown that season and made it two back-to-back in 1914 again against Wexford, who came back to complete a fabulous four-timer under the leadership of Sean O'Kennedy (just imagine it, Wexford contested six successive finals).

Kerry figured in two epic finals against Dublin in 1923 and 1924 - the 1924 final resulting in victory for the Kingdom by 0-4 to 0-3. Con Brosnan from Moyvane gained immortality by pointing the all-important late-late free from forty-five yards out from the Railway goal and they composed a ballad specially about it :

*A free to Kerry, Con Brosnan took it
With steady foot and unerring aim
He scored a point and again we led them
Twas the final score of a hard-fought game.*

Again Kerry were part of what old-timers named as one of the greatest All-Irelands of the pre-1930 era when they drew with Kildare in 1926 - the day Larry Stanley, slyist supreme, wrote his name into Gaelic football history by his performance in the Lily White jersey. Kerry won the replay. They would win five All-Irelands in a seven-year span that coincided with the magnificence of Con Brosnan and Bob Stack as a midfield pairing. The Kingdom took four more titles between 1937 and '41 - the period that saw the arrival of Paddy Bawn Brosnan and Paddy Kennedy in the Green and Gold, Danno O'Keefe, who had won an All-Ireland medal in 1931, was still without peer in goal and would still man the posts for the great matches with Jimmy Murray's Roscommon in 1944 and 1946 and in the historic All-Ireland final in the Polo Grounds, New York in 1947 - the only All-Ireland final in either code played outside the country. Gega O'Connor ...Batt Garvey..Paddy Bawn Brosnan...Paddy Kennedy...Dinny Lyne, the captain...Joe Keohane ...Jackie Lyne were all part of that unique occasion.

POWERFUL SIDE

Mayo were back in 1950 and 1951 with a powerful side led to successive All-Ireland titles by Sean Flanagan (father of Dermot), the best football brain I have ever had the pleasure of interviewing. He made the 'Football Team of the Century' at left corner-back and teammate Tom Langan (what a goal-scorer!) made it at full-forward. In the side also was that wonderful high fielder Padraic Carney. Little did Mayo followers think in 1951 when Sean Flanagan brought home the Sam Maguire Cup that the famine years to follow would extend right on to the latter half of this decade.

Mayo had one the finest full-backs of any era in Paddy Prendergast when they lost by a point to Dublin in a classic replay to the 1955 All-Ireland semi-final. And then in an unforgettable All-Ireland final occasion with 90,000 in the ground, after the gates had been broken down, the Kingdom, including Micksie Palmer, Jim Brosnan (son of Con), John Cronin, Jerome O'Shea, Tadhgíe Lyne, Sean Murphy, Paudie Sheehy (son of 1930 captain, John Joe) and the captain, John Dowling won a mighty contest against a Dublin machine that was rated 'unbeat-

On the alert

Peter Burke, Mayo's goalkeeper keeps a keen eye on the proceedings.



Continued on page 61

McHale

McHale supply a complete range of products concentrating on silage wrapping and feeding area, from round and square baler wrappers, bale handlers and bale splitters to a full range of block cutters.

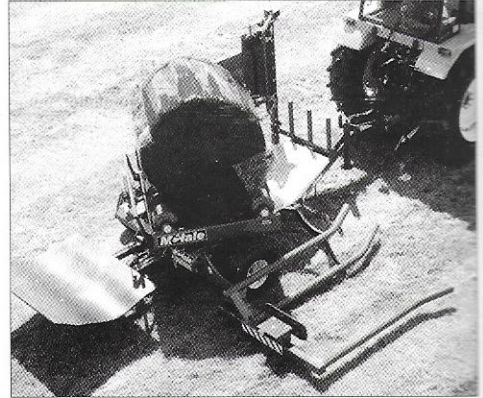
Contact your local dealer Now.....



- Ground supported bale damper
 - Hyd cut and tie
 - Bale wrap computer
- Electronics c/w manual override
 - 750mm dispenser
- Wide low round pressure tyres
 - Bale support bobbins
 - Heavy duty construction
 - High lift capacity

Options:

1. Cables
2. Joy-stick control
3. Remote control
4. Side tip damper
5. Oversize wheels

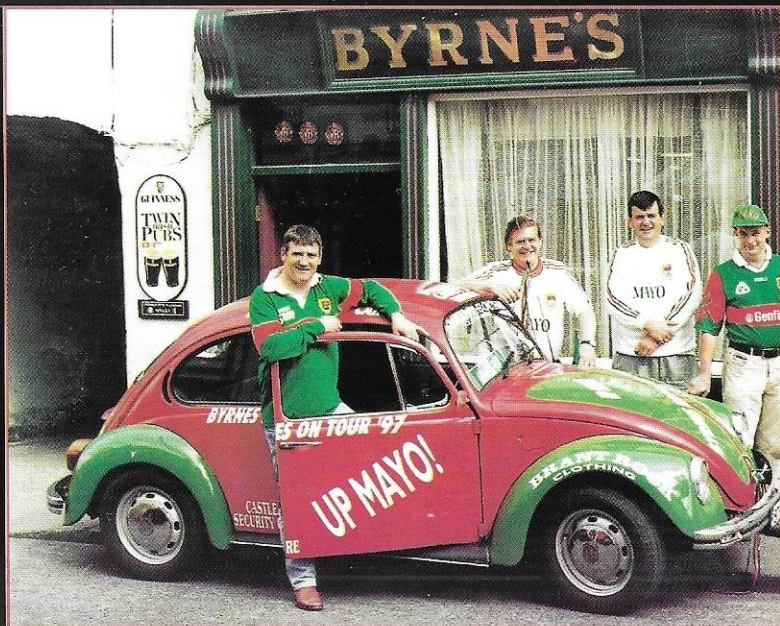


THE NAME FOR YOU

McHale Engineering Limited, Kilmaine, Co. Mayo, Ireland
Tel: (093) 33326 Fax: (093) 33520

THE BEETLE'S ABOUT AND BYRNE'S BABES
ARE ON THE MOVE FOR
SAM '97

Mick Byrne's



Here's hoping for a classic game today from the Best Known Sports Pub in the West

Wishing the Mayo team every success from all at

Byrne's Sports Bar

Main Street, Castlebar

Continued from page 59

able' by many beforehand and graced by Kevin Heffernan, Ollie Freaney, Jim Crowley, Des Ferguson, Jim Lavin, Mick Moylan, Johnny Boyle and Denis Mahony, the captain.

Fine footballers wore the Mayo colours with distinction in succeeding seasons ... players of the calibre of Willie Casey, John Nallen, Joe Langan, Joe Corcoran, John Morley, Willie McGee, Ray Prendergast, Martin Carney and T.J. Magallon and they passed from the scene without earning All-Ireland medals.

ONE OF THE BEST

Mayo gave us what I consider one of the best All-Irelands of recent times when they came so close to beating Cork in 1989 - the day that is etched in my mind for the classic aerial duels between Willie Joe Padden and Teddy McCarthy and the day too when Liam McHale might have worn it off his own boot (how Liam regrets it!).

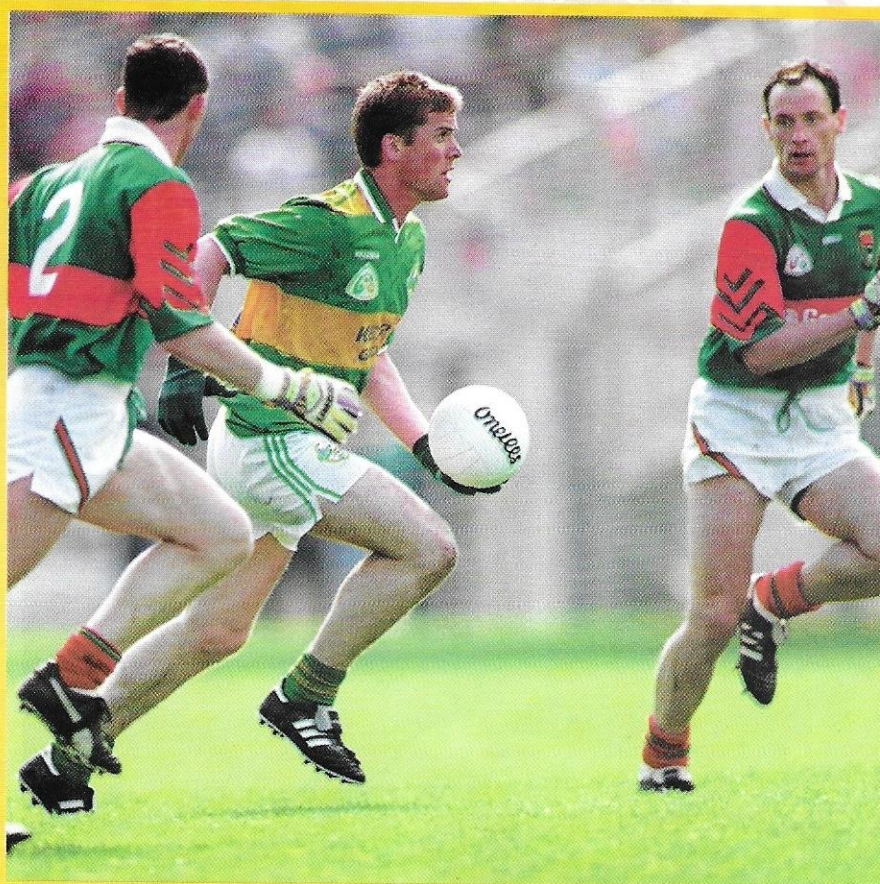
In the 40 years and more that have elapsed since 1955 Kerry went on adding to their total of All-Ireland titles. Mick O'Connell came out of Valentia, surrounded by the mystique of an Island War, majestic in his fielding and kicking, to lead them to victory over Dublin in 1959. An awesome Down team in 1960-'61 and an outstanding Galway three-in-a-row side (1964-'66) exposed Kerry's limitations and showed that the days of catch-and-kick dominance were coming to a close, though Kerry took two more titles in 1969-'70.

Then arrived the greatest Kerry team of all, perhaps one of the greatest teams in Gaelic football history - the team of all the talents that Mick O'Dwyer guided to a surprise victory over Dublin in 1975 and then to a four-timer in 1978-'81 and another three-timer in 1984-'86. Of that side Jack O'Shea, Pat Spillane and Mike Sheehy made the 'Football Team of the Century'. And names like Ger Power, Ogie Moran, Paudie Lynch, John Egan, Eoin (The Bomber') Liston, Seanie Walsh will live forever in the annals of Kerry Football ... as will the names of Dublin players like Tony Hanahoe, Robbie Kelleher, Tommy Drumm, Kevin Moran, Pat O'Neill, Brian Mullins, Anton O'Toole, Jimmy Keaveney and Bobby Doyle live in the annals of Metropolitan football and in the hearts of all who had the pleasure of seeing them in action, especially in the 1977 All-Ireland semi-final against the Kingdom.

The days of wine and roses were so good for Kerry in the late seventies and eighties (up to 1986) that it seemed they would never pass ... and now it's eleven years since 'Sam' sojourned in the Kingdom! Who would have guessed it?

And who would have thought when Maurice Fitzgerald from out of Cahirciveen, the two-footed classical kicker and free-taker supreme, made his Munster final debut against Cork before 41,000 spectators in Páirc Uí Chaoimh on a July day in 1988 that he would still today be looking for his first All-Ireland medal?

Both Mayo and Kerry desperately want to end the famine seasons ... but whoever wins, the tradition of both counties is secure and the glory of the moments they created.



Kerry's **Dara Ó Cinnéide** cuts through Mayo defenders **Kenneth Mortimer** and **Dermot Flanagan** in last year's All-Ireland semi-final.

NEAT NETS NEED NETFIX

*"The correct way to attach
nets to goal posts"*

ROY INDUSTRIES LTD.
Post Office Rd., Lusk, Co. Dublin.
Phone / Fax: 01-8437471



**Quality made
in Ireland.**

Barclay Plant Protection
Lilmar Industrial Estate
Santry, Dublin 9

Tel: 01 842 5755
Fax: 01 8425381



Gallup contains glyphosate.
Read the label before you buy.
Use pesticides safely.

“Best wishes to all
the teams today from
Barclay Plant Protection”

Sheridan on course for a unique western scoring double

David Reynolds holds what must rank as a "Caretaker's Lead" in the nationwide chart of leading scorers for this season's Bank of Ireland senior football championship.

The Offaly man has a point lead over his nearest rivals, Declan Darcy and Trevor Giles with his return of 0-27 in five games at an average of 5.30 points a game. However, he is still only three points clear of Mayo's ace marksman Maurice Sheridan, who has fractionally a better match average than Reynolds.

The Westerner has 0-24 in four games at a match rating well above what he requires to complete a takeover at the top of the chart at six points a game.

Last season Sheridan became the first Mayo footballer in seven years to dominate the nationwide chart for the senior championship. He scored 1-32 (35 points) in six games at an average of 5.83 points a match.

That improved by two points the tally of 0-33 that gave Michael Fitzmaurice ranking in 1989 as Mayo's first table-topper since these records were established in 1955. He also played six games and averaged 5.55 points a game.

If Sheridan finishes ahead of the field he will become the first Connacht man to fill the top of the table ranking twice.

Brian Stafford, the former Meath scoring giant, is the last to have finished in the premier position two years in succession. He entered the rankings for the first time in 1988 and led the way again in 1990 and 1991.

Stafford also holds the record for a yearly return at 4-62 (74 points) in ten games in 1991 at an average of 7.40 points a game. That was the year of the four game Meath-Dublin Leinster championship saga.

Declan Darcy (Leitrim) will emerge with by far the top match average at a splendid 13.00 points a game for a total of 2-20 from two outings.

Trevor Giles (Meath), second last year with 2-26 (32 points) in six games, and Maurice Fitzgerald (Kerry), who scored 2-15 (21 points) in four games for fifth position are, with Sheridan, the only links with last year's top ten scoring chart.

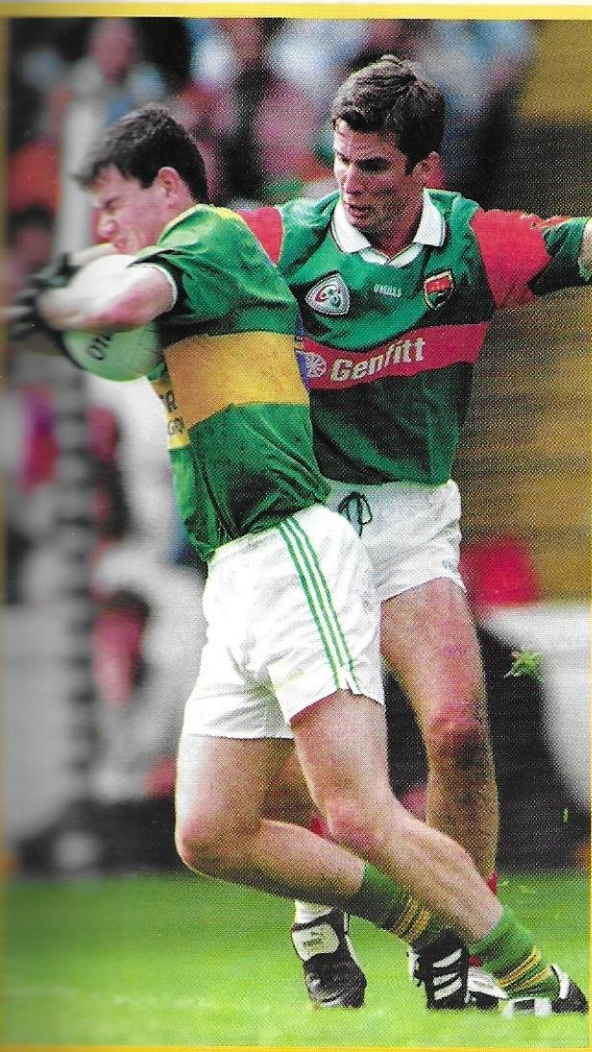
The leading marksmen in the championship starting the Bank of Ireland All-Ireland senior final are:

Points	Player	Score	Games	Average
27	David Reynolds (Offaly)	0-27	5	5.40
26	Declan Darcy (Leitrim)	2-20	2	13.00
26	Trevor Giles (Meath)	2-20	5	5.20
25	Joe Brolly (Derry)	3-16	4	6.25
24	Maurice Sheridan (Mayo)	0-24	4	6.00
21	Ronan Carolan (Cavan)	1-18	4	5.25
20	Padraig Graven (Kildare)	0-20	4	5.00
20	Peter Brady (Offaly)	2-14	7	2.85
19	Maurice Fitzgerald (Kerry)	0-19	4	4.75
19	Thomas Cleary (Westmeath)	0-19	4	4.75

Left: Mayo sharpshooter **Maurice Sheridan** pictured here in action in last year's semi-final with **Killian Burns** (Ciarraí).

Dublin Base

Adding to the difficulties of preparing the Mayo team for the All-Ireland final is the fact that nine of the panel are based in the capital. These are: Peter Burke, Dermot Flanagan, Pat Holmes, Fergal Costelloe, James Nallen, Maurice Sheridan, Michael Gardiner and Ciarán Carey. They train under Séamus Rodgers two nights a week in Dublin and then travel to Mayo at weekends, accompanied by Séamus, who is a native of Lurgan, Co. Armagh. He played in the Sigerson Cup-winning team of 1985 with Dermot Flanagan and trained the winning UCD team of 1996 which included Anthony Finnerty and David Nestor. Séamus also played with Civil Service in Dublin and Armagh.





UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

CERTIFICATE IN INJURY MANAGEMENT AND FITNESS IN SPORT

After the outstanding success of last year's course, U.C.D. is pleased to invite applications for next year's course from people who have an interest in Sports Medicine but no formal medical training or experience.

Topics to be covered include:

- Exercise Physiology
- Human Anatomy
- Human Biomechanics
- Injury Prevention
- Musculoskeletal Injuries
- Medical Conditions and Emergencies
- First Aid Techniques
- Introducing the Physiotherapist
- Looking After Yourself
- Specific Sports

The Academic Director is Noel McCaffrey, MB, Bsc (Hons), Dip Sport Med (Lond).

Lectures and tutorials will take place one evening per week (Wednesdays) for 24 weeks during the 1997/1998 academic year.

For further information please contact:

The Project Manager, University Industry Programme
University College Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4.
Tel: +353-1-706 8712/706 8714. Fax: +353-1-283 0669.



CHOOSE YOUR OWN REFEREE!

Throughout Ireland over 200,000 people in virtually every type of employment have joined SIPTU to ensure they get a better deal at work.

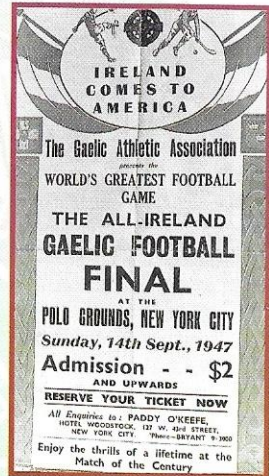
SIPTU's vast experience in negotiating better pay and conditions is unparalleled —its track record in solving problems in the workplace, second to none. Membership of SIPTU will provide you with that extra security and ensure your pay and conditions do not fall below national and local norms. Call us in confidence at 01 8746100 or any SIPTU office.

SIPTU SERVICES
INDUSTRIAL
PROFESSIONAL
TECHNICAL
UNION

Football on a Polo Field



Action from the '47 final featuring **Mick Higgins** of Cavan who gets his shot in despite the attentions of Kerry's **Willie Casey** and **Paddy Bawn Brosnan**.



The poster used in the U.S.A. to publicise the match.

Just over fifty years ago, on September 14, the only senior All-Ireland final ever played outside Ireland was staged in New York - and a stadium with a "quare" name passed into the history of Gaelic games for all time. Although it was best known as a baseball arena, the venue for the 1947 football final between Cavan and Kerry got its name for the sport of field polo. The original site, which was owned by a New York newspaper publisher, was regularly used by the Westchester & Manhattan Polo Association up to 1880 when it opened as a baseball field.

The ground, which became the home of the New York Giants baseball club in 1883, was originally situated at the north-east corner of Central Park in New York, but eventually the club moved north until they settled in what is described by baseball historians as Polo Grounds III on Eighth Avenue between 157th and 159th Streets. This was the location at which the All-Ireland final was staged. However, the stadium had changed immeasurably three decades previously. In April 1911 the all-wooden structures at the ground were burned down in a disastrous fire, but the stadium was rebuilt as Polo Grounds IV with concrete stands the following year. Accommodation was greatly increased when double-decker stands were erected in 1922.

The Kerry lineup as it appeared in the match programme.



1. D. O'Keefe (Goal)



2. D. Lyne (Capt.)



3. Lt. J. Keohane



4. P. Brosnan



5. T. Lyne



6. W. Casey



7. E. Walsh



8. E. Dowling



9. E. O'Connor



10. G. O'Sullivan



11. W. O'Donnell



12. B. Garvey



13. F. O'Keefe



14. T. O'Connor

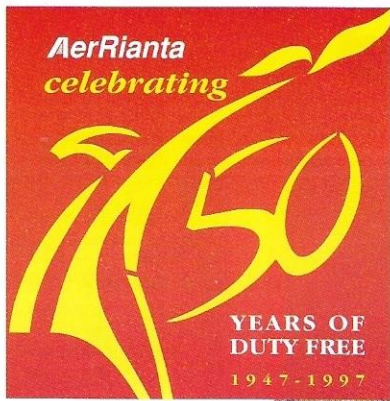


15. D. Kavanagh



Polo Grounds Towers, the apartment blocks which now stand on the site of the stadium in New York that was the venue for the historic 1947 All-Ireland Football final.

Continued on page 67



You can fly almost anywhere
from Shannon Airport.



Such as...

Amsterdam, Atlanta, Barbados, Belfast, Berlin, Bordeaux, Boston, Brussels,
Cancun, Chicago, Cleveland, Cologne, Detroit, Dublin, Dusseldorf,
Faro, Frankfurt, Jersey, Hamburg, Havana, Leipzig, London Gatwick,
London Heathrow, Lourdes, Lyon, Manchester, Marseilles, Mexico City,
Miami, Minsk, Moscow, Munich, Nantes, Newark, New York, Nuremburg,
Orlando, Palma, Paris, Philadelphia, St. Petersburg, Stuttgart, Toronto,
Toulouse, Vienna, Washington D.C., Zurich.

...and much more.

Contact your Travel Agent for details.

AerRianta SHANNON

Shannon International Airport, Co. Clare, Ireland.
Tel: 061 471444 Fax: 061 471719



Fly Shannon

Jubilee Team - An Cabhán 1947



Front row (l-r): Joe Stafford, Willie Doonan, Simon Deignan, J.J. O'Reilly (captain), T.P. O'Reilly, Mick Higgins, Val Gannon, Owen Roe McGovern, Fr. Dan Danagher and Paddy Smith.
Back row (l-r): John Wilson, P.J. Duke, Columba McDyer, Edwin Carolan, Tony Tighe, Peter Donohoe, Terry Sheridan, Eunan Tiernan, Fr. Jim Deignan, Phil Brady, Brian O'Reilly and H.L. Smyth (Secretary).

The Polo Grounds was first used for Gaelic games when Tipperary toured America in 1926 as All-Ireland hurling champions: they played at the ground against the Offaly club of New York on May 30 and took on the full New York side on July 11. The following year Kerry played New York at the stadium and by the time the 1947 All-Ireland final went to New York, Cavan, Galway, Kerry and Tipperary again, Mayo and Laois as well as Kilkenny and Limerick appeared at the Polo Grounds.

In National League finals Tipperary played New York at the venue in 1951 and the following year Meath (football) and Galway (hurling) took part in a double-header. It was the venue for a tournament called the St. Brendan Cup in the fifties when Cork (hurling) and Mayo (football) played New York in 1954 and three years later when Tipperary (hurling) and Galway (football) took on the New York teams.

The last Gaelic games at the Polo Grounds were on June 1, 1958, when Kilkenny and Louth - the previous year's All-Ireland champions - played against New York.

The previous summer the then owner of Giants baseball had taken the club out of New York and relocated at Candlestick Park in San Francisco. However, a new team was formed in New York, The Mets, and they played temporarily at the Polo Grounds until a new ground, Shea Stadium, was built for them for the 1964 season. The last baseball game was played at the Polo Grounds on September 18, 1963, and within weeks it was demolished to make way for the erection of four 30-storey apartment buildings, Polo Grounds Towers, which now stand on the site.

[Information from "The Star Spangled Final, the story of 1947 All-Ireland Football final" by Mick Dunne published recently by Gael Sport Publications Teo.]

Fifty years ago Cavan defeated Kerry in the only All-Ireland Football final ever played beyond these shores, at the Polo Grounds, New York, on Sept. 14th, 1947, with Cavan emerging victorious by 2-11 to 2-7.

At this year's All-Ireland final, Sunday, September 28th, history will also be created when the Irish Nationwide Building Society and the G.A.A. combine to honour the surviving members of the two All-Ireland teams of fifty years ago with the presentation for the first time of the "Irish Nationwide G.A.A. Golden Jubilee" Awards.

The victorious 1947 Cavan team and subs are pictured on the left.

The surviving players who will be honoured at the Irish Nationwide GAA Golden Jubilee Awards lunch in Croke Park and introduced on the field before the start of the senior game are:

Cavan: M. Higgins, P. Donohue, J. Wilson, T. Tighe, J. Stafford, C. McDyer, S. Deignan, B. Kelly, O. McGovern, Fr. Danagher and Fr. Deignan.
Kerry: D. Lyne (captain), B. Casey, E. Walsh, E. Dowling, T. Sullivan, D. Kavanagh, B. Garvey, F. O'Keefe, W. O'Donnell, M. Finucane and S. Keane.

Micheál O'Hehir

Micheál O'Hehir "the voice of the G.A.A.", passed away last November. The then President of the G.A.A., Jack Boothman said that "it is the end of an era, particularly for those of us who remember the age before television". He added that "Micheál's ability to paint pictures with words and his relationship with his audience made him an icon of broadcasting who will forever be remembered as "the voice of the G.A.A.".

It was from the headquarters of the G.A.A. that Micheál O'Hehir made many of his most memorable commentaries, including most of the 99 All-Ireland Finals which he broadcast to the nation. He will also be remembered for his famous broadcast of the 1947 Final from the Polo Grounds in New York.

Liam Mulvihill, Director General said: "The G.A.A. owes an inestimable debt of gratitude to Micheál, more than any other person, he contributed to the promotion and popularisation of Gaelic Games. He was an essential part of the G.A.A. and Irish life, the link between the great sporting occasions and the countless followers countrywide".



Micheál O'Hehir (second from right) arriving in New York with the Kerry and Cavan teams for the 1947 All-Ireland Football Final.

PLANT A SEED IN IRELAND AND REAP A HARVEST IN ETHIOPIA.

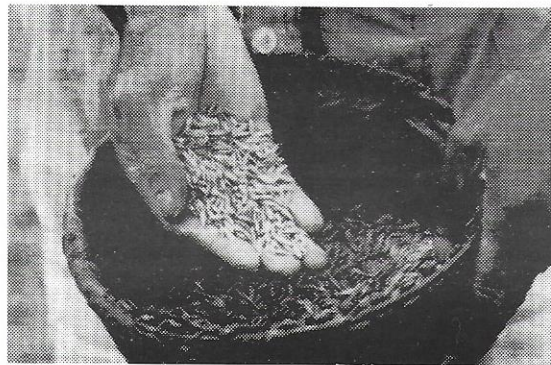
Since 1984, Irish farmers have been helping Ethiopian farmers combat the long-term causes of famine.

The Self Help Grow Fund - with the backing of the Irish Farming Organisations - gives you the opportunity to help 'farmer to farmer' in a meaningful and



“ ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE AGENCIES I HAVE EVER COME ACROSS ... THEIR WORK IN ETHIOPIA HAS TRANSFORMED WHOLE AREAS FROM FAMINE TO SURPLUS...”

Matt Dempsey
Editor,
Irish Farmers' Journal



practical way.

Your regular contributions have helped to plant over 10 million trees, provide seeds, construct ponds, flour mills and solar pumps.

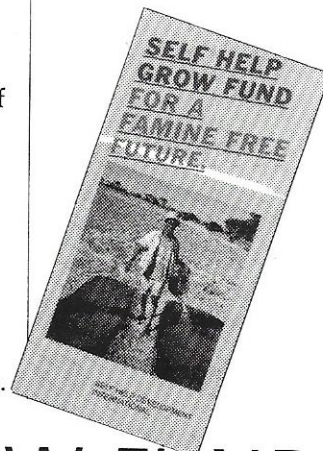
In the hot, dusty central plain of Ethiopia, around the towns of

Ziway, Adami Tulu and Meki, hundreds of thousands of people depended on food handouts 5 years ago. Now, with the help of the Grow Fund, they produce a surplus of food.

Help prevent famine.

If you have your Co-op Deduction Form send it in today or please complete the coupon below and return it to

Self Help Grow Fund, Hacketstown, Co. Carlow.



SELF HELP GROW FUND LONG-TERM FAMINE PREVENTION

I wish to donate £ to the **SELF HELP GROW FUND**

Name

Address

Please charge my Credit Card Account
Access Visa (Please tick one)

Card Number

Valid from Expires end

I authorise you to charge my Credit Card Account
to the amount specified

Signature

Date

Seán Ó Síocháin (1914-1997)

Seán Ó Síocháin, who died in February 1997, was closely involved with the G.A.A. over four decades. He has been described as a charismatic figure who was "a pillar of the G.A.A."

Born in Cill na Martra near Macroom in Co. Cork, Seán Ó Síocháin was 82 years-old. Following his education in Cill na Martra Primary and Macroom Second Level Schools, Seán graduated as a Primary School Teacher from St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra. He played Inter-County football for Cork in three grades and played on the Munster team that contested the 1936 Railway Cup.

Seán also captained the Dublin Senior Football team and had the distinction of winning Senior County Championships with Macroom in Cork and Clan na Gael, Dublin. He also won three under-21 Hurling County Championships with Erin's Hope.

Following a relatively short teaching career, Seán joined the Croke Park staff in 1946 as an assistant to the then Secretary, the late Pádraig Ó Caoimh. He became Secretary of the G.A.A. in 1964 and became the Association's first Director General in the early 1970s. He developed the G.A.A.'s policies in regard to social centres and after his retirement in 1979 he took charge of fund-raising for the New Ceannáras building.

Liam Ó Maolmhichíl, Árd Stiúrthóir, C.L.G. and Jack Boothman, then President, paid tribute to

Seán Ó Síocháin, former Director General of the G.A.A..

Mr. Ó Maolmhichíl said that Seán Ó Síocháin was an inspirational figure, an icon of the G.A.A. who was universally revered and that Seán gave his whole life to the Association. He made a huge and unquantifiable contribution to its development, he had an extraordinary intellect and ability, a gregarious personality, ready wit, a love of life and commitment to the G.A.A. that was infectious. Mr. Ó Maolmhichíl said that Seán was a man whom he respected and admired even before he ever met him and that he would be forever grateful for the advice, help and encouragement which he received from Seán. While he was deeply saddened to learn of his passing, he felt privileged to have known him as a friend for over half a century.

Mr. Jack Boothman, then President of the G.A.A., said that Seán Ó Síocháin would be forever remembered as one of the great Irishmen of this century. He said that few contributed as much to the G.A.A. and indeed our culture generally. He added that Seán commanded widespread admiration and respect and that he was a man in respect of whom he never heard anybody speaking ill. Mr. Boothman said that the G.A.A. owed Seán a huge debt for his selfless contribution and leadership.

Seán is survived by his wife Caitlín, his two sons, Donal and Ronáin and four daughters, Orla, Aisling, Fíona and Blaithín.



Seán Ó Síocháin, *Iar Ard Stiúrthóir, Cumann Lúthchleas Ga* 1964-1979

Gaelic Games and the EU

The excitement and originality of Gaelic Games were brought to a new audience last week when Europe's Committee of the Regions staged an historic forum on sport. The decision and opinion makers of Europe came together in the European parliament building in Brussels to discuss the problems facing organised sport across the continent.

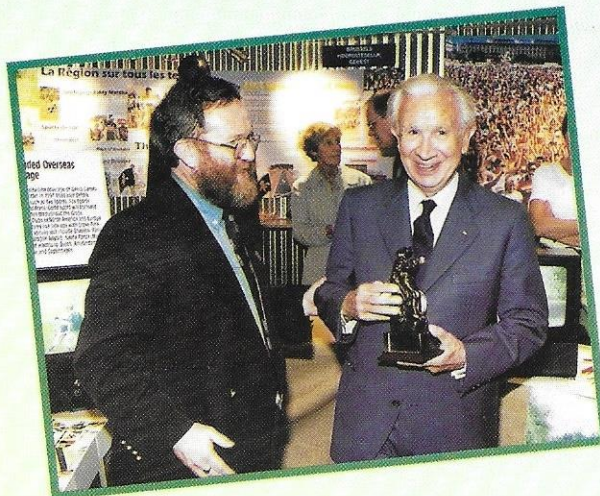
International Olympic Committee President Juan Antonio Samaranch was among those who tried his lift and strike skills at the GAA stand, manned by Cumann na mBunscoil chairman Jerry Grogan. The Mayor of Barcelona, host city for the 1992 Olympics, was presented with a sliotar and camán, while Mr. Samaranch was presented with a bronze statuette of Cúchulainn.

The GAA stand was among the most popular at the exhibition and politicians from all of the EU countries as well as observers from outside the EU were shown video footage of Gaelic games and given literature on all of the Gaelic field games, including camogie and handball.

Valuable contacts were made to further the GAA's plans to form a European County

Board, based in Paris to cater for hurling and football on the continental mainland.

Initiatives on the sale of television rights and the promotion of sport among women were launched at the conference.



Kerryman Jerry Grogan, who represented the GAA at the European Forum in Brussels recently, with Mr. Juan Antonio Samaranch, President of the International Olympic Committee, to whom he made a presentation on behalf of the GAA.

Updated book of records on the way ...

A ten-man editorial team under Raymond Smith is at present engaged in the mammoth task of revising and up-dating 'The Complete Handbook of Gaelic Games' and The Millennium Edition, incorporating much new data including League final teams, All-Ireland Club final teams, All-Ireland junior football and hurling final teams and the title records of every senior hurling and football club in each county will be published for Christmas 1999. It will bring all the records up to the end of this century and will be an invaluable reference work for all GAA followers. It will run to 500 pages.

Contact Raymond Smith, 4 Sycamore Road, Mount Merrion, Co. Dublin if you have any data you think might be of value or any corrections from the two previous editions of this book.

An Gorta Mór

A century and a half ago Ireland was struck by one of the worst peacetime disasters in European history. At that time the country's population was well over eight million, of whom a large proportion depended solely on the potato for sustenance. Nobody expected a famine in early 1845, but when the summer crop grew it was noticed that the green stalks on the potato had withered and the roots were black and rotten. There was consternation, but worse was to follow, for the crop failed again in the following year. Millions in the western half of the country, and large numbers also in other areas, faced starvation. No remedy was in sight, for the social and political system had been designed to oppress the ordinary people and not to assist them.

As the hunger spread, hundreds of thousands of people crowded into the workhouses in the hope of some chance of avoiding a slow and horrible death. The tragedy was duplicated, for the overcrowding, filth and weakened resistance brought fever. In rural areas, people were reduced to eating pig food and nettles, then grass and weeds and all kinds of vermin. Those who stole food or otherwise broke the law were sternly punished and risked deportation to the dreaded penal colonies in Australia. As the numbers of the dying increased, pits were dug for mass graves. Men and women struggled to carry their dead children and elderly parents to the cemetery and were torn between the need to care for diseased relatives and the terror of contracting the fever. Some simply closed the doors of their shacks and waited for death inside.

Others in desperation tried to flee the country, bringing disease and death with them on the "coffin ships", and the Atlantic Ocean was littered with corpses as they made their painful way west. The authorities were unwilling to accept that a drastic new approach was required and instead clung to the notion that people should be sustained only by their own labour.

Accordingly, relief works were set up and the starving people were put to the back-breaking task of building roads and bridges and piers, often in places where these were quite useless. As men, women and children starved, large amounts of wheat and cattle continued to be exported from the country.

Kindly individuals from at home and abroad tried to help, but the crisis was too great. Many of the landlords themselves did what they could for their tenants, but others used the opportunity to savagely evict families from their holdings. Eventually, the Corn Laws were repealed, allowing for the import of cheap grain from America, and depots were established to distribute this "Indian meal" to the people. Although the fare was crude and generally inadequate, and often mishandled by corrupt agents, it kept many souls alive until the crisis passed.

The year 1847 brought a good harvest, but the potato failed again in 1848 and the ordeal of death was renewed. By the time that the hunger and misery had subsided, the whole country was left exhausted, a dead silence pervaded its fields, and a near indelible sorrow had settled on the people. In three years, a million had died of starvation and disease and over a million more had emigrated.

The Famine was the great turning-point in Irish history. With it many of the old ways died, but in their place came a realisation that Ireland must be fashioned anew for the general good. The blight on the potato was what occasioned the Famine, but what really caused it was the disregard of a select few for their fellow man.

*Ní lú ná fríd máthair an oilc -
ba mhinic an nath ar bhur mbéala -
agus dúinne tuigtear go maith inniu
cad a fhágann gort ina éirleach,
is polladh géar na gcnámh trí chneas,
is lobhadh na mbolg séidte -
sa duine féin a bhíonn an meath,
sa duine féin an réiteach ...*

An Dr. Dáithí Ó hÓgáin

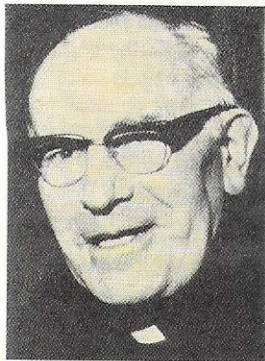
An Dr. Sár-Oirmh T. Ó Muiris, Iar-Ardeaspag Chaisil agus Imlighe agus Iar-Phátrún C.L.G. ó 1960-1988

Dr. Thomas Morris, who died on January 16th last, was a native of Tipperary, and was Patron of the G.A.A. from 1960 to 1988. On succeeding Archbishop Kinane he became the 5th Archbishop of Cashel to become Patron.

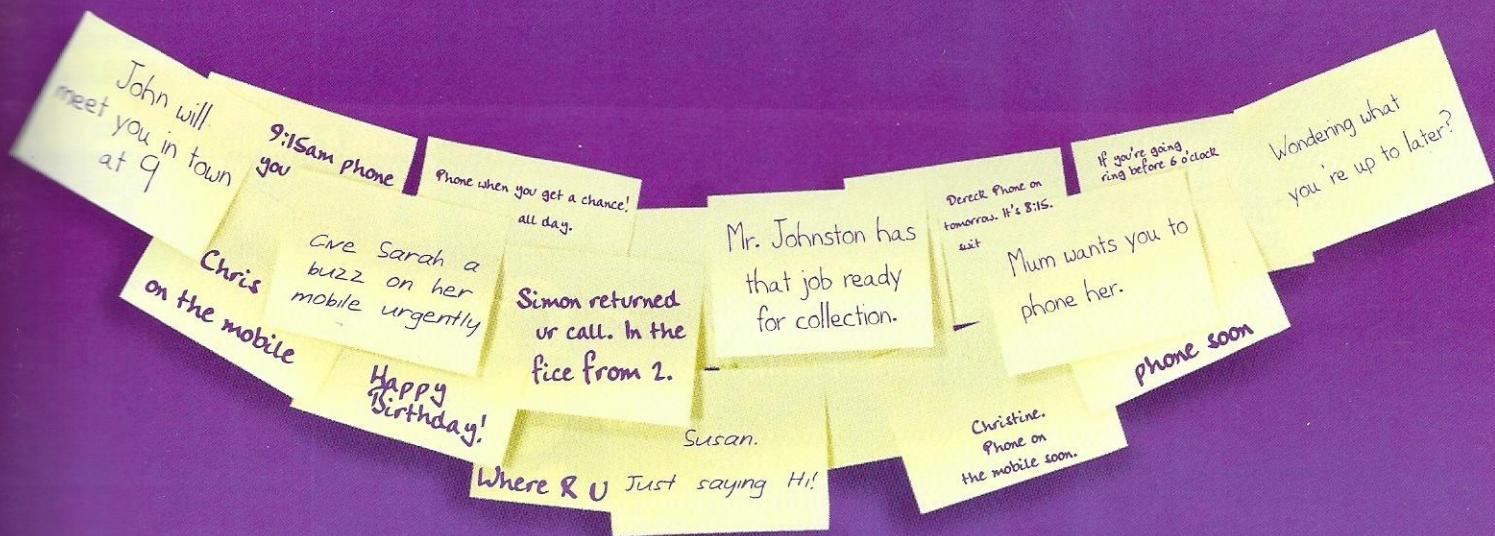
The then Uachtarán Mr. Jack Boothman said that Dr. Morris was a man of peace and vision who had a profound love for his people, for his country, its culture and Gaelic Games. He added that Dr. Morris was always completely in tune with the G.A.A. and right up until last year he rarely missed an opportunity to attend a game.

Mr. Liam Mulvihill, Director General, said that Dr. Morris shared with Cumann Lúthchleas Gael a love of all things Irish, our living and our built heritage. He said that he was always available to advise, help and support the Association and this was never so evident as in Centenary Year in 1984. Mr. Mulvihill added that he was privileged to have known Dr. Morris and to have considered him a friend. He said that all members of the G.A.A. who knew Dr. Morris would be deeply saddened to learn of his departure.

Dr. Morris was succeeded by Dr. Dermot Clifford.

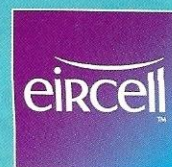


With Playback you'll always get the message.



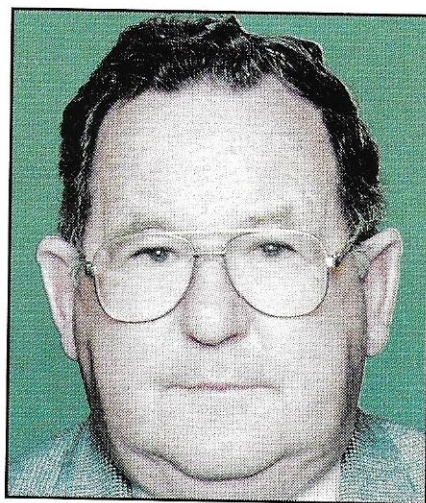
Playback is Eircell's 24 hour answering service that takes your messages when you're busy or don't want to be interrupted. So sit back, divert to Playback, switch off your mobile and enjoy the match.

There's strength in our number



1800 22 55 88

**There's only one
Peadar O'Brien**



**There's only one
place to read him**

**THE IRISH
Sun**

The Points Route

When Paddy Russell sounded the final whistle in the semi-final four weeks ago Mayo were through to the All-Ireland final on merit...but with only one goal to their credit in four outings, which P.J. Loftus accounted for in the opening round against Galway at Tuam last May.

Reaching the final having recorded only one goal along the way is a rare championship feat - but counties have taken that route in the past.

Galway reached the 1965 final having just one major to their credit in the Connacht final against Sligo (Galway had a bye to the provincial final that year); they then beat Down by 0-10 to 0-8 in what was the shortest route to the final since Mayo had only two outings to qualify in 1950.

But in the past one hundred years only one county has actually matched Mayo's one goal from four games and that was Cork in 1956 when they beat Waterford 0-12 to 0-1 at Lismore, drew with Kerry (0-8 to 2-2) at Killarney before beating them by 1-8 to 1-7 at Cork. The

Leesiders then qualified for the final with a 0-9 to 0-5 defeat of Kildare.

There were two other instances of teams making it through with the help of only one goal - Galway in 1941 and Mayo in 1921. There was an interesting twist to the Mayo experience in that year which saw them overcome Galway at Tuam (0-6 to 0-1) and Roscommon (1-4 to 0-1) at Castlerea before gaining a walk over from Tipperary in the All-Ireland semi-final. The twist? The goal at Castlerea was an own goal!

However, in regard to goal-less championship runs, Dublin enjoy a distinction that is all their own - they went through a championship campaign of five games in 1904, three games in Leinster and an All-Ireland semi-final and final without scoring even one goal. There was strength at the back, too, as they conceded only one goal, in the semi-final at Athlone. But from the above statistics Mayo will glean little comfort - not one of the teams won the All-Ireland in the years mentioned.

The Game

by John Chambers

Led by the band, both teams approach. Our hearts are drums now, echoing the Artane pound.

Flags and banners still as the anthem starts, last notes crushed in an avalanche of sound.

Eyes clenched on the throw-in, the opening play turns up so much that we can analyse.

"D'ye see the gap down that wing?" ... "No way was that a foul! Ah ref! Open your eyes!"

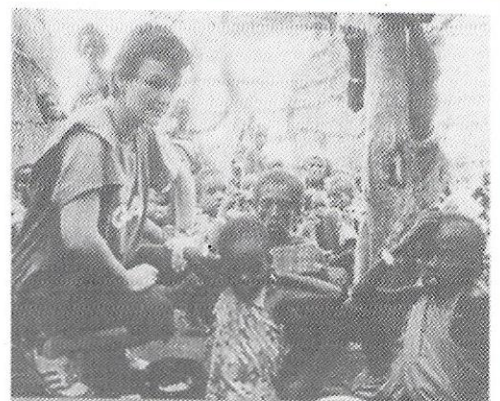
Tense and hoarse as the second half unwinds with nervous looks at scoreboard and at wrists;

"What's left to play now?" Must be soon! Our minds crave a whistle. At last it comes. Then fists

drum the jubilant air as the setting sun

dips down the Canal End. "We've won! We've won!"

John Chambers has won the John Player Award in 1981, 1989 and 1993. His work has appeared in several journals and magazines. A contributor to RTE radio, his book 101 Irish Lives was published in 1992.



GOAL
Volunteers
do make a
difference



**PLEASE HELP THEM TO
CONTINUE AND
EXTEND THEIR WORK
BY SUPPORTING GOAL.**

GOAL, P.O. Box 19, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin.
Credit Card donations 2809779.

Ag Feachaint Siar

Twenty-five Years Ago (1972)

Quite obviously the honours in Munster rested between Kerry and Cork, though the usual preliminaries saw Tipperary beat Clare (2-10 to 1-6) and Waterford beat Limerick by 0-10 to 0-8. The Premier county put up a good semi-final display but Kerry won by 1-12 to 0-9 and Cork, too, got it hard enough from the Decies (2-8 to 0-9). And the 'old firm' served up the usual fare at Killarney where Kerry regained the southern crown by 2-21 to 2-15.

Out West, the campaign opened with Roscommon taking on Leitrim at Hyde Park. The 'locals' were always in command and won comfortably by 1-11 to 0-5. Both semi-finals had to go to replays. First up was Sligo and Mayo who drew 2-7 to 1-10 at Sligo, and a week later Roscommon and Galway also found stalemate at Roscommon with the score of 3-9 to 2-12. Both replays resulted in four point wins - with Mayo overcoming Sligo by 1-18 to 0-17 at Castlebar, and Roscommon defeating Galway at Tuam (1-8 to 0-7). The final was an eight-goal thriller with Roscommon taking the title by 5-8 to 3-10.

In Ulster 'the usual suspects' were quickly accounted for - Derry beating Fermanagh, Tyrone beating Armagh, and Cavan swamping Monaghan. There was a first inkling of Donegal's ambitions when they dethroned Down (1-8 to 0-8), but then Derry, who had ousted Antrim (2-9 to 2-5) and were generally regarded as favourites, went down to Tyrone (0-9 to 1-8). Donegal had two stabs at the provincial semi-final, drawing with Cavan (0-12 to 2-6) before beating them by 2-11 to 1-9. And then on an emotional afternoon at Clones, Donegal took their first Ulster title on the score of 2-13 to 1-11.

In Leinster Offaly were the team to beat, but no one looked capable of doing so. Wicklow, Wexford, Louth, Carlow and Westmeath quietly departed the scene before Meath beat Longford (0-16 to 0-9) and Kildare beat Laois by 1-11 to 0-7. Offaly entered the fray to crush Meath by 2-17 to 3-5 while Kildare beat Dublin more easily than a full-time score of 0-16 to 3-5 would suggest. The Lily Whites had their moments in the final...but not nearly enough of them as Offaly sailed on (1-18 to 2-8).

The semi-finals presented a contrast: Roscommon couldn't stay the pace and Kerry won by 1-22 to 1-12, but Offaly had to come from behind to see off eager Donegal by 1-17 to 2-10. An undistinguished final ended in a draw (1-13 all) - neither team deserved to lose but neither did enough to win, and in the replay Kerry were looking good against injury-ravaged Offaly until a freak goal drove the Midlanders to new heights as Kerry slumped to their heaviest ever defeat in a final (1-19 to 0-13).

Fifty Years Ago (1947)

The decision to play the final in New York gave a remarkable fillip to the championship, with many counties quietly fancying their chances of making the trip. Realistically, however, 'real' aspirants were few in number and in Ulster Cavan and Antrim were two of these - Antrim, as expected, had an easy start, beating Donegal by 3-8 to 0-3, but Cavan took two hours to dispose of Monaghan (1-11 to 1-9 after an 0-9 to 1-6 draw). When the truly hard questions were asked Antrim blasted Down by 3-13 to 1-8 and Cavan trounced Tyrone by 4-5 to 0-2. In the final, three first-half goals laid the foundation of Cavan's (3-4 to 1-6) victory.

As always, Leinster was competitive - for the most part. Louth had a surprisingly easy win over Dublin (3-11 to 1-9) at An Uaimh, while Meath maintained their traditional dominance over Westmeath (1-8 to 0-5) at Mullingar. Laois won a thriller from Kildare by 2-7 to 1-8 at Tullamore, and then Offaly collapsed to Laois by 0-4 to 5-11 at Portlaoise. Meath scraped over Louth by 0-9 to 1-4 in an exciting semi-final and they had the measure of Laois all the way in winning the provincial final by 3-7 to 1-7.

In Connacht Roscommon were the favourites and they duly justified that rating. Mayo tried hard at Ballina, but Roscommon won comfortably by 1-10 to 0-4. The Sligo-Galway game at Ballinasloe was the only real contest in the West with Sligo winning by 2-6 to 1-6. Leitrim's challenge spluttered and faded at Carrick-on-Shannon as Roscommon marched on, 1-9 to 0-3, and Sligo's final hopes went the same way, despite a late flourish at Ballina where it was 2-12 to 1-8.



Swift Group

Good Luck Mayo

From Matt and Jim Halligan

Swift Group of Companies Ltd.

"Swift House", Batford Mill,

Lower Luton Road, Harpenden,

Hertfordshire AL5 5BZ

Telephone: 01582-461616 • Fax: 01582-461818

Despite a spirited bid by Tipperary at Fermoy against Cork, the honours inevitably rested between Kerry and Cork. Kerry opened with devastating power at Limerick, crushing Clare by 9-10 to 0-4., but they had considerable difficulty in holding off the Leesiders - who missed a penalty - at the Athletic Grounds (3-8 to 2-6).

Record crowds attended the semi-finals in the first of which a goal in each half enabled Cavan to oust favourites Roscommon by 2-4 to 0-6. Kerry earned their tickets with a greater measure of comfort as they brushed past Meath by 1-11 to 0-5. Both teams rose above the hype and ballyhoo at the Polo Grounds where Cavan overcame an early eight-point deficit to record a merited 2-11 to 2-7 win. A fitting finale to an historic season.

Seventy-five Years Ago (1922)

The Civil War threw the championship in three provinces into disarray and only Leinster completed its programme within the year. With five counties opting to regrade to junior ranks, the campaign in the east had its smallest entry since 1911, but the quality implicit in a select field was rarely in evidence. In fact, there wasn't one really competitive game in the six played with Dublin and Kilkenny far ahead of the rest. Dublin's path to the final was via Louth (1-7 to 0-2) and Kildare (2-5 to 0-2), while the Noresiders had easy wins over Laois (4-4 to 1-1) and Meath (4-4 to 1-2). The Dublin defence continued its great form in the final as they retained their title by 1-7 to 0-2.

The Connacht campaign got underway in July 1923 with Galway beating Leitrim (3-3 to 0-3) at Boyle and Sligo, at home, accounting for Roscommon by 3-5 to 0-2. Sligo scored their first-ever win over Mayo (3-8 to 2-5) at Castlerea and there were wild celebrations when they followed up with a 3-1 to 1-6 win over Galway in the Connacht final. The celebrations were premature. Galway lodged an objection and were rewarded with a replay which they won by 2-4 to 1-5 at Croke Park.

In Munster Kerry and Waterford declined to take part. Cork, who had beaten Clare by 1-7 to 0-2, were themselves eliminated by Tipperary (2-2 to 2-1) at the Athletic Grounds. And on home soil Tipperary were easy winners of the provincial title when they defeated Limerick by 1-7 to 0-1.

Up North, Armagh over Down, Monaghan over Antrim, and Cavan over Donegal were first round winners. Monaghan then beat Antrim by 1-4 to 1-3 and Cavan had an easy win over Derry by 4-3 to 1-1. The final went to two games - a 2-3 all draw was followed by a Cavan win by 3-4 to 0-3 in the replay.

The semi-finals were somewhat confused. Sligo beat Tipperary (1-8 to 0-7) before the replay of the Connacht final and nominated Monaghan were crushed (2-5 to nil) by Dublin at Dundalk. Galway almost toppled Dublin in the final. Two strong defences ensured that scores would be hard earned with Dublin just managing enough to win by 0-6 to 0-4.

One Hundred Years Ago (1897)

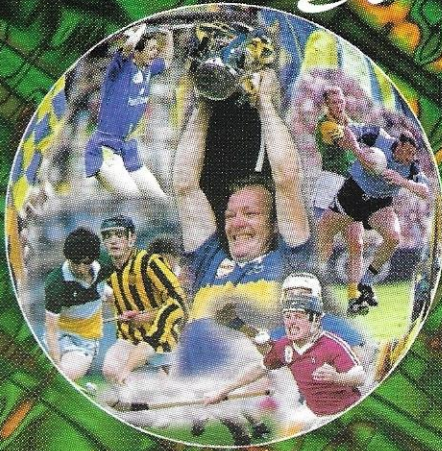
Although there was a certain amount of activity in a number of counties in Ulster and Connacht, it was all confined to clubs and no inter-county championships took place, and it was left to Munster and Leinster to provide what fare was on offer in this regard.

Dublin were early in the field, recording big wins over Kilkenny by 0-14 to 0-1 and Kildare by 2-15 to 0-2. Wexford were also easy winners, beating Carlow by 2-24 to 0-5 while Wicklow, who had gained a walk-over from Offaly, surprised Louth (1-6 to 1-4) to earn a place in the provincial final for the first time. The Dublin-Wexford semi-final at Jones's Road was unfinished with the Slaneysiders ahead, but second time out Dublin got it right on a 0-10 to 0-9 scoreline. The final was delayed for months. At first Wicklow were awarded the title; then a replay fixture fell through and when the final was played on December 18, 1898, Dublin won by 1-9 to 0-3.

Kerry opted out in Munster for the second year running but elsewhere there was no lack of enthusiasm. Cork opened their campaign with a 1-5 to 0-4 win over Waterford at Dungarvan, and followed with an 0-5 to 1-0 win over Tipperary at Cork. In the first defence of their Munster and All-Ireland honours Limerick held off Clare (0-9 to 1-1) at the Markets' Field, but in a hectic final at Tipperary, Cork relieved them of the honours by 0-5 to 0-3.


Cork arrived in Dublin for the All-Ireland final on Saturday night finding that they had no accommodation booked. It took them until four o'clock Sunday morning to find some. Little wonder that Dublin beat them by 2-6 to 0-2 that afternoon.

THE GREATEST GAA ALBUM ever Vol 1




Narrated by **Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh**

Memorable County hits by Top Irish Artists including
**FRANK PATTERSON, PHIL COULTER,
FINBAR WRIGHT, GLANNAD, PADDY REILLY,
THE DUBLINERS & MANY MORE**



OFFICIALLY ENDORSED BY
THE GAA



AVAILABLE NOW NATIONWIDE

Willie Joe Padden's

Main Street., Castlebar, Co. Mayo
Phone: 094 25858



*Good luck to the Mayo teams on Sunday.
From Willie Joe's oasis in the west.
Good drink, good food served daily in a
relaxing atmosphere.
The place to be when in Castlebar.*

Coming May 1998 ...

The GAA Museum in Croke Park



As part of the redevelopment of Croke Park, a modern interactive visitor centre is being constructed on the ground floor of the New Stand.

This magnificent new visitor attraction is designed by Orna Hanley & Associates and Robin Wade & Partners. It covers 1,780 sq metres and will have educational and exhibition areas, restaurant and shop facilities.

It will chart the origins of the Association and its role in the evolution of the country since 1884. The displays will include artefacts and trophies and "tools of the trade".

The use of modern audio visual and touchscreen technology will bring you the heroes, the great games, the great goals and the great saves, of yesterday and today. The exciting, specially developed, interactives will allow visitors to try out the unique skills required to play our national games.

The visit will culminate in one of the museums theatres where visitors can explore the excitement of All-Ireland day in Croke Park, in the unique audio visual presentation of "A Sunday in September".

The museum is expected to attract large numbers of groups from GAA clubs and schools all

over the country as well as coach parties and visitors from home and overseas.

If you have any material which you would be prepared to loan or donate to the museum, or you require more information contact **Brenda Kenny**, Tel. (087) 238 1828. Material for the museum must be received by 15th October.

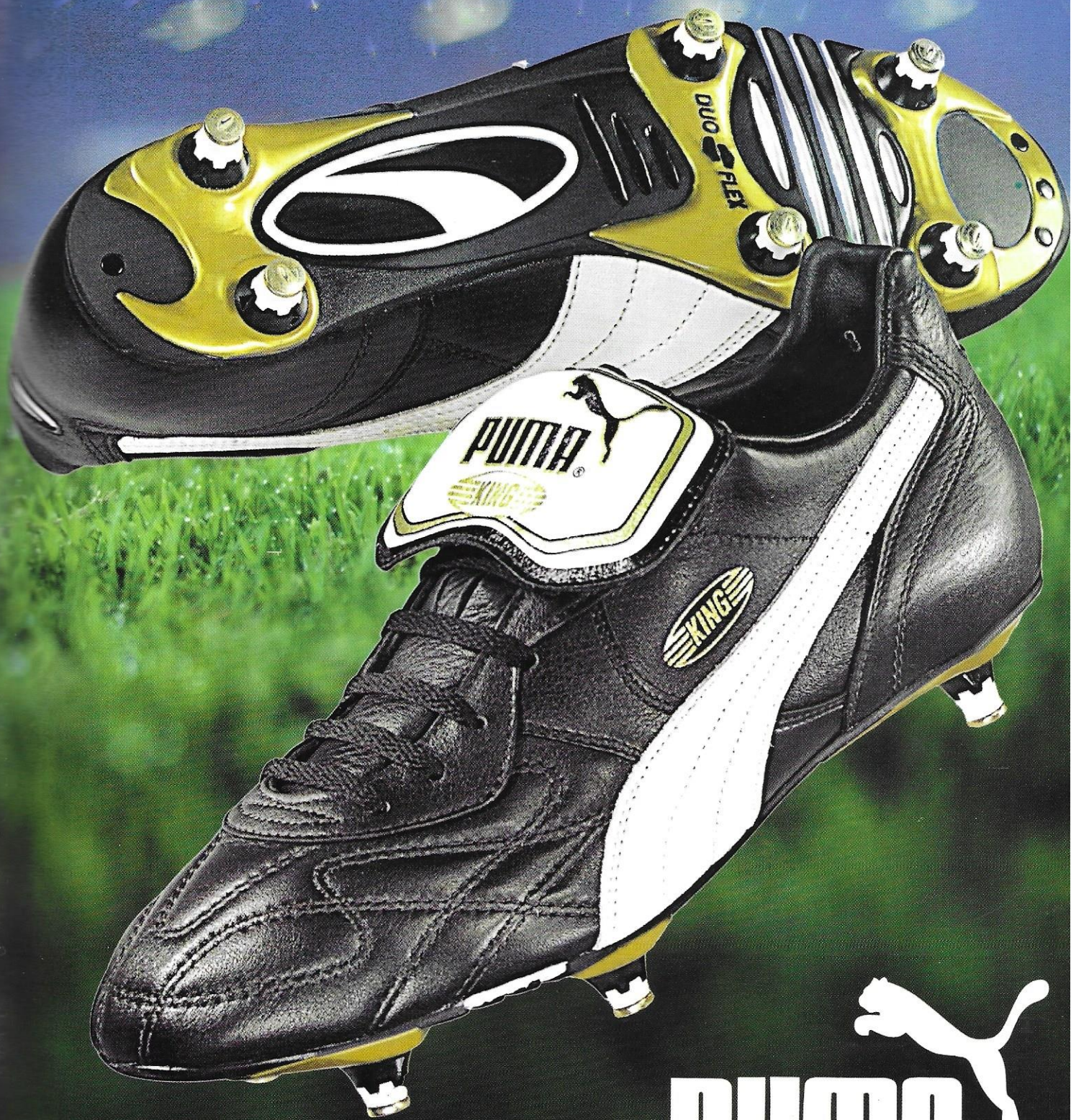


PÁIRC AN CHRÓCAI




The official museum of the Gaelic Athletic Association.

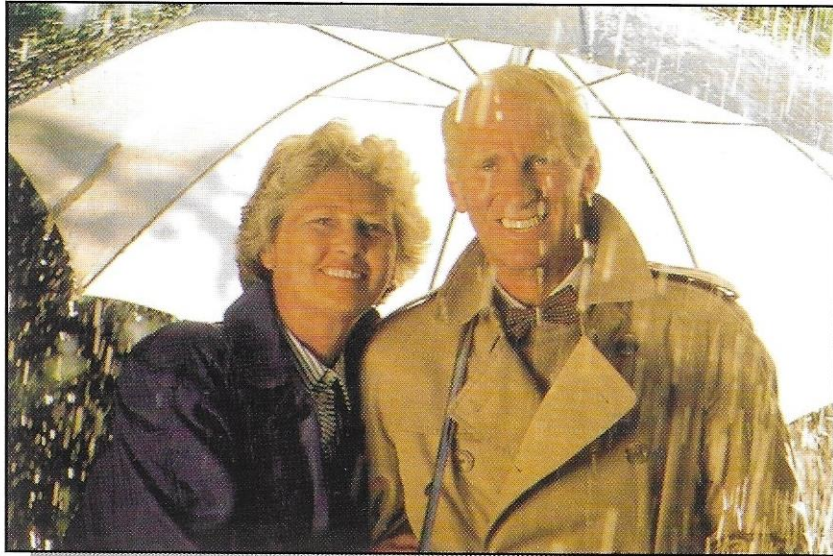




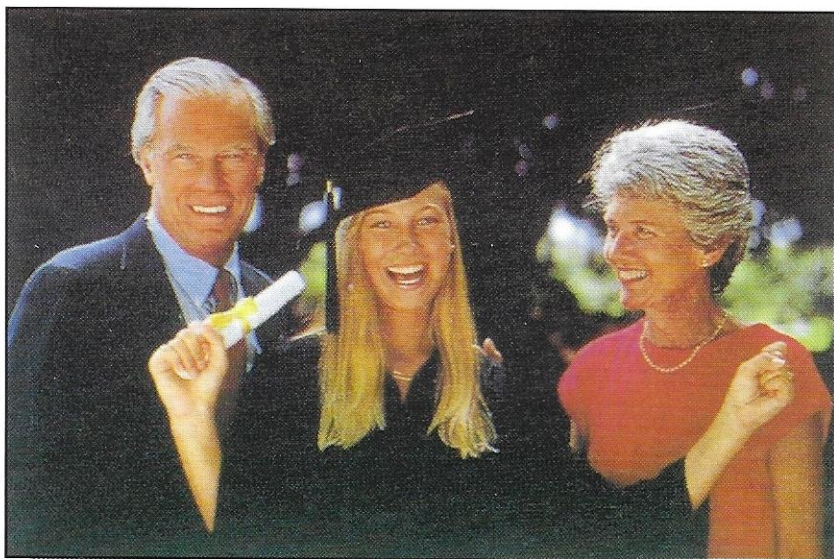
**LIGHT YEARS
AHEAD**

PUMA 

KING



For a rainy day...



or when they shine...

...An Post has the savings and investment plans to suit you.

All are State Guaranteed so you have the added comfort of knowing your money is totally secure. And each one, from our Education Savings Plan to our highly popular

Savings Certificates, offer very attractive rates of return and tax free or tax efficient earnings. So no matter what your saving or investment requirements are, find out more about

An Post's comprehensive range of options from your local Post Office.



Final flags and followers ... by ten

1897 - Staging an All-Ireland in February was not guaranteed to boost the attendance figures and a crowd of less than 3,000 at Jones's Road saw Bill Guiry, a native of Limerick, get two goals as Dublin regained the title after a lapse of three years on a 2-6 to 0-2 scoreline from Cork.

1907 - At Tipperary town scores were exceedingly difficult to come by and, although seven players in all got their names on the scoresheet, Tom Walshe's 0-2 earned top billing as a crowd of 6,000 saw Dublin retain the title on the score of 0-6 to 0-2 against Cork.

1917 - Wartime travel restrictions kept the attendance at Croke Park down to 6,500 as Wexford made it three-in-a-row by beating Clare, making their first appearance in a final, by 0-9 to 0-5. The scoring honours, however, were divided between the champions' Jim Byrne and the challengers' Martin McNamara with 0-3 each.

1927 - In an era when Kildare and Kerry were renowned for their powerful defenders, forwards had a lean time in a final with a 0-5 to 0-3 scoreline, with James Bailey for Kerry and the winners' Paul Doyle topping the chart with 0-2 each. A crowd of 36,529 saw this final.

1937 - As a crowd of 52,325 saw Cavan and Kerry finish level (1-8 to 2-5), John Joe Landers took the scoring honours with 2-1 for Kerry. And in the replay which Kerry won by 4-4 to 1-7, Tim O'Leary with 2-0 was the day's best before an attendance of 51,234.

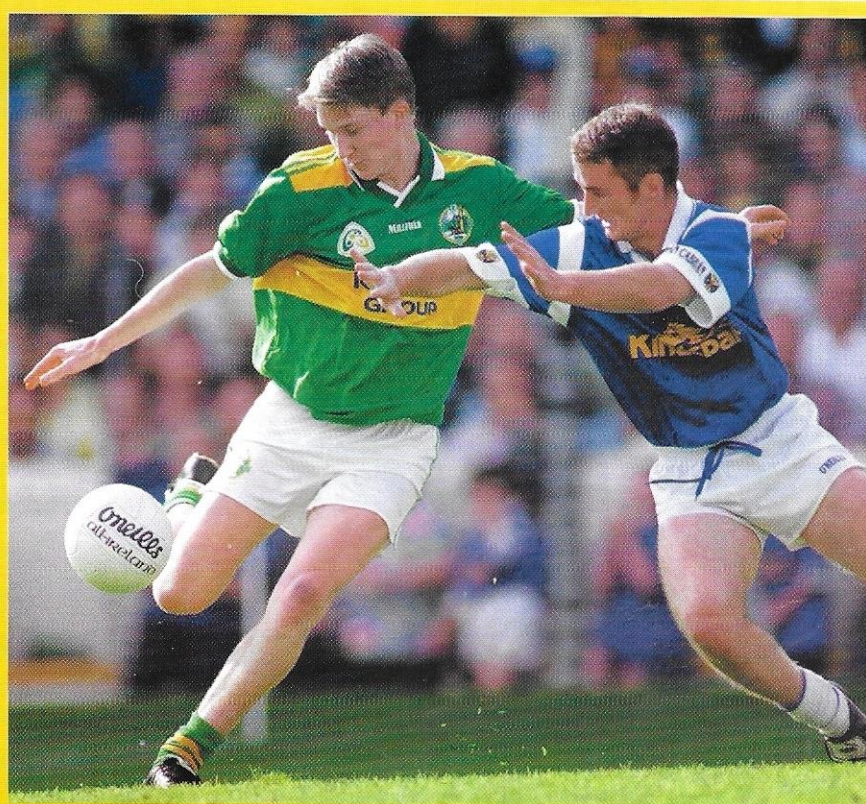
1947 - Peter Donoghue's accuracy had played a big part in bringing Cavan to the Polo Grounds and the strange surroundings did not impair his efficiency as he hit a chart-topping 0-8 in his team's 2-11 to 2-7 victory in front of an attendance of 34,941.

1957 - Despite the presence of a first-class freetaker on each side, the top scorer spot, as Louth beat Cork by 1-9 to 1-7, was taken by the winners' Sean Cunningham with 1-1. The attendance was 72,232.

1967 - Terry Kearns got the only goal of the game and it helped him to top the scorers' list with 1-2 as Meath beat Cork by 1-9 to 0-9 in the presence of 70,343 spectators.

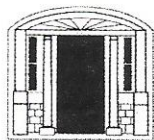
1977 - Scores came thick and fast in this final which brought 66,542 people to Croke Park and none scored better than Dublin's Jimmy Keaveney who shot a record-equalling 2-5 as his team saw off Armagh by 5-12 to 3-6.

1987 - The first final meeting of Meath and Cork for 20 years drew a crowd of 68,431 to Croke Park and, as the Royal county took the title on a 1-14 to 0-11 scoreline, Brian Stafford's 0-7 was the best individual return of the day.



GOAL KICK

Michael F. Russell (Ciarraí) about to score his side's goal in the semi-final despite the efforts of **Philip Kermath** (An Cabhán).



Burleigh
ACCOUNTANCY GROUP

ACCOUNTANTS & TAXATION CONSULTANTS

*Wishing the
Mayo Team
Every Success*

Contact:

**Michael Kelly,
Ann Thornton
or
Eamon Mongey**

**Burleigh House,
Ellison Street, Castlebar, Co. Mayo
Telephone: (094) 25234/25235
Fax: (094) 25236
Mobile: 087 562734**

For coach travel that's low on cost yet high on comfort...

Bus Éireann's Expressway Service offers great value fares to a host of destinations around the country. Travel midweek and you can avail of our bargain return fares.

BUS EIREANN/EUROLINES

We operate daily Express Coach Services from most major towns in Ireland to various destinations in Britain from £29.00 with connections to Mainland Europe. There's no better value way to travel to Britain and Europe.

HOLIDAY BREAKS

Three excellent travel inclusive Holiday Options

- Budget Hostel Breakaways from just £23pps
- Bargain B & B Breakaways from just £32pps

- Hotel Breakaways £37pps

This includes overnight hotel accommodation, full Irish breakfast and return coach fare to your choice of destination.

For travel information contact: Central Bus Station (Busaras), Store St., Dublin 1 (01) 8366111; Parnell Place Bus Station, Cork

(021) 508188; Colbert Station, Limerick (061) 313333; Ceant Station, Galway (091) 562000; Plunkett Station, Waterford (051) 879000; Casement Station, Tralee, (066) 23566 or your local Bus Éireann office, Tourist Office or Travel Agent.

RETURN FARES FROM DUBLIN

WATERFORD	£6.00	ENNIS	£10.00
WEXFORD	£7.00	LETTERKENNY	£10.00
BALLINA	£8.00	LIMERICK	£10.00
GALWAY	£8.00	BELFAST	£10.50
SLIGO	£8.00	CORK	£12.00
DONEGAL	£10.00	TRALEE	£14.00

Fares correct at time of going to press.

...you're better off on


BUS EIREANN

A subsidiary of **Córas Iompair Éireann**



Senior Final Digest

Family Connection

Dermot Flanagan, who played a big part in Mayo's advancement to today's final, is son of the late Sean Flanagan, captain of the county's last two All-Ireland title winning teams of 1950 and 1951.

Kerry's Last Final Goal

Michael Sheehy scored the last goal by a Kerry footballer in an All-Ireland senior final in the thirteenth minute of the second half against Tyrone in the 1986 decider—the Kingdom's last appearance in a final. That was Kerry's second goal of the game.

Wexford Double

For the second time this year Brian White will complete a rare referees double for Wexford at All-Ireland senior finals level. Dickie Murphy and White refereed the AIB All-Ireland club hurling and football finals on St. Patrick's Day and Murphy, of course, had charge of the Guinness S.H. final two weeks ago.

Fast since 1989

This is the first Munster-Connacht All-Ireland senior football final since 1989 when Cork beat Mayo by 0-17 to 1-11 before an attendance of 65,519. Anthony Finnerty, who went in as a substitute, scored the only goal of the game three and a half minutes into the second half.

Links with '89 summit

Dermot Flanagan was left full back and Liam McHale at left midfield for Mayo in the 1989 All-Ireland senior final against Cork - the Western county's first appearance in a championship decider in 38 years.

Top Scorers

Pat Spillane and Michael Sheehy were Kerry's top scorers with 1-4 each in the 1986 Sam Maguire Cup tie win over Tyrone.

James Horan and Maurice Sheridan shared the top of the scoring chart for Mayo with five points each in last year's final replay loss to Meath. Sheridan was the Connacht champions leading marksman in the drawn final with four points.

First Since 1932

This is the first All-Ireland senior football final between Kerry and Mayo since 1932 when the Kingdom won by 2-7 to 2-4.

Last Defeat

Kerry's last defeat in an All-Ireland senior football final was in 1982 when a last gasp Seamus Darby goal gave Offaly a sensational 1-15 to 0-17 win.

Record-Making Trio

Denis Ogie Moran, Páidí Ó Sé and Pat Spillane each won a record eight All-Ireland senior medal in 1986.

One of Spillane's appearances was a limited one. In 1981 he was in Kerry's substitutes panel

for the final against Offaly because of a recurrence of ligament trouble, but a minute from time went into the match as a substitute. He thus appeared, if only briefly, in a senior final winning display that day.

Moran, Ó Sé and Spillane equalled a long standing record in 1985. Until then Dan O'Keeffe, a native of Cork, was Kerry's goalkeeper in seven winning finals between 1931 and 1946.

One Goal

Mayo have scored just one goal in the current Bank of All-Ireland senior championship. They had not long to wait for that score. It came after only three minutes of their first round game against Galway at Tuam Stadium when left full forward P. J. Loftus found the way to the net.

Win Over Kerry

Mayo have already beaten Kerry in an All-Ireland final this season. A goal in twenty seconds by left full forward Tony Morley set the Connacht champions up for a 2-8 to 1-10 win at Cusack Park, Ennis, in the All-Ireland junior football final.

All Provinces

All four provinces are represented in the finals again after a three year interval. In 1994 Kerry beat Galway 0-16 to 1-7 in the minor final and Down had a 1-12 to 0-13 win over Dublin at senior.



CARRICKDALE HOTEL
CARRICKCARNON, RAVENSDALE,
DUNDALK, CO. LOUTH.

Telephone: (042) 71397. Fax: (042) 71740.

Open daily from 7.30a.m. breakfast, snack, carvery lunch, bar food, high tea, dinner and à la carte.

First class accommodation.

All rooms en-suite with T.V. and hospitality tray.

Weddings and functions a speciality.

Leisure complex, swimming pool, sauna, solarium, jacuzzi, fitness gym.

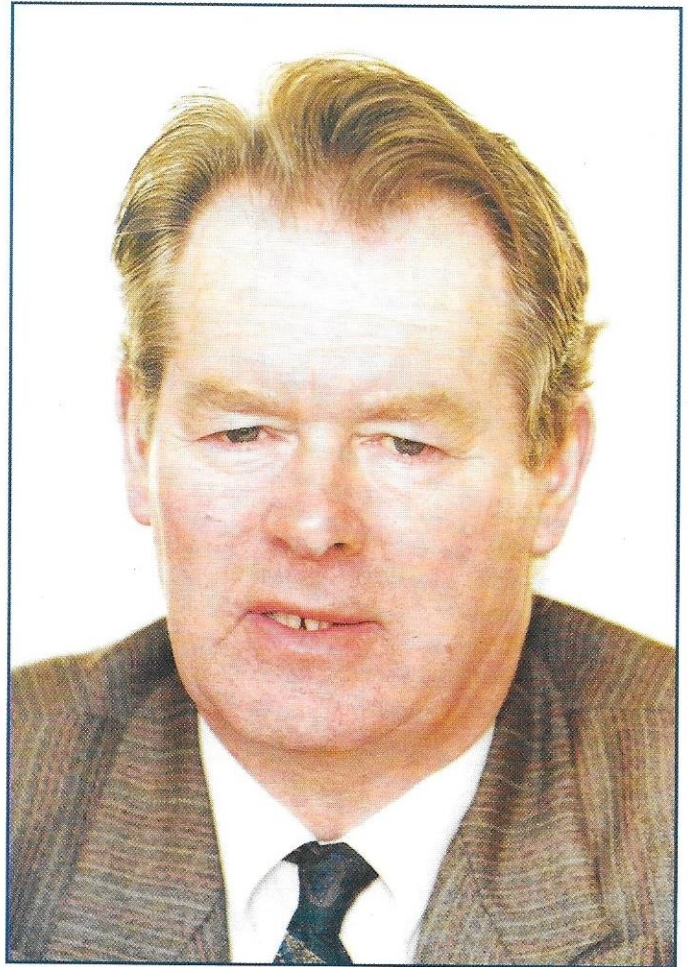
Hairdressing and beauty salon.

CARRICKDALE HOTEL
"THE HOME OF CHAMPIONS"
Why not call after the match!

Carrickcarnon, Ravensdale, Dundalk, Co. Louth.

Telephone: (042) 71397. Fax: (042) 71740.

Ag súil le sár- chluiche...



*Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh,
Cathaoirleach Bhord na Gaeilge.*

"This Autumn many Irish classes are being organised throughout the country. Bord na Gaeilge can provide full details of these on request. Make a start, call Bord na Gaeilge on 1850-325-325. Beidh fáilte romhat".

Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh

 **Bord na Gaeilge**

 **1850-325-325**

Cúinne na nÓg

Junior Crossword

The clues below, if answered correctly, will reveal the name in the shaded square of a defender who won a Bank of Ireland provincial senior football championship medal this year.

- This county made history last year by winning an all-Ireland football title in a particular grade for the first time.
- The runners-up in one of the provincial senior football championships of '97.
- Ciaran Walsh, left full back in the Dublin team beaten by Meath in this year's Leinster senior football championship, plays club football with St.—.
- Meath is known as this county.
- Christian name of Cavan's leading scorer in this year's senior football championship.
- Surname of Eamonn, who wore the No. 11 jersey for Sligo in the Connacht senior football final last month.
- The surname of a leading county senior football team manager will solve this section.
- Popular form of a Christian name. Try Reilly, who was Cavan's right full forward in the Ulster senior football final

1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

As Gaeilge

Give the Irish names for these counties: Meath, Louth, Wexford, Kildare, Offaly, Derry.

The Minors

- Name the county captained by John Sugrue in this year's minor football championship.
- Who captained Mayo in their unsuccessful All-Ireland football semi-final against Laois—Paul Navin, Alan Costello or Ger Brady?
- Tony Convery captained Antrim or Donegal in the Ulster football championship last summer. Your choice!
- Who refereed the Laois-Mayo All-Ireland semi-final last month?
- What county lost this year's Leinster minor football final?

Maze

Well-known football personalities **D. Ó Sé, P. Laide, of Kerry, S. King (Cavan), D. Nestor (Mayo), T. Dowd (Meath), K. Barr (Dublin) and C. Daly (Offaly) are included in our Maze.**

The names may run horizontally, vertically or diagonally in any direction. See can you find the names.

Tráth na gCeist

- Who was in goal for Cavan in their Bank of Ireland All-Ireland senior football semi-final against Kerry?
- Paul Taylor is a forward with what county in senior football?
- Name the only county that scored a win outside of Ireland in this season's senior football championship.
- Where was the Bank of Ireland Munster senior football final played last July?
- What county knocked Tyrone out of this season's senior football championship?
- Who refereed the Mayo-Offaly All-Ireland senior football semi-final last month?
- Roy Malone scored two goals for Offaly against what county in this year's senior football championship?
- How many goals did Offaly score in their first round win over Longford in the opening round in senior football last May?

Freagraí

E	S	U	V	Y	L	A	D	C	D
K	S	K	I	N	G	A	W	O	K
R	F	K	N	Y	E	S	O	D	B
N	E	D	I	A	L	P	D	F	A
B	L	A	D	N	E	S	T	O	R
C	P	L	A	I	G	D	E	R	R

As Gaeilge
Meath - An Mhí, Louth - An Lú, Wexford - Loch Garman, Kildare - Cill Dara, Offaly - Uíbh Rhaillí, Derry-Doire.
Maze
E. Wicklow, 5. Wicklow, 4. Brian Crowe (Cavan), 3. Antrim, 1. Kerry, 2. Paul Navin, 3. Antrim.
The Minors
1. Kerry, 2. Sligo, 3. Leitrim, who beat London in Connacht championship, 4. Limerick, 5. Derry in a semi-final at Clones, 6. Paddy Russell, 7. Meath in the Leinster final, 8. five. They won by 5-17 to 0-13.
Tráth na gCeist
1. Paul O'Dowd, 2. Sligo, 3. Leitrim, who beat London in Connacht championship, 4. Limerick, 5. Derry in a semi-final at Clones, 6. Paddy Russell, 7. Meath in the Leinster final, 8. five. They won by 5-17 to 0-13.

McGovern Motors & Marine



TOYOTA

Best of luck to Colm and the Mayo Team

From all at:

McGovern Motors and Marine Toyota Main Dealers

Ballinrobe Road, Castlebar

Telephone: (094) 22255 / 24904. Fax: (094) 24903.

Coaching Course Information

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, Páirc an Chócaigh, Áth Cliath 3. Tel: (01) 836 3222. Fax: (01) 836 6420.

Fourth Appearance

Dermot Flanagan and Liam McHale are set to make a piece of Mayo football history today for, when they take the field against Kerry, they will become the first Mayo players ever to have featured in four All-Ireland finals - 1989, 1996 draw and replay and, of course, today. After last year's replay they had joined Mayo's other 'three-timers' - Peter Quinn, Paddy Prendergast, Sean Flanagan, John Forde, Pdraig Carney, Joe Gilvarry, Eamon Mongey, Tom Langan and Sean Mulderigg, all of whom appeared in the finals of 1948, 1950 and 1951.

It might be claimed that a draw and a replay do not constitute two finals. Be that as it may, Dermot Flanagan and Liam McHale will make history today.

Coaching Contact: Pat Daly.

Information on Coach Education Courses in Cumann Lúthchleas Gael can be obtained from the appropriate provincial contact below:

Connacht

John Prenty, Bóthar Cnoc Mhuire, Beal Átha hAmhnais, Co. Mhuigheo. Tel: (0907) 30335.

Leinster

Football: Paddy Clarke, Coopers Hill, Drogheda, Co. Louth. Tel: (041) 35418.

Hurling: Brendan O'Sullivan, 16 Banim Terrace, Freshford Road, Kilkenny. Tel: (056) 24493.

Munster

Muiris O'Sullivan, Radharc na Coille, Baile Uí Thaidhg, Co. Chiarraí. Tel: (066) 33480.

Ulster

Seamus McGrattan, The Sports Council for Northern Ireland, House of Sport, Upper Malone Road, Belfast BT9 5LA. Tel: 0801232 - 381222.

Accredited Tutors or Tutors in Training Connacht

Martin Connolly, Eugene Lavin, John McGowan, Pat Monaghan, Tom Monaghan, Michael Nolan, Denis O'Boyle.

Leinster

Paddy Clarke, Seamus Heaney, Cyril Kevlihan, John Murphy, Al O'Donoghue, Paudie O'Neill, Noel O'Sullivan, Jim Ryan.

Munster

Colm Bonner, Paudie Butler, Brian Lotty, Joe Reddington, Eamon Ryan.

Ulster

Frank Dawson, Anthony Larkin, Philip Kerr, Liam McGreevy, Sean McGuinness, Eamon McIneeney, Terence McWilliams, John Morrison, Jim Nelson.

Designated Support Tutors

A large number of designated tutors have undergone training with the GAA.

Irish successes in Waterford Crystal World Handball Championships

Irish players had considerable success in winning eleven titles at the Waterford Crystal World Handball Championships in Winnipeg, Canada last month. Our underage players performed exceptionally well winning all six main titles at 15, 17 and 19 and Under levels. Other Irish wins were in Ladies 'B' Singles and Doubles, Men's 'B' and 'C' Singles and Over 35 Doubles.

In addition to the official Irish team of 12 players, 118 other Irish handballers took part in the Championships and the group was accompanied by 70 supporters.

Buaiteoirí

- *Girls 15 and Under: Lydia Doolan, Roscommon
- *Boys 15 and Under: Dessie Keegan, Mayo
- *Girls 17 and Under: Julie Long, Dublin
- Boys 17 and Under: Paul Brady, Cavan
- *Girls 19 and Under: Fiona McKenna, Antrim
- *Boys 19 and Under: Kenneth Kane, Carlow
- Women's 'B' Singles: Roisin Faulkner, Cavan
- Men's 'B' Singles: Donal Armstrong, Antrim
- Women's 'B' Doubles: Mary Lindsay, Brid MacCorraidh, Antrim
- Men's 'C' Singles: Adrian Marrinan, Clare
- Men's Over 35 Doubles: John Boy Molloy, Michael McGovern, Meath

*Denotes Irish team members.



Lydia Doolan
Girls 15 & Under



Dessie Keegan
Boys 15 & Under

Buíochas

Comhairle Liatróid Láimhe na hÉireann would like to record its appreciation to the following contributors to and sponsors of the Irish team:

Atlas Travel, Bank of Ireland, Citylites, Galway, Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, Comhairle Laignean CLG, Comhairle Chonnachta CLG, Comhairle Uladh CLG, Comhairle na Mumhan CLG, FBD Insurance, Ericsson Systems Expertise Ltd., Irish Sports Council, Kingswood Hire, Moone, Co. Kildare, Michael Murphy Carpets, Newbridge, Shannon Development.

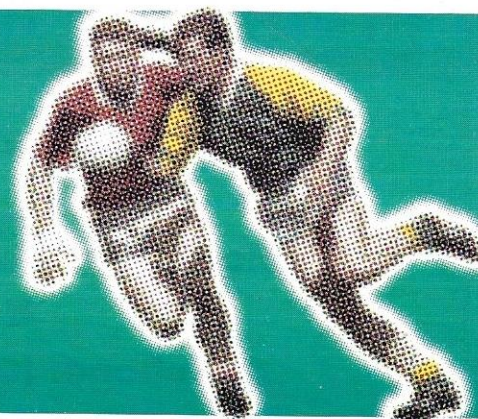
Programmes available by Post

A selection of programmes is available by post from the publishers.

Write for full list to:

DBA

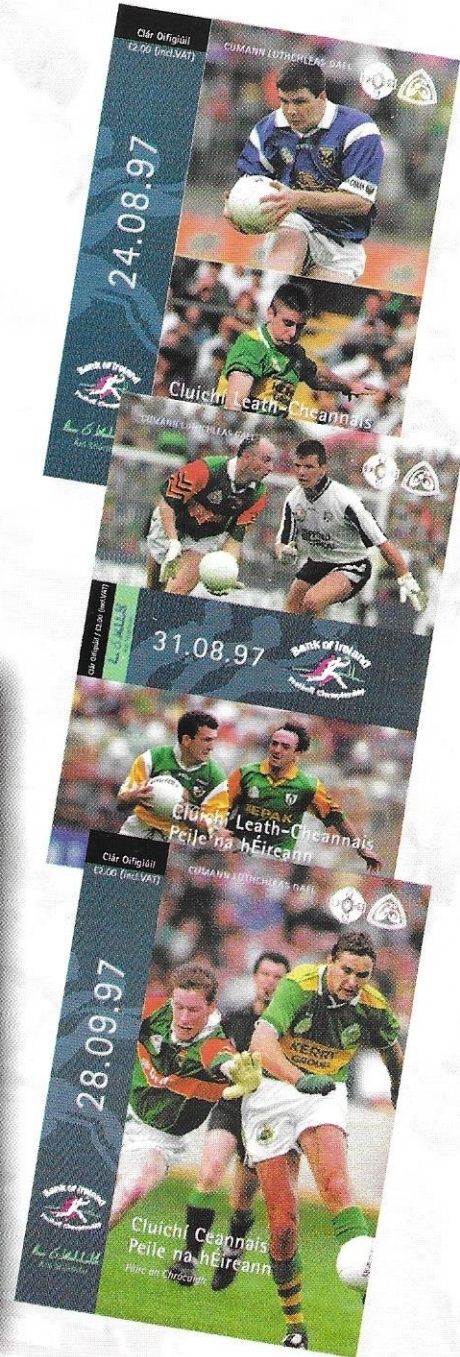
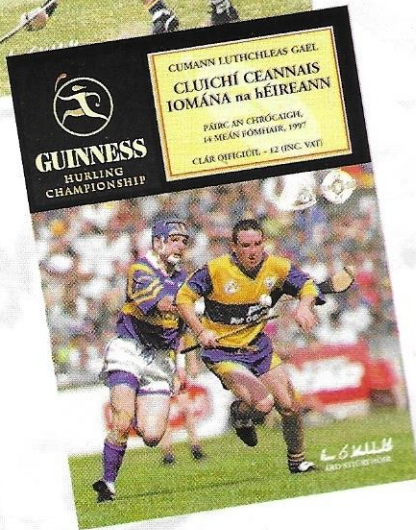
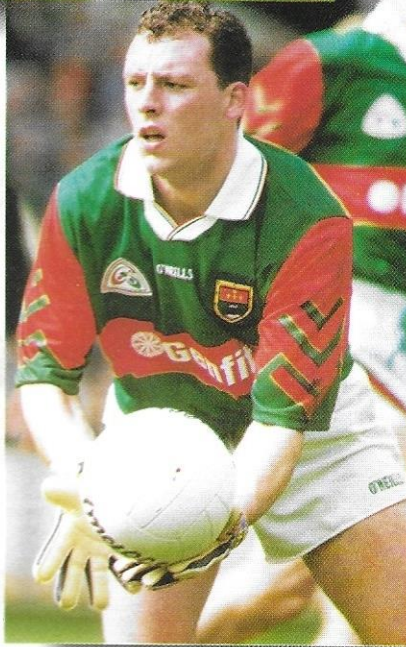
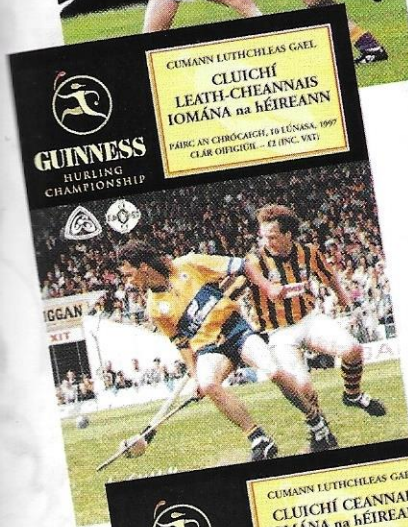
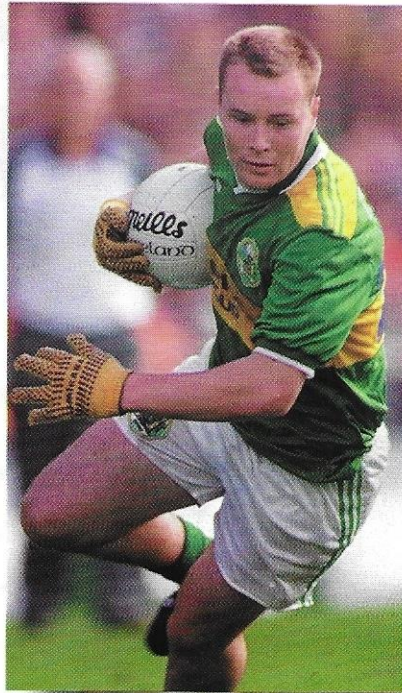
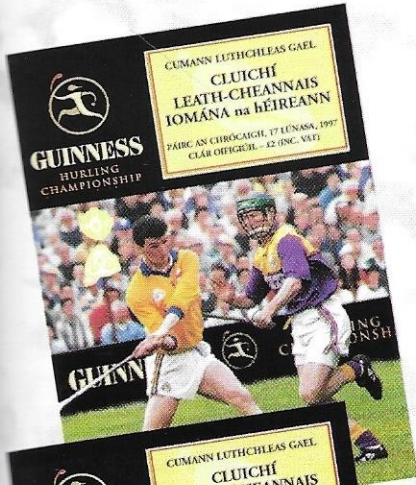
DBA Publications Limited,
56 Carysfort Avenue,
Blackrock, Co. Dublin.
Telephone: (01) 288 7247.
Facsimile: (01) 288 3583.
Email: dba@indigo.ie



LEADERS IN OUR FIELD

Wood-Printcraft are leaders in the field of printing and packaging.
We have been winning for a long time, since 1837 in fact.
So we are well placed to deliver top results.

We are proud to be printers of the All Ireland Semi-Final and Final hurling and football programmes.



May we congratulate all those great sportsmen who contributed towards making this year's All Ireland competitions into such wonderful sporting events. These souvenir programmes will help to relive some of those golden moments.



wood printcraft

Wood-Printcraft Limited
Greencastle Parade, Clonshaugh, Dublin 17, Ireland
Telephone: (353 1) 847 00 11, Fax: (353 1) 847 55 70
E-mail: info@wpg.ie

GAA/INTO Mini-Sevens



The GAA/INTO Mini-Sevens is the showcase promotion of Cumann na mBunscol in association with Cumann Lúthchleas Gael and the I.N.T.O.. Forty Primary school children, from throughout the country, will occupy centre stage today at half-time in the minor game, epitomising the G.A.A.'s commitment to promoting our games in the Primary schools of Ireland.

Seven thousand Cumann na mBunscol teachers coach and develop our games, in close co-operation with the association's full-time coaches, in 2,820 primary schools.
Jerry Grogan, P.R.O.

The Mini-Sevens 1987-1997

- The scheme began in 1987 to consolidate the long-standing partnership between the G.A.A. and the primary teaching profession.
- It provides a shop-window for the work of Cumann na mBunscol and I.N.T.O. members in promoting our national games in our national schools.
- Approximately 10,000 children from all 32 counties participate in the local, regional and national levels of the scheme.
- The 240 lucky boys and girls who will participate during this year's All-Ireland semi-finals and final were selected by independent judges at 14 regional festivals throughout the country.
- To fittingly commemorate last year's 10th birthday, Wexford's Rory McCarthy became the first Mini-Sevens graduate to win a senior All-Ireland medal. Meath's Darren Fay, Barry Callaghan, Paddy Reynolds and Ollie Murphy added their names to the Mini-Sevens roll of honour when they won All-Ireland football medals.

Colm Kelly (12)



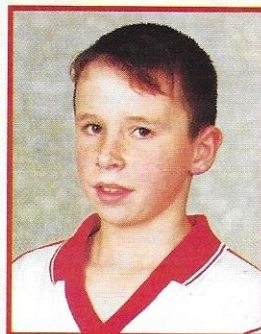
Colm with his two brothers, Kieran and Stephen both of whom play for Laois in the Minor Final today.

Today is a very special day for the Kelly family with Tom and Stephen spearheading the Laois minor attack and young Colm participating in the Mini-Sevens. Indeed, Tom and Stephen are no strangers to the Mini-Sevens themselves. Tom and today's minor centre-back, Joe Higgins, played in the 1991 All-Ireland semi-final and Stephen displayed his considerable skills during the All-Ireland final the same year. Like Colm they attended the Swan N.S. near Portlaoise and play their club football with St. Joseph's. Colm plays at midfield and greatly admires the skills of Derry's Anthony Tohill. His favourite hurler is Martin Storey. He has no doubt that the O'Moore minors will triumph today because "they are determined, have good skills and they have the Kelly brothers and Joe Higgins". For the Senior decider he is also forthright in his views: "Kerry will win. They have more scoring forwards and they are big and strong. Maurice Fitzgerald is the best forward around". Colm's ambitions are to wear the Laois jersey and to become a garda. His father, Tom, who is a selector with the St. Joseph's minors, will be present with mother, Bernie, who hails from Ballylinan, to cheer him on today. If tickets can be found, sister Claire, who plays football with Crettyard and another brother, Stephen, will also be present.



Some of the boys and girls who help with the Mini-Sevens each Sunday during the All-Ireland Series pictured here with Mr. Tony Bates, President of the I.N.T.O.. Included are, Cathy Culloty, Helen Devine, Eoin Redmond, Cadhla Hodggers, Róisín Meade, Marie Geraghty, Niamh Quinn, Niamh Winters, Paul Monaghan, Louise Walsh, Jamie Moylan, David Whyte, William Crampton, Eoin Ryan, Tadhg Maher, Niall Fitzgibbon, Maurita Moylan.

Martin Grogan (12)



This will be Martin's third visit to Croke Park as he has twice represented his county in the Cumann na mBunscol/National Handball Council Handball Day in the Croke Park Alley. He holds Tyrone and Ulster titles at the game and is regarded as a great prospect for future

national honours. His attention will be fully focussed on Tyrone minors today, however, and he expects the fighting spirit of this young side to see them through against Laois. He also feels that the "fanatical supporters" of the Red Hand county will be a decided advantage today. Martin represents St. Colmcille's P.S. in Carrickmore in today's exhibition game. He captained the school to a Cumann na mBunscol title earlier in the local Mini-Sevens competition he was selected at the regional festival after a fine performance at midfield. His favourite sports personality is local hero Séamus McCallan and he is hopeful of a Mayo victory today "because they have a very solid back line". He "can't wait" to march out behind the band today when his parents Joe and Lizzie, brother, Shane (14) and sister, Claire (16) will be extremely proud of him.

Laura Ross (12)



Having experienced the thrill of participation in the Mini-Sevens last year, Laura is much more blasé about today's performance describing it simply as "a good achievement". She attends Ballyduff N.S. where both boys' and girls' teams have achieved notable Mini-Sevens and Cumann na

mBunscol double victories under the tutelage of teachers Marie Lucid and Paudie County. Laura is a keen athlete and as a member of Ballyduff A.C. has had cross-country success. Her favourite footballer is Cahirciveen ace Maurice Fitzgerald. She lines out at midfield for Ballyduff G.A.A. Club where she has had U-12 league and championship success. Her sisters Mairéad (13), Deirdre (11), Sarah (8) and Shauna (5) as well as brother, Jonathan (3) will be hoping for a glimpse of her on television today. Laura hopes to play for The Kingdom some day and to become a P.E. teacher.



*THERE'S NO JOB
TOO GREAT*

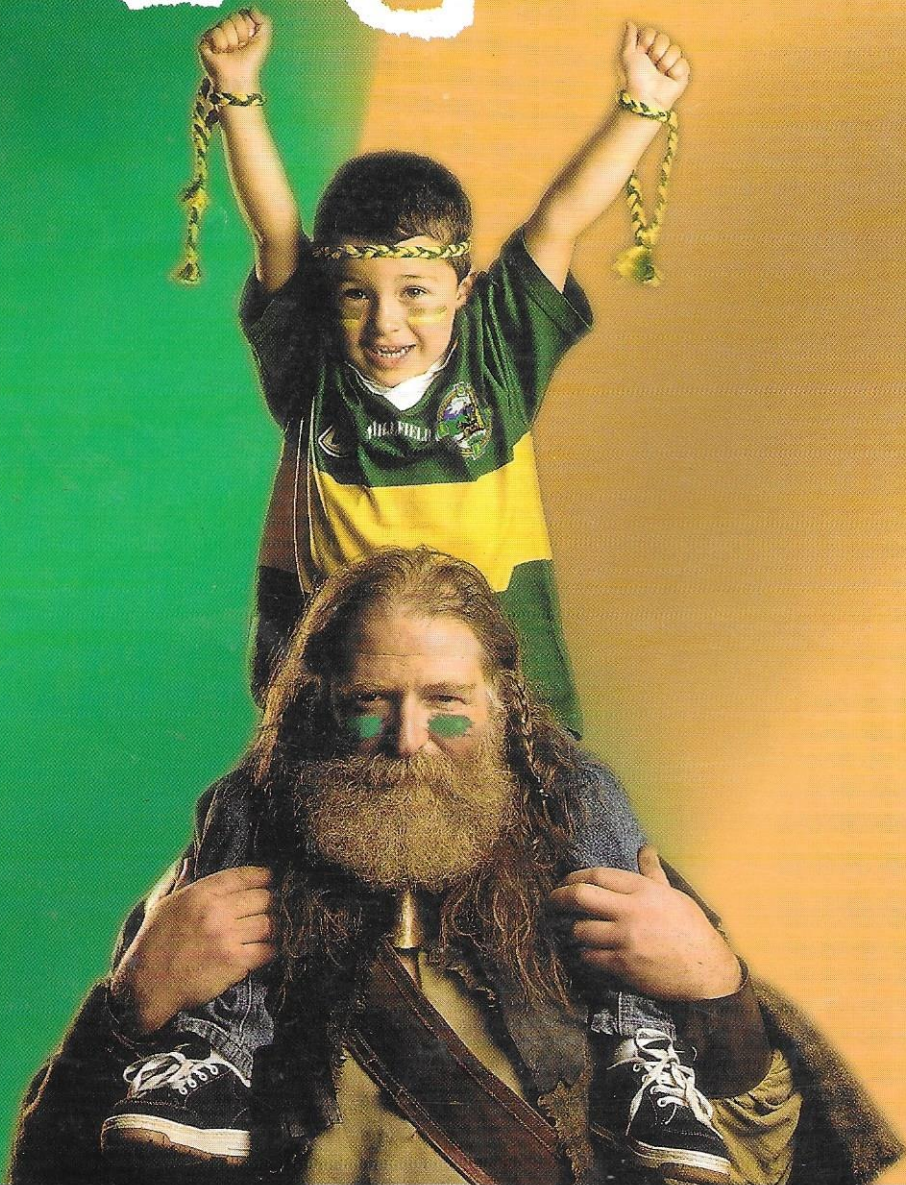


WE DELIVER YOUR PROMISE

SDS, Newlands, Naas Road, Dublin 22, Ireland. Telephone 01 459 1133.



SHOW YOUR
COLOURS!
ANSWER
THE CALL!



Bank of Ireland
Football Championship

